

*A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor (2023)* upgrades ED619049 (ERIC) and finishes its work. The dictionary identifies language used figuratively in everyday contemporary English—to include the language of “inclusion & exclusion” and “contempo-speak”—along with its distinguishing collocates. The first main entry word is *ablaze*, and the last entry is *Zuckerberg (the Russian Mark Zuckerberg, etc.)*. At the bottom of many main entry words is red text that often contrasts figurative and literal usages, with a special emphasis on *recovering* the *literal* meaning of words, particularly if they have a military source. Finally each main entry word is tagged by target and source: the target or targets come first, and are separated from the source or sources by the colon mark. Tags for targets include ones like *time; resistance, opposition & defeat; enthusiasm; fictive motion; feeling, emotion & effect*, etc. Tags for sources include ones like *military; boat; direction; weight; trips & journeys; animal*, etc. Certain tags are considered as targets *and* sources: *epithet; movement; death & life; military; sign, signal & symbol; shape; mental health*, etc. The tags were used to compile the thesaurus. The compiler is a lifelong EFL teacher of adult military students in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (Abu Dhabi), and his interest in figurative language arose during his work teaching the Defense Language Institute’s American Language Course (ALC / DLI). The most important insight of this dictionary and thesaurus is how important figurative language is in every type of communication. For example, a common childhood game like a “tug-of-war” can describe a struggle for control on a plane that results in hundreds of fatalities, a “conversation” nowadays often suggests much more than simply a talk between two people, and an “uncanny valley” can refer to robots. The work has implications for ESL / EFL teaching, which tends to focus on the literal meanings of words, usually the first sense in a dictionary. Clearly, more attention can and should be paid to other senses of words, and this work will help to identify and classify them. It also suggests a pivot to language analysis and instruction based on conceptual metaphor. This is a reference for EFL / ESL teachers, curriculum developers, materials writers, and teacher trainers. But it should also be of interest to lexicographers, and it has attracted interest from experts interested in metaphor detection, natural language processing (NLP), and social-media analysis, some of whom are using the tool of artificial intelligence (AI). Hopefully, it will inspire better dictionaries and thesauri of this sort created by teams of people, just as early work by many individuals working in isolation on collocation culminated in the 2002 Oxford Collocations Dictionary. Preliminary short discussions based on the work include (1) 70 common metaphors (2) Collocation (3) Epithets (4) Persons (5) The “container” metaphor (6) Grammatical metaphor, fictive verbs, etc. (7) Past, present and future (8) Allusions (9) Euphemisms (10) Gestures and bodily reactions (11) Shapes and parts-whole (12) Animacy (13) Persistence, survival and endurance (14) Quotations (15) Synonyms and opposites (16) Lessons and exercises (17) To the EFL / ESL teacher, which focuses on how the dictionary and thesaurus impacts the knowledge and experience base of the teacher and (18) An alphabetized list of the thesaurus categories.

# A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor 2023

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## Dedication

To my father—a teacher and a theater man. I thought of you every time I added a word or expression to the category of *theater* in the thesaurus.

And to my students—Emiratis, Hondurans, Mexicans, Moldovans, Ukrainians, Kosovars—past, present and future.

But this work is especially dedicated to the adult military students I taught in Saudi Arabia, starting in 1983 and ending in 2017.

The lyric from Mutanabbi that you taught me will beat in my heart as long as my heart beats.

I know the desert well,  
The night, the mounted men.  
The battle and the sword,  
The paper and the pen.

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## Introduction

I compiled this work with my adult Saudi Arabian military EFL students in mind. The second entry in this dictionary—*about-face*—is something I've seen my students do many times on the *maidan*, or parade ground, in Dhahran, in the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia. A literal about-face, not a figurative one. The literal tends to come first in English language teaching and learning, and in our dictionaries, but the figurative usage can be right behind, if only taught. Of course, the figurative meaning of *about-face* relates to reversal: a government can do an about-face on something such as a policy.

In my classroom, when I would casually mention that a hurricane had an eye (resemblance), or a bed had a foot and a head (orientation), and not only the earth but also a school had an atmosphere (environment), my students would often react with astonishment and dismay.

"English is crazy," one of my students said, memorably. A Harbi. Or a Mutairi, maybe.

And yet, those same students had no problem exemplifying figurative uses of words. When I taught a group of students the figurative use of *magnet*, and gave them a little time to think about it, one student shot his hand into the air and pronounced, "Makkah is a magnet for Muslims."

I highly praised him—a Zahrani, I recall...

The key for such exemplifications lies with collocation. With *magnet*, the important collocating preposition is *for*: X (be) a magnet *for* Y. This little formula with its collocating preposition allows students to create their own, novel exemplifications.

I remember once teaching basic English in a dusty classroom overlooking a parade ground ringed by date palms, in the early days of personal computers. The vocabulary item I was teaching was *window*. I introduced the word in the usual, literal way, but I also mentioned that TV shows could be a window (*portal*) to other countries and cultures. This was in the old days before smartphones.

And a bearded naval officer—a Qahtani?—shot his hand into the air and said, slyly, "Windows."

It took me just a second to get it. Well, of course! Microsoft Windows!

Another time, I remember teaching a lesson on shopping that included the word *mall*. This provided me the opportunity to speak for a brief moment about mall rats, girls and boys who go to malls to flirt. Saudi Arabia has malls, girls, and boys, of course, but flirting is not supposed to

occur, and premarital sex can be a death sentence. Not only that, but in Saudi Arabia comparing a man to an animal of any type is potentially a deadly insult.

After the lesson, a cadet approached me and confided in a whisper, "My brother is a *big* mall rat!"

I loved how he modified the phrase with *big*!

In fact, it was my Saudi students that got me interested in the figurative and metaphorical use of language in the first place. They would talk to me of Islam as a *path*, refer to the character of a person or nationality as being *straight* and *crooked*, insult people as *snakes*, *devils*, *dogs*, and *pigs*, and compliment me on my "white" heart. In Riyadh, the center of the country, I taught in view of a prominent ridge called "The Camel's Nose" in Arabic. When I taught in Jeddah, in the western part of the country, I learned from my students that the city was known as "The Bride of the Red Sea," and it was from Arabic poetry that I learned expressions like, "Her face gleamed like the moon on the 14th of the month."

I have not thought of pigs, hearts, geographical place names, cities, and the moon in the same way since.

It's interesting to reflect that there are no actual pigs in Saudi Arabia, the cradle of Islam where the Qur'an forbids the eating of pork. And yet, you hear the word all the time there, not in its literal sense as the animal, but as an insult. And that is how it is entered and categorized in this work. Animals are commonly related to insults, just as they are commonly related to character and personality and many other things, including predation and epithets.

I'm sure you can think of many examples.

"If you are not a wolf, a wolf will eat you," is a proverb I learned in Saudi Arabia.

I like the figurative world because it is connected to the natural world, a world I admire, and not just through the window of an automobile. It includes creatures from childhood like monsters and witches, as well as words that come from "grown up" subjects like astronomy, history, physics, and medicine. In the figurative world, words still refer to older technologies and practices like sailing, mills, farming, and hunting, and somehow I understand them. The figurative world maintains allusions to literature, to the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*, Dickens, Mary Shelley, and the Bible. In the figurative world, drumbeats still carry a message, a simple object such as a coin or a chain can express a fundamental relationship, a pancake can express a shape or configuration, and a "tug of war" between an aircraft and its crew can have real consequences, resulting in hundreds of fatalities. Troop buildups on a border can be described as a "geopolitical

game of chicken.” A bubble can symbolize a pandemic. Layers of Swiss cheese can symbolize protection from a pandemic. Waves sloshing in a bathtub can symbolize transmission during a pandemic.

Figurative language offers synonyms, antonyms, and makes connections. You can be *up to your neck* or *up to your eyeballs* in something. Take your pick! If you have a problem, you can *tackle* it or *punt*. Both those words come from American football. Or, you can kick the can down the road, something I often did as a boy. You can *stroll / coast / waltz / or sail* to success. You can say, “That ship has sailed,” or you can say, “That train has left the station,” depending on whether you are into ships or trains. When it comes to resolution and conclusion, you can *bury the ghosts*, or *put something to rest*. If you wish to avoid or separate yourself from something, nautically you can *steer clear of it*, or *give it a wide berth*.

And the figurative world just makes sense. Is it any surprise that words and expressions from the field of education often relate to assessment? Alcohol to restraint and lack of restraint? The family to relationship? A crutch to help and assistance? The theater to attention? Gambling to fate, fortune and chance? A boat or a horse to control? Religion to messages? Sleep to consciousness and awareness? The tongue to speech? Health and medicine to condition and status? Targets to weapons? Weight to substance? Clothing to concealment? Chess to strategy? A table to negotiation, or inclusion? A door to access? Affliction to wounds and scars? Love and marriage... to pursuit, capture and escape?

That last tends to surprise and delight those who haven't thought of it before.

The figurative world is a great way to organize words and phrases to produce language that really sounds natural, the type of language that we seldom if *ever* teach from our textbooks, and that our students often surprise us with by acquiring on their own, outside our classrooms. It is the difference between “I understand” which we teach and “I see” or “I get it” which we don't. As English language teachers, we tend to think of the future as a grammar lesson. But the future can also be thought of as movement, direction and even as a container. The future is forward. And if the future is forward, then the past is... behind! The same for progress. Achievement is up, decline is down. The same for proper conduct. Direction is very relevant to numbers. Sales are up! Down! Soaring! Plummeting! Sky-high! Rock-bottom! Through the roof!

Not to mention that the future may relate to the horizon.

Saudis will spend the night out in the desert on full-moon nights, and spend a night out around a bonfire in the winter. Like Russians, they enjoy searching for mushrooms in season, except in their case they are hunting for desert truffles. In Saudi Arabia a young man might walk miles to get from one place to another. While walking, he will notice the *ashes* of old campfires, and the

*footprints* of those who have walked the *path* before him. He will pay attention to the *weather*, and to the *light*. If he is out past sunset and has planned ahead and carried some wood, he might light a *fire* for warmth or companionship, and notice other such lights on the horizon, or across a valley, and he will notice the *stars* in the sky. Such a person will already know the physical bases of words like *trail*, *fire*, *footprint*, *beacon*, *weather*, and *star* and will feel the shock of recognition in their figurative and metaphorical usages.

The figurative and the literal can become controversial, as the following examples attest:

- A few days after 9/11, President George W. Bush's use of the word *crusade* was widely questioned when he said to the nation: "This crusade, this war on terrorism, is going to take a while..."
- In 2011 in the US, the elected politician Gabrielle Giffords and others were shot after Giffords' district had been targeted on a map with cross-hairs by an ideological opponent. In a coda, in 2019, Roger Stone apologized to Judge Amy Berman Jackson for posting an Instagram photo of her next to a rifle scope's crosshair. She said, "Roger Stone fully understands the power of words and the power of symbols... There's nothing ambiguous about a crosshairs." And in a coda to that coda, in 2022 a court heard a case involving that original cross-hairs symbol and *The New York Times*.
- In 2020, after the Trump campaign called on volunteers to monitor the vote, Sheryl Sandberg, the COO of Facebook, said, "I think what people are worried about in this ad is that he says 'army of supporters'... We believe the language 'army of supporters' is not really calling for an army but is calling on people who are normal campaign volunteers."
- In 2021, President Trump, after losing his bid for reelection, said, "And they're not taking the White House, we're going to fight like hell..." His supporters would later storm the U.S. Capitol, resulting in his second impeachment and trial, with much debate about political speech. "Are we going to put every politician in jail, are we going to impeach every politician who has used the words *fight* figuratively in a speech? Shame!" said Senator Rand Paul. Said Michael Van Der Veen, from the floor of the Senate at the impeachment trial, "The reality is, Mr. Trump was not in any way, shape or form instructing these people to fight, or to use physical violence. What he was instructing them to do was to challenge their opponents..."

Figurative usage is not just important in politics. Wall Street "mines" newspaper articles and tweets for the figurative usage of words like *abyss*—as in "Greece is at the edge of a financial abyss"—which can spark declines in the market. In language, the idea of substance can be associated with weight, and cognitive linguists have conducted experiments based on the idea that the actual thickness and weight of something, like a paper file, can influence people's attitudes about the substance of a person.

Metaphor is nothing new: the ancient Greeks discussed it. Wilfred Funk, Litt. D., in his book *Word Origins* (published by Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1950), wrote, “*Up* and *down* are two other strange words that tie into the mysteries of space and even of religion and our human ideas of values,” in the chapter entitled “word oddities,” and he goes on to explain and give good examples. In 1836, Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, “Light and darkness are our familiar expression for knowledge and ignorance... Visible distance behind and before us, is respectively our image of memory and hope.” (*Nature*, Chapter 4, “Language”). Cognitive linguists speak of metaphors like these as BAD IS DOWN, GOOD IS UP, KNOWLEDGE IS VISION, PAST IS BEHIND EGO, and FUTURE IS IN FRONT OF EGO.

For students learning English, this dictionary should help them learn the figurative uses of words. The entry word is, in most cases, a basic one. The collocations are rarely more than two or three words, slightly harder, and the exemplary fragments and sentences are a bit harder yet. This basic English (to include figurative language) is the foundation for all those other Englishes: academic English, aviation English, business English, medical English, military English, scientific English, technical English, English for Peace and Conflict Studies, etc.

It took decades for the fruits of research on collocation to get into our curriculums, materials, and dictionaries. The Oxford Collocations Dictionary finally appeared in 2002, and the revised and updated version of the military curriculum I taught for so many years in Saudi Arabia—the American Language Course (ALC) created by the Defense Language Institute (DLI)—currently contains many excellent exercises based on collocation. Both were a long time coming. It is my hope that the next big effort in language teaching will be to incorporate the figurative uses of words into teacher-training courses, curriculums, textbook exercises, tests, and learner’s dictionaries.

## 70 common metaphors

These metaphors are based on this work. The bolded words are categories in the thesaurus and the italicized words have entries in the dictionary. The first metaphor relates the hand to attainment and possession. A hand, of *course*, can relate to many other things: see the category **hand** in the thesaurus for the many things a hand can relate to. But the hand relating to attainment and possession is a common metaphor.

1. The **hand** can relate to **attainment** and also to **possession**: “It was *in my hands*, but it *slipped through my fingers* and now it is forever *out of my grasp / reach*.”
2. **Sleep** can relate to **consciousness & awareness**: “The government is *sleeping*, and our politicians need to *wake up*.” So can the **eye**: “A minority of *clear-eyed* scientists *saw it coming*. Still, non-scientists were *blindsided*, and, when the catastrophe occurred, it was a real *eye-opener*.”
3. **Royalty** often relates to the **superlative**: Burger *King*; Mattress *King*; Aretha, the *Queen* of Soul; “*aristocratic* wine at democratic prices” (an advertisement); “Banff, the Canadian National Park, is the *crown jewel* of the system.”
4. A name relates to **reputation**: “Life is for one generation; a good *name* is forever.” “You have *blackened* our *name*.” “That company has a *good name*.”
5. A **horse** can relate to **control & lack of control**: “We need to *rein in galloping / runaway* inflation.” “Hydroelectric dams *harness* the power of rivers.”
6. **Mining** can relate to **searching & discovery**: “I began to *dig into* the old case and *uncovered* some interesting facts. Not all the *leads panned out*. It was in the old police case file, however, that I struck *gold*.”
7. The **family** commonly relates to **relationship** and to **division & connection**: “Intelligence officers have always held an *orphan / stepchild* position in the military compared to the *favorite son* status of tacticians and logistics officers.”
8. Language from the **military** and **weapon** categories is often linked to **conflict** and **accusation & criticism**: “Facing *sniping* from his own party and a *fusillade* of criticism from the opposition, he has *fired a broadside* in his defense.”
9. The **theater** often relates to **development**, and also **attention, scrutiny & promotion**, and **performance**: “It is only the *first act* of the legal *drama*, but already the *spotlight* has focused on jury selection. The trial promises to be quite a *show*.”
10. **Chess** often relates to **strategy**: “It’s a geopolitical *chess game* and the *pawns* in the struggle have no idea what the *endgame* will be.”
11. A **table** can relate to **position, policy & negotiation**: *sit down at the table; on the table; off the table; come back to the table; turn the tables*. Also **inclusion & exclusion**: *a seat at the table*.
12. **Movement** and **direction** can relate to **action, inaction & delay** and **progress & lack of progress**: “We’ve got to *move*, and we’ve got to *move forward*, not *sideways* or *backwards*.”
13. The **center & periphery** often relate to **society**: *mainstream; center; fringe*, on the *margins*.
14. **Height** can relate to **importance & significance** and **primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence** and **superiority & inferiority**: “LeBron James is literally and figuratively a

towering figure at the *height* of his career, at the very *pinnacle* of success, *head and shoulders above* his rivals. And while his *star* may now be at its *zenith*, it must be that every *star* will *set*.”

15. **Journeys & trips** can represent life. After college, you *set out / embark* on a *course*. You encounter *crossroads* or *forks* in the road and choose your *direction*. You might *follow in someone else's footsteps* or *blaze your own trail*. You will *cross that bridge* when you come to it, encounter *obstacles* in your *path* and take *shortcuts* and *detours*. *Milestones* along the way might include marriage, children, and promotions. Life can be a hard *slog*, and some *fall by the wayside*. But hopefully you will be happy and content when you *reach the end of the road*, especially if you are one of those who took “the [road] less travelled by.”
16. A **line** often relates to **behavior**: “You are *out of line*. You have *crossed the line*. You are *over the line*. You have crossed *a red line*.”
17. An **animal** can relate to **predation**, especially a **lion**, **wolf** or **shark**: “Famine still *stalks* the inhabitants of the Sahel.” “If you are not a *wolf*, a *wolf* will eat you.” “His critics are *circling*, they can smell *blood in the water*, and they *are out for blood*.”
18. **Smell** often relates to **evidence** and **corruption**: “I began *sniffing out* government corruption. And when I *got wind of* the business deal, I immediately detected something *fishy*. Something *stank*, and by the time I had finished my investigation, the *stench* filled my nostrils.”
19. **Affliction** can relate to a **creature** (like a ghost) and **health & medicine** and to a **mark** (like a scar): “He was never able to *exorcise* the *ghosts* of Afghanistan, *heal* his emotional *wounds*, and the mental *scars* of his service are still *livid*, *raw* and *itchy*.”
20. A **weight** or a **burden** can relate to **oppression**: “I was *weighed down* by a *heavy load* of debt that I knew I would never be able to *get out from under*, and the repossession of my car was *the last straw*.”
21. **Health & medicine** can relate to the **condition & status** of something: The economy is *on life support / moribund / weak / recovering / healthy / robust*, etc.
22. **Ruins** can relate to **destruction**. “Even though my company had *collapsed*, and my reputation was *in ruins*, I began to *rebuild*.”
23. **Water** can relate to the size and force of **movement**: “The number of asylum seekers began as a *trickle* or *stream* and is now a *flood*. A *groundswell* of immigration is threatening to *inundate* the border, and those opposed to migration are characterizing it as a *tsunami*.”
24. **Rain**, a **storm**, a **wind**, or natural disasters like an **avalanche**, a **landslide**, an **earthquake**, or **tsunami**, and great forces like a **volcano**, a **river**, the **sea**, a **fire**, a **wave** and **water** often relate to **amount and effect**: an *avalanche / blizzard / firestorm / flood / deluge / landslide / tidal wave / tsunami / storm / surge* of criticism, protest, etc.
25. **Direction** and **height** can relate to **behavior** and **character & personality**: “An *upright* man always *takes the high road* and does not *get down in the gutter* or *in the mud* with his enemies of *low repute*. To such a man, morality is *straightforward*, and his opposite is a *snake*, taking a *twisted path*.”
26. **Astronomy** can relate to the idea of **primacy**, **currency**, **decline & obsolescence**: “One boxer’s *star is rising*, the current champion’s star is *at its zenith*, while the former champ’s star is *setting*.”

27. **Books & reading** can relate to **development**: “When I graduated from university, it was time to *close the book* on that stage of my life, *turn the page*, and start *a new chapter* in my life.”
28. **Food & drink** often relates to **consumption**: “I developed a *taste* for exploration as a young boy. I *gorged on* the books of explorers, I *devoured* them, I *drank in / lapped up / gobbled up* adventure stories and *digested* their lessons learned, and my *appetite* for them was *insatiable*. Soon I began taking little voyages of my own about the neighborhood and developed a *taste* for freedom. In fact, I became a *glutton* for it.”
29. **Sports & games** commonly relate to **competition**: the *contest* of measure and countermeasure (warfare); the *space race*; we are *ahead of them*; we must not *fall behind*; they are *outpacing* us and we will have to do better to *keep up*; when it comes to global warming, there will be *winners* and *losers*; she is *jockeying for position*; he is the *front-runner*, etc.
30. A **season** can relate to **growth & development** and **decline**: “I am in the *autumn* of my life;” *nuclear winter*; the *Arab Spring*...
31. The **day** can relate to **past & present** and **future**: *in the old days*; *back in the day*; *those days*; *yesterday*; *these days*; *nowadays*; *a new day*; *in the coming days*, “hopes and dreams for a better *tomorrow*.”
32. **Hygiene** is related, too often in a sinister way, to **violence** and **concealment & lack of concealment**: a military “*cleanup*” operation; *ethnic cleansing*; “wash the filthy *scum* off the streets,” *whitewash*, *sanitize*, *scrub*, *launder*, etc.
33. **Water** (swimming and drowning) often relates to **survival & endurance**: “My first semester at college, I felt like I was *out of my depth* and *drowning*. I was just *treading water*, barely able to *keep my head above water* and stay *afloat*. Letters from home were a real *lifeline*. Things are much better now.”
34. **Equilibrium** is often related to **disruption**: “The company has *shaken up* the industry and *rattled* the major players by *overturning* accepted assumptions and norms.” It is also related to **fairness**: “The idea will *tilt* the *balance* and create an *unequal playing field*.”
35. **Temperature** can relate to **feeling, emotion & effect**: “Relations between the two countries, previously *frosty*, have begun to *thaw*, but they can in no way be described as *warm* yet.”
36. **Direction** up or down can relate to **feeling, emotion & effect**: “You look *downhearted*. Cheer *up!* I can see you need a *lift*. Let’s do something to *raise* your spirits.”
37. A **clock** and the time of **day** can relate to **timeliness & lack of timeliness**. So can a **window**: “We had better hurry. The *clock is ticking*. It’s no longer *early in the morning*, it’s *late in the day*. We’re *in a race with the clock* now, and the *clock is winding down*. Our *window of opportunity* is closing fast.”
38. Natural obstacles can relate figuratively to **obstacles & impedance**: *headwind*; *shoal*; *morass*; *mud*; *quagmire*; *quicksand*; *thicket*; *logjam*; *snag*, etc.
39. A **desert** or **oasis** or **jungle** or **swamp** or **island** or **sea** and other geographical features are often used figuratively to describe an **environment**. “Too many urban areas are food *deserts* with little access to fresh food.” “It’s a *jungle* out there, be careful.” “The area is an *island* of affluence in a *sea* of squalor.” “We must drain the *swamp* of Congress.” The **air**, the

**atmosphere** and the **climate** can be used to talk about environment in general. “There is tension in the *air / atmosphere*, and a *climate* of fear.”

40. A **plant** and **farming & agriculture** are often related to **growth & development**: “Christianity found *fertile ground* in the Philippines, where the *seeds* the missionaries *planted took root* and *flourished / flowered / bore fruit*.”
41. **Standing, sitting & lying** can relate to many things, including **dominance & submission**, and **resistance, opposition, & defeat**, and also **action, inaction & delay**. These meanings are often combined in a series: “We can’t take this *lying down*. Why are we just *sitting on our hands*? We can’t *stand by* any longer. It’s time to *stand up* and make a *stand*.”
42. **Health & medicine; addiction; love, courtship & marriage; and religion** can all relate to **enthusiasm**: “I’m *crazy about dragonflies*”; “Adrenaline *junkies* risk life and limb at the X games for their sports”; “To meet a walrus is to *fall in love with* a walrus” (a walrus researcher); “It’s a bit of a *disease*” (Jay Leno on his vehicle collection); “Mountains are truly *cathedrals*” (the great “Big” Jim Whittaker, climber). The opening line of Norman Maclean’s book *A River Runs Through It* reads, “In our family, there was no clear line between religion and fly fishing.”
43. The Galapagos Islands have become an **epithet** for the **biodiversity, nature & life** of endemic species. The fascinating Yemeni island of Socotra has been called the “*Galapagos of the Indian Ocean*.” Alaska’s Pribilof Islands are known as the *Galapagos of the North*. In Unesco’s World Heritage Site citation, Lake Baikal in eastern Russia is referred to as the *Galapagos of Russia*.
44. Allusions from the **Iliad & Odyssey** relate to the following: **attraction (siren); affliction (hector); subterfuge (Trojan horse); journeys & trips (odyssey); message (Cassandra); protection & lack of protection (Achilles’ heel), superlative (epic and Homeric), and alternative & choices and danger** (between Scylla and Charybdis). This vocabulary will live in the language long after the details are forgotten.
45. **Alcohol** can relate to several things: **activity (ferment); behavior (binge, drunk, and inebriate); concealment & lack of concealment (bootleg and bootlegger); consciousness and awareness) (black out); control and lack of control (drunk); feeling, emotion & effect (hangover, intoxicate, intoxicate, intoxicating, sober, and sobering); mixture (cocktail); and restraint & lack of restraint (binge, drunk, and inebriate)**. You don’t have to be a drinker to be “drunk on power / success.”
46. Falling can relate to **fate, fortune & chance**. If you are *on thin ice*, you might fall through the ice and drown. Likewise, when you *go out on a limb*, the limb might break and then you will fall to the ground and die. If you are *hanging on* to your job *by a thread*, that thread might break. If you are *walking a tightrope*, you might fall off and die. If you are *teetering on the edge of a precipice*, you might fall and die. The sky can fall. If your head is on the *chopping block*, the blade could fall on your neck and your *head will roll*. That blade might be the *Sword of Damocles*. Or perhaps you are waiting for *a shoe to drop* or *fall*.
47. **Cards** can relate to **fate, fortune & chance**: “The *cards were stacked* against Rubin Carter from birth. He was *dealt a hand* nobody could play. But by *the luck of the draw*, a sympathetic judge was selected to try his final case of habeas corpus.”

48. A **euphemism** is often used for death. Expressions include *pass away*; *the fallen*; *lose* (through death); *resting place*, etc. A set of sinister euphemisms relate to killing: liquidate; encounter; “He was disappeared”; remove; take down, etc.
49. **Money** can relate to **obligation**: “The grateful nation *owes* a *debt* of gratitude to the sacrifices of its military. We can never fully *repay* those who *paid* the ultimate *price* for our freedom.”
50. **Money** is often related to **cost & benefit**. “I made a *costly* mistake, I *paid* a *price* for my mistake, it took a *toll* on me, but in the end I *profited* from it, though it took years and years before I understood what exactly the *payoff* was.”
51. **Society** can relate to a **person** like a *leper*, *castaway*, *outcast*, *pariah*, and *hermit*. Such people might find themselves separated from the *mainland*, on an *island*, in the *wilderness*, left out *in the cold*, *outside of the tent*, on the *fringe*, on the *far shore*, etc.
52. **Noise** and **movement** are often related to **activity**: The factory floor was a *beehive* of activity, *swarming* with workers, with machines large and small *humming* and *buzzing*.
53. **Gesture** can relate to **feeling, emotion & effect**: “The latest college admissions scandal has some people *shaking their heads*, others *rolling their eyes*, and a few *wringing their hands*.”
54. **Cloth** can relate to **division & connection**: “We are used to traveling around on an *interwoven*, *tight-knit*, seemingly *seamless* system of highways. But some *strands* have become *frayed*.” So can a **rope**: “A nation is *bound* / *tied* together by its system of roads.”
55. **Containers** can relate to **situations**: “I got *into* trouble, I was *in* a tight spot, trapped, desperate to *get out*.” However, a situation is more and more considered to be a **place**: “I was in a tight spot *where* I couldn’t figure a way out.”
56. **Love, courtship & marriage** can be connected to **attraction & repulsion** and to **pursuit, capture & escape**: “She was the *darling* of Wall Street, she had no problem *wooing* and *seducing* eager investors—including ex-generals, one ex-president, Henry Kissinger, and two nationally important families—and she had the media *swooning*.”
57. **Sound** can represent **conflict**: “His comments caused an *uproar* and *howls* of protest, with many *clamoring* for an apology, and *outcries* for his resignation.” Actual warfare, past and present, is associated with sound.
58. An **explosion** or a **weapon** from the **military** can represent **danger**: On a bad day academia can be a *minefield* full of *booby traps*, *trip wires* and hidden *landmines*.”
59. Verbs of hitting, slamming and lashing are often related to the **force** of a **storm** like a hurricane or tornado: “The hurricane *battered* the island with a horrific storm surge, *pummeled* inland areas with winds and rain, and *knocked out* the power grid before moving on to *clobber* the mainland.”
60. **Direction** (up and down) can relate to **hierarchy**. “When I started out in my job, I started out at the *bottom*. I was *low* man on the *totem pole*, and literally everyone in the company was *over* me. With hard work and perseverance, I began to *rise up*. I began to *climb* the career *ladder*. When my *superiors* realized I wanted to take care of those *under* me, and not just please my *higher-ups*, I *rose* even *higher*. Today I am not at the *top* of the *pyramid*, but I am very happy where I am, and I am ready to assume additional responsibility.”
61. **Religion** often relates to **message**: He has used his bully *pulpit* to *preach* the *gospel* of American exceptionalism, and his *crusade* has been wildly popular.

62. **Sensation** can relate to **feeling, emotion & effect**: “That guy is *irritating*, he  *rubs me the wrong way*.” “Yeah, he can be *abrasive*. But you’re too *sensitive*, you need to develop *thicker skin*.”
63. An **animal** often relates to **conflict**: You can *bristle*, *get your back up*, and *stand your ground*. You might then go *head to head* and *butt heads*, or *lock horns* with someone. You might be *out for blood*, *smell blood*, and *draw blood*. Or you might *give ground*, *turn tail* and run, or *lie down* and *roll over*.
64. An **explosion, light & dark**, and **sound** can relate to **attention, scrutiny & promotion**. Most Americans, and every child, delight in these three things simultaneously every Fourth of July. Not necessarily dogs, or recent combat veterans. And so our internet influencers *skyrocket* to success and things *blow up* on the internet.
65. For the younger generation, **situation, time**, and **development** have become a **place**. This recognizes the ubiquitous use of “*where*” but in no way explains it.
66. **Meat** relates to the **military**: The *Butcher of Baghdad*; the *butcher’s bill*; *butchery*; *carnage*; *Hamburger Hill*, a *meat grinder*; a *slaughterhouse*... It’s something that civilians rarely think about but *should* think about. One of my goals with this work is to recover the literal meaning of clichés relating to the military, in the hope that civilians will have at least a bit of an image in their heads when they use them.
67. **Possession** relates to the language of **inclusion & exclusion**. Contemporary groups wish to possess and control—to control the *narrative*, or who gets to tell the *story*—oftentimes with the goal of monetizing and profiting. This is what underlies figurative usages like *appropriate*, *appropriation*, *colonize*, *decolonialization*, *reclaim*, *reclaiming*, *take back*, etc. The verb collocates of *space* include: hold space; make space; occupy space; open up space; reclaim space; take space; take up space; struggle for, occupy, craft, and mark space... Those spaces are Black spaces, women’s spaces, gay spaces, lesbian spaces, queer spaces, etc.
68. **Affirmation** also relates to the language of **inclusion & exclusion**. People talk about Black, Latinx, queer and trans *joy*. Proponents of body positivity *celebrate* all shapes and sizes. We *honor* women who made history. We praise as *brave* and *courageous* and *fierce* those who “reveal their truth” or live their “authentic selves.” The goal is often *empowerment*.
69. The idea of **health & medicine** (in the old sense of disease and surgery) is often a metaphor for **mental health**. And so we use words like *trauma*, *wound*, *scar*, and *moral injury*, not in any sense that relates to the body, but to the mind.
70. The **adverb**, the **filler**, and the **introductory** characterize the language of **contempo-speak**. “That would be like obviously very extremely interesting.” (An attested example of a young male academic speaking before an audience.)

## Collocation

Why compile a dictionary of collocations for words used figuratively, and not just a thesaurus? As Susan Hunston noted in a personal communication, “The crucial point that metaphoric uses are distinguished by collocation has...been made, most notably by Prof Alice Deignan of Leeds University.” Of course, *every* word is characterized by its collocations, and collocation is key for use. But the collocations of words used figuratively and literally can differ.

*Pitfall*, entered in this work in **hunting**, and **danger**, and also **walking, running & jumping**, is an interesting word and worth discussing in terms of collocation. Like many words, most of us will only encounter this word in its figurative sense. People around the world still hunt and trap for a living, but most of them use more modern methods. I can only imagine that it takes a lot of work and time to dig a pitfall, unlike the fictional pitfall from “The Most Dangerous Game” by Richard Connell, a short story I taught as the ESL co-teacher of a high-school language-arts class. What I know about these old methods of catching animals comes from films like *Chang: A Drama of the Wilderness* (1927) in which animals were most *definitely* harmed, or a book like *Dersu the Trapper* by V.K. Arseniev, when he writes about *ludevas*, or game fences. As he explains it, instinct impels an animal towards water or a salt lick. A game barrier prevents the animal from going in the direction it wants to go. So the animal walks along the fence, eventually coming to an opening in the fence it can get through. It is there that the trapper has dug the pitfall, and the animal falls in.

The main collocating verbs for a literal *pitfall* would be *dig*, *cover*, *fall into* and *fill in*: a hunter must first dig a pitfall and then cover it and hope that an animal falls into it, and when he leaves the area, he should fill in the pitfall so as not to deplete the stock of game in a wasteful manner. Like the word *hole*, adjectives might be *deep* or *shallow*. In a series with *and* or a comma linking it to similar words, an attested example is “pitfalls, deadfalls, and snares.” *Trap*, *pitfall*, and *snare* are often used figuratively, but *deadfall* seems to have fallen by the wayside.

For a figurative pitfall, important collocating verbs are: *identify*, *avoid*, *navigate* and *skirt*. This makes sense as a series. *Skate around*, an attested example, makes me question the writer’s mental image of an actual pitfall, even if *skate* is being used figuratively. A figurative pitfall can *await* the unwary. Common adjectives for a figurative pitfall are almost always classifying: a medical / clinical / diagnostic / constitutional / legal pitfall. (Our curriculums tend to do a horrible job of teaching classifying adjectives.) Or adjectives relate to significance: biggest / greatest / main / major / important pitfall. Or possibility and frequency: a common / possible / potential pitfall. A common preposition for “pitfall + preposition” is *in*: pitfalls *in* diagnosis / evaluation / interpretation / management, etc.

Similar words used figuratively to express **danger** include: bomb, booby trap, landmine, line of fire, minefield, powder keg, and tripwire, all from the military domain. A less used but perfectly apt word is “third rail” which refers to trains, electricity, and electrocution: “Social security reform / gun control is the third rail of US politics.”

## Epithets

Most of us learned epithets like “Rosy Fingered Dawn” (*The Iliad*) and “The Whale Road” and the “The Swan Road” (*Beowulf*) in high-school literature courses. In the early 1900s, when whaling, walrusing and sealing were still big industries, writers would refer to important and powerful men as the “great whales of their profession.” Times have changed. Nowadays, we use epithets like “Mick (a blue terrier) is the *Michael Jordan* of the dog-show world” and “We know that Bolivia / Afghanistan can become the *Saudi Arabia* of lithium” and “Majid Abdullah, the *Pele* of the desert...” and “The fight against Tamil rebels was Sri Lanka’s *Vietnam*.” In this work epithets are recorded in the dictionary, and they are collected in the thesaurus in the category **epithet**.

Epithets commonly occur in the form, “the X of Y.” Mick (a blue terrier) is *the Michael Jordan of the dog-show world*. The Pribilofs are known as *the Galapagos of the North*.

Alternatives include “(the) Adj + X.” The adjective might be an adjective of nationality. The Haida Gwaii Islands have been referred to as *the Canadian Galapagos*. The Hawaiian Islands Marine National Park is *the American Galapagos*. “He studied counterinsurgency at Duntroon, *the Australian West Point*.” Or the adjective might be a color. In the early 19th century, in northwestern Illinois, lead was referred to as *gray gold*. In the 19th century the *white gold* was guano, in the 21st century it is lithium. Oil is frequently referred to as *black gold*, and so are the wonderful Khawlani coffee beans, picked red but dried until black, in Saudi Arabia’s Jazan province. And it is possible that the *blue gold* of the future will be bulk water shipments to arid countries. Cobalt has also been referred to as “blue gold.”

Yet another pattern is “(the) Possessive s + X.” The coral Triangle has been called *the Ocean’s Amazon*. “Why Eritrea is called *Africa’s North Korea*.” Hubei Province is *China’s new Ruhr Valley*. The Bali bombing was *Australia’s 9/11*.

Epithets are commonly introduced by *called*: Why Eritrea is called Africa’s North Korea (*The Economist* magazine); West Virginia *has been called* the Saudi Arabia of coal; the Great Bear Rain Forest *is often called* the Amazon of the North; Cerén *is sometimes called* the Pompeii of the New World (El Salvador); Borneo and its forests *are sometimes called* the lungs of Southeast Asia.

Or there is the variation with *so-called*: Kamuzu Academy in Malawi is the *so-called* “Eaton of Africa.”

Or *considered (to be)*: the *Andrea Doria* is *considered* the Mount Everest of wreck diving; Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy *is considered to be* Thailand’s West Point.

*Described as* can be used: the campaign *is often described as* the Stalingrad of the East (Battles of Kohima and Imphal in World War II).

Or *dubbed*: Northern California’s Salinas Valley *is often dubbed* America’s salad bowl; Xiyuangualu lychees *were dubbed* “the king of fruit”; Travis Patriquin *has been dubbed* the T.E. Lawrence of Iraq.

*Known* is quite common: he *is known as* Korea's Great Gatsby for his lavish lifestyle (Big Bang's Seungri); the Pribilofs *are known as* the Galapagos of the North; Ibrahim Rugova *was known as* the Gandhi of the Balkans; Bhutan, *once known as* the hermit kingdom of the Himalayas; the crash landing *became known as* the Miracle on the Hudson (Flight 1549).

Or *refer to* can be used: Unesco's citation *refers to Lake Baikal as* the "Galapagos of Russia"; El Paso *is often referred to as* the Ellis Island of the Southwest.

Finally, *said to be*: the Palestinians are *sometimes said to be* the Jews of the Arab world.

Note the tendency for the use of the passive, and the various adverbs of frequency.

Epithets often relate / compare (1) people to people (Ibrahim Rugova was known as the *Gandhi* of the Balkans) (2) geographical places and areas to geographical places and areas (Pipeline on the North Shore of Oahu is the *Mount Everest* of surfing waves) (3) institutions to institutions (Kamuzu Academy in Malawi is the so-called "*Eaton* of Africa") and (4) events to events (the Kuta Beach bombing was Australia's *9/11*).

Epithets can be quite thought provoking and the points of similarity (and dissimilarity) are always open for discussion and debate.

Consider *Vietnam* used as an epithet. That war has been compared to Egypt's intervention in Yemen, which occurred at the same time; Soviet intervention in Afghanistan in the 1980s; British involvement in that same country in 2006; and the Sri Lankan Civil War (1983-2009).

Both Colin Kaepernick and Meghan Rapinoe have been described as their generation's *Muhammed Ali*.

Such diverse peoples as Indo-Caribbean immigrants, Palestinians, Chinese, and Latinos have all been characterized as Jews, respectively of the Caribbean, the Arab world, the Far East, and of the 21st century. While the primary meaning relates to diaspora, nuances are certainly involved in every case.

Epithets for geographical places are quite common. Beautiful cities are often compared to a *pearl*: Manila, the *Pearl* of the Orient; Dubrovnik, the *Pearl* of the Adriatic, etc. One of my favorite epithets is the one for Lake Baikal, "the Blue Eye of Siberia." On the BBC news world map, you can just see it to the east of the larger Black and Caspian Seas and the smaller Lake Balkhash. My eye never fails to note it due to its beautiful epithet. In every respect it is an amazing lake. It even has archipelagoes. I would love to visit the Blue Eye of Siberia one day.

Finally, epithets often relate to **royalty**: Aretha Franklin, the *Queen* of Soul; Pat's *King* of Steaks; John George Bartholomew, the *Prince* of Cartography. Or to the **family**: Mohammad Ali Jinnah, the *father* of Pakistan; James Brown, the *Godfather* of Soul.

## Persons

A name for a **person** can figuratively relate to many things, especially a **role**. These names come from a number of domains.

A person might relate to an occupation. A *butcher* is associated with oppression, warfare, and slaughter, even though the friendly butchers at the supermarket where I buy my meat seem to be perfectly normal, friendly and helpful folks. We should all be a good *steward* of the land, even if we don't work on ships, trains, or airplanes. You can be an *ambassador* without being a member of the State Department, as Mike Tyson was when he visited China to promote boxing. "Adjuncts are the *field hands* of education" doesn't mean that adjuncts literally labor in the fields and pick crops. It means that they stoop to gain employment, get their hands dirty teaching actual classes, do all the heavy lifting, have little control over what they are paid, work seasonally, and usually have to travel a lot.

The names for members of a **family** used figuratively is a large category, no surprise, as the family is basic to every society. Some of the connotations seem as if they came from 19th century England as written about by Dickens, or from fairy tales. An *orphan* is bereft: "We need to develop orphan drugs for orphan diseases." A *stepchild* is neglected: "Intelligence officers have always held a stepchild position." The *favorite son* is favored: "Obama was welcomed to Ireland like a favorite son." The *stepmother* is evil and hates the poor *stepdaughter*: "The EU is a heartless stepmother trying to drive Greece out of the family." *Mother* and *father* commonly relate to creation: "Cokie Roberts, a founding mother of NPR" and "Ibrahim Rugova, the father of Kosovo..." Is it any surprise that *twin* represents connection? "The South's familiar twins, temperature and humidity..."

When we talk about **society**, we often use the words *outcast*, *leper* or *pariah* for those who are shunned and marginalized. Or *castaway*, like those poor unfortunates on Tromelin Island in the Indian Ocean. Or *hermit*, for those who voluntarily or involuntarily withdraw, like the Japanese *hikikomori*, or modern-day hermits.

Persons who are mentioned in regards to the **future** and making predictions include *fortuneteller*, *oracle*, *prophet*, *soothsayer*, and *seer*.

From the experience many of us had in our grade school and tweens and teens come *babysitter*, *bully*, *coach*, *chaperon*, *cheerleader*, *den mother*, *golden girl / boy* and *grownup*.

And many persons come from the domain of **religion**: *acolyte*, *choirboy*, *convert*, *crusader*, *devotee*, *disciple*, *evangelist*, *guru*, *heretic*, *iconoclast*, *martyr*, *missionary*, *oracle*, *prophet*, and *soothsayer*. A subset of these persons relate to **message**, no surprise, as every religion has its message.

All of the italicized words in this section have their entries in the dictionary, along with their collocations and exemplary sentences or fragments.

## The “container” metaphor

An expression like, “He has love / hatred *in* his heart for...” serves to remind us that the heart can be thought of as a **container**, just like a pitcher or a glass, based on the preposition *in*.

We have cognitive linguists to thank for identifying the container metaphor, and any ESL / EFL teacher will recognize its explanatory worth for idioms related to the heart, such as “I poured my heart into the job,” “I poured my heart out to her,” “She fills my heart with joy and laughter,” “The government wants to instill / put fear into the people’s hearts,” “They have goodness / hate / joy in their hearts,” “We’re going to hold / keep Lori Piestewa in our hearts forever,” etc. Idioms like these do not seem so arbitrary, random or odd when we think of the heart as being a container.

A situation is often thought of as a container: I got *in* / *into* trouble and I don’t know how to get *out*. I’m *in* the doghouse at work. I got *in* hot water with the boss. We’re *in* a tight spot.

Feelings and emotions can be thought of as being inside a container: Don’t *hold it in*. Don’t *bottle it up*. *Pent-up* frustrations can lead to violence. *Open up*. Let it *out*. I felt *drained* / *empty*. I felt a sense of *emptiness* (depression).

The container metaphor, while extremely interesting and useful, is not perfect. For example, the mind is a container in an expression like, “What do you have *in* mind?” or “He is *close-minded*,” or “Try to keep an *open* mind.” But the mind can be more like a platform in an expression like “What’s *on* your mind?” This can be discussed with students.

## Grammatical metaphor, fictive verbs, etc.

Angela Downing, in *English Grammar: A University Course* (Third Edition), devotes Chapter 27 to grammatical metaphor. She explains what that is, and gives good explanations for restatements that are not “typical.” She also gives excellent examples in that chapter, such as “Our evening walk along the river *took* us to Henley” and “August 12 *found* the travellers in Rome” (her examples) in which *take* and *find* are not used in their normal senses. Based on her work, I have included the following categories:

**Fictive communication** verbs include: *say*, *tell*, *read*, and *telegraph*. “The sign *said*, “Do not enter.” “The data *told us* there was a problem.” “His watch *read* 2 PM” “The film *telegraphs* to the audience that...” *Read* especially collocates with gauges and dials. There are many more verbs like these.

**Fictive motion.** These verbs include *go*, *run*, and *follow* and are used for things like paths, trails, rivers, roads, ropes, etc. that are essentially lines. Of course, there are many more such verbs. In her wonderful article, “Fictive motion in the context of mountaineering,” Ekaterina Egorova identifies over 70 fictive motion verbs from the world of mountaineering.

**Fictive position.** These are verbs that relate to position: *stand*, *sit* and *lie*. “The house *sat* on a hill,” “A lamp *stood* in the corner,” “The city *lies* in a valley.” They make a nice teaching set and can be taught as alternatives when we teach the “there” construction lesson.

**Fictive meeting & seeing** includes verbs like *meet*, *encounter*, *find*, *see*, and *witness*. This takes care of Downing’s examples, “August 12 *found* the travellers in Rome,” and “The last decade has *witnessed* an unprecedented rise in agricultural technology.” An attested example included in this work is, “23 May *saw* over 250 climbers trying to summit Mount Everest.” Clearly, the use of *find*, *see*, and *witness* collocates with a date or period of time at the subject position.

**Fictive possession** includes verbs like *capture*, *grab*, *grip*, *hold*, *possess*, and *seize*. “Now that we have *captured your imagination*, don’t make us come after the rest of you” is a clever TV advertisement from the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indian Nation promoting tourism.

**Fictive transportation** verbs include ones like *take*, *carry*, *transport*, *bring*, etc. This is how I have categorized “Our evening walk along the river *took* us to Henley.”

The **Part of speech** category collects words not used in their traditional part of speech, including nominalizations of verbs, a very important feature of grammatical metaphor, according to Downing. Five contemporary and popular examples include “It *looks* bad” / “That’s not a good *look*”; “When will she *reveal* her secret?” / “When will she make the big *reveal*?”; “What you *request* will be difficult to fulfill” / “That’s a big *ask*,” ; “Chris Boswell doesn’t *panic*” / “Chris Boswell doesn’t do *panic*” ; and “The company *failed*” / “It was a stunning *fail* (aeronautical software).”

The idea of grammatical metaphor helps us notice, explain and teach these usages.

## Past, present and future

We tend to think of the **past & present** and the **future** as lessons on grammar. But there are plenty of figurative and metaphorical ways to express the past, present and future, and they are all worth thinking about and mentioning to students.

A day can represent past, present and future. When we speak of the present, we can speak of *these days* and *nowadays*. And when we speak of the past, we can say *those days*, or *the old days*, or *back in the day*. When we speak of the future, we can say, “*Tomorrow...*”

The past, present and future is often thought of as movement based on a point of view. The statements, “Winter is approaching / coming / on the way” and “the big day has arrived” imply that things in the future come towards us. And that might be along a road: “When you don’t know what’s coming down the pike, you worry.” We commonly use this idea for scheduled events like deadlines, holidays, anniversaries, birthdays, seasons, etc. The idea is also expressed in statements like “We will have to stay here for a time to come” and “There might be problems in the coming months.”

But it can also seem like it is we who are moving toward the future: “We are approaching / coming up on the fifth anniversary of...,” etc. And “we” can be extended to inanimate things we would ordinarily never think of moving: “The region is heading towards war.”

Sometimes our forward movement makes it seem like we have all embarked on **journeys & trips**: “Nobody knows what is on the road ahead.” “Your job will get easier down the road.”

And time can relate to things, like the *horizon*: “War is on the horizon.” Or a *crystal ball* and *fortune teller*, especially in relation to predictions. The past can relate to a **clock**: “We don’t want to turn back the clock.” Or a *time capsule*. Or a *fossil* or *dinosaur* for something or someone old-fashioned.

Like the idea of heart mentioned above, we can think of the future as a container: “Nobody knows what is *in* the future.” “I wonder what the future *holds*.”

Way back in 1836 Emerson wrote, “Visible distance behind and before us, is respectively our image of memory and hope.” (*Nature*, Chapter 4, “Language.”) No doubt he was thinking of expressions like “Looking back on my life...” or “I’m looking forward to the wedding...” This sounds very much like the PAST IS BEHIND EGO and FUTURE IS IN FRONT OF EGO metaphors of today’s cognitive linguists.

I developed a special interest in Saudi Arabia in teaching language relating to the past, present and future. That is because, like many places in the world, Saudi Arabia is modernizing swiftly but unevenly. The past, present and future can all seem to exist in the same place at the same time. Generations, tribes, areas of the country, and even young men of the same age who grew up in the same place and tribe may be more modern, or less modern. As a teacher I donned the role of an elder, and would often make my students laugh by referring to myself as a fossil, or a dinosaur.

## Allusions

In this work a list of allusions in contemporary use can be found at **allusion**, allusions to history can be found at **history**, and allusions can also be noticed in the **epithet** category.

Adjectives that we often use for size are allusions: *behemoth*, *Brobdingnagian*, *colossal*, *gargantuan*, *Goliath*, *leviathan*, *Lilliputian*, *Olympian*, *Pharaonic*, *jumbo*, etc. On National Public Radio, I recently heard a commentator refer to Joe Biden as a political *behemoth*, which created an image in my mind that made me laugh. The word *jumbo* comes from the name of an Ethiopian elephant exhibited in the US and Canada by P.T. Barnum.

Other allusions come from old stories and children's stories. The *Goldilocks* fairytale has given us the modifier *Goldilocks* with the meaning of "just right" or "the sweet spot": the Goldilocks economy / place / principle / zone, etc. *Cinderella* relates to success in a phrase like "The school has become a viral Cinderella story."

Several allusions to Homer and the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* can be found in this work in the category **Iliad & Odyssey**. Five of them are very common: *odyssey* (the Mars Odyssey); *Trojan horse* (viruses, worms and Trojan Horses in computing); *Achilles' heel* (the knees are the skiers' Achilles' heel); *epic* (an epic day of surfing at Waimea Bay); and *siren* (seduced by the siren call of technology). These allusions will be remembered long after the details are forgotten of where each ship came from and who slew whom in what order.

In these strange times of fake news and the internet, it is interesting to consider contemporary allusions to **fantasy & reality**: curiouser and curiouser; El Dorado; heffalump (creature); Kafkaesque (adj), never-never land; quixotic (adj); rabbit hole; Twilight Zone; and Walter Mitty. Three of these allude to *Alice in Wonderland*.

And contemporary allusions to oppression include: draconian; Gestapo; inquisition; Lord of the Flies; McCarthy; McCarthyism, McCarthyite; Orwellian; pitchfork (oppression); procrustean; reign of terror / fear; and witch-hunt.

Allusions reflect our increasingly less and less shared knowledge, memory, history, culture, and education. In a North Carolina teacher-training class, an old biddy exhorted us to "go out and be the *Johnny Appleseed* of books!" I understood the allusion and took her exhortation to heart. But I am sure some of my younger classmates had never heard of Johnny Appleseed. The use of brackets in a BBC article about a vote of confidence is telling: "I very much fear if Johnson does win tonight it will be a Pyrrhic victory [one that comes at great cost]."

To my surprise, my Saudi students seemed knowledgeable of stories and proverbs from classical Greek and Roman sources, with no formal study of them.

Truly, as Auda Abu Tayi said, "The world is greater as we go back."

## Euphemisms

In this work a list of current euphemisms can be found in the category **euphemism**. We commonly use euphemisms for death and killing, sex, the body and bodily functions, and mental illness (“mental health”). Euphemism is part and parcel of the technology we now cannot live without: “cookies,” “The marketing industry calls them beacons or tags, critics describe them as being spy pixels,” etc. And in US politics: “The Affordable Care Act,” even if many can’t afford it, and the cheery sounding “Build Back Better Act”—would anyone build back worse? Of *course* in the military and policing. The old political correctness movement is responsible for a whole host of euphemisms: “crippled,” perfectly acceptable back in the day, has morphed to *handicapped, challenged, inconvenienced, and differently abled*, along with the attendant discussion and controversy along the way. People rail against the use of “retarded,” except, perhaps, lawyers before the Supreme Court, where the older term still has currency and a legal determination of retardation will save a murderer from execution.

The photographer Thomas Joshua Cooper has noted, “The cardinal points are always, historically, metaphors...” In the early part of the 20th century, “to go West” meant the destruction of a thing or the death of a person. A member of a tank crew in World War I wrote, “It’s a mile to your objective now, but it’s a mile of thrills... A one-pounder in a hedge scares you with several well-placed shots before it ‘goes west’ [is destroyed].” Paul De Kruif, in his book about public health titled *Men Against Death*, published in 1932, wrote about two doctors who had died: “In 1912 it [Rocky Mountain spotted fever] had sneaked into [Dr. Thomas B.] McClintic ... The Montana doctor, McCray...woke up with bloodshot eyes and an ache in his bones. In ten days McCray had gone West to join McClintic.”

Why west? What was the origin of this euphemism? I am speculating, but I think it might have to do with the idea of migration in its most broadest sense, of moving on. In the 19th century, America was on the move, settling the continent to the Pacific. There were many dangers, including disease, weather, violence, and accidents, especially drownings at river crossings. In *Ordeal of the Union*, Allan Nevins tells of the son of John James Audubon comforting a dying cholera victim on a wagon train in the Rio Grande Valley. “What hurts you, Ham?” Audubon asked. “My wife and children hurt me, Mr. John,” the man replied. Even if the pioneers survived, they might never be seen or heard from again back East. It would have been like they went West and died.

Nowadays, nobody uses the euphemism “to go West” to mean that somebody has died or something as been destroyed. “South” and “north,” however, continue to be used figuratively: each one with **numbers**, and the former in respect to **failure, accident & impairment** and **decline**. In this work, interesting quotations relating to the cardinal directions as metaphors can be found at *direction (symbol)*.

Contemporary euphemisms for death include: “He has passed (on).” “We mourn his passing.” “He is no longer with us.” “He has gone away (too soon).” “He is gone.” “We salute the fallen.” “He gave his life.” “He lost his life.” “The suspect is deceased.” “He succumbed to the injuries

on the way to the hospital,” “He was pronounced,” etc. That last is astonishing, as it simply drops the predicate adjective *dead*, as though mentioning that word would be impolite.

Very sinister euphemisms relate to **hygiene**. I taught English in Kosovo, and the phrase, “Ethnic cleansing” always makes me shiver. If you make the trek to Ibrahim Rugova’s grave—a beautiful, peaceful spot high up on a hill overlooking Pristina on one side and the countryside on the other, where there is a park where mothers bring their babies and children to play and where the elderly sit—on the walk up you will notice a plaque commemorating the victims of a massacre. Such plaques are ubiquitous across Kosovo. And on a street alongside that park, there is a villa with a plaque identifying the villa as a place for the rehabilitation of torture victims... While looking up at a window, I thought I saw a curtain move, and my hair turned greyer. Once, on the walk down, I noticed a parked UN van and stopped to examine the sign on its side. The van belonged to a forensic team that located the graves of executed Kosovars and tried to identify the victims. The U.S. Fulbright Scholar at the university once said to me, “Why is there a statue of a KLA guy with a Kalashnikov downtown? Why can’t they just get over it and move on?” All I could think was, “Back home we’re *still* fighting the Civil War.”

The military is well known for euphemisms. When a military airplane crashed through the roof of a civilian warehouse here in the U.S., a military spokesman said, “We have secured the armaments package, which will be properly disposed of. Safety is our utmost priority.” An aggressive reporter got him to belligerently admit that the “armaments package” consisted of live rounds and missiles, which thankfully had not gone off in the fire. It is worth noting that American troops have not been bombed from the air by enemy airplanes since the Korean War. We have been very very lucky.

In the extraordinary documentary film *A Sniper’s War* the following exchange occurs: “What does it mean ‘to do your job’?” / “To get rid of their snipers and gunners, so that our infantry can move ahead.” / “What does it mean ‘get rid of them’?” / “To eliminate. To kill.” In a report about an ISIS cell, a reporter said, “The other two suspected members of this ISIS cell, by the way, they are already *off the board*. Uh, the ringleader... was killed in a drone strike in 2015, and the other was captured in Turkey, where he was tried, convicted and sentenced to prison...”

In the U.S., the police are a paramilitary organization, with corresponding language, as exemplified by an extract from a press release: “The officer involved in this particular OIS was wearing his BWC, which captured the OIS as it occurred... In the coming days, the... Department will be releasing our second Critical Incident Community Briefing, explaining what occurred during the OIS on July 5, 2019.” From such language you would never guess that the press release concerned the case of a 17-year-old girl who was shot to death after being pulled over for speeding. (An OIS is an officer-involved shooting and a BWC is a body-worn camera.)

Or the latest shame, the school shooting in Uvalde, Texas. “The on-scene commander at the time believed that it had transitioned from an active shooter to a barricaded subject...”

Similarly, a police spokesman recently told reporters, “Our special assignments unit, also known as the SWAT Team, responded and attempted to work towards a tactical resolution of the

incident...” During this “incident,” nine cops were shot or hit by shrapnel in an ambush, two people died, and a baby was rescued from a doorstep.

Even public officials grow sick and tired of their euphemisms. Police Chief James Cervera of the Virginia Beach Police Department said the following at a press conference, after a mass shooting on May 31, 2019.

“Right now we have a lot of questions. The whys, they will come later. Right now, we have more questions really than we have answers. We are a little more than two hours into this event. And we use the word *event*, that’s a cop term, this devastating incident that happened, that none of us want to be here talking about, this devastating incident which is going to change the lives of a number of families from our city.”

## Gestures and bodily reactions

In 1836 Emerson wrote, “*supercilious* [means] the *raising of the eyebrow* (*Nature*, Chapter 4, “Language”). Using his pattern, we could say that attention means the turning of the head, confusion the scratching of the head, surprise the popping of the eyes, etc.

Every culture has its gestures, and gestures are an important nonverbal way to communicate. Gestures can relate to such basic meanings as signaling yes and no, or signaling a moving car to stop for you. I once noticed a book at a yard sale with the interesting title *How To Speak Italian*. Curious because it was so thin and one of my brothers lives in Italy, I picked it up and opened it up. It simply consisted of photographs of Italians making gestures, with text explaining what those gestures meant. I laughed, because it does seem to me that the Italians have a lot of unique gestures.

But gestures, and the meaning of those gestures that are lexicalized in language, are not shared in every country. A person who reads, “He received the thumbs up on his proposal” must know that “thumbs up” refers to a positive judgment to understand the message. A person who reads, “His statement left a lot of people scratching their heads” must know that the gesture relates to incomprehension, even though no one actually does it. A person who hears, “I’ll keep my fingers crossed,” must know that that gesture relates to hope and fate. Or that “to roll up one’s sleeves” means to get to work (not every culture wears clothing similar to ours.) Language associated with gestures or a bodily reaction can confuse even those within the same country. For example, a Northerner in the US might take a second to process the meaning of a statement like, “When I heard what happened, I got chill bumps,” as said by a person from the southern Appalachians.

And gestures and particularly bodily reactions are often used to express emotional effect. If the performance of a person in a play was wonderful, I might say it was *brehtaking* or it *took my breath away*. If it was boring, I might say it was a big *yawn*. If it was horrible for some reason, I might say it made me *retch*.

The importance of gesture in communication is an important part of the online experience. In text language, *smh* stands for “shaking my head,” and in 2015 a face-with-rolling-eyes Emoji became available. LMAO is an example of hyperbole.

Everyone nowadays should be knowledgeable about gestures. The thumbs-up symbol does not mean the same thing in every culture. In recent years the okay sign—the sign formed by making a circle with the thumb and index finger, has become an Alt-right meme. Using it in certain contexts nowadays can have repercussions. In academia, eye-rolling can be considered a sign of patriarchy and a micro-aggression, which causes some to roll their eyes. In different cultures, winking can have a meaning you might not suspect. Pointing at a person or snapping your fingers may or may not be appropriate.

For a listing of gestures and bodily reactions that have been lexicalized in American English, see **gesture** and **bodily reaction** in the thesaurus. It is quite a large category and a rather important one, I think.

## Shapes and parts-whole

How is a graph like the landscape? Well, both have *peaks* and *valleys* and *plateaus*. In addition, a graph can have a *spike*, and the line might be in the shape of a *bell curve*, or characterized as carrying a long *tail*. Peaks, valleys, plateaus, spikes, bells and tails are not just things, but shapes.

In the dictionary I use, the horn of an animal is the first sense. “Shaped like or suggesting” is the seventh sense. The tenth sense is geological: a horn is a geological feature. The Matterhorn, geologically speaking, is a horn. In case you are wondering, the musical instrument is the *eighth* sense. And that is the sense that we always teach.

Many simple words we teach have the meaning of “resembling or having the shape of” or “suggesting” or “regarded as like.” Examples are everywhere.

The alphabet: A-frame; T-bone; T-bar; V-neck; Z-drag.

Traffic and roads: bottleneck; dogleg; hairpin, T-intersection, U-turn, washboard (road).

Body shapes: heart (heart-shaped face); hourglass figure / waist; pear (pear-shaped body).

Parts of the body: A plane has a nose, tail, and belly. A bed has a foot and a head. A chair can have legs, a back and arms. Needles, potatoes, coconuts, and hurricanes all have eyes. A mountain range has foothills.

Words relating to shapes often appear in geographical place names: the banana *belt*; the Parrot’s *Beak* (Cambodia and Guinea); the *boot* of Italy; the *Wakhan Corridor*; the *Eye of the Sun* (in Monument Valley, Arizona); the *Horn of Africa*; the Florida *panhandle*; *Ribbon Reef*; *Table Mountain* (Cape Town); the *Coral / Afar Triangle*; *Wave Rock* (western Australia), etc.

Younger teachers might not know what the washboard in a *washboard road* refers to. But I can remember my mother using one, as well as an electric wringer, and a clothes line.

While I was teaching a high-school ESL lesson based on the map, a Honduran girl told me, “Chile is shaped like a chili.” It was something I had never heard before and have never forgotten. Truly, the students teach the teacher.

In the dictionary I use, the very first main entry is *A*, and the first sense defines it as a letter. The second main entry is also *A*, and the first sense defines it as a *shape*. It is like that for every letter thereafter. The letters are not just letters, they are shapes.

Here’s a wonderful riddle: What has bridges, canals, cavities, clefts, fissures, floors, isthmuses, lakes, mounds, orbits, pipes, pits, roofs, tubes, vestibules, and walls, but is not anything related to the earth or a building? A hint: the answer is closer than you think. Answer: the human body! This riddle makes us realize that the body has many parts resembling terrain features and infrastructure.

“Long lines of women, bent double like inverted capital Ls, work their way slowly across the fields...” That’s a line from “Marrakech” by Eric Blair. I can see them.

## Animacy

Anthropomorphism has been a feature of literature for ages. Anthropomorphic animal stories are as ancient as Aesop and include favorites like *White Fang* by Jack London and “Rikki-Tikki-Tavi” by Rudyard Kipling. Only once in Saudi Arabia, many years ago, did a very literal-minded student rebuke me for telling an animal story. “An animal can talk?” he said frowning, raising an eyebrow. I am pretty sure his classmates told him to shut up, and I finished telling the story.

Traditionally in English things like a ship could be referred to as *she*. “Shelf *life*” is a relatively old term, and products have been referred to as a *family* and “first *generation* / second *generation*” for quite a long time. But the idea that technology is not only alive but sentient used to be relegated to science fiction. One thinks of HAL from the 1968 film *2001: A Space Odyssey*.

Well, 2001 has come and gone, and almost anything can be animate and sentient nowadays. The first obituary for a non-human being that I ever read was written by Henry Fountain way back in 2010 and appeared in *The New York Times* newspaper under the title, “ABE, Pioneering Robotic Undersea Explorer, Is Dead at 16.” I can still remember how surprised and delighted I was by the conceit. Extension? Now inanimate objects, like wheat, can have “biographies.” And nothing prevents a creative writer from writing an autobiography of... a flea (1887). *The Island of Missing Trees* by Elif Shafak, I read in a review, includes a sentient fig tree that partly narrates the story of two lovers. According to a review, the narrator of *The Pages* by Hugo Hamilton is a sentient book.

Now technology is *dumb*, *smart*, or *brilliant* and can even teach itself (AI). One goal of the Internet companies has been to habituate everyone, especially children, to address machines as though they were people. They have given their virtual assistants names like Siri, Alexa and Cortana and encouraged us to ask them questions, as if that were normal. They have succeeded completely.

“*Roaring Meg* (an English Civil Wars-era mortar) *resides* at Goodrich Castle...” “Recent investigation has found that the annual Great Whirl in the southwest Arabian sea has an average *life span* of 198 days.” “So where did you find this comet, where is it *living*?” “We climb where the avalanche *lives*.” “A cave *breathes*...”

Devotees, enthusiasts and experts, naturally enough, seem more prone to this kind of personification than the rest of us.

- Laird Hamilton has said, “Jaws doesn’t *like* a north swell,” and he ought to know.
- Colin Tudge wrote, “I *met* one in full bloom early one sunny July morning in the Cambridge University Botanic Garden.” Tudge was referring to a handkerchief tree.
- In the same way, Linda Mapes wrote, “The tree first *came into my life* along with John O’Keefe, a biologist...”
- Dr. Jeffrey B. Johnson, a Boise State volcanologist and National Geographic Explorer studying the Masaya Volcano in Nicaragua, explained, “Volcanoes like to *speak* in low-frequency sounds that humans can’t perceive called infrasound. So we developed sensors that we can deploy to listen to the volcanos *talk* to us.”

- An official at the Smithsonian’s National Air and Space Museum in Washington, DC, once said, “So the decision was made a number of years ago to take him off display and put him in storage... To have that step forward, just slightly, gives him more of a presence.” He was talking about Neil Armstrong’s *spacesuit*! The person interviewed about the great and beloved bell in the Elizabeth Tower in the Palace of Westminster in London perhaps was a bit more justified in saying, “And then we have Big Ben *himself*, about 13 and a half tons...”
- Dr. Catherine Walker from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution said the following about an iceberg: “I always watch A23 because we’re the same age. It calved in 1986 and it’s started to wiggle recently.” (“How a colossal block of ice became an obsession” by Jonathan Amos, BBC, 15 Jan 2022.)
- In 1989, after a deranged person tried to kill the Treaty Oak in Austin with poison, Texas, thousands of kids addressed letters to the tree with messages like, “We’re sorry this happened, get well soon.”
- In 2021, an adult homeowner in Kensington, New Hampshire, had to have the largest sugar maple in the state cut down because it had begun to rot and threatened her roof. She said, “She’s just at the end of her life. She is finally being euthanized. It’s unsafe and it’s not fair to her to let her stand out there and not be as beautiful as she always has been. I’m sad to see her go. It’s very emotional.”
- “Typically a sled dog will tell you, when they’re ready to retire. People always say, well dogs can’t talk, and that never makes sense to me, because I feel like they actually talk very clearly about what they want and what they need if you’re listening.” (Blair Braverman, dogsledder, about her dogs.)
- Lake Superior has a twitter account, Lake Superior @ LakeSuperior. “I am the greatest lake of all time. G.L.O.A.T. (she / her).” 313 Following 205.5K Followers.
- The honor for this type of sentiment must surely go to NASA, which has a Facebook page for the Perseverance Mars Rover. The following is a recent post: “My team has spotted something unexpected: It’s a piece of a thermal blanket that they think may have come from my descent stage, the rocket-powered jet pack that set me down on landing day last year.” Of course, that was picked up by online news purveyors across the country as clickbait: “Human trash discovered on Mars—but NASA’s explanation leaves unanswered questions” by Mark Price, Miami Herald, June 16, 2022. Of 88 comments on Yahoo, most were jocular, or condemned trash-leaving; no one commented on the absurdity of a first-person account by a machine.

I suspect that I am not the only person in the world to have said, “Thank you” at the automatic bank teller machine after withdrawing a little cash, or to have secretly felt relieved and grateful when “approved” appears on the machine that reads my debit card, or to mutter, “Okay, okay,” when the bossy self-scanner at the store tells me to make sure I have picked up my change, as if I would ever forget! That same scanner, which ends up saying, “Thank you for shopping at X,” might just be responsible for the sad death of “You’re welcome.” Just the other day the supermarket employ scanning my groceries at the checkout counter muttered “Come on, come

on” when the scanner was momentarily unable to read a bar code of a particular item. Her tone was both irritated and imploring. I was waiting. There were people behind me.

It is common to give inanimate and non-human objects agency. A common pattern is as follows: “I hadn’t planned to write a book on this topic, but the topic chose me.”

- The extraordinary Bernard Tomic said, “Tennis chose me. It’s something I never fell in love with.”
- The last line of Jim Bouton’s “gripping” baseball book, *Ball Four*, is: “You see, you spend a good piece of your life gripping a baseball, and in the end it turns out that it was the other way around.”
- *Seize* has a similar idea, in an expression like, “This idea that math was beautiful seized Paul Dirac.”
- In the film *Xiu Xiu, the Sent Down Girl*, Xiu Xiu asks Lao Jin, “Are you really going to spend your entire life raising horses?” and Lao Jin replies, “They raise me, too.”
- “Some say that humans domesticated wheat; others that wheat domesticated humans.” (“Flour Fixated” by Bee Wilson, *London Review of Books*, 24 September 2020.)
- David Benioff and DB Weiss, the writers of *Game of Thrones*, said, “When George Lucas built [Star Wars], he built us too.”
- In a similar vein, and nicely qualified: “If it’s possible for a place to save a life Sils-Maria saved Nietzsche’s.”
- The great actor Peter O’Toole said, “The part chooses me, I don’t choose it.”
- “I like a play to *choose me*. It just sort of stays with me and says, ‘Come on, do it. You know you want to do it, so *do it!*’” (The actor Al Pacino.)
- A Japanese saying has it, “With the first glass a man drinks wine, with the second glass the wine drinks the wine, with the third glass the wine drinks the man.” Many of us have been there before!
- Another proverb like that, common in Saudi Arabia, says, “A miser does not own money; money owns the miser.”
- I like what Winston Churchill said when he urged that the House of Commons, bombed in the war, should be re-created as an exact replica: “We shape our buildings and afterwards our buildings shape us.”
- In New Zealand and Bangladesh, rivers have been recognized as living entities and granted the same legal rights as persons.

There must be a bit of the animist in all of us. Colin Tudge’s quote above about “meeting” a handkerchief tree makes me think of what Fran James, a Lummi Indian, said about gathering bark from a cedar tree for a basket. “We talk to the trees. We say, ‘OK, we need some of your bark to help us; we’ll make something beautiful.’ You have to talk to it and thank it for giving you the bark. You have to go with a good heart. You can’t be cranky and fussy.” V. K. Arseniev once recorded Dersu on an early phonograph and played it back to him. Dersu listened, unsurprised to hear his own voice, and said, “Him talk true, not leave one word.”

See the dictionary entries for *born* and *live* (*alive / non-human*), and *die* (*non-human*).

On NPR, a person was talking recently about his favorite song. He said, “I’ll say I probably listen to this song a few times each week, whether it’s in the car or just telling Alexa to play it. There’s a story...” Suddenly, the voice of Alexa broke in: “Sorry. I don’t know that one.” And the interviewee went on, “I’m sorry, that was Alexa that said that, um...” before continuing to talk about his favorite song. This was not a toddler or a pet humorously upstaging an interviewee. This was *Alexa*. Interestingly, Alexa’s intrusion seemed to have made the interviewee lose his chain of thought and forget about the story he was about to tell. (“An NPR Listener Shares His Signature Song,” NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, July 20, 2019.)

The first obituary I read for a machine was in 2010. The first time I heard a personal assistant intrude into a nationally broadcast radio show was in 2019. What’s next?

[“When kids yell ‘Alexa, play poop,’ you’ll hear these songs,” NPR, All Things Considered, September 9, 2022.]

[“Imagine if you had a voice assistant that could write code for you, and you said, ‘Hey, Alexa, build me a Web site to sell shoes,’ Sanjay Sarma, a professor of mechanical engineering at M.I.T., told me on the phone. (Immediately, he pulled the receiver away to rebuff a device in the room: ‘Shut up, Alexa! No! No!’)” (“The End Of The English Major” by Nathan Heller, *The New Yorker*, March 6, 2023.)

## Persistence, survival and endurance

Isn't it interesting that people who have never hunted or trapped and who have never seen an actual pitfall much less dug one or filled one in still use the word? That medical textbooks list "pitfalls" in treatment? The use of a word like *pitfall* is a perfect example of how older technologies and activities and periods of life have disappeared yet persist in the language.

In 1870, railroading was the second largest occupation in the US, behind farming, and grist mills used to dot our streams and rivers. Things have certainly changed! Even so, the category of figurative language from the category **train** and **farming & agriculture** is huge, the term "grist for the mill," is still popular, and "term-paper mills" proliferate on the internet. Few send letters or postcards nowadays, but NPR still has "audio postcards," and a book like *Deacon King Kong* by the great writer James McBride can be described as a "love letter to New York City." Honestly, who sends actual love letters nowadays?

At one time in our history the **horse** was king of the road and bicycles, electric trains, and cars shared the road with them, not vice versa. On May 3, 1908, a headline in *The New York Times* screamed: "J. B. SCHUCHMAN HURT IN A RUNAWAY / Horse He had Just Bought for Speedway Parade Dashes into a Trolley Car. / JUDGE THROUGH A WINDOW / Lands in the Lap of Little Girl Passenger and Both Are Cut by Glass—Horse Breaks His Leg." Nowadays in New York City about the only reminders from that era are fading ghost signs on brick walls with messages like: TO LET / CARRIAGES COUPES HANSOMS VICTORIAS LIGHT WAGONS / HORSES BOARD BY THE MONTH."

Things have changed. Yet everyone still uses and understands language associated with horses. I was lucky as a boy: my grandfather had a horse, and I have fond memories of riding him along country roads and swimming him through the leech-infested pond below my grandpa's shack. You have to cling on tightly to the mane of a horse when riding bareback, especially when the horse arises out of the water up a steep bank. Words like *runaway* and *reins* and *bridle* and *saddle* and *gallop* are used figuratively nowadays in a sentence like, "We have got to find a way to rein in galloping inflation," but for me those words will always have a psychological reality. It is not easy to be a small boy in control a very large wayward horse. I *know* that.

After 1958 more people crossed the Atlantic by **plane** than **boat**, yet figurative language related to boats will always persist: the *spaceship* and *spaceport* pay homage to sailing ships, and our old space shuttles were named for famous ships associated with great explorers: the *Challenger*, *Discovery*, *Atlantis*, and *Endeavour*.

Today, when we think of wireless communication we think of the internet, not Marconi and wireless telegraphy. But "Internet communication has its roots in the wireless rooms aboard the great ocean liners," as Kat Long has noted. I used to have a fading yellow and black Western Union telegram I sent my parents from the *Queen Elizabeth* in a folder I labeled "My favorite things." It may still be there. In January, in 1971, at Fort Knox, Kentucky, I took lessons in Morse Code with many others; the military phased out most training in it long ago, but a boxer can still *telegraph* a punch, or a movie a plot point. The telegraph lives on in the language, and

the SOS—three longs and three shorts, whether pounding a rock on a wall, or blinking your eyes—is still relevant to this very day, for those who still know.

Religiosity has had its ups and downs in the US and elsewhere, but figurative language relating to **religion** will never disappear, no matter how secular the world becomes. And this especially relates to topography: in every country there is a Devils Backbone (Espinazo del Diablo), Courthouse (Majlis al Jinn), Falls, Highway, Pulpit, Throne, etc. And every religion has contributed words to English: *fetish* (West Africa), *taboo* (South Seas); *Delphic*, *muse*, *oracle*, *Pandora's box*, *soothsayer* (pagan); *karma*, *juggernaut*, *sacred cow*, *guru*, *mantra*, *avatar* (Hindu); *mecca* and *hegira* (Islam); *kowtow* (Confucianism); *mantra* (Buddhism), etc.

We Americans pride ourselves on our anti-monarchical revolution but we still and forever will link the idea of **royalty** with the **superlative** in **epithets** like “Aretha Franklin, the Queen of Soul,” “Burger King,” “Mattress King,” and the prom / 4H king and queen. I once attended a country-themed restaurant in Atlanta with family members. My brother-in-law held his young son up to a portrait of Elvis Presley and told him, “Say hello to the King.” We all laughed. Many persons associated with royalty are used figuratively, less obvious ones including *whipping boy* and *handmaiden*. Just because we had a revolution doesn't mean we reject royalty.

At one time spitjack was a job category and there was a dog, *Canis vertigus*, that was actually bred to turn a spit. Nowadays inserting a spit, once a common task, is a lost art. But the verb *skewer* will always exist, in the sense, “We skewered him at the comedy roast.” Of course, there are many words used figuratively that come from the category of **food & drink**. Likewise, there were once hundreds of job categories related to the manufacture of cloth that are anachronistic now in my adopted state of North Carolina. And yet, figurative language associated with **cloth** persists.

Above, I mentioned my mother using a washboard. A washboard, a tub, and a then-modern electric wringer sat on the porch of a house I once lived in as a boy. Once I got my arm stuck in that wringer and had to be taken to the hospital. The pale scar on the inside of my arm just below my left elbow is a reminder that a part of me *went through the wringer*...literally! After my mother had scrubbed the laundry on the washboard, and wrung it in the electric wringer, she would hang it on a clothesline to dry. As a boy, I was literally *clotheslined* once while riding my bicycle, and when I got bigger and older the same thing happened on the football field, and “clothesline injuries” are an important part of emergency medicine. Finally I would watch her *iron out the wrinkles* with an electric iron. In the very old days before electricity, a clothes iron was filled with coals from a fire, and the woman would moisten a sheet by spitting water on it. Most of us don't go through this process anymore to clean our clothes. But these words associated with laundry and many others persist. And so we try to *iron out the wrinkles* in a plan and politicians come up with a “laundry list” of reforms to deal with the problems of the day.

In ancient times, when I was a boy, I can remember drinking from a public water cooler when that was a boon, to be able to slake my thirst with free, thirst-quenching, life-giving water. Who drinks from a public watercooler anymore? Nowadays, office people buy their own brands and flavors of water, and everyone from joggers and hikers to athletes and soldiers drink from

camelbacks. After the scandal of Flint, Michigan, who would *trust* water from a watercooler? Not to mention that, in this time of COVID, everyone is working from home, and this will no doubt continue post-pandemic. Who needs a watercooler to be a gathering place to communicate with anyone when we can simply text one another? And yet, cultural critics still talk about “watercooler shows” and “watercooler gossip.” As a cultural practice, meeting for a cold, free cup of water at a watercooler and exchanging gossip is as dead as the dodo. But, like the dodo, it lives on in our language. It lives on. It lives. For all of our acceptance of the new, trendy contempo-speak language, maybe we should acknowledge and pay a bit of homage to the old language that has persisted.

## Quotations

There are many wonderful quotes relating to or utilizing metaphor and figurative language. Following are six that are meaningful to me.

1. “Words are signs of natural facts... *Right* means *straight*; *wrong* means *twisted*. *Spirit* primarily means *wind*; *transgression*, the crossing of a *line*; *supercilious*, the *raising of the eyebrow*. We say the *heart* to express emotion, the *head* to denote thought... / An enraged man is a lion, a cunning man is a fox, a firm man is a rock, a learned man is a torch. A lamb is innocence; a snake is subtle spite; flowers express to us the delicate affections. Light and darkness are our familiar expression for knowledge and ignorance; and heat for love. Visible distance behind and before us, is respectively our image of memory and hope. / Who looks upon a river in a meditative hour and is not reminded of the flux of all things? Throw a stone into the stream, and the circles that propagate themselves are the beautiful type of all influence...” (*Nature*, Chapter 4 (Language), by Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1836.)

I like the above because in a short space Emerson lists beautifully and concisely so many metaphors. The “circles that propagate themselves” is entered in this dictionary at *ripple*. A related word is *splash*. Both words are metaphors for **effect** that relate to **water**.

2. “It was doubtless an ingenious idea to call the camel the ship of the desert, but it would hardly lead one far in training that useful beast.” (George Eliot’s *The Mill on the Floss*.) The above quote reminds me that, while a metaphor identifies something that two things have in common, plenty of things are still different. A ship does not have long eyelashes, has not been branded, does not roar, gurgle, bellow, foam from the mouth to the point of producing airborne balloons of saliva, attract huge spiders, produce delicious and healthy milk and meat, etc. “The camel is a ship?” a Saudi military student remarked to me once, disappointingly.

And people will see things differently, as in the parable of the “Blind men and an elephant.” Data has been compared to a gas (the cloud); water (data stream); and a solid (data mining). Bitcoin servers have been described as both farms and mines. The spread of COVID-19 is often thought of as a wave, and Dr. Roger Shapiro nicely extended that to a wave in a pool that sloshes around, back and forth, leaving and returning. The myth of Sisyphus can mean different things—difficulty, futility, or something that never ends—and the adjectives *promethean* and *quixotic* can have quite different connotations: as I get older, my sympathy for Quixote increases, and I think of him as less crazy and more of an inspiration. The title of Dickens’ great book is commonly misappropriated: See “Please, Liberals: Stop Abusing ‘A Tale of Two Cities’” by Reid Cherlin, *The New Republic*, Jan 2, 2014. It is not always clear which meaning or connotation is meant. Many say we should view the problem of drug addiction as a public health issue, not as a war on drugs, and yet the phrase “public health campaign” has always had a warlike ring, and the metaphor of disease as an enemy has come to the fore in the era of COVID-19.

Should we really single out the donkey for ridicule and use it as an insult? I don't think so. "Without a donkey, my wife and I are forced to be donkeys" is something farmers say in Ethiopia. Does the octopus really deserve its iconic depiction in political cartoons as a global strangler? No. I once floated about one for half an hour on a shallow reef in the Red Sea, and its fascinating shape- and color-changing is something I will never forget. Is a frilled shark, or a sturgeon, really horrific looking? Some think they are beautiful.

But even if the similarities between two different things are not always obvious, or are tenuous, or even upset me, I almost *always* find them worth thinking about. In my opinion, allusions to Joe McCarthy, Machiavelli, and Hector do little justice to those men. The idiom "to hang somebody out to dry" has come to mean *abandon*, but nobody hangs up their laundry and abandons it. Gibbeting fits the idea *much* better. "Yemen was Egypt's Vietnam" makes me think of a host of dissimilarities, but I must admit, upon reflection, that there *are* plenty of similarities, such as the time period, and the proximity of safe havens across a border.

The title of Leon Talley's memoir, *The Chiffon Trenches*, shows just how "ingenious" a metaphor can be, how much ground, time and human condition it can cover, from the bloodiest battlefields of Passchendaele and Verdun to...well, to *Vogue Magazine*. In one popular video cute ten-year-old Nandi Bushell is a "beast" on the drums, while in another a Marine Corps rammer identified only as "Wolf" is a "beast" on a howitzer mission. Both are "beasts." Roland Huntford described the Ross Ice Shelf as "that rolling Sahara of snow," which sounds odd at first, but there are many comparisons that can be made between the Sahara and the Antarctic. For example, hydrating in both environments can be a huge problem: Antarctica *is* a polar desert. Huntford was writing specifically about the lack of terrain landmarks. The question is always, as Nathaniel Mackey stated, "How different can two things be and still have something in common?"

Steve Inskeep of NPR severely strains the notion with his "Patrons still receive service at flooded riverside restaurant in Thailand," NPR, Morning Edition, October 8, 2021, although I'm sure he had his reasons. Not too many of us are like the divorce-court judge who is interested in "whether a dog is more like a lamp or a human being."

3. "I looked at *The Sixteenth Round* as puttin' a letter in a bottle and throwin' it out over those 36-foot-high walls into the ocean of life, like a bobbin' bottle, and hoping upon hope that somebody, somehow, someday, will see this bobbin' bottle in the water, take this bottle up, read my message, and come to help me. And that's what happened. That's what happened." (Rubin "Hurricane" Carter. From "The Hurricane Tapes," Ep6. Muhammad Ali and Bob Dylan, BBC Sounds.)

This strikes me as a particularly beautiful, eloquent and heartfelt use of figurative language, using one extended metaphor.

4. “Yeah, I generally think this is a fairly minor deal. At the same time, it could actually backfire on Bill Barr. Because, if he thinks it’s necessary to pre-spin this, that means that there’s something in there that needs to be pre-spun. And if he’s too heavy handed about that, it can actually just throw gasoline on the daily media feeding frenzies that we have [inaudible].” (The commentator Jonah Goldberg on “Before Mueller Report Is Released, Republicans And Democrats Take Sides,” NPR’s Morning Edition, April 18, 2019.)

I love this quote for its contrast to the one above it. To paraphrase a line from Kipling’s short story, “The Phantom ‘Rickshaw””: “Men occasionally break down and become as mixed as their metaphors.”

5. Elisabeth Moss: I just did it, and just kind of went as big as I could and threw it all at the wall knowing the only mistake we could make was not going far enough. And so we just went for it... / Rachael Martin: Did he ever have to pull you back. I mean did it ever feel too far, or were you like, “Nope...” / Elisabeth Moss: I had turned it up to eleven and then realized I had to go even higher... (“In ‘Her Smell,’ Elisabeth Moss ‘Turned It Up To 11,’ Then Turned It Up Some More,” Morning Edition, NPR, April 19, 2019.)

In the above, Elisabeth Moss is speaking about her performance in the film *Her Smell*. I like it because it is a good litany of clichés relating to **commitment & determination**. One has to respect commitment in an actor. But when it comes to such declarations, I like what Alex Lowe said: “There are two kinds of climbers. Those who climb because their heart sings when they’re in the mountains, and all the rest.”

6. “It can’t surprise us that our language began with metaphors. Words are being made today under our own eyes in precisely the same fashion. Witness the terse and vivid terms that the gangsters coin: gun moll, for the racketeer’s girl-friend; hot seat, for the electric chair; stool pigeon, for the traitor who acts as a spy for the police.” (*Word Origins and Their Romantic Stories* by Wilfred Funk, Litt. D., 1950.)

This is a good reminder that language is constantly evolving, and what sounds novel and contemporary today will sound as dated as Funk’s examples in twenty years.

## Synonyms and opposites

As teachers, we are accustomed to mentioning synonyms, opposites, and patterns like succeed / fail / give up / try again. We can do the same with figurative language, and this dictionary and thesaurus will help.

1. You can *launch, roll out, unveil, take the wraps off* a product, or *drop* it (**inauguration**).
2. You can leave somebody in your *wake*. Or in your *dust*. Or in your *slipstream*. These are entered at **competition: movement**. The first relates to boats and water. The second to land and horses. The last to planes and air.
3. The opposite of *tone deaf* is... *pitch perfect*. A person can also *strike all the right notes*, or have a *tin ear* (**music**).
4. If you achieve something, people might *sing your praises*, but more than likely your achievement will be *unsung* (**achievement, recognition & praise**).
5. Something can be *a stone in one's shoe* or *a burr in one's saddle* (**affliction**).
6. You can *hew to a line* or... *go against the grain*. Both phrases relate to wood (**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity / tree**).
7. You can be on the *cusp* of something, or *light years* away from it (**proximity: astronomy**).
8. You can *face* a problem or *turn a blind eye* to it or *look away*. You can *kick the can down the road* or *push something* (like a decision) *down the road*. You can *tackle* a problem or *punt* or try to *run out the clock*. Or, you can *throw your hands up in the air* or engage in *handwringing* (**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things**).
9. You can *give a hand, lend a hand*, or *pitch in* (**help & assistance**).
10. You can try to save your *neck* or your *skin* or your *scalp* (**survival, persistence & endurance**).
11. Socially, you might find *a place at the table* or *under the tent*. Or, you might find yourself *outside* in the cold, *frozen out, in the shadows*, on the *fringes* of society, out of the *mainstream*, in *exile, in the wilderness, on the far shore*. You might find yourself to be a *castaway, hermit, leper, outcast, outsider, pariah, untouchable, a ghost*. Good luck with that (**social interaction, society, and inclusion & exclusion**)!
12. A new job might be a *plum* position or a *poisoned chalice*.
13. In bad times your life might be *on hold*, and you might find yourself *in purgatory* or *in limbo*. In a *drought* or a *dry spell*. You might feel *adrift*, in the *doldrums*, unable to make *headway, going in circles, rudderless. Chasing your tail. Standing still*. In a *blind alley*. Or *mired, sidetracked, stuck, stalled, in a rut* and *spinning your wheels. Going nowhere, or backwards* and *lagging behind. Losing ground. Stumbling* or taking a *step backward* (**progress & lack of progress**).
14. Or, you can be *on a roll* with lots of *momentum* and *traction, advancing, getting ahead, going forward, making headway, gaining ground, leaping* or *vaulting ahead*.
15. Somebody can *add fuel* to a controversy, *pour gasoline on it, fan* it, or provide *oxygen* for it. Something can become an *accelerant*.
16. You can be *up to your elbows / neck / eyeballs, in over your head, drowning, buried alive, immersed, enmeshed, entangled, or ensnared* in something like debt or some other situation. I hope things get better for you (**involvement**)!

17. You can *hold* your employees' feet to the fire or *light a fire under* them. You can *nudge*, *push*, *prod*, *goad*, *cudgel*, *hector*, or *bully* them, *lean on* them, *twist their arms*, *strongarm* them, *hold a gun to their heads*, *crack the whip*, *ride herd* over them, etc. Just don't expect them to attend your birthday party (**coercion & motivation**)!
18. You can *stroll*, *coast*, *waltz* or *sail* to success (**attainment**). Something you do might be a *cakewalk*, a *stroll in the park*, a *picnic*. Or a *Gallipoli*, a long hard *slog*, a *trail of tears* (**difficulty, easiness & effort**).
19. If you are searching for something, you might hit *pay dirt* or *fool's gold* (**success & failure / mining**).
20. A division might be the *favorite son* or *stepchild / stepdaughter / orphan* of its parent organization (**family**).
21. You can say, "That ship has sailed" or "That train has left the station." Both relate to **timeliness & lack of timeliness**. The two cliches always make me think of that scene from *Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery*: "Your dad loved her very much. If there was one other cat in this world that could have loved her and treated her as well as your dad, then it was me. But, unfortunately, for yours truly, that train has sailed."
22. You can try and *throw somebody off the scent*, *throw somebody off the trail*, or *cover your tracks*. This language all relates to **pursuit, capture & escape**, and **hunting**.
23. The president might try to *bypass*, *go around*, *sidestep*, or make an *end run* around congress.
24. In terms of interest and responsibility, something can be *in your wheelhouse*, *in your lane*, or *up your alley*. Or not.
25. You can *bury* or *exorcise the ghosts* or *put something to rest / bed / sleep*. *Bury the hatchet* or *close the book* on something. *Put it behind you*, *let it go*. *Move on*. Emotional and psychological wounds can *heal* or *scab over*. These phrases relate to **reconciliation, resolution & conclusion**. Just don't forget, a buried hatchet can always be dug up.
26. In terms of **sports & games**, you can *drop the ball*, *fumble*, *miscue*, *drop the baton*, *strike out*, or *score an own goal*. Or the opposite: *hit a home run*, *hit a grand slam*, *hit it out of the park*, get your project *through the uprights* or *across the goal line*. In which case, you might just want to take a *victory lap*. Or *spike the football*.
27. If you *pull the plug* on something like a project, it can *go down the drain*, *pipes*, or *tubes*.
28. You can be the *father*, *godfather*, *midwife*, *architect* or *author* of something like a plan or policy or program.
29. Urban warfare (MOU) versus desert warfare can be described as *a different animal / a different beast / or a different kettle of fish*.
30. The Arctic might be a *factory* or a *kitchen* for weather. Both relate to **creation & transformation**. Many of the new terms people use nowadays to talk about race have been cooked up in the kitchen of sociology.
31. You can "cut corners" or "take a shortcut." Or, the opposite, you can "go the extra mile" or "go out of your way." All relate to **journeys & trips**. Enjoy your hike!
32. "If you wanna win it, ya gotta *bring it*." "I *left it* all out there on the floor along with my guys." (This connection is made at **commitment & determination: coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning**.)

33. You can grow up in your father's shadow. Or in his reflected glory. Hopefully the latter, but both are based on **light & darkness**.
34. You might feel like you are on a slow boat to China, or you are going full speed ahead. Both relate to the **speed** of a **boat**.

People often pair conventional language with a cliché, almost like a translation, and will even triple up on clichés, like a boxer peppering his opponent with jabs: “We must *oppose* him, we must *stand up to* him.” “This looks like *an inflection point, a turning point*.” “What’s the next *shoe to drop, what happens next?*” “What would justice have *looked like* in your view, what did you *want to happen* here?” “They want to *fill in the blanks, connect the dots*, and *figure out what’s going on*.” “There is a possibility we could see another pandemic in our lifetime. No one can run the odds about what kinds of *numbers that looks like*, you know, *how likely* that is...” “The groups *close ranks*, they *circle the wagons*...” “*Out-of-step, against-the-grain, different-drummer* types...” “It’s a *race against time*, it’s a *race against the clock* to get these animals (stranded pilot whales) refloated.”

## Lessons and exercises

1. A lesson and exercise might focus on words related to **health & medicine** used figuratively with the meaning of **condition and status**. Write the following on the board:

- the peace process is *dead and buried*
- the economic recovery has been *robust*
- businesses are *ailing*
- the soccer team is *on life support*
- small businesses are *hurting*
- earnings have been *anemic*
- the economy remains badly *wounded*
- the pace of economic growth is *moribund*
- reform is *dead*
- the economy is *healthy*

Ask students to identify (or underline) the words relating to **health & medicine** and also identify or underline the non-human subjects. Discuss. Ask students to organize the vocabulary on a cline from *robust* to *dead and buried*.

2. Create a simple matching exercise to illustrate a simple pattern of figurative usage that links problems (**flaws & lack of flaws**, etc.) to **amelioration & renewal**:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. There are some <i>wrinkles</i> in your plan.          | a. You need a <i>fresh</i> one.        |
| 2. That idea is <i>stale</i> .                           | b. We must <i>sharpen</i> them.        |
| 3. There is a security <i>hole</i> in our defenses.      | c. We must try to <i>defuse</i> it.    |
| 4. Why are you so <i>tense</i> ?                         | d. How can we gain <i>traction</i> ?   |
| 5. Our skills have grown <i>dull</i> .                   | e. We can <i>iron them out</i> .       |
| 6. The situation is <i>explosive</i> .                   | f. We must <i>patch</i> it immediately |
| 7. We're <i>stuck</i> . Our <i>wheels are spinning</i> . | g. You need to <i>unwind</i> .         |

3. Words and phrases for **increase & decrease / number** include:

- explode; shoot up; soar; grow; skyrocket; jump; go / shoot through the roof; peak; sky-high...
- plummet; dip; slide; drop; plunge; fall; tumble; cratered; sink...

We commonly use these words and phrases when we talk about numbers, prices, and rates. These words make a good simple category exercise. Write the words and phrases in alphabetical order on the board and ask students to categorize them as “increase” or “decrease.” If your classroom has a smartboard with “Vortex” software, create two vortices labeled “increase” and “decrease” and call on a student to slide each word into the correct vortex.

My students in Saudi Arabia liked Vortex exercises, because if the student standing in front of the classroom at the board slid a word into the wrong vortex, it would be spit out to his consternation and the delight of the other students.

Ask students about important rates and prices: the crime rate; the price of bread and medicine; the age of first marriage, etc. Are they low, high or sky high / through the roof? How have they changed over time? How do they compare with other countries or geographical areas?

4. We tend to think of the superlative as a series of grammar lessons and test questions based on form, but there is plenty of language (including proverbs) that embodies the *notion* of the superlative, and it can be gleaned in the thesaurus in the category **worth & lack of worth** and **superlative**.

- Every *monkey* is a \_\_\_\_\_ to its mother.
- Speech is *silver* but silence is \_\_\_\_\_.
- The jackal is a \_\_\_\_\_ in his own country.
- Who is the *Pele* of Saudi Arabia?
- Name a superlative fruit.
- Which bird sings the most beautifully?
- What does it mean when I say (pick any sports figure) was or is the GOAT? [Saudi students who know the literal meaning of a goat but who don't know what the acronym means are always delighted by this, and will use it to make double and even triple *entendres* to chaff their friends!]
- Which car is the *thoroughbred* of cars?
- Do you think that the lion is the *king* of beasts?
- What area or city is the baboon *capital* of Saudi Arabia?

Questions like these enliven routine grammar exercises. And don't forget, when a student answers, to ask why, which can engender debate between students!

5. To focus on all the ways to talk about the **future**, including the idea that the future is a **container**, ask students to select a piece of paper from a container. Each piece of paper would have a fortune written on it. Each student would get a little message about what lies *in* his future, what is *ahead* for him, what is *on his horizon*, what is *down the road*, the fate that is *approaching* him, etc. This exercise can lend itself to humor. *Of course*, such an exercise might not be appropriate in all contexts, cultures, and with certain students.
6. The following chart is based on collocations for *time* in the dictionary. Have your students point out or underline the collocations.

### Time is money

- |                             |                         |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Spend your money wisely. | Spend your time wisely. |
| 2. Use your money wisely.   | Use your time wisely.   |

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 3. Don't lose your money.              | Don't lose time.                   |
| 4. Stop wasting your money.            | Stop wasting your time.            |
| 5. You can run out of money.           | You can run out of time.           |
| 6. A delay will cost us money.         | A delay will cost us time.         |
| 7. We must buy weapons                 | and we must buy time to train.     |
| 8. We have lots of money but           | we don't have much time!           |
| 9. A thief steals your money.          | A friend steals your time.         |
| 10. It takes money to feed your child. | It takes time for a child to grow. |
| 11. Do you have \$100 to spare?        | Do you have a minute to spare?     |
| 12. A banker might lend you money.     | A teacher will lend you his time.  |
| 13. Give money to the poor.            | Give time to your family.          |
| 14. He who lives on borrowed money     | lives on borrowed time.            |
| 15. Make money to eat,                 | but make time for vacation, too.   |

7. In Saudi Arabia, everyone has made a campfire or a bonfire. After discussing that process, you can give your students the following simple fill-in-the-blank exercise that focuses on the figurative language associated with **fire**:

extinguish (verb); conflagration (noun); die out (verb); spark (noun); die down (verb); ashes (noun)

“The region is a tinderbox, and it will only take a \_\_\_\_\_ to set the whole area on fire. The result will be a \_\_\_\_\_ that will burn out of control and that no force, not even United Nations Peacekeepers, will be able to \_\_\_\_\_. The fire will eventually \_\_\_\_\_, but I doubt it will ever completely \_\_\_\_\_. We can only hope something positive will eventually arise from the \_\_\_\_\_.”

8. The following simple matching exercise uses a few of the expressions found in the thesaurus at **gesture**:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Was the movie <i>boring</i> ?                | a. It's time to <i>roll up our sleeves</i> . |
| 2. Did the captain <i>approve</i> your request? | b. Don't <i>point your finger</i> at me!     |
| 3. Well, let's <i>get back to work</i> .        | c. Nope, he gave it the <i>thumbs down</i> . |
| 4. Did the announcement <i>surprise</i> people? | d. I <i>salute</i> you.                      |
| 5. <i>Don't tell</i> anyone.                    | e. Yeah, it was a big <i>yawn</i> .          |
| 6. You did a <i>great job</i> , Saleh.          | f. Yes, it <i>raised eyebrows</i> .          |
| 7. Don't <i>blame</i> me. I didn't do it.       | g. Be <i>tightlipped</i> .                   |

9. The following exercise combines the names for lines along with some of the figurative uses found in this dictionary at *line*. My military students in Saudi Arabia found this exercise interesting. The \* indicates “sentence completion” and answers can vary.

**Imaginary lines are everywhere!**

1. What do we call the line between the earth or sea and the sky?
2. Ali shouldn't have done that. He was wrong. He \*
3. What is the line called between the land and a sea or ocean?
4. A military man must obey orders at all time. He must \*
5. What do we call a line of military vehicles all traveling together in the same direction?
6. If you step over that line, I will take action, because I consider that a \*
7. What do we call the line that divides the earth into the northern hemisphere and the southern hemisphere?
8. If you break a rule or cause an accident, the captain will send you to the guardhouse. The captain takes \*
9. What do we call the lines on the face or hands of an old person?
10. I must see others before I see you. Please be patient and \*

10. The following matching exercises focus on the car and its parts used figuratively. Most of the usages come from the glossary entries for **engine** and **mechanism**.

**Drive safely, and have a safe trip!**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. You need to get busy                       | a. it's time to <u>tap the brakes</u> on employment.         |
| 2. We have more than enough workers,          | b. we're just <u>spinning our wheels</u> .                   |
| 3. Who is in charge at the school?            | c. he's <u>asleep at the wheel</u> .                         |
| 4. Mr. South doesn't know what's going on,    | d. and <u>step on the gas</u> .                              |
| 5. We're not making any progress,             | e. Yeah, it's <u>firing on all cylinders</u> .               |
| 6. Anthony Joshua looks tired.                | f. Yeah, he's <u>running out of gas</u> .                    |
| 7. The factory is operating 24/7.             | g. Mr. South is <u>in the driver's seat</u> .                |
| 1. That was a difficult time in my life,      | a. and get ready for a <u>wild World Cup ride</u> .          |
| 2. We won't buy that company                  | b. Yeah, he's got a <u>great engine</u> .                    |
| 3. Look at Al-Dawsari run all over the field! | c. over the Hijaz for the next two days.                     |
| 4. The rainstorm will remain <u>parked</u>    | d. before we <u>kick the tires and look under the hood</u> . |
| 5. We aren't making much progress, are we?    | e. but I thank God it's <u>in the rear-view mirror</u> now.  |
| 6. <u>Fasten your seatbelts</u> , TV viewers, | f. No, our momentum has <u>stalled</u> .                     |
| 7. I haven't see Mr. North for two weeks.     | g. Didn't you hear? He had a nervous <u>breakdown!</u>       |
| 1. We're not making any progress, are we?     | a. No, we're <u>stuck in a ditch</u> .                       |

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 2. Anthony Joshua looks tired.                  | b. it's running at <u>full throttle</u> .      |
| 3. The factory is operating 24/7,               | c. is <u>a tune-up</u> for combat.             |
| 4. So who is in charge of the school now?       | d. Mr. North is <u>at the steering wheel</u> . |
| 5. All military training                        | e. Yeah, Usyk is a real <u>sparkplug</u> .     |
| 6. Just look at Usyk box circles around Joshua. | f. and <u>stay in your lane</u> .              |
| 7. You should mind your own business            | g. Yes, his <u>tank is empty</u> .             |

11. The following is based on the language found in the glossary entry for **time: distance**.

### Time is distance

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. We drove (for) <u>a long distance</u> .     | We drove (for) <u>a long time</u> .       |
| 2. A mile is <u>a short distance</u> .         | A minute is <u>a short time</u> .         |
| 3. Rumah is <u>close</u> .                     | Ramadan is <u>close</u> .                 |
| 4. We are <u>close to</u> Rumah.               | We are <u>close to</u> Ramadan.           |
| 5. Bahrain is <u>300 miles away</u> .          | Graduation is <u>3 months away</u> .      |
| 6. We have <u>a mile to go</u> .               | We have <u>an hour to go</u> .            |
| 7. Jeddah is <u>a long way off</u> .           | Vacation is <u>a long way off</u> .       |
| 8. Jeddah is <u>a long way away</u> .          | Vacation is <u>a long way away</u> .      |
| 9. The bank is <u>just around the corner</u> . | Spring is <u>just around the corner</u> . |
| 10. Dammam is <u>in sight</u> .                | The end of the war is <u>in sight</u> .   |
| 11. Jeddah is <u>on the horizon</u> .          | Victory is <u>on the horizon</u> .        |
| 12. On a <u>distant / remote planet</u> ...    | In the <u>distant / remote future</u> ... |

It makes a nice classroom chart.

## To the ESL / EFL teacher

1. Because figurative language is such an integral part of common, everyday language, we EFL / ESL teachers should teach the terms *literal* and *figurative* at the beginning level and say them at least as often as we say *noun*, *verb*, *adjective*, *adverb*, and *collocation* in our classrooms. I don't use the terms *metaphor* or *idiom*, because the former is so closely attached to literary studies and cognitive linguistics, and the latter is associated with dictionaries of idioms that include relatively useless and rarely used expressions like "It's raining cats and dogs." The simple basic question that all teachers can ask about any vocabulary item they teach is, "Can this be used figuratively?" In many cases, it can and often is, and this dictionary and thesaurus will help those teachers with that question. Just look up the word.
2. To explain figurative usage to our students, we can use the same language that we teach them in our lessons and that is used to define second and third senses, etc., for words in a conventional dictionary: "like," "as," "similar to," "equal to," "equivalent to," "comparison," "resemble," "suggest," "has the shape of," "has the role of," "acts as," etc.
3. "Extra" senses can provide real communicative utility. For example, a simple word like *path* can allow us and our students to talk about conduct, easiness and difficulty, and the future, not simply a walk from point A to point B. Figurative language can be oblique and subtle, and in my own experience it has allowed me to mention or discuss things with students that might otherwise have caused controversy and problems.
4. Students (and all of us) will encounter the figurative sense of some words far more often than the literal sense. Consider the word *dinosaur*. Literal dinosaurs disappeared from the earth long before humans: paleontologists study them. And yet, people nowadays will often encounter the figurative usage of *dinosaur* that relates to **primacy**, **currency**, **decline & obsolescence** and to **past & present**. *Magnet* is another example, and *pitfall*. I'm sure you can come up with your own examples.
5. Just about every part of speech can be used figuratively: nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, and prepositions, even interjections and lexicalized gestures. Seals are a *magnet* for sharks. He *killed* the proposal. She greeted me *warmly*. It was a *sharp / stinging* rebuke. I am *with* you. Her performance *wowed* me. The movie was a big *yawn*.
6. As English teachers, we all know the importance of collocation in vocabulary teaching, even if we are teaching old-fashioned materials that ignore it. Often there is a collocating preposition: Makkah is a magnet *for* Muslims. Or the phrase is pre-modified by a classifying adjective: a *political* firestorm; *financial* doping in soccer; an *astronomical* rate, a *stellar* record, etc. Most curriculums, including the ALC/DLI, do a poor job of teaching such classifying modifiers. Collocation can reveal sets of subjects and objects, and it is an especially good way to recycle previously learned vocabulary.

7. Prepositions. The first sense in most dictionaries is spatial, and that is how our textbooks present them and how we teach them. When we teach *in front of*, we always teach it spatially: “The car is in front of the bus.” But that same preposition can refer to the **future**: “She has her whole life *in front of her*.” And it can also relate to **proximity**: “The answer is *in front of you*.” At least three prepositions relate to **allegiance, support & betrayal**: “I am *for* the measure. We stand *behind* the new law. I am *with* you in your attempts to change things.” When it comes to **hierarchy**, a person can be *above* or *below* another person. To see a list of prepositions and their non-spatial meanings, look in the thesaurus under **prep, adv, adj, particle**.
  
8. We tend to think of the past, present and future as grammar. But time is embodied in words like *fossil, dinosaur, horizon, crystal ball, time capsule*, etc. Or in persons like a *fortuneteller, oracle* or *prophet*. Time is very interesting. For example, time can seem like a place: “We have been here before” (in the past) and “Where do we go from here?” (in the future). Time can entail distance: “Spring is just *around the corner*,” and “The Paris Olympics are still *a long way off*.” (See the above “Lessons and exercises” for a chart “Time is distance.”) In one conception of time, “the future is forward and the past is behind.” See **future and past & present** and **time** in the thesaurus for possibilities.
  
9. Don’t be afraid to think about and teach grammatical metaphor and fictive verbs. Grammatical metaphor simply provides alternatives to the structures we already teach. You can say, “*There is* a lamp in the corner.” But you can also say, “A lamp *stands* in the corner” or “*You have* a lamp in the corner.” You can say, “*We walked to town* along the road” but you can also say, “The road *took us* to town.” You can say, “I got home in early May,” but you can also say, “Early May *saw me* back home.” You can say, “I had a lot of problems,” but you can also say, “I *encountered / met with* a lot of problems.” “There has *been*...” can often be restated as, “We have *seen*...” Offer both choices. We tend to teach the former and ignore the latter.
  
10. When you teach a “bland” verb, try to think of a synonym that is figurative: Can you *help* me, can you *lend a hand*? What did you *find*, what did you *dig up*? He *betrayed* me, he *stabbed me in the back*. *Be patient, hold your horses*. I *support* you, I am *with* you, I *stand with* you, I *stand behind* you, I will *back you up*, I’ve *got your back*! I *understand*, I *see*, I *get it*. Don’t be afraid, you must *resist* him, *stand up to* him, *take him on*. Students will commonly acquire and productively use the figurative equivalent.
  
11. Never miss a chance to add value to a word. Is it also a shape? What are its parts? Is it a part of a proper noun? A geographical feature? The name of a company or product? Is there a euphemism for it? Does the word have an interesting origin and history? Can you use the word as a springboard for a bit of content?

12. As English teachers, we know all about teaching parts-wholes. Those parts are often figurative. A chair has legs and a back, a mouth has a roof, a book has a spine. A bed has a head and a foot. A mountain has foothills. Whole-parts like these are the basis of simple riddles we learn as children: What has legs but can't run, a back that can't bend? And you can use the first person pronoun to make such a riddle sound even more opaque and strange: "I have legs but can't run, I have a back but it can't bend... What am I?" Of course, your students will "turn the tables on you" and insist on stumping *you* with the riddles from their culture.
13. Try to think of and include a variety of subjects and objects for the grammar patterns you teach. *Ali / the bookcase is standing in the corner. Sugar / Sara is sweet. Open the door / your book / your mind. A car / Winter is approaching. I'm allergic to penicillin / people who think they know it all. A millimeter / life is short. You can arrive at a place. You can arrive at an answer or solution.*
14. Clines are always useful for organizing vocabulary in sets. In "Lessons and exercises" above, the first lesson involves organizing words relating to **health & medicine** on a cline. A similar lesson could be given based on words relating to temperature that relate to **emotion**. Our curriculums are good at teaching *hot, warm, and cold*. Less good at teaching *tepid, or lukewarm*, or combinations like *boiling-hot* and *freezing-cold*.
15. Sets and series are always useful for organizing vocabulary. Spring is a **season**, and we always teach "spring, summer, fall and winter" as a set, but we can also relate that same set to **death & life**, or to **growth & development**. In Saudi Arabia, when I introduced this word to my students, following the ALC/DLI curriculum, I used to give my adult military students the following riddle: "A happy dancing young girl in a green dress. A strong young man with yellow hair. A crying lady in a brown dress. A shouting angry old man with white hair... What are they?" Answer: the four seasons! Arab students appreciate such personification and especially appreciate symmetry. The fact that their climate has essentially two seasons does not make them any less interested in the seasons in *my* country; after all, the goal of many of them is to graduate from the program and then be sent to the U.S. for follow-on training (FOT). Language related to a **plant** and the life cycle of a **fire** relate to the same concepts. *Sweet, salty, bitter* and *sour* can relate not only to **taste** but also to **character & personality**. Again, my military students enjoyed and appreciated the metaphoric extension.
16. An easy lesson is to simply think of something you or your students might be interested in. For example, students studying academic English should be very interested in words and expressions related to **analysis, interpretation & explanation**. An engineer might be interested in the language associated with **infrastructure**. Some teachers are interested in the expression of **feeling, emotion & effect**, and they will find a comprehensive listing of such language in the thesaurus. My adult military students in Saudi Arabia—the home of the Arabian horse—always enjoyed idioms associated with the **horse**, and I was also pleased to discover many of them shared my enthusiasm for **boxing**. Of course, they had their favorites!

Nothing is so basic to all people as the **hand**, so try doing a lesson just devoted to that. Idioms range from **help & assistance** to **oppression**. And it is easy to pantomime expressions like *hand out* and *give / lend a hand* and *have the upper / whip hand*. Such a lesson would make a nice lesson in a place like Kosovo, where your classroom might be a café, your textbook is you, and where your students—poor as they are—will insist on paying for your coffee. You want to give a good lesson to students like that!

17. Expressions related to **gesture** and **bodily reaction** are easy to pantomime. I went to the director to get his *approval* and he gave me *the thumbs up*. / I didn't *realize* that, thank you for *opening my eyes*. / That film *bored* me, it was *a big yawn*. Pairs like these make easy matching exercises.
18. As mentioned above, a name for a **person** (*pioneer, acolyte, steward, leper, butcher, warrior clown*, etc.) is often used figuratively. You can find a list at **person** in the thesaurus of this work. All teachers are aware of the sequence of grammar, and in Saudi Arabia, in military environments, a semi-insult like *bully* is a good way to exemplify it. "You are a bully!" Or, "You are a *big* bully!" Or, "You are *such* a bully! Use the negative imperative + noun pattern and you get, "Don't be a bully!" Use stop + being + noun and you have "Stop being a bully!" Or substitute *donkey*. Donkey is not a vocabulary item in the ALC/DLI, but everyone I taught in Saudi Arabia know it in English, and its connotation.
19. Use analogies; like metaphors, they compare and make connections. I usually introduce them in the following form: Stand up is to resist as \_\_\_\_\_ is to surrender. The center is to a circle as \_\_\_\_\_ is to a hurricane. Spring is to a young man as \_\_\_\_\_ is to an old man. A period of time is to the life of a man as \_\_\_\_\_ is to a book. Articles can be especially problematical and this is a chance to use them. When students give answers to analogies like these, even when they gave me the anticipated answer, I always ask them to explain their answers using complete sentences. Analogies like these can be used at the most basic level and students find them novel and interesting. A ship is to the sea as \_\_\_\_\_ is to the desert is one I often gave in Saudi Arabia. Don't forget to ask why.
20. Teachers can incorporate figurative language into routine classroom language. If your students get too noisy, you can say, "Hey, turn down the volume!" or "Lower the temperature!" or "Cool down" or "Keep cool!" or "Let's dial it back!" or "Don't be such a hothead!" If a student becomes too impatient, you can say, "Hold your horses!" Instead of asking if a student understands or not, you might ask, "Are you in the dark?" You can use lexicalized gestures to praise: "I salute you," "I applaud you," "I take my cap off to you." When a student's feelings get hurt, you can say, "A military man needs thick skin!" Students tend to hear, note, and acquire such figurative language, especially if it is repeated day in and day out. More importantly, though, it gives the figurative nature of language its due.
21. Feel free to say a little bit about the *literal* meaning for those words we use figuratively. If you ever teach or explain the figurative use of *castaway*, for example, you might spend a few

minutes telling your students about those actual poor wretches on Tromelin Island in the Indian Ocean. At the entry for *scuttle* I mention two instances where entire fleets of ships were scuttled. Below the entry for *amok* is a quote from *The Malay Archipelago* by Alfred Russel Wallace about that practice. Below the entry for *earthquake (effect)* is a rather long entry from the same author, which will make those of us who have never experienced an earthquake think about how incredibly destabilizing it can be. In the entry for *whirlwind* is an eyewitness account of a black buran experienced in Lop Nur, Xinjiang, by Sven Hedin. At *blizzard*, I have included a short quote from V.K. Arseniev and Dersu about an actual blizzard, or *purga*. Below the entry for *pioneer (person)* in the dictionary, I note Rudyard Kipling's stirring poem "The Explorer." There are always a few students who will find that poem on the internet and read it, based on your recommendation.

22. Take a page from the quote from Emerson above and use the frames he uses to get your students thinking about metaphor. "*Right* means...; *wrong* means...; the crossing of a line means...; we say *heart* to express... ; a cunning man is...; attention is...; an effect is... Words and phrases for that last are entered in the category **effect**. They remind us than an effect is often thought of as a wave in a medium: ripples as in water, with the related word *splash*; waves in the air like a *shock wave*; and sound waves like *reverberation* and *repercussion*. That is the reason for expressions like: "His surprise resignation caused ripples / shock waves / reverberations around the world."
23. Get students to notice language use in longer passages of speech or text. Vocabulary choices are often predictable. For example, a crime story or crime podcast is bound to have words used figuratively based on **hunting** and **searching & discovery**. Articles about famous people will usually have figurative language relating to **importance & significance**. It's fun to read an article and identify sets like these.
24. Here's a good idea to make the figurative and the literal real to your students within the four walls of your classroom. First, consult the category of **books & reading** in the thesaurus of this work. Write "literal" on one side of the board, "figurative" on the other, hold up a book, and go to work. You might start with *spine*. You can say something like, "Look, do you see this part of the book here? Well, it's called the spine. And I have a spine! This is my spine! And I can break this book's spine, and I can break my own spine if I'm in a bad auto accident!" There will be many literal and figurative pairs for you to talk about with your students. The dictionary of collocations will give you attested examples of use and help you with the collocations. If you have a flair for the dramatic and a perfect sense of timing, as you no doubt do, because you are a teacher and you have read this far in the work, you will save "close the book" with its meaning of **reconciliation, resolution & conclusion** for the bell, the smiles, and the break.

## An alphabetized list of the categories in the thesaurus

Every main word entry in the dictionary is tagged: *target(s): source(s)*.

Target(s). As an English language teacher / instructor / trainer, have you ever had to teach about ability / capability? Of course you have! “Ability” is often a vocabulary item, and we speak about ability during our grammar lessons on “can + v” and “be able to + to v.” But there are plenty of non-grammatical ways to express the idea of ability and inability, both literal and figurative, that we use all the time, and you will find them by looking at **ability & lack of ability** in this glossary. “Can he read?” “No, he is illiterate.” “Can he fix a computer?” “Yes, he is a wizard!” In the military, the bombs can be dumb, smart, or brilliant.

Source(s): As English language teachers, most of us have taught a lesson on colors. We usually teach them at a basic level as a set without collocation and introduce, review, quiz and test them quite simply: “What color is this?” “Green.” Go to **color** in the thesaurus of this work, and you will get a lot of ideas on how to make colors more interesting and relevant to your students, throughout your curriculum. *What* can colors relate to / refer to / represent? Colors can occur in proper names. On the world map in my classroom in Saudi Arabia, I always enjoyed pointing out the “color” seas to my military students: the Red Sea; the Black Sea; the White Sea; the Yellow Sea. Colors can relate to experience: he is green, he is a greenhorn. Colors can relate to feeling, emotion & effect: The question, “Are you blue?” never failed to make my students smile. Not because Arabs are literal minded—they talk about teachers having black and white hearts—but because the ALC/DLI is so relentlessly literal. Colors can relate to sanctioning, authority & authority: green light, red light, etc. And I can do all this in an introductory class, using the simplest grammar: The Red Sea; He is green; Are you blue?; You have the green light, go ahead. Negotiating the meaning has never been a problem.

While I was on vacation in the States once, during a time of terrorist events and a war overseas, my worried father suggested to me, “Joe, why don’t you stay home and get a Ph.D. in Linguistics?”

To which I replied, “Dad, have you ever *read* a linguistics book!”

Category names or tags, inside and outside of this work, are a hodgepodge. There is no thesaurus category in this work for what Barbara Dancygier and Eve Sweetser refer to as “X-is-the-new-Y Construction.” But plenty of examples are to be found in this dictionary at “new (orange is the new black, etc.)”. Lakoff and Johnson talk about cause and effect. In this work, figurative ways to express cause and effect, reason and result, can be found in the thesaurus at **relationship**. I did not create a thesaurus entry for metonymy (I wish now I had). But people interested in that, and in image metaphors, might glance at the thesaurus entry **sign, signal, symbol**. “Fictive X,” a term I acquired from reading Angela Downing, proved very useful to me: **fictive communication, fictive motion**, etc.

When it comes to the tags, I simply did the best I could. And there I leave it, until the experts come along and do better.

target

ability & lack of ability  
absorption & immersion  
acceptance & rejection  
access & lack of access  
accusation & criticism  
achievement, recognition & praise  
action, inaction & delay  
activity  
admiration & contempt  
affliction  
allegiance, support & betrayal  
allusion  
alternatives & choices  
amelioration & renewal  
amount  
amount & effect  
analysis, interpretation & explanation  
appeal  
appearance  
appearance & disappearance  
appearance & reality  
area  
assembling  
attachment  
attainment  
attempt  
attention, scrutiny & promotion  
attenuation  
attraction & repulsion  
avoidance & separation  
bases  
behavior  
biodiversity, nature & life  
branching system  
campaign  
center & periphery  
certainty & uncertainty  
character & personality  
characterization  
coercion & motivation  
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning  
commitment & determination  
comparison & contrast

target

competition  
complexity  
comprehension & incomprehension  
computer  
concealment & lack of concealment  
condition & status  
configuration  
conflict  
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things  
consciousness & awareness  
constraint & lack of constraint  
consumption  
contempo-speak  
content  
context  
control & lack of control  
corruption  
cost & benefit  
courage & lack of courage  
course  
cover  
creating & transformation  
curtailment  
danger  
death & life  
decline  
dependency  
destruction  
development  
development, easiness & effort  
directing  
direction  
dismissal, removal & resignation  
disruption  
division  
division & connection  
dominance & submission  
driving force  
eagerness & reluctance  
effect  
empathy & lack of empathy  
enthusiasm  
environment  
epithet

target

equilibrium & stability  
euphemism  
evidence  
experience  
experimentation  
extent & scope  
failure, accident & impairment  
fantasy & reality  
farming & agriculture  
fate, fortune & chance  
feeling, emotion & effect  
fictive communication  
fictive meeting & seeing  
fictive motion  
fictive position  
fictive possession  
fictive transportation  
flaws & lack of flaws  
force  
functioning  
future  
geography  
giving, receiving, bringing & returning  
gossip  
group, set & collection  
growth & development  
guilt  
haste  
heart  
help & assistance  
hierarchy  
history  
hyperbole  
idea  
identity & nature  
importance & significance  
impression  
inauguration  
inclusion & exclusion  
increase & decrease  
initiation  
insult  
interest  
involvement  
isolation & remoteness

target

judgment  
knowledge & intelligence  
language  
leaking  
location  
measurement  
mental health  
message  
migration  
military  
mind  
mixture  
money  
movement  
obligation  
obstacles & impedance  
occurrence  
operation  
opportunities & possibilities  
oppression  
orientation  
origin  
past & present  
perception, perspective & point of view  
performance  
person  
place  
portal  
position, policy & negotiation  
possession  
power  
predation  
presence & absence  
pressure  
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence  
priority  
product  
progress & lack of progress  
proper name  
protection & lack of protection  
proximity  
punishment & recrimination  
pursuit, capture & escape  
readiness & preparedness  
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion

target

reference  
relationship  
repetition  
representation  
reputation  
resemblance  
resiliency  
resistance, opposition & defeat  
responsibility  
restraint & lack of restraint  
revenge  
reverence  
reversal  
role  
route  
sacrifice  
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity  
script  
searching & discovery  
sequence  
sex  
shape  
sight  
sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty  
situation  
size  
social interaction  
society  
sound  
source  
speech  
speed  
starting, going, continuing & ending

source

acceptance & rejection  
addiction  
adverb  
affirmation  
affix  
air  
alcohol  
allusion  
amount  
analogy  
animal

target

storm  
strategy  
strength & weakness  
substance & lack of substance  
subterfuge  
success & failure  
sufficiency, insufficiency & excess  
superiority & inferiority  
superlative  
supplying  
surveillance  
survival, persistence & endurance  
suspicion  
taking & removing  
target  
taxonomy & classification  
throwing, putting & planting  
time  
timeliness & lack of timeliness  
transmission  
transportation  
unanimity & consensus  
violence  
vocative  
wants, needs, hopes and goals  
warning  
welcome  
welcome  
wheat  
work & duty  
worth & lack of worth

source

antiques  
apple  
arm  
astronomy  
atmosphere  
ax  
baby  
back  
ball  
balloon  
baseball

source

basketball  
bell  
Bible  
biology  
bird  
birth  
blade  
blanket  
blood  
boat  
bodily reaction  
body  
books & reading  
bottle  
boundary  
boxing  
breadth  
breathing  
bridge  
bubble  
bullet  
burden  
burial  
canal  
cards  
carpets & rugs  
cat  
center & periphery  
chain  
chemistry  
chess  
circus  
clock  
cloth  
clothing & accessories  
cloud  
color  
consumption  
container  
control & lack of control  
cooking  
corner  
cows & cattle  
crashes & collisions  
creature

source

crime  
dam  
day  
death & life  
depth  
desert  
destruction  
division & connection  
direction  
distance  
document  
dog  
doors & thresholds  
ear  
earth & world  
earthquake  
electricity  
engine  
epistemology  
epithet  
equilibrium & stability  
erosion  
exclamation  
explosion  
eye  
face  
family  
fan  
farming & agriculture  
fatness & thinness  
fence  
filler  
film & TV  
finger  
fire  
fish  
fist  
flags & banners  
flood  
flying & falling  
fog  
food & drink  
foot  
football  
force

source

forest  
fortification  
fountain  
fox  
frog  
fruits & vegetables  
functioning  
gambling  
gate  
geometry  
gesture  
gift  
giving, receiving, bringing & returning  
glacier  
government  
ground, terrain & land  
hair  
hammer  
hand  
hardness & softness  
hat  
head  
health & medicine  
heart  
heating water  
heel  
height  
history  
hole  
horizon  
horn  
horse  
hour  
house  
hunting  
hygiene  
Iliad & Odyssey  
infrastructure  
insect  
introductory  
island  
journeys & trips  
judgment  
jungle  
justice

source

key  
knee  
knife  
ladder  
language  
lap  
leg  
letters & characters  
life span  
light & dark  
lightning  
line  
lion  
love, courtship & marriage  
magic  
manufacturing  
map  
mark  
materials & substances  
meat  
mechanism  
memorization  
mental health  
messaging  
middle ages  
military  
mining  
mirror  
mixture  
money  
moon  
mountains & hills  
mouth  
movement  
music  
nail  
neck  
negation  
nose  
nuclear energy  
number  
object  
objectification  
orientation  
part of speech

source

party  
path  
pendulum  
physics  
picture  
pile  
place  
plane  
plant  
platform  
polemics  
position  
possession  
potato  
predation  
prep, adv, adj, particle  
presence & absence  
pressure  
proximity  
pump  
puppet  
purses & wallets  
puzzle  
radio  
rain  
rat  
religion  
reported speech  
riding  
river  
rocket  
roof  
rope  
route  
royalty  
rubbing & washing  
ruins  
scale  
school & education  
sea  
season  
sensation  
sex  
shadow  
shape

source

shark  
sheep  
shoulder  
sign, signal, symbol  
size  
skeleton  
skin, muscle, nerves & bone  
sky  
sleep  
smell  
snake  
snow & ice  
society  
sound  
space  
speech  
speed  
spider  
sports & games  
stair  
standing, sitting & lying  
statue  
stomach  
storm  
subterfuge  
sun  
surveying  
swamp  
sword  
table  
target  
taste  
teeth  
temperature  
tent  
theater  
throat  
throwing, putting & planting  
thumb  
ticket  
tide  
tiger  
toe  
tongue  
tools & technology

source

train

tree

tsunami

umbrella

upspeak

verb

violence

vocal fry

volcano

walking, running & jumping

wall

warehouse

waste

water

wave

weapon

weather & climate

wedge

weight

wheat

whip

wind

window

wolf

wounds & scars

wrestling

writing & spelling

zoo

# The dictionary of collocations

## A

### ablaze (adjective)

ablaze with passion  
his speech began in a quiet smolder and ended ~

ablaze with speculation  
the Internet was ~ about why...

set social media ablaze  
his murder has ~ (of a young rapper)

set Twitter ablaze  
his late-night tweet ~

♦ "A Texas woman ended up burning down her home in a heated battle with a snake. When the Texarkana resident spotted the serpent in her garden, she doused it with gasoline and set it ablaze. The flaming snake slithered into a nearby brush pile, igniting it and the house in a conflagration..."

**activity / initiation / feeling, emotion & effect: fire**

### about-face (in an about-face)

in an about face  
~, the President abandoned his plan to...

in an about face from a year ago  
~, Congress voted to expand...

in an embarrassing about face  
~, officials acknowledged that...

**reversal: direction / military**

### about-face (other)

about face for Pakistan  
his policies, if successful, will mean a real ~

about-face for the government  
the request is an ~ (Afghanistan)

about-face from a year ago  
the space agency's new policy is an ~

about-face on the bill  
he deserves credit for his ~

about face with regard to Israel  
he has done an ~

abrupt about-face  
the admission was an ~

belated about-face  
the ~ won't fool the people (by a government)

ecological about-face  
earth has done an ~ (NASA statement)

ideological about-face  
the literature of ~ includes...

about-face came  
his ~ after...

did an about-face  
the military ~

done an about face  
he has ~ with regard to Israel (a leader)

♦ "Fall in!" "Attention!" "Left face!" "Right face!" "About face!" "Forward, march!" "Road guard... post!" "Column... halt!" "At ease!" "Fall out!" (Military commands.)

**reversal: direction / military**

### about-turn (noun)

about-turn on the subject  
the government's seeming ~ of Islamic law

diplomatic about-turn  
this latest ~ on Syria

sudden about-turn  
athletes are shocked and outraged at Wada's ~

**reversal: direction**

### above (above the fray, etc.)

above the fray  
he is trying to stay ~ (a politician)

**behavior: direction / height / prep, adv, adj, particle**

### above (above the law, etc.)

above the law  
not even the president is ~  
nobody is ~ (judge arrested)

**superiority & inferiority: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

### above (hierarchy)

above him in the pecking order  
the fit-again Erik Lamela is ~ (Tottenham Hotspur)

**hierarchy: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

### aboveboard (adjective)

aboveboard  
everything I did was ~

♦ This might come from the world of cards, and its opposite might be *underhanded*.

**subterfuge: cards / direction**

### abrasive (adjective)

abrasive and annoying  
he is ~

brilliant and abrasive  
a ~ engineer named...

**character & personality: sensation**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation**

## **absolutely (contempo-speak)**

absolutely

I think ~.

Yeah, I think ~.

I think, ~, this type of care could be done...

I think ~ we would have.

absolutely it does

I think ~

absolutely be watching

you should ~ 'South Side' (HBO Max sitcom)

absolutely need to know

the Olympic storylines you ~ (2016 Rio)

absolutely shows

yeah, I think it ~ that... (punditry on NPR)

*Absolutely Everything*

*The Complete Guide To ~ (Abridged)*

absolutely confident

I'm ~ that what we're doing is the right thing to do (politics)

absolutely dangerous

that is ~

absolutely horrified

official '~' with...

absolutely terrified

I was ~

absolutely true

10 ~ stories about...

absolutely ready

we are ~ to start shipping out vaccines

kind of absolutely

to have this ~ brutal internecine warfare (politics)

we've to ~ scramble those guys (Arghandab Valley)

that ~ clean, pressed demeanor that he presents to the world

♦ At NPR, this is often preceded by "I think": "I think it absolutely shows that..." The effect is one of constant hedging and uncertainty, as "I think" may be interpreted as "in my opinion" or "I'm not sure."

♦ In its most wretched usage, "Absolutely" is the immediate response to a yes-no question.

♦ "The Olympic storylines you absolutely need to know." (Storylines from the Rio 2016 Olympics. Years ago they were temporarily of interest, but not now. They have been completely superseded by other storylines, and have mostly been forgotten, lost in the mist of time.)

♦ "Banished in 1996, but deserves a repeat nope given its overuse. Usurped the simple 'yes,' laments a contributor. Another condemned it as 'the current default to express agreement, endemically present on TV in one-on-one-interviews.' Frequently 'said too loudly by annoying people who think they're better than you,' bemoaned an aggrieved observer. 'Sounds like it comes with a guarantee when that may not be the case,' cautioned a wary watchdog." ("Absolutely" is on the Lake Superior State University 2023—Words banned for "misuse, overuse, and uselessness.")

♦ "There's absolutely no risk, none, for the people in Atlanta. If there is a risk, it would be..."

♦ "We have learned absolutely nothing. It's absolutely the truth."

♦ Believe me!

**contempo-speak: adverb**

## **absorb (a country, etc.)**

absorbed Kyrgyzstan

Imperial Russia ~ and its nomadic tribes

ability to absorb

their language's ~ new words (German)

**absorption & immersion: verb / water**

## **absorb (books, culture, etc.)**

absorbed books

he ~ by the dozen (self-learning at library)

absorb the culture

a lot of the girls didn't really ~ (US models in Japan)

absorbed a gothic sensibility

he ~ which would imprint itself on his work

absorbed (Islamic) principles and traditions

the young prince ~

**absorption & immersion: verb / water**

## **absorb (punishment, etc.)**

absorbed the (full ) force

he ~ of the explosion with his body (hero soldier)

absorbed (a lot of) punishment

he ~ in the last round (a boxer)

**absorption & immersion: verb / water**

## **absorbed**

absorbed into Saudi Arabia

Qatar might well have been ~ (history)

absorbed by the society

they were ~ they invaded (Mongols)

forcibly absorbed

the three Baltic republics were ~ into the Soviet Union

**absorption & immersion: water**

## **abundance (amount)**

abundance of caution

out of an ~, we are altering the production plan (virus)

♦ This word comes from the Latin *unda*, or wave. The root is more obvious in a word like *inundate*. Still, it's a nice way to think of the meaning.

**amount / sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: sea / water / wave**

## **abuzz (activity)**

abuzz with activity

the base is ~ (as US leaves Afghanistan)

abuzz with warnings

a nervous Muslim world is ~ of a threat from the West

had people abuzz

the news ~ this morning (politics)

kept this peninsula abuzz

gold mining and logging once ~ with activity

**activity: animal / insect / sound**

## abyss (noun)

financial abyss

there seems to be no way out of this ~

on the brink of a (sectarian) abyss

the country is walking ~ (protests)

on the edge of electoral abyss

his campaign teetered ~, but he is scrambling his way back

fall into an abyss

women ~, and they can't get out (eating disorders)

plunged into a (political) abyss

the country ~ after...

plunges (further) into the abyss

as Greece's blighted economy ~

pulled the (financial) system back from the abyss

the government ~

sliding into the abyss

the country is ~ (economy)

teetering towards the abyss

the city is ~ of bankruptcy

worked his way out of the abyss

he ~ of crime and hopelessness

♦ In an article in *The New York Times*, "Computers That Trade on the News," Graham Bowley reports that the word *abyss* in an article about the Greek financial crisis caused computers to initiate sell orders. Wall Street mines such words from news articles and Twitter feeds to analyze the market.

**destruction: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills**

## Academy Awards

Academy Awards of the culinary world

people like to say it's the ~ (James Beard Foundation awards)

**achievement, recognition & praise: epithet / film**

**superlative: epithet / film**

## accelerant (noun)

accelerant

Twitter is the ~ for so many to spew outrage

accelerant of (global) conflict

climate upheaval is acting as an ~

accelerants of human misery

jails are ~

described the internet as an accelerant

officials ~ that speeds up radicalization

**increase & decrease: fire**

## accelerate (verb)

accelerating their efforts

states are ~ to ban texting while driving

accelerate learning

pupils use pedal power to ~

crisis has accelerated

as the climate ~, though, it has become clear that...

inflation is accelerating

~, the Bureau of Labor Statistics says

outbreak is accelerating

the measles ~

**increase & decrease / speed / starting, going, continuing & ending: movement / verb**

## accelerator (control)

political accelerator

he was pressing his ~ to the floor (politics)

put his foot on the accelerator

perhaps he didn't quite ~ in the early rounds (a boxer)

♦ "Now, with a Republican administration in control of Washington, Strauss was in the driver's seat, and his right foot was pressing his political accelerator to the floor." (*American Prometheus: The Triumph And Tragedy Of J. Robert Oppenheimer* by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin.)

**control & lack of control / increase & decrease / speed: mechanism / movement**

## accession (noun)

accession to the EU

Turkish ~ seems to be permanently on hold...

accession number

the ~ is a unique identifier (cultural property)

accession process

the ~ is dead (Turkey and the EU)

♦ "The EU pretends to negotiate, Turkey pretends to reform." (Turkish accession to the EU.)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / royalty**

## ace (noun)

ace

it was time for me to bring out my ~

ace in the hole

my ~ is that I can...

the fear card is his ~ (national security)

our nuclear arsenal is our ~

came up aces

Green's 2018 *Halloween* ~ (good box office)

pull an ace out of his sleeve

he managed to ~ (a winning card, so to speak)

**strategy / strength & weakness / success & failure: cards / gambling**

### accompany (attachment)

accompany the tourist invasion

the economic benefits that will ~

**attachment / relationship: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

### Achilles' heel (noun)

Achilles' heel

security was our ~ (US AID project in Afghanistan)

Achilles' heel of Napoleon's army

the ~ was logistics and supply (1812)

Achilles' heel of the system

the ~ lies...

Achilles' heel of 3-D TV

clunky glasses were the ~ (remedied)

Achilles' heel of the West

the Arabian Gulf is the ~ (oil and Iran)

Achilles heel for Chelsea

this is the ~—marking in the box (soccer)

angioplasty's Achilles' heel

the problem is ~ (regrowth of tissue)

company's Achilles' heel

the ~ is that...

skiers' Achilles' heel

the knees are the ~

proved to be his Achilles' heel

while he excelled in wooing donors, finances ~

**strength & weakness: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey**

**protection & lack of protection: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey**

### acid (acid debate, etc.)

acid asides

she is famous for her ~ (a comic)

acid blogger

people are disgusted with radio ranters and ~s (civility)

acid debate

the controversy has sparked ~ (religion)

**feeling, emotion & effect / speech: chemistry / materials & substances**

### acid-tongued

acid-tongued

the ~ comedian (Groucho Marx)

**feeling, emotion & effect / speech: chemistry / materials & substances / tongue**

### acolyte (noun)

acolyte of big business

he is an ~ and corporate greed

acolytes of (US) capitalism

he is like most ~

Obama acolyte

he is an ~ who... (politics)

tones of an acolyte

he described her in ~

swarmed by (young) acolytes

he was ~ (a film director)

**enthusiasm: person / religion**

**person: religion**

### acre (amount)

acres of (color) charts

you would need ~ to denominate Albers's palette

acres of newsprint

the interview generated ~

♦ "...and a tiny tub of bread pudding topped with a piddling pond of warm cream and hardly a half-acre of wild huckleberries." ("When Paul Bunyan Lost His Appetite But Recovered It" by Samuel Langhorne Clemmons.)

**amount: ground, terrain & land**

### acrobat (person)

linguistic acrobats

slang is fine for ~ (who can code-switch)

**person: circus / sports & games**

**ability & lack of ability / difficulty, easiness & effort: circus / person**

### acrobatic (adjective)

verbally acrobatic

Clinton was more intelligent, calculating, and ~ (vs. Bush)

**comparison & contrast: affix**

**ability & lack of ability / difficulty, easiness & effort: circus / movement / sports & games**

### acrobatics (noun)

acronymic acrobatics

the awkwardness of the ~ (LGBTTIQ2SA)

semantic acrobatics

Macron performed ~ (patriotism vs. nationalism)

verbal acrobatics

there are no ~ to charm (a book review)

vocal acrobatics

a sturdy rhythm section and Olivia W-B's ~ (music)

♦ "A listener dismissed NPR's use of the gender-inclusive term 'pregnant' people as an unnecessary verbal backbend." (NPR's Office of the Public Editor.)

**ability & lack of ability / difficulty, easiness & effort: circus / movement / sports & games**

### act (insincere show)

hard-ass act  
beneath their ~ they were just teens (young Marines)

maturity act  
kids put on this ~ (high school)

own act  
they came to believe too much in their ~ (Hitler, etc.)

hard-to-get act  
ditch the ~ (relationships)

ditch the (hard-to-get) act  
you should ~

keep up the act  
how long can he ~

put on an act  
con artists know how to ~

putting on an act  
a lot of guys seem nice, but they are just ~  
he's lying, he's just ~  
everyone in high school is to some extent ~

**performance / role: theater**

### act (performance)

circus act  
he's a ~ and he's killing boxing

vagabond act  
they morphed their ~ into today's World Tour (surfers)

balancing act  
setting limits, encouraging independence is a real ~

juggling act  
trying to build a team is a hard ~ (basketball)

difficult act  
the King's got a lot more ~ than in the last decade

tough act  
their father is a ~ to follow

**performance / role: theater**

### act (clean up one's act)

cleaned up its act  
the CIA director said the company had ~ (security)  
the city has clamped down on violence and ~  
in the 1990s, Manhattan ~

cleaned up her act  
she checked herself into rehab, then ~  
we thought she had ~, but... (athlete)

clean up your act  
you need to ~

**amelioration & renewal / behavior: hygiene / verb**  
**act (development)**

final act  
the hostage drama saw its ~ played out (plane)  
the family is trying to interpret his ~ (suicide)

first act  
on the world soccer stage, it was a stunning ~ (loss)  
the ~ has closed with a tremendous finale (Civil War)  
the ~ of the tragedy has been enacted (war)  
you've just seen the ~, the finale is yet to come (trial)

last act  
and then began the long ~ of his life (a writer)

main act  
there was no preparation for the ~ (combat)  
this is only the prologue to the ~ (banks fail)  
the sideshow became part of the ~ (war)  
he quickly became the ~ at the meeting (politician)

second acts  
I think there are ~ in life, people can move on but...

**development: theater**

### actually (contempo-speak)

actually was (super) powerful  
it ~ (living together before marriage)

actually make us happier  
the small joys that can ~

actually wrote it  
he ~ while he was in the U.S.

actually getting  
we were ~ seated at a table to sit down for dinner...

actually kind of  
see *kind of (contempo-speak)*

actually pretty  
see *pretty (contempo-speak)*

actually really  
see *really (and REEE•lee, etc.)*

actually, really  
see *really (and REEE•lee, etc.)*

actually so  
see *so (gushing)*

actually sort of like  
see *sort of like (contempo-speech)*

actually, you know  
see *you know (filler)*

actually very  
see *very (contempo-speak)*

really actually

there's not enough income in it to ~ survive (a sport)  
were things ~ ever a dime  
and so I'm ~ optimistic...  
it's ~ quite exciting  
and then I ~ like Pete Buttigieg (politics)

yeah, actually

~, your plastic coffee pod may not...

often probably actually

~ their *parents* would get upset (Director of Residence)

♦ "So, we're going to feature on our opening concert on October 14 a concerto by Villa-Lobos that he actually wrote it while he was in the United States, but..." (Conductor Marin Alsop about one of her upcoming performances.)

♦ "But what do we know about what that actually means now he actually owns the company? Do we know anything about how he..." / "Yeah, I mean he says he thinks..." (NPR punditry.)

♦ Believe me!

♦ see also *basically (contempo-speak), definitely (contempo-speak), obviously (contempo-speak), really (and REEE•lee, etc.)*

**contempo-speak: adverb**

## addict (chess addict, etc.)

chess addicts

the Internet is great for ~

movie addict

an adolescent ~

crossword puzzle addict

he is a ~

bone fishing addict

hard-core yachtsmen and ~s

total (TV) addict

I love TV, I'm a ~

generation of (tanning) addicts

tanning beds spawned a ~

**person: addiction**

**enthusiasm: addiction / health & medicine / person**

## addict (sex addict, etc.)

anger addict

he admitted to being an "~" (Harvey Weinstein)

power addict

he's a ~ (Harvey Weinstein)

sex addict

he admitted to being a "~" (Harvey Weinstein)

**mental health: addiction / health & medicine / person**

## addicted (enthusiasm)

addicted to his sport

he was so ~ that he rarely spent a weekend indoors

addicted to fly fishing

my friend and I were ~ for wild brook trout

addicted to a dating game

she's a gamer, ~ called One True Prince

passionately addicted

he was ~ to Beethoven's music (Berlioz)

**enthusiasm: addiction / health & medicine**

## addicted (dependency)

addicted to (this kind of) high-paced content

people have become ~ (TikTok)

addicted to economic growth

we are ~

addicted to oil

we are ~ from the Middle East

grow (increasingly more) addicted

as we ~ to modern technology

**dependency: addiction / health & medicine**

## addiction (enthusiasm)

Ives addiction

my ~ started one summer at music camp...

**enthusiasm: addiction / health & medicine**

## addiction (dependency)

adrenalin addiction

~ drives reporters from one hotspot to another

entertainment addiction

corporate greed, ~ and political impotence (the US)

sex addiction

~ is not yet recognized as a psychiatric disorder

curb (his country's) addiction

an international accord designed to ~ to coal (Indonesia)

get off our (oil) addiction

we need to ~ (dependence on foreign oil)

**dependency: addiction / health & medicine**

## addictive (adjective)

addictive

Thai food is ~

combat can be ~

comment boards are ~, same with Twitter, FB...

addictive (computer) games

~ are a moral hazard to youth (China)

addictive thing

this is an ~ that hurts the students (laptops in class)

♦ A FUNNY CARTOON. In the foreground, there is a rabbi, standing behind a podium, obviously addressing an audience. Behind him, in a chair, is a boy sitting in a chair with his hands politely folded. The rabbi is intoning, "We are here to witness Jacob, who screamed at his Xbox for four hours just this morning, become a man." (*The New Yorker*, December 13, 2021.)

♦ "He had been on the Internet every day since his early teens."

**behavior / enthusiasm / feeling, emotion & effect:  
addiction / health & medicine**

## address (verb)

address the problems

we must ~ that underlie the insurgency

addressed more specific rumors

she ~ as well (cold case)

address stereotypes

be prepared to ~ when you hear them

addressed (such taboo) subjects

he ~ as race and sexuality (Pryor)

addresses this

is there currently any legislation on tape that ~

addresses the (invisible and visible) wounds

the center ~ of war

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: speech / verb**

## add up (verb)

added up

she knew in an instant that it all ~ (signs of glue sniffing)

didn't add up

her story ~

when you just use your common sense, it ~ (a juror)

it just didn't make sense, just ~

doesn't add up

it ~, it's very suspicious (a suicide)

wait a second, this ~, there's a problem here

just didn't add up

why would he do that, it ~ (a disappearance)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: number**

## adhere (adhere to something)

adhere to

they have a code that they ~, blue silence (cops)

adhere to the norms

countries should strictly ~ of international law

**attachment: materials & substances / verb**

## adjacent (rich-adjacent, etc.)

adjacent to the ballroom scene

Billy Porter was ~

anarchism-adjacent

~ scholars such as Marshall Sahlins (Alan Jacobs)

Tess Monaghan adjacent

Dream Girl is ~, Tess actually appears (Laura Lippman)

bagel-adjacent

the bialy, a ~ Jewish roll... (*The New Yorker*)

basketball-adjacent

Harlow's opening medley of ~ bangers (on SNL)

Disney-adjacent

a theater kid and ~ actor (Olivia Rodrigo)

gross-adjacent

is this behavior supposed to be gross (or at least ~), or...

jazz-adjacent

the song sounds ~, at a minimum, jazzy-ish (Adele)

lockdown-adjacent

2020, for all its ~ loneliness, still had anthems like "WAP"

lychee-adjacent

fresh longan, a ~fruit (Hannah Goldfield of *The New Yorker*)

MAGA-adjacent

not wanting people to shit on my steps doesn't make me ~

music-adjacent

showcasing various ~ pockets of the city (Philly)

porn-adjacent

a series of soft-core, ~ films, I guess you could say...

punk-adjacent

the critically acclaimed, ~ two-tone bands of... (Ska)

Q-adjacent

she latched on to Q and ~ theories (a politician)

restaurant-adjacent

one ~ business is doing well (equipment liquidator)

"rich-adjacent"

Connell gets into an elite university, where he becomes ~

rock-adjacent

a ~ album with producer...

soul-adjacent

soul and ~ music

sports-adjacent

I wrote a ~ love story (fiction)

uptalk-adjacent

but his tone was ~ and his smile warm (a salesman)

♦ "Not all Damien Chazelle movies are about (or adjacent to) jazz... (*Vulture*.)

♦ see also *centered* (survivor-centered, etc.), *centric* (Afro-centric, etc.)

**contempo-speak: affix**

## adolescence (noun)

during its (starry-eyed) adolescence

A.I. ~, in the sixties... (technology)

podcasting's adolescence

in 2014, ~

in its adolescence

the scandal threatened to kill off the movie industry ~

**growth & development: life span**

## Adonis (handsome)

Adonis

the chubby man beat the ~ (Joshua vs. Ruiz / boxing)

**appearance: allusion**

## adopt (verb)

adopt a lantern

people ~, and you can go visit your lantern in Chinatown

adopted the nickname

he ~, "pied piper of R&B" (R. Kelly)

adopted his (slash-and-burn, scorched-earth) politics

Republicans have ~

adopt a road

The Hayes Family / ~ (a sign in Asheville, North Carolina)

♦ "We've done a couple of different initiatives that we're super proud of. One is called "Light Up Chinatown" and we ended up having people adopt a lantern, and you can go visit your lantern in Chinatown. It basically brightens up the street for our elders, you know, walking the streets at night, so that they feel a little bit safer." (Joanne Kwong, President, Pearl River Mart, a notable Chinese department store.)

**acceptance & rejection / possession: family / verb**

## adopted (adopted state, etc.)

adopted home

Asheville was her ~

adopted state

my ~ of North Carolina

**acceptance & rejection: family**

## adopted

adopted

they want their pet ideas ~ (conservatives)

adopted as a corporate tool

PowerPoint was ~

**acceptance & rejection: family**

## adore (and adored)

adore

best of the summer: 6 books the critics ~

adored

they are ~ (suicide bombers)

adore these Blueberry Popovers

I ~ served with blueberry jam sauce and blueberry butter

adore each other

they really ~ (Bardem about Lucy and Ricky)

adored it

I accepted my Gemini soul, in fact I ~ (Kravitz)

adore the vests

plenty of women and non-tech workers ~ (Bobby Allyn)

adored (and abhorred) holiday tunes

tell us your most ~

absolutely adore

I ~ *Succession* creator Jesse Armstrong

I ~ *A Strange Loop* (the musical by Michael R. Jackson)

sort of adore

we ~ our bosses (CEO worship)

♦ "They are understood here. They are adored. She was, is and will remain a heroine for us." (Chechen woman, speaking of Elza Gazuyeva.) /// "Why don't you meet Osama bin Laden, invite him to Brussels or to the White House and engage in talks, ask him what he wants and give it to him so he leaves you in peace? Why don't you do that? You find it possible to set some limitation in your dealings with these bastards, so why should we talk to people who are childkillers? No one has a moral right to tell us to talk to childkillers..." ("Angry Putin rejects public Beslan inquiry," Jonathan Steele in Moscow and Nick Paton Walsh in Beslan, *Guardian Weekly*, 2004. / See the Wikipedia entry "Beslan school siege." / Osama Bin Laden was killed in 2011, but the acknowledged mastermind of 9/11, Khalid Sheikh Muhammad—whose nephew was involved in the original 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center—is still alive and being held at Guantanamo Bay detention camp. He will likely die there of old age.)

♦ Lake Ohrid is known as the Balkan Jerusalem.

**reverence: religion**

## adrift (adjective)

adrift in the (new multiparty) sea

politicians, ~, now needed campaign funds

seemed adrift

he ~ without the army for structure (a troubled soldier)

spent years adrift

they had ~ in their diaspora (Somalis in Lewistown)

**direction / division & connection: boat**

**course: direction / journeys & trips**

**control & lack of control / progress & lack of progress: boat / direction**

## adult (development)

adults in the room

the cypherpunk kids versus the ~

adult table

Japan wanted to demonstrate it was an adult sitting at the ~

♦ "Everybody knows that chronological order is for squares and Wikipedia." (A sarcastic comment about Netflix's 10-part biopic *Dahmer—Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story*, which is *not* presented chronologically.)

**person: baby**

**experience: person**

**growth & development: life span**

## advance (in advance, etc.)

days in advance

the killing was planned ~

several days in advance

models predicted the high pressure ~

what is coming in advance

we increased our radar so we know ~ (public health)

**time / timeliness & lack of timeliness: direction / distance / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

### **advance (a day can advance, etc.)**

day advanced

as the ~, it got hotter and hotter

morning advanced

as the ~, the soldiers prepared for battle

**time: direction / movement / verb**

### **advance (verb)**

advanced in jumps

his career ~

advanced with giant steps

nuclear science has ~

advanced from guarded to good condition

the twins ~ (operation)

advance their cause through leadership

people who ~ or example

advance the cause

~ of freedom in Africa (US)

advance medicine

the goal of the partnership is to ~, lower costs

advance our (own negotiating) position

as we ~

advanced rapidly

mine technology ~ after World War II

career advanced

his ~ in jumps

science has advanced

nuclear ~ with giant steps

efforts to advance

~ pain research

**progress & lack of progress: direction / movement / verb**

### **advance (noun)**

advances in medicine

the 20th century saw great ~

brehtaking advance

this is a ~ (legislative act)

great advance

anesthesia was a ~ in surgery

major advance

US physicians made another ~ in endocrinology

medical advance

animal testing has led to many ~s

**progress & lack of progress: direction / movement**

### **advance guard**

advance guard of the feminists

she belonged to the ~ (the sculptor Kathleen Scott)

**driving force: military**

### **aegis (noun)**

under his aegis

he insists the newspaper is not ~

~, sales soared (Tim Cook / Apple)

♦ An aegis (pronounced EE-jus) was a breastplate or shield. It means protection or sponsorship.

**protection & lack of protection: military / weapon**

### **aegis (Aegis Insurance, etc.)**

Aegis Combat System

the ~ protects ships

Aegis Security Insurance Company

the ~ focuses on Property and Casualty insurance

**proper name: weapon**

**protection & lack of protection: proper name**

### **aesthetic (and aesthetics)**

aesthetic of (late-twentieth-century) zoo design

Happy's pen exemplifies the ~ (elephant at Bronx Zoo)

aesthetic of disappearance

the national history behind her ~ (Cristina Rivera Garza)

aesthetics of (particular) neighborhoods

the history and the ~ (SoHo, etc.)

aesthetics of roadhouse

a buddy-cop style with the ~

aesthetics of first-person shooter

the ~ video games

aesthetic evolution

~ in the animal world (the peacock, etc.)

aesthetic maintenance

~ includes augmented breasts and tan skin (Hooters)

aesthetic roots

with ~ in BDSM (Isamaya line by Isamaya French)

aesthetic space

the ~ of country music (Mali Obomsawin)

aesthetic universe

the ~ of *Avatar* (the film)

aesthetic and literary

~ works labeled "dark academia"

aesthetics and styles

these ~ (of subcultures on TikTok)

aesthetic, the vibe

for bars, they talk about the ~ (Gen Z TikTok searches)

rap's (most refined) aesthetic  
Westside Gunn and Conductor Williams are perfecting ~

updated aesthetics  
Hooters' ~ (from short shorts to more like underwear)

Sandler aesthetic  
the ~ and its defenders (Adam Sandler / Happy Madison)

dark academia aesthetic  
I love the ~, the outfits, the vibe, the books...

balletcore aesthetic  
the most literal translation yet of the ~ (pastel ensemble)  
designers like Molly Goddard have embraced the ~

chola aesthetic  
the ~ was first forged by the marginalized youths...

Cholo aesthetic  
the ~ derived from Los Angeles Chicano culture

drainer aesthetic  
the ~... (see quote below)

fashion aesthetic  
cottagecore is a ~ popularized by teens and young adults

femme aesthetics  
Saucy Santana's unapologetically ~ in a queerphobic industry

gay aesthetic  
a defined ~---at once together, at once defiant...

stealth-gay aesthetic  
a ~

Gen Z aesthetic  
the teen drama embodies the ~ (*Euphoria* / neon, etc.)

(VSCO) girl aesthetic  
Elle credits Emma Chamberlain with popularizing the ~

“clean girl aesthetic”  
the TikTok ~ has drawn criticism for cultural appropriation

“soft girl” aesthetic  
the ~ began in Nigeria (young Black women)

queer aesthetics  
the evolution of ~ in hip-hop (Saucy Santana, etc.)

“torture porn” aesthetic  
horror dominated by a ~ (*Saw*, *Hostel*, etc.)

*Post-Soul Aesthetic*  
*Soul Babies: Black Popular Culture and the ~* (book)

Socio-Aesthetics  
“The ~ of Pink” (by Liz Camp / the color not the singer)

green energy aesthetics  
backlash in Vermont over ~ (wind turbines look bad)

Pretty Little Liars aesthetic  
so, apparently ~ is back (Julia Guerra, InStyle)

“effeminate” aesthetics

NRTA will ban ~ in entertainment shows (as indecent)

lewd aesthetic  
patrons lean into Hooters' ~...

pink aesthetic  
Barbie core, the 80s-inspired unapologetically ~

retro aesthetic  
twee stands for a ~ (mods, berets, mini skirts, 1960s, etc.)

twee aesthetic  
while its ~ comes with some ergonomic pain (a console)  
thrifting is core to the ~ (second-hand shops)

wild aesthetic  
efforts to preserve the area's ~ (ecotourism, etc.)

cute, nostalgic rural aesthetic  
a cozy tidy garden and a ~ (cottage-core)

glam-grotesque aesthetic  
the gallery showcased a new ~ (SCREAM)

sexy, hyper-glam, over-the-top, party-girl aesthetic  
Y2K's ~

popularization of aesthetics  
the ~ like “little Mexican girl-core”

a look, an aesthetic, and a literary sub-genre  
dark academia is ~ all wrapped up in one

values, aesthetics  
member of Anonymous share ~

leans into its aesthetic  
the group ~ of celebrating the common folk (music)

♦ “Perhaps in making a conscious effort to separate his sound from the lighter, esoteric side of the drainer aesthetic (see: Bladee), Lean goes full Joy Division by rapping over...” (Yung Lean (feat. FKA twigs), “Bliss” by Reanna Cruz, NPR Music, April 8, 2022. Thanks! Who knew?)

♦ In her article “So, Apparently Pretty Little Liars Aesthetic Is Back,” (InStyle, June 8, 2022), Julia Guerra uses the word “aesthetic” six times, not including its use in the title, which she may or may not have written.

♦ “I think it’s an era that like aesthetically I could really get down with.” (Kemah Bob about the era of Hatshepsut on BBC’s “You’re Dead To Me.” She specifically mentions the colors gold and blue, eyeliner, and cats.)

♦ “I’m so glad you found this restaurant. It’s so aesthetical.” (“9 MINUTES OF ANNOYING TICTOK VSCO GIRLS” (TikTok Compilation)” on YouTube.)

♦ “Nineteen thousand labiaplasty procedures were performed, according to the Aesthetic Plastic Surgery National Databank.” (The popularity of leggings during the pandemic resulted in an increased number of labiaplasties.)

♦ “Estheticians knead, wax, pluck, rub, and paint people.”

♦ “In the 1960s there were the mods and rockers. The 70s saw the disco and flower power eras, while in the 80s, new romantic style had its heyday. Fast forward to the present...” (“Soft Girl”: The radical trend millennials love” by Evie Muir, BBC, 4<sup>th</sup> December 2022.)

♦ Pastel colours; fluttering butterflies; warm fluffy clouds; slightly cottagecore; super-femme... (The Soft Girl aesthetic / style / trend / philosophy / personal and political act, set of ethics, etc.)

♦ Large hoop earrings; clothes inspired by the Cholo aesthetic; silky, long, straight hair; lightly tanned skin; thin, upturned noses; puffy, pouty lips; heavy, glamorous makeup; a snatched waist... (The “spicy Latina” cliché or “copy-paste Latinas.”)

♦ Berets; miniskirts; A-line dresses; little dresses; colorful printed tights; Mary Jane ballet flats; oversized collars; layered cardigans; tweed; houndstooth; sweet sincerity; cute; nostalgic; kitsch; quirk; faux naive; indie music... (The twee aesthetic.)

♦ Tweed, corduroy; trousers; blazers; boating blazers; deep dark colors; a bucolic school setting; a small, elite, liberal arts college; studying the classics; libraries; aspirational students; an in crowd; the cool crowd; class obsession; elitism; wealth; exclusivity; secretiveness; a secret society; intrigue; brooding; longing; darkness; sex; sexual entanglements; knives hidden under tweed blazers; blood on sweater vests; hot academics murdering each other... (The dark academia aesthetic, from "Dark academia's deadly allure and the timeless appeal of prep style," NPR, It's Been A Minute, Dec. 16, 2022.)

♦ Wrap sweaters; ballet flats; leg warmers; slick-back hairstyle; pastels; pinks; leotards; unitards; open backs; tulle skirts; en pointe / toe shoes; sweet, feminine, dainty, frilly... (The cottagecore aesthetic.)

♦ "Clean girl bun can cause permanent hair loss."

♦ "According to taste, you will either cheer her majestic gutting of twenty-first-century self-regard, and her stout defense of high aesthetic principles, or agree with the student that she's 'a fucking bitch.'" ("Baton Charge: 'Tar' by Anthony Lane, *The New Yorker*, October 10, 2022.)

♦ "Is boredom an aesthetic now?" (*Dialogue* from a transgender Pornhub video.)

♦ see also *core* (cottagecore, etc.)

♦ Other pretentious and trendy words beloved by contempo-speakers and writers include: *agnostic* (don't know, don't care, don't have an opinion); *gnosticism* (special knowledge); *heuristic* (rule of thumb); *intentional* (?); *lived experience* (what I know to be a fact); *performative* (insincere, bad); *precarity* (precariousness); *reductive* (too simple); *solipsistic* (egotistical); and *transactional* (what's in it for me).

♦ Aesthetic adventuring (Mondrian); aesthetic experience; aesthetic flair (Faith Ringgold); aesthetic form; aesthetic judgment; aesthetic pleasure; an esthetic sublime; aesthetic verity; "in matters of content, the politically committed and the purely aesthetic; sophisticated aesthetics..." (Collocates for *aesthetic* and *aesthetics* used by the great *New Yorker* art critic Peter Schjeldahl.)

♦ "Aesthetics of Victimhood" ("A Whole Lotta Pain: Hanya Yanagihara and the Aesthetics of Victimhood"); aesthetic consciousness; aesthetic considerations; aesthetic distinction; aesthetic ideology; aesthetic modes; aesthetic necessity; aesthetic (and ethical) significance; aesthetically gratuitous (scenes of punitive and humiliating violence)... (Collocates for *aesthetics*, *aesthetic* and *aesthetically* used by the classicist and literary critic Daniel Mendelsohn.)

♦ Aesthetic judgment; *Virginia Woolf*, *Jean Rhys*, and *the Aesthetics of Trauma* (the scholar Patricia Moran)... (Other critics.)

**contempo-speak: language**

**afford (verb)**

afford

doubt is a luxury they can't ~ (soldiers on way to Iraq)

afford to fall

we can't ~ further behind

afford to lose

the President cannot ~ Iraq

afford to remain

we cannot ~ passive spectators to such acts...

afford another Somalia

the UN cannot ~

afford the disruption

we can't ~ that would bring (company policies)

**cost & benefit: money / verb**

**afame (resemblance)**

afame with fall color

the maple trees are ~

**resemblance: fire**

**afame (adjective)**

afame

the region is ~ (Middle East)

the Arab world was ~ in March 2011

afame with (righteous) anger

at some moments we are ~

afame with outrage

Republicans were ~ (politics)

afame with violence

in the dying days of apartheid South Africa was ~

afame with uprisings

YA novels imagine a world ~

still afame

his curiosity is ~ (a filmmaker)

set hearts afame

his verses still ~ (the Persian poet Hafez)

set the social medial world afame

he ~ after writing... (religion)

set afame by (recent) comments

the classical music community has been ~ from...

**activity / initiation / feeling, emotion & effect: fire starting, going, continuing & ending: fire**

**afloat**

keep the studio afloat

sentiment alone cannot ~ (MGM / debt woes)

keeping the regime afloat

oil is ~

stay afloat

Iran can ~ without Western investment

he struggled to ~ (low-paying job)

he got us disaster relief to ~ (politician)

the economy is struggling to ~

**survival, persistence & endurance: water**

**after (at a later time)**

after King Hammurabi

King Solomon ruled about 700 years ~

after horses

trains came ~ (technology)

come after

see *come* (*come after* / *at a later time*)

♦ Earlier times are before later times, and later times are after earlier times, based on the time queue. The person who reaches the end of a trail reaches it earlier than the people following him or her.

**sequence / time: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## afterglow (in the afterglow)

in the afterglow

~ that follows the performance, the audience lingers...

in the afterglow of another championship

a decade later, ~, he said... (an athlete)

in the afterglow of (Obama's) election

she found it easier to run ~ (a politician)

in the afterglow of his (first big) role

he moved into the Chateau Marmont ~ (L.A. actor)

in the afterglow of our (rafting) trip

we relaxed and drank wine ~

in the (mellowing) afterglow of victory

~, they don't seem so fierce (elected women)

in the afterglow of their Tony wins

the films received increased business ~

basking in the afterglow

we're still ~ of the president's marvelous speech

he was ~ of a caretaker's honeymoon period (team)

bask in a (virtue-signalling) afterglow

it's easy to tweet the approved hashtags and ~

♦ A full-page print ad for the Subaru Legacy asks the question, "Can a drive have an afterglow?" In the foreground is the sedan, parked on a scenic overlook. In the background is a dramatic vista of the sea and clouds just after sunset. Of course, the beautiful lingering light is the actual afterglow.

**feeling, emotion & effect: atmosphere / sky**

## afterglow (other)

afterglow of those visits

the ~ has never worn off (celebrity visits restaurant)

afterglow of victory

the ~ was brief (political reformers)

post-World Cup afterglow

how will the ~ be reflected in attendance (US soccer)

happiness and afterglow

the party is flushed with ~ (elections)

**feeling, emotion & effect: atmosphere / sky**

## afternoon (at a later time)

in the afternoon

~, we built igloos

♦ The forenoon is before noon, in the morning.

**sequence / time: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## aftershock (noun)

aftershocks from 9/11

the ~ forced the company to cut jobs nationwide (airline)

aftershocks from the (shareholder) revolt

the ~ will be felt across the business world

political aftershocks

the ~ of the 2004 tsunami... (Sri Lanka)

feel the aftershocks

we will ~ of the financial crisis for a long time

**amount & effect / effect / feeling, emotion & effect: earthquake**

## against (opposition)

against everything

I am ~ he stands for (politics)

against it

the Prime Minister is ~ (a proposal)

**allegiance, support & betrayal / resistance, opposition & defeat: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## against (up against)

up against

this is what cities are ~ (hacked for ransom)

up against a history

we were ~ of social injustice (prosecuting O.J. Simpson)

**obstacles & impedance: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## age (come of age)

came of age in the pandemic

mRNA technology ~

come of age

will this be the year they ~ (team in Champions League)

**growth & development: life span**

## age (age of Trump, etc.)

age of Trump

he covered Democratic politics in the ~

age of fiscal belt-tightening

in an ~

age of edit

we are in an ~ (news, films, music, science, memes, etc.)

age of romantic giants

in an ~ he was a titan (Johann Wolfgang von Goethe)

age of social media

in this ~

age of Viagra

this is the ~, and Mr. Trink was its siren (Thailand)

age of technological wizardry

in an ~...

Gilded Age

the sixties were the ~ of rock journalism (excess)

golden age

- the ~ of quiz shows of the 1950s
- the ~ of the detective story (between world wars)
- the *Sopranos* was the tripwire event that set off the ~ of TV

modern age

- the ~ of blockbusters (films)

for the ages

- it was a game ~ (an exciting basketball game)

age (of the steamer) lasted

- the ~ 150 years (steamboats on the Yangtze River)

♦ "We live in a subscription age and a numbers age... This is a big, big fight." (The boxing promoter Eddie Hearn at a press conference for Katie Taylor vs. Amanda Serrano, referring to DAZN, ticket sales, and social media buzz, including Twitter.)

time: history

## agency (groups)

agency

- we want more than representation, we want ~ (an Asian)
- language is ~, language is power (Korean girl in US)
- it's a story about women having ~ (Amazon's *The Power*)

agency to speak up for ourselves

- we really didn't have that ~ (a female soccer player)

agency or influence

- the ruling suggest strongly that he had ~ over decisions

agency, ferocity and encouragement

- inspirational declarations of ~ (the TV series *Pose*)

women's agency

- sex work and ~

her own agency

- Baker managed to have ~ (Josephine Baker in France)

female agency

- the "Dinner Party" is about ~ (Judy Chicago)

male agency

- notions of female sublimation and ~ ("fridging" trope / film)

sexual agency

- a patriarchal world view that denied women ~

power and agency

- the tech industry is where US workers have the most ~
- build ~ in their work lives (through legal resources, etc.)

claim agency

- the online world offers somewhere for them to ~ (Gen Z)

claiming agency

- women are ~ (Judy Chicago / the "Dinner Party")

denied women agency

- a patriarchal world view that ~

have that agency

- we really didn't ~ to speak up for ourselves until now

inclines towards agency

- the language around leadership ~ (gender research)

seeking agency

- we're seeking more than just representation, we're ~

support (individual) agency

- as a humanist, a womanist, I ~ (Gazelle Amber Valentine)

take agency

- reclaim desire and ~ over your sexual experiences

♦ "You get to decide what your life looks like." ("A Letter to College Sports" by Cailin Bracken.)

♦ "[Choose Your own Adventure books] invited kids to exercise some agency..." (Contempo-speak at its clunkiest. From *The New Yorker* in 2022. The series was launched in 1979.)

♦ "For Asians, we're seeking more than representation, we're seeking agency. We want to be able to tell our stories and show our characters in all of our splendor and complexity, because that's what it takes for people to actually see us as people... I think Asian Americans are kinda taking charge of our own destiny." (Jeff Yang, author of *Rise: A Pop History of Asia America From the Nineties To Now*. From ABC, GMA, "How movies and TV shows dehumanize and hypersexualize Asian Americans.")

♦ "I asked Frances Borzello, art historian, if there are any examples of pre-20th Century nudes expressing women's agency—for example, portraits commissioned by a wife or mistress of themselves in order to please or tantalise a partner or lover?" ("Is the nude selfie a new art form?" by Holly Williams, 18 March 2021.)

♦ "If a player does not want to get vaccinated, we will stand behind him one hundred percent. Look, players need to have agency when it comes to what they decide to put in their bodies." (Benjamin Watson, Vice President, NFL Players Association.)

♦ "To be agentic is to be confident and decisive." (Gender research.)

♦ "It's a story about women having agency, feeling safe and confident." (Amazon Prime video series *The Power*.)

♦ *Agency* in this sense is almost always a synonym for empowerment and in opposition to victimhood. It seems to be used often, but not exclusively, by women.

♦ "Whatever a woman claims she wants is an expression of female agency." (An online commenter.)

inclusion & exclusion: affirmation

## agenda (noun)

wrecking-ball agenda

- they have a ~ that is rooted in nationalism (politics)

hidden agendas

- the unwritten rules, ~, and minefields...

creepy agenda

- it just makes you look like you have some kind of ~

personal agendas

- this is stale news being recycled by those with ~

woke agenda

- critics have accused Disney of pushing a ~

agenda and narrative

- they want the city to burn, it helps their ~

fit your agenda

- just stating the truth, sorry it doesn't ~

pursue their (own hidden) agendas

- factions ~ outside of the law

pushing or suppressing agendas

- people wonder if the BBC is ~

♦ "Mama's boy" is a flex, not an insult." (According to NPR's Neda Ulaby. Neda is a lesbian.)

♦ MORE CONVENTIONAL USAGE. "So, what's on the agenda today?"

wants, needs, hopes & goals: speech

inclusion & exclusion: messaging

## agile (adjective)

agile development

~ means constantly making small improvements

agile and adaptive

security must be ~ (terrorism)

agile and responsive

government must become more ~ to business

ideologically agile

he was brilliant, funny, and ~ (a politician)

lean and agile

the company is ~

lean, agile and focused

the company is ~ on building better cars

pragmatic and agile

we must be ~ in pursuit of human rights (diplomacy)

smaller, (more) agile and innovative

~ will survive

remains (as) agile (as ever)

her mind ~

ability & lack of ability: movement

## agility (noun)

agility

~ requires quick-minded, flexible leaders (military)

mental agility

skills include physical toughness and ~ (military)

the president has faced questions about his ~ (age, gaffes)

tactical agility

~ is first of all a mental state (military)

ability & lack of ability: movement

## agnostic (adjective)

agnostic to the prevailing political system

China is ~ of the countries it invests in

agnostic about the ideology

we're ~ (of groups we investigate for violence / FBI)

agnostic about the use

the guidelines are ~ of experimental medications (no stance)

agnostic approach

an ~, one biased in favor neither of X or Y

brand agnostic

what we're enforcing now is ~ (any vaccine will do)

fashion-agnostic

an earth-loving ~ crowd (a meeting of climate activists)

genre-agnostic

this ~ young brother was raised on opera, gospel and funk  
the ~ indie scene (Lizzo, etc.)

platform-agnostic

TikTok's ~ algorithm (and lack of data protection)

commercially agnostic

a nonprofit, ~ place for serious genealogy (GED-match)

"militantly agnostic"

she takes a ~ approach to UFOs (Leslie Kean)

♦ "For most of this period, the attitude of the press, the courts, and state legislatures was predominantly agnostic. They neither believed nor disbelieved in the claims of the competing groups and tried, when possible, to avoid becoming embroiled in their partisan disputes. When the regulars attacked the divergent practitioners, the press often took the side of the persecuted and called for tolerance." (*The Social Transformation of American Medicine* by Paul Starr, 1984.)

♦ "The painting's quiet default is gender agnosticism..."

♦ "At that time, the Energy Department was agnostic, it didn't have a position one way or the other. What's happened is they've done an update to this report and the Energy Department's position has shifted. It's gone from saying 'Well we don't know' to 'We think it's most likely it did come from a lab, though with low confidence'..." (Michael Gordon, National Security Correspondent for the *Wall Street Journal*.)

♦ The religious meaning of this word has devolved to mean something like, "Not sure, who knows, unwilling to commit, non-committal, no stance, undogmatic, don't care, "Whatever," could care less..."

♦ Merriam-Webster's online entry for this word is excellent.

♦ A FUNNY CARTOON in the AARP magazine, of all places! A man is addressing another man. He says, "Do you want your eggs scrambled or hard-boiled?" The other man responds, "I don't care. I'm egg-nostic." (Contempo-speak cliches like "agnostic" can be considered dead, buried, and stupid when they appear in a cartoon, especially one in a magazine for the elderly.)

♦ Other pretentious and trendy words beloved by contempo-speakers and writers include: *agnostic* (don't know, don't care, don't have an opinion); *gnosticism* (special knowledge); *heuristic* (rule of thumb); *intentional* (?); *lived experience* (what I know to be a fact); *performative* (insincere, bad); *precarity* (precariousness); *reductive* (too simple); *solipsistic* (egotistical); and *transactional* (what's in it for me).

contempo-speak: language

certainty & uncertainty / commitment & determination:  
religion

## ago (two days ago / gone by)

two days ago

they left ~

long ago

in the ~, when I was a girl

♦ This means "gone by."

past & present / time: movement / prep, adv, adj, particle

## aground (run aground)

run aground

he was sure the investigation would ~ and find no evidence

run aground on the shoals

the promises have ~ of changing sex ratios

relationship can run aground

the author-biographer ~

**failure, accident & impairment: boat / verb**

## Aha! (Aha! moment)

"Aha!" moment

she says that she had an ~ in 2005 (administrator)

Aha! instant

the ~ in cognitive science, the Eureka moment...

**comprehension & incomprehension / consciousness & awareness: exclamation / speech**

## ahead (ahead of his time, etc.)

see *time* (*ahead of his time, etc.*)

## ahead (the future is ahead, etc.)

what's ahead

gas hits \$5 a gallon, here's how it got here and ~

ahead of her

when you think about what was ~, it's so sad (tragedy)

ahead of him

he has a great future ~ (athlete)

ahead of us

the single most important task we have ~  
we've got a good deal of work ~  
our darkest days are ~, not behind us (pandemic)

ahead for you and your baby

you probably have questions about what is ~

challenges ahead

prepare students for the ~ (military school)  
Internet "father" Vint Cerf on ~

choices ahead

he understands the hard ~ (a politician)

days ahead

there are better ~

road ahead

no one knows what lies on the ~ (course of war)

**STORMS AHEAD**

~ (newspaper)

task ahead

the ~ for engineers and scientists is to...

book ahead

it's good to ~ (camping reservations)

lie ahead

your best days ~  
our best days ~

lies ahead

no one knows what ~  
I don't know what ~  
we are ready for the struggle that ~ (war)

look ahead

let's ~ to the future

let's ~, the way you have to in a chess game (Brexite)  
as we ~ to the elections coming up in November

looking ahead

~, clouds appear on the horizon (economy)

plan ahead

it's good to ~

♦ "We're so focused on what's ahead, we're not worried about what's behind us." (The boxer Anthony Joshua, speaking about his rematch with Andy Ruiz Jr. AJ had lost the first match, in a tremendous upset.)

**future / time: direction / journeys & trips / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## ahead (before a future event)

ahead of elections

the increasingly bitter political climate ~ next summer

ahead of the Challenger's launch

~, analysts could have made hundreds of charts...

ahead of his upcoming trial

he was back in court ~ (Markeith Loyd / Florida)

ahead of Medvedev's visit

the admission came ~ to Warsaw

well ahead

weather forecasters saw it coming ~ of time

**future / time: position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## ahead (ahead of schedule, etc.)

ahead of schedule

we are ~

get ahead of the conversation

I'm not going to ~ that will take place (speculation)

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## ahead (competition)

ahead of those

Swedish living standards are way ~ in the US

miles ahead

it was ~ of every similar application

million miles ahead

Liverpool are a ~ (of Manchester United / soccer)

two steps ahead

the virus was ~ (of preventative measures)

way ahead

Swedish living standards are ~ of those in the US

light years ahead

she was ~ of her peers  
today's tech is ~ of the old techniques (forensics)

come out ahead

I'm going to beat him, I'll ~ (mixed-martial arts)

puts them ahead  
their strategy ~ of other banks

**competition: direction / movement / position / prep, adv, adj, particle / sports & games / walking, running & jumping**

## ahead (progress)

far ahead  
rich countries are ~ of poor ones in adapting to warming

forging ahead  
other countries are ~ (aquaculture)

get ahead  
never pass up an opportunity to ~

marching ahead  
the science is ~ (genetic tests)

move ahead  
mentally ill people struggle to ~ in their lives  
we must ~ into the future

moved ahead  
he cautiously ~ with privatization

moving ahead  
his friends were ~ while he was standing still

plowing ahead  
we are ~ (difficult medical research)

pressing ahead  
the Russians are ~ with fake social media accounts  
we are ~ in our efforts (government official)

push ahead  
we are trying to ~

surging ahead  
Southeast Asia is ~ (aquaculture)

went ahead  
the program ~ and was deemed a success

♦ Don't get mad, don't get even, get ahead.

**progress & lack of progress / starting, going, continuing & ending: direction / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## ahead (go ahead)

went ahead with the event  
they ~ (in spite of pandemic)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## ailing (adjective)

ailing  
businesses are ~ because of government regulation

ailing economy  
companies are feeling the effects of the ~  
the government is pumping money into the ~

ailing Macs  
she tends to ~ (tech worker)

ailing (housing) market  
ending the deduction could cripple an already ~

**condition & status: health & medicine**

## aim (verb)

aim to please  
we ~ (a store motto)

aiming for  
and that's what we're ~ (making it easy for shoppers)

aimed for a Friday night liftoff  
the space agency ~

aim for a fun, less sanitized view  
reenactors ~ of the Old West

**target / wants, needs, hopes & goals: verb / weapon**

## aim (noun)

aim  
if the ~ is to destroy vehicles, use mines (military)  
their ~ is to trigger fear and chaos (political assassins)  
their ~ is to survive (peasants)

aims of the campaign  
ridging Iraq of WMD is one of the main ~

aim of the ceremony  
the ~ is to... (Swazi reed dance)

aim of that operation  
the ~ was to... (Russian military in Chechnya)

aim of the symposium  
the broad ~ was to report on and discuss the...

aim of a show of force  
the ~ is deterrence (military)

aim of storing  
Glen Canyon Dam was finished with the ~ water for...

aim of overthrowing  
it has the stated ~ the government (an opposition group)

aim in (my) life  
before Qeis, I had no ~ (a student)

aim in (this) life  
everyone has his own ~, and mine is to be a martyr

nomads' (traditional) aim  
the Tibetan ~ of maximizing herd size (vs. slaughter)

terrorists' aim  
if the ~ was to...

intended aim  
regulating the forces and means toward an ~ (military)

stated aim  
it has the ~ of overthrowing the government

dual aim  
the immunizations have a ~ (protect and prevent)

first aim  
our ~ was to be competitive at the World Cup...

initial aim  
having sex might have been his ~, but... (murderer)

primary aim  
a ~ of ED intervention is to.. (domestic abuse)

strategic aim  
application of military capability in support of ~s

traditional aim  
the Tibetan nomads' ~ of maximizing herd size

ultimate aim  
his ~ is to...

unselfish aim  
most seem motivated by ~s

one aim  
the staff has only ~, turning fantasy into reality

several aims  
President Clinton and his advisers had ~

achieve this aim  
to ~, we will have to...

**target / wants, needs, hopes & goals: weapon**

**aim (take aim at something)**

take aim at (pretty much every) race  
his monologues ~ he can

took aim at America  
other veterans of the Russian-Afghan war ~

taking dead aim  
his company is ~ at... (a competitor)

**target: verb / weapon**

**aimed**

aimed at Muslims  
a string of attacks by extremist Christians ~

aimed (specifically) at children  
products ~

aimed at the (US) military  
protest ~ have waxed and waned (S. Korea)

aimed at the superstitious  
attention-grabbing advertisements ~ (muti)

aimed at abortion clinics and their workers  
attacks ~ (US)

aimed at Pakistan's foreign community  
an assault ~ (on a church)

aimed at modernizing

he announced a series of reforms ~ the bureau

aimed at preventing  
mosquito-control programs ~ further cases (West Nile)

aimed at punishing  
laws ~ habitual criminals

aimed at reducing  
regulations ~ noise pollution

**target: weapon**

**air (air of authority, etc.)**

air of authority  
you'll carry an ~

air of indifference  
she has a calculated ~ (teen girl)

air of invincibility  
America's ~ is gone (international basketball)

air of make-believe  
diplomacy can have an ~ (protocol, etc.)

air of respectability  
toy drives give bikers an ~

air of sophistication  
she exudes an ~

air of superiority  
he detected an ~

arrogant air  
he had a preppie, ~ about him

carry an air  
you'll ~ of authority

exudes an air  
she ~ of sophistication

**appearance: air / atmosphere**

**feeling, emotion & effect: air / atmosphere**

**air (environment)**

air he breathes  
that's the ~ that he has internalized (Nazi website)

**environment: air / atmosphere**

**identity & nature: air / atmosphere**

**air (take the air out of a room, etc.)**

takes the air out of the stadium  
when something like that happens, it just ~ (neck injury)

**effect: air / atmosphere**

**feeling, emotion & effect: air / atmosphere**

**air (anger in the air, etc.)**

in the air  
change was ~ (the law)  
spring is ~

war is ~  
the threat of litigation was always ~ (corporation)

anger in the air  
there is much ~

electricity in the air  
there is a new ~ (after combat and death)

fear in the air  
with the general ~, people are paying off debt, not buying

feeling in the air  
the ~ was he couldn't have done it (charged at courthouse)

**environment / feeling, emotion & effect / presence & absence: air / atmosphere**

### air (up in the air)

up in the air  
the school year ended with her plans ~  
where things go from here is quite honestly ~  
I think it's still ~ a little bit (where athlete will commit to)  
the fate of Twitter is ~ this week (Elon Musk takes over)

up in the air whether  
it's still ~... (making a decision)

still up in the air  
her quest to land an internship is ~  
when they can return to their homes is ~ (wildfires)

remains up in the air  
the reason for the Moon Illusion ~

♦ "Up in the air" can link in certain cases to a phrase like, "Nobody knows how this plane lands" with the idea of resolution and conclusion.

**certainty & uncertainty: air / atmosphere / prep, adv, adj, particle**

### air (breath of fresh air)

breath of fresh air  
she's a ~ (politician)  
the blog is a ~ (field notes from scientists)  
his lay status is a ~ (new college president)  
I thought he was a ~, but it turns out he is an elitist

breath of fresh air for the city  
the mayor has been a ~

breath of fresh air after the scandal  
he seemed to be a ~ of Watergate (politics)

unexpected breath of fresh air  
their designs were an ~ (fashion show)

brings a breath of fresh air to the magazine  
she ~ (new editor)

**feeling, emotion & effect: air / atmosphere / wind  
amelioration & renewal: air / atmosphere / wind**

### air (hot air)

hot air  
a plan without action is ~

global warming is ~ (an opinion)

just (a lot of) hot air  
people talk about mine safety, but it's ~

a lot of hot air  
~ blows out of Washington (politics)

full of hot air  
he's ~ (a politician)  
he talks a good game, but he's ~ (a politician)

♦ "The acronym, coined in the early 1990s, is pedagogical vapor." (STEM.)

**speech / substance & lack of substance: air / atmosphere  
air (into thin air)**

disappeared into thin air  
she ~ (wanted for a crime)

vanished into thin air  
it was like she just ~ (woman vanishes)

**appearance & disappearance: air / atmosphere / sky  
air (out of thin air)**

appeared out of thin air  
investors have ~

come out of thin air  
ideas just don't ~

emerge out of thin air  
the fear of the undead didn't ~

create credit out of thin air  
the Federal Reserve can ~

create profit out of thin air  
Wall Street can ~

**appearance & disappearance: air / atmosphere / sky  
origin: air / atmosphere / sky**

### air (clear the air)

clear the air  
they had a meeting to ~ (athlete and coach)  
an interview so she could ~ about what happened  
if you had any lingering doubts, this should ~

clear the air entirely  
wouldn't that just ~ (making documents public)

**amelioration & renewal: air / atmosphere / verb  
air (expose)**

air it out  
you don't have to ~ to the public where everyone can hear

**concealment & lack of concealment: air / atmosphere / verb**

### airbrushed

too slick, airbrushed, propaganda  
many thought the video was ~, to gain support and funding

appearance & reality / concealment & lack of concealment / subterfuge: infrastructure / materials & substances

## aircraft carrier (turn an aircraft carrier)

aircraft carrier

how long will it take, is it a matter of turning an ~ (change)

♦ "When I became president, one of the things I discovered coming into office is you're in charge of a big apparatus... It's an ocean liner and not a speedboat... Trying to change policy is really difficult." ("Barak Obama on 2020.")

♦ "It will take time to turn around this metaphorical tanker in midstream." (Saudi-Israeli relations)

reversal: boat / military / movement / size

## aired (and aired out)

being aired

the divorce is over with no dirty laundry ~

being aired out

these are general grievances that are ~ (the Oscars)

concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories / hygiene

## airtight (adjective)

airtight alibi

his lawyers say he has an ~

airtight case

prosecutors believe they have an ~

seemed airtight

his alibi ~

flaws & lack of flaws: air / atmosphere

## aissance (McConaissance, etc.)

Brenaissance

the ~ (Brendan Fraser nominated for Oscar)  
those thrilled by the "~~" (Brendan Fraser wins Oscar)

McConaissance

the ~ (Matthew McConaughey)

Oh-aissance

the Sandra ~ (magazine *Vanity Fair*)

♦ Often refers to a Hollywood career revival.

language: affix

## akin (adjective)

akin to body armor

we see vaccines as ~ (Defense Department)

akin to the Super Bowl

in the mountainous nations, the *Hahnenkamm* is ~ (skiing)

akin to drunk driving

not masking is ~ (COVID)

♦ "Facial recognition is akin to nuclear or biological weapons." (Evan Greer of Fight for the future. Really?!)

comparison & contrast / relationship: family

## alarm (feeling)

alarm

~ as dump sites fill up and overflow...

alarm over the (rotten-egg) odor

there was ~

alarm over (gun) violence

most Americans feel ~

alarm about (the military's) conduct

the case raises ~ in Iraq (atrocities)

rising alarm

~ over gun violence

reason for alarm

stay calm, there is no ~  
so there was plenty of ~

raises alarm

the case ~ about the military's conduct in Iraq

feeling, emotion & effect: sound

## alarm (warning)

five-alarm

this should have been a ~ fire in the White House, but...

5-alarm

there's no ~ fire here (water drought not an emergency)

sounded alarms

Doctors Without Borders ~ (famine in Niger)

sounding the alarm

groups have been ~ about the Arab drug problem

warning: sound

## albatross (noun)

albatross of debt

the ~ he had been dealing with... (a politician)

albatross for Oakland

the quote has become something of an ~ ("no there there")

albatross for the industry

the Production Code was an ~ (films)

Afghanistan albatross

Trump inherited the ~

lifelong albatross

a parking ticket can become a ~ (racial inequality)

♦ "John James Audubon's racism is the albatross rotting around the necks of those who would hold him in reverence. It is past smelling foul and beginning to reek." ("What Do We Do About John James Audubon?" by J. Drew Lanham.)

affliction: allusion / animal / bird

## Alcatraz (Alcatraz of the South, etc.)

Alcatraz of the Rockies

ADX Florence in Colorado, sometimes called the ~

Alcatraz of the South

Angola, the ~ (prison bordered on 3 sides by Mississippi)

♦ "McNeil Island in South Puget Sound is the Alcatraz you've never heard of."

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## alchemist (noun)

alchemist of words

an ~, Melville transformed his often mundane sources

**person: chemistry**

**creation & transformation: chemistry / person**

## Alexander (Muslim Alexander, etc.)

Muslim Alexander

he conceived for himself an identity as the ~ (Mehmet II)

**importance & significance / military: epithet**

## alight (activity)

alight with posts

social networking sites are ~ from...

alight with (conspiracy) theories

the blogosphere is ~

♦ "We had now fairly entered the Molucca Sea. After dark it was a beautiful sight to look down on our rudders, from which rushed eddying streams of phosphoric light gemmed with whirling sparks of fire. It resembled (more nearly than anything else to which I can compare it) one of the large irregular nebulous star-clusters seen through a good telescope, with the additional attraction of ever-changing form and dancing motion." (*The Malay Archipelago* by Alfred Russel Wallace,)

♦ "That night the fire-flies were in countless thousands, in millions, it seemed... Suddenly, there was a blinding flash which for an instant lit up the whole countryside, as a large meteor trailed its blazing tail across the sky... As at the wave of a magic wand the illumination of the insects went out... Then suddenly in the herbage there appeared a spark again, and in half a minute the air was again filled with the thousands of elfin lanterns weaving their ethereal dances." (*Dersu Uzala* by V.K. Arseniev, in Ussuria.)

**activity: light & dark**

## alight (fire)

set the region alight

conflicts could ~ (Caucasus)

**activity / feeling, emotion & effect / initiation: fire**

## alive (status)

alive

my business is ~, but not thriving

still alive

the talks are ~ (negotiations)

the two teams are ~ in the playoffs (sports)

very much alive

jazz is ~, in Paris...

stay alive

it's tough to ~ in today's economy (a business)

**condition & status: death & life**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life**

## alive (alive and well)

alive and well

interagency coordination is ~

alive and well in the UK

regional stereotypes are ~

remains alive and well

the movement ~

**condition & status: death & life**

## alive (activity)

alive with activity

the night sky, ~ (satellites, an eclipse, etc.)

alive with rats

the alley was ~ that evening...

alive with rumor

residential areas and offices were ~ (following attack)

ever alive

he was a young man ~ to new ideas

**activity: death & life**

## alive (come alive)

come alive

they ~ (characters in a book / book review)

came alive

the Peruvians ~ in the second half (World Cup soccer)

come alive at night

rats ~

came alive in the second quarter

the team ~

come alive with activity

the streets literally ~ (Toronto)

comes alive with young musicians

the campus ~ (summer music program)

came alive with a great tube ride

he suddenly ~ (surfing competition)

comes alive when

he ~ he talks about his passion

**activity: death & life**

**amelioration & renewal: death & life**

## alive (keep something alive)

keep awareness alive

the need to ~ (of the Holocaust)

keep history alive

part of our mission is to ~ (Trail of Tears)

keep hope alive

doctors have a duty to ~

kept the initiative alive

the administration has ~

keep memory alive  
portraits can ~

keep romance alive  
it's important to ~ (in a marriage)

keep the spark alive  
the dreams of what were ahead helped ~ for me (love)

keep the tradition alive  
he does his part to ~ (sumo in Brazil)

**survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / verb**  
**all (give something one's all, etc.)**

gave it everything  
we ~

**commitment & determination: verb**

**allergic (adjective)**

allergic to (small) boats  
for those ~ in stormy seas...

allergic to the concept  
economists are ~ of fairness (reform)

allergic to him  
I'm ~ (the two don't get along)

**avoidance & separation: health & medicine**

**allergy (noun)**

allergy to stardom  
he has an ~ (a successful actor, to Hollywood)

**avoidance & separation: health & medicine**

**alley (Ambush Alley, etc.)**

"Ambush Alley"  
fighting in Nasiriya, nicknamed ~ by the Marines (Iraq)

sniper alley  
this part of town was called ~ (Sarajevo)

Machine Gun Alley  
they called the area ~ (7th Cavalry / Iraq)

RPG Alley  
an ambush on a stretch of road known as ~ (Baqouba)

**death & life / military: epithet**

**alley (Bat Alley, etc.)**

Bat Alley  
bats have been seen flying down ~ (passage in a cave)

Shark Alley  
a wave rolled along an area known as ~ (Farallones)

**geography: epithet**  
**route: animal**

**alley (Cyclone Alley, etc.)**

Cyclone Alley  
Bangladesh sits on "~"

cyclone alley  
Madagascar sits on a type of ~ in the Indian Ocean

Hail Alley  
where Colorado, Nebraska, and Wyoming meet is "~"

iceberg alley  
the Bonavista peninsula is the province's so-called "~"  
it's been a busy season in ~ (Newfoundland and Labrador)  
A68a has been riding this "~" (Antarctica to South Georgia)

"Lightning Alley"  
the corridor is known as ~ (Tampa Bay to Titusville)

tornado alley  
spring in ~ (U.S.)

Tornado Alley  
~ runs from Texas through Oklahoma and Kansas

**geography: epithet / infrastructure / shape**

**alley (Death Alley / U.S. 61, etc.)**

Blood Alley  
Death Alley, ~, that's what they call it (a highway)

Death Alley  
U.S. 61 is known as ~ (fatal crashes in Missouri)

"hell highway"  
killed returning to the reservation on the ~ (Arizona)

expressway to death  
National highway 8 is known as the ~ (India)

**route: infrastructure**

**death & life: epithet**

**alley (Silicon Alley)**

see *Silicon Valley*

**alley (Cancer Alley, etc.)**

"Asthma Alley"  
the South Bronx is often described as ~ (pollution)

Cancer Alley  
they live in a region known as ~ (southwestern Louisiana)  
Louisiana's '~' residents in clean air fight  
this 85-mile stretch of Louisiana, referred to as '~'

"covid corridor"  
the commuter corridors have become the ~ (East Coast US)

**area: health & medicine**

**alley (up one's alley)**

up my alley  
now this part is ~ (how to fix a module vs. its function)

right up your alley

you have to read this, it's ~  
check this out, it's ~

**ability & lack of ability / experience: infrastructure**

## all-star (adjective)

all-star team

with an ~ of lawyers representing them (celebrity divorce)

all-star (legal) team

he had an ~ (rich pedophile)

**group, set & collection: sports & games**

**superlative: sports & games**

## alluring (adjective)

alluring

the pitch is ~ (an educational fad)

**attraction & repulsion: love, courtship & marriage / sex**

## ally (groups)

ally

how to be an ~ and nurture a more inclusive world

self-professed straight LGBT ally

he is a ~ (So Gay Rosé brand co-founder)

trans and LGBTQ ally

how to be a ~ at work (Gender Reveal / NPR)

with an ally

being transgender can be hard, but made easier ~ (work)

employees and allies

a sense of community for our LGBTQ+ ~ (SV Bank)

rivals rather than as allies

you do start to see other people of color as ~

♦ "If you're a white person, you're getting to the perimeter, you're putting your body on the f\*\*\*\*\* line right now!" ("Black Protest Leaders To White Allies: 'It's Our Turn To Lead Our Own Fight,'" NPR, All Things Considered, September 22, 2020.)

♦ "Want to be a better ally in the fight for racial equality and justice? Microsoft Bing / Learn more." (A message on a Bing screensaver, the purpose of which is to get you to use the Bing search engine instead of Google's.)

♦ "You cannot always rely on your 'allies.'"

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

## ally (other)

ally in curbing the spread

countries hope that technology will be an ~ of the virus

allies in that fight

she didn't have a lot of ~ (trouble between 2 actors)

not as an enemy, but as an ally

Democrats welcome change, ~ (politics)

**conflict / help & assistance: military**

## allyship (groups)

allyship with male victims

support for Depp is taken as ~ of abuse

allyship with trans folk

objection to Di Martino was framed as ~

allyship & co-conspiratorship

strategies in ~ as a verb... (activism)

performative allyship

see *performative allyship*

sign of allyship

a ~ with male victims of abuse

♦ "Support for Depp is taken as a sign of allyship with male victims of abuse." (The Johnny Depp vs. Amber Heard trial.)

♦ "Well, every American should take [monkeypox] seriously, but there are two kinds of taking it seriously. One is when thinking that you are at personal risk. And that would be men having sex with men, gay men in the United States, particularly those who are sexually active. Um, other Americans, you know, should have some empathy and some solidarity and help their gay and lesbian neighbors get through this. Uh, many straight Americans rallied to our side during the HIV epidemic. But the Federal government really needs to get its act together because right now we're failing in the response." (Gregg Gonsalves at the Yale School of Public Health. From "How to talk about monkeypox effectively, without stigmatizing gay men," NPR, All Things Considered, August 5, 2022.)

♦ "I mean, if we're honest, allyship is good business at this moment... [R]acial allyship or queer allyship or trans allyship... [Allyship] becomes monetized. It becomes commercialized..." (Author and scholar Mark Anthony Neal. From "Thugs don't dance": iLoveMakonnen and Drake tested rap's norms of masculinity, but only one passed," NPR, Louder Than A Riot Season Two, May 4, 2023.)

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

## along (further along)

further along

in Europe, the outbreak is a little ~ (Omicron variant)

**development: distance / movement**

## alphabet (letters)

alphabet soup of (government) agencies

an avalanche of inspections from an ~

alphabet soup of choices

we have the ~ (federal organizations and their initialisms)

alphabet-soup of law enforcement

the ~ that's here (Louisville protests)

♦ "EOD handled the bombs. SSTP treated the wounds. PRP processed the bodies. The 08s fired DPICM. The MAW provided CAS. The 03s patrolled the MSRs. Me and PFC handled the money... / I will remember that our HMMWV had 5 PX. That the SITREP was 2 KIA, 3 WIA. That KIA means they gave everything. That WIA means I didn't." (From the short story "OIF" in *Redeployment* by the brilliant Marine writer Phil Klay. OIF stands for Operation Iraqi Freedom.)

**mixture: food & drink / letters & characters**

## alphabet (LGBTQ+)

alphabet people

Christians who don't support or believe in the ~

alphabet soup

he dislikes the ~ (LGBTQ+)

the ~ people (a disparaging comment)

alphabet-soup

the ~ designation for sexual minorities

get on the alphabet's good side

he needs to drum up publicity and ~

- ♦ "More groups and resources have appeared for LGBTQIA2S+ folks."
- ♦ "We had just had a bit of a pause as we have seen someone run on to the pitch holding a rainbow flag." (The 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar. The incident occurred during the Portugal-Uruguay game.)
- ♦ "The legislation will protect the country from LGBT values." (Russia's "Answer to Blinken" law that bans gay propaganda.)
- ♦ "BLM and the LGBTQ+ABCDE crowd..." (A disparaging commenter. BLM is presumably Black Lives Matter, NOT the Bureau of Land Management.)
- ♦ "LGBTQ+...what happens when they use up the alphabet?"
- ♦ "The term LGBTQIAA+ is a clear instance of balkanization." (Jonathan Rauch.)
- ♦ "The awkwardness of the acronymic acrobatics..." (LGBTIQ2SA, etc.)
- ♦ "He needs to drum up publicity and get on the alphabet's good side." (Criticism of the Harry Potter actor Daniel Radcliffe.)
- ♦ "Will England be taking the knee at this World Cup to highlight social injustices? If so, does this also cover gingers and baldies?" / "Of course. What do you think the G and B stand for in LGBTQ?" (Inspired repartee on a BBC HYS about the FIFA World Cup in Qatar. The snark alludes to several things, including a speech given by FIFA president Gianni Infantino—widely characterized as a rant—in which he said he had been bullied as a youth for having red hair—but in which he also made several excellent points.)
- ♦ see also *LGBTQ+*, *queer* (*collocations*)

**inclusion & exclusion: language**

## altar (at / on / upon the altar)

on such a remote altar

no clergyman would sacrifice his career ~ (Norfolk Island)

at the altar of disruption

today's tech world worships ~

at the altar of Donald Trump

evangelicals ~

on the altar of (environmental) correctness

he would sacrifice energy independence ~

on the altar of greatness

we are witnessing human flesh ~ (a boxer)

upon the altar of freedom

you have laid so costly a sacrifice ~ (Lincoln)

on the altar of (this nation's continued) freedom

the country will never forget your sacrifice ~ (Britain)

on this altar of the gun god

they are really human sacrifices ~ (mass shootings)

on the altar of that peace

~ Venice was to be sacrificed (France and Austria)

on the altar of Radicalism

he sacrificed the South ~ (southern view of Grant)

at the altar of political correctness

other Roald Dahl classics have been similarly butchered ~

sacrifice your children on the altar

don't ~ of bad science (anti-vaxxer propaganda)

sacrifice (energy) independence on the altar

he would ~ of environmental correctness

sacrifice rights on the altar of terrorism

we can't ~ (facial recognition)

laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar

you have ~ of freedom (President Lincoln)

♦ See the Wikipedia entry "Bixby letter." See also the Wikipedia entry for "Sullivan brothers." You be the judge.

♦ "Mia from Land O Lakes butter and her buddy the Frito Bandito were simply sacrificed on the altar of corporate wokemanship. (Woke-personship?)" ("Mars shelves M&M spokescandies in latest woke corporate fiasco" by Dan Gainor, Opinion, Fox News, Jan. 26, 2023.)

**sacrifice: religion**

## amalgam (noun)

amalgam of (different) influences

Turkish cooking is an intriguing ~

amalgam of (changing death-penalty) politics

there is an ~ and concerns about the system

amalgam of speed, timing, work-rate and pressure

he beat Baranchyk with an ~ (Scot boxer Josh Taylor)

**mixture: materials & substances**

## amazing (groups)

*Amazing*

*We're ~ 1,2,3!* (Leslie Kimmelman / autism)

Amazing in All Children

its battle cry is "See ~" (a book about autism)

amazing network

our ~ of chapters (Audubon Society)

amazing Black students

I was welcomed by so many ~

♦ "It's an election year, and Audubon, and its partner organization the Audubon Action Fund, will be working hard across our amazing network of chapters, state office, and nature centers to keep climate and clean-energy legislation at the forefront of people's agendas." (*Audubon* magazine, Winter 2019.)

♦ "I was welcomed by so many amazing Black students who look just like me, who have the same dreams and aspirations as me as well." (Daya Brown about Duke University. From "Teen accepted to more than 50 colleges, receives over \$1.3 million in scholarships." She wants to study mass communications or film, and she created her own production company while in high school. "I think a lot of people think that if you're smart, you can't be cool. So I found a way to showcase brilliance [and] still have fun while you're doing it.")

♦ "Not everything is amazing; and when you think about it, very little is." (Lake Superior State University 2023 Banished Words List—Words banned for "misuse, overuse, and uselessness.")

♦ "Amazing" is a cliché used not only for affirmation, but also for self-congratulation. In that way it does double duty for many groups.

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## Amazon (epithet / biodiversity)

Amazon of the North

the Great Bear Rain Forest is often called the ~ (BC)

Europe's Amazon  
it has even been called ~ (Drevlians nature reserve)

Ocean's Amazon  
the Coral Triangle has been called the ~

**biodiversity, nature & life / comparison & contrast /  
geography: epithet**

## Amazon (the company)

Amazon  
~ has made Jeff Bezos rich

**proper name: place**

## Amazon (epithet / the company)

Amazon of South Korea  
Coupang is often referred to as the ~ (online retailer)

**worth & lack of worth: epithet  
comparison & contrast / size: epithet**

## ambassador (role)

ambassador of skateboarding  
he serves as the ~ (Tony Hawk)

ambassador for the (Jaguar) brand  
she had been the ~ (endorsement / athlete)

ambassador for the Cherokee  
she will be an ~ (Miss Cherokee Fair / Eastern Band)

ambassador for marine life  
whale sharks are a fantastic ~

ambassador for the sport  
he is a great ~ (Vitali Klitschko / boxing)

ambassador for UNESCO  
she is a goodwill ~ (a famous film actor)

ambassador to the world  
Ali is the goodwill ~ (the boxer)

America's best ambassador  
he was ~ (Charles Barkley at the Barcelona Olympics)

Beauty ambassador  
Lil Nas X named new Yves Saint Laurent ~

brand ambassador  
the reality star is a ~ for the popular clothing brand

climb ambassador  
they are a ~ for outdoor clothing brand Patagonia (binary)

goodwill ambassador  
she is a ~ for UNESCO (a famous film actor)

G-string ambassador  
she has acted as the Y2K ~ in the past (Dua Lipa)

tourism ambassador  
Messi has a role as a ~ for Saudi Arabia (soccer player)

de facto ambassador

he serves as the ~ of skateboarding (Tony Hawk)

global ambassador  
he travels the world as a ~ for the NBA (Shaquille O'Neal)

poor ambassadors  
Manchester City, ~ for this country (lose to Real Madrid)

tireless ambassador  
he was a ~ for Beaujolais Nouveau (Georges Duboeuf)

sees himself as an ambassador  
he ~ for his sport (Tito Ortiz and mixed martial arts)

self-described '(edible insect) ambassador'  
the ~ promotes the use of insect protein

♦ "I don't even know what an ambassador really was. When I think of ambassadors I think of living off government money and jet-setting with girlfriends." (The great boxer Mike Tyson, on a trip to China to promote boxing.)

♦ "She is now training to become their new ambassador." (Flerken, a half African serval cat and half domestic cat, for the Ark Wildlife Park.)

♦ "I'm a modern-day pawpaw ambassador. Pawpaws for the people! It's a movement." (Michael Judd, an edible-landscape designer from Maryland who is also a pawpaw enthusiast, talking to a group of people about...pawpaws. Recorded by Yasmine AlSayyad, Dept. Of Foraging, Pawpaws For The People, "The Talk Of The Town," *The New Yorker*, September 19, 2022.)

♦ "You are attaching your logo to the athlete and should this enter a legal realm, every time he goes into a courtroom, that's your logo walking in on two legs." (A sports analyst about an athlete charged with several counts of sexual abuse. In other words, players are ambassadors for their teams, whether they want to be or don't.)

**person / role: government  
attention, scrutiny & promotion / enthusiasm /  
representation: government / person**

## amber (traffic light)

"amber list"  
it will not be illegal for Britons to travel to ~ Greece

classified as amber  
travel to France, Spain and Greece are now ~ (pandemic)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: color / sign, signal,  
symbol**

## ambush (noun)

by ambush  
it's called ~, it's not fair (facts change in civil suit)

**readiness & preparedness: military**

## ambush (verb)

ambush us  
desire can ~, take us by surprise (sex)

ambush him with the news  
so tonight I ~

**readiness & preparedness: military / verb**

## ambushed

felt ambushed  
one man ~ by her appearance

**readiness & preparedness: military**

## America (America's sweetheart, etc.)

America's Dad

Bob Saget, “~” from *Full House* (TV series)  
the rise and fall of “~” (Bill Cosby / *The Cosby Show*)

America's mayor

Giuliani milked the role of ~ (New York City)

America's sweetheart

in 2012, Taylor Swift was unequivocally ~  
she'd become ~ (1972 / the great Carole King)  
he was the son of ~ (Terry Melchor / Doris Day)

**achievement, recognition & praise: family / epithet**

## ammunition (and ammo)

ammunition for critics

this will provide ~

ammo for critics

all this was ~, who believed...

ammunition for lawsuits

it could be used as ~

political ammunition

the "missile gap" provided ~ to air-power advocates

gather (political) ammunition

he asked a foreign leader to help him ~ against an opponent

give ammunition

the video is sure to ~ to critics

**accusation & criticism: military / weapon**

## amnesia (noun)

collective amnesia

a ~ surrounds the Civil War (attitudes to slavery, etc.)  
his participation in the ~ that surrounds those wars...

historical amnesia

this will deepen our ~ about the Civil War  
the design displays a sense of ~ (a monument)

**consciousness & awareness: health & medicine**

## amputate (remove)

amputate

~ before the infection spreads (poor players at Man U)

♦ “She was in tears over the abrupt amputation of her social life and turmoil at home.” (A high-school senior talking to her school counselor via Zoom. The student's school had been closed due to the Coronavirus pandemic.)

**dismissal, removal & resignation / division & connection:**

**health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

## amok (run amok)

ran amok

the regulators sat by while the financial industry ~  
the military ~ in Manchuria (Japan)

run amok

this is the result of a system ~ (justice)

♦ “Macassar is the most celebrated place in the East for 'running a muck.' There are said to be one or two a month on the average, and five, then, or twenty persons are sometimes killed or wounded at one of them... A man thinks himself wronged by society—he is in debt and cannot pay—he is taken for a slave or has gambled away his wife or child into slavery—he sees no way of recovering what he has lost... He grasps his kris-handle, and the next moment draws out the weapon and stabs a man to the heart. He runs on, with bloody kris in his hand, stabbing at everyone he meets. 'Amok! Amok!' then resounds through the streets...” (*The Malay Archipelago* by Alfred Russel Wallace.)

**behavior: mental health**

**control & lack of control: mental health**

## amped (strength)

amped up with (plenty of) chilies

the dish is ~

amped up audio system

the car has an ~

**strength & weakness: electricity**

## amped (feeling)

amped up

the importance of the game has both teams ~  
he was so ~ that he didn't notice...

amped up on sugar and carbs

kids who are ~ can't learn as well

amped up men

she had no business walking through a mob of ~

remain amped up

after a performance he would ~ (musician)

**feeling, emotion & effect: electricity**

## amplification (noun)

amplification in the media

~ can lead to contagion (names of mass shooters)

algorithmic amplification

~ leads to violence (YouTube)

snap responses, speed, amplification

the social web is architected for ~

**increase & decrease: sound**

## amplified

amplified in a feedback loop

the narrative was ~ by the media (Steele Dossier)

amplified by the media echo chamber

their views are ~ (stock analysts, commentators, etc.)

amplified by the media megaphone

an analyst, his voice ~, can send a stock soaring or sinking

get amplified

conspiracy theories ~ by conservative cable news stars

**increase & decrease: sound**

## amplify (verb)

### amplified flaws

the media, desperate to get it out, ~ in the reporting

### amplify those ideas

a conservative media ecosystem helps ~ (alt-right)

### amplify their message

they use social media to ~ (extremists)

### amplify his message

he counted on his critics to ~

### amplify (pro-government) narratives

these networks ~ (the internet)

### speaks up and amplifies

the Koori Mail ~ Black voices (Australian newspaper)

### increase & decrease: sound / verb

### message: sound / tools & technology / verb

## amp up (verb)

### amped up the discussion

the film really ~ about global warming

### amping up their rhetoric

Republicans are ~ (politics)

### amped up the violence

high tackles led with the helmet have ~ in football

### increase & decrease: electricity

## analogy (and analogize, etc.)

### analogies to the past

officials downplay ~ (Cold War 2.0)

### analogy of the day

this seems to be the ~ (see quote below)

### mountaineering analogy

we probably have crested a peak, a ~...

### gift for analogy

*The New York Times* Book Review praised her for her ~

### analogies are often drawn

~ between sports and religion (*Passion Plays* by R. Blamer)

♦ "We probably have crested a peak, this seems to be the analogy of the day, a mountaineering analogy, but the reality is, we've only just begun the descent, and we're still at a very very high altitude, and we know that that descent is going to take us months." (Chris Hobson from NHS Providers, speaking about the COVID-19 pandemic.)

♦ "Gottingen was the scene of Oppenheimer's first real triumph as a young man coming of age. Becoming a scientist, Oppenheimer later remarked, is 'like climbing a mountain in a tunnel: you wouldn't know whether you were coming out above the valley or whether you were ever coming out at all.' This was particularly so for a young scientist on the cusp of the quantum revolution." (An astonishing simile. From *American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer* by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin.)

♦ "In the months before meeting Oppenheimer, [Lawrence] had conceived the notion of building a machine capable of penetrating the so far unassailable nucleus of the atom, which existed, he quipped, 'like a fly inside a cathedral.'" (Another astonishing simile from *American*

*Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer* by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin.)

♦ "Roosevelt upped the total to \$10 million on the condition that Finland would not directly purchase arms with it. This 'was like offering a clean shirt to a man asking for a square meal...'" (The Russo-Finnish Winter War of 1939-40.)

♦ "I went to math camp when I was fourteen and came home clutching a Rubik's Cube to my chest... I majored in math in college and went on to get my PhD..." (Cathy O'Neil, author of *Weapons Of Math Destruction: How Big Data Increases Inequality And Threatens Democracy*. Chapters are titled: Bomb Parts; Shell Shocked; Arms Race; Propaganda Machine; Civilian Casualties; Ineligible To Serve; Sweating Bullets; Collateral Damage; No Safe Zone; and The Targeted Citizen. *The New York Times* Book Review deservedly praised her for her "gift for analogy.")

♦ The book was destined to be for anatomy what Copernicus' work was for astronomy. (*Structure of the Human body* by Vesalius and *De Revolutionibus* by Copernicus.)

♦ "Ray and Linnaeus would accomplish for all plants and animals what Mercator and his fellows did for the planet's whole surface."

♦ "Just as the map-makers of the earth started from the self-evident boundaries of land and sea, mountains and deserts, the naturalists, too, found self-evident units among plants and animals."

♦ "What the herbals did for botany the bestiaries did for zoology."

♦ "Latitude and longitude were to the measurement of space what the mechanical clock was to the measurement of time."

♦ "But what Sir William Harvey was to physiology, Tyson would be to comparative anatomy."

♦ "The effect which Newton's discoveries had in mathematics, Johnson's work had in this world of words."

♦ "What Portugal was for adventurers in geography, Italy was for history, and Florence was the Sagres." (A triple analogy. Sagres was the port from which Henry the Navigator sent out ships to sail south along the West coast of Africa.)

♦ "We're not going to get rid of porn any more than we're going to get rid of Disneyland even if we don't like the princess trope and that happily-ever-after motif." (Shira Tarrant.)

♦ Mary Louise Kelly of NPR: "Is it correct to say the World Baseball Classic is to Baseball what the World Cup is to soccer?" / Tom Goldman of NPR: "It is. Yeah."

♦ Mary Louise Kelly of NPR: "All right, with that analogy in mind, we'll leave it there. TV critic Eric Deggans, thank you." (The analogy was, "It's like trying to change the tire on a car while it's running.")

♦ "If we are also able to build a brain scanner that can capture the state of every synapse at a given moment—the pattern of information that neuroscientists call the connectome, a term analogous with *genome*—then we can upload that pattern into a brain-emulating computer. The result will be, for all intents and purposes, a human mind. An uploaded mind won't dwell in the same environment as we do, but that's not necessarily a disadvantage..." ("The End of Us: Is the reign of human beings on Earth nearing its end?" by Adam Kirsch, *The Atlantic*, January / February 2023.)

### comparison & contrast: analogy

## anathema

### anathema to the Koch network

tariffs and trade wars are ~

### anathema to (many) media outlets and academics

these proposals were ~ (New Consensus think tank)

### sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion

## ancestor (go before)

### ancestors of (today's) potatoes

they are the ~ (Peruvian wild potatoes)

♦ An ancestor is one who has "gone before," from *ante-* ("before") and *cedo* ("go").

**origin / relationship:** family

**past & present:** direction / movement / position

**time:** direction / movement / position

**sequence:** direction / movement / position

## anchor (noun)

anchor of the (Egyptian) government  
the military is the ~ right now (2011)

anchor for the development  
the golf course is the ~ (apartments, condos)

anchor babies  
opponents of immigration talk about "~"

anchor tenants  
malls need ~

western anchor  
Nanga Parbat is the ~ of the Himalayas

westernmost anchor  
Khe Sanh was the ~ of the line below the DMZ

**bases:** boat / sign, signal, symbol

## anchored

anchored in old ways  
leadership is still ~ (politics)

anchored to the document text  
the selected object is ~ here (text box Microsoft Word)

**attachment / movement / division & connection / progress  
& lack of progress:** boat

## ancien regime

ancien regime of Hosni Mubarak  
Morsi replaced the ~

creature of the ancien regime  
to his detractors he was a ~ (politics)

factions of the ancien regime  
negotiations among ~ and Gulf monarchies (Yemen / 2015)

candidates from the ancien regime  
~ (Field Marshal Ahmed Shafiq, Amr Moussa, etc.)

**past & present / time:** allusion / history

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence:** allusion / history

## anemic (adjective)

anemic  
earnings have been ~  
sales have been ~  
economic growth has been ~  
turnout was ~ (election)

anemic 1.5 percent  
the rate of economic growth slowed to an ~

anemic attempt  
their ~s to address the issue

anemic economy  
our ~ is a result of higher taxes (politics)

anemic (job) growth  
he produced very ~ (a leader)

anemic recovery  
poverty is on the rise in the recession and the ~ continues

anemic response  
people are upset by the military's ~ to the provocation

**strength & weakness:** health & medicine

**condition & status:** health & medicine

## angel (Angel of the Battlefield, etc.)

Angel of Arnhem  
her British patients nicknamed her the ~ (Kate ter Horst)

Angel of the Battlefield  
Clara Barton was known as the ~ (Civil War)

"Angel of the Confederacy"  
she has been remembered as the ~ (Sally Louisa Tompkins)

"Angel of Dien Bien Phu"  
the US press gave her the name ~ (Genevieve de Galard)

♦ "George Silk captured the iconic image of a Fuzzy Wuzzy Angel."  
(Papua New Guinea, World War II. See the short documentary *Kokoda Front Line 1942*.)

**military:** epithet / religion

**epithet:** creature / religion

## angel (Angel of Death, etc.)

see *death* (*Angel of Death, etc.*)

## angel (the Los Angeles Angels, etc.)

Guardian Angels  
*Gardiens de Nuit* is a French version of New York's ~

Hell's Angels  
~ member sentenced to 14 years in prison for...

Los Angeles Angles  
the ~ are in the American League West (MLB)

**proper name:** creature / religion

## angel (appearance)

princess or angel  
I want to be Britney Spears, no more ~ (Halloween girl)

**appearance:** creature / religion

## angel (behavior)

angels  
in fairness, the North Koreans have been no ~

angel of vengeance  
he sees himself as kind of an ~ (*The Power of the Dog*)

perfect angel

he's a ~ with everyone but us (a 15-month-old)

**behavior / character & personality: creature / religion**

## angel (snow angel)

snow angels

kids create ~ in the snow

it's a great place to make ~ (Dubai mall)

celestial snow angel

this ~ (Sh2-106, a nebula in Cygnus)

made a snow angel

she ~ and posted it on YouTube (Johannesburg)

make a snow angel

they go outside and ~ after a sauna (Finland)

♦ A New England Patriots football player was once fined \$10,000 for making a snow angel after scoring a touchdown.

♦ In *The Miracle Season*, two small girls—"fearless, generous souls"—are shown making *mud* angels. Their mothers could not have been happy when they got home!

♦ Sh2-106 is also known as the Celestial Snow Angel. It's a nebula in the constellation Cygnus (the Swan), and its shape has also been compared to an hourglass and butterfly.

**shape: creature / religion**

## angel (superlative)

voice of an angel

she has the ~ (a singer from Isan)

lost an angel

Macedonia and the Balkans ~ (Tose Proeski)

♦ "Macedonia and the Balkans lost an angel." Archbishop Stefan, the head of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, about the death in a car crash of the Macedonian pop star Tose Proeski. It was a sentiment felt across the Balkans.

**superlative: creature / religion**

## angel (angel-faced)

angel-faced child

the ~ who tells lies...

**appearance: creature / religion**

## angel (guardian angel)

guardian angel

tell my son I will always be his ~ (suicide note)

the ~ of Nazare (Sergio Cosme / jet ski driver / surfing)

Chen Si is the bridge's self-appointed ~ (stops suicides)

'~' saves family from Kentucky floods

♦ People query Google Search with questions like: How do I know I have a guardian angel? and How do I talk to my guardian angel?

**help & assistance / protection & lack of protection: creature / religion**

## angel (help and assistance)

angel

she was an ~ to so many of us (exoneration lawyer)

"Angel of the Gap"

Australia mourns ~ (Don Ritchie, who prevented suicides)

angel investor

I raised money from some ~s and venture capitalists

I'm an ~ and I'm looking for...

Antonio Brown's angel

Tom Brady has been ~ (two NFL athletes)

lay-away angels

generous acts of kindness doled out by so-called ~

search angel

she is a self-described ~ (helps adoptees find birth parents)

trail angel

~s provide water, food, even lodging for hikers

~s figure out where hikers are likely to run into trouble

~s are a tradition on long-distance footpaths (AT, PCT)

~s left 30 1-gallon jugs of water and a note

a ~ left a cooler stocked with soda, water and beer

angel, benefactor, Godsend

Tom Brady was his ~ (to Antonio Brown / NFL)

♦ Lay-away angels are anonymous people who pay for Christmas items put on lay-away at stores. Trail angels leave water, food, and other supplies along trails like the Appalachian Trail for the through hikers, who are not able to carry much.

♦ Mini-Me: [writes] Are you a clone of an angel? / Foxy Cleopatra: Ohhh how sweet. No, my mini-man, I'm not. / Mini-Me: [writes] Are you sure you don't have a little clone in you? / Foxy Cleopatra: Yes, I'm sure. / Mini-Me [writes]: Would you like to? (The film *Austin Powers in Goldmember*.)

**help & assistance: creature / religion**

## angle (from an angle)

from every angle

I have considered the issue ~

from a new angle

these conclusions help us look at the tragedy ~

from ten different angles

I wanted to think through these issues ~ (a writer)

considered the problem from every angle

I have ~

look at the tragedy from a new angle

these conclusions help us ~

**perception, perspective & point of view: geometry analysis, interpretation & explanation: geometry**

## animal (different animal, etc.)

different animal

urban warfare is a ~ than fighting in the open

the new style of aggressive ad is a ~ (Internet)

two (very) different animals

the map of the Pacific before and after Cook are ~

unique animal

considering public education, Maine is something of a ~

unusual animal

NCTC is kind of an ... (counter-terrorism center)

completely different animal

a virtual lab is totally different from a classroom, it's a ~

much different animal

the US military is a ~ than the Taliban forces

very different animal

the Bundesliga is a ~ from the Premiership (soccer)

♦ Bill Whitaker, ABC Correspondent: "This is your first Broadway production. This is a different animal." / Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker, Belgian choreographer: "What you call it, an animal?" (From a delightful 60 Minutes interview about *West Side Story*, February 16, 2020.)

♦ "Neither fish nor fowl..."

♦ see also *beast* (*different beast, etc.*)

**taxonomy & classification: animal**

## animal (political animal, etc.)

human animal

stimulus and response is sufficient to understand the ~

narrative animals

we are ~, we love a good story (Guillermo del Toro)

political animal

he's a ~ and will probably go along with Israel (politics)

Karl is not a ~ (a law enforcement leader)

I see myself as not a ~ in this job (DNI)

**identity & nature: animal**

## animal (party animal, etc.)

playboy and a party animal

he had a reputation as a ~ (a soccer player)

**behavior / character & personality / restraint & lack of**

**restraint: animal**

## animal (insult)

animal

an ~ decided to take her life (murder of coed)

what do you want to bet this ~ has previous arrests...

this ~ is still going to have life in prison (death penalty)

animals come out

all the ~ at night (the film *Taxi Driver*)

rabid animals

they are ~ that should all be put down (looters, arsonists)

wild animals

they threw my boy in a cage with those ~ (prison)

animals tormented him

those wild ~ until he became mean as they were (prison)

♦ "The thought that he was waiting for some woman to attack her and do what he wanted to do... I was just thinking, what a horrible animal, vile animal, he is..." (The sister of a murder victim.)

♦ "The animal that did this is no longer on this earth." (Police solve a cold case. The murderer had died in 2013.)

♦ "Witnesses described the scene as like animals attacking a piece of meat, with one telling the jury it appeared to be a deliberate attempt to

kill." (Jack Woodley case: Ten teenagers found guilty of murder," BBC, June 2, 2022.)

♦ "They were vicious, they were animals, you know, to beat him up that way..." (The attack left the boxer Emile Griffith nearly dead. From *Ring of Fire: The Emile Griffith Story* 2005.)

♦ "When I have a mad dog in my yard there is only one solution." (A comment on a discussion board about a heinous murderer.)

♦ see also *beast* (*insult*)

**affliction / insult: animal**

## anodyne (adjective)

anodyne drone

the ~ typing away in her silent cubicle

anodyne title

an article with the ~ "The Value of Science in Prediction"

anodyne and fuzzy

the language of these bills is ~ (culture wars)

so anodyne

that letter was ~ and insignificant (yet caused controversy)

tend to be anodyne

its public comments on due process ~

♦ An anodyne is a drug that soothes pain.

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

## anoint (verb)

anointed his (long-time) ally as his successor

he ~ (Nursultan Nazarbayev)

anointed him as the candidate

the Democratic establishment has ~ (Joe Biden)

anoint him as the Democratic nominee

Biden appealed to Sanders backers to ~

anoint a political heir

he wants to ~

anointed him one of the beautiful people

*People* magazine ~

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion / verb**

## anointed

anointed "the next Steve Jobs or Bill Gates"

she was ~ by George Shultz (Elizabeth Holmes)

anointed the (art world's newest) star

he has been ~

anointed as the Party's standard-bearer

he was ~ (Hubert Humphrey)

get anointed

how exactly did he ~ as the voice of Black America

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## answer (respond)

answered with an assault

Syria ~ of its own, killing several dozen Syrians...

answered with tear gas and water cannons  
police ~ (after protestors hurl gasoline bombs)

♦ "Ask and answer..." (A typical ESL / EFL classroom.)

**fictive communication / relationship / sequence: speech / verb**

## answer (response)

Answer to Blinken

Russia's "~" law bans gay propaganda

**fictive communication / relationship / sequence: speech**

## answer (solution)

answer

the ~ is in front of us

the answer is

~ reform and an awake electorate

answer to social issues

criminalization is frequently America's ~

♦ "There's no excuse for going and killing people... it's not the answer."  
(The Club Q mass shooting in Colorado Springs, Colorado.)

**fictive communication: speech**

## answer (Britain's answer to Bill Gates, etc.)

Europe's answer to PayPal

Germans considered it ~ (Wirecard)

North America's answer to Machu Picchu

Chaco Canyon is ~, only older (drought, etc.)

Britain's answer to Bill Gates

he was once seen as ~ (Mike Lynch / Autonomy)

Britain's answer to Ry Cooder

guitarist Justin Adams has been called "~"

Britain's answer to the Tea Party

UKIP has been described as ~ (US)

China's answer to Lord of the Rings

while it might be easy to describe Condo Heroes as ~...

China's answer to Twitter

Weibo, ~

Europe's answer

~ to NASA (ESA astronauts)

Russia's answer to California

#Sochifornia, ~ (Sochi)

tech's answer

Facebook's "supreme court" is ~ to the Hays Office (P.R.)

millennial answer to Tracy and Hepburn

they seemed like the ~ (Kristin Stewart and Eisenberg)

♦ "It's America's answer to Shakespeare." ("OK: How Two Letters Made 'America's Greatest Word' NPR, All Things Considered, November 20, 2010. Guy Raz interviews Allan Metcalf, author of *OK: The Improbable*

*Story of America's Greatest Word*. The interview and the excerpt from the book are fascinating!)

♦ Both are in the same state of decay; both were the sites of thriving civilizations; both experienced drought and were essentially abandoned... (Comparisons between Machu Picchu and Chaco Canyon, "North America's answer" (equivalent). From "Ancient Culture Prompts Worry for Arid Southwest," NPR, All Things Considered, July 9, 2007.)

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## antediluvian (old)

antediluvian hangover

it's an ~ from far-off days (a judicial matter)

antediluvian opinions

Irwin suggested that Churchill held ~

antediluvian policy

its ~ of opposing women priests (job advert for vicar)

♦ Lord Judge, former lord chief justice: In my opinion, the time has arrived when the requirement for the physical presence of a child—witness or victim—within the court building should be regarded as an antediluvian hangover from laughable far-off days of the quill pen and the ink well." (BBC, World at One, "An antediluvian hangover." A child could be asked questions via video conferencing.)

**past & present / time: Bible / religion**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: Bible / religion**

## antenna (noun)

antennae

I walk around with my ~ up, ready for trouble (gang)

antenna for (racial) slights

he has no ~ (Nigerian immigrant in US)

price antenna

his ~ was already on high alert (inflation woes)

**consciousness & awareness: tools & technology**

## anthem (noun)

anthem

it's been an ~ ever since (Aretha sings "Respect")

anthem of African Americans

it became the ~ ("Say it clear, say it loud...")

anthem of a (celebrity) campaign

Dylan's "Hurricane" was the ~ to release Rubin Carter

anthem of (female and black) empowerment

the video is an ~ (Beyonce's "Formation")

anthems of the (Civil Rights) movement

some of her songs became ~ (Nina Simone)

anthems for women

~ to accept themselves (Lizzo)

anthem among Pentecostals in the Appalachians

the song became an ~ ("There ain't no grave...")

angry young man's anthem

"Custer Died for Your Sins" was an ~

rousing anthem

it's a ~ of encouragement and hope (a song)

club anthem  
the supersonic ~ “Tattoo” (Eurovision)

pop anthem  
“Queen of Kings,” a thunderous ~ (Eurovision)

rock anthem  
“Born to Run” is one of the best ~s ever

swamp anthem  
a raucous version of the ~ “Sabine Turnaround” (Cajun)

booty-call anthem  
Adele’s first ~ (“Can I Get It?”)

date-rape anthem  
it’s been referred to as a ~ (an old Christmas song)

strip-club anthem  
the song was a ~ called “Money Maker”

feminist anthem  
her single has been hailed by some as a ~ (“The Man”)

secret national anthem  
the ~ of an entire generation (“You forgot the color film”)

♦ “It became the national anthem of African Americans.” (“Say it clear, say it loud, I am black, and I am proud.” Sung by Nina Simone.)

♦ “This story is part of American Anthem, a yearlong series on songs that rouse, unite, celebrate and call to action. Find more at NPR.org/Anthem.”

**identity & nature / representation: music**

**anthemic (adjective)**

anthemic single  
the album’s ~ “FREEDOM” (Jon Batiste)

**identity & nature / representation: music**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

**anti (antiracist, etc.)**

anti-abortion  
the Alabama law tops a crescendo of ~ legislation

anti-American  
the government has struggled to prevent an ~ backlash

anti-Americanism  
the US airstrike resulted in an outburst of ~

anti-bisexual  
its hideous, it’s awful, it’s very ~ (film *Basic Instinct*)

anti-Blackness  
the 1619 Project excavates racial inequality and ~  
the ~ and colorism that’s common among Latinos

anti-blackness  
reject white supremacy, anti-immigrant and ~ ideologies

anti-Casteist  
how to be an ~

anti-Chinese  
~ discrimination in the US (historical)

anti-consumerism

his ~ was ahead of its time (Travis McGee character)

Anti-Defamation  
“White Lives Matter” is hate speech to the ~ League

anti-discrimination  
~ laws in education

anti-drug  
Angela Dawson was an ~ crusader (East Baltimore)

anti-establishment  
the political baggage of its ~ origins (black studies)  
prison terms strengthen ~ views

anti-fat  
fight ~ bias

anti-fatness  
~ keeps fat people on the margins (Aubrey Gordon)

anti-gay  
the two plaintiffs who took on Florida’s ~ marriage ban  
~ feeling is entrenched in Uganda  
pathologizing the ~ position (“*homophobia*”)

anti-girlbossery  
is all this ~ simply a new way to put women down

anti-government  
it was the final act in his ~ crusade (Oklahoma City bombing)

anti-immigrant  
reject white supremacy, ~ and anti-blackness ideologies

anti-gun  
~ doctors should stay in their lane (stick to surgery)

anti-immigrant  
~ feeling

anti-immigration  
he’s the leading ~ voice in town

anti-intellectual  
Brearley has been captured by an ~, illiberal mob (school)

anti-lesbian  
it’s very ~ (the film *Basic Instinct*)

anti-mask  
the ~ meltdown has become its own video genre

anti-oppression  
align our actions and behaviors with anti-racism and ~

anti-racist  
it’s not enough to be non-racist, you must be ~  
pedagogy rooted in ~ and anti-patriarchal practices  
how to send an ~ message without appearing performative  
claiming and protecting space is fundamental in ~ protest

*Anti-Racist*  
*How to Raise an ~* (by Ibram X. Kendi)

anti-Semitism  
the vandalism lays bare the latent ~ that exists in society

anti-terror  
they seek to build an international ~ coalition

anti-vaccine  
California is ground zero of the ~ movement

anti-vax  
people who have burrowed into an ~ rabbit hole

anti-vaxxism  
the lab-leak hypothesis is a xenophobic cousin to ~

anti-war  
there's no such thing as an ~ film

anti-Washington  
capitalizing on a tide of ~ sentiment (politics)

anti-white  
he had a history of ~ racism on social media (Darrell Brooks)  
black separatist hate groups with antisemitic and ~ beliefs

anti-whiteness  
~ is the fundamental premise of the left

anti-Zionists  
frequently ~ let the mask slip (to show their anti-Semitism)

anti-LGBTQ  
there are so many ~ attacks going on around the country in a year of ~ hate

anti-LGBTQ+  
we have seen an onslaught of aggressively hostile ~ bills

anti-bullying  
an ~ crusade (schools)

anti-cockfighting  
successful ~ crusades in Missouri and Arizona

anti-authoritarian  
irreverent, ~ and iconoclastic (*Mad* magazine)

anti-foreign  
waves of ~ sentiment convulsed the country

anti-patriarchal  
pedagogy rooted in anti-racist and ~ practices

anti-religious  
the book is ~

anti-Semitic  
we felt the need to come out against ~ tropes

anti-social  
an ~ behavior order (ASBO / the U.K)

antisemitic and anti-white  
black separatist hates groups with ~ beliefs

♦ "Opinion: Tom Hanks Is A Non-Racist. It's Time For Him To Be Anti-Racist" by Eric Deggans, NPR, Opinion, June 13, 2021.

♦ "How To Be An Anti-Casteist" by Gregory Warner, Lauren Frayer, Derek Arthur, NPR, Rough Translation, September 30, 2020. Of course, this echoes "anti-racist."

♦ "I will NO LONGER tolerate ANY racism against me for being a #ProudBrownWoman of #SouthAsian and #Caribbean descent...The fact that I have consistently been made to endure this hateful racism in anti-racist spaces is abhorrently shameful." (Dr. Vanessa Toolise, who was born in Trinidad of Indian descent, resigning from her position of elected vice president of the Orange County branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. From "NAACP leader in Florida quits over 'racist marginalization,'" AP, August 25 2022. Republished on ABC News.)

♦ "ASBOs are simply a badge of honor for lads like this." (A comment about a delinquent. An ASBO is an anti-social behavior order in the United Kingdom.)

♦ "Use the modifiers anti-abortion or abortion-rights; don't use pro-life pro-choice or pro-abortion unless they are in quotes or proper names. Avoid the term abortionist, which connotes a person who performs clandestine abortions." (The Associate Press style book.)

♦ "Antiaircraft; anti-armor; antilanding; antihandling; anti-missile; anti-personnel; antisatellite; antisubmarine; anti-tank; anti-terrorism... (Military "anti-s.")

**inclusion & exclusion: affix**

## antibody (noun)

"antibody response" within the government  
there was an ~ (rejection of lab-leak theory)

**attraction & repulsion / protection & lack of protection:  
health & medicine**

## anticlimax (noun)

sad anticlimax  
his last campaign proved a ~ (an admiral)

**development: theater**

## antidote (noun)

antidote to adversity  
a cheerful disposition and a sunny smile are the ~

antidote to the boredom  
provide an ~ of teaching numbers, months, etc.

antidote to criminality  
empathy is the ~ (versus idea of "bad seed")

antidote to cynicism  
this book is an ~

antidote to the (poisonous) doctrine  
he was an ~ of extremism

antidote to violence  
violence is not an ~ (capital punishment)

antidotes to hatred and intolerance  
caring and sympathy are the best ~

antidote against self-pity  
our callousness was an ~ (hospital ward)

antidote for stress  
a break from work is a necessary ~ (vacations)

view (Tibetan) Buddhism as an antidote  
some Han Chinese ~ to the materialism and greed...

♦ In "Seldom Disappointed," the great Tony Hillerman writes about the seemingly callous banter and traditions of badly wounded soldiers on a hospital ward in Europe during WWII. For example, a soldier has his right

arm amputated and when he returns to the ward he is greeted by his comrades as "Lefty!" Hillerman makes the point that, while such behavior seems "barbarous," it is, in fact, an antidote to self-pity.

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

## antique (adjective)

antique

it seems so ~ now... (a sentiment)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: antiques**

**past & present / time: antiques**

## antique (noun)

antique

the revenue system is an ~ (economy)

turned the telegraph into an antique

the telephone ~

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: antiques**

**past & present / time: antiques**

## anvil (shape)

anvil-shaped

the Geneva Spur is an ~ rib of black rock (Everest)

anvil top

a cumulonimbus mass with a dramatic ~

anvil storm clouds

those majestic ~ that form on a hot summer's day

**shape: tools & technology**

## anvil (military)

hammer and anvil

the ~ is a military tactic involving two primary forces  
the "~" tactic is a single envelopment  
in the ~ tactic, the hammer is the maneuver element

**force: hammer / tools & technology**

## anxiety (noun)

anxiety over authenticity

~ be damned...

Gen Z's anxiety

fueling ~ is being exposed to news in a different way

accent anxiety

northerners were particularly prone to '~' (in England)

class anxiety

the raw nerve of English society, ~

climate anxiety

a lot of people are feeling ~

gender anxiety

the ~ rippling through America today (NPR)

rapture anxiety

for some Christians, '~' can take a lifetime to heal (CNN)

long-held anxiety

the ~ that Americans are "falling behind" in math, science

ambient anxiety

stressors included a kind of ~ caused by the pandemic

social anxiety

ways to conquer ~

pandemic measures that instill unnatural ~ in people

eco-anxiety

how can I deal with my ~

financial anxiety

the film is strikingly fraught with ~ (*Sex and the City*)

parental anxiety

economist Emily Oster believes data can ease ~

postnatal anxiety

Lizzie experienced ~ and insomnia

crucible of anxiety

how to handle the ~ (college admissions)

irritation and anxiety

students express ~ (rising tuition, fewer classes)

coping with anxiety

mindfulness can also play a role in ~

devoured by anxiety

she is ~ when she's not working (magazine editor)

speaks to our anxieties

the film ~ about AI (M3GAN)

♦ "Years later, I have PTSD, I have panic attacks I go to therapy. Finally I'm ready to talk about it and finally heal." (Gabby, about a sexual assault.)

♦ "*Joan of Arkansas* is a climate-anxious work." (By Emma Wipperman, whose writing is concerned with ecology, desire, and queer digital intimacy.)

♦ Bohemians; freaks; hipsters; natives; super-natives (recently arrived appropriators, colonizers); newcomers; young people; poseurs; permanent residents; tourists; (post-Katrina) transplants; yuppies; ... (Types and groups of people mentioned in "Anxiety and authenticity: Are 'super-natives' loving New Orleans to death?" by C.W. Cannon, *The Lens: Focused on New Orleans and the Gulf Coast*, June 1, 2018.)

♦ "For O'Shannassy, there is something comforting about the status anxieties of people who have everything." (The author of *Superyacht Captain*, a memoir. From "The Floating World" by Evan Osnos, *The New Yorker*, July 25, 2022.)

♦ "They keep sayin' I should get help, but I don't even know what I need, they keep sayin', 'Speak your truth,' and at the same time put it onto me." (Megan Thee Stallion, "Anxiety.")

♦ Michele Martin: "How does the task force define anxiety?" / Lori Pbert: "That's a really good point..." ("Behind the new anxiety screening recommendation," NPR, All Things Considered, September 24, 2022.)

♦ "I asked her what had struck her most about the poem. 'The landscapes,' she said, without hesitation. 'The rocks and the rivers. All that dryness.' Not for her the unreal city, or the mob of languages, but a natural world under clear and present threat. "The Waste Land," in short, can speak to the ecological dread of her generation as it spoke to the social and political anxieties of those who had weathered the First World War. The poem, which is prefaced with the words of a Sibyl, is fated to tell each of us, from one era to the next, whatever it is that we most fear to hear." ("On The Rocks: A hundred years of 'The Waste Land'" by Anthony Lane, *The New Yorker*, October 3, 2022.)

♦ "I watched the Mom do an interview once, and she stated her daughter has anxiety over climate change. That family is a bit of a mess." (An

online commenter about “Rep. Katherine Clark’s transgender daughter Riley Dowell sentenced for assault on Boston cop” by Victor Nava, *New York Post*, May 3, 2023.)

♦ Anxiety; anxiety disorders; anxious; apprehension; avoidance; disease (cardiovascular disease, etc.); dread; events (traumatic events, etc.); fearful; fight or flight; heartbeat (increased heartbeat); ill at ease; insomnia; muscles (tightened muscles, etc.); nervousness; pressure (high blood pressure, etc.); problems (financial problems, etc.); sleeplessness; spikes (in blood pressure, etc.); stimulation (mind overtaken with stimulation, etc.); stresses (chronic stresses, etc.); struggling (to sit still, etc.); thoughts (racing thoughts, etc.); threat (anticipated threat, etc.); vigilance; violence (community violence, etc.)... (“What is anxiety” by Rihitu Chatterjee, NPR, Mental Health, Dec. 19, 2022.)

♦ “Anxiety over authenticity be damned, I just want to keep cool.” (African / Ankara hand fans. From “Ankara Hand Fans” by Tomi Obaro, *The New York Times Magazine*, August 14, 2022.)

♦ “Don’t sweat the small stuff.”

♦ “Nobody died.”

♦ “Anxiety Relieving Pet Bed.” (An advertisement for MrFluffyFriend, showing a large dog snoozing on a cushion.)

♦ “Every culture possesses what Edward Shorter, a medical historian at the University of Toronto, calls a ‘symptom repertoire’—a range of physical symptoms available to the unconscious mind for the physical expression of psychological conflict.’ In parts of India, patients are said to suffer from *dhat* syndrome: they complain of impotence and have the delusion that they are losing their semen. In Nigeria, students who can’t retain information and report feeling a burning sensation in their heads are sometimes given a diagnosis of ‘brain fog.’ The illnesses are reinforced by a local belief that the symptoms are a sign of authentic suffering, worthy of expert attention and care.” (“The Apathetic: Why are refugee children falling unconscious?” by Rachel Aviv, *The New Yorker*, April 3, 2017.)

♦ “Hunger was now torturing us. The Cossacks sat gloomily round the fire and hardly spoke. Several times I asked Dersu how we had taken the wrong trail, and were we on the right road. He answered that he had never been in this district before, that he had nothing to go by and, like me, could only guess. Hoping to forget their hunger a little, the men tried to sleep. I lay down too, but could not sleep. Anxiety and doubt tormented me. If we did not manage to kill something tomorrow, or reach the Iman, things would be desperate indeed. In the summer a man can carry on without food for several days, but in the winter hunger kills quickly.” (*Dersu* by V. K. Arseniev.)

♦ “October 30<sup>th</sup>, Sunday—One hundred and fortieth day. Boyd and Gortz died during night. Mr. Collins dying.” (The final entry in Captain George W. De Long’s ice journal. From *In the Kingdom of Ice: The Grand and Terrible Polar Voyage of the USS Jeannette* by Hampton Sides.)

**feeling, emotion & effect / mental health: health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## Apache (Apache helicopter, etc.)

Apache (Longbow attack) helicopter  
the AH-64D, the ~

**military: proper name**

## apart (division)

apart  
they reunited after years of being ~

wide apart  
the two sides remained ~

grew apart  
we ~ (divorce)

**division & connection: prep, adv, adj, particle**  
**avoidance & separation: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## apartheid (separation)

political apartheid  
we’ve got ~ in this country (US politics)

**division & connection: allusion / history**

## ape (verb)

aped the materialism  
regimes which ~ of irreligious others (Sayyid Qutb)

**behavior / repetition: animal / verb**

## apex (highest point)

at the apex of the boom  
he invested ~

apex (of the fad’s popularity) came  
the ~ when...

reached its apex  
their rivalry ~ last year (two athletes)

**growth & development: direction**  
**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction**

## apex (achievement)

apex of their profession  
women can still have kids and reach the ~

at the apex of her career  
she is ~

**achievement, recognition & praise: direction**

## apex (apex animal, etc.)

apex animal  
the tuna is an ~

apex predator  
mankind is the ~ on earth  
orcas are ~s  
so-called ~s, like sharks, groupers and jacks  
~s have no natural predators of their own

♦ “[T]he world could be radically transformed and humanity deposed from its position as apex cogitator over the course of an hour or two.” (Nick Bostrom—author of the 2014 book *Superintelligence*—about artificial intelligence.)

**hierarchy: direction / position**

## apocalypse (noun)

heat apocalypse  
hot weather is now referred to as a ~

retail apocalypse  
the ~ speeds up (brick and mortar vs. online stores)

*After The Apocalypse:*  
*America’s Role in a World Transformed* (Andrew Bacevich)

♦ see also pocalypse (gas-pocalypse, etc.)

**destruction: allusion / Bible / religion**

## apogee (at an apogee)

at its apogee  
the British Empire was ~

at his creative apogee  
when he was ~...

**growth & development / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / direction**

## apogee (noun)

apogee of chic  
Paris is the ~

apogee of his career  
the film was the ~

apogee of excellence  
the *Grande Armee* reached its ~ (1805-1807)

apogee of fame  
Grant reached a new ~ (after victory at Chattanooga)

apogee of a trend  
we have simply reached an ~ (minimalism in fashion)

movement's apogee  
it was the ~

ascent, apogee and decline  
sport compresses life's natural trajectory of ~

reached its apogee  
the island ~ in the early Christian era

**growth & development / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / direction**

## apoplectic (adjective)

apoplectic  
I am ~, at a loss for words (abuse of children)

apoplectic about her definition  
the man was ~ of marriage (gender inclusive)

apoplectic (with rage) at what  
he is ~ he hears on television (street protests)

apoplectic over the impact  
exhibitors are ~ of Netflix (independent theaters)

apoplectic with what  
he would be ~ is going on today (dead father)

had diplomats apoplectic  
his phone call with the President of Taiwan ~

went apoplectic  
the Internet ~ (over a provocation about race)

makes him apoplectic  
it's one of those little things that ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**

## apostasy (noun)

referred to criticism as apostasy  
he ~ (Papandreou)

♦ "Papandreou referred to criticism of some of his individual policies by PASOK members as 'apostasy'—a word that in its original Greek form, *apostassia*, carries a strong theological undertone from the days of Byzantium, when emperors, ruling by Divine Right, were judged 'infallible,' thus making their critics 'heretics' or 'apostates.'" (*Balkan Ghosts: A Journey Through History* by Robert D. Kaplan.)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**  
**apostle (Apostle of the Sioux, etc.)**

Apostle of the Sioux  
he was known as "The ~" (the Swiss Martin Marty)

**message / transmission: epithet**

## apostle (person)

apostle of LSD  
he essentially became the ~ (Timothy Leary)

apostle of niceness  
he is the ~ (a poetry critic)

apostle of positive thinking  
he is an ~

**message / person: religion**

**message: person**

## apostle (Twelve Apostles, etc.)

Twelve Apostles  
the ~ are a popular attraction (Victoria, Australia)

**proper name: religion**

## Appalachia (and Pineapplachia, etc.)

Pineapplachia  
it's closer to being ~ than paradise (Hawaii)

♦ "it's closer to being Pineapplachia than paradise." (An online commenter about the article, "2 Hawaiian men found guilty of hate crime for attacking white homeowner" by Michelle De Pacina, Yahoo / NextShark, November 21, 2022.)

♦ "We don't mind people settlin' in the area. Just don't put your house on a ridgetop so you can look down on us, and don't tell us how you did it back home." (A Southern Appalachians woman.)

♦ "I think 'hillbilly' is the one epithet people are allowed to use. The rest are politically incorrect. If they want to look down upon us, then that is their problem. The ignorance is one-sided, and in that way I've never had a problem with it." (Fred Chappell, North Carolina poet laureate.)

**comparison & contrast / geography: epithet**

## apparatus (government)

security apparatus  
he disappeared within the state ~

big apparatus  
you're in charge of this ~ (the president of US)

♦ "When I became president, one of the things I discovered coming into office is you're in charge of a big apparatus... It's an ocean liner and not a speedboat... Trying to change policy is really difficult." ("Barak Obama on 2020.")

♦ "How long will it take, is it a matter of turning an aircraft carrier?" (To change or reverse diplomacy and foreign policy.)

**operation: government / mechanism**

## **appetite (whet the appetite)**

whet audiences' appetites for films  
movie trailers ~

whet people's appetite for spending  
museums try to ~

whet the appetites of fans  
the ad campaign is designed to ~ (TV)

whet the appetites of investors  
the company's performance will not ~

whet appetites for a rematch  
their fight ~ (boxing)

**increase & decrease: blade / knife**

## **appetite (appetite for fur, etc.)**

appetite to return  
will audiences have an ~ to the teachers (post-COVID)

appetite for adventure  
baby boomers who have an ~

appetite for electricity  
the nation's ~

appetite for fur  
Russia's growing ~ (new wealth)

appetite for gold  
India's seemingly insatiable ~ (jewelry, dowries, temples)

appetite for (royal) gossip  
the tabloids' ~

appetite for a (ground) invasion  
commanders have little ~

appetite for (our) money  
a government that has an endless ~ (taxes)

appetite for oil  
we must reduce our ~

appetite (of the European rich) for porcelain  
the ~ was insatiable

appetite for pornography  
the ~ seems to be insatiable

appetite for profit  
their ~ sharpened by years of drought (farmers)

appetite for scores  
our voracious ~ that we can use to rank our kids (ed)

appetite for sensationalism  
the ~ (on part of broadcast media)

appetite for (crime) stories  
the American public has an insatiable ~ about blacks

appetite for success  
he had an ~ (a poet)

appetite for timber  
China's voracious ~ is deforestating Siberia (Russia)

appetite for cars, cell phones, appliances and services  
the ~ increases daily (China)

appetite for gambling  
North Carolinians appear to have a strong ~

appetite for skateboarding  
the local ~

India's (seemingly insatiable) appetite  
~ for gold (jewelry, dowries, etc.)

nation's appetite  
the ~ for electricity

considerable (public) appetite  
there is ~ for stories of feuds in the entertainment industry

endless appetite  
a government that has an ~ for our money (taxes)

insatiable appetite  
India's seemingly ~ for gold (jewelry, dowries, temples)

little appetite  
commanders have ~ for a ground invasion...

very little appetite  
in the US there is ~ for government restriction

local appetite  
the ~ for skateboarding

low (sexual) appetite  
my boyfriend has a very ~

political appetite  
there is no ~ for banning assault weapons (in the US)

public appetite  
the Y has increased the number of debates to feed the ~  
there is considerable ~ for stories of feuds

sexual appetite  
my boyfriend has a very low ~

strong appetite  
North Carolinians appear to have a ~ for gambling

voracious appetite  
our ~ for scores that we can use to rank our kids (school)  
for the last few years, China has had a ~ for bauxite  
China's ~ for timber is deforestating Siberia

control over his appetites  
he has no ~ (sex)

appetite (for consumer goods) increases  
their ~ daily (China)

have (no) appetite  
I ~ for confrontation

feed the (public) appetite  
the Y has increased the number of debates to ~

reduce our appetite  
we must ~ for oil

satisfies the appetite  
nothing ~ for allegory quite like a zombie film

suppress the appetite  
perils and jitters ~ for private and corporate risks

♦ "People often suppose that penal systems recruit sadists. But cruelty is an appetite that grows with feeding..." (*The Fatal Shore* by Robert Hughes, from the chapter "Norfolk Island.")

♦ "Suspicion is an appetite that is never fully sated." (Misinformation, etc.)

**consumption: food & drink**

## appetizer (noun)

appetizer  
this is just the ~, the main course will come later (battle)

♦ "There's one of your Whigs for ye!" cried Alan; and then turning to me, he asked if I had done much execution. / I told him I had winged one, and thought it was the captain. / "And I've settled two," says he. "No, there's not enough blood let; they'll be back again. To your watch, David. This was but a dram before meat." ("Siege of the Round-House" from *Kidnapped* by Robert Louis Stevenson.)

**development: food & drink**

## applaud (verb)

applaud the administration  
I ~ for doing that (politics)

applaud his decision  
many people ~

applaud her  
her fans ~

applaud women  
I ~ like Hou who beat on against the current (chess)

**achievement, recognition & praise / sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: gesture / sound / verb**

## applauded

applauded and denounced  
they launched a movement that has been both ~

**achievement, recognition & praise: gesture / sound  
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: gesture / sound**

## apple (proverb)

apple  
a stone from the hand of a friend is an ~ (Morocco)

red apple  
a ~ attracts stones (Turkish)

**perception, perspective & point of view: apple**

## apple (Golden Apple / education)

Golden Apple

she received a ~ (a teacher in North Carolina)

♦ "An award-winning elementary school teacher from California was arrested this week for allegedly sexually abusing a former student, according to police." (Sex with a minor.)

**achievement, recognition & praise: apple / sign, signal, symbol**

## apple (bad apple / rotten apple)

bad apple  
one ~ spoils it for everyone else  
~s tend to find one another  
don't let a few ~s spoil it for the rest of us

"bad apple" argument  
I don't buy the ~ (war, combat and atrocities)

few bad apples  
it's not just a ~, there is a culture of abuse (gymnastics)

rotten apples  
there are ~ in every barrel (bad cops)

work of (a few) bad apples  
the Pentagon said the abuse was the ~ (military prison)

♦ "It is galling to many of the families and victims and serving police officers and serving staff in the organization that expressions like 'bad apples' and 'wrong 'uns' were even used. But the culture, sadly, in the Met is all-pervasive, and that the institutional racism, misogyny and homophobia is largely led by what their officers have said... I mean, it is off the barometer." (Baroness Casey speaking to BBC Radio 4 about her report on the Metropolitan Police Service. The Met Police Commissioner, while conceding that failings were "systematic," refused to accept that they were "institutional," as that latter word had various definitions and had become politicized.)

♦ "You have to lower the level to get people in, but that lets in the bad apples."

♦ Why don't Americans say, "a rotten potato?"

**character & personality: apple / fruits & vegetables**

**corruption: apple / food & drink**

## apple (the apple doesn't fall far from the tree, etc.)

apple  
those ~s long ago fell from the Marxist tree (ideas)

♦ The apple doesn't fall far from the tree! (Often said of fathers and sons.)

**product: apple / fruits & vegetables**

**relationship: apple / fruits & vegetables**

## approach (winter is approaching, etc.)

date is approaching  
the application ~

end is (fast) approaching  
the ~

war is approaching  
~ in the Arabian Gulf

deadlines are approaching  
holiday shipping ~

♦ "When you don't know what's coming down the pike, you worry." (A businesswoman, speaking about government regulation.)

**future / time: direction / movement / verb**

## approach (a number, etc.)

approach 100,000 deaths

as we ~ from the virus here in the U.S.

**attainment: number**

## approach (a better approach, etc.)

potshot approach

I don't like that kind of a ~ (politics and criticism)

take-no-prisoners approach

the ~ to justice

confrontational approach

his ~ was rejected as a relic of the past (coach)

creative approaches

the competition rewards ~ to... (research)

straightforward approach

her ~ startles many (on pediatric safety)

Carroll's rah-rah style and Stoop's more ~ vary sharply

we take a ~ to business (honesty, integrity)

old and new approaches

NASA will pursue both ~ simultaneously

pillar of the (US) approach

another ~ is to minimize civilian casualties

**direction: movement**

## approach (the approach of summer, etc.)

with the approach of summer

its staff swells to 400 ~

**future / time: direction / movement**

## approaching (adjective)

approaching elections

the US has called the ~ unfair

approaching spring

melting snow and ~ brings thoughts of...

**future / time: direction / movement**

## appropriate (groups)

appropriates the past to support

it ~ their 'just-so stories' about the present (1619 Project)

appropriate stories from India

white filmmakers unfairly ~

appropriating another culture for his personal profit

critics say he is ~ (artist Tim Okamura)

appropriating African culture

white women who wear African garb are ~

appropriate the (checkered kaffiyah) scarf

fashionistas ~

appropriated the language

she cynically ~ of diversity and inclusion to keep her job

appropriated the (abortion rights) slogan

vaccine opponents have ~ "My Body, My Choice"

appropriate the N-Word

how some artists ~ (in order to "take it back")

appropriate and "feminize"

an attempt to ~ the diction of heroic epic

♦ "Many scholars now see her poetry as an attempt to appropriate and 'feminize' the diction and subject matter of heroic epic. (For instance, the appeal to Aphrodite to be her 'comrade in arms—in love.'" ("Girl, Interrupted" by the classicist Daniel Mendelsohn. About the poet Sappho.)

♦ "Morocco's culture ministry has accused Adidas of appropriating Moroccan culture in its new jerseys for Algeria's football team... / The neighboring nations have a long history of tensions, as they continue to dispute Western Sahara." ("Adidas row: Morocco demands change to Algerian football jersey design" by Malu Cursino, BBC News, Sept. 29, 2022.)

♦ "This is about a legacy white employee who was in danger of losing her job for performance reasons, so she cynically appropriated the language of diversity and inclusion to try and hold onto that job—which if she lost it might have actually gone to a person of color." (An unnamed source, quoted in a Gawker article about a woman fired by The New Yorker. The woman had presented herself as a whistleblower and champion of diversity and inclusion for Blacks and women.)

♦ see also *appropriation (groups)*, *coopt (and co-opt)*, *misappropriate (groups)*, *misappropriated*, *misappropriation (groups, etc.)*, *reappropriate (groups)*, *reappropriation (groups)*, *reclaim (groups)*, *reclaimed (groups)*, *take back (take back one's life, etc.)*

**inclusion & exclusion: possession / verb**

## appropriation (groups)

appropriation of (urban) youth culture

this is an ~ (corporate social media uses the word "bae")

cultural appropriation

~ and preferential treatment (#BlackTikTokStrike)

Mexican restaurateurs in France see it as ~ (French tacos)

3 white women criticized for ~ (mahjong company owners)

criticisms of ~ (Chet Hanks / fake 'Jamaican' accent)

Ariana Grande has been criticized for ~ (AAVE, tats, etc.)

Werowocomoco was widely accused of ~ (restaurant)

phallic appropriation

she becomes masculinized through ~ by...

backlash for (cultural) appropriation

she faced ~ when she posted a selfie...

(cultural) appreciation, not (cultural) appropriation

Miss EmpowHer waist beads are ~

exchange and appropriation

there's an important difference between ~ (Christian yoga)

♦ "How is this still going on? How is Hollywood excluding us but stealing our narratives as well? No more appropriation Hollywood and streamers! Boycott! This F'd up! Plus seriously difficult story to tell without aggrandizement which would b wrong! I don't got a prob with Franco but he ain't Latino!" (John Leguizamo, upset by a casting decision. John Martinez O'Felan, a producer of the film, wrote that Leguizamo's assertions "lack factual substance.")

♦ “#Sayhername,’ the patriots will tweet, delighting in their appropriation of a campaign created for Black women.” (Ashli Babbitt.)

♦ “Gosh, I’m so mad at Greg Abbott, I’m like, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, I’m like Mothers Demand Action, I’m a mother against Greg Abbott, so I wrote down Mothers Against Greg Abbott, and so I just went down there and protested all by myself in front of the Capitol for two and a half hours, I had somebody take my photograph, and I made it public, and it went viral.” (Nancy Thompson. Mothers against Greg Abbott—MAGA—signs can now be seen on lawns throughout Texas.)

♦ “Why Don’t Asian Lives Matter to Joe Biden and his liberal allies?” (A political ad by Citizens for Sanity on Twitter, published on Oct. 22, 2022, that received 25.5K views. The term echoes “Black Lives Matter.”)

♦ “[S]he becomes masculinized through ‘phallic appropriation’ by taking up a weapon...” (Wikipedia entry for “Final girl.”)

♦ “Moccasin maker Minnetonka is publicly apologizing for making money off of Native culture.” (The company was founded in 1946, as a small business creating souvenirs, including moccasins, for roadside gift stores at a time when more and more Americans were traveling by car. An early partner, Philip W Miller, had come to the US from Poland as a boy, and used money that he saved from running a corner grocery store in Minneapolis to buy into the company. Its footwear was popular with hippies in the 1960s. Like most footwear, it is currently made overseas, in the Dominican Republic and China. *Moccasin*, *Minnetonka* and indeed *Minneapolis* and *Minnesota* all come from native American languages.)

♦ RACE “Texas-Based Mahjong Company Faces Backlash For Cultural Appropriation.” January 17, 2021. NPR’s Lulu Garcia-Navarro asks CNN contributor Jeff Yang about a mahjong company founded by three white women who were criticized for cultural appropriation...”

♦ “A professor at a Kansas college dressed as Michael Jackson for Halloween has come under fire with some accusing her of cultural appropriation.”

♦ “Hernandez described the co-opting of trends as an act of ‘stylistic or aesthetic gentrification,’ which she said can be traced as far as the 19<sup>th</sup> century when Cubist artist Pablo Picasso, who is Spanish, took inspiration from traditional African art. / ‘The reason he innovated modern art was because he was looking at African masks,’ Hernandez said. ‘So much Western innovation stems from colonialism. And that’s where we get this kind of cultural appropriation.’” (“Hailey Bieber faces accusations of ‘cultural appropriation’ for ‘brownie glazed lips’ look” by Amanda Su and Jessica Mendoza via GMA, September 28, 2022. Jillian Hernandez is a professor at University of Florida’s Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women’s Studies Research. There are also interesting quotes from Sandra E. Garcia, a *New York Times* style reporter.)

♦ “Cultural appropriation is a very Tumbler Concern.” (In 2014. From the brilliant podcast *The Witch Trials of J.K. Rowling*, “Chapter 3: A New Pyre.”)

♦ “*Appropriation*, the most misappropriated word in the English language at this time. Stuff and nonsense.” (greatpix about the #BlackTikTokStrike.)

♦ see also *appropriate (groups)*, *coopt (and co-opt)*, *misappropriate (groups)*, *misappropriated*, *misappropriation (groups, etc.)*, *reappropriate (groups)*, *reappropriation (groups)*, *reclaim (groups)*, *reclaimed (groups)*, *take back (take back one’s life, etc.)*

**inclusion & exclusion: possession**

## apron strings

cut the apron strings

he wanted to ~ from my father (a baseball player)

♦ “Do you think you needed to cut the strings from your father?” / “That was the right think to do to get me to stand up on my own two feet.” (A professional baseball player.)

**growth & development: life span**

**behavior / character & personality / insult / person: baby**

## aquifer (noun)

huge aquifer

I had this ~ underneath of stories (Stephen King)

♦ “I had this huge aquifer underneath of stories that I wanted to tell and I stuck a pipe down in there and everything just gushed out. There’s still a

lot of it, but there’s not as much now.” (Stephen King: *The Rolling Stone Interview*.)

**source: water / ground, terrain & land**

**amount: water**

## archaeology (noun)

archival archaeology

Fara has pulled off quite a feat of ~

♦ “[Patricia] Fara has pulled off quite a feat of archival archaeology. Digging through the records of universities, scientific societies, industrial establishments, newspapers, and personal journals and correspondence, she excavates and pieces together the lives of some of the first women to embark on scientific studies and careers in the modern era.” (“The Original Hidden Figures” by Elaine Weiss, *Foreign Affairs*, March/April 2019.)

**source: water / ground, terrain & land**

**amount: water**

## archipelago (noun)

archipelago of (fortified) camps

they moved them into an ~ for political reeducation

archipelago of enclaves

in Kosovo, most Serbs live in an ~ (Strpce, etc.)

archipelago of Jewish museums

Europe is a vast ~ (Jeffrey Goldberg)

archipelago of black sites

he had been tortured in the CIA’s ~

saw themselves as a small archipelago

they ~ of decency in a rising sea of moral pollution

♦ Japan, Indonesia and the Philippines are archipelago nations.

♦ The crews of the ill-fated Franklin expedition, searching for a Northwest Passage, perished in the Canadian Arctic Archipelago.

♦ Alfred Russel Wallace pickled orangutans in barrels and collected butterflies in the Malay Archipelago.

♦ The Solomon Islands archipelago saw fierce fighting during World War II. Guadalcanal is in the Solomon Islands.

♦ Turku, in the Turku Archipelago, in the Gulf of Bothnia, was once Finland’s trading gateway to the world. Visiting it is on my bucket list.

♦ Lakes and even rivers can have archipelagos: Lake Baikal contains an archipelago. What a wonderful place that would be to visit! The Si Phan Don (4,000 islands) is a riverine archipelago in the Mekong River in southern Laos.

**configuration: sea / island**

## architect (as verb)

architect a life

~ that feels full, genuine, rich and beautiful (influencer)

architect them

he is able to take all my ideas and ~ (fashion industry)

**contempo-speak: part of speech**

**creation & transformation: infrastructure / part of speech / verb**

## architect (creator)

architect of apartheid

a statue of Hendrik Verwoerd, the ~ (South Africa)

architect of the nuclear bomb  
Enrico Fermi, known as the “~”

architect of change  
she was a legendary ~ (a feminist)

architects of the doctrine  
the ~ remain its strongest defenders (military)

architect of (Iraq's) program  
"Dr. Germ," the chief ~ for biological weapons (BW)

architects of the Final Solution  
Eichmann was one of the ~

architect of the war on terrorism  
he is the ~

deal's (chief) architect  
after the ~ was eased out... (hospital merger)

chief architect  
after the deal's ~ was eased out... (hospital merger)

**creation & transformation: infrastructure / person**  
**person: infrastructure**  
**architected**

architected  
how society is ~ (social justice)

architected by FDR  
he has ended the American era that was ~ (politics)

architected for snap responses, speed, amplification  
the social web is ~

**creation & transformation: infrastructure**

**area (territory)**

my area  
biology isn't ~

**area: ground, terrain & land**

**arena (in / inside the arena)**

in the mental health arena  
this has become an issue ~

in the homeland security arena  
anyone in the ~ will tell you that...

in the legal one  
this will be debated in the political arena, not ~

in the legislative arena  
they would lose this battle ~

inside the legislative arena  
Republicans have the upper hand ~

in the political arena  
these questions will be debated ~, not the legal one

in academic and professional arenas  
develop their languages for use ~

lose (this battle) in the legislative arena  
they would ~

♦ “Bae’ may be in the extreme get-the-fk-out-of-here phrase arena.”  
 (“Where did ‘Bae’ Come From?” by Natasha Zarinsky, *Esquire*, July 25, 2014.)

**conflict: history / infrastructure / sports & games**

**arise (verb)**

arise  
these are just some of the issues that can ~ (workplace)  
we will deal with those cases as they ~ (sex assault)

arises from the ashes  
adoption is a miracle that ~ of despair

crisis (of enormous gravity) has arisen  
a ~

**appearance & disappearance / growth & development / occurrence: direction / verb**

**aristocracy (noun)**

Cambridge intellectual aristocracy  
the club was his entrée into the world of ~ (Apostles)

rock aristocracy  
all of ~ was coming (to see Cat Sevens and Carly Simon)

L.A.’s lustrous hip-istocracy  
Adler was a star within ~ (*Girls Like Us* / Sheila Weller)

**superlative: royalty**

**aristocratic (aristocratic wine, etc.)**

aristocratic wines  
~ at democratic prices (commercial)

**superlative: royalty**

**arithmetic**

parliamentary arithmetic  
Johnson faces exactly the same ~ (as Theresa May)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: number**  
**strategy: number**

**arm (twist arms, etc.)**

twisted arms to limit  
behind the scenes, the US government ~...

twist some arms  
the President needs to ~

twisted his arm  
threats might have ~ (to reinstate Benzema)

♦ “Techniques to encourage loyalty down the years haven't always been entirely compliant with the outlook of a modern human-resources department. The former labour cabinet minister Jack Straw recalled in his memoirs being grabbed by the ‘the goolies’ by his whip, a method that led to teary-eyed agreement within moments. More enlightened recent times mean such tales of robust or physical twisting of arms, or indeed anything else, are less frequent...” (Political correspondent Chris Mason, BBC Sounds, Six O’Clock News, “Senior Conservative alleges MPs ‘intimidated’ by Government whips,” 20/01/2022.)

♦ “Cuomo strong-armed rather than cajoled; he used intimidation rather than seduction to get his way.” (“New York After Cuomo” by Michael Greenberg, *The New York Review*, October 7, 2021.)

♦ “Get them by their balls and their hearts and minds will follow.” (A saying popular among combat soldiers during the Vietnam War who were cynical about US government campaigns to “win the hearts and minds” of the Vietnamese people.)

**coercion & motivation: arm / verb**

## **arm (get one’s arms around something)**

get his arms around how

he couldn’t ~ to control COVID (ineffectual leader)

get their arms around the notion

nobody can ~ he would not only kill but decapitate her

get our arms around the pandemic

we need to ~ and save lives (Gretchen Whitmer)

get our arms around this

we’re going to pull out all the stops to ~ (vaccine roll-out)

wrap your arms around all this

it’s hard to ~

get our arms around it

it’s important to try and ~ and figure out... (a report)

try and get its arms around

this is a crisis the department will continue to ~

try to get their hands around this

they try to ~ by taking a fresh look at the data (NPR)

need to get our hands around

there has been a demonization that we ~ (anti-racism)

♦ “We’ve got to get our arms around this crisis [COVID] so we can get our arms around our economy and make sure that people are safe. So...” (Governor Gretchen Whitmer on ABC.)

♦ “Humans just can’t fathom a billion dollars. Casually we mix ‘billion’ and ‘million’ in the same sentence, but they’re apples and Death Stars. And until we get our arms around that, some fundamental stuff about the American economy will elude us.” (Contributor Chris Colin, *Wired* magazine, January, 2020. And casually *you*, Chris, mix the clichés, “get one’s arms around something” and “wrap one’s head around something.” Do you mean control or comprehend? Which is it?)

♦ Michele Martin of NPR has given us “get one’s *hands* around something,” seemingly on the analogy of a part of the body, or perhaps to “freshen up” a cliché, as NPR is wont to do. What’s next? “Get one’s *legs* around something”?

♦ It is hard to know what the physical basis is for this cliché, but it is now deeply embedded in contempo-speak.

**comprehension & incomprehension: arm / verb**

**control & lack of control: arm / verb**

## **arm (wrap one’s arm around something / consolation)**

wrap our arms around the Spartan community

let’s ~ tonight (mass shooting at MSU)

wrap our (collective) arms around the victims’ families

we are devastated by his tragedy and ~ and friends

♦ “We’ve got to get our arms around this crisis [COVID] so we can get our arms around our economy and make sure that people are safe. So...” / “Let’s wrap our arms around the Spartan community tonight (following a mass shooting on campus).” (Both comments are by Governor Gretchen

Whitmer. The second one seems to have a physical basis: a hug, or consolation.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: arm / gesture**

## **arm (arm of an organization)**

arm of the Kremlin

as an ~, Gazprom usually gets its way

distribution arm

Disney’s ~, Buena Vista (movies)

commercial arm

the Indian Space Research Organization has a ~

political arm

the group’s ~

evolved into an arm

Teach for America has ~ of the charter-school movement

**division: arm**

## **arm (configuration)**

arm of the Mediterranean Sea

the Ligurian Sea is an ~

twin arms

in between those ~ of the Solomon Islands archipelago

**configuration / resemblance: arm**

## **arm (link arms)**

linked arms

top scientists ~ to tamp down speculation (pandemic)

**unanimity & consensus: arm / verb**

**allegiance, support & betrayal: arm / verb**

## **arm (right arm)**

Arafat’s right arm

Abu Jihad was ~ (Kalil al-Wazir)

General Lee’s right arm

“Stonewall” Jackson was ~

strong right arm

the Home Fleet was the ~ of Britain’s naval power

**importance & significance: arm**

## **arm (at arm’s length)**

kept his daughter at arm’s length

he ~ (because she was a manipulative drug addict)

held at arm’s length

he was ~ by the US for years (an authoritarian leader)

**avoidance & separation: arm / distance**

**division & connection: arm / distance**

## **arm (open arms)**

open arms, hostility, and indifference

US troops were greeted with ~

greeted us with open arms  
they ~

welcomed Disney with open arms  
Orlando and Florida ~ (Magic Kingdom)

welcomed the Confucius Institute with open arms  
many universities have ~

welcome them (back) with open arms  
we will ~ (rebellious soldiers)

♦ "This country has a history of opening its arms. Today, its arms were closed..." (Senator Barbara Boxer, on the failure of the Dream Act that would have given a path to citizenship to young migrants.)

**acceptance & rejection / welcome: arm**  
**avoidance & separation: arm / distance**  
**division & connection: arm / distance**  
**arm (long arm)**

long arm of Iran  
Hezbollah is the ~

long arm of the law  
no matter how long it takes, the ~ will catch up with you

long-arm statute  
they are subject to jurisdiction pursuant to Virginia's ~

♦ When workers stayed in boarding houses and ate communally in a dining room, they had to develop a "boardinghouse reach" or risk going hungry!

**coercion & motivation / extent & scope: arm**  
**arm (up in arms)**

up in arms  
the locals are ~ (recipients of trash from Rome)

up in arms over rising crime  
the community is ~

got critics up in arms  
her response only ~

**conflict: weapon**

**armada (noun)**

armada of vehicles  
an ~ arrived and stormed the block (mass shooter's house)

♦ "It was Saturday, 30 July 1588, and Philip II's long-expected Armada had arrived off the English Coast..." (*The Spanish Armada* by Colin Martin and Geoffrey Parker. Shakespeare was 24 years old.)

**amount / group, set & collection: boat / military / sea**

**Armageddon**

political "Armageddon"  
she would face ~ if his case makes it to a tribunal

turned a Sunday afternoon into Armageddon  
the crane collapse ~

♦ see also *geddon* (*chipageddon*, etc.)

**destruction: allusion / Bible**

**armchair (armchair traveller, etc.)**

armchair analysis  
psychiatrists may not engage in ~ (ethics and politics)

Armchair Britain  
Today's destination is Cornwall (~)

armchair casuals  
he gets far too much stick from the ~ (English football)

armchair critic  
the ~s, who have never achieved anything... (sports)

armchair detective  
see *detective (person)*

armchair diagnoses  
~ (like "toxic" and "narcissist," etc.)

armchair enthusiast  
I'm no F1 guru, but am an avid ~ and could see... (crash)

armchair epidemiologists  
beware ~ who have a solution to everything (pandemic)  
~ with their own version of the facts (COVID)

Armchair Expert  
during an appearance on the ~ podcast... (Dax and Monica)

armchair explorers  
a tightknit community of ~ (Forest Fenn website)

armchair fans  
they are out of town glory supporting ~ (soccer snark)  
~ had criticized Southgate's team selection (3 Lions win)

armchair geographers  
so, back in England, you had these ~ (Candice Millard)

armchair investigator  
he had begun working with another ~ (lab-leak hypothesis)  
the ~s are used to a murder being solved in an hour

*Armchair Mountaineer*  
the ~ by David Reuther (Editor)

armchair quarterback  
it's easy to be an ~, what do you do when... (troubled kid)  
all the ~s who couldn't make it as a police officer...

armchair reflection  
officers are not afforded the luxury of ~ (police shootings)

armchair traveller  
an ~ shouldn't be giving advice about safety (trekking)

Armchair Voyage  
see all episodes from ~ (BBC)

armchair warriors  
I have zero tolerance for ~ (a veteran)  
some shameful ~ on here (BBC HYS boxing)

armchair travel and adventure  
books for ~

real and armchair

he was popular with ~ sailors alike (Tristan Jones)

safety of his armchair

said from the ~ (a response to criticism of police)

- ◆ "Nearly all advice sent to the King by armchair politicians is impracticable nonsense." (*Don Quixote* by Cervantes. Translated by John Rutherford.)
- ◆ "Some brave keyboard warriors on here tonight." (Sarcastic comment on BBC HYS boxing.) / "So easy for you to say from behind a keyboard." ("Join the Discussion" snark.)
- ◆ "Does bring out the armchair critics, who have never achieved anything, and think they know football." (Jake 1234 in response to Grover's criticism about coach Gareth Southgate. On a BBC HYS, football.)
- ◆ "The armchair investigators are used to a murder being solved in an hour, minus commercials. That includes DNA testing. It's not TV or a podcast people. It's not always easy." (A commenter about a quadruple murder in Moscow, Idaho.)
- ◆ "Another keyboard coroner with his expert autopsy analysis from thousands of miles away." (Sarcastic comment on message board about a police shooting.)
- ◆ "She called out some of the keyboard cowards with reasoned replies." (Social media trolls / cyberbullies.)
- ◆ "Speaking from both 'an armchair' and with hindsight..." (An opinion on the police response to a school shooting.)
- ◆ "Law enforcement is paralyzed by this type of Monday Morning quarterbacking..." (A comment about the police response to a school shooting.)
- ◆ "His wait has prompted a flurry of memes and tweets from couch GMs. (General managers. The 2023 NFL Draft.)
- ◆ "When we analyze police-involved shootings, we must look to the totality of the circumstances, and we are expressly forbidden from using 20/20 hindsight, because unlike all of us, officers are not afforded the luxury of armchair reflection when they are faced with rapidly evolving, volatile encounters in dangerous situations." (An attorney representing a police officer. From "Family of Donovan Lewis demand accountability after police killing" by Nick Evans, *Ohio Capital Journal*, Sept 2, 2022.)
- ◆ Armchair; couch; keyboard; Monday morning; hindsight...
- ◆ "In this atlas, Judith Schalansky takes us on a journey to fifty far-flung worlds—from Tristan de Cunha to Clipperton Atoll, from Christmas Island to Easter Island... Armchair explorers...will find themselves in places that exist in reality, but may only be found in the imagination." (*The Atlas of Remote Islands: Fifty Islands I Have Never Set Foot On and Never Will* by Judith Schalansky. It's a wonderful slight atlas, graphically distinguished, that should be on the bookshelf of every household with children and young people.)

experience: house

**armed**

armed with the information

~, officials tracked down the criminals

armed with a microscope

~, he measured... (a scientist)

armed with her new mobility

the child begins exploring the world ~

armed with vast computing power

~, scientists will try to model a nuclear blast

armed (only) with her five senses

she makes diagnoses ~ (doctor)

armed with (fresh) search warrants

police arrived ~

armed with cash, good will, and local knowledge

they practice "public diplomacy" ~

help & assistance: military / weapon

**armor (protection)**

amour of obstinacy and willful ignorance

the Germans are deaf and blind, enclosed in an ~

opponent's armor

she uncovered a critical chink in her ~

chink in his armor

see *chink* (*chink in one's armor*)

◆ "Life would be easier if vaccines offered invincible armor." (Covid pandemic.)

protection & lack of protection: Middle Ages / military / weapon

**armory (noun)**

armoury of obstinacy and (willful) ignorance

the Germans are deaf and blind, enclosed in an ~

in her armory

slyness and guile are simply not ~

help & assistance: military / weapon

group, set & collection: military / weapon

**arm-twisting**

a lot of arm-twisting

his job requires a ~

coercion & motivation: arm / violence

**army (Arnie's Army, etc.)**

army of (online) fans

the Barbz, the nickname given to Niki Minaj's ~

Arnie's Army

the ~ story (fans of Arnold Palmer)

Barmy Army

the ~ must have been disappointed (English cricket)

Britney Army

the ~ (#FreeBritney)

orange army

Verstappen's ~ guaranteed a unique atmosphere (F1)

Tartan Army

members of the ~ (Scotland's national football team)

the ~ belts out "Yes Sir, I Can Boogie" in London

◆ "Boogie my... ' growled a disappointed Sean Connery, at McLeods Publick House on W Main Street, following Scotland's loss to Croatia. 'What have the descendants of Culloden, of Seringapatam, St. Valery and Tumbledown Mountain come to? It almost makes me wish I could return to Kafirstan!" ("Elderly Scottish Visitor Disappears After Soccer Result," *The Dothan Eagle*, Dothan, Alabama.)

◆ Fans of the "Who Weekly" podcast call themselves Wholigans, they have their own language and inside jokes, and they support the hosts by subscribing on Patreon.

◆ "Hi, are you a Saweetie?" (The rapper greeting people to a private club in West Hollywood.)

- ♦ Fans of Mariah Carey are “lambs,” part of the “Lambily,” or “Lamb family.”
- ♦ “Hey, my little tater tots...” (Ophelia Nichols, aka Mama Tot, who has 7.6 million followers.)
- ♦ “It’s part of a boyishness that Musk-eteers really love about him.” (Jill Lepore using a term for followers of Elon Musk.)
- ♦ Fans of Harry Styles call themselves Harries, not Stylers. Or is it vice versa?
- ♦ The word “stan” is a portmanteau of “stalk” and “fan.” Its meaning is “super fan.” Merriam-Webster has an entry. There is Stan twitter, and stans have been known to behave badly on social media in order to protect their idol from criticism.
- ♦ “Are these motherfuckers what all the people are screaming about? My dog plays drums better than that kid with the big nose.” (The great boxer Sonny Liston at a Beatles’ concert. From *King of the World* by David Remnick.)

**enthusiasm / group, set & collection: military**

## army (a large group)

army of emojis

the smiley morphed into a whole ~

army of fans

an ~ broke out in celebration (#FreeBritney)

army of followers

he’ll have an ~ (Apolo Ohno at Olympics)

army of (private) investors

an ~ spotted a chance (GameStop)

army of pastors

evangelicals are spreading rapidly through an ~

army of people

it takes an ~ to get you ready (Sandra Oh / Oscars)

army of statistics

he bolsters his analysis with an ~

army of volunteers

he recruited an ~ (Chef Jose “We Fed an Island” Andres)

army of (volunteer) workers

an ~ pounded nails (community playground)

army of zombies

they band these computers together into an ~ (botnets)

army of Ph.D.s

the vast ~ now roaming the universities

army of (poorly paid) migrant workers

an ~ works in Saudi Arabia

grassroots army

his war chest and ~ make him an unstoppable juggernaut

♦ “I think what people are worried about in this ad is that he says ‘army of supporters’... We believe the language ‘army of supporters’ is not really calling for an army but is calling on people who are normal campaign volunteers.” (Sheryl Sandberg, the Chief Operating Officer of Facebook, about a 2020 political ad.)

**amount: military**

## around (still around, etc.)

still around

it is ~ decades after the vaccine (polio in US)

**presence & absence / survival, persistence & endurance:**

**prep, adv, adj, particle**

## arouse (verb)

aroused suspicions

what they said ~

**consciousness & awareness: sleep / verb**

## arrive (a time can arrive)

1972 arrived

~, and the world didn’t end (a doomsday cult)

**future / time: direction / movement / verb**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: direction / movement / verb**

## arrive (the equator is arriving, etc.)

arriving again

the equator is ~ (a moving ship)

♦ When you are traveling, on a ship, say, things can arrive and pass you.

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: direction / movement / verb**

## arrive (attainment)

arrived

she is, after just one engagement, a new artist who has ~

♦ See *comer* (up-and-comer, etc.)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / movement**

## arrive at (an answer, etc.)

arrive at your answer

how did you ~

♦ “I hope you support where I come out (on my decision).”

**attainment: journeys & trips / movement / verb**  
**analysis, interpretation & explanation: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## arrow (weapon)

arrow in his (presidential) quiver

he will use every ~ to get his will

arrows in their quiver

they have more legislative ~ (politics)

♦ *Arrow, bow, and quiver* are three words from archery that are used figuratively.

**help & assistance: military / weapon**

## arsenal (amount)

arsenal of medicines

the ~ against biological weapons is limited

arsenal of ploys

every salesman has an ~ to gain an advantage

arsenal of (top-of-the-line) technology  
the team set out last month with an ~ (search team)

arsenal of tools  
their ~ for evaluating applicants (colleges)

arsenal of (fire-fighting) tools  
a growing ~

beauty arsenal  
the ~ you can count on (cosmetics)

growing arsenal  
there is a ~ of fire-fighting tools on the market

brought history into the arsenal  
Erasmus and his followers ~ of the Reformation

♦ On Sunday, January 27, 2002, an arms depot blew up on a military base in the densely packed Ikeja area of Lagos. A series of blasts shook the city, and chaos reigned as thousands fled, not knowing what was happening. At a canal several miles away, in the darkness, more than a thousand people drowned in a great crowd stampede. As is common in such stampedes, many of the victims were women and children.

**amount / group, set & collection: weapon / military**  
**help & assistance: weapon / military**

## arson (noun)

literary arson  
this ~ (Puffin Books rewrites Roald Dahl books)

♦ "Gutless goons...gave their approval to this literary arson." (Puffin Books and the Dahl estate rewrite Roald Dahl based on contemporary "sensitivities.")

**destruction: crime / fire**

## art (work of art)

edible works of art  
her awe-inspiring pie decorations are ~

work of art, a masterpiece  
the winning of the South Pole had been a ~ (Amundsen)

genius, an absolute work of art  
it was ~ (a goal scored by Arsenal captain Aubameyang)

turn the ocean into works of art  
phytoplankton blooms ~ (BBC's Colourful Planet)

♦ "This is the 70th birthday of one of the most important works of art in American history. (Sound of opening music to the TV show *I Love Lucy*.) Yeah, think of it as a work of art..." (Steve Inskeep, NPR, Morning Edition, Feb 5 2021.)

**achievement, recognition & praise: picture**  
**creation & transformation / superlative: picture**

## artery (route)

artery  
the ~ poured across the US fueled development (a highway)

artery on the (old) Silk road  
the street was an ~ (Jibek Joly in southern Kazakhstan)

artery of commerce  
the Mississippi River is an ~

arteries of (global) trade

it is in all our interests that the ~ are kept free (shipping)

artery of water  
the canal is a life-giving ~ (agriculture)

clogged artery  
Boston's ~ (the Central Artery)

underwater arteries  
these ~ could be vulnerable to attack (undersea cables)

bustling artery  
the seventh floor overlooks a ~ (an avenue)

north-south artery  
Route One, a ~ (Jerusalem)

rail artery  
Gare du Nord is Europe's busiest ~ (Paris)

Central Artery  
the ~ is clogged with traffic day and night (Boston)

vital artery  
the Grand Canal was a ~ (China)

commercial and military artery  
the Gulek Pass has been a major ~ for millennia (Turkey)

**route: blood**

**branching system: blood**

## Arthurian (adjective)

Arthurian figure  
he became an ~ in Greek popular culture (Constantine XI)

**fantasy & reality: allusion / history / person**

**allusion: books & reading**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## artisanal (adjective)

artisanal items  
using salvaged foods as ingredients in ~

artisanal mezcal  
importing ~ for distribution in the U.S. market

artisanal food shop  
~ helps Kosovo war-rape survivors earn income and heal

artisanal mining  
~ supports poor families in the region (the Congo)

♦ "Come 2012, there's a new food vocabulary: authentic, craft, small batch, artisan, rustic and, of course, local. It's the opposite of processed, mass produced and factory farmed..." ("Artisanal And Authentic, The Flavors Of The New Year" by Bonny Wolf, NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, January 1, 2012.)

**creation & transformation: hand / manufacturing**

## artwash (verb)

artwash the regime  
the government brings western influencers to ~

**concealment & lack of concealment: hygiene / verb**  
**appearance & reality: hygiene / verb**

## ascent (on the ascent)

on the ascent

India is ~ (militarily and economically)  
China is ~, and the US seems on the descent  
his career is ~ (an athlete)

seems to be on the ascent

plagiarism ~

**growth & development: direction**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction**

## ascent (with the ascent)

with the ascent of the Nazis

her worst political fears came true ~

with the ascent of Chomsky

linguistics changed drastically ~

**growth & development: direction**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction**

## ascent (other)

ascent to celebrity

*Julia* examines the famous chef's ~ (HBO Max)

ascent (of his party) to power

the ~ in 1968 led to...

rapid ascent

the company has seen a ~

slow the ascent

action to ~ of their currencies

ascent, apogee and decline

sport compresses life's natural trajectory of ~

**growth & development: direction**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction**

## ashes (from the ashes)

from the ashes of the Ottoman Empire

Turkey rose ~

from the ashes of the Korean War

but ~ we rose (South Korean President)

from the ashes of apartheid

~, Soweto is emerging as a vibrant place...

from the ashes of despair

adoption is a miracle that arises ~

emerged from the ashes

the League ~ of World War I

rose from the ashes

the Universal Declaration of Human Rights ~ of WW II

**amelioration & renewal / destruction / origin: fire**

**creation & transformation: fire**

## ask (big ask, etc.)

ask is that

really, our ~ we test the alternatives...

ask was

our biggest ~we wanted the conference to...

ask for a positive tweet

I'm not aware of any ~ (Jen Psaki, WH press secretary)

big ask of Trump

the Polish President went to Washington with a ~

brutal ask for the (young) boxer

this is a ~ (a match in Russia)

hard ask for (an antiwar) Belgium

it was a ~ (troop surge in Afghanistan)

big ask

what you want is a ~

asking for a change is a ~

he is demanding government documents, a ~

most important ask

the ~ I have for Afghanistan is that... (Ashraf Ghani)

massive ask

to beat Man U, you must be perfect, and that is a ~ (soccer)

tall ask

it may be a ~ to replicated his stats from... (NFL)

formal or explicit ask

no ~ was ever made (for celebrity to leave Oscars)

quite the ask

the idea of doing all that is ~ (privacy etiquette / guests)

comes with an ask

it ~, we need help...

♦ "Just lay out what your specific ask is." "Our biggest ask was we wanted..." (Heard on NPR.)

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: part of speech**

## ask (ask for it, etc.)

asking to be killed

he was just ~ (non-compliant, armed / a police OIS)

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

## asleep (adjective)

asleep

all the governments are ~ (Middle East)

♦ "I hope this film shakes people from their slumber." (The great filmmaker and New York Knicks fan Spike Lee.)

**consciousness & awareness: sleep**

## asleep (at the switch, etc.)

asleep at the switch

the regulators were ~ (oil spill)

asleep at the wheel

several Republican incumbents have been ~ (election)  
many states have been ~ (girls marrying too young in US)  
the World Health Organization was ~ (response to epidemic)

**consciousness & awareness: sleep**

**control & lack of control: sleep**

**failure, accident & impairment: sleep**

## ASMR

ASMR angel

Charlotte, who is called the ~ (gift wrapping)

ASMR community

John Butler, a beloved member of the ~ (former farmer)

ASMR Dental Examination and Teeth Cleaning

~ (Lizi ASMR / roleplay / 606,106 views)

ASMR moaning

ASMR joi, ASMR roleplay, ~ (porn categories)

food ASMR

~ videos have garnered over 2.4 billion views (TikTok)

Lesbian ASMR

~ kissing, licking and mouth fetish

lewd ASMR

~ (a porn category)

♦ Relaxing; soothing; feeling of personal intimacy; surrendering yourself to somebody else; softly spoken; lush whispers; hushed tones; Russian and Eastern European accents; sounds; visceral; tingling sensation; scalp; back of neck... (Features of ASMR.)

♦ "The Internet has brought a whole community of brain tinglers together, who can upload and share videos and talk about their experiences, to their heart's content." (BBC Radio 4, Seriously, "Brain Tingles.")

♦ According to a BBC writer, John Butler, the "former farmer" and "YouTube sensation," provided tingly or shivery solace to millions during the COVID pandemic. (BBC, "ASMR: Former farmer, 84, is accidental YouTube star," 14 June 2021.)

♦ Merriam-Webster added ASMR in January 2021.

♦ "People who don't have ASMR don't really get it... You got to have a lot of subscribers." (An ASMR video-maker.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction**

## aspirational (adjective)

aspirational

does it apply to the here and now, or is it ~ (diplomacy)

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: breathing**

## assassination (character assassination)

character assassination

to call him an anti-Semite is ~

calling him a racist is ~

character assassination through silence

inaction can be ~

right-wing character assassination

the film is ~ masquerading as "history"

cleverly orchestrated character assassination

the FBI conducted ~ (US)

anonymous character assassination

early uses of the printing press included ~

political character assassination

it was ~ (a script about John F. Kennedy)

posthumous character assassination

the Jackson estate calls the HBO documentary a ~

cesspool of character assassination

the Web site is a ~ (gossip site in rural towns)

victim of character assassination

he was the ~

accused her of character assassination

he ~

conduct character assassination

I'm not trying to ~

smells of character assassination

the criminal case against him ~

used character assassination

they ~ against him

**accusation & criticism: speech / violence**

**speech: violence**

## assault (noun)

global assault

Prince Harry argued democracy was under "~~"

**conflict: fist / violence**

## assembly line (noun)

well-oiled assembly line

Hollywood was a slick, ~ (in the 1930s)

**creation & transformation: manufacturing**

## asterisk (attention)

asterisk next to his name

there should always be an ~ (drugs / a boxer)

asterisk beside this victory

there will forever be a metaphorical ~ (split decision)

with an asterisk

this is justice ~ (exoneration came much too late)

giant asterisk

all 3 shootings, there's a ~ next to them (a policeman)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: letters & characters**

## astir (adjective)

astir in the world

great things were ~ (the Renaissance)

set the baseball world astir

the news ~

**activity: movement / sleep**

## astray (direction)

gone astray

science has ~, gone off the rails, many times

♦ "Follow the prophet, don't go astray / Follow the prophet, he knows the way." (A Mormon children's song.)

**behavior / failure, accident & impairment: animal / direction**

## astride (position)

astride the Red Sea and the Sahel

Sudan, ~... (geopolitics)

♦ This preposition means to have one leg on either side.

**configuration: horse / leg / standing, sitting & lying  
fictive position: horse / leg / standing, sitting & lying**

## astronomical (adjective)

astronomical

the odds are ~

astronomical prices

the ~ of the so-called glamour health spas

astronomical (suicide) rate

a nation plagued by an ~ (Japan)

astronomical sum

this is an ~ (salary)

♦ "Their astronomical returns on investments are now falling back to earth." (College endowments / the economy.)

**size: astronomy**

**comparison & contrast: astronomy**

## astroturf (verb)

astroturf the (libertarian) 'Ron Paul Revolution

did Putin ~ (the *Daily Beast*)

**appearance & reality / concealment & lack of concealment  
/ subterfuge: infrastructure / verb**

## astroturf (noun)

astroturf (citizens') groups

S.G.I. began creating ~

perpetuate astroturf

corporations and special interest exploit media to ~

grassroots or astroturfs [sic]

we don't know whether this is real ~ (protests)

♦ "Sometimes it's very hard to verify. Sometimes it's very hard to know the motivations of the person... Astro turf, things that appear real but are fake, right, we're in this moment where there's so much fakery..." (Damien Cave, *The New York Times*.)

♦ "Starting in the late seventies, S.G.I. began hiring lobbyists, contracting with advertising firms, creating astroturf citizens' groups, and spending millions of dollars to persuade voters in Arizona, California, Colorado, Iowa, Missouri Oregon, and the District of Columbia to pass lottery initiatives." ("Scratch That: What we've lost playing the lottery" by Kathryn Schulz, *The New Yorker*, October 24, 2022.)

♦ Of course, "astroturf" means fake "grassroots."

**appearance & reality / concealment & lack of concealment  
/ subterfuge: infrastructure**

## astroturfer (noun)

astroturfers

~ present themselves as grassroots organizations

astroturfers aim

~ to make you think you're an outlier when you're not

astroturfers claim

~ to debunk myths that aren't myths at all

**appearance & reality / concealment & lack of concealment  
/ subterfuge: infrastructure**

## astroturfing

astroturfing

~ masks the sponsor, who is not grassroots

"~" creates the appearance of a grass-roots campaign

**appearance & reality / concealment & lack of concealment  
/ subterfuge: infrastructure**

## asylum (insane asylum, etc.)

insane asylum

NYC trains are ~s, so is this thread... (crime)

running the asylum

the prisoners are ~ ("woke" universities)

♦ "The prisoners are running the asylum at SFSU... I was ambushed and physically hit twice by a man." (A Riley Gaines tweet. Riley Gaines is a woman and a famous swimmer. The man was wearing a dress. Riley had just given a speech about saving women's sports at San Francisco State University.)

**environment: mental health**

## Athens (Athens of Asia, etc.)

Athens of Asia

Samarkand briefly was the ~ (Tamerlane)

"Athens of Cuba"

locals christened it the ~ for its cultural life (Matanzas)

**knowledge & intelligence: epithet**

## atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere)

in an atmosphere of suspicion

they live ~

in an atmosphere of tension and gloom

people resumed their lives ~ (after rioting)

in a post-Sept. 11 atmosphere

security concerns ~

in a carnival atmosphere

discussion should not have to be conducted ~

in a welcoming atmosphere

have people come together ~ (party)

within the cloistered atmosphere  
she felt secure ~ (psychiatric ward)

in this highly charged atmosphere  
~ the bombings started (Saudi Arabia)

in a calm atmosphere  
~ we tend to win the debate

in an (intensely) partisan atmosphere  
~, reform is very difficult (US Congress)

in a safe, discreet atmosphere  
exploring her girl/girl fantasies ~ (brothel)

**environment: air / atmosphere / weather & climate**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: air / atmosphere / weather & climate**

### **atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.)**

atmosphere  
the ~ inside the MGM Grand arena was festive  
at the opening of the trial, the ~ was electric

atmosphere of acceptance  
promote an ~ for new staff members

atmosphere of (open) access  
an ~ at administrative buildings (pre-9/11)

atmosphere of (such sacred) ceremonies  
the spiritual ~ (Wicca)

atmosphere of distrust  
adding to the ~ was... (Middle East)

atmosphere of (funereal) gloom  
an ~

atmosphere of stereotypes  
an ~ among the restaurant workers (about who tips)

atmosphere of tolerance  
the ~ he had seen on US television (towards gays)

atmosphere of trust  
they established an ~ (US company in China)

atmosphere of denial and repression  
an ~ (pedophilia and the priesthood)

atmosphere of hopelessness and poverty  
Gaza's ~

atmosphere of hostility and distrust  
the ~ (Middle East)

atmosphere of a (medieval) market-pilgrim town  
the old quarter had the ~ (Lhasa)

atmosphere at Central Command  
the ~ was one of confidence

atmosphere on the plane  
the ~ remained calm (hijacking)

carnival atmosphere  
there was a ~ (peaceful anti-war protest)

family atmosphere  
companies used to have a ~  
it's a ~ (Wild West Weekend at historic village)

party atmosphere  
a ~ had taken over  
the ~, the trinket booths (Gay Pride parades)

team atmosphere  
create a ~ (sports)

work atmosphere  
a ~ notorious for backbiting

classroom atmosphere  
he created a ~ in which we could say anything

hometown atmosphere  
creating a ~ for Atlanta's transplants (sports bars)

pressure-cooker atmosphere  
the accusations underscore the ~ in the region

anti-immigration atmosphere  
Sept. 11 has not yet led to a massive ~

accepting atmosphere  
Amigos in the Dominican Republic has an ~ (gays)

inviting atmosphere  
US's ~ makes terrorist activities inevitable

freewheeling atmosphere  
Krasnoyarsk's ~

electric atmosphere  
the ~ in the city when a pride event is in town

friendly atmosphere  
the ~ that originally drew foreigners to Wisconsin

liberal atmosphere  
Khujand had a surprising ~ (Tajikistan)

peaceful atmosphere  
preserving the ~ (synagogue after 9/11)

poisonous atmosphere  
a "~" has descended on the Times (firings)

supportive atmosphere  
this ~ (at a psychiatric hospital)  
a ~ for scholarly development (university)

toxic atmosphere  
political leaders have contributed to a ~ (politics)

volatile atmosphere  
it's a ~ (national outrage over child abuse by clergy)

carnival-like atmosphere  
a ~ outside the soccer stadium

cauldron-like atmosphere  
the energy of the crowd in the ~ (World Cup)

quiet, safe and orderly atmosphere  
promote a ~ (public library)

cost, taste and atmosphere  
~ are important in a restaurant

environment or atmosphere  
does this create a new ~ (Supreme Court rules on NCAA)

food, atmosphere, music  
~ (New Orleans)

size, location and atmosphere  
think about company ~ (looking for a job)

atmosphere prevails  
an accepting ~ throughout the Dutch Caribbean (gays)

enjoy that atmosphere  
some people don't ~ (Virgin Galactic vs. SpaceX)

poison the atmosphere  
fear and distrust can quickly ~ (epidemic)

♦ "For me to be here and to sample the atmosphere, I don't think I'll see or hear an atmosphere like this again. The atmosphere was just something that took my breath away... I have never seen anything like this before. I've played at Anfield when there is a superb atmosphere but this is something else, something special." (Alan Shearer on Liverpool's amazing victory against Barcelona in a Champion's League second leg semifinal.)

♦ "The atmosphere was amazing, off the scale, absolutely lunatic." (Steve Bunce about Fury-Whyte in front of 94,000 fight fans at Wembley Stadium.)

**environment: air / atmosphere / weather & climate**

**feeling, emotion & effect: air / atmosphere / weather & climate**

## atomic bomb

atomic bomb for poor people  
terrorism was the ~ (Pablo Escobar)

cruise missiles and atomic bombs  
your bodies are our new ~ (suicide bombers)

♦ "In 1945, news reached the camps that the US now possessed the atomic bomb. According to Solzhenitsyn, this unexpected development gave hope to many prisoners, who began to pray for atomic war." ("On The Prison Highway, The gulag's silent remains," by Ian Frazier, *The New Yorker*, August 30, 2010.)

♦ The original target for the second atomic bomb was Kokura. But because Kokura was clouded in, the bomb was dropped on Nagasaki.

♦ "I felt no remorse or guilt that I had bombed the city." (Charles W. Sweeney, pilot of the plane that dropped an atomic bomb on Nagasaki in World War II.)

♦ "I don't feel any guilt or blame about it. I think my view really is if we hadn't done it someone else would have. And it would be with us in any case." (Lilli S. Hornig, who worked on the Manhattan Project. From "The Bomb," PBS, 2015.)

♦ According to General Eisenhower, the four "tools of victory" that won World War II were the bazooka, the jeep, the C-47 Skytrain, and the atomic bomb.

**destruction: explosion / nuclear energy**

## atomization (noun)

atomization of literary journalism  
the ~ and getting paid for it (online reviewers)

atomization of the rap market  
the ~

## division & connection: physics atrocious (non-military)

atrocious  
the US' most infamous lynching, an ~ (Emmett Till)  
~s that have been tied to diseases

atrocious against (Venezuela's) sovereignty  
this is an ~ (US refuses to withdraw diplomats)

atrocious of slavery  
the appalling ~, which stains our history (Prince Charles)

caste-based atrocities  
reporting on ~ (*Khabar Lahariya*)

American-Internment Atrocious  
"The Other WWII ~" (NPR)

human rights atrocities  
it's a stark account of ~ (detention camps)

tales about atrocities  
~ such as Tulsa (Eric Deggans)

redlining and criminal justice atrocities  
~ (Andrew Perry / reparations for Blacks)

♦ "As Moth and Sani traverse the landscape of the South that was the site of so many atrocities committed against their ancestors... ("This Road Trip Is A Winding, Poetic Journey Through Ancestry, Trauma And Art" by Caitlyn Paxson, NPR, Book Reviews, August 21, 2021. The book under review is *Me (Moth)* by Amber McBride, a "debut YA novel-inverse.")

♦ "Now, I thought, we'll see him examine how his work—so often focused on the achievements of virtuous white, male Americans—may have made it tougher for tales about atrocities such as Tulsa to find similar space." ("Opinion: Tom Hanks Is A Non-Racist. It's Time For Him To Be Anti-Racist" by Eric Deggans, NPR, Opinion, June 13, 2021.)

♦ "Their experience is framed by a pointed portrayal of the art world as an atrocious exhibition of cult personalities to be sipped like wine by bored, cynical critics and the disingenuous investors of a luxury cartel." ("The Sound of 'Candyman' Comes From A Hauntingly Cyclical History" by DeForrest Brown, NPR Music, August 27, 2021.)

**hyperbole: military / violence**

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## atrophied (verb)

atrophied  
its military capacity has ~ (NATO)

attenuation / condition & status / functioning: health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone

## attached (attributed)

attached to depression  
there is a severe social stigma ~

attached to it  
cross burning has a history of racial intimidation ~

attached to that  
no undue significance should be ~

**attachment: materials & substances**

## attachment (noun)

attachment to him  
younger black folk have less of an ~ (an older celebrity)

**attachment: materials & substances**

## attack (verb)

attacked the government's plans  
conservative rebels have ~ (UK / COVID lockdown)

**conflict: military**

## attack (under attack, etc.)

under attack  
the feeling in Egypt was that all Arabs were ~  
South Korean culture is ~ (insults about food)

under attack worldwide  
he read of how Muslims were ~

come under attack  
such practices have ~ as cruel to animals (cages)  
his methodology has ~

♦ James Mossman: "You say that you don't care what the critics write about you, your work, yet you got very angry with Edmund Wilson once for commenting on you work, and you let off some very heavy field guns at him, not to say multiple rockets, so you must have cared..." / Vladimir Nabokov: "I never retaliate when my works of art are concerned. Here the arrows of adverse criticism cannot scratch let alone pierce the shield of what disappointed archers call my self-assurance. But I do reach for my heaviest dictionary when my scholarship is questioned..." (Vladimir Nabokov, BBC Author Archive Collection, "James Mossman talks to Russian writer Vladimir Nabokov in this 1970 interview.")

**accusation & criticism: military / weapon**

**conflict: military / weapon**

## attack (noun)

attacks on athletes  
personal ~ at games (fan abuse)

attacks on their self-esteem and dignity  
dealing with ~ (stereotypes, etc.)

attacks against Saudi Arabia  
he condemned Western media ~ (Abdullah)

attack ads  
we are seeing ~ of every kind (election)

attack mode  
she is in a real ~

media attack  
he condemned Western ~s against Saudi Arabia

mob attacks  
protecting individuals from social-media ~

direct attack  
under ~ you could use the quivering-lip approach

latest attack  
this ~ stung local parole officials (calls to end system)

personal attacks

~ on athletes at games (fan abuse);  
ladling criticism or indulging in ~

fend off some (major) attacks  
he has had to ~ (a politician)

**accusation & criticism: weapon**

## attacked

attacked from above and below  
the ice is being ~ (floating ice shelf / global warming)

**destruction: military / weapon**

## attend (verb)

attended these protests  
violence has ~

**attachment: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

**relationship: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## audience (play to the audience, etc.)

see *play* (*play to the audience, etc.*)

## auger (verb)

augers well  
this ~ for future attempts to find the wreck (conditions)

**fate, fortune & chance: bird / religion / verb**

**evidence: bird / religion / verb**

## aura (noun)

aura of assertiveness  
she projects an ~ and self-confidence

aura of prosperity  
Turkish businessmen sported an irresistible ~

aura of an (18th-century English) landscape  
the pond possesses the ~

aura of a shrine  
the images in the hall add the ~ (SuAnne Big Crow)

aura of unreality  
an ~ descended over the mountain (disaster)

aura of doom and gloom  
an ~

archive's aura  
the exhibit has an ~ of dense, ordered information

romantic aura  
the pond possesses the ~ of s landscape portrait

projects an aura  
she ~ of assertiveness and self-confidence

punctured Slater's aura  
he ~ of invincibility (surfing)

**appearance: air / atmosphere**

**feeling, emotion & effect: air / atmosphere**

## auspicious (adjective)

### auspicious

the timing of the move is ~ as the country is...

### auspicious debut

the album is an ~ for the group (good reviews)

### auspicious start

it was an ~ to an audacious career (in music)

### auspicious time

the news came at an ~ in the U.K.

### auspicious politically

everything is ~, Grant will surely be elected...

### less than auspicious

her arrival in England was ~ (a refugee)

he was appointed under ~ circumstances

### not an auspicious beginning

this was ~ (a bad date, but they ended up married anyway)

### not an auspicious debut

alas, it was ~ (bad reviews)

♦ This comes from the Latin for *bird* and *see* and means, "The omens are good." At certain times and in certain places, the direction of flight of a bird might determine whether or not a camel caravan set out that day. Romans would cut open a bird and study the entrails. The early Puritans in the US avidly studied nature for signs.

♦ "Punxsutawney Phil is predicting six more weeks of winter, but Staten Island Chuck..."

♦ "Every sign points to her having a huge year in 2022..."

♦ "That's a bad sign!"

♦ "Omens of ill-luck will follow those who pay attention to them." (A saying.)

♦ "The Spouter Inn. Peter Coffin. Coffin? Spouter? Rather ominous in that particular connection, thought I..." (*Moby-Dick*.)

### fate, fortune & chance: bird / religion

### evidence: bird / religion

## authentic (groups)

### Authentic

~ is the name of LL Cool J's 13th studio album

### authentic casting

shouldn't '~' apply to all minorities (Mirren cast as Meir)

### authentic experiences

San Pancho is a hippie town, with tourists searching for ~

### authentic relationships

building ~ (Aliza Licht, author of *On Brand*)

### authentic self

see *self* (*authentic self*, *true self*, etc.)

### authentic voices

a think tank that centers ~ (the New Lines Institute)

### authentic and healthy

a filtered approach to life is not ~ (BeReal vs. Instagram)

### more authentic

BeReal is a ~ experience than Instagram

### consistent and authentic

the Philly Eagles keep ~ with their story (branding)

### feels authentic

trans' right to live any way they ~ and comfortable

### present themselves as authentic

those who ~ and those who expose the inauthentic

♦ "You have to be authentic, I want you to be authentic, your story matters." (Maimouna Youssef to young artists about social-justice music and the new Grammy merit award for "Best Song for Social Change.")

♦ "And I think the other thing about young people, Nic will tell you, if you're not authentic they're going to know it. Authenticity, we hope, will bring young people into the story." (Ibram X. Kendi, quoted in "His mission: changing how we think about racism" by Janell Ross, *Time*, February 27 / March 6, 2023. Kendi has reprised his book *How To Be An Antiracist* with *How to Be a (Young) Antiracist*, co-authored by young-adult novelist Nic Stone.)

♦ "Come 2012, there's a new food vocabulary: authentic, craft, small batch, artisan, rustic and, of course, local. It's the opposite of processed, mass produced and factory farmed..." ("Artisanal And Authentic, The Flavors Of The New Year" by Bonny Wolf, NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, January 1, 2012.)

♦ Authenticity is an important component of advertising, marketing, branding, and rebranding.

♦ Authentic accent; cuisine; experience; music...

♦ "On Earth Day, 1971, nonprofit organization Keep America Beautiful launched what the Ad Council would later call one of the '50 greatest commercials of all time.' Dubbed 'The Crying Indian,' the one-minute PSA features a Native American man paddling down a junk-infested river, surrounded by smog, pollution, and trash; as he hauls his canoe onto the plastic-infested shore, a bag of rubbish is tossed from a car window, exploding at his feet. The camera then pans to the Indian's cheerless face just as a single tear rolls down his cheek. / The ad, which sought to combat pollution, was widely successful...and helped reduce litter by 88% across 38 states... / But while Hollywood trumpeted Iron Eyes Cody as a 'true Native American' and profited from his ubiquitous image, the man himself harbored an unspoken secret: he was 100% Italian." ("The True Story of 'The Crying Indian'" by Zachary Crockett, *Priconomics*, September 9, 2014. See the Wikipedia entry "Iron Eyes Cody." Astonishingly, the Ad Council *still* features "The Crying Indian" PSA in its *Our History / The Classics* section, along with its War Bonds, Red Cross, Polio, the Peace Corps, and Crime Prevention campaigns.)

♦ "His was a lonely course, incurring resistance even from compatriots who routinely hailed him. As late as 1958, he was denied consideration for a prize in an annual show of Native artists because the new painting that he submitted, 'Umini Wacipi (War and Peace Dance),' was declared 'not Indian,' despite its indubitable subject matter." ("Modern Lore: Oscar Howe at the National Museum of the American Indian" by Peter Schjeldahl, *The New Yorker*, July 11 & 18, 2022. Compare and contrast with the quote directly above.)

♦ "Forming an authentic connection with your intended audience is a total touchdown." (The Ad Council.)

♦ "Every step I've taken has gaslighted those whom I love... I am not a culture leech. I am a culture leech. You should absolutely cancel me, and I absolutely cancel myself." (Rachel Dolezal, an academic who claimed "identities of color," including Black Caribbean, North African Blackness, US rooted Blackness, Caribbean rooted Bronx Blackness, *Boricua*...)

♦ "On *Love Island*, the only way to seem authentic is to submit to the artifice." (The U.K. reality-TV show.)

♦ Authentic; counterfeit; ersatz; fake; faux; false; genuine; a gimmick; inaccurate (racial portrayals, etc.); inauthentic; manufactured; natural; phoney; play (Indian, etc.); real; spurious; the real thing; trendy; true...

♦ Bots; duped; ersatz; faux; finger-synchers (violin buskers on the street); (deep) fakes; flim-flam artists; forged; hustle (noun and verb); reenactors; "remote access to repair your computer"; scam (noun and verb); scammer; scheme; schemers; sham (companies, etc.); spurious... (Our modern world.)

♦ "As the Canadian philosopher Charles Taylor has observed, self-determining freedom—"the idea that I am free when I decide for myself what concerns me, rather than being shaped by external influences"—is

closely twinned with the powerful modern idea of 'authenticity.'" ("Ego Trip: The early Romantics and their troublesome legacy" by Nikhil Krishnan (a male), *The New Yorker*, October 3, 2022. A brilliant article from a different point of view.)

♦ "OG, short for original gangster, is a compliment for somebody who is exceptional or authentic." (AAVE.)

♦ "Authentic; a real individual; doesn't beat to the same drum as everyone else; a bit different; speaks his mind; a player with character..." (Nick Kyrgios, the troubled tennis player.)

♦ "I'm the perfect example of when keeping it real go wrong." (The Philadelphia rapper Beanie Sigel, speaking on N.O.R.E.'s podcast *Drink Champs*.)

♦ "The entire purpose of [Command Education] is to help students identify and develop their passions and interests. It has to be authentic and cannot be manufactured." (Christopher Rim, who helps teens get selected by Ivy League schools.)

♦ "Gypsy people, they're genuine people, you know, they are *genuine* people." (The boxer Ricky Gorman.)

♦ see also *self* (authentic self, true self, etc.)

### **inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## **authentically (live authentically, etc.)**

### **authentically me**

I love who I am...I'm ~

### **authentically Polynesian**

Americans didn't know or care much for ~ foods (1950s)  
Tiki bars made no pretense to being ~ (1950s)

### **authentically be myself**

I could just ~...

### **authentically representing**

expression is all about ~ your experiences

### **authentically connect**

the company uses influences to ~ with audiences (beer)

### **live and exist authentically**

you have the right to ~ as yourselves without fear (gays)

♦ "Every member of our community has a right to live and exist authentically as themselves without fear. Hate motivated threats of violence that infringe upon that right are not tolerated in Massachusetts in any capacity." (US Attorney Rachael S. Rollins. From "Man who sent bomb and mass shooting threats to Merriam-Webster over gender-inclusive entries pleads guilty" by Jon Haworth, ABC, Sept 17, 2022.)

♦ "Now I know so much," she said of royal formality. "I'm so glad I didn't then because I could just authentically be myself without so much preparedness." (Meghan Markle, wife of Prince Harry.)

♦ "I want to take on that role of being the Black woman that's going to stand up for the girls that may not have a voice...I don't care what anybody has to say about me. I love who I am...I'm authentically me." (Louisiana State University basketball player Angel Reese.)

♦ "One of the best things I was able to learn during my conversation with Rosalia is that expression is all about authentically representing your experiences. No rules, no hesitation, [?] emotion." (Anamaria Sayre, from "Rosalia is unafraid to pull from every corner of the world," *All Things Considered*, April 24, 2022. During the interview, Rosalia expressed her love for diversity. Just seven months later, Rosalia would be accused on NPR of Latino-fishing, along with Ariana Grande and Chiara King, etc. See "How Latin identity became fodder for content" by Manuela Lopez Restrepo, NPR, Pop Culture, December 10, 2022.)

♦ see also *self* (authentic self, true self, etc.)

### **inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## **authenticity (groups)**

### **authenticity**

~ is a moving target (cultural identity)

~ is a loaded word when it comes to food

my ~ is my rebellion, it's my F.U. (Viola Davis)

### **unvarnished authenticity**

his ~ (the boxer Gervonta Davis)

### **ethnic authenticity**

he examines the problem of ~ in contemporary America

he bridged ~ and canonical modernism (painter Oscar Howe)

### **anxiety of authenticity**

the ~ is a disease with damaging symptoms (New Orleans)

the specter of cultural appropriation is a symptom of ~

### **burden of 'authenticity'**

chef David Chang on the ~ (food)

### **idea of authenticity**

the ~ and ethnicity

### **questions of authenticity**

he's always been challenged by these ~ (singer Drake)

### *Essays on Authenticity*

*The Artificial White Man: ~* (Stanley Crouch / 2004)

### *Quest for Authenticity*

*The Influencer Industry: The ~ on Social Media* (Hund)

### **struggle for authenticity**

Clinton, in her ~, is not alone (she rides NY subway)

### **anxiety over authenticity**

~ be damned...

### **race and authenticity**

pop culture holds sway over our conversations about ~

### **praised her authenticity**

he ~ (the father of an 8-year-old transgender)

♦ "My son was suicidal, and I knew that celebrating who he was, and his gender and his authenticity was the piece that was going to keep him alive. So we leaned into that celebration. We threw a party the day we changed the name and pronouns." (A mother.)

♦ "Barak Obama has been knocked for occasionally falling into what some people called a "Blaccent" that his upbringing didn't entitle him to." ("For Candidates, An Accent on Authenticity" by Geoff Nunberg, NPR, Fresh Air, October 15, 2008.)

♦ "The man who went through life proudly purporting to be an Irishman was in fact a Yorkshireman, born at the famous St James's University Hospital, or Jimmy's, in Leeds, in Leeds, 2 August 1932." (*Peter O'Toole: The Definitive Biography* by Robert Sellers.)

♦ "His treatment of 'passing' and his use of Black vernacular made Langston Hughes assume that he was Black." (James Purdy, a "pioneer of queer fiction." Also, according to his Wikipedia entry, Dame Edith Sitwell thought he was Black.)

♦ "Every step I've taken has gaslighted those whom I love... I am not a culture vulture. I am a culture leech. You should absolutely cancel me, and I absolutely cancel myself." (Rachel Dolezal, an academic who claimed "identities of color," including Black Caribbean, North African Blackness, US rooted Blackness, Caribbean rooted Bronx Blackness, *Boricua*...)

♦ "Well, geez, if gender is just a 'social construct' shouldn't ethnicity be as well? By the progressive tenants of gender identity she should be able to identify as any ethnicity she pleases." (An online commenter about "Activist Raquel Evita Saraswati has faked her 'Arab and Latin' racial identity as far back as 2004: reports" by Ben Kessler, *The New York*

Post, February 21, 2023. The article states that the activist has been referred to online as “the new Rachel Dolezal.”)

♦ “From TikTok trends to mainstream music, popular culture is embracing—and mimicking—Latinos, with some creators actually pretending to be Latinx for social cachet.” (“How Latin identity became fodder for content” by Manuela Lopez Restrepo,” NPR, Pop Culture, Dec. 10, 2022.)

♦ “It will never stop being funny that a White girl from Boston pretends that she is Spanish.” (Snark about a celebrity wife widely reviled for having a fake Spanish accent.)

♦ “London Breed, San Francisco’s Democratic mayor, declared that she was ‘from the hood.’”

♦ “What everyone saw at the end of the fight was the real AJ stripped of the PR speak.” (A comment about Anthony Joshua’s bizarre post-fight antics following his second loss to the great Ukrainian boxer Oleksandr Usyk.)

♦ “Customers want to feel what they buy is authentic... Authenticity is becoming the new consumer sensibility.” (Joseph Pine, “What Consumers Want,” TED Talk.)

♦ “Archipelago, in Washington, D.C., is among a wave of new tiki bars across the country. But how do South Pacific islanders feel about tiki kitsch?” (“Let’s Talk Tiki Bars: Harmless Fun Or Exploitation?” by Maanvi Singh, NPR, The Salt, September 7, 2016. The date of the article is emblematic. 2016 was, arguably, the high-water mark for this sort of article. Or was it 2014?)

♦ Bohemians; freaks; hipsters; natives; super-natives (recently arrived appropriators, colonizers); newcomers; young people; poseurs; permanent residents; tourists; (post-Katrina) transplants; yuppies; ... (Types and groups of people mentioned in “Anxiety and authenticity: Are ‘super-natives’ loving New Orleans to death?” by C.W. Cannon, *The Lens: Focused on New Orleans and the Gulf Coast*, June 1, 2018.)

♦ Authentic casting; Felicity Jones as Ruth Bader Ginsburg; Jewface controversies; “deaf is not a costume” (Marlee Matlin); impersonation; acting; playing (a minority); caricature; stereotype; “really know it” (an ethnicity / sexuality / gender preference / able-bodied status); respect; disrespect... (Language relating to authenticity from “Why don’t Jews play Jews?”—David Baddiel on the row over Helen Mirren as Golda Meir,” by David Baddiel, *The Guardian*, 12, Jan 2022.)

♦ “The film portrayed Hawaiian culture with ‘authenticity.’” (The Disney Film *Lilo & Stitch* with Tia Carrere, according to ABC News. Disney is the parent company of ABC News and “Good Morning America.” Related Topics: Disney.)

♦ “Celebrity Chef Gordon Ramsay Gets Slamming For Attempt at Puerto Rican Pegao” by Shayne Rodriguez Thompson, July 6, 2021.)

♦ “Keepin’ it real...” (Whatever “real” is.)

♦ “When keeping it real goes wrong.”

♦ “What’s missing matters.” (BeReal vs. Instagram.)

♦ “Social media praised her style, humor, and authenticity.” (Dakota Johnson after appearance on Ellen DeGeneres show.)

♦ “Anxiety over authenticity be damned, I just want to keep cool.” (African / Ankara hand fans. From “Ankara Hand Fans” by Tomi Obaro, *The New York Times Magazine*, August 14, 2022.)

♦ “The FBI raided a Florida art museum on Friday and seized more than two dozen paintings attributed to Jean-Michel Basquiat following questions about their authenticity.”

♦ “It evoked feelings of embarrassment, one’s diaries always do that if they have any kind of I think authenticity to them.” (Novelist Thomas Mallon.)

♦ “Me...! I always tell the truth, even when I lie.” (The character Tony Montana in the film *Scarface*.)

♦ Auda: Son, what fashion is this? / Boy: Harith, father. / Auda: And what manner of Harith? / Boy: A Beni Wejeh Sherif, father. / Auda: And is he Harith? / Boy: No, father. English! (To which Peter O’Toole, playing T.E. Lawrence, looks crestfallen in his new togs. From the great David Lean film *Lawrence of Arabia*.)

♦ see also *self* (authentic self, true self, etc.)

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## author (person)

author of his own misfortune

he fully accepts he was the ~ (arrested)

author of her misfortune

the court argued she had been the ~

authors of our own life stories

we are not the ~ (addiction versus free will)

**creation & transformation: books & reading / person**

**person: books & reading**

## auto da fe

auto-da-fe of Vietnam

the New Left died in the ~ (Louis Menand)

auto-da-fe at the town dump

the ~ (Louis Menand / Paul Newman burns tapes)

retrospective auto-da-fe

she had plenty of fuel for this ~ (biographer burns her subject)

♦ Louis Menand, in two of the usages above, has seen fit to use this allusion in two very different contexts!

♦ “She had plenty of fuel for this retrospective auto-da-fe.” (The wonderful critic Andrei Codrescu reacting badly to Joan Mellen’s biography of Kay Boyle. Mellen “roasted” her subject, something Codrescu disliked. (“A Not-So-Enjoyable Biography” by Andrei Codrescu, NPR, All Things Considered, July 20, 2011. Codrescu is a world treasure.)

♦ “On 2 January 1492...Abu Abdullah Mohammed XI surrendered his kingdom and retired to Fez... His surrender marked the beginning of the most crucial four months of Spanish history, seeing as they did both the intensification of that relentless course of religious persecution which was to have so disastrous an effect on the strength and vitality of Spain, and the launching of the most celebrated voyage of exploration ever known. / Few rulers in European history have shown themselves narrower or more bigoted than Isabella... The first auto-da-fe was held in 1481, with six victims. By the time of Isabella’s death in 1504 there had been more than 2,000. / Less than three months after the capitulation of Granada, the Queen felt strong enough to push her policy further. Encouraged by her Inquisitor-General Torquemada—who was himself originally Jewish—on 30 March she decreed that all Jews remaining unconverted by the end of June would be expelled from Spain, all their property confiscated. More than 100,000 were driven out, resulting in a vast Sephardic diaspora in northern Europe and the Near East. Several countries—notably the Netherlands—gave them a warm welcome; the Ottoman Sultan Bayezit II went further, sending a whole fleet of ships to their rescue. / Now it was the turn of the Muslims... (*The Middle Sea: A History Of The Mediterranean* by John Julius Norwich. In an astonishing footnote he writes, “Columbus, who was just setting out on his historic voyage from Genoa, was obliged to alter course because the sea ahead of him was so crowded with Turkish ships bringing Jewish refugees to safety.” Norwich also notes that the Muslims, unlike the Jews, tended to convert to Christianity; even so, the *Moriscos* faced suspicion, hatred, and the inquisition.)

**judgment / oppression / violence: history**

**destruction: fire**

## automata (noun)

became automata

even captains ~, acquiring life only through orders

**consciousness & awareness / feeling, emotion & effect:**

**mechanism**

## autopilot (on autopilot)

on autopilot

he's ~, his fingers go to the same place (gamer)  
he was ~, frantically trying to save him (combat medic)

made on autopilot

a lot of our economic decisions are actually ~

♦ "Diving became this darkness which permeated the rest of my life. I really hated it, but I knew it was my one chance to be special, so I kept going, effectively on autopilot." (Olympic gold-medal-winning diver Matthew Mitcham.)

**mental health: plane**

**behavior / consciousness & awareness / feeling, emotion  
& effect: plane**

## autopsy (analysis)

autopsy of the Cuban vote

so what's your ~ in Florida (radio show)

♦ "So what's your autopsy of the Cuban vote in Florida?" (Asked by Lulu Garcia Navarro to her guest on NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, "The Cuban Vote in Florida," November 11, 2018.)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: death & life / health  
& medicine**

## autumn (in the autumn)

in the autumn of his life

he was ~

in the autumn of the year

but now the days are short, I'm ~ (Sinatra)

**growth & development / decline: season**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: season**

## avalanche (noun)

avalanche of (racial) abuse

they faced an ~ (soccer players after Euro 2020)

avalanche of applications

it failed to prepare for an ~ (passports)

avalanche of (prejudicial) comment

the murder trial was nearly derailed by an ~ on social media

avalanche of data

an ~ given the Russians

avalanche of e-mail

his most recent column drew an ~ to Salon editors

avalanche of misery porn

this ~ (Will Smith in the film *Emancipation*)

avalanche of publicity

the disappearance triggered an ~ (Chandra Levy)

avalanche of (unfavorable) publicity

the ~ that resulted from... (politician)

avalanche of confusing forms and rules

he spoke about the ~ (Brexit)

avalanche picked up speed

as the ~... (calls for politician's resignation)

**amount & effect: snow & ice**

## avatar (noun)

avatar of suffering

the film turns her into an ~ (*Blonde* / negative review)

default avatar

Twitter did away with the egg as its ~

avatars and superheroes

athletes are seen as ~

create your own avatar

some online video games allow you to ~

flatten characters into avatars

revenge thrillers tend to ~ and little else (films)

**representation: religion**

## avenue (portal)

avenue of advancement

India's dalits need a new ~

new avenue

India's dalits need a ~ of advancement

dark sonic avenues

her songs lure listeners down ~ (Billie Eilish)

**portal: infrastructure**

## avenue (route)

avenue of attack

his wrongdoing gave lawyers an ~

fruitful avenue

this might be a ~ for further research

legal avenue

pursue all reasonable ~s

reasonable (legal) avenue

pursue all ~s

all avenues

Canada will pursue ~ to assist the jailed men

pursue (all legal) avenues

we will ~

**route: infrastructure**

## awake (adjective)

awake to what happened

everyone seems to be wide ~ (elections)

awake American

he signs his posts, "an ~"

awake electorate

the answer is reform and an ~

♦ "We are now awake and paying attention." (An Asian parent who helped lead a campaign that led to the recall of three San Francisco school-board members.)

♦ Sam Sanders ("Opinion: It's Time to Put 'Woke' To Sleep," NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, December 30, 2018) argues that the term *woke* has had its day and should be retired.

♦ see also *woke* (groups)

**consciousness & awareness: sleep**

## awaken (awareness)

awakened to the horrors

on that day, the world ~ of apartheid (South Africa)

awakening in Algeria, Sudan, Morocco, and Jordan

Arab peoples are also ~ (after Tunisia, Egypt and Libya)

awaken people

we're trying to do what we can to ~

people are awakening

slowly the ~

**consciousness & awareness: sleep / verb**

## awaken (nature, etc.)

awakening from (its winter) sleep

nature is ~

taiga awoke

the ~ (at dawn)

♦ "The sky turned from black to deep blue, and then grey and cloudy. The shades of night began to shrink into the bushes and ravines. In a few minutes our bivouac was astir again; men started talking; the horses stirred at their ropes; a pica piped on one side, and lower down the gorge another answered it; the yaffle of the woodpecker rang through the forest and the melodious whistle of the oriole. The taiga awoke..." (*Dersu Uzala* by V.K. Arseniev.)

**activity / resemblance: sleep**

## awakened (adjective)

awakened and empowered

Nato seems ~ in this moment (NPR political pundit)

**consciousness & awareness: sleep**

## awakening

9/11 awakening

part of it was a ~ (desire to "do more" for others)

religious awakening

the ~ is partly an outgrowth of the war (Bosnia)

spiritual awakening

she had a ~

**consciousness & awareness: sleep**

## awash

awash with small arms

Yemen is ~ that have been smuggled in

awash with (at least 10,000) floral bouquets

the church is ~ (for murdered girls)

awash with (overt) irony

social media is ~ often tipping into sarcasm

awash with weapons

the Horn of Africa is ~

Libya is ~

awash with corruption, venality and graft

the government is ~

awash in allegations

India is ~ of corruption

awash in cash

the company is ~ and looking to buy

awash in flowers, firecrackers and fine foods

Chinatown is ~ (Chinese New Year)

**amount & effect: water**

## away (a week away, etc.)

century away

the conversion of Constantine was still a ~

just a mouse click away

it was ~ (evidence of public shaming)

"One Heartbeat Away

~: Presidential Disability and Succession" (Birch Bayh)

about five minutes away

a dystopian future is ~

just a plane away

we are ~ from having cases here (COVID-19)

just a shot away

war, children, it's ~ ("Gimme Shelter" / Rolling Stones)

just two weeks away

we are ~ from the first vote

just a week away

and now, with the decision ~, the clock is ticking

less than two weeks away

the conference was ~

♦ "Cyberpunk is a dystopian future that's about five minutes from our current existence." (Mike Pondsmith.)

**future / proximity / time: distance / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## AWOL

went AWOL

the Federal government ~ (in defending a health act)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: military**

**condition & status: military**

## ax (ax to fall, etc.)

waiting for the axe to fall

sitting around ~ (deadlines)

**fate, fortune & chance: ax / blade**

## ax (noun)

### budget ax

many state programs will succumb to the ~ (shortfall)  
the camp may fall to the ~ (for teens)

### faces the ax

the show still ~ (TV)

### fall to the (budget) ax

the camp may ~ (for teens)

### succumb to the ax

many state programs will ~ (budget shortfall)

### taking an ax

he is ~ to spending

♦ What John Lansing said to me was that it would not be uniform across, he wasn't just going to take a hatchet and do the same across all divisions, he wants to be strategic and thoughtful about how it's done." ("With layoffs, NPR becomes latest media outlet to cut jobs," NPR, All Things Considered, Feb. 23, 2023. "NPR has to deepen and broaden its audience to seek younger and more diverse audience base.")

♦ Climax, Demon, Endurance, Cock of the Woods, Red Warrior, Hiawatha, Hottentot, Black Prince, Black Chief, Battle Axe, Invincible, XXX Chopper, Woodslasher, Razor Blade, Stiletto, Forest King, Young American, Gorilla... (Late-19th-century model names of axes used to cut down the North American forests.)

**curtailment / dismissal, removal & resignation: ax / blade / tools & technology**

## ax (ax to grind, axe to grind)

### ax to grind

he just has an ~ (criticism)  
sometimes a source has an ~ (journalism)  
this is another letter from somebody with an ~

### axe to grind

he is motivated not by truth but an ~

### ax to grind with the CIA

he has an ~

### ax to grind with midwives

many in traditional medicine have an ~

### ax to grind about something

there are always going to be people with an ~

### ideological ax to grind

he has no ~ (a writer writing about capitalism)

### personal ax to grind

he has a ~ (a critic)

### political axes to grind

unions and companies often have ~

### grinds a (political) ax

it ~ (Southern Poverty Law Center)

♦ "Everyone has an axe to grind and complaining gets you attention from the likes of Yahoo. He is a comedian, you may not like his joke, but it's not intended to harm." (A comment about the comedian Chris Rock.)

**punishment & recrimination: ax / blade**

**revenge: ax / blade**

## axed (curtailed)

### axed

the event was ~ (because of pandemic)

**curtailment: ax / blade**

## B

## babble (noun)

### woke babble

the left's ~ (*Latinx, cisgender*, etc.)

### psychobabble

shopping in health food stores, talking ~ (well-being)

**speech: sound**

**substance & lack of substance: sound**

## babel (noun)

### babel of (obscure) acronyms

the field is beset by a ~ (TESOL)

**comprehension & incomprehension / speech: allusion**

## baby (relationship)

### Elam's baby

the idea may be ~, but he has looked at it critically

### his baby

the Gulf of Mexico is ~  
Cooper refers to his camera, made in 1898, as ~

### my baby

this is ~ and I want to keep growing it (a business)  
it's ~ (Ferrari 458 Italia)

### our baby

this is ~ (fire spotter speaking of his tower)

♦ "I don't have kids but I feel that it's like letting your baby go and grow up. So she's on her next step before she goes up to the moon. And you have to do it." (Dafna Jackson, an advisor at SpacEL, after the *Beresheet* spacecraft was shipped to Cape Canaveral, to be launched into space by a Space X Falcon 9 rocket. Sadly, there was a glitch at the last moment, and the spacecraft crash-landed on the moon.)

♦ "I am a childless man, after all, ladies and gentlemen, and my books are my children, I have invested the blood of my soul in them, and after my death it is they and they alone that will carry my spirit and my dreams to future generations." (Uncle Joseph Klausner from *A Tale of Love and Darkness* by Amos Oz.)

♦ "This is my baby, this is what does the work." (Albert Milton, the deputy boss of a diamond mine in Botswana, speaking about a 720-ton electric excavator crane that can grab 60 tons of broken rock in a single bite.)

♦ "They're all my babies." (Dom Tursi, about the three dozen steno machines from his personal collection on display in the Gallery of Shorthand, in the lobby of the U.S. district courthouse in Central Islip, on Long Island.)

♦ "So I get used to the book's final stage, to its having been weaned from my brain. I now regard it with a kind of bemused tenderness, as a man regards, not his son, but, uh, rather the young wife of this son." (Vladimir Nabokov, BBC Author Archive Collection, "James Mossman talks to Russian writer Vladimir Nabokov in this 1970 interview." Nabokov had been talking previously about the drudgery, work and failures of bringing a book to birth.)

♦ "Every monkey is a gazelle to its mother." (Arabic.)

**enthusiasm / relationship: baby**

**feeling, emotion & effect: baby**

## **baby (development)**

baby of the publishing world

compared to physical book sales, audio is the ~

baby science

he rescued the ~ of microbe hunting from a fantastic myth

**growth & development: baby / death & life**

## **baby (novice)**

baby boxers

two novices, two ~ fighting one another (Steve Bunce)

♦ "Imagine debuting in Cardiff with that sort of crowd... You forget sometimes, she was 20 years old, you know, she's a baby, and she's still developing even physically and mentally and everything..." (The young boxing promoter Ben Shalom talking with Steve Bunce about the boxer Caroline Dubois.)

♦ "So sad to hear of the passing of the beautiful @tatjanapatitz. We were babies together in the fashion industry and I feel like we grew up together. We were in so many shoots together and backstage at shows." ("Cindy Crawford's touching Instagram tribute.)

♦ David Letterman: You're not very old now, are you? / Irene Cara: I'll be 22 in March. / David Letterman: Just a baby...

♦ "But you know, I'm only 19, and I'm a baby on my own, don't know what life is about, and you're like 28..." ("It Wasn't Friendship At First Sight. 35 Years On, They Found a 'Forever Love,'" by Jey Born, NPR, Morning Edition, May 14, 2021.)

♦ Director Allen Hughes: "Unfortunately his life was cut short at 25, a baby." / Ayesha Rascoe: "A baby, a baby!" Director Allen Hughes: "Um-um." ("A new docuseries explores the relationship between rapper Tupac Shakur and his mother," NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, April 16, 2023.)

♦ "A baby, just a baby." (Ernest Borgnine in the film *All Quiet On the Western Front*, about an injured inexperienced recruit. Borgnine prepares to shoot him, to put him out of his misery, before two stretcher-bearers appear, put the casualty on a stretcher, and bear him to the rear.)

♦ Death devours lambs as well as sheep.

♦ "Even a leopard cub is called a leopard."

**experience: baby**

## **baby (size)**

baby AK-47

the Draco is a ~ frequently namechecked in rap

baby carrots

the recipe calls for ~

♦ A FUNNY CARTOON. Two witches are brewing a potion in a bubbling cauldron. One witch is holding a bunch of baby carrots in one hand, poised to drop them into the cauldron, while holding a laughing dangling baby under her other arm. The other witch is consulting the cookbook and is saying, "No, it's a single ingredient—baby carrots." (*The New Yorker*, October 24, 2022.)

**size: baby**

## **baby (younger)**

baby of the family

I lost my brother, the ~ (his age was sixty-five)

**growth & development: baby**

## **baby (baby face, etc.)**

baby face

he grew a full beard to hide his ~

**appearance: baby / face**

## **baby (vocative)**

baby

so tell me, ~, do you want me to...

honey, baby, sweetie

he addresses me as ~ and other inappropriate names

**vocative: speech**

## **baby (insult)**

big baby

stop being such a ~ (said by adult to an adult)

crybaby

see *crybaby (person)*

♦ "Really tricky situation, FA, Prem and FIFA only had 12 years to prepare. You do wonder who ties shoelaces for those in charge." (A sarcastic commenter about "tired, overworked" soccer players at the FIFA Qatar World Cup.)

♦ Baby; big baby; petulant baby; crybaby; Grow up, you baby; it's not all about you; a little boy; a man-child; "the incredible sulk"; selfish; self-centered; self-obsessed; spoilt brat; whiner; preening prima donna; bad loser; "He'll go blind if he keeps winking..."; "News just in.....The world cup is now over for everyone as they were playing with Ronaldo's ball and he has taken it home with him." (World cup soccer snark about a player.)

♦ "Bleating millionaire wimps. How about grow a pair." (An online commenter about "tired, overworked" soccer players at the FIFA Qatar World Cup.)

♦ Man up!

♦ see also *apron strings*, *brat (insult)*, *child (spoiled child, etc.)*, *crybaby (person)*, *mama's boy (and mummy's boy, etc.)*

**behavior / character & personality / insult / person: baby**

## **babysit (verb)**

babysit them

at a certain point you can't ~ (troubled people)

**dependency: baby / family / verb**

## **babysitter (role)**

babysitter for the world

I'm tired of America being a ~ (illegal immigration)

electronic babysitter

they were the perfect "~" (Disney animated films)

\$40,000-a-year baby-sitter

I'm a ~ (an unhappy corrections officer)

become a babysitter

he does not want to ~ (take a manager's job / soccer)

♦ "A manager is just babysitting somebody's toy." (An ex-player not interested in managing a Premier League soccer team.)

**dependency: baby / family / person**

**person: baby**

## back (support / verb)

back Obama  
will Hispanics ~

**allegiance, support & betrayal: back / direction / position / verb**

## back (return)

season is back  
and now the ~ (after a hiatus / a TV series)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## back (back in time)

back in 1999  
and this was way ~...

go back  
see *go back* (verb / time)

look back  
see *look back* (verb)

takes me back  
see *take* (take us back / time)

transported audiences back  
see *transport* (in time)

**past & present / fictive transportation / time: direction / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## back (back then)

back then  
~ in Russia, it was a cutthroat business (oil)  
I'll admit it, I was fond of the gin myself ~ (Falesa)

**past & present / time: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## back (behind somebody's back)

behind her friend's back  
she went after him ~ (dated friend's boyfriend)

went behind my back  
he ~

whispered behind her back  
people ~

whispered "queer" behind his back  
people ~ (student)

badmouth your spouse behind his or her back  
don't ~

ridicule (negative) leaders behind their backs  
people typically ~

talk about bosses behind their backs  
if you want a promotion, don't ~ (gossip)

♦ "Out here, people had a smile on their face and a dagger behind their back." (Bigotry and discrimination.)

**allegiance, support & betrayal / subterfuge: back**

## back (no way back, etc.)

no way back  
there is ~, the people won't forgive this (protests)  
there is ~ (North Macedonia finally negotiates its name)

no way back from this  
I think that there's ~ (Cuba cracks down on protestors)

no way back for Egypt and the region  
there is ~ (2011)

**reversal: direction**

**fate, fortune & chance: journeys & trips**

## back (scratch somebody's back)

scratch my back  
you ~, I'll scratch your back (mutual aid and assistance)

**social interaction: back / verb**

## back (back and forth)

back and forth on that  
there has been a lot of ~ (political issue)

**position, policy & negotiation: movement**

**social interaction: movement**

## back (pat on the back / verb)

pat yourselves on the back  
you did well, ~ (praise)

♦ "It was not taunting, he was patting himself on the back and rightly so." (A commenter about a play by Allen Lazard of the Green Bay Packers during which he blocked three Miami Dolphins defenders, who all fell to the ground. Following, he pointed at each one: one, two, three, for which he was fined \$10,609 for taunting, even though none of the 3 defenders saw him.)

**achievement, recognition & praise: back / gesture**

## back (pat on the back / noun)

pat on the back  
give yourselves a ~ (praise from teacher)

**achievement, recognition & praise: back / gesture**

## back (get off my back, etc.)

on the back of these workers  
they make a lot of money ~ (Uber in Great Britain)

getting rich on the backs  
publishers are ~ of libraries and academics

get off my back  
~ and leave me alone

get them off my back  
try and ~ (superiors)

**affliction / conflict / oppression: animal / back**

## back (carry something on one's back)

carrying England on his back

Joe Root is used to ~ (Ashes Test / cricket)

carried the team on his back  
he ~ (football player)

♦ See the Wikipedia entry, "He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother."

♦ "God makes the back to bear the load." (Said in Ireland. This means God will never give you a degree of suffering that you can't cope with.)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: back / burden / weight**

**help & assistance: back / burden / weight**

### **back (turn one's back)**

turned her back on Hollywood  
Jamie Lee Curtis ~ (chose to live elsewhere)

turned its back on the victims  
the West ~ (Rwanda genocide)

turned his back to anyone  
he never ~ who needed help (a priest)

**acceptance & rejection: back / verb**

### **back (break the back)**

break your back  
she'll ~ if you're not paying attention to her (basketball)

broke the back of the campaign  
those defeats ~ (primary elections)

break the back of the Covid epidemic  
the vaccine could ~ (live virus BCG)

break the backs of defenders  
the plan is designed to ~ (Baghdad)

break the back of the (German) war machine  
he was destined to ~ (Stalingrad)

break the camel's back  
see *camel (break the camel's back)*

**destruction: back / verb**

### **back (back to the wall)**

backs are to the wall  
our ~

backs are (really) against the wall  
our ~ (sports tournament)

have our backs against the wall  
when we ~, we come out fighting (Welsh rugby)

**survival, persistence & endurance: back**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: back**

### **back (watch your back, etc.)**

guard your back  
you've got to ~

watch your back  
~ (a warning)  
sorry I wasn't there to ~ (his brother drowned)

watch his back  
he failed to ~ (leader deposed in coup)

watching my back  
it's good to know that you are ~ (protecting, supporting)

♦ "Sorry I wasn't there to watch your back like a big brother's supposed to." (Chris Eubank Jnr's tweet on the tragic death of Sebastian, the third-eldest child of the great boxer Chris Eubank.)

**danger / protection & lack of protection: back / direction / position / verb**

### **back (have somebody's back)**

got your back  
I've ~

got your literary back  
we've ~ (NPR promotes "The Books we Love")

had my back  
you've always ~, and I'll have yours (Biden and Blacks)

**danger / protection & lack of protection: back / direction / position / verb**

### **back (stab in the back)**

stab in the back  
what they see as a ~ by their Gulf neighbors (Qatar)  
it's really a ~, trust betrayed (French about Australia)

**danger / protection & lack of protection: back / direction / knife / position**

### **back (get one's back up, etc.)**

got his back up  
a good bowler ~ and we couldn't stop him (Ashes cricket)

got my back up  
his tone just ~

got my back up about the request  
he ~

**conflict / resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / back / dog / verb**

### **back (courage)**

stiffens his back  
economic pressure just ~ (Daniel Ortega)

stiffened his spine  
he showed signs of going wobbly, but Pelosi ~ (politics)

**courage & lack of courage: back**

**strength & weakness: back**

### **back away (verb)**

back away from the issue  
Democrats are starting to ~ (impeachment)

**avoidance & separation: verb / walking, running & jumping**

## backbiter (person)

annoying backbiters

the ~ who had plucked him as an army officer

**person: animal / back**

**affliction: animal / back / person / predation**

## backbiting

backbiting, exclusion, rumors

girls use ~ (girls bullying girls)

♦ "There were tracks, clearly enough. It was evident that the little hunter (a sable) had quietly lay hidden behind a branch, and then suddenly flung itself upon the deer... Specks of blood showed that the sable had bitten it, but further tracks showed that the little deer had succeeded in throwing its assailant off. It had galloped on, and the sable, after starting to pursue it, had stopped and climbed up a tree." (Dersu examining tracks in the snow. From *Dersu Uzala* by V.K. Arseniev.)

**behavior: animal / back / predation**

**conflict: animal / back / predation**

## backbone (basis)

backbone of Al Qaeda

Uzbeks and other Central Asians are the ~ in the area

backbone of the (rebel) army

the Dinka tribe, which formed the ~ (southern Sudan)

backbone of the company

these people are the ~

backbone of the (Louisiana) economy

shrimping is the ~ (oil spill)

backbone of the (Chilean) economy

Atacama's copper mining industry forms the ~

backbone of (the Navy's) leadership

surface warfare officers are the ~

backbone of his (political) party

they are the ~

backbone of rigor

in science, sharp criticism is the ~

Backbone of the World

Indians called these jagged peaks the "~" (Glacier NP)

backbone and nervous system

the Nile provides Egypt with a natural ~

financial backbone

the oil pipeline serves as the ~ of the country

infrastructure backbone

Amazon provides the ~ for major firms (servers)

technology backbone

Shopify provides the ~ for businesses to set up a store online

transportation backbone

Greyhound is the ~ for people who can't afford...

**bases: back / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## backbone (branching system)

backbone of England

the Pennines are commonly described as the "~"

backbone of all Hind

the Great Road is the ~ (*Kim*)

backbone of the Kamchatka Peninsula

the Sredinny Range, the ~

Guinean backbone

Mount Nimba is part of the so-called ~ (Guinea)

**branching system: back**

## backbone (courage)

takes backbone

for Republicans, it ~ to stand up to Trump

**courage & lack of courage: back**

**strength & weakness: back**

## backbreaking (adjective)

backbreaking labor

a coal miner's capacity for ~

backbreaking shift

after a ~ (at a nursing home)

backbreaking work

~ for 50 cents a day

backbreaking and dangerous

it was ~ labor (diamond mining)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: back**

## back burner (on the back burner)

on the back burner

that all seems to be ~ now

on the budget back burner

the environment is ~

put the issue on the back burner

he ~ (a politician)

put on the back burner

a lot of the department's works has been ~ (priorities)

remained on the back burner

the tax issue ~ (politics)

sits on the back burner

the climate-change issue ~ in Washington

♦ "I think there has been a vacuum of course recently, I think Iraq has dropped off the radar screen, it's very much at the back burner..." (Laith Kubba about US engagement in Iraq.)

♦ "We shouldn't allow the issue of global warming to be put on the back burner... Or indeed any sort of burner come to that." ("Loose Ends" with Clive Anderson, BBC.)

**importance & significance / priority / superiority &**

**inferiority: center & periphery / direction / position**

## back burner (to the back burner)

relegated to the back burner  
major problems have been ~ (Saudi Arabia)

pushed (climate) issues to the back burner  
the economic crisis has ~

put to the back burner  
our issue are always ~ (Black Voters Matter)

**importance & significance / priority / superiority & inferiority: center & periphery / direction / position**

## back down (verb)

back down  
the compromise allows both politicians to ~  
she's an artist who won't ~ or bow to convention

backed down  
faced with a coup, the government ~  
the government ~ and commuted the death sentences

backing down  
she is holding her ground and not ~

back down from a confrontation  
analysts believe he will ~

back down or give her space  
officials didn't ~, they threatened her (Naomi Osaka)

refused to back down  
the protestors have ~

forced him to back down  
a political firestorm ~ (King)

backing down  
she is holding her ground and not ~

**conflict / dominance & submission / resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / back / standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## backdrop (against a backdrop)

against that backdrop  
~, it's not a huge surprise (attack on consulate)

against the backdrop of the Cold War  
it was ~ that... (Eisenhower speech)

against a backdrop of (ongoing) violence  
negotiations go on ~ (Middle East)

**context: picture / theater**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: picture**

## backed

backed by Iran  
the rebels are ~

backed by the US  
he has been ~ and other countries (Guaido vs. Maduro)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: back / position**

## backfire (verb)

backfire  
the campaign may succeed but it could also ~ (military)

"circle-the-wagons mentality" backfired  
the ~

**reversal: verb / weapon**

## background (background noise, etc.)

background noise  
to me it's just ~, not important (attacks on social media)

fade into the background  
many prefer to ~ (teen-model sites on Internet)

faded into the background  
the doctor-patient relationship has ~ (vs. money)

**center & periphery: direction / position / picture appearance & disappearance / attention, scrutiny & promotion / importance & significance / perception, perspective & point of view: center & periphery / picture / position / verb**

## backhand (verb)

verbally backhanded  
he ~ the journalist (Dan Crenshaw / politics)

**accusation & criticism / speech: fist / force / verb / violence**

## backing (support)

backing from the university  
she received some ~

**allegiance, support & betrayal: back / position**

## backlash (noun)

backlash against (bilingual) education  
today in the climate of ~...

backlash for (cultural) appropriation  
she faced ~ when she posted a selfie...

anti-American backlash  
the government has struggled to prevent an ~ (Yemen)

climate of backlash  
today in the ~ against bilingual education

backlash has started  
the ~

sparked a backlash  
his crusade has ~ (to make school lunches more healthful)

♦ A backlash against Facebook and technology has been referred to as a *techlash*.

**resistance, opposition & defeat / reversal: direction / violence / whip**

## backlog (amount)

backlog  
prolonging the process and swelling the ~ (visa requests)

backlog of cases  
the FBI has a huge ~ (security clearances)

backlog of planes  
because the weather will create a ~ waiting to land...

backlog of work  
the NTSB needs to move on to the ~ that...

paperwork backlog  
reducing the overall INS ~

processing backlog  
foster kids remain orphans due to a ~ (adoptions)

♦ The backlog is the large log at the back of a hearth

amount: pile

## backpedal (verb)

backpedaling on key demands  
China has been ~ (trade dispute)

back-pedaled on everything  
she has now ~ she said in her testimony (a trial)

backpedal on the whole idea  
they began to ~ of national standards (education)

backpedals on (tax) pledge  
top Republican ~

back-pedal from his comments  
he continued to ~ (a politician / BBC)

backpedaled after fierce criticism  
the coach ~ from Chinese fans, sponsors, and partners

reversal: direction / mechanism / movement / verb

## back seat (take a back seat)

take a backseat to my job  
my job and family began to ~

take a backseat to reality  
protocol had to ~ (CID investigation)

take a back seat to unseating  
issue must ~ the current president

taking a second seat to schedule and cost  
safety and quality were ~

importance & significance / priority / superiority &  
inferiority: direction / position

## backstabber (person)

backstabber  
he's a ~, watch out  
he's the worst kind of ~, he poses as a friend

backstabber or turncoat

being a ~ is offensive to most people

two-faced backstabber  
he's a ~

traitor, a backstabber and a fraud  
former fans have been waiting to call him a ~ (basketball)

person: back / knife  
allegiance, support & betrayal / behavior / character &  
personality: back / knife / person

## backstabbing (noun)

backstabbing  
~ is an art (politics)

back-stabbing and bad-mouthing  
~ on the "Survivor" TV show

backstabbing and betrayal  
~ remain a function of all our lives

allegiance, support & betrayal: back / knife  
behavior: back / knife

## backstage (adjective)

backstage advisor  
he remains a ~ to Putin

backstage contacts  
there have been ~ between them (diplomacy)

backstage diplomacy  
~ has turned to more open confrontation

backstage look  
the documents and testimony provide a ~ at why...

backstage negotiations  
approval of the nominations came after ~

backstage politics  
the organization is rife with ~ (sports)

backstage role  
the administration playing a ~ in trying to resolve...  
he played a pivotal ~ in persuading...

backstage self  
we have a private, ~, versus our public self

backstage political struggle  
he settled the ~ by choosing... (UN)

backstage lobbying  
there has been ~ by Washington (diplomacy)

backstage maneuvering  
there has been a lot of ~ (diplomacy)

backstage wrangling  
after weeks of ~, the Party has decided...

backstage policy making  
he was a master of ~ (Labor Party)

operates backstage

he ~ (an athletic booster)

**concealment & lack of concealment: theater**  
**attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater**

## backstop (verb)

backstop (FTX) customers  
assets still are utilizable to ~ (pay them back)

**protection & lack of protection: fence**

## backstop (noun)

backstop against the president's worst instincts  
he was a ~ (government)

♦ "A backstop; a guardrail; trying to keep the President from going outside the bounds; minimize the damage..." ("John Bolton's Place in Ukraine Policy" by Mara Liasson, NPR, Morning Edition, October 25, 2019.)

♦ "The UK armed forces are not 'spare capacity' for striking workers, the chief of the defence staff has said as he cautioned against relying on the military as the 'ultimate backstop' during industrial action. / Admiral Sir Tony Radakin, the head of Britain's armed forces, said it would be 'slightly perilous' to expect them to be used routinely in the event of strikes by public sector workers. / In an interview with the *Sunday Telegraph*, Radakin said the use of armed forces to provide cover for striking workers would not impede operations, but suggested personnel should be allowed to get on with their day-to-day jobs." (From "Army should not be used as 'ultimate backstop' in strikes, defence chief says" by Sophie Zeldin-O'Neill, *The Guardian*, Sun 18 Dec 2022.)

**behavior / constraint & lack of constraint: boundary**

## backtrack (go back in time)

backtrack  
I think we have to ~ a bit (a history discussion)

**past & present / time: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## backtrack (reversal)

backtrack  
the union has had to ~ on its demands

**reversal: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## back up (verb)

back up  
let's ~ and get big picture for a second (NPR radio show)

**perception, perspective & point of view: picture / position / verb**

## backward (adjective)

backward Turkey  
Ataturk took a ~ and made it modern

backward tack  
I am embarrassed by the ~ of this administration

backward traditions  
the Prophet (PBUH) did his utmost to eradicate ~

culturally backward  
stoning takes place in remote and ~ areas

**progress & lack of progress: direction**

## backwards (progress)

step backwards  
see *step* (a *step back* / *backwards*)

go backwards  
we should not ~ down the road toward nuclear power

sliding backwards  
we are ~ to a less enlightened time

move us backwards  
the election will ~ economically

**progress & lack of progress: direction / movement**

## backwards (past)

go backwards  
they want to ~ to a romanticized past that never existed

look backward  
New Year's day is a time to ~ and forward  
some ~ to a (reputedly) glorious past for answers

marching backwards  
it feels like this country is ~ to the Middle Ages (religion)

**past & present / time: direction / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## backwater (noun)

backwater  
in 1831, Southampton County was a ~

backwater of the Office of International Affairs  
he was transferred into the relative ~

backwater in a (vast Islamic) empire  
the region around Kabul was merely a ~

long-ignored (rural) backwater  
in ~s

provincial backwater  
the town remained a ~

remote backwater  
Darien remained a ~

rural backwater  
Beijing has brought wealth and modernity to a ~  
he wants to bring development to the ~ (a politician)  
this is not some ~ (site of a noxious landfill)

sleepy backwater  
oil transformed Khartoum from a ~ to a modern city

in a (rural) backwater  
she found herself banished to a small hospital ~ (a doctor)

stereotype of Turkey as an (agricultural) backwater  
the ~ persists

became a backwater  
there were a lot of other reasons that Spain ~ for so long  
changed from a provincial backwater to a place

Tikrit ~ of large mosques and wide modern roads (Iraq)

remained a (provincial) backwater  
the town ~

**center & periphery / isolation & remoteness / progress &  
lack of progress: river**

## backyard (in somebody's backyard)

in Australia's backyard  
a Chinese military presence in ~ (Solomon Islands pact)

in China's (own) backyard  
~, Southeast Asia...

in Russia's backyard  
Kyrgyzstan is ~ (politics, etc.)

not-in-my-backyard  
this is one of those ~ issues (Nimby)

Yes, in My Back Yard  
urban-policy nerds, YIMBYS---... (*The New Yorker*)

**proximity: house**

## backyard (other)

backyard  
the Sunset Beach wave was my ~ (Hakman)

historical and rightful backyard  
China sees northeast Asia as its ~

**proximity: house**

## bad (my bad, etc.)

bad  
I just wanted the ~ to go away (trauma)

bad wrong  
something's ~ here (racism / Frye Galliard on NPR)

my bad  
sorry, ~

- ♦ I feel badly for..." (A sports commentator.)
- ♦ "There's a whole lot of messed up here." (US history / Spike Lee.)
- ♦ "So my bad. I'm sorry." (Whoopi Goldberg on *The View*.)

**flaws & lack of flaws: part of speech**

**language: part of speech**

## badass (power)

badass  
'playing like a girl' means you're a ~ (women's soccer)

total mountain badass  
he's the nicest guy in the world and a ~ (Tommy Caldwell)

Brave, a Badass, a Heretic  
I have been called ~ (a female blogger)

tough and badass  
you don't need to be only ~ to succeed in the mountains

leached *badass* of its badassery

overuse has ~

♦ Many agree that this word comes from the Black community. In that regard, it has been classed with words like lame-ass, dumbass, etc., including the one made famous by Cardi B and Megan Thee Stallion.

♦ Bad, badass, blow up, catch fire, chill, coup, crazy, crush, destroy, dope, dynamite, filthy, freakish (ability, etc.), gangster (original gangster / OG), kill, killer, killa, mean, monster, nasty, ridiculous; sick, slay, wicked... (Words that sound bad but can have positive connotations. English is crazy!)

♦ "This team taught all of America's children that 'playing like a girl' means you're a badass." (President Obama welcoming the 2015 World Cup-winning women's team to the White House.)

♦ "She showed me that you don't need to be only tough and badass to succeed in the mountains, you can be kind and nurturing, hard as nails and still soft and caring." (Professional skier Ingrid Backstrom about ski-mountaineer Hilaree Nelson.)

♦ See "Badass": The One Word That Has Become A lightning Rod For Many Female Chefs" by Nina Martyris, NPR, *The Salt*, November 11, 2019. A link leads to another great article, "We've Hit Peak Badass. It's Gotta Stop" by Jesse Sheidlower, *Daily Beast*, Apr. 14, 2017.)

♦ "When you forget just how badass you are—refer to your folder and read them out loud!... Treat yo' self." (Screenshot compliments, shout outs, reviews from co-workers, your boss, clients, friends, and family... Savage by Claudi.)

**person: force**

**character & personality: person**

## bad boy (person)

bad boys  
she loved ~

'bad boy' of basketball  
he was the ~ (the remarkable Dennis Rodman)

bad boy of chess  
he has a reputation as the "~" (Hans Neimann)

bad boy of Western philosophy  
Nietzsche is the ~

bad-boy baller  
pics show the ~ at Shotgun Willie's (NBA's Ja Morant)

bad boy chefs  
he was the Elvis of ~ (Bourdain)

notorious "bad boy"  
he is a ~ (Jamie Cail murder / U.S. Virgin Islands)

called "Bad Boys"  
the team was ~ (NBA Detroit Pistons / 1988)

♦ "Girls liked him." (A "bad boy.")

♦ Bad boys, bad boys, watcha gonna do / Watcha gonna do when they come for you? (*Cops* theme song. Read "The Story Behind 'Cops' Theme Song 'Bad Boys' by Greg Casseus, *Variety*, June 11, 2020. The song came out in 1987. Bob Marley died in 1981. Marley never sang the song.)

♦ "While [Micajah] Harpe was still conscious, Moses Stegall slowly cut off the outlaw's head. Later, the head was spiked on a pole...at a crossroads...that is still known as "Harpe's Head" or "Harpe's Head Road...in Webster County, Kentucky. / In January 1804, Wiley Harpe [was] executed by hanging. [His head was] cut off and placed high on [a stake] along the Natchez Trace as a warning to other outlaws." (The Wikipedia entry for "Harpe brothers." Bad, bad boys they were, no doubt.)

♦ see also *guy* (*good guy, etc.*), *man* (*big man, little man, etc.*), *Mister* (*and Mr., Missus, Mrs.*)

**person: force**

**behavior / character & personality / sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: person**

## badge (badge of honor)

badge of honor

playing from memory is a ~ (pianists)  
criticism from him is a ~ (politics)  
receiving death threats is a ~ (Black Lives Matter)  
ASBOs are simply a ~ for lads like this (delinquency)

became a badge of honor

the "one-percenter" label ~ (bikers)

wore its (cutting-edge) approach as a badge of honor

the bank ~ (ended up being hacked)

wore her conviction as a badge of honor

she ~ (the suffragette Susan B. Anthony)

wore his scorn as a badge of honor

she ~

wore the scorn (of liberals) as a badge of honor

he always ~ (Rush Limbaugh)

wear that as a badge of honor

they ~, as a sign they are right (de-platformed)

♦ "The idea you could hold your liquor and type a new lead on a breaking story was a badge of honor." (The great journalist Pete Hamill, about journalism back in the day.)

♦ "I'd like to personally welcome him to the club, because we receive death threats every day. So, he's officially part of this movement. It's a badge of honor." (Hawk Newsome, co-founder of Black Lives Matter New York, about Norwegian Parliament member Petter Eide. From "Norwegian politician receives threats over Black Lives Matter Nobel Prize nomination" by Bill Hutchinson, 31 January 2021.)

♦ "ASBOs are simply a badge of honor for lads like this." (A comment about a delinquent. An ASBO is an anti-social behavior order in the United Kingdom.)

♦ Duty, Honor, Country. (The motto of West Point.)

**achievement, recognition & praise: sign, signal, symbol / military**

## badge (representation)

badge of honor

see *badge (badge of honor)*

capitalist rebel badge

he wears the ~ on his sleeve (Domm Holland, technology)

wore that badge

I was damaged goods, I ~ very early on in my life

**representation: sign, signal, symbol**

## badger (The Badger, etc.)

known as "The Badger"

the man ~ for his aggressive approach (Bernard Hinault)

**epithet: animal**

**commitment & determination: epithet**

## badger (verb)

badgered him

the lawyer ~ (trial)

♦ "He claims he locked himself in the plane bathroom and fell asleep to avoid her badgering." (A Hollywood celebrity at trial.)

**affliction / behavior / commitment & determination / speech: animal / verb**

## badlands (environment)

badlands of real life

students leave the sanctuary of academe for the boorish ~

**behavior / control & lack of control / environment: ground, terrain & land / history**

## bag (in the bag)

in the bag

it's not ~ yet (Liverpool wins EPL)

**certainty & uncertainty: container**

## bag (collection)

bag of narratives

it is out of such a ~ that his book has been fashioned

bag of tricks

he knew any treatment in the whole psychiatric ~ was futile

**amount / group, set & collection: container**

## bag (pack one's bags)

pack the bags and get out

it's just time to ~ (NATO in Afghanistan)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: journeys & trips / verb**

## baggage (noun)

baggage of marriage

the ~ (gender, religion, culture, etc.)

baggage of the South

the racial ~ (US)

baggage from his (ancestral) past

each comes into the world with ~ (race, religion, class)

baggage and attitude

he dealt with all the ~ we had (poor kids)

complicated baggage

soldiers take home some more ~ (from overseas)

generational baggage

Boomers, Xers go to work carrying lots of ~

historical baggage

the word *crusade* has largely shed its ~ in the West

political baggage

the ~ of its anti-establishment origins (black studies)

pseudoscientific baggage  
gay had a long linguistic history and no ~ (vs. *homosexual*)

psychological baggage  
students can arrive with ~ (suicides at MIT)

racial baggage  
the ~ of the South (US)

a lot of baggage  
Biden has been around a long time and has a ~ (politics)

cultural and historical baggage  
the ~ that rugby lugs (in South Africa)

historical, cultural and religious baggage  
the ~ (of marriage)

social and economic baggage  
students with ~ (alternative school)

carrying (lots of generational) baggage  
Boomers, Xers go to work ~

freighted with (historical and cultural) baggage  
the N-word is ~ (racial epithets)

let go of the baggage  
we must ~ in our minds (the Avalanches)

rid himself of this baggage  
Ray ~ (classification and mythical creatures)

♦ "I got him with all his baggage, and he got me with all of mine." (A marriage.)

**history: burden / journeys & trips / weight**  
**oppression: burden / history / journeys & trips / weight**

## **bailout (noun)**

bailout  
~s are unpopular (of banks, national economies)

**survival, persistence & endurance: boat**  
**amelioration & renewal: boat**

## **bail out (save)**

bail out Mexico  
the IMF helped ~ in the 1990s

bailing out (big) banks  
the taxpayers are ~

bailed out the company  
the government ~ (with loans)

**survival, persistence & endurance: boat / verb**  
**amelioration & renewal: boat / verb**

## **bail out (leave)**

bailed out  
high-profile guests have ~ (attending a party)

bailed out of school  
he ~ in 2008 (an athlete)

bail out of this treaty

the US may ~ (open-skies treaty)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: plane / verb**  
**dismissal, removal & resignation: plane / verb**

## **bailed out**

bailed out by the EU and the I.M. F.  
Ireland was ~ in 2010

**survival, persistence & endurance: boat**  
**amelioration & renewal: boat**

## **bait (verb)**

baited children  
the company ~, using nursery rhymes (advertising)

**attraction & repulsion: fish / hunting / verb**  
**pursuit, capture & escape: fish / hunting / verb**

## **bait (noun)**

bait  
the Iraqis didn't take the ~ (fire and expose themselves)

awards bait  
it is transparent ~ (empowerment / a film)

clickbait  
see *clickbait (noun)*

jailbait  
she alleged he often referred to her as "a ~" (a 17-year-old)

trade bait  
he's an intriguing prospect and might be ~ (an athlete)

take the bait  
you can ~ or learn to pick your battles (relationships)  
when it comes to trolls, don't ~ (internet)

rise to the bait  
he refused to ~ (speech)  
daft from Nunez, got to be calmer and not ~ (gets red card)

rises to the bait  
trolls ask stupid questions to see who ~ (Internet)

took the bait  
I made a nice feint and he ~ (chess)  
the news media ~ (picked up story that was not true)

**attraction & repulsion: fish / hunting**  
**pursuit, capture & escape: fish / hunting**

## **baiter (red-baiter, etc.)**

red-baiters  
he was hounded by the hysterical ~ (Robert Oppenheimer)  
♦ "Red-baiting has grown to a national sport." (In the 1940s U.S.)

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

## **baiting (queerbaiting, etc.)**

pedo-baiting  
she had been accused of "a ~" (to look like a child)

queerbaiting  
debates over ~ have raged online (Styles, Perry, t.A.T.u.)  
he was accused of “~” fans of the show  
~ deserves to be called out, but... (forced outing)

Queerbaiting  
Cardi B shuts down “~” claims

♦ “A California mom and OnlyFans model—who has been accused of ‘pedo-baiting’ by editing her photos to look like a child—has taken her own life.” (Diana Deets, aka Coconut Kitty.)

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

## **baked in (and baked into)**

baked in the cake  
it was ~ (a man’s vice)

baked into the very architecture  
racism is ~ of the internet

baked into the cake  
these injuries are so ~ of this sport (TBIs / NFL)

baked into the culture  
trash talk is ~ of play (basketball)

baked into the political equation  
this shows you how much Trump is ~ (politics)

baked into it  
the code has instructions ~ that... (ransomware)

baked into the system  
there’s a lot of waste ~ (pandemic and public health)

baked into the (medical) system  
racism is ~ (Tuskegee Syphilis Study)

baked into that term  
some evangelicals don’t like the assumptions that are ~

baked into our social systems and psychology  
racism is ~ (Critical race Theory)

baked into the hardware and software  
insecurity is ~ of the internet (computer hacking)

**attachment / relationship: cooking**  
**configuration / identity & nature: cooking**

## **bake in (and bake into)**

baked delays into their schedules  
airlines have ~ instead of improving operations

**attachment / relationship: cooking**  
**configuration / identity & nature: cooking**

## **balance (verb)**

balance the demands  
trying to ~ of work and family

balance a home and a career  
for women trying to ~

balance militancy versus moderation  
his speech had to ~ (MLK)

balance (energy) needs and the land  
an example for how to ~

balance the risk and the benefit  
you have to ~ (vaccinations)

balance security and synchronization  
~ (special operations / military)

balance civil liberties and national security  
how to ~ in a war on terror

balance tradition with changes  
Inuit leaders try to ~

balance the need (for openness) with national security  
policies to ~

balance the benefits against the difficulties  
you need to ~

balance the human cost against the cost to the animal  
we must ~

balance the need against the risks  
we must ~ (combat rescues)

balance their assignments against their safety  
photojournalists have to ~

how to balance  
an example for ~ energy needs and the land

struggling to balance  
young women ~ work and family priorities

trying to balance  
~ the demands of work and family

**equilibrium & stability: scale / verb**

## **balance (in the balance)**

in the balance  
lives are ~, this is serious (COVID-19 pandemic)

hanging in the balance  
lives are ~ (tornado forecasting)  
his life is ~ after a drug overdose (a rapper)

hangs in the balance  
Britain’s future ~ (elections)

hung in the balance  
his life ~ (penalty phase of trial)

**fate, fortune & chance: equilibrium & stability / scale / verb**

## **balance (off balance)**

kept the actors off-balance  
he ~ by interrupting their line readings (film)

keep the enemy off balance  
try to ~

throw the Soviets off balance  
an assault to ~ and regain the initiative

throws the show off balance  
his realistic portrayal ~ (a play)

throw the system off balance  
it will ~ (the body)

**disruption / flaws & lack of flaws / readiness & preparedness: equilibrium & stability / scale**  
**equilibrium & stability: scale**

### balance (out of balance)

out of balance  
in a person with depression, these chemicals are ~  
my priorities and life are ~

wildly out of balance  
the sauce was ~, overloaded with... (food)

woefully out of balance  
the system is ~ (politics)

priorities are out of balance  
our societal ~

values (as a nation) are (sadly) out of balance  
our ~

swung (way) out of balance  
the financial sector has ~

**equilibrium & stability: scale**  
**flaws & lack of flaws: equilibrium & stability / scale**  
**disruption: equilibrium & stability / scale**

### balance (work and job, etc.)

balance in my life  
the ocean represents ~ (Ken Bradshaw / surfer)

balance between modesty and sexiness  
aim to strike a ~

work / life balance  
the generations disagree on authority, teamwork, ~  
workers who value a ~  
know your limits to maintain a happy ~ and avoid burnout

wholeness, balance, wellbeing, health  
pay attention to your ~ (Hozho)

keeps his balance  
he ~ by leaving his work behind when he returns home

maintains her balance  
she ~ by staying firmly rooted at home in Utah (an actor)

strike a balance  
aim to ~ between self-denial and overindulgence

**equilibrium & stability: scale**

### balance (noun)

balance of chemicals  
restoring the normal ~ in the brain (antidepressants)

balance of the region  
the dams would disrupt the ecological ~

balance of freshwater and saltwater  
a dike collapse could destroy the delicate ~ (estuary)

balance of stability and flexibility  
the ankle joint is designed for a ~

balance between existence and annihilation  
the ~ was precarious (Homer)

balance between stability and mobility  
the elbow joint displays an elegant ~

balance between racing and safety  
you have to find a ~ (5 Oceans race)

balance between usability and security  
the ~ is a tricky one (computers)

fluid balance  
her ~ needs to be restored (medicine)

trade balance  
control the ~

basic balance  
the ~ of sweet, salty, sour, and bitter (Cambodian cuisine)

delicate balance  
a dike collapse could destroy the ~ of fresh / saltwater

ecological balance  
the dams would disrupt the ~ of the region

fragile balance  
the ~ between production and conservation (natural gas)

sense of balance  
we must restore a ~ to the debate (energy / conservation)

checks and balances  
she didn't go through the regular process of ~ (corruption)

balance (of the Supreme Court) has shifted  
now that the ~

attain a balance  
~ between mission accomplishment and environmental  
protection (war)

destroy the (delicate) balance  
a dike collapse could ~ of fresh and saltwater (estuary)

find a balance  
you have to ~ between racing and safety (Velux 5)

restore balance  
a decrease in OPEC's output would be needed to ~

strike a balance  
~ between what is possible and what is probable (combat)

**equilibrium & stability: scale**

### balanced

balanced approach  
a ~ for the listing of adult items on eBay  
a ~ might involve asking... (race, genes and disease)

balanced budget  
the ~ amendment

balanced diet  
a ~ might not be on the menu

balanced perspective  
it is important to have a ~ (safety and study abroad)

balanced and responsible  
a ~ approach to development (Arctic)

racially balanced  
the show has a ~ cast (theater)

fair and balanced  
~ news

**equilibrium & stability: scale**

**flaws & lack of flaws: equilibrium & stability / scale**

## balance of power

balance of power  
naked aggression to change the ~ (political)

balance of power between professor and student  
the ~ is so slanted (dating)

balance of power in Kashmir  
it would have no impact on the ~

shift in the balance of power  
there's a ~ (relationships)

impact on the balance of power  
it would have no ~ in Kashmir

**equilibrium & stability: scale**

## balk (verb)

balked at publishing  
the network ~ his report

balking at (high sticker) prices  
consumers are ~ (auto buying)

**eagerness & reluctance / resistance, opposition & defeat / starting, going, continuing & ending: horse / verb**

## balkanization (noun)

balkanization of the (professional) structure  
the ~ continued... (history of engineering)

instance of balkanization  
the term LGBTQIAA+ is a clear ~ (Jonathan Rauch)

**division & connection: ground, terrain & land / history**

## Balkanized

Balkanized between universities, drug companies  
medical research in the US is ~, and funders

balkanized airwaves  
on America's ~, his supporters are... (Dan Bongino)

**division & connection: ground, terrain & land / history**

## ball (play ball)

play ball  
it is often good politics to ~  
he is being punished for refusing to ~  
he has directed officials not to ~ (impeachment enquiry)  
if they didn't ~, it was game over for them (starlets)

played ball  
he would never have ~, he was a man of integrity

playing ball  
helping to oust some third-world leader who isn't ~ (NSA)

play ball with the Kremlin  
you either ~, or... (business)

play ball with (party) leaders  
many candidates refuse to ~ in Washington

play ball with me  
if you ~, I'll play ball with you

play ball with newspapers  
WikiLeaks may be willing to ~ for now, but...

reluctant to play ball  
the Asians are somewhat ~ (with the U.S. / *The Economist*)

willing to play ball  
she may be ~

need to play ball  
the unions ~ (local hiring)

refused to play ball  
he has ~ with the EPA (politics)

get Republicans to play ball  
Democrats are struggling to ~

**social interaction: sports & games / verb**

**unanimity & consensus: sports & games / verb**

## ball (the ball is in somebody's court)

ball will be firmly in the court of the governors  
the ~ to decide how to move forward (pandemic)

ball is in Russia's court  
Blinken says the ~ (U.S. "diplomacy")

ball is in your court  
the ~

**action, inaction & delay / confronting, dealing with & ignoring things / position, policy & negotiation / responsibility / social interaction: ball / sports & games**

## ball (take one's eye off the ball)

took his eye off the ball  
some people think Obama ~ (rising unemployment)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / consciousness & awareness / failure, accident & impairment: ball / sports & games / verb**

## ball (drop the ball)

dropped the ball on this case  
a lot of agencies ~ (serial killer)

dropped the ball in the case  
investigators ~

♦ "The university dropped the ball and she paid the price with her life."  
(Lauren McCluskey, the University of Utah.)

**failure, accident & impairment / success & failure: ball / hand / sports & games / verb**

## ball (get the ball rolling, etc.)

get the ball rolling  
we need to ~  
this is a good investment to ~  
sometimes it takes a gentle nudge to ~  
he made attempts to ~ on this very thing

got the ball moving  
she ~ on the impeachment enquiry (politics)

keep the ball rolling  
to ~, we must...

started the ball rolling  
he ~, and other businesses followed suit  
CO2 may have ~, but... (global warming)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: ball / movement / verb**

## ball and chain

huge ball and chain  
alcoholism is a ~

**affliction: justice / weight  
oppression; justice / weight**

## balloon (verb)

balloon  
as our entitlement commitments ~

ballooned  
the number of women (in prisons and jails) has ~  
usage of Zoom has ~ overnight (video-conferencing app)

ballooning  
the debt is ~  
long-term unemployment is ~

ballooned into Wall Street's biggest crisis  
the credit squeeze ~ since...

ballooned to \$14.4 billion  
the price tag has ~ (military project)

ballooned to over 300 pounds  
his weight reportedly ~ (a basketball player)

**increase & decrease: air / atmosphere / balloon / size / verb**

## balloon (puncture a balloon, etc.)

punctured the (helium) balloon  
he ~ of the stock's soaring price

**destruction: air / atmosphere / balloon / hole  
failure, accident & impairment: air / atmosphere / balloon / hole**

## ballooning (adjective)

ballooning (pension) costs  
he blames the problem on ~

ballooning (national) debt  
voters are alarmed by the ~

ballooning deficit  
the state is faced with a ~

ballooning demand  
~ for oil is bound to be disruptive

ballooning (Medicaid) expenses  
government officials look to curb ~

ballooning problem  
this spotlights the ~

ballooning trade surplus  
China has a ~ with the US

ballooning (cost) overruns  
the State Department agency tried to hide ~

**increase & decrease: air / atmosphere / balloon**

## ballgame (different ballgame)

different ballgame  
piracy is a ~  
it's a ~ when you don't...  
therefore, you have a ~, as they say in America...

whole different ballgame  
this year has been a ~ (Delta variant / COVID)

**taxonomy & classification: sports & games**

## ballgame (new ballgame)

whole new ballgame  
we're in a ~  
online journalism is a ~

**situation: sports & games**

## ballistic (go ballistic)

go ballistic  
people will ~ when they read that...

went ballistic  
she ~ (upset and angry)  
she confronted her husband with the pictures and ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / flying & falling / rocket**

## balm (noun)

balm for the afflictions

his wisdom is a ~ of our age (a poet)

balm for the trauma

her films are a ~ that adolescents feel

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

## banana (noun)

banana peel

Iran put a ~ in front of the US and Trump put his foot on it

banana skin

he's a potential ~ (boxer speaking of tough next opponent)

Joshua has got past a potential ~ (boxer wins)

♦ "I slip on a banana peel, that's tragedy. You slip on a banana peel, that's comedy." (Attributed to Charlie Chaplin.)

♦ "Iran put a banana peel in front of the United States and President Trump put his foot right on it." (Cali Nasir's analysis after an Iranian proxy militia in Iraq killed an American. The resultant US airstrike against the militia resulted in an outburst of Iraqi anti-Americanism, including an attack on the US Embassy in Baghdad.)

♦ "It's a potential banana skin because he's relatively unknown...that's quite dangerous...So I'm taking him very seriously..." (Josh "the Tartan Tornado" Taylor about his upcoming boxing match with Apinun Khongsong. Taylor ended up defeating his opponent with a paralyzing body shot in the first round.)

**failure, accident & impairment: fruits & vegetables**

## banana republic

banana republic

France is a ~ ruled by uneducated people (Koons' Tulips)

♦ This phrase appeared in 1955. At the time, United Fruit controlled 42% of the agricultural land in Guatemala and was very concerned by the new socialist government which had promised land reform. That government was overthrown by a CIA-supported coup.

**dependency / relationship: allusion / history**

## Band-Aid (noun)

Band-Aid

if it's real and it isn't just a ~... (a proposed program)

the emergency operation is a ~, a short-term fix (famine)

band-aid solution

this a just a ~ for a much deeper problem

put a Band-Aid on a bullet wound

we'll always ~ (social justice)

♦ "You're essentially putting band aids on gunshot wounds." (A teacher about social promotion at a D.C. high school.)

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

**substance & lack of substance: health & medicine**

## bandit (noun)

real bandits

they are ~, what they are doing (politics / Brazil)

**person / taking & removing: crime**

**taking & removing: person**

## bandwagon (noun)

legalization bandwagon

voters are not obliged to jump on the ~ (marijuana)

moaner bandwagon

post an opinion, don't just jump on the ~ (sports)

Nuwaubian bandwagon

locals who had climbed aboard the ~ began to jump off

on the (Doncic) bandwagon

I've been ~ for a long time (great Slovenian basketball star)

climbed aboard the (Nuwaubian) bandwagon

locals who had ~ began to jump off (Putnam County, GA)

jumped on the bandwagon

I ~, repeating the things being said around me (regret)

leaped onto the bandwagon

the TV industry also ~ (3-D)

♦ "The BBC is always one of the first on any given bandwagon." (Bob, a sour golfing fan, on a BBC HYS about a story featuring Bryson DeChambeau.)

♦ "That's not the first bandwagon you need to jump on. I think that's completely ridiculous and extremely naive." (The brother of a young actress / model, about people on social media suggesting that his sister's death was somehow related to COVID vaccines.)

♦ "And having seen *RRR* twice, I'm part of the bandwagon." (John Powers' glowing review of the 2022 Indian film.)

♦ "He called Howard a 'bandwagon jumper.' (An NBA athlete who celebrated too much and took too much credit for being on a NBA championship team. Said by an old veteran of the team. "He didn't do nothing.")

**unanimity & consensus: music**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: music**

## bandwidth (noun)

have the bandwidth

we do not ~ to address all the calls (Portland police)

taking up (a lot of) bandwidth

the pandemic is ~ (other problems set aside)

**extent & scope / strength & weakness: tools & technology**

## bane (noun)

bane of my life

the spinal brace quickly became the ~ (injured back)

greatest bane

corruption is the single ~ of our society

♦ Black henbane is a poisonous plant. Poison plants have had a long relationship with public health, animal husbandry, traditional medicine, witchcraft, and murder.

**affliction: plant**

## bang (with a bang)

ended with a bang

the tournament ~, not a whimper

finish (out his career) with a bang

Tapia has a chance to ~ by... (boxer)

go out with a bang  
the players wanted their coach to ~ (by winning)  
apparently he wanted to ~ (mass shooter)

hit home with a bang  
reality ~

kicking the year off with a bang  
deal makers are ~ (mergers)

opens with a bang  
the play ~, as...

opened with a bang  
the film ~ (good revenues)

returned with a bang  
he ~ (athlete has great day)

start (out) with a bang  
I wanted to ~, so I...

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: sound**

### **bang (bang for the buck, etc.)**

bang for the buck from Special Operations  
the coalition gets plenty of ~ (war)

little bang for the buck  
the report concluded subsidies offered ~

more bang for the buck  
employers will get ~ from this program

most bang for the buck  
the president will focus on getting the ~ from...

nutritional bang for the buck  
greens offer ~

get more bang for the buck  
at Wall-Mart, you ~

♦ "You get much more of a bang out of the shot, as it were." (Anthony Fauci, about booster shots.)

**cost & benefit: sound**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: sound**

### **banish (verb)**

banishes fear  
Captagon fuels conflict, for fighters it ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation: society / verb**  
**acceptance & rejection: society / verb**

### **banished**

banished to the bullpen  
he has been ~ (a pitcher)

banished from the dictionary  
American English should be ~ (the Brits)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: society**  
**acceptance & rejection: society**

### **banishment (noun)**

banishment of Brandon from the team  
the ~ is complete hypocrisy (a religious honor code)

banishment from the hall  
plagiarism can result in the ~ of academe

banishment from the league  
it is time to end his ~ (a disgraced athlete)

result in banishment  
plagiarism can ~ from the halls of academe

**dismissal, removal & resignation: society**  
**acceptance & rejection: society**

### **bank (tissue bank, etc.)**

food bank  
drop off extra food at a ~

germ bank  
~s around the world keep anthrax

job bank  
an online ~

memory bank  
the bomb can erase the ~s of electronic equipment

milk bank  
~s collect, pasteurize and store donated breast milk  
I'd like to thank every woman who's ever donated to a ~

Organ Bank  
the New England ~, one of several dozen regional centers

plant bank  
a global network of ~s to store seeds and sprouts  
a system of ~s is crucial in responding to climate crises

Seed Bank  
the Millennium ~ Partnership (Kew Gardens)

seed bank  
~s in Afghanistan and Iraq were destroyed during conflicts

Skin Bank  
the New York Firefighters ~ (Hearst Burn Center)

sperm bank  
he got the 50 bucks, but the ~ couldn't protect his identity  
♦ similar to library (tool library, etc.)

**group, set & collection: money**

### **bankrupt (adjective)**

bankrupt defense  
it's a ~ (blaming victim for hate crime)

intellectually bankrupt  
our way of managing parole supervision is ~

morally bankrupt  
placating terrorists is ~

**worth & lack of worth: money**

## banner (carry a banner, etc.)

carry the banner of the National Front  
she intends to ~ into the 21st century

carrying a banner for female athletes  
she is ~ (Annika Sorenstam)

carrying a banner for black directors  
he said he was not ~ (playwright)

wave the banner of free speech  
when criticized they ~ (Web hosts)

**representation: flags & banners / verb**

## banner (under the banner)

under the banner of the ruling party  
both men will contest the election ~

under the banner of the IMU  
armed men ~ invaded Tajikistan

**allegiance, support & betrayal: flags & banners**

## banner (behind the banner)

behind the banner of reparations  
they hoped to unite the community ~ (protest)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: flags & banners**

## banner (banner of Islam, etc.)

banner of Islam  
the youth must hold aloft the ~ (King Abdullah)

banner for artists  
over time Dirty South, not Third Coast, became a ~

hold aloft the banner  
the youth must ~ of Islam (King Abdullah)

hide behind the banner  
scoundrels ~ of patriotism

wave the banner  
they ~ of religion

♦ NO WAR; TAKE YOUR WAR AND GO TO HELL; BUSH, BLAIR and BERLUSCONI—ASSASSINS; NOT IN MY NAME... (Banners at a march in Florence, during which 300,000 marched to protest the Iraq War.)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: flags & banners**

## banner (size)

banner ad  
for 10,000 visitors, I made \$330 per ~ (Internet)

banner headline  
the newspaper ran a ~ declaring...  
~s trumpeted the news

banner weekend  
it was a ~ for HBO this weekend (many viewers)

banner year  
2000 was a ~ for genomics

**size: flags & banners**

## baptism

baptism by fire  
it was my ~ (new teacher)

baptism of fire  
Salk referred to his time with Francis as a "~"

**experience: religion / water**

## baptized

baptized in fire and blood  
you have been ~ and come out steel (combat)

get baptized  
you ~ pretty quickly in this business (death-penalty law)

**experience: religion / water**

## bar (bar is set high, etc.)

bar  
the ~ is set so high for him (performance)  
the ~ is down to "don't do dumb stuff"

**difficulty, easiness & effort: sports & games**

## barb (trade barbs, etc.)

trading barbs  
US and Chinese officials have been ~ (conflict)

**conflict: verb / weapon**

## barbed (speech)

barbed letters  
the president and the speaker had traded ~ (politics)

barbed question  
a reporter interrupted with a ~

barbed satire  
it's a ~ about race, class and culture (a film)

**speech: blade / knife**

## barbaric (behavior)

barbaric power  
the people are under the boot of ~

reckless and barbaric  
the ~ attack (use of Novichok in England)

**behavior: history**

## Barbie (and Barbie Doll)

Barbie Girl type  
well I ain't never been the ~ (Gretchen Wilson)

**appearance: object**

**character & personality: sign, signal, symbol**

## bare (lay bare)

lays bare the (latent) anti-Semitism

the vandalism ~ that still exists in society

laid bare the challenge

the incident has ~ of the alliance (US / Pakistan)

laid bare the whirlpool

his murder ~ of religious violence and extremism

**concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / clothing & accessories / verb**

## bare (laid bare)

laid bare

the open secret about Ozy Media has been ~ (fraud)

laid bare in the (feisty TV) debate

the candidates' divisions were ~ (politics)

**concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / clothing & accessories**

## bare (verb)

bared the excesses

the rally ~ of his movement

bare the secrets

the press can ~ of government and inform people

**concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / clothing & accessories / verb**

## bare-bones (adjective)

bare-bones budget

we want to have a ~ (saving money)

bare-bones care

under the plan, seniors will get ~ (health)

bare-bones and limited

right now it's ~ (opening park during pandemic)

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: skeleton / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## bare-knuckled (adjective)

bare-knuckled approach

he took a ~ to the rarified world of art criticism

bare-knuckled politics

even by the lowly standards of Washington, this was ~

bare-knuckled work

she counted votes and did the ~ that was needed (politics)

**conflict: boxing / fist**

## bark (more bark than bite, etc.)

more bark than bite

the US is ~

**substance & lack of substance: animal / dog / sound / teeth**

## bark (bark up the wrong tree, etc.)

barking up the wrong tree

if you're looking for accuracy, you're ~

they can't go for collusion because they're ~ (a report)

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / dog / hunting / sound**

## bark (verb)

barked

"Look up," he ~

barked at them to stop

the policeman ~

barked at Rodriguez for running

he ~ over his mound (baseball)

bark commands at the TV

people ~ (voice commands)

**sound: animal / dog / verb**

**speech: animal / dog / sound / verb**

## barnacle (resemblance)

barnacles of dried gum

~ encrust the undersides of tables and chairs (schools)

urban barnacle

the padlocks cover old bridges in a kind of ~ (Paris, etc.)

♦ [H]e describes today's tax code as 'full of barnacles and crevices and windows and holes. It needs a major reform and restructuring.'" ("Beyond The Tax Deal: Targeting The Code Itself," NPR, All Things Considered, December 18, 2010. The description is enough to cause tryphophobia!)

♦ see also *encrustation*

**resemblance: animal / boat / burden / sea**

## barnacle (affliction)

skin barnacles

how to get rid of ~

♦ see also *encrustation*

**affliction: animal / boat / burden / sea**

## barnacle (scrape the barnacles, etc.)

chip away at the barnacles

Pena Nieto will try to ~ slowing the economy (Mexico)

scrapes the barnacles off Homer's hull

Emily Wilson's 'Odyssey' ~

scrub the barnacles

the third-party companies are out of control, so we will ~

♦ "The number of sort of third-party contracting companies that we're using has really gotten out of control, so we're going to scrub the barnacles on that front. It's pretty crazy. We've got barnacles on barnacles. So there's going to be a lot of barnacle removal." ("Elon Musk To Analysts: Stop With The 'boring, Bonehead Questions' on Tesla" by Avie Schneider, NPR, The Two-Way, May 3, 2018.)

♦ "Wilson's project is basically a progressive one: to scrape away all the centuries of verbal and ideological buildup—the Christianizing (Homer predates Christianity), the nostalgia, the added sexism (the epics are sexist enough as they are), and the Victorian euphemisms—to reveal something fresh and clean. Why call them 'handmaidens' when they were slaves? Why insist, as so many translators do, on 19th-century

diction when that time had no more in common with Homer's than ours?" ("Emily Wilson's 'Odyssey' Scrapes The Barnacles Off Homer's Hull" by Annalisa Quinn, NPR, Book Reviews, December 2, 2017.)

**amelioration & renewal: animal / boat / burden / sea / weight**

## barnacled

barnacled with myths

the stories of their rise are ~ (US presidents)

child-barnacled

his ~ present (four sons and a daughter from two women)

**attachment: animal / boat / burden / sea**

## barn burner

barn burner

his speech wasn't exactly a ~ (politics)

♦ A very exciting game or event. "Where Does the Phrase 'Barn Burner' Come From" by Merriam-Webster is excellent.

**feeling, emotion & effect: farming & agriculture / fire / temperature**

## barnstorm (verb)

barnstorming the state

they have been ~ (politicians)

barnstorming for months

after ~... (a politician)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / message: plane / verb**

## Barnum (and P.T. Barnum)

P.T. Barnum of American race relations

she is the ~ (Robin DiAngelo)

Barnum and Bailey flamboyance

King marketed the fight with his customary ~ (boxing)

modern-day P. T. Barnum

he is sort of a ~ (an arena builder and promoter)

brilliant, bombastic Barnum

King was a ~ (the boxing promoter Don King)

♦ "P.T. Barnum is laughing his eyes out." (An online commenter who may be confusing "crying his eyes out" and "laughing his head off." Is this an "eggcorn"?)

♦ "At his first spectacle, in 1835, showman Phineas Taylor Barnum touted Joice Heth as George Washington's 161-year-old nursemaid. Crowds came gawking to see 'the greatest natural & national curiosity in the world.' Barnum profited from the public's hunger for entertainment by planting embellishments and lies in newspapers..." ("Why We Lie," *National Geographic*, June 2017.)

♦ "The 1870s and 1880s were the height of the controversial but enormously popular 'side shows' in America. Hucksters like P.T. Barnum attracted huge throngs by booking fire-eaters, sword swallowers, and 'freaks' with assorted medical abnormalities, some bogus, others disturbingly real. There were the 'Wild Men of Borneo' (actually two mentally disabled dwarfs from Ohio), 'Jo-Jo the Dog-Faced Boy' (suffering from hypertrichosis, a profusion of body hair), 'General Tom Thumb' (the world's smallest human), eight-foot giants, bearded ladies, Siamese twins, and people with humongous body tumors attached to their back, face, and scrotum..." (*Bellevue: Three Centuries of Medicine and Mayhem at America's Most Storied Hospital* by David Oshinsky.)

♦ "[Harvey] Leach, who was often billed as the 'shortest man in the world,' had made a name for himself as a performing oddity. In addition to his small stature, one of his legs was eighteen inches long while the other measured twenty-four inches, and when he walked, his arms brushed against the ground like an ape's. According to one of his contemporaries, Leach appeared 'like a head and a trunk, moving about on castors.' / Leach's strange appearance attracted the attention of the American showman and hoaxer P. T. Barnum, founder of the Barnum & Bailey Circus. Barnum dressed the dwarf in the skin of a wild beast and covered the walls of London with placards that read, 'What Is It?' Unbeknownst to Barnum, Leach was so recognizable at that point in his career that people guessed the true identity of this mysterious 'beast' within days. Despite this initial bungle, Barnum retained Leach as a performer, until the forty-six-year-old man died as the result of an injured hip that had become infected." (*The Butchering Art: Joseph Lister's Quest To Transform The Grisly World Of Victorian Medicine* by Lindsey Fitzharris.)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: allusion / circus / epithet**

## barometer (noun)

barometer of their abundance

but the catch rate provides a ~ (sharks)

barometers of change

public tours serve as ~ (limited after 9/11)

barometer of (Trump's influence)

the result will be another ~ with the GOP (election)

barometer of (poor) nutrition

childhood anemia, a ~, is higher in India than China

barometer for his team

he has been a ~ (when he is good, team is good)

closely watched barometer

the index is a ~ of home prices

career barometer

actors used the show as a ~ (*Law and Order*)

off the barometer

the racism, misogyny and homophobia is ~ (the Met police)

♦ "Kennan's eighty-page 'personal document' might well have been coauthored with Oppenheimer, reflecting as it did so many of Robert's views. Indeed, both he and Kennan took its reception as a plunging barometer, indicating the approach of violent political storms. Circulated within the State Department, Kennan's memo was quietly and firmly rejected by all who read it." (*American Prometheus: The Triumph And Tragedy Of J. Robert Oppenheimer* by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin. A plunging barometer is a characteristic of a hurricane.)

**measurement: tools & technology**

## baron (power)

drug baron

the notorious ~ Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman

meat baron

he is nicknamed "the ~" (Clemens Tonnies)

**person: government**

**power: history / Middle Ages / person**

## baroque (adjective)

got baroque

the war plan ~, insane, to the point where... (nukes)

**complexity: history**

## barracked

barracked (earlier this month) for sending  
the German chancellor ~ weapons (to Ukraine)

**accusation & criticism / conflict: military / sound**

## barrage (noun)

barrage  
no software can eliminate the ~ (popup ads / computers)

barrage of combinations  
he reshaped his opponent's nose with a ~ (boxing)

barrage of lawsuits  
the campaign has filed a ~ in various states (election)

barrage of (graphic) pictures  
Saudis get a ~ of Palestinians suffering...

barrage of questions  
I was subjected to a ~  
his ~ barely left time for answers

withering barrage  
their report came under a ~ of criticism (education)

♦ The rolling barrage was developed in World War I to provide what is described nowadays as "shock and awe" for attacking infantry soldiers.

**amount & effect: military / weapon**

## barrel (at the bottom of the barrel)

at the bottom of the barrel  
I did my time ~ (worst job assignment)

finish at the bottom of the barrel  
we ~ every year (a sports team)

stuck at the bottom of the barrel  
I'm ~ (pay scale)

**hierarchy: position**

## barrel (verb)

barreled up the Eastern Seaboard  
the hurricane ~

**movement: force / verb**

**force: movement / verb**

## barricade (storm the barricades, etc.)

manned the barricade  
Courtois ~ for Real (soccer goalie has great game)

stormed the barricades  
he ~, time and again (to hold the church accountable)

storm the barricades of racism  
many left their studies to ~ (Martin Luther King)

storm the barricades of (male) resistance  
women have to ~

storm the barricades for him  
many are ready to ~ (support for an embattled politician)

certain to storm the barricades  
shareholders will be ~ (losing money)

ready to storm the barricades  
she casts herself as an outsider, ~ (a politician)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: history / infrastructure / verb**

## barrier (noun)

barriers to access  
~ in that market are extremely costly (trade)

barriers to (foreign) ownership  
lower ~ of local industries

barriers to participation  
a meet with the theme of overcoming ~ (climbing)

barriers to (import) penetration  
~ in Japan

barrier between animals and humans  
influenza could hop the ~

barriers and stereotypes  
coming out and tearing down ~ in "macho" professions

age barrier  
no ~, no height bar, no gender gap

class barrier  
~s are deepening cultural and racial ones

color barrier  
broke rugby's ~ in 1976

gender barrier  
she broke a ~ (first Division I female football player)

pain barrier  
practicing through the ~ (musicians)  
we'd gone through the ~, the sun gave us power (K2)

research barrier  
by easily being able to grow the cells, he overcame a ~

trade barriers  
the lowering of ~ (globalization)

cultural barrier  
despite language and ~s, people came together (protest)  
people struggle to communicate across ~s

legal barrier  
~s to correcting injustices (death-penalty cases)

racial barrier  
it helped to bring down some ~s (basketball)

socioeconomic barrier  
debate over the ~ facing black boys (education)

linguistic, cultural and psychological barriers  
immigrants face many ~

lowering of (trade) barriers  
the ~ (globalization)

glass ceilings and other barriers  
~ barring women

stereotypes and other barriers  
trying to break down ~ (foreigners)

broke (a lot of) barriers  
she ~ (a famous woman)

lower these barriers  
20 states have passed laws to ~ (expunging criminal records)

overcame a (research) barrier  
by easily being able to grow the cells, he ~

put up (new) barriers  
as many European countries ~ (against immigrants)

bring down some (racial) barriers  
it helped to ~ (basketball)

break down (racial) barriers  
how to ~ in France

get past the sex barrier  
how do I ~ with guys (she waits, he loses interest)

communicate across (cultural) barriers  
people struggle to ~

**obstacles & impedance: ground, terrain & land / wall**

**division & connection: ground, terrain & land / wall**

## **Baryshnikov (Baryshnikov of football, etc.)**

Baryshnikov of football  
he was canonized as “the ~” for his acrobatic receptions  
(Lynn Swann after Super Bowl X)

Big Baryshnikov  
the ~ (Shaquille O’Neal, NBA)

♦ Shaquille O’Neal, one of the greatest NBA players of all time, has been referred to as the Big Baryshnikov.

**achievement, recognition & praise / superlative: epithet**

## **baseline (noun)**

baseline levels  
it drops to ~ (a hormone)

baseline measurement  
exposures may be difficult to interpret without ~

baseline poverty  
will Haiti return to ~ (after earthquake)

baseline study  
tedious ~s

baseline of how  
we do need a ~ things have been in the past (polar ice)

♦ A baseline relates to land surveying.

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / measurement: surveying**

## **basement (basement price, etc.)**

basement price  
he thinks he can buy the company at a ~

in the basement  
the ratings have been ~ (baseball)

**decline: direction**

## **basement (hierarchy)**

in the basement for (high-school) graduates  
we’re now ~ (US education and the OECD)

**hierarchy: direction**

## **basement (concealment)**

internet’s dirty basement  
if you peer into the ~ (conspiracy theories, fake news)

**concealment & lack of concealment: direction / house**

## **bash (verb)**

bashing the democrats  
the president has been ~ on immigration

bash opponents  
“white privilege” is used as a political weapon to ~

♦ “Collect the money Depp, that woman will never quit bashing you. She simply will never quit. Just a different Pam Hupp, Blasey Ford or Smollett.” (A comment about the Depp-Heard trial.)

**accusation & criticism / speech: fist / verb / violence**

## **bashed (criticism)**

deal with being bashed  
we’ve had to ~ because we’re obese

**accusation & criticism / speech: fist / verb / violence**

## **bashing (noun)**

Arab bashing  
the rising tide of ~ in America (post 9/11)

business-bashing  
this will dispel the ~ image of Obama (politics)

class-bashing  
he defended her against ~ critics from *The Village Voice*

gay-bashing  
issues include AIDS and ~  
he thought he’d be safe from ~ (high-school student)

gay-bashing  
the ~ televangelist was arrested in a public toilet

Islam bashing  
the rising tide of ~ in America  
detractors describe her comments as “~” (Ayaan Ali)

man bashing  
some women are uneasy with ~

white-bashing

this casual “~” will result in a backlash (politics)

♦ “The crimes have a chilling street name, ‘Guat-bashing.’” (*Actual violence against Guatemalans.*)

**accusation & criticism / speech: fist / verb / violence**

## basically (contempo-speak)

basically

~, these firms, because they...

so her dad had to move in with her, ~ (self-care)

basically what

and that’s ~ my crimes are

and ~ it says is that when...

basically interviewed

I recently listened to an episode, and they ~ a broker...

basically ran on adrenaline

I ~ (Alyssa and her job)

basically said

to which I ~...

basically saying

people were ~...

basically been using

I’ve ~ Twitter for 15 years at this point, and...

basically a (real-estate) empire

so, Crow Holding, it’s ~ that manages \$29 billion (NPR)

basically felt

everyone who ~ like an outcast

basically a firearm

a smart gun is ~ that’s always locked by default

basically impossible

it’s ~ to find a queer competent therapist in Missouri

basically talking

the poem that he wrote was ~ about intersectionality

basically kind of like

see *kind of like (contempo-speak)*

basically like

see *like (reported speech)*

so basically

~, on a dare, I...

♦ “Indeed, major global events...happened while she was basically living under a rock.” (“A Spanish athlete spent 500 days alone in a cave—for science” by Rachel Treisman, NPR, April 17, 2023.)

♦ see also *actually (contempo-speak), definitely (contempo-speak), obviously (contempo-speak), really (and REEE•lee, etc.)*

**contempo-speak: adverb**

## bask (verb)

basking in the afterglow

while he was ~ of a caretaker’s honeymoon period...

basks in (New York) fame

resilient Emma Raducanu ~ (US Open winner)

basked in the glow

she ~ of being a global business celebrity

bask in the prestige

major cities ~ of the Olympics

bask in that smile

she knows what it feels like to ~ (of a handsome man)

basking in (an Olympic) triumph

the U.K. is ~

bask in my victory

I am going to ~ (Tyson “the Gypsy King” Fury)

basking in his victory

on a hot day, Boris Johnson is ~ (new Prime Minister)

♦ Birds (grey herons); reptiles (lizards, terrapins, snakes, crocodiles); mammals (walruses); insects (butterflies)... (Creatures that bask, or sunbathe, to raise their internal temperature, or for comfort.)

♦ “His worship of the sun began when he was a school-boy in the eighteen-eighties on the shores of the Lake of Neuchatel. He was the pale son of a bookish professor and from his first year in school he didn’t like the way the brown-faced farmer boys could lick the tar out of him. ‘They were flagrantly superior to me,’ Rollier said. From then on he began bathing his bare body lying like a lizard in the sun, began turning himself into an Indian.” (Men Against Death by Paul De Kruij. From Chapter 11, “Rollier: The Sun Doctor.” Dr. Auguste Rollier was an exponent of heliotherapy for the treatment of tuberculosis. See the Wikipedia entry “light therapy” and the picture captioned, “Child patients with external forms of tuberculosis, especially of the bones and joints, laying [sic] on beds on a terrace outside Treloar Hospital in Alton, Hampshire, England, in sunlight as part of their light therapy, ca. first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.”)

♦ Lake Bled in Slovenia is a place where people came to therapeutically “bask” in the sun. Such practices are associated with the Swiss healer Arnold Rikii.

♦ “Where the sun is, the doctor ain’t.” (An old Italian mountaineer proverb.)

**behavior: animal / atmosphere / temperature / verb  
feeling, emotion & effect: animal / atmosphere /  
temperature / verb**

## basket (category)

put him in the same basket

do you ~ as Snowden (Julian Assange)

**taxonomy & classification: container**

## basket case

basket case

Haiti has not always been a ~

from the standpoint of manufacturing, America is a ~

the economy is not a ~

he considered the company a ~ (an executive)

basket-cases of Central Asia

the two ~, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan

Europe's basket case

Ireland used to be ~

economic basket case

Spain is an ~

North Korea is now an ~, propped up by China

emotional basket case

the whole experience left me an ~

international basket case

Kissinger described Bangladesh as an ~

turning students into emotional basket cases

universities are ~ (reverse cognitive behavioral therapy)

♦ A basket case is a person who has had all limbs amputated. Its date of inclusion in dictionaries—1919—means it probably references soldiers severely wounded in World War I.

**condition & status / functioning: health & medicine**

## bastion (noun)

bastion of elitism

he views golf courses as a ~ (Chavez)

bastion of (racial) exclusivity

the sorority is a ~

bastion of progressive government

many see New Zealand as a ~

bastion of (testosterone-driven) heterosexism

the NBA is a ~

bastion of (southern male) privilege

the private club was once a ~

bastion of religion

Poland is a ~

bastions of free speech

universities are no longer ~

bastion of tradition and authority

the university is a ~

bastion for the militia

the neighborhood is a ~

Democratic bastion

Chicago is a ~

last bastion

Las Vegas casinos are the ~ for smokers

public-employee unions are the ~ of labor strength

main bastion

the ~ of protection against downstream floods...

♦ A bastion can be reduced, or surrounded and starved into submission, or betrayed from within, or simply bypassed...

**protection & lack of protection: fortification / military**

## bat (go to bat for somebody, etc.)

coming to bat for NBC

he is ~ against allegations...

go to bat for him

nobody will ~ (a dictator under siege)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: baseball / sports & games / verb**

## bat (batting zero)

batting zero

the fact that he's ~ doesn't seem to bother him

**failure, accident & impairment / success & failure: baseball / sports & games / verb**

## bathing (forest bathing, etc.)

dust bathing

a herd of elephants washing and ~ at a water hole

forest bathing

~ is a national pastime in Japan (shinrin-yoku)

sunbathing

naked ~ and teenage brains (Jeremy Vine on BBC Radio 2)

topless ~ in a public place

♦ "Where the sun is the doctor ain't." (An Italian mountaineer proverb that relates to heliotherapy and a traditional treatment for tuberculosis.)

♦ "If water is scarce, take an 'air' bath. Remove as much of your clothing as practical and expose your body to the sun and air for at least 1 hour. Be careful not to sunburn." / "In some situations, you may be able to take a snow bath. Take a handful of snow and wash your body where sweat and moisture accumulate, such as under the arms and between the legs, and then wipe yourself dry." (FM 3-05.70, "Survival," US Army, May 2002.)

♦ "Some people have mistaken 'forest bathing' as a nudist activity." (In North Carolina.)

**absorption & immersion: water**

## baton (pass on the baton)

hand over the baton to my son

today's the day I ~ (boxer retires with injury)

pass on the baton to someone else

it is time to ~ (an elected official)

passed on the baton to them

Tony Pike ~ (running a hotel on Ibiza)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: sports & games**

**transmission: sports & games**

## baton (drop the baton)

dropped the baton

the company ~ on this

**failure, accident & impairment: sports & games**

## battalion (a large group)

battalions of consultants

Freedman hired ~ who specialized in health care

**amount: military**

## batten (batten down)

battened down

people have ~ (for a hurricane)

battens down for monster storm

Texas ~ (Hurricane Harvey)

batten down the hatches

~ and prepare for another pounding (Hurricane Maria)

battens down the hatches

Europe ~ as Italy deaths rise (coronavirus closures, etc.)

♦ "You'd better tell your friend Oppy to batten down the hatches and prepare for some stormy weather." (J. Robert Oppenheimer, 1953.)

♦ "Yes, it feels to me like a moment where people are sort of battering down the hatches and picking the safe lane." (Film producer Dede Gardner mixing her metaphor with contempo-speak.)

♦ "When supertime came, the old cook came on deck sayin' / Fellas, it's too rough to feed ya / At seven p.m., a main hatchway caved in, he said / Fellas, it's been good to know ya." ("The Wreck of the *Edmund Fitzgerald*" by Gordon Lightfoot.)

**protection & lack of protection / readiness & preparedness / survival, persistence & endurance: boat / sea / storm / verb**

## batter (the hurricane battered the city)

battered the city

the hurricane ~ (New Orleans)

**storm: force**

## battering ram

became the Reagan Republicans' battering ram

Carter's support for gay rights and the ERA ~ (1980)

**conflict: fortification / military**

## battery (recharge one's batteries)

charge my battery

I came here to ~ (leadership school / China)

recharge my batteries

I make sure I take time to ~

I asked for a leave of absence to ~

recharge his batteries

he resigned unexpectedly, saying he wanted to ~

he travels to South America to ~

recharge his batteries in the US

he will ~ (soccer star)

**amelioration & renewal: electricity / verb**

## battery (amount)

battery of tests

he took a ~

**amount: military / weapon**

## battle (verb)

battled (in vain) to contain

as fire-fighters ~ it (museum fire)

battling the swarms with insecticide

authorities are ~ sprayed from airplanes (locusts)

battled for her life

she ~ on Sunday after a man shot her

battle for supremacy

cartels ~ in South Africa's taxi wars

battle against a (false) sense of complacency

we must ~

battled addiction

she has ~ all her life (an actor)

battled alcoholism

he ~ as a teen

battles (severe) asthma

he ~, which gets worse in stressful situations

battling the coronavirus

he is still ~ (sick with the virus)

battled the fire

for three hours we ~ (grass fire)

battled (ice-glazed) roads

commuters ~ (freezing rain)

battled the spread

critics have ~ of agricultural biotechnology

battling the (locust) swarms

authorities are ~ with insecticide sprayed from airplanes

battled windchills

they ~ of 20 below (North Dakota)

battle trafficking

Irmi Basu and her center ~ (sex / Calcutta)

battled in vain

as fire-fighters ~ to contain it... (museum fire)

cartels battle

~ for supremacy in South Africa's taxi wars

**conflict: military / verb**

## battle (noun)

battle

for Japan, the ~ is one of national pride (whaling)

learn to pick your ~s (disciplining a toddler)

battle to curb

government's ~ the influence of graft (Serbia)

battle in the (culture) war

these bills are the latest ~ waged over the rights of...

battles of identity

in ~, language often becomes the front line (Berbers)

battle of wills

expect another ~ all the way to the final wall (swimming)

battle of (former) champions

it was a ~ (boxing)

battle of the sexes

the theme of "I Love Lucy" was the basic ~

battles of the next generation

the civil rights ~ (animal rights)

battle against AIDS  
 celebrate the small victories in the ~

battle against assimilation  
 the age-old ~

battle against (entertainment) violence  
 a turning point in the ~

battles with (drug and alcohol) abuse  
 Ramone discussed his ~

battle with alcoholism  
 he had fought a long ~ (a suicide)

battle with AIDS  
 she told in a quiet voice of her ~

battle with cancer  
 a near-fatal ~  
 the general died after a brave ~

battle with Congress  
 a new front in the President's ~ is opening

battles with unions and regulators  
 waging fierce ~

battle over the land  
 a lengthy court ~

battle over (reproductive) rights  
 the ~ (abortion)

battle over the terms  
 a legal ~ of the agreement

battle over the best method  
 the so-called reading wars—the ~ of teaching reading

battle between his (warring) parents  
 trapped in the ~

battle between defenders and detractors  
 the ~ of the traditional canon (literature)

battle between the school system, county  
 the ongoing budget ~

battle (going on) between commerce and creativity  
 there's a constant ~ (country music)

battle for answers  
 the one last battle, the ~ (Agent Orange)

battle for the championship  
 their ~ (basketball)

battles for (championship) crowns  
 their epic ~

battle for minds  
 this is a ~ (post 9/11)

battle for public opinion  
 losing the ~

battle for the thermostat  
 the ~ is waged in offices and homes across the nation

battle scars  
 showing off ~ (football players)

government's battle  
 the ~ to curb the influence of graft (Serbia)

budget battle  
 an ongoing ~ between the school system, county

court battle  
 a long-running ~  
 he was granted joint custody of his kids after a lengthy ~

custody battle  
 he was the object of a fierce ~

development battle  
 on the losing side of ~s

divorce battle  
 a bizarre last chapter in a ~ (townhouse explodes)

edit battles  
 ~ have contested Wikipedia articles about political events

election battle  
 he is facing a difficult ~ (Germany)

epic battle  
 their ~s for championship crowns (sports)  
 he had an ~ with a mako (fishing)  
 their ~ Saturday night (Ward vs. Gatti / boxing)

kite battle  
 it's time for the rokkaku ~ (kite festival)

turf battles  
 ~ likely to ensue (federal agencies)

visitation battle  
 ~s involving grandparents

textbook battles  
 ~ are legendary in Texas

public relations battle  
 but is losing the ~

VHS-Beta battle  
 the ~ at the beginning of the video era

coming battle  
 he doesn't have any illusions about the ~ (legislative act)

ongoing (budget) battle  
 an ~ between the school system, county

long-running battle  
 the ~ over the rights of ...

pitched battle  
 his entering the race could lead to a ~ for the progressive vote

hard-fought battle  
 he died after a ~ with a lung issue

annual (funding) battles

~ on Capitol Hill

**bitter battle**  
she resigned last June after four years of ~s (university)  
a ~ involving teachers, school officials and the mayor

**brave battle**  
the general died after a ~ with cancer

**daily battles**  
there are ways to diffuse ~ and teach your toddler

**endless battle**  
toilet training doesn't have to be an ~

**ferocious battle**  
a ~ is being waged in California (same-sex marriage)

**fierce battle**  
waging ~s with unions and regulators

**judicial battle**  
this is the latest development in an ongoing ~

**legal battle**  
a ~ over the terms of the agreement;  
animal-rights groups have had ~s with the federal government

**lengthy (court) battle**  
a ~ over the land

**nightly battle**  
how can I get my toddler to brush her teeth without a ~

**significant battle**  
it has lost a ~ in the PR war (Facebook versus Australia)

**long, hard battle**  
it's been a really ~ for me (cancer survivor)

**age-old battle**  
the ~ against assimilation

**near-fatal battle**  
a ~ with cancer

**day in, day out battle**  
a ~ with beavers

**David-and-Goliath battle**  
waging a ~ against Time Warner

**heat of the battle**  
look, in the ~... (Nick Kyrgios about a tennis match)

**heat-of-the-battle (m)**  
in the ~ racing (NASCAR)

**object of a (fierce custody) battle**  
he was the ~

**them-vs.-us battle**  
it's a ~

**aspect of the battle**  
redirected their attention to another ~ (anti-whaling)

**epicenter of that battle**

Birmingham became the ~ (for civil rights)

**object of a (fierce custody) battle**  
he was the ~

**years of (bitter) battles**  
she resigned last year after four ~ (university)

**in the (President's) battle**  
a new front ~ with Congress is opening

**turning point in the battle**  
a ~ against entertainment violence

**tantrums and battles**  
~ (toddlers)

**war or battle**  
we're not in a ~ with Facebook (government official)

**facing a (difficult election) battle**  
he is ~ (Germany)

**fighting a battle**  
he is ~ he cannot win (on social media)

**lose this battle**  
they would ~ in the legislative arena

**pick your battles**  
learn to ~ (disciplining a toddler)

♦ "We all got our daily battles, right?"

♦ "We fight hard, we play for keeps, we take no prisoners. We'll get in the trenches and fight dirty." (Greg Pruett, president of the Idaho Second Amendment Alliance, a gun-rights group.)

♦ "Marines don't fight wars, they fight battles." (A Marine captain, Marjah, Afghanistan, 2010.)

♦ "With human corpses, human excrement, and rotting rations scattered across Peleliu's ridges, the blow flies or bluebottle flies underwent a population explosion. Those nasty insects were so large, so glutted, and so lazy that some could scarcely fly... It was revolting, to say the least, to watch big fat blowflies leave a corpse and swarm into our C rations... Each morning, just before sunrise, when things were fairly quiet, I could hear a steady humming sound like bees in a hive as the flies became active with the onset of daylight. They rose off the corpses, refuse, rocks, brush, and wherever else they had settled for the night like a swarm of bees. There numbers were incredible." (*With the Old Breed* by E.B. Sledge.)

**conflict: military**

**battle (uphill battle, etc.)**

**long battle**  
he had fought a ~ with alcoholism (a suicide)

**uphill battle**  
it will be an ~ (political reform)  
small businesses have faced an ~ (online vending)

**facing an uphill battle**  
they are ~ (politics)

**fought a (long) battle**  
he had ~ with alcoholism (a suicide)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: military**

## battle cry

### battle cry

the vendors chant their ~, "*Quando luchamas, ganamos*"  
repeal has been the ~ for years (Obamacare)

### battle cries of our modern crowds

slogans are the ~

### battle cry of public health officials

it has become the ~ (wear a mask to slow the spread)

### battle cry against machismo

their new single is a ~ (Y La Bamba's "*Mujeres*")

### less of a battle cry

"lock 'em up" has become ~ for politicians

### became a battle cry

that word *Perseverance* ~ for us (Nasa Mars mission)

### inspired Obama's own campaign battle cry

the United Farm Workers of America ~ (*Si se Puede*)

### conflict: military

## battleground (Battle Ground, Indiana, etc.)

### Battle Ground

the town of ~ is near the site of the Battle of Tippecanoe

### geography / military: proper name

## battleground (conflict)

### battlegrounds of discontent

hospitals have become ~ (poor service)

### battlegrounds in the (drug) business

hepatitis C is one of the fiercest ~ (drug development)

### battleground for the future

the Gulf of Mexico is the ~ of offshore oil drilling

### battlegrounds for (freedom of speech) issues

college campuses are ~

### battleground for (culture-war) issues

the schools have become a ~

### battleground state

Ohio is a crucial ~ (elections)

in the ~ of Pennsylvania, which Trump won in 2016

### latest battleground

green spaces are the ~ in the disputer (development)

### public battlefield

he enjoys the ~ (Jill Lepore about Elon Musk)

### become a battleground

the state has ~ over the issue (abortion)

♦ "Byron visited; so did the Wordsworths—twice—and the architect and collector John Soane and thousands of others. They carried away skulls—Sir Walter Scott had one—and fingers and teeth and bullets and cannon balls... A century later such battlefield tourism would flourish even if its more gruesome collecting tastes were suppressed." (The site

of the Battle of Waterloo, in Belgium. From *The Work of the Dead: A Cultural History of Mortal Remains* by Thomas W. Laqueur.)

♦ Years ago they had marched thousands of miles to legendary battlefields... they had once gone to the ends of the earth and seen beyond the farthest horizon... We looked at these men in blue, existing in pensioned security, honored and respected by all... and we were in awe of them. Those terrible names out of the history books—Gettysburg, Shiloh, Stone's River, Cold Harbor—came alive through these men. They had been there... and to watch them was to be deeply moved." (*Waiting for the Morning Train: An American Boyhood* by Bruce Catton.)

♦ "People who visit Verdun, the battlefield of Borodino or Malakhov Kurgan at Sebastopol must find it equally strange to find children playing, women doing their washing, carts full of hay and old men carrying rakes. Columns of French soldiers and trucks covered in tarpaulins once passed over fields that are now full of vines; now there is only a hut, a few apple trees and some kolkhoz sheep where Murat's cavalry advanced, where Kutuzov sat in his armchair and ordered the Russian infantry to counter-attack with a wave of his tired hand. Nakhimov stood on a mound where now there are only chickens and a few goats searching for blades of grass between the stones; this is where the flash-bombs described by Tolstoy were launched, where English bullets whistled and wounded soldiers screamed." (Alexandra Vladimirovna Shaposhnikova visits the ruins of her house in the immediate aftermath of the Battle of Stalingrad to find queues of women, small huts, old men unloading planks, shirts hanging up to dry, etc. *Life And Fate* by Vasily Grossman, New York Review Books, translated by Robert Chandler.)

### conflict / place: military

## bay (at bay)

### hold the Taliban at bay

the Afghan government will struggle to ~

### kept my depression at bay

the device has ~ (an electrical implant)

### keep oil drilling at bay

we need to ~

### keep his furies at bay

he works hard to ~ (troubled ex-boxer)

### keep hate at bay

our job is to ~, out of the mainstream (SPLC)

### keep monotony at bay

the breaks in the narrative ~

### keep Usyk at bay

Joshua struggled to ~ (boxing)

### kept at bay

the modern world can't be ~ forever

### remains at bay

inflation ~ (economy)

♦ "Red Army units fought desperately to keep the Germans at bay."

♦ This refers to the barking of dogs as they prevent a stranger from approaching a cabin, or force a bear to climb a tree.

### avoidance & separation: dog / sound

## bay (bay for blood, etc.)

### baying for blood

the fans are always ~ (boxing)

### baying for the blood

they are ~ of Nancy Pelosi (politics)

### baying for her blood

flag-waving patriots are ~ (India)

baying my name

the nine-year-olds were jeering at me and ~ (a small boy)

baying for vengeance

he compared the attacks on him to a mob ~

♦ "The Brazil fans are baying for blood—or, more accurately, a yellow card..." (Qatar World Cup. 90+3 mins: Croatia 0-0 Brazil. Nicely qualified.)

**eagerness & reluctance: animal / dog / hunting / sound / verb**

## beachhead (noun)

beachheads for any foreign government

US universities should not be ~

get a beachhead

you ~, like Social Security passes (progressivism)

**presence & absence: military**

**survival, persistence & endurance: military**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: military**

## beacon (noun)

beacon of hope

the center will be a ~ (Muhammad Ali Center)

the school is a ~ (in deprived Detroit neighborhood)

beacon of justice

the center's reputation as a ~ had taken some hits (Southern Poverty Law Center)

beacons of faith and optimism

the old prairie churches were ~ (US)

beacon of liberty

the US is a ~, freedom and opportunity

beacon for (high-achieving) students

the school is a ~ (high school)

beacon for human rights

she was once seen as a ~ (a political figure)

♦ "Einstein is a landmark, not a beacon." (*Time* magazine, about the great man at Princeton. Some attributed the remark to Robert Oppenheimer. The idea was that Einstein's importance to cutting-edge physics of the time, particularly quantum physics, was nil.)

♦ In a project that brought ancient Roman history to life, 500 flaming beacons were lit along the 84-mile-length of Hadrian's wall, from Tyneside to the Cumbrian coast.

**direction: fire / light & dark / journeys & trips**

## bead (draw a bead / have a bead)

had a bead on the corruption

he ~, similar to today (Hal Holbrook about Mark Twain)

**target: weapon**

## beak (Parrot's Beak, etc.)

Le Bec d'Aigle

~ is a giant rock overlooking the calanque (Eagle's Beak)

Parrot's Beak

the ~ juts into Vietnam from southeast Cambodia

the Mano River flows through the ~ area of Guinea

**proper name: bird / shape**

**geography: bird / proper name / shape**

## beak (area)

Eagles Beak

the ~ is a natural arch in Arizona

**area: shape**

**shape: bird**

## bear (Soviet Bear, etc.)

Soviet Bear

the ~...

♦ Arctos; Ursus; Myedvied; Orso; Sheong; Bruin; Mockwa; Yo-nuh...

**epithet: animal**

**strength & weakness: epithet / sign, signal, symbol**

## bear (a bear of an epidemic, etc.)

bear of an epidemic

he has a ~ on his hands (mayor and coronavirus rates)

**behavior / force: animal**

## bear (mama bear)

'mama bear' instinct

her ~ helped her catch her daughter's killer

mama bear, mom determination

it's that ~ (she helps find daughter's murderer)

♦ "The heroic Bronx mother who landed on the *Post's* front page as 'Mama Bear'—when she ferociously fought off the creep who sucker-punched her 4-year-old son in Times Square—has fled the city with her three cubs." (Dean Balsamini, *New York Post*, Feb 4, 2023. "Mama Bear" and her family have moved to South Carolina.)

**character & personality: animal**

## bear (bearpit, bear pit)

see *pit* (*bear pit*)

## bear (a weight, etc.)

bear

the death of a child is almost too much to ~

♦ "And we'll never be given to endure more than we can bear."

**affliction: burden / verb / weight**

**oppression: burden / verb / weight**

## bear (bear fruit, etc.)

bore fruit

their protests ~ only after...

borne fruit

British attempts to deter Iran have not ~

bearing fruit

the development program appears to be ~

Bears Fruit

War on Piracy ~

product: fruits & vegetables / verb

## bearbaiting

form of (human) bearbaiting

a judge summed up the show as a ~ (Jeremy Kyle Show)

♦ see also *pit (bear pit)*

conflict: animal / violence

## bearing (direction)

find his bearings

he spent two months trying to ~ and a job (new city)

lose your bearings

when you're homeless, you kind of ~

losing its bearings

the city is ~, it's heritage (development)

lost her bearings

she ~ in the pursuit of fame

get his bearings

it took him a while to ~ (a new job)

get his bearings back

it took him a while to ~ (stunned boxer)

regain my bearings

after the birth of my first child, it took me time to ~

♦ "We are safe and well, however we would ask for privacy for ourselves and our families over the coming days while we *collect our bearings* [italics mine] and enjoy being reunited with our families." (Two so-called "travel influencers" released from Iran. "Collect" one's bearings simply doesn't collocate. Conventional collocates include get one's / find one's / take one's bearings, etc.)

♦ "We strayed from the path several times, but quickly corrected our mistakes. When we came across a tuft or a hillock, I tried to get a look round, to get my bearings. Dersu took a bunch of reeds and mugwort and bent it down as a pateran. I looked ahead and all round. Everywhere, on every side, extended the endless, waving ocean of grass." (*Dersu Uzala* by V. K. Arseniev. A pateran is a sign relating to a course. Nowadays a person might use blaze orange flagging tape.)

direction: journeys & trips / tools & technology

## beast ('The Beast' Mugabi, etc.)

'The Beast' Mugabi

John ~ vs. "Marvelous" Marvin Hagler (boxing)

Beasts of the East

they are the ~ again (NBA team Boston Celtics, 2022)

earned the nickname "the Beast"

he has ~ (the boxer Artur Beterbiev)

♦ According to his Wikipedia entry, Marshawn Lynch was nicknamed "Beast Mode" for his powerful running style. One of his touchdowns even earned the epithet of the "Beast Quake" and its own Wikipedia entry! For the "Beast Quake," he ran 65 yards for a touchdown, breaking nine tackles, in what is considered one of the greatest NFL runs in history. What a beast!

epithet: animal

force: epithet

## beast (insult)

beast

this person, not even a person, this ~... (a murderer)

wild beasts

those ~ shot you in the back (said at a funeral)

turn into (wild) beasts

when we see their faces, we ~, thugs and murderers (WWI)

♦ "He had finally tracked the beast to its lair." (Churchill visits Hitler's bunker in 1945. From *Churchill: Walking With Destiny* by Andrew Roberts.)

♦ see also *animal (insult)*

insult: animal

## beast (power)

beast

the weather is a ~ today across much of the country  
he's a ~ (said by NFL player admiringly about another)

Day two on the Eiger was a ~ (climbing conditions)

Gronkowski is a ~ (RazB / Super Bowl 55)

the whole thing is a ~ (a road train of the Outback)

this place is a ~ (golf tournament / "brutal" conditions)

beast of a machine

the Starship is a stainless steel ~ (SpaceX)

beast of a wave

another bruising encounter with a ~ (Nazare surfing)

beast on the drums

she is an absolute ~ (10-year-old Nandi Bushell)

beasts at major finals

there are teams who are ~ (Euro 2020 in 2021 / soccer)

Beast inside

Beauty outside, ~ (Apple computer advertisement)

beast mode

that marine going ~ with the rammer (Wolfie)

f\*\*\*\*\* beast

how does he do it, he's a ~ (Marine howitzer rammer)

giant beasts

social media is a landscape with some ~ in it (Facebook)

much scarier beast

he's a ~ now because... (Conor McGregor / MMA)

stubborn beast

Baranchyk, a ~, didn't fall (exciting boxing match)

such a beast

oh, he's got it, he's ~ (Alex Honnold)

beast, a monster

this storm is a ~ (satellite image of a hurricane)

developed into a beast

Giannis couldn't bang as a rookie but ~ (NBA)

♦ "She is an absolute beast on the drums." (Ten-year-old Nandi Bushell.)

♦ "His lawyer is a BEAST... she is giving her the business... she needs her own show!!!!" (A comment about the Amber Heard-Johnny Depp trial.)

♦ "Haaland is a beast, he is a goalscoring machine, he lives and breathes goals." (Alan Shearer about Erling Haaland, one in a great line of exceptional Norwegians.)

♦ "I don't even know how this man does it, he's a f\*\*\*\*\* beast, every gun has two people ramming, it's just this guy alone, he is tearing it up..." (Praise for Wolf, AKA Wolfe, a Marine Corp rammer on a 15-round mission. [youtube.com/watch?v=CdO\\_0twP\\_CU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CdO_0twP_CU))

**character & personality / force / power / size: animal**

## beast (different beast, etc.)

complex beasts

modern airliners are ~ (engineering, computers, etc.)

different beast

distilled alcohol is a ~ from what came before it (wine, beer)

he insists his film is a ~ (a sequel, not a reboot)

for their second fight, Fury was a ~ (better / versus Wilder)

rare beast

flavorists are ~s (inventing smells for the food industry)

♦ "Neither fish nor fowl..."

♦ see also *animal (different animal, etc.)*

**taxonomy & classification: animal**

## beat (defeat / verb)

beat you

it was the weather that ~ (Mt. Everest)

**conflict / success & failure: sports & games / verb**

## beat (beat oneself up)

beat myself up

I'd ~, sometimes I would cry (a drinking problem)

beat yourself up

if you slip up or hit a plateau, don't ~ (weight loss)

beat yourself up over that

don't ~ (a performance mistake)

beat herself up for not being

she should not ~ around more to help her ailing mother

**punishment & recrimination: fist / verb**

**mental health: fist / verb / violence**

## beat (beat down / the sun, etc.)

beat down on the (black) rocks

the sun ~ (Kilauea)

beat down relentlessly

the desert sun ~

**force: fist / verb / violence**

## beat back (verb)

beat back arthritis

he squeezes a golf ball at night to ~

beat back the epidemic

in an attempt to ~, the government is... (Luanda)

beat back (mounting) skepticism

she is trying to ~ of her qualifications

beat back dirt and disease

their lives, a daily struggle to ~ (Kabul slums)

fighting to beat back

Yahoo and AOL are ~ spammers

attempt to beat back

in an ~ the epidemic, the government is... (Luanda)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: fist / verb**

## beat down (verb)

beat us down

they have found another way to ~ (fat people)

**oppression: fist / verb / violence**

## beaten (beaten up)

get beaten up

he knows he'll get attacked and ~ (politics)

♦ "He has no idea what beat to a pulp means... Take him out back beat him to within an inch of his life...and he will know the difference between losing money and being beaten to a pulp." (A commenter on the article, "Kanye West Claims He's 'Been Beat to a Pulp' Over Losing Brand Deals, Wants to 'Do Better'" by Miranda Siwak, October 29, 2022.)

♦ "They were vicious, they were animals, you know, to beat him up that way..." (The attack left the boxer Emile Griffith nearly dead. From *Ring of Fire: The Emile Griffith Story* 2005.)

**accusation & criticism: fist / violence**

## beatification (noun)

beatification

his ~ has taken a long time (writer / literary canon)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## beatify (verb)

beatify all Northerners

she did not demonize all Southerners, or ~ (Stowe)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion / verb**

## beating (take a beating, etc.)

public relations beatings

the embassy's career officers were used to taking ~

4-0 beating

as Wales contemplated the ~ (Euro 2020 vs. Denmark)

taken a beating

she said her confidence had ~ (athlete)

the industry has ~ recently

the dollar has ~ abroad

its stock has ~ (a company)

took a beating

its reputation ~ in the financial crisis (rating service)

took a (serious) beating

the Democrats ~ in the midterm elections  
taken a beating over its (contract) process  
the Air Force has ~

taken a beating from the storms  
the coastline has ~

taken a beating in the media  
he has ~ (an athlete)

**feeling, emotion & effect: fist / verb**

## beat up (storm)

beating up Texas  
the rain and flooding is just ~ (ABC News)

**storm: force**

## beautiful (groups)

beautiful  
I told her she was ~, no matter what others thought  
beautiful daughter  
the ~: how my mother gave me the courage to transition

beautiful thing  
it's a ~ to be able to fight for that (gay / lesbian rights)

beautiful silhouette  
it's this ~ of two men holding hands... (gay)

Black is beautiful  
Naomi Sims showed the world that ~ (supermodel)

young, beautiful and HIV positive  
to be ~ (2008)

bodies are beautiful  
all ~ (Sami Sheen's OnlyFans account)

♦ "Black Is Beautiful' Beer By Black Brewer Helps Pour Money Into Social Justice Reform" by John Burnett, NPR, America Reckons With Racial Injustice, May 31, 2021.)

♦ "Every monkey is a gazelle to its mother." (Arabic.)

♦ "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder."

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## beautiful (adjective)

beautiful  
I think that's ~ (an irony)  
I lean on him and he leans on me, which is ~

beautiful to connect  
it was really ~ with folks who...

beautiful country  
China is a ~

beautiful man  
he describes his father as a gentle man and a very ~

beautiful relationship  
the ~ I saw between my parents

beautiful voice

what a ~ you have (an actor)

something beautiful  
there is still ~ about that... (the last shall be first)

Keep America Beautiful  
~ (the Crying Indian advertisement / PSA)

♦ "This sofa is ugly. The other sofa is beautiful." (The American Language Course, Defense Language Institute—ALC / DLI.)

♦ Dersu Uzala had a beautiful soul.

**flaws & lack of flaws: eye**

## beaver (verb)

beavered at neural nets  
AI scientists ~ for decades before...

beavered away  
a small army of Canadian zealots was ~ at the case  
our readers have been ~ (a prediction challenge)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: animal / verb**

**work & duty: animal / verb**

**behavior: animal / verb**

## beckon (verb)

deep pockets beckon  
the Gulf's ~ (arms sales)

devices beckon  
the line is long and other ~ (tech convention)

**attraction & repulsion: gesture / hand / verb**  
**fictive communication: gesture / hand / verb**

## bed (put something to bed)

put to bed  
a successful launch will help ~ memories of the problems

put this (silly) incident to bed  
we need to ~ (sports controversy)

put it to bed  
Grealish squandered chances to ~ (soccer talk)

put questions (about his age) to bed  
his performance didn't ~, but... (elderly politician / debate)

put the tie to bed  
they pushed forward to ~ but... (soccer second-leg game)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: sleep / verb**  
**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: sleep / verb**

## bed (put to bed)

put to bed  
if there were any doubts, they seem to have been ~

put to bed yet  
this matter has not been ~ (COVID 19 origin)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: sleep**  
**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: sleep**

## bed (jump into bed with someone)

jump into bed with the Syrian government  
the Kurds don't immediately want to ~

♦ "And then suddenly overnight in August...it went from a rumor to a fact in 12 hours. I've never known a big fight fall into bed... (Steve Bunce about the first Fury-Wilder fight.)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: love, courtship & marriage / verb**

## bed (lie in one's bed / make one's bed)

made this bed  
he has ~ and he's got to lie in it (politics)

made their bed  
they've ~ (LIV golfers vs. PGA)

**judgment / responsibility: house / verb**

## bedazzled (decorated)

bedazzled case  
a white iPhone with a ~

bedazzled masks  
little girls with ~ (pandemic)  
he sells ~ on Etsy (pandemic)

bedazzled suit  
he's got the pompadour and ~ (an Elvis impersonator)

**appearance: light & dark**

## bedevil (verb)

bedeviled the governor  
the scandal ~

bedeviled his (own party's) leadership  
he ~ by blocking compromise

bedeviled the (Democratic) nominee  
the story ~ right up until election day

bedevils the people  
corruption ~

**affliction: creature / religion / verb**

## bedeviled

bedeviled by the (sluggish) economy  
he found himself ~ (president)

bedeviled by (technical) problems  
the company has been ~ (autos)

bedeviled by a lack  
the response effort was ~ of organization

**affliction: creature / religion**

## bedfellow (companion)

bedfellow  
hypocrisy is your ~ (an online commenter)

bedfellows

how Africa's football and politics are ~ (BBC)

unpromising bedfellow  
history suggests the state and steel are ~ (subsidies)

ideological bedfellows  
he and Mr DeSantis are seen as ~ (politics)

natural bedfellows  
Somaliland and Taiwan are ~ (diplomatic recognition)

strange bedfellows  
the bill has made for some ~ (from both parties)

unlikely bedfellows  
a new album combines ~ (romantic / avant-garde)

examine your bedfellows  
you need to ~ and ask yourself... (manosphere & far right)

make (strange) bedfellows  
politics can ~

♦ "Better to sleep with a sober cannibal than a drunken Christian."  
(Ismael about sharing a bed with Queequeg, from *Moby-Dick* by Herman Melville.)

**relationship: sleep / journeys & trips**

## bedlam (noun)

bedlam  
it was ~, the whole city was on the run (Berlin 1 May)

bedlam of the city  
the ~ recedes (in a courtyard garden)

bedlam in the streets  
there was ~ (World Cup victory)

construction bedlam  
he surveyed the ~ (restaurant being built)

management bedlam  
it's ~ (at Fox News)

political bedlam  
the system breeds ~ (government)

bedlam ensued  
the announcement was made, and ~

bedlam engulfed the fans  
~ (a victory)

♦ According to Wikipedia, this word comes from Bethlem Royal Hospital in England. It was one of the first institutions to house the insane.

**behavior / environment: mental health**

## bedrock (noun)

bedrock of who we are  
quality is the ~ (Boeing)

bedrock of our storytelling tradition  
these 100 stories are a ~ (the *Decameron* by Boccaccio)

bedrock belief  
it's a ~ of mine (people have souls, animals don't)

bedrock policy

keeping employee costs down is a ~ (a retail giant)

### bedrock principle

a ~ is civilian control of the military (US governance)  
innocent until proven guilty is one of our country's ~s

### bedrock value

he brought some ~s to the job (a cop about right / wrong)  
the ~s that make America unique (freedom of religion)

### bedrock of safety

the ~

### bases: ground, terrain & land

## bedroom (sex)

### bedroom issues

the church doesn't know what it's talking about on ~

♦ "Well, he has one girl per book, approximately, and that's one a year. He's a bachelor, and he moves around the world pretty rapidly. And umm I don't see any great harm in that myself." (Ian Fleming speaking about his fictional creation James Bond to Roy Plomley on BBC's *Desert Island Discs* in 1963.)

♦ "Why should we be afraid of latex, when we see that it can save lives...? I just don't mention [making condoms available] in my report to the bishop." (A Catholic nun in Cameroon, dealing with the AIDS epidemic.)

♦ "Below the navel there is neither religion nor truth."

### sex: euphemism

## bee (busy as a bee)

as busy as a bee

he was ~

### activity / behavior: animal / insect

## bee (queen bee)

### queen bee of wellness

Belle Gibson was the ~ (*The Whole Pantry*)

### hierarchy: animal / insect / royalty

## beef (conflict)

### celebrity beefs

filed under "~" (a *New York Post* article)

### my particular beef

~ is with the newspapers (the beloved John Cleese)

### social media beefs

the sport is a shambles, ~ between fighters... (boxing)

### issues and beefs

tells us about some of the ~ (2021 Oscars)

### has a beef with someone

if he ~, it should be with the medical staff (an athlete)

♦ A *New York Post* article about a spat between Olivia Dunne and Breckie Hill is filed under "Olivia Dunne," "TikTok," and "Celebrity Beefs."

♦ "It Looks Like Machine Gun Kelly Moved On From The Eminem Beef, And His Next Target Is Jack Harlow," Yahoo, May 7, 2023.

♦ Sound clip of iLoveMakonnen: I don't have no communication with y'all, right, and then when I see y'all in public it's like, y'all want beef. And I'm like, I don't have no beef with you. So what is the beef about? / Sydney Madden: What is the beef about? / Rodney Carmichael: This question

has followed Makonnen for years... (From "'Thugs don't dance': iLoveMakonnen and Drake tested rap's norms of masculinity, but only one passed," NPR, *Louder Than A Riot Season Two*, May 4, 2023.)

♦ "Beef or barbecue." (A saying in New Orleans, about snitching to the police. If you "beef" or complain to the police, you'll get killed. Better to kick back, relax, enjoy some barbecue.)

### conflict: cows & cattle

## beefed up

security has been ~

~ at the Capitol

amelioration & renewal / strength & weakness: cows & cattle / food & drink / meat / verb

## beef up (verb)

beefed up (border) controls

the US has ~ (against smuggling)

amelioration & renewal / strength & weakness: cows & cattle / food & drink / meat / verb

## beehive (activity)

### beehive

the military hospital was a ~ (heavily guarded)

### beehive of activity

inside, these buildings were a ~ (hospital)

the place was a ~ (a city newspaper before the internet)

### activity / environment: insect

## beehive (Beehive cluster, etc.)

### Beehive cluster

M44, the ~

### proper name: insect / shape

## been through (endure, etc.)

been through anything like that

we've never ~ in our family (murder)

been through hell

I've ~

been through this before

this is not our first rodeo, we've ~ (hurricanes)

♦ see also *get through (endure, etc.)*, *go through (endure, etc.)*

survival, persistence & endurance: journeys & trips / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle

experience: journeys & trips / movement

## before (at an earlier time)

before tractors and combines

then I did plowing and scything, that was ~, you know...

came before

see *come (come before / at an earlier time)*

past & present / sequence / time: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle

## before (at a future time)

before us  
we have hard work ~

best-before  
the ~ dates are usually 3 or 4 months after delivery (beer)

**future / time: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## beg (verb)

begging the Department of Defense to address  
the group has been ~ this issue

she begged her daughter to come home  
she ~

begged the coach to give  
Mom ~ me a chance, and he did (Allen Iverson)

beg you to move  
melodies, groove and beats ~ (*Electric Warrior*)

begged for his life  
he ~

pushed and begged  
he ~ for an evacuation plan (Fall of Saigon / 1975)

♦ "Jolene, Jolene, Jolene, Jolene / I'm begging of you please don't take my man." (Dolly Parton, Miley Cyrus.)

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: speech / verb**

**speech: verb**

## beget (verb)

beget the Freedom Caucus beget Donald Trump  
the Tea Party ~ (NPR's Mara Liasson / 2016)

beget Michael Jordan who beget Tier Woods  
he created this paradigm that ~ (O.J. Simpson)

beget work  
few living directors ~ that... (the filmmaker Roy Andersson)

begets trauma  
trauma ~ (indigenous families in Canada)

begot ingenuity  
scarcity ~ (poor kids devise ways to have fun)

♦ "One falsehood begets another and another in the line of succession, until the father of them all shall have colonized his whole progeny upon the congenial soil of this new Dark Continent." ("COLUMBUS" by Ambrose Bierce.)

**creation & transformation / relationship: birth / family / verb**

## beginning (just the beginning, etc.)

beginning  
it's just the ~ (first picture of black hole in space)

♦ "Beginning is easy, continuing is hard." (A Japanese saying.)

**progress & lack of progress / starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips / movement**

## behavior (fire, etc.)

fire behavior  
they are seeing ~ that they've never even been trained for

**character & personality: materials & substances**

## behemoth (noun)

behemoth among (federal) agencies  
the Department of Defense is a ~

behemoth pickup trucks  
~ roar down Main Street (oil-boom town in Texas)

civil rights behemoth  
it has built itself into a ~ (Southern Poverty Law Center)

online (classifieds) behemoth  
the ~, Craigslist...

economic behemoth  
China has emerged as an ~

political behemoth  
other candidates understand that he is a ~ (Joe Biden)

tabular behemoths  
these ~ catch in the shallows (icebergs / S. Georgia Island)

cutthroat behemoth  
antitrust regulators depict it as a ~ (a tech company)

pop-culture behemoth  
the ~ Game of Thrones

lactating behemoths  
Holsteins are ~ (versus Ankole cattle)

2,300-page behemoth  
it is a ~ (a government act)

four-billion-dollar (accessories) behemoth  
Coach is a ~ (fashion)

built the company into a behemoth  
he ~ (security)

spells the end for a behemoth  
the decision to pull the show ~ that dominated schedules

♦ The Behemoth was a huge land monster mentioned in the Book of Job. Its aquatic counterpart was the Leviathan. Both creatures were controlled by God, and symbolized God's power.

**size: allusion / Bible / creature / religion**

## behind (behind schedule, etc.)

behind on payments  
we were ~

behind schedule  
they were now almost 2 months ~

falls behind  
Faisal ~ (worker at Dairy Queen)

fell behind on a (key) module  
later, as Russia ~ (space station)

fell behind in his mortgage  
he ~ (money woes)

**time / timeliness & lack of timeliness: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

### behind (competition)

behind in the race  
Uber is ~ to develop autonomous vehicles

left behind  
Nokia has been ~ by competitors in the smartphone market

**competition: direction / movement / position / prep, adv, adj, particle / sports & games / walking, running & jumping**

### behind (progress)

behind in school  
he is way ~

behind the (learning) curve  
we were well ~ (for a military operation)

way behind  
he is ~ in school

well behind  
we were ~ the learning curve (for a military operation)

fall behind  
we want to keep up and not ~ (government official)  
the US could ~ China (digital currency)

fallen behind at Fremont  
he had ~ at Fremont, not just in history but... (school)

fell behind by 3 years  
our program ~ (space)

lag behind  
women ~ men in the most visible arenas of science

lagging (far) behind  
US students are ~ (education)

left behind  
the poor are ~ (services go to wealthy)

**progress & lack of progress: direction / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle / walking, running & jumping**

### behind (in the past)

behind  
the team's best days are ~ (sports)

behind her  
now it's all ~ (wild lifestyle)

behind him  
in college, with his high school playing days ~...

behind it  
the 100th mission is ~ (space shuttles)

behind us  
now that this is ~, we can move forward (divorce)

it is tempting to believe the danger is ~ (terrorism)  
the first phase of the pandemic is ~  
our darkness days are ahead of us, not ~ (pandemic)

long behind  
his best writing days were ~ by then

get the case behind him  
he just wanted to ~ (object of criminal investigation)

left his old life behind  
he ~

leave our colonial past behind  
the time has come to fully ~ (Barbados)

put his old life behind him  
he tried to ~

put their differences behind them  
they sought to ~ (diplomacy)

put their (money) problems behind them  
her new job ~

♦ "Now that *that* is in the rear-view mirror..." (Behind us.)

♦ "That's all water under the bridge."

♦ "We're so focused on what's ahead, we're not worried about what's behind us." (The boxer Anthony Joshua, speaking about his rematch with Andy Ruiz Jr. AJ had lost the first match, in a tremendous upset.)

♦ "He was going to get ahead of his past and hold himself accountable." / "He was going to 'get in front of his past and tell the truth.'" (A Black politician.)

**past & present / time: direction / journeys & trips / movement / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

### behind (responsibility)

behind the bombing  
no one knows who is ~

behind the machinery  
he is the brains ~ that makes the wave (Kelly Slater's wave)

behind the (new) policy  
he is a driving force ~ (a doctor)

behind the project  
he was the brains ~

**responsibility: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

### behind (basis)

behind this decision  
what could be ~

behind these new levels  
what are the causes ~ of stress (colleges)

idea behind the program  
the ~ was to...

logic behind (military) training  
the hidden ~

motivation behind the attack  
the ~ seems to be to...

personalities behind the inventions  
the exhibition is an attempt to bring to life the ~

reasoning behind this  
the ~ is that...

story behind the plaque  
do you know the ~

theory behind this practice  
the ~ is that...

driving force behind development  
economics is usually the ~ (zoning)

driving force behind globalization  
the ~

driving force behind hostess bars  
ultimately money is the ~ (Roppongi)

lies behind  
inequality in incomes ~ the divisiveness of our politics  
what ~ human behavior

**bases: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**  
**relationship: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## behind (support)

behind it  
the government has to get ~ and the Prime Minister is  
against it (a proposal)

behind you  
I'm ~ (I support you)

get behind the development  
it's time we ~ of renewable energy

**allegiance, support & betrayal: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## behind (put something behind)

behind me  
they tell me I have to put Nick's death ~ (grieving widow)

put her trauma behind her  
she has tried to ~ (rape)

put this behind us  
we've got to ~ and move on with our lives (after disaster)

♦ "Let it go, get it over with, and put it behind us..." (Former Solicitor  
General Ted Olsen, on allowing KSM—the mastermind of 9/11, on which  
almost 3,000 people died—to plead guilty in exchange for life in prison  
with parole.)

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion / resiliency: direction**  
**/ prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## behind-the-scenes

behind-the-scenes  
a ~ of world hegemony

behind-the-scenes controversy  
fraught with ~

behind-the-scenes documentary

a ~ (making of a film)

behind-the-scenes negotiations  
~ failed

behind-the-scenes role  
his ~

behind-the-scenes strategist

behind-the-scenes workers  
a cadre of ~ (state fair)

behind-the-scenes lobbying  
months of ~

**concealment & lack of concealment: theater**

## belch (verb)

belched up  
a great cloud of steam ~ through the hatch (burst pipe)

belched forth smoke, ash and lava  
the volcano ~

belched from the smokestacks  
black smoke ~

belched (diesel) exhaust  
trucks ~

belched smoke  
the engine ~ (coal-fired)

bubble and belch  
tourists flocked to see the lava ~ (Fagradalsfjall)

**resemblance: bodily reaction / verb**

## Belichick (the racing Bill Belichick, etc.)

racing Bill Belichick  
he's a little bit the ~ (Bob Bufford and Justified)

**subterfuge: epithet**

## believer (true believer)

true believer  
she stood squarely with Donald Trump, she was a ~  
~s say "just give it some time!" (the metaverse)

true believer in the cause  
she was a ~ (Irish Republican Army)

dogged true believers  
the Wikipedia system can put it at the mercy of the ~

progressive true believers  
the ~ who flocked to Mr Sanders in 2016 (politics)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: allusion**  
**identity & nature: allusion**  
**commitment & determination: allusion**

## bell (warning)

alarm bell  
civil rights activists sounded the ~s

“fight or flight” bells  
that type of rhetoric tends to ring the ~ (Jewish Americans)

warning bell  
spiraling suicide rates sound a ~

ring (any) bells  
one case doesn't usually ~ (epidemics)

ringing the alarm bell  
the mayor is ~ as loudly as he can (coronavirus cases)

set off alarm bells  
for Western intelligence, it ~ (Mig-25 “Foxbat”)

sounded the alarm bells  
environmentalist have ~ (pollution in Lake Baikal)  
civil rights activists ~

sound a warning bell  
spiraling suicide rates ~

**warning: bell / sound**

## bell (bells and whistles)

bell and whistle  
\$3,200 for a top of the line model with every ~ (a toilet)

bells and whistles  
it has more ~ than a fire engine (a sports watch)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound / train**

## bell (ring a bell)

ring a bell  
did that name mean anything to you, did it ~ (murder)

**consciousness & awareness: bell / sound / verb**

## bell (unring a bell)

unring a bell  
you can't ~ that has already been rung

**reversal: bell / sound / verb**

## bell curve (shape)

distribution of a bell curve  
the scores have the ~

**shape: bell / direction**

## bellwether (noun)

bellwether election  
Democrats are fretting about losing a ~

bellwether of (global) conservation efforts  
island initiatives are a ~

bellwether of (economic) health  
the housing market is seen as a ~ by many (US)

bellwether of (African) progress  
Ghana again became a ~ (peace, democracy)

bellwether for the condition

small businesses have become a ~ of the US economy

bellwether for the industry  
the labor talks could serve as a ~ (airline unions)

watched as a (potential) bellwether  
the case has been widely ~ (by other defendants)

♦ A wether is a ram leading a flock of sheep. The shepherd attaches a bell around the ram's neck, to indicate the location of the flock.

**direction: animal / sheep**

## belly (orientation)

belly of the rover  
an umbilical runs to a computer inside the ~ (on Mars)

belly of a tank  
the slug punches a hole in the ~

belly landing  
he questioned whether a ~ would work (space shuttle)

Perseverance's belly  
at present, the aircraft is slung beneath ~ (Mars)

**orientation: direction / stomach**

## belly flop (noun)

prime-time belly flop  
her speech was a ~

**failure, accident & impairment: sports & games / water**

## bellyful (amount)

bellyful of war  
I've had a ~

bellyful of promises and politicking  
the people of Britain have had a ~

bellyful of deceit, waste and incompetence  
there has been a ~ (New Labour)

**amount / consumption: food & drink / stomach**  
**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food & drink / stomach**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: food & drink / stomach**

## belly-up (adjective)

belly-up  
we had plenty of excuses to go ~

went belly-up  
the company ~ (failed)

♦ This refers to a dead fish or other animal dead in water.

**failure, accident & impairment: animal / death & life / fish**  
**condition & status: animal / death & life / fish**

## belong (verb)

belongs to the fifth century  
of the great philosophers, only Socrates properly ~

belongs to the past  
what happened ~ (a historical injustice)

fictive possession: verb

## below (behavior)

below you  
that's ~

**behavior: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**

**admiration & contempt: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## belt (area)

belt of ice  
in winter a 600-mile-wide ~ seals off Antarctica

belt of (coniferous) forests  
the taiga—the huge circumpolar ~

Bible Belt  
Atlanta versus the surrounding ~ (strip clubs)

Black Belt  
the ~, an impoverished region of the rural South (US)

banana belt  
the lush ~ of southern Ecuador

coal belt  
in Mpumalanga, the heart of South Africa's ~

farm belt  
Louisiana's ~

mineral belt  
a large ~ west of Albuquerque

radiation belt  
the ~s of earth

snow belt  
few move from the sun belt to the ~ (US)

ecologically diverse (transition) belt  
this remote, fragile, and ~ between forest and steppe

circumpolar belt  
the taiga—the huge ~ of coniferous forests

semiarid belt  
the Sahel, a ~ that spans Africa just below the Sahara

25-mile belt  
oil fields clustered along a ~ between Basra, Kuwait  
♦ "The ravages of the Rust Belt would cast a shadow on the riches of the Corn Belt." (The U.S. Midwest in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.)  
♦ A belt often has a buckle. See *buckle* (attachment).

**area / configuration: clothing & accessories / shape**

**shape: clothing & accessories**

## belt (below the belt)

belt  
he's known for hitting ~ (politics)

**behavior: boundary / boxing**

**restraint & lack of restraint: boundary / boxing**

## belt (under one's belt)

one expedition (to Gasherbrum II) under his belt  
he had ~

7 deployments under his belt  
he has ~ (first sergeant)

6,000 jumps under his belt  
a skydiver with ~

25 years (of Forest Service work) under his belt  
he has ~

**experience: clothing & accessories**

## belt (notch in a belt)

notch on his (political) belt  
Cuomo needed a scalp, a ~ (politics / Hank Morris)

conviction notch in their belts  
prosecutors just want another ~ (convict exonerated)

♦ "Carly had belt-notched all those coveted hotties—Cat Stevens, Kris Kristofferson, Warren Beatty, Jack Nicholson, Mick Jagger, James Taylor..." (*Girls Like Us* by Sheila Weller.)

**achievement, recognition & praise: history / mark / violence**

## belt (tighten one's belt)

tightening our belts this summer  
we will be ~ (pandemic ruins tourist season)

♦ "After years of rapid expansion and massive hiring, these leading American businesses are having to tighten their belts. There's plenty of fat to lose." (*The National Review* about layoffs in the technology sector.)

**sacrifice: food & drink**

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food & drink**

## belt-tightening

belt-tightening at the Pentagon  
he will announce a new round of ~

belt-tightening measures  
the school will also take ~ like...

corporate belt-tightening  
recent years of ~

fiscal belt-tightening  
in an age of ~

**sacrifice: food & drink**

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food & drink**

## bemoan (verb)

bemoan the paywall  
advocates of open access ~ (academic articles)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: sound / verb**

## bench (verb)

bench him  
the channel decided to ~

dismissal, removal & resignation: sports & games / verb

## benchmark (at a benchmark)

at or near that benchmark

these year's figures already are ~ (female graduates)

measurement: mark

## benchmark (other)

benchmark

it is a ~ that we must keep in mind

benchmark of skill

I consider the Green Narrows as a ~ (kayaking)

benchmark for toughness

support for capital punishment is a ~ for politicians

benchmark indicator

use objective criteria to establish ~s (environment)

benchmark run

the Green Narrows is a ~ in the Southeast (kayaking)

benchmarks, the milestones

the ~ you speak of in this book, like marriage...

standards and benchmarks

we are working on meeting ~ for curricula (education)

barriers and benchmarks

when it comes to ~, snowboarding has the 1440° spin

established (climbing's new) benchmark

the man who ~ (Tomaz Humar / south face of Dhaulagiri)

performance benchmarks

it ranks first on three of the industry's leading ~

reached (all) the benchmarks

he ~ on or close to schedule (child development)

set the benchmark

she ~ in 1996 (time spent in space)

♦ The round metal USGS plaques on mountaintops are benchmarks that indicate height above sea level.

♦ "The benchmarks I don't worry about that much..." (Teresa Thayer Snyder, former superintendent of Voorheesville school district in upstate New York. She doesn't want schools to get too focused on so-called "lost time" to the COVID-19 pandemic, because the kids learned plenty during the pandemic.)

measurement: mark

## bend (bend over backwards)

bends over backwards to be cooperative

the staff ~

bends over backwards being polite

he ~

bending over backwards to comply

we are ~ with the rules

difficulty, easiness & effort: standing, sitting & lying / verb

## bend (verb)

bend to demands

Shiites refuse to ~ by Sunnis that...

bend to (contemporary progressive) pieties

he refuses to ~

bend (in any way) to economic pressure

he won't ~ (Daniel Ortega)

bend the government to their will

local leaders who wish to ~

refuse to bend

Shiites ~ to demands by Sunnis that...

caused him to bend

the threat ~ but not break

♦ A reed bends but does not break.

resistance, opposition & defeat: materials & substances / verb

## beneath (behavior)

beneath me

that's ~

beneath the dignity

is anything ~ of the Obama White House (politics)

beneath you

that's way ~ (her reaction to his rude proposal)

behavior: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle

admiration & contempt: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle

## beret (Brown Beret, etc.)

Brown Beret

the Texas ~s (No Justice, No Peace)

representation: military / sign, signal, symbol

## Bermuda Triangle

Bermuda Triangle of airspeed

transonic is the unknown, it is the ~ (flying)

legal Bermuda Triangle

this is a ~, trying to figure out who's at fault

certainty & uncertainty fantasy & reality: allusion / history

## berserk

went berserk

the elephant ~ and killed its trainer

the 200-pound chimpanzee ~ and was shot dead by police

he hit a home run, and the crowd ~ (sports)

she ~ and stormed out (angry and upset)

behavior / control & lack of control: mental health

## berth (a wide berth)

give her a wide berth

I always ~ (a boss)

avoidance & separation: boat

## beside (support)

beside me

life is so cruel without you ~

**allegiance, support & betrayal: position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## besiege (verb)

besieged (northern) Mexico

violence has ~

besieged NBC with calls

they ~ (to kill a story)

**amount & effect: fortification / military / verb**

## besieged

besieged by email

she has been ~

besieged by lobbyists

Congress is ~

besieged by the media

he was ~

besieged by questions

doctors have been ~ from patients

besieged by reporters

he has been ~

besieged by (corruption) scandals

his government has been ~

besieged borough

more food relief is needed across the ~ (Bronx / pandemic)

besieged politicians

the ~ have started a counterattack (politics)

**amount & effect: fortification / military**

## besity (infobesity, etc.)

“infobesity”

~ is affecting our brains and lives (information overload)

**increase & decrease / size: affix**

## bestial (adjective)

bestial wretchedness

he sees out his days in a state of ~ (retirement)

**comparison & contrast: affix / animal**

## bestiary (noun)

nautical bestiary

silhouettes of sailing junks, different sizes and designs, a ~

**taxonomy & classification: animal**

## best life (cliché)

best life on Instagram

the highlight reel of your ~

*Dress Your Best Life*

fashion psychologist Dawnn Karen, author of ~

live your best life

where you can find support and information to ~ (library)

♦ “Cause ain’t no next life, so right now I’m tryna live my best life.” (Rapper Danny Brown.)

♦ “You have a list of resolutions to start living your best life in 2023.” (Drink less, find love, help others, quit smoking, save money, get fit, enjoy life, take a trip, find new job, lose weight, join gym...)

♦ *Dear Girls: Intimate Tales, Untold Secrets and Advice for Living Your Best Life* by comedian Ali Wong.

♦ “Gone are the days of showing the highlight reel of your best life on Instagram. Now, it’s trendy to celebrate your worst moments. What attracts eyeballs in today’s social media market is tears, and content creators are incentivized to be vulnerable for views.” (“How TikTok has become a dangerous breeding ground for mental disorders” by Rikki Schlott, *New York Post*, March 12, 2022.)

♦ “The concept of the best life serves as a social script. Do these things in this order, and you’ll end up happy or fulfilled or at the very least on par with the same kind of lives your peers are leading.” (*An Ordinary Age: Finding Your Way in a World That Expects Exceptional* by Rainesford Stauffer.)

♦ “Live Your Best Investment Life.” (An advertisement for AllianceBernstein.)

**language: cliché**

## bet (all bets are off)

all bets are off

~ (election)

**certainty & uncertainty / fate, fortune & chance: cards / gambling / sports & games**

## bet (hedge one’s bets)

hedging our bets

we are ~, working with both parties (diplomacy)

**commitment & determination: cards / gambling / sports & games**

## bete noire (black beast)

his (obstreperous) bete noire

~, Major Ross...

**affliction: animal / color**

## betray (reveal, show)

betrayed no emotion

he ~ while the charges against him were read

betrayed an erosion

the recrimination ~ of confidence (Israeli raid)

betrayed a hint

neither man ~ of anxiety

betray a (profound) ignorance

animal rightists ~ about nature (opinion)

evidence / fictive communication: verb  
concealment & lack of concealment: verb

## betray (fail)

betrayed him  
he got clipped and his legs ~ (a boxer)

betraying him  
after so many years, his body was ~ (an athlete)

betrayed that trust  
we trusted the university with our daughter's safety, it ~

failure, accident & impairment: verb

## betrayed

betrayed by (bad) leadership  
he had been ~

allegiance, support & betrayal: speech

## between (come between, etc.)

come between them and their mom  
the only thing that would ~ was death (mom murdered)

division & connection: prep, adv, adj, particle

## bewail (verb)

bewailed what they called  
defense contractor ~ declining weapons spending

resistance, opposition & defeat: sound / verb  
conflict / speech: sound / verb

## bewitch (verb)

bewitched all  
she ~ with a mesmerizing performance

feeling, emotion & effect: magic / verb

## bewitched

bewitched by her charm, intelligence, and charisma  
they were all ~ (Elizabeth Holmes / Theranos)

feeling, emotion & effect: magic

## bewitching (adjective)

bewitching city  
*Kim* is a perfect companion to a ~ (Lahore)

feeling, emotion & effect: magic

## Bhopal (Australia's Bhopal, etc.)

Australia's Bhopal  
Wittenoom is ~ (asbestos contamination)

♦ "Something lethal has been released into the air. Without warning, Jack and his family are living through a public-health disaster. A month before the book appeared, an industrial accident in India had killed thousands of people; it seemed DeLillo had almost foretold the disaster." ("White Noise Used to Be Satire: What was once mildly absurd is now funny because it's true" by Jordan Kisner, *The Atlantic*, January / February 2023. The "industrial accident in India" was Bhopal, of course, and it is very interesting that she found no reason to identify it by name.)

failure, accident & impairment: epithet  
comparison & contrast: epithet

## bible (enthusiasm)

Bible of Boxing  
*The Ring* magazine, the ~...

bibles of (backpacking) seekers  
those ~ everywhere (*A Time of Gifts*, etc.)

bible of sports  
ESPN used to be the video ~, now it's a woke wasteland

*The Sound Effects Bible*  
Rick Viers, author of ~

♦ "That was Luigi. We met at his house at two, with our good boots on our feet, but no backpacks, no rope (about whose use none of us had any real notion anyway; but we knew—having studied the Alpine Club guidebook—the theory of the double rope, the respective merits of hemp and manila, the technique for rescuing someone from a crevasse, and other fine points), a hundred grams of chocolate in our pockets, and (may God forgive us!) wearing shorts." ("Bear Meat" by Primo Levy. Translated from the Italian by Alessandra Bastagli.)

enthusiasm: Bible / religion

## Bible (authority)

Bible of sports  
the ~ on the Internet (Internet site)

Bible of (psychiatric) diagnosis  
according to the ~, the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual

Bible of the (social-media) movement  
the ~ is Clay Shirky's "Here Comes Everybody"

bible of psychiatry  
the DSM—the ~ (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual)

bible for educators  
the text became a ~ (*The Uses of the University*)

psychiatrists' bible  
the ~, DSM...

fashion bible  
*Vogue's* rise to dominance as the world's ~

so-called bible  
the DSM, the ~ of psychiatry...

psychiatric bible  
the DSM is the ~ for mental disorders

♦ The DSM is the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

♦ "I'm a big believer that the script is your bible, and the script and a good one tells you everything that you need to know. And I just committed to the script..." (The actor Ray Liotta speaking to Fresh Air's Terry Gross about the film *Goodfellas*.)

sanctioning, authority, & non-conformity: Bible / religion

## bible (hand on the bible, etc.)

hand on a Bible  
~, but you must come clean with me...

sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: Bible / religion

## big (as noun)

do big  
we don't just think big, we ~ (an Amazon advertisement)

size: part of speech

## big (go big)

see *go big* (verb)

## big (big love, etc.)

big congratulations  
~ to Liam (boxer Chris Eubank, Jr.)

*Big Friendship*  
~: *How We Keep Each Other Close* (by Ann Friedman)

big love  
~ to the community, you're all incredible (an influencer)

big praise  
~ to the referee to step in (and stop boxing match)

big respect  
it gave me a ~ for food (wartime privation)  
~ to you, your team... (Chris Eubank Sr to Liam Smith)

- ♦ Language to express the size / intensity of emotions...
- ♦ "She signed off 'Big huge love.'" (The Irish actor Jessie Buckley to the writer Jordan Kisner. Kisner characterized the signoff as a "spirit of abundance." From "Monster Talent: In role after indelible role, Jessie Buckley is exploring the darkest corners of human nature" by Jordan Kisner, photograph by Jennifer Cheng, *The New York Times Magazine*, December 4, 2022.)
- ♦ compare with *hard* (love hard, go hard, etc.)
- ♦ see also *enormously* (exciting, etc.), *great* (great hatred, etc.), *huge* (huge gratitude, etc.)

language: prep, adv, adj, particle

## big (big fan, etc.)

big crossword guy  
my stat teacher was like a ~

extent & scope: size

## big (big boy)

see *big boy* (person)

## big (significance)

big fight  
we want a ~, a marquee fight (Eddie "Who else" Hearns)

Big One  
see *Big One* (earthquake, etc.)

big questions  
even when the plan is published, there will be ~...

so big  
I knew this was huge, this was ~ (photojournalist)

big name  
see *big* (big name, etc.)

importance & significance: size

## big (big name, etc.)

big names  
some ~ have not made official announcements yet  
a who's who of ~ were present (at Aretha's funeral)

big names from the world of boxing  
we have asked ~ for their opinions (about a boxing match)

big enough name  
he was still a ~ that his latest book sold well, but...

importance & significance / reputation: size

## Big (comprehension, scope)

Big data  
~ is a field that treats way to analyze... (Wikipedia)

Big Data  
the dangers of the ~ revolution (Cathy O'Neil's book)

Big History  
~ has long been out of favor in academic circles  
the glib tendentiousness of ~

Big Physics  
"~ and New Ideas" by Melvyn J. Shochet (*Science*, 1993)

Big science  
~ (see the Wikipedia entry)

deep ecology  
books about ~

♦ Big History; "all-encompassing explanatory histories"; "high-wrought" theory; grand narratives; popular history (Jared Diamond, etc.); the standard textbook version... ("Free For All: Is it time to rethink everything we've been taught about the origins of 'civilization'?" by Gideon Lewis-Kraus, *The New Yorker*, November 8, 2021.)

♦ "Now, today, science is all about the Big, we've taken the low-hanging fruit, and the facilities that chase the big questions now are themselves very very big indeed..." (The great BBC science correspondent Jonathan Amos about the Square Kilometre Array / SKA. It will be made up of two giant radio astronomy observatories in Australia and South Africa. In addition, it will utilize enormous computing power.)

extent & scope / importance & significance: size

## big bang ("Big Bang" of country music, etc.)

big bang  
the ~ had been the surprise hit, "Tom Dooley" (folk)

big bang of the beginning  
the ~ of country music is supposed to be in 1927

Big Bang reforms  
what they call the ~ of 1986 (City of London / finance)

legislative "big bang"  
it is a ~ on par with the creation of the euro ("Fit For 55")

"Big Bang" of country music  
the sessions at Bristol became known as the ~

♦ The "Big Bang" of country music was 1927. That's the year of the Bristol sessions when both the Carter family and Jimmie Rodgers recorded in Bristol, Tennessee. The rest is history.

♦ The Big Bang had been the Kingston Trio's 1958 surprise #1 hit, "Tom Dooley..." (The 1960s mainstream ascendance of folk music. From the wonderful *Girls Like Us* by Sheila Weller.)

**epithet: astronomy**

**origin: astronomy / epithet**

## big bang (in a big bang)

go out in a big bang  
he wanted ~ (suicide)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: astronomy / sound**

## big boy (person)

big boy  
he's a ~, he knows what he said...

big boy's club  
the whole situation is like a ~ (Megan Thee Stallion)

big-boy pants  
the president needs to put his ~ on and acknowledge...

big boy pants  
he needs to put on the ~ and act as commander in chief  
we put on our ~ and get on with it (Robert Page / soccer)

really big boys  
they haven't played against the ~ yet (Italian soccer)

♦ "Woah, whoa Anthony, he's a big boy, he knows what he said, what'd 'ya say, funny how..." (A tense moment in the film *Goodfellas*.)

♦ "Hey, I'm a big boy, it's no big deal, whatever, I'm fine..." (Disappointment.)

♦ "Arsenal can thank their lucky stars it was only 4. It could have been eight. Men against boys." (Manchester City 4-1 Arsenal.)

♦ see also *guy* (*good guy, etc.*), *man* (*big man, little man, etc.*), *Mister* (*and Mr., Missus, Mrs.*)

**person: baby**

**growth & development: life span**

**character & personality: person**

## big brother (relationship)

Instagram's big brother  
he came from ~, Facebook (Mosseri)

role of the big brother  
he was playing the ~ (making things better for athletes)

calls Taiwan its "big brother"  
Somaliland ~ (mutual diplomatic recognition)

thought of him as a big brother  
his players ~, he took an interest in their off-field lives

♦ "Sorry I wasn't there to watch your back like a big brother's supposed to." (Chris Eubank Jr's tweet on the tragic death of Sebastian, the third-eldest child of the great boxer Chris Eubank.)

**relationship: family**

## Big Brother (oppression)

Big Brother intrusion  
why cave in to such a ~ on your privacy

♦ "The Ministry of Truth is Facebook, Google, and cable news. We have met Big Brother and he is us." ("Doublethink Is Stronger Than Orwell

Imagined: What 1984 means today" by George Packer, *The Atlantic*, July 2019 Issue.)

♦ Doublethink; memory hole; unperson; thoughtcrime; Newspeak; Thought Police; Room 101; Big Brother; the Ministry of Truth... (Language from 1984 that is a part of our language.)

**oppression: allusion**

**allusion: books & reading**

## big daddy (authority)

big daddy  
people say China is the "~" and will soon "own" Myanmar

♦ This phrase and its meaning is recognized by Merriam-Webster.

♦ Big Daddy is a character in Tennessee Williams' *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*.

♦ He'll take care of you; efficient and effective; a father figure; father-like; autocratic; patriarchal; capable of instilling fear; of showing wrath and compassion; loved and loathed; angry; powerful... (A political pundit about a country's leader.)

**importance & significance: family / size**

## big gun (and heavy gun)

big gun  
they didn't have their ~s tonight (injured players)  
he has brought in another ~ to help in his Senate bid

heavy guns  
he is bringing out his ~ (wife and family / scandal)

spiked their guns  
Spallanzani had ~ with a simple fact (science dispute)

♦ "When you wheel out your biggest gun to take down the incumbent president, it frees Biden to be a lot more positive tonight." (Political strategist Paul Begala, speaking about Obama's direct criticism of Trump at the Democratic Convention.)

♦ "Big guns" refer to artillery, the King of Battle. Artillerymen have been traditionally referred to as Redlegs. They tend to be hard of hearing.

♦ "The Turks have 12-inch guns at Aqaba, Sir. Can you imagine what that means?" (*Lawrence of Arabia*, the film.)

♦ "This is the battle for Tumbledown Mountain, with the Scots Guards and the Gurkhas going in on Monday morning in the early hours. The big guns have been talking to each other, and now it's the troops on the ground who are moving in." (A BBC reporter covering the 1982 Falklands War.)

**strength & weakness: military / weapon**

**importance & significance: military / size / weapon**

## bighearted (and big-hearted)

big-hearted personality  
he was known for his ~

bighearted, (supremely) patient man  
he was a ~ (speech therapist)

**character & personality / size: heart**

**heart: size**

## big league (and big leagues)

big-league hotel  
it's a ~ with a celebrity chef

big-league philanthropy  
~ has its critics (Gates, Buffet, Zuckerberg, etc.)

big-league politician  
he's a ~

drafted into the big leagues  
many internet celebrities may never be ~ (stardom)

**attainment / importance & significance / success & failure:**  
**baseball / size / sports & games**

## Big One (earthquake, etc.)

The Big One  
so the next eruption could be ~ (Mount Fuji)

♦ 2009, 2004, 1998, 1983, 1974, and the Big One in 1969... (Years for legendary surf on the North Shore of Oahu.)

**importance & significance: size**

## big shot (person)

big-shot (Hollywood) director  
he's a ~

children of big shots  
~ and university admissions

protozoological big shots  
before he was thirty Schaudinn was one of the ~

**person: force / weapon**

**importance & significance / power: person / size / weapon**

## big up (as verb)

big his career up  
he's just trying to ~

big himself up  
he's just trying to ~ by using someone else's grief

big yourself up  
do you really need to ~ by...

**increase & decrease: part of speech / size / verb**

## bigwig (person)

these three bigwigs  
DreamWorks was founded by ~...

psychiatric bigwigs  
the ~ of Europe...

♦ "DreamWorks was founded in 1994 by Steven Spielberg, Jeffrey Katzenbach and David Geffen, these three bigwigs..."

**person: society**

**importance & significance / power: person / size**

## bilge (noun)

bilge  
he has lost credibility for writing that ~

**worth & lack of worth: boat / water**

## bill (butcher's bill, etc.)

"butcher's bill"  
the Duke of Wellington used to call it the ~ (casualties)

butcher's bill to be paid  
there's a ~, and it accrues to bin Laden (embassy bombings)

♦ "At the beginning of the Battle of the Somme, on July 1, 1916, the British Army suffered 60,000 dead and wounded—in one day. It was arguably the worst butcher's bill in military history." ("Why World War I Resonates," by William Boyd, *The New York Times*, Jan. 21, 2012. By contrast, the Battle of Shiloh, the bloodiest battle of the Civil War up to that time, resulted in 23,000 casualties in two days and shocked the nation.)

♦ "Everyone was stunned by the scale of carnage at Shiloh (in spring of 1862 in southwestern Tennessee), which posted a new benchmark for mass slaughter. Deeming it the war's bloodiest battle, Grant commented 'that the Fort Donelson fight was, as compared to this, as the morning dew to a heavy rain.' Men who survived it could never scrub its harrowing imagery from their memories. Americans found it hard to comprehend the dimensions of the losses, which were beyond any historical precedent. Of more than one hundred thousand soldiers who pitched into the fray, twenty-four thousand had been killed or wounded [or captured or were missing]—a casualty count dwarfing that of the battle of Waterloo. Shiloh's casualties eclipsed the total of the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the Mexican War *combined*. William Hillyer conveyed the spreading tableau of death that greeted him and Grant: 'For miles and miles wherever we rode we found dead bodies scattered through the woods in all directions.' As Grant wrote memorably, 'I saw an open field...so covered with dead that it would have been possible to walk across the clearing, in any direction, stepping on dead bodies, without a foot touching the ground.' / Shiloh peeled away any lingering aura of romance from the war, showing the sheer destructive power of modern combat. An array of technical advances, such as the conical minie ball that ripped through flesh and bone or rifled muskets and cannon that displayed greater accuracy and range, ensured bloodier battles than ever before. No less hardy a soul than Sherman remarked that the corpse-littered battlefield 'would have cured anybody of war.' Combat had been pushed to extremes of cruelty that banished any remnant of civilized behavior. 'Men lost their semblance of humanity,' wrote a reporter, 'and the spirit of the demon shone in [the soldiers'] faces. There was but one desire, and that was to destroy.'" (*Grant* by the brilliant biographer Ron Chernow. The death toll would be eclipsed in later Civil War battles. As with most wars, the human carnage made it impossible for either side to negotiate a settlement.)

♦ William Tecumseh Sherman: Well, Grant, we've had the devil's own day, haven't we? / Ulysses S. Grant: Yes. Lick 'em tomorrow though. (The night of the first day of the Battle of Shiloh. From *Grant* by Ron Chernow.)

♦ "An army's bravest men are its cowards. The death which they would not meet at the hands of the enemy they will meet at the hands of their officers, with never a flinching." ("What I saw of Shiloh" by Ambrose Bierce.)

♦ "The Gulf War was 30 years ago and we're still there messing around. I don't know what the answer is but the people who profit sure aren't paying the bills." (Kbbpll, March 3, 2021, about the rocket attack on al-Asad airbase, March 3, 2021.)

**military: consumption / meat / money**

**death & life: consumption / meat / money**

## billboard (noun)

billboard for what  
Walmart is a ~ employment practices should be

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / representation: picture / sign, signal, symbol**

## bill of health (clean bill of health)

clean bill of health  
the bank was given a ~ (by auditors)

gives them a clean bill of health  
the E.P.A. still ~ (chemicals in tap water)

give investments a clean bill of health  
analysts felt pressured to ~ or lose business

received a clean bill of health  
the reservoir ~ from inspectors (prior to collapse)

♦ This phrase probably relates to ships in foreign ports. Such ships would be in quarantine until port officials determined that the crew was not carrying an infectious disease.

**condition & status: health & medicine**

## **billy club**

psychological billy club  
it's a ~ to coerce a person (lie-detector test)

**coercion & motivation: violence / weapon**

**oppression: violence / weapon**

## **bind (in a bind)**

leaving cities in a bind  
a police shortage is ~

put it in a bind  
Pakistan's support for militants has ~

**situation: container / rope**

## **bind (constraint)**

double bind  
too sweet or too shrill, the ~ for women

**constraint & lack of constraint: rope**

## **bind (constrain)**

bind her  
she questions the traditions that ~

**constraint & lack of constraint: rope / verb**

## **bind (connect)**

bind  
the ties that ~

bind the characters  
the ties that ~ gradually become clear

binds us to where  
making wine ~ we are (California)

build and bind  
book clubs can help ~ communities

**attachment / division & connection: rope / verb**

## **binding (adjective)**

binding changes  
there are these legally ~ from Brussels (Brexit)

non-binding referendum  
Puerto Rico voted for US statehood in a ~

ironclad, waterproof, bulletproof, (legally) binding  
we need ~ guarantees (Sergey Ryabkov / diplomacy)

**constraint & lack of constraint: rope**

## **binge (on a binge)**

on a building binge  
China has been ~ for decades (infrastructure)

gone on a (hiring) binge  
the company has ~

**behavior / restraint & lack of restraint: alcohol**

## **binge (other)**

binge  
the ~ is over (spending by elected officials)  
the ~ was epic and so is the hangover (housing market)

binge of (skate-park) construction  
the city continued the ~ (NYC)

binge flying  
London seeks to curb "~" (airport expansions)

gone on a (spending) binge  
the Democrats have ~

**behavior / restraint & lack of restraint: alcohol**

## **biography (non-human, etc.)**

*Biography of a Global City*  
*Shanghai Nightscapes: A Nocturnal ~*

*Biography of George Orwell's 1984*  
*The Ministry of Truth: The ~* (by Dorian Lynskey)

*Biography of a Poem*  
*The Waste Land: A ~* (by Matthew Hollis)

"biography of the grain"  
*Amber Waves* presents itself as a ~ (Catherine Zabinski)

biography of a movie  
his book is, essentially, the ~ (*Shooting 'Midnight Cowboy'*)

*Biography of a Poem*  
*The Waste Land: A ~* (the book by Matthew Hollis)

*Tree Biography*  
trees featured in *The Great British ~* (Mark Hooper)

♦ "The human relationship with wheat is the subject of Catherine Zabinski's short book *Amber Waves*, which presents itself as a 'biography' of the grain, although she reminds us on page three that 'wheat isn't a person' in case we were liable to be confused." (Flour Fixated" by Bee Wilson, *London Review of Books*, 24 September 2020.)

♦ Nonhuman and nonliving things can have biographies, autobiographies, obituaries, eulogies, and even be characters.

♦ "And the teacher also was prompted to share her own math biography with the students as kind of an example..." (U.S. pedagogy.)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: books & reading**

## **biopsy (analysis)**

biopsy that  
one way you could kind of ~ or look at it... (a subject)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: death & life / health & medicine / verb**

## bird-dog (verb)

bird-dogged him

we ~ at press conferences (Chicago protestor / mayor)

**affliction: animal / dog / hunting**

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / dog / hunting**

## birds and the bees

talk about the birds and the bees

I finally had that ~ with my son

know about the birds and the bees

does she ~

♦ **A FUNNY CARTOON.** Two millennial (or Zoomer) parents are standing at the open door of their son's bedroom. Inside the room, their son is on his bed, raptly glued to his cell phone, with a slight smile on his face. The mother is saying to her husband, "I think it might be time to text him the Talk." (*The New Yorker*, September 19, 2022. Glenn Nissan.)

**sex: euphemism**

## bird's-eye (bird's-eye view)

bird's-eye view of the battlefield

drones give commanders a ~

bird's-eye view from a plane

you get a ~

♦ This has morphed to "helicopter view," a "3,000-foot perspective," "the 30,000-foot level," "the 40,000-foot level," and "maybe you have to look at things from 20 billion miles up to get this kind of perspective."

♦ "Ten years later he likened his own position as minister to riding 'comfortably on an elephant, whose trunk could pick up a pin or uproot a tree with equal ease, and from whose back a wide scene lay open.'" (Winston Churchill, Minister of Munitions of War in 1917. From *Churchill: Walking With Destiny* by Andrew Roberts.)

**perception, perspective & point of view: animal / bird /**

**height / position**

## bird (birds of a feather)

birds-of-a-feather analysis

~ would indicate that he is a good bet (algorithms)

♦ "Ten years later he likened his own position as minister to riding 'comfortably on an elephant, whose trunk could pick up a pin or uproot a tree with equal ease, and from whose back a wide scene lay open.'" (Winston Churchill, Minister of Munitions of War in 1917. From *Churchill: Walking With Destiny* by Andrew Roberts.)

**taxonomy & classification: animal / bird**

## birth (create)

birth Android and CashApp

he helped to ~ into our world (Bob Lee)

**creation & transformation: birth / verb**

## birth (creation)

birth of Pakistan

since the ~ in 1947

movement's birth

the city of their ~ (Kandahar / Taliban)

nation's birth

Sunnis have dominated politics since the ~ in 1920 (Iraq)

given birth

Atlanta has ~ to a new generation of rappers (US)

**creation & transformation: birth**

## birthday (creation)

France's birthday

July 14 is ~

100th birthday

the big guy is celebrating his ~ (statue of Vulcan / Alabama)

175th birthday

the institution's ~ (the Smithsonian Institution)

celebrate its 300th birthday

as Old North Church prepares to ~ (Boston)

♦ "It's Alexa's birthday!" (Yahoo Life Shopping. Alexa is Amazon's voice service.)

♦ "*White Noise* was originally published against the backdrop of the Cold War... It turned 10 as the AIDS epidemic in the U.S. began to wane, as personal computers began appearing in American homes... It turned 20 as the War on Terror was truly getting under way. It is turning 38 as it becomes a movie that will be available for streaming via Netflix..." ("White Noise Used to Be Satire: What was once mildly absurd is now funny because it's true" by Jordan Kisner, *The Atlantic*, January / February 2023.)

♦ see also *old (a year old, etc.)*

**growth & development: life span**

**creation & transformation: birth**

## birthed (created)

birthed in the mid to early 2000's

the movement was most likely ~ by two men (MGTOW)

**creation & transformation: birth**

## birthplace (the birthplace of democracy, etc.)

birthplace of democracy

Greece, the ~

birthplace of Islam

Saudi Arabia, the ~

birthplace of humanity

Africa is the ~

birthplace of country music

Bristol, Tennessee has been called the ~ (1927)

birthplace of Chinese maritime shipbuilding

the Pagoda Anchorage has been called the "~" (Mawei)

birthplace of the French tacos

it is among several contenders for the ~ (Vaulx-en-Velin)

**epithet: birth**

**origin: birth / epithet**

## birthright (noun)

lifeblood and birthright

pumping oil and gas is considered both a ~ (Texas)

**identity & nature: birth**

## bit (champ at the bit)

champing at the bit to start  
he was ~

**eagerness & reluctance: horse / verb**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: horse**

## bit (bit between its teeth)

get the bit between his teeth  
Whyte will ~ (Dillian Whyte / boxing)

got the bit between his teeth alright  
he's ~ (T.E. Lawrence and Damascus / the film)

**commitment & determination / constraint & lack of  
constraint / control & lack of control: horse / verb**

## bite (resemblance)

biting  
inflation is soaring, and living costs are ~ (economy)

bit into him  
the lash ~again and again (*Call of the Wild*)

bit into her neck  
the cord ~

began to bite  
as the cold of November ~ (Stalingrad / W.W. II)

**affliction / resemblance: animal / teeth / verb**

## bite (bite him in the end, etc.)

bite him in the end  
this might turn around to ~ (leader unleashes nationalism)

**fate, fortune & chance / judgment / responsibility /  
reversal: animal / justice / verb**

## biting (adjective)

biting cold  
once the ~ arrives

biting (social) critic  
he was a ~

biting sanctions  
these are the most ~ every imposed

♦ Sometimes similar to *pinch* (*pinch of hunger, etc.*) and *pinched*

**affliction / feeling, emotion & effect: animal / sensation /  
teeth**

## bitten (enthusiasm)

bitten by the bug  
and so I really got ~ (acting, in high school)

bitten by the action bug  
as a boy, he was ~

bitten by the cycling bug  
as a youth he played soccer before he was ~

**enthusiasm: insect / sensation**

## bitter (personality)

bitter  
he isn't ~, just wiser

bitter, angry and hostile  
he was ~ (sick man with undiagnosed illness)

angry, bitter (m)  
I've talked to amputees that went through a real ~ stage

became bitter  
he ~ to the point of suicidal (soldier back from Iraq)

♦ Don't be bitter, be better!

**feeling, emotion & effect: food & drink / taste  
character & personality: food & drink / taste**

## bitter (bitter weather, etc.)

bitter cold  
they escaped into the ~ (house fire in winter)

bitter winds  
~ from Manchuria

bitter (Balkan) winter  
the ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: food & drink / taste**

## bitter (a bitter blow, etc.)

bitter battles  
she resigned last June after four years of ~ (university)

bitter blow  
the defeat was a ~ for Serbia and Montenegro (soccer)

bitter (political) climate  
the increasingly ~ ahead of elections next summer

bitter (international) controversy  
despite the ~ (oil project)

bitter disappointment  
he proved to be a ~ (a judge)  
but a ~ awaited us... (expedition)

bitter dispute  
they are locked in a ~ over Kashmir

bitter end  
she maintained her innocence to the ~  
it's a ~ to a pioneering, powerful career (prison)

bitter enemies  
Ethiopia and Eritrea, ~... (fighting proxy war in Somalia)

bitter fact  
car-jacking is a ~ of life

bitter feelings  
Iranians have ~ towards Saddam Hussein

bitter irony  
in a ~, female military personnel guard captured Taliban

bitter memories  
helped erase ~ of the 1994 players strike (baseball)

bitter negotiations  
flight attendants are engaged in ~ with the company

bitter (late-night) negotiations  
after ~

bitter taste  
the ~ of regret (bad decisions)

bitter (family) power struggle  
he is kept on the throne because of a ~

bitter and long-running (m)  
the bloody culmination of a ~ feud (cop / citizen)

long and bitter  
a ~ family feud over the estate of Jimi Hendrix

**consumption / feeling, emotion & effect: food & drink / taste**

### bittersweet (adjective)

bittersweet  
the recognition was ~ (combat soldier who survived)  
the victory was ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: food & drink / taste**

### black (Black Sea, etc.)

Black Sea  
Turkey has coast on the ~

Black Volta  
the ~ is a tributary of the Volta River

♦ The White Volta's main tributaries are the Black Volta and the Red Volta.

**proper name: color**

**geography: color / proper name**

### black (warning)

black diamond  
only expert skiers should try a double ~ trail

black flag  
don't swim or boat if you see a ~ at the beach

black (rainstorm) warning  
it was the city's first ~ this year (Hong Kong)

♦ "Hong Kong has three levels of rainstorm warning, with black being the highest. The second highest is red. The third highest is amber."

**warning: color / sign, signal, symbol**

### black (feeling)

black depression  
he fell into a ~

black dog

I am trying to hold on to my senses, to fend off the ~

black mood  
still the ~ clung to Scott

**feeling, emotion & effect: color**

### black (covert)

*Black Ops*  
she is the author of ~ *Advertising*

"black" operations  
~ are typically covert and sometimes illegal

black sites  
he had been tortured in the CIA's archipelago of ~

**concealment & lack of concealment / subterfuge: color**

### black (black day, etc.)

black day  
it was a ~ for democracy (Zimbabwe)  
his resignation was a ~ for British diplomacy  
401 jobs slashed on ~ for Fife (*the Courier*)

Black Friday  
~, 1929, when the New York stock market crashed...

black summer  
Australia's ~ (2019-2020 bushfire season)

Black Sunday  
the ~ dust storm of April 14, 1935 (US)

Black Thursday  
the Second Schweinfurt Raid, the USAAF's ~ (Oct, '43)

**feeling, emotion & effect: color**

### black (while black, female, brown, Muslim, etc.)

Skittish while Muslim  
"Running while brown. ~" (NPR. Code Switch.)

Spoken Up While Female  
I have persistently SUWF—aka ~ (Erin Overbey vs. NYer)

play classical music while Black  
what it can look like to ~ (NPR)

being royal while black  
~ (the Duchess of Sussex, Meghan / NPR)

being transgender in public  
a definition of Drag that means ~

being watched while black  
the play is about ~ (*Fairview*)

Birding While Black  
~ (Jason Ward / Christian Cooper / NPR)

'Canvassing While Black'  
the ~ incident (Janelle Bynum, Oregon representative)

coping while black

~ (race-based trauma)

“Driving While Black”  
the new PBS documentary, ~ (history)

driving while Black  
~ is still a crime in Louisiana (Eugene W. Collins)

DWB (driving while black)  
an episode of Law & Order titled “~” (Oct. 7, 1998)

existing while black  
the challenges of ~ (NPR)

Farming While Black  
she details her experiences in her new book, ~ (NPR)

Geocaching While Black  
he writes about encountering racism on his blog, ~ (NPR)

having mental crises while Black  
they’ve been killed ~ (Kimberle Crenshaw)

living while black  
what it’s like ~, in Japan (NPR)  
getting a citation for ~ (King Anyi Howell / NPR)  
claims police are called on people for simply ~

PWI-ing While Black  
~ was created for the NPR Student Podcast Challenge

rappin’ while Black  
~ will definitely land you in the surveillance line-up

Reporting While Brown  
“~ in The Summer of Trump.” (Gene Denby.)

Rowing While Black  
“A Most Beautiful Thing: ~” (NPR)

running while black  
he was 25 years old, and ~ (Ahmaud Arbery / NPR)

“running while black”  
there has been a lot more conversation about ~ (Arbery)

Running while brown.  
“~. Skittish while Muslim.” (NPR. Code Switch)

sleeping while black  
Breonna Taylor was ~

Talking While Female  
“~” (Narrated by NPR’s Selena Simmons-Duffin.)

*Traveling While Black*  
her new book, ~ (Nanjala Nyabola / NPR)

*walkin’ while Black*  
~ was likely to get you stopped and frisked (NYC)

walking while Trans  
you know, there’s the phenomenon of ~ where...

Watering flowers while Black  
“~: A pastor shares his story of wrongful arrest” (NPR)

*Living and Dying While Black*  
*The Beast Side: ~in America* (by D. Watkins)

♦ “You can’t walk while black. With Ahmaud you can’t jog while black... Driving while black. But Breonna Taylor was sleeping while black in the sanctity of her own home.” (Civil rights and personal injury attorney Ben Crump.)

♦ “Black women have been killed in many of the same circumstances as their brothers, fathers and sons. They’ve been killed driving while Black, being in their homes while Black, having mental crises while Black.” (Kimberle Crenshaw.)

♦ “You know, there’s the phenomenon of walking while trans where specifically like Trans women of color while just existing oftentimes get the police called on them just for like being Trans.”

♦ DWB (driving while black); LWB (living while black)... (Text.)

♦ Type in “while black” at NPR search and you will get 222 results (and counting) including, “‘The Violin Conspiracy’ shows what it can be like to play classical music while Black” by Asma Khalid, Gus Contreras, and Patrick Jarenwattananon.

♦ According to Google Ngram, this phrase become popular in 2019.

♦ A group of Black lady golfers was kicked off a golf course for playing too slowly. One of them described it as a “horrific” experience. (Golfing while Black?)

♦ “Watering while Black: anatomy of a pastor’s Alabama arrest” (by Jay Reeves, AP, September 1, 2022) is a good first start to understanding this trope, but ultimately raises more questions than it actually answers. The story (and its headline) was carried on such national news outlets as abc news, msn.com, usatoday; yahoo npr, latimes, etc. The actual incident happened in late May of 2022; the subject of the arrest has now decided to sue. According to the AP site, “Reeves is a member of AP’s Race and Ethnicity Team.” NPR ran its own brief story, “Watering flowers while Black: A pastor shares his story of wrongful arrest” with Jonathan Franklin, September 1, 2022.)

♦ “She’s in jail because she talked in America. She’s a dark-skinned Black woman who is unapologetically Black and radical.” (Sybil Dione Rosado, attorney for Brittany Martin, found guilty of breaching the peace in a high and aggravated manner in South Carolina.)

♦ “Women speak out about *safety while running* [italics mine] after abduction and murder of Memphis jogger.” (Eliza Fletcher in Memphis in 2022.)

♦ “A year ago today, [the Palestinian-American journalist] was killed *while doing her job* [italics mine]...reporting in the West Bank.”

♦ “Outside lay the body of a man killed for being in his home.” (An ABC report on Ukraine-Russia War, the first war of the TikTok era.)

♦ “WE ARE SICK & TIRED OF HAVING TO WATCH OUT FOR MEN JUST BECAUSE WE BREATHE.” (Grief has always been publicly expressed in cliches. This comment on the murder of Eliza Fletcher in Memphis in 2022 shows how the language of grief and outrage has been updated to “contempo-speak” on social media.)

♦ “Like the murder of Sarah Everard in the UK last year, [the murder of Ashling Murphy] has reignited the debate about safety of women as they go about *their everyday business* [italics mine].” (“Ashling Murphy: Irish police arrest man on suspicion of teacher’s murder” by Lisa O’Carroll, *The Guardian*, 18 Jan 2022.)

**inclusion & exclusion: objectification**

## **blackball (verb)**

blackball him

he has accused teams of colluding to ~ (an athlete)

**acceptance & rejection: color / mark / society / verb**

**oppression: color / mark / society / verb**

## **blackballed**

blackballed by league owners

the truth is he was ~ (NFL player Colin Kaepernick)

**acceptance & rejection: color / mark / society**

**oppression: color / mark / society**

## black belt (person)

bureaucratic black belt

he was a skilled infighter, a ~ (State Department)

**person: sports & games**

**ability & lack of ability / conflict: person / sports & games**

## black box (noun)

black box

the military is a ~, you never know what's going on

~s whose inner workings are mysterious (brains)

it's really a ~ (human embryo research vs. rats, mice)

the FCC is a ~, they don't tell you what they are doing

big black box

it's the ~ we're going to try and look into (investigation)

**access & lack of access / analysis, interpretation & explanation / concealment & lack of concealment: color / tools & technology**

## black eye

black eye for Rupert Murdoch

what a ~ (scandal)

black eye for the sport

when judges cheat, it's a ~ (Olympic figure skating)

brought a black eye to the sport

they have ~ (swim coaches photograph nude girls)

puts a black eye on the sport

it really ~ (cyclist admits to doping)

take a black eye for this

I don't think Cleveland will ~ (fan riot)

gives us (all) a black eye

it ~ (hunter on hunter who shot a tame deer)

**flaws & lack of flaws / reputation: color / eye / mark**

## black hat (bad)

white hat-black hat

they have this ~ mentality (social groups)

**character & personality: hat / sign, signal, symbol**

## black hole

legal black hole

he is being kept in a ~ (arrested)

black hole for communication

Afghanistan was a ~ (no infrastructure)

in a black hole

I was ~ (unable to easily communicate)

♦ In a black hole, the gravity is so strong that not even light can escape. In other words, nothing gets out.

♦ "It's a black hole." (State law prevents releasing information from a state mental hospital. Loss of federal funds means no federal oversight.)

♦ "I know... one of the best things that the prison system is good at doing is hiding behind the walls." (Paul Taylor, "the man who started the

Strangeways Prison riot." The riot occurred in Manchester, England, in 1990.)

**access & lack of access / concealment & lack of concealment / consciousness & awareness / isolation & remoteness: astronomy / color / light & dark**

## blacklist (verb)

blacklist the (Chinese) company

the decision to ~ was seen as a bargaining ploy (tariffs)

**acceptance & rejection: color / mark / society / verb**

**oppression: color / mark / society / verb**

## blacklisted

blacklisted

his books have been ~ (disgraced French author)

**acceptance & rejection: color / mark / society**

**oppression: color / mark / society**

## Black Mirror

Black Mirror

it's all very ~, isn't it (deep fakes and journalism, etc.)

Black Mirror stuff

this is some real-life ~ (facial recognition)

♦ Black Mirror is a TV science-fiction series created by Charlie Brooker that updated the older Twilight Zone series (see *Twilight Zone*).

**fantasy & reality: allusion**

## black out (verb)

blacked out

I ~ (alcohol)

**consciousness & awareness: alcohol / color / verb**

## black sheep

black sheep of the band

Dennis was already the ~ (the Beach Boys)

black sheep of the family

he's the ~

I was the ~ and took the wrong direction (gang)

black-sheep brother

invite the ~ to the wedding

**character & personality: animal / color / sheep**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: animal / color / sheep**

## black swan (rarity)

black swan of this event

we've got this ~ where we had to... (pandemic)

black-swan candidate

Trump is a one of a kind, a ~ (said in 2016)

"black swan" events

the unexpected ~ posed challenges (election campaign)

~ are rare but unpredictable

black swan event

a US default is such a ~ that it has never happened before  
the community suffered a single ~ but is safe (crime)

black-swan event

this is a ~, and... (COVID-19 pandemic)

“Black Swan” possibilities

the reports identifies some ~ that could disrupt...

“Black Swan” theory

the ~ of risk (economics and disasters)

fifty other black swans

we’re lucky we haven’t seen ~ (markets stable / pandemic)

beware the black swan

you must ~ (a highly unlikely unpredictable event)

♦ “Black swan” events that hurt Bernie Sanders in his bid to be the Democratic nominee for president in 2019-2020 included: (1) his heart attack (2) Trump’s impeachment trial, which meant Sanders had to take time off from campaigning and (3) the coronavirus pandemic that made it impossible for him to hold large rallies of his supporters.

♦ “Everything has been hit. I never in my life thought I’d see a black swan. This is a black swan.” (“The ‘Undertaker Of Silicon Valley’ Stays Busy As Startups Lay Off Thousands” by Bobby Allyn, NPR, All Things Considered, April 20, 2020. The COVID pandemic.)

♦ You observe 5,000 white swans. You conclude, “All swans are white.” Then Captain Cook goes to Australia, and he notices black swans.” (A problem with observation and inductive reasoning.)

♦ A “five-sigma event” has only a one-in-3.5 million probability of happening.

**fate, fortune & chance: animal / bird / color / sky**

**occurrence: animal / bird / color / sky**

**appearance & disappearance: animal / bird / color / sky**

**black tulip (rarity)**

black tulip for cricket collectors

it’s the ~

♦ “It’s the rarest book in cricket history. It’s the Black Tulip for cricket collectors. There are only five known copies, there’s no copy in the British Library...” (*All the Grand Matches Between 1771 and 1791*, at auction for \$250,000.)

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

**occurrence: plant**

**superlative: plant**

**worth & lack of worth: allusion / color / epithet / plant**

**blank (fill in the blanks)**

fill in the blanks

they want to ~, connect the dots, figure out... (probe)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: school & education**

**blanket (verb)**

blanketed (much of) the Northwest in ash

the eruption ~ (volcano)

blanketed the city with (orange) dust

the huge sandstorm ~ (Beijing / 2010)

blanketed the Southeast

forests ~ before European settlers arrived

blanketed the area

federal, state and local police ~ (manhunt)

blanketed (several) cities

snow and ice ~

blanketed the island

ash and smoke have ~ of St. Vincent (eruption)

blanketed mountains

snow ~ in the UAE, a rare occurrence

**configuration / cover: blanket / cloth / verb**

**blanket (under a blanket)**

under the blanket of snow

polar plants and animals ~

**configuration / cover: cloth / blanket**

**blanket (cover)**

blanket of ash

a ~ covered the orange and lemon trees (eruption)

blanket of clouds

a ~ hid Pumori, Ama Dablam, and other lesser peaks

**configuration / cover: blanket / cloth**

**blanket (blanket amnesty, etc.)**

blanket amnesty

he has offered a ~ to the soldiers (New Guinea)

he does not favor a ~ for illegal immigrants

blanket guarantee

is that a ~ that...

blanket policy

airlines handle it on a case-by-case basis, without a ~

blanket statement

it is a ~ that is just not right

**extent & scope: cloth / blanket**

**blanketed**

blanketed by (lush) forests

Haiti was once ~ (now 90% deforested)

blanketed with floating sand and dust

Northern China ~

**configuration / cover: cloth / blanket**

**blaring (headlines, etc.)**

blaring headlines

~, fleshy photos and breathless coverage (a tabloid)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound**

**blasphemy**

committing blasphemy

is he ~ by... (analysis of war strategy)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## blast (criticize)

blasted him for taking  
they ~ this position (politics)

blasted her  
her critics ~ (politics)

blasted his predecessor  
Obama finally ~ by name

**speech: explosion / sound / verb / weapon**

**accusation & criticism: explosion / force / military / verb / weapon**

## blast (blasted the Bahamas, etc.)

blasted the Bahamas with (maximum sustained) winds  
Hurricane Dorian ~ of 185 m.p.h.

**storm: force**

## blasted apart

canon has been blasted apart  
but that ~ (doctors withhold prognosis)

**destruction: explosion**

## blast radius (noun)

blast radius  
its ~ was the entire world (NotPetya worm)

blast radius from their theory  
the ~ would sow elections chaos (Supreme Court argument)

in the blast radius  
Tom Brady got caught ~ (Anthony Brown controversy)

blast radius wasn't contained  
the ~ to social and hip-hop media circles (KL's "Control")

♦ "Brady just happened to be the blowback. He got caught up in the blowback, Skip, the collateral damage, that's what Brady is. And so, it was a blast radius. He dropped the bomb, 'I got BA [Bruce Arians], I got the Tampa medical staff, I got...' and Tom Brady and Guerrero, they got caught up in that, Skip, the blast radius. (Shannon Sharpe talking with Skip Bayless on their great sports show "Undisputed" about the Antonio Brown controversy of January 2022.)

♦ "In some sectors the Russians captured pillboxes that appeared to have sustained only moderate structural damage, only to find the entire Finnish garrison stone dead inside, without visible wounds of any kind except for rivulets of frozen blood from their nostrils ears, and eye sockets. These men had died from the cumulative effects of sheer concussion." (*Frozen Hell: The Russo-Finnish Winter War Of 1939-40* by William R. Trotter.)

♦ "The phenomena are always of the same kind. The miners are either immediately destroyed by the explosion, and thrown with the horses and machinery through the shaft into the air, the mine becoming as it were an enormous piece of artillery, from which they are projected; or they are gradually suffocated, and undergo a more painful death, from the carbonic acid and azote [nitrogen] remaining in the mine, after the inflammation of the firedamp; or what, though it appears the mildest, is perhaps the most severe fate, they are burnt or maimed, and often rendered incapable of labour, and of healthy enjoyment of life." (*On the Safety Lamp for Coal Miners, with Some Researches into Flame* by Humphry Davy, 1818.)

**destruction / effect / force: explosion / military**

## blather (noun)

patriotic blather  
~ like "*Dulce et decorum est / Pro Patria mori*"

**worth & lack of worth: speech**

## blaze (blaze a trail, etc.)

see *trail* (*blaze a trail*)

## blaze (in a blaze of glory)

went out in a blaze of glory  
he ~ (Custer)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: fire / light & dark**

## bleat (verb)

bleating on about the World Cup  
I see Lineker is ~ saying... (virtue signalling, hypocrisy, etc.)

bleats away about (desperately) needing  
he ~ to... (criticism of a celebrity)

**speech: animal / sheep / sound / verb**

## bleed (verb)

bled across borders  
the crisis has ~ (terrorism)

bleeding into everything  
politics is ~ (*Dancing with Stars* kerfuffle)

bleed over into other things  
does that delusional disorder ~

bleeds into their personal lives  
inevitably their work ~ (FBI hunters of serial killers)

bleeding us dry  
this price war is ~ (destroying our profits)

bleeding cash  
Airbus is ~, chief executive warns

bleeding jobs  
US manufacturing have been ~

bleeding money  
the school was ~ (troubled charter school)

**leaking: blood / health & medicine / verb**

## bleed (bleed black and gold, etc.)

bleed (craft) beer  
we ~ (BrewDog)

bleed (Chicago Cubs) blue  
if you prick me, I'll ~

bleed yellow  
we say they ~ (school-bus drivers who enjoy job)

bleed black and gold  
LAFC fans "~" for the team and players

enthusiasm / identity & nature: blood / verb

## bleed (noun)

talent bleed

the conventional explanation for ~ is... (military)

stanch the (talent) bleed

if the Army hopes to ~, it needs to...

**leaking: blood / health & medicine**

## bleeding

financial bleeding

you need to stop your ~ now

staunch the bleeding

opening up ~ of its tourism sector (Dubai / pandemic)

**leaking: blood / health & medicine**

## blemish (noun)

blemish on the game

his injury was the only ~ (sports)

blemishes against him

I'm a massive fan, but there are those two ~ (boxer / drugs)

ugly blemish

the Charlottesville tragedy was "an ~" on the US (2017)

**flaws & lack of flaws: mark**

## blend (mixture)

blend of fear, anger, need, and love

their relationship was a toxic ~

**mixture: materials & substances**

## blend in (verb)

blend in

Tom Wolfe did not ~ (clothes, writing)

easily blend in

drug traffickers ~ (Atlanta)

♦ "It's not trying to blend in. It's trying to stand out." (A developer about a proposed 1,600-foot tower in midtown Manhattan.)

**concealment & lack of concealment: mixture / verb**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: mixture / verb**

## blessed

blessed

with sun and wind, California is ~ (renewable energy)

blessed with (over) 100 waterfalls

Sri Lanka is ~

blessed with good looks and money

she wasn't just ~, she was also smart

**cost & benefit: religion**

## blessing (sanction)

blessing of the board

the bid is expected to get the ~

with the city's blessing

~, cars pair up for duels (legal drag racing)

his blessing

to acquire public credibility, ~ was essential

given the vote its blessing

the election board has ~

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## blessing (benefit)

blessing

the seasonal flooding of the Mekong is a ~, not a curse

blessing or a bane

oil can be a ~ for a country (corruption, etc.)

blessing and a burden

patients see choice as both a ~

blessing and a curse

these gems have been a ~ (Sierra Leone diamonds)

the annual rains are a ~ for the subcontinent (floods)

blessings as well as its scourges

celebrity's ~

mixed blessing

progress has been a ~

**cost & benefit: religion**

## blight (verb)

blighted (Aboriginal) communities

alcohol and poverty have ~ (Northern Territory)

blights the present

history ~ (Balkans)

**corruption: plant / verb**

## blight (noun)

moral blight

"whiteness" is not a ~ (race)

urban blight

the group is devoted to fighting ~ (buildings)

**corruption: plant**

## blighted

blighted economy

as Greece's ~ plunges further into the abyss

blighted neighborhoods

the city's ~

blighted by coal dust and noise

their lives are being ~

corruption: plant

## blind (noticing, understanding, judging)

blind to merit

the military personnel system is nearly ~

“blind” to genocide preparations

the report said France had been ~ (Rwanda)

blind to race, religion and ethnicity

the state is ~ (French ideal)

blind to (all) reason and decency

terrorists are ~

blind spot

rivals of the U.S. are aware of this ~ (NSA surveillance)

home testing has created a major ~ (COVID data)

blind, deaf and dumb

terrorists are ~ to all reason and decency

colorblind

~ justice under the law is enshrined in our system (US)

the ~ application of the rule of law

♦ “Willful blindness is something we have said can constitute knowledge.” (Justice Sonia Sotomayor of the U.S. Supreme Court.)

♦ “Weird scoring from the judges especially the partially sighted one that awarded it to Joshua.” (A snarky comment on the second fight between Oleksandr Usyk and Anthony Joshua.)

♦ “However, it was not long before he learnt the reason of all this, for he perceived that other people had an advantage over him and that his brothers and sisters were able to do things that he could not do and to tackle things that he could not. He felt that his mother permitted his brothers and sisters to do things that were forbidden to him. This aroused, at first, a feeling of resentment, but ere long his feeling of resentment turned to a silent, but heartfelt, grief—when he heard his brothers and sisters describing things about which he had no knowledge at all. / Then he knew that they saw what he did not see.” (*An Egyptian Childhood* by Taha Hussein, translated by E.H. Paxton, from *The Days*, the American University in Cairo Press.)

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: eye

consciousness & awareness: eye

## blind (hard to see, hidden)

blind curve

~ (sign)

blind drop

please scout ~s (kayaker Edward Lee Green)

blind spot

deserts can produce ~s (radio signal strength)

face blind

some people are ~ (can't recognize familiar faces)

♦ The actor Brad Pitt believes he may suffer from prosopagnosia, known as face blindness.

♦ “Edward Lee Green / 1953-Dec. 27, 1998 / Outstanding musician, adventurer, loving father, beloved friend. His unique talents will be forever missed by those who knew him. / Died as a result of pinning at Crack-in-the-Rock Rapid Dec. 23, 1998 on the Raven Fork in Cherokee, NC. / Please Scout Blind Drops. / Jesus said, “I am the way...” John 14:6.” (Monument at Dillsboro put-in on the Tuckasegee River in western North Carolina.)

sight: eye

## blind (disregarding evidence, logic)

blind faith

he had this ~ in me (defensive coach)

blind hatred

terrorists are driven by ~

blind prejudice

criticism of Qatar smacks of ~ (*The Economist*)

blind optimism

hope is not ~ (Barak Obama)

commitment & determination: eye

## blind (not controlled by intelligence)

blind draw

one judge becomes a substitute in a ~

fate, fortune & chance: eye

## blind (fly blind)

flying blind

the psychiatrist is ~ (treating soldiers with drugs)

the US economy is ~ (during government shutdown)

♦ “We are flying partly blind. It's like having, maybe, thirty flashlights that you're just arbitrarily shining at different locales around the United States, and the rest of the country is in the dark.” (Identifying mutations of the COVID virus. Dr. David Relman of Stanford University.)

consciousness & awareness: plane

## blind alley (noun)

ran into blind alleys

he ~ (a scientist)

lead him down blind alleys

his dribbling skills would ~ (young soccer phenom)

success & failure: infrastructure / journeys & trips

progress & lack of progress: infrastructure / journeys & trips

## blind date

blind date

I was on a ~ with this great guy

sight: eye

## blinded

blinded by love

I was so ~ that I didn't see the problem in front of me

consciousness & awareness: eye

perception, perspective & point of view: eye

## blinder (noun)

narrow blinders

it takes self-awareness to view the world without ~

blinders fell from her eyes

she recalled how the ~ (she thought he loved only her)

viewed through the blinders

every issue is ~ of a particular interest (government)

♦ **Blinders are the same as blinkers.**

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye / horse**

**consciousness & awareness: eye / horse**

## blindfold (noun)

America's blindfold

~ was finally coming off (COVID spreading in US)

**consciousness & awareness: eye**

## blinding

blinding sandstorm

another day of ~s and battlefield confusion (Iraq)

a ~ in Baghdad forced the postponement of...

blinding whiteout

a snowstorm caused a ~ (50-vehicle pileup)

**sight: eye**

## blindly

blindly committed

the IMF is ~ to the policy of...

**commitment & determination: eye**

## blind side (from the blind side)

blind side

fire team approaches the bunker from its ~

**sight: eye**

## blindsided

blindsided by his action

we were ~

blindsided by Johnson's announcement

the Lakers were clearly ~ ("Magic" Earvin resigns)

blindsided by (nude-photos) leak

Jennifer Lawrence ~

**readiness & preparedness: eye**

**consciousness & awareness: eye**

## blind spot

blind spot

the murder occurred in a ~ (no surveillance cameras)

it's a ~ so enormous we barely notice it (future)

ethical blind spot

he has an ~ regarding the appearance of impropriety

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: eye**

**consciousness & awareness: eye**

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye**

## blink (conflict)

blink

America will not ~ in the fight against terrorists

there's a conflict here and somebody has to ~ (politics)

blink first

who will ~ in this third set (tennis / Wimbledon)

blinks first

so it becomes a case of who ~ (the West vs. Iran)

blinked and then backed down

Obama ~ (Syria crosses red line)

♦ "It's a bit of a staring contest and both sides are going to lose a little bit." (Nancy Pelosi decides to visit Taiwan against Biden's wishes.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: eye**

**conflict / confronting, dealing with & ignoring things /**

**dominance & submission / resistance, opposition & defeat:**

**animal / eye / gesture / verb**

## blink (in the blink of an eye)

in the blink of an eye

and ~ it let go (cougar attack)

my family disappeared ~ (pandemic)

flowering plants conquered the world seemingly ~

a young family was destroyed ~ (an awful car crash)

**speed: eye**

## blink (light)

blinked its lights

a Mercedes ~

**resemblance: eye / verb**

## blinkered (adjective)

blinkered denial

his ~ of what is obvious tells us all we need to know

blinkered narrow-mindedness

if only the Western media could shed its ~

**perception, perspective & point of view: horse / eye**

**consciousness & awareness: horse / eye**

## blinkers (noun)

pulls away the blinkers

she ~, widening the focus (*The Gun, the Ship, and the Pen*)

♦ **Blinkers are the same as blinders.**

**perception, perspective & point of view: horse / eye**

**consciousness & awareness: horse / eye**

## blip (noun)

blip

the drop may simply be a "~" (deaths from virus)

blip of cases

we don't want these ~ to become resurgences of cases

blip of coverage

after a mere ~, it fell off the front pages (club fire)

blip on the radar screen

Ecstasy is no longer a ~ (the club scene)

blip on the (campaign) radar

foreign policy was barely a ~ (2019 electioneering)

blip on the (historical) radar

the industry is such a small ~ right now

blip in the data

is it a trend or just a ~

blip in the history of the United States

in some ways, Prohibition seems like a ~

blip or a lasting feature

economists disagree over whether it is a short-term ~

blip or a trend

is his loss a ~ (electoral defeat)

blip or a lasting trend

is the record number of women candidates a ~

blip or a hint of the future

are falling oil prices a ~

short-term blip

it may be a ~ or a lasting feature (wage inflation)

temporary blip

the figures suggest a recovery, not just a ~ (economy)

his success was still dismissed as a ~ (young politician)

slight blips

police report only ~ in security plans

tiny little blip

the Wuhan virus will be “a ~ on the horizon” (prediction)

barely a blip

for the young, the nuclear test is ~ (not important)

just a blip

the decrease in the daily death toll may be ~ (pandemic)

movement or a blip

is it a ~ (voters elect socialist mayor in US)

ignored the movement as a blip

many ~ that would never break into the mainstream (gays)

♦ Oscillographs and radar screens have blips.

**importance & significance: size / tools & technology**

**presence & absence: size / tools & technology**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: size / tools & technology**

## blistering (adjective)

blistering attacks

many groups have issued ~ on her (a journalist)

blistering comment

a ~ came from....

blistering speech

Greta Thunberg gave a ~ at the climate summit

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## blitz (campaign)

blitz by the White House

the news precipitated a public-relations ~

blitz of (negative) advertising

there has been a ~ (politics)

blitz surrounding her (latest) album

the promotional ~

blitz chess

Carlsen beat Karpov in a game of ~

media blitz

a local ~ keeps her picture on the front pages (missing)

publicity blitz

a ~ arranged by advisers (for a politician)

public-relations blitz

the news precipitated a ~ by the White House

advertising blitz

a lavish ~ (for Microsoft software)

promotional blitz

the ~ surrounding her latest album (singer)

waging a (full-scale media) blitz

he has been ~ (ex-politician promotes his book)

**amount & effect / attention, scrutiny & promotion / campaign: military / weapon**

## blizzard (consciousness)

“blizzard of everything”

a life lived online in the ~ (Patricia Lockwood character)

feeling their way in a blizzard

financial analysts are ~, squinting through the snow

**consciousness & awareness: snow & ice / weather & climate**

## blizzard (noun)

blizzard

with the ~ in full fury, I sent out a tweet (a Twitter storm)

blizzard of (red, white and blue) confetti

a ~ (New Years in Time Square)

blizzard of fire

there was a ~ at the intersection (combat)

blizzard of intruders

we are constantly faced by a positive ~ (pathogens)

blizzard of punches

he has withstood a ~ (a boxer)

he would throw a ~ (prior to fight / Muhammad Ali)

blizzard of (new) regulations  
businesspeople have been affected by a ~

blizzard of speculation  
there has been a ~ (honeymoon murder)

blizzard of facts and figures  
it is included in a ~ that obscures...

Scorsesian blizzard  
there is a ~ of directors' names (during an interview)

♦ It's possible that "blizzard" originally meant "a stunning blow, as by the fist." The word that we know today that relates to snow seems to have originated in Iowa in 1870, according to *Thereby Hangs a Tale* by Charles Earle Funk. Whatever the origin of the word, the idea of great forces of nature striking, beating, and lashing is quite a conventional one. See the glossary entry in this work for "storm (1); force (2)" for examples.

♦ "The blizzard was what we called a purga, during which the temperature can drop well below zero, with the gale so violent that it will lift roofs off houses and uproot trees. Walking during a purga is out of the question. As a rule every blizzard is accompanied by loss of life. / Around us the scene was unbelievable... / We shrank back in our tents and sat in silent awe..." (*Dersu Uzala* by V. K. Arseniev.)

**amount & effect: snow & ice / storm**

## bloated (size)

bloated budget  
the US must resolve its ~

bloated bureaucracy  
the ~ isn't keeping us safer (national security)

bloated inbox  
a ~ is a familiar headache

bloated and inefficient  
our intelligence agencies are ~

refugee-bloated (m)  
a ~ population

**size: fatness & thinness / health & medicine**

## block (around the block)

around the block  
he has been ~ and fought for world titles (a boxer)

**experience: infrastructure**

## block (obstacle)

writer's block  
but sometimes ~ hits and I can't think of a way to start

♦ In the dictionary I use, there is no entry for "writer's block" but there is an entry for "writer's cramp."

♦ "The log jam broke." (Writer's block.)

**obstacles & impedance: wall**

## block (out of the blocks)

quick out of the blocks  
Liverpool were ~ in the second half (soccer)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: sports & games**

## blockbuster (noun)

blockbuster  
the modern age of ~s (films)

blockbuster antidepressant  
Prozac, its ~ (drug company)

blockbuster (IMAX) film  
the ~ Everest

blockbuster (fraud) suit  
the agency brought a ~ against the company

blockbuster writer  
such ~s as...

\* Blockbusters were high-explosive bombs dropped on cities in World War II.

**amount & effect / attention, scrutiny & promotion / feeling, emotion & effect / success & failure: explosion / weapon**

## blogosphere (in the blogosphere)

in the blogosphere  
the videos appear to be firmly entrenched ~

**computer: earth & world / place**

## blogosphere (other)

blogosphere  
the ~ is alight with conspiracy theories

percolating (for years) around the blogosphere  
the argument has been ~

**computer: earth & world / place**

## blood (in one's blood)

in Katherine Brunt's blood  
cricket is ~ (England)

in her blood  
Caroline Dubois was born with boxing ~ (UK boxer)

in his blood  
he has politics and showmanship ~ (Gov. Andrew Cuomo)  
it was in his genes, ~ (Calvin Klein sketches as kid)  
newspaper ink was ~ (the journalist Lou Cannon)

in my blood  
it wasn't ~ (working in family business)  
this place is ~ (High Street resident / Newark)  
the city is ~ (Baghdad)

in our blood  
cricket is ~ (A Pakistani fan)  
the love of jade is ~ (a Han Chinese)

gets in your blood  
it ~ (helping others at Arlington National Cemetery)

♦ "The city is in my blood, the ruins of its palaces, the mosques and the river." (An Iraqi, speaking of Baghdad.)

♦ "Mohammed Aly Square is my aunt. Rue Cherif Pasha is my first cousin, and the Rue de Ramleh my second. How can I leave them?"

(The poet Constantine Cavafy, quoted in "As Good as Great Poetry Gets" by Daniel Mendelsohn.)

♦ "He has aviation fuel running through his veins." Said of an ex-RAF, ex-BA pilot who flies airshows.

♦ "The music is really in the veins of these people." (Opera and the residents of Parma, according to the beloved NPR reporter and journalist Sylvia Poggioli.)

**identity & nature: blood**

## blood (identity)

family blood

our ~ says never give up, continue on (Nik Wallenda)

drop of Russian blood

there was not a ~ in her veins (Catherine the Great)

♦ "I may be from Tampa, but my blood is in Cuba... I have a lot of family still left in Cuba." (Kevin Morejon, protesting in Florida.)

♦ "If you were born in Naples, football is part of your blood. Our blood is [Napoli] blue, it's not red." (A happy fan after Napoli drew with Udinese to become the 2022-23 Serie A Champions.)

**identity & nature: blood**

## blood (in cold blood)

shoot her (3 times) in cold blood

how could he ~...

**feeling, emotion & effect: blood / temperature**

## blood (blood on one's hands, etc.)

blood on his hands

he has ~ (terrorist financier)

blood on their hands

we say they have ~ (companies that used slaves)

has blood on his hands

he ~ (a politician)

drenched in blood

his hands were ~ (a terrorist)

drenched Russia in blood

he has ~ (Stalin)

**guilt / involvement / responsibility: blood / hand**

## blood (smell blood)

scent blood

Mr Prayuth's enemies ~ (Thailand)

smell blood

they ~ (victory in tournament)

smells blood

the opposition Labor Party ~ (vote of no confidence)

smell blood in the water

Republicans ~

**conflict: animal / blood / predation / verb**

## blood (bay for blood)

see *bay* (*bay for blood, etc.*)

## blood (blood in one's eyes, etc.)

with blood in their eyes

other soldiers, ~, came up and threatened to shoot him

♦ see also *mist* (*red mist*), *red* (*see red*)

**mental health: blood**

**feeling, emotion & effect / violence: blood / color**

## blood (out for blood)

out for blood

she is ~ (vindictive)

**conflict / punishment & recrimination: animal / blood / predation**

## blood (draw blood)

drawn blood

nobody has ~ yet (chess match with 8 draws)

**conflict: animal / blood / predation**

## blood (blood boils)

blood boils

my ~ when I see violations (traffic)

**feeling, emotion & effect: blood / temperature**

## blood (blood runs cold)

made my blood run cold

and then he said something that ~ (violence)

**feeling, emotion & effect: blood / temperature**

## blood (young blood, etc.)

fresh blood

the king might reshuffle his cabinet to inject ~

young blood

the US must add ~ to its veteran roster (women's soccer)

**experience: blood**

## blood (bad blood)

bad blood

the ~ started early (politics)

bad blood between them

there is ~

**conflict: blood**

## blood (effort)

blood and iron

see *iron and blood* (*effort, sacrifice*)

blood and sacrifice

all the ~ we made up to his point is for nothing (war)

blood and treasure

we have wasted an enormous amount of ~ in Afghanistan  
it's a complete waste in terms of ~ (Afghanistan)

President Johnson reflected on the cost in ~ (Vietnam War)  
we need to pull out and save American ~ (Afghanistan)

blood, sweat and tears  
he gave the franchise 20 years of his ~ (Kobe Bryant)

blood, treasure and effort  
after so many years, and so much ~ (US in Afghanistan)

iron and blood  
see *iron and blood* (*effort, sacrifice*)

sweat and blood  
a lot of ~ went into it (making a film)

**sacrifice: blood / sign, signal, symbol**  
**difficulty, easiness & effort: blood / sign, signal, symbol**

## blood (blood represents life)

blood and tears  
enough of ~, enough (Palestinian-Israeli conflict)

treasure and blood  
how much more can we give in ~ (foreign wars)

**death & life: blood / sign, signal, symbol**

## bloodbath (noun)

bloodbath  
there's going to be a ~ (a football game)

'Blood Bath'  
political fighting could make redistricting a ~ (Texas)

bloodbath in tech stocks  
there was a ~ (Dow)

bloodbath at ABC News  
last week's ~ (50 staffers laid off)

partisan bloodbath  
he turned the hearings into a ~ (politics)

**conflict: blood / violence**

## blood brother (connection)

blood brothers  
soldiering and drinking have always been ~

**relationship: blood / family**  
**division & connection: blood / family**

## bloodhound (noun)

bloodhound  
he's a born ~ who lives to track the scent of malfeasance

**searching & discovery: animal / dog / hunting**  
**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / dog / hunting**

## bloodletting (noun)

bloodletting at *Sports Illustrated*  
the ~ continued Friday... (firings, resignations, etc.)

**conflict: blood / violence**

## blood sport (noun)

blood sport  
when law and politics were a noble pursuit, not a ~

blood sport of politics  
I would not be deterred by the ~ (Hillary R. Clinton)

blood sport of (party) politics  
the ~ drives the US media

bloodsport of (Red vs. Blue party) politics  
the ~ drives the US media

tabloid blood sport  
she became the target of ~ (Britney Spears)

Washington blood sport  
even by the standards of ~, this was bare-knuckled politics

equivalent of blood sport  
this steel ~ (demolition derbies)

turned campaigning for Oscars into a blood sport  
he turned ~ (the film producer Harvey Weinstein)

♦ **Blood sports include dog fighting, bullfighting, fox-hunting, cockfighting, and bear-baiting.**

**conflict: animal / blood / predation / sports & games / violence**

## bloodthirsty (adjectivity)

bloodthirsty zeal  
the ~ of revisionist history

**behavior: animal / blood / predation**

**character & personality: animal / blood / predation**

## bloody (guilt)

hands are bloody  
his ~ (a politician)

**guilt / responsibility: blood**

## bloody (conflict)

bloody (intraparty) quarrel  
it's not what Republicans wanted, a ~ (politics)

**conflict: blood**

## bloom (verb)

bloomed  
their relationship ~  
membership (in professional social networks) has ~  
his career has ~  
romance ~  
his paranoia ~

bloomed in the role  
she truly ~ (an actor)

bloomed into an international incident  
the case has ~

bloomed into a showroom

his small home shop has ~

bloomed during the last decade  
interest has ~ (new literature theory)

bloomed as a teenager  
she ~ (physically)

bloomed intellectually  
that year our daughter ~ (in a gifted class)

bloomed late  
their careers both ~ (successful athletes)

romance bloomed  
in this emotional wasteland, ~ (divorce)

**growth & development: plant / verb**

### **bloom (bloom has faded, etc.)**

bloom is off the rose  
at 30, the ~ of both grownup life and their careers

bloom had faded  
as soon as the first ~ of my work... (a writer)

**decline: plant**

### **bloomer (late bloomer)**

late bloomer  
as someone who has always considered himself a ~...

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: fruits & vegetables / plant**

**growth & development: life span / fruits & vegetables / plant**

### **blossom (verb)**

blossomed  
he has ~ after a slow start (a Chelsea soccer player)

blossomed into (real) depression  
my uncertainty had ~ (the future)

blossomed into (full-blown) panic  
the thought ~

blossomed into warfare  
simmering resentments ~ (two politicians)

blossoming in the Middle East  
a revolutionary spirit is ~

blossom out of control  
the consequences can ~ (problems on 767 jetliner)

blossomed all over the country  
now citizens' groups have ~

groups have blossomed  
now citizens' ~ all over the country (Siberia)

love (for yo-yos) blossomed  
his ~ again

**growth & development: plant / verb**

### **blot (noun)**

blot on his record  
his racial ideas appear to modern eyes as a ~ (Churchill)

blot on our reputation  
renditions and torture will long remain a ~ (US in Iraq)

**flaws & lack of flaws: mark**

**reputation: mark**

### **blow (body blow, etc.)**

body blow to the organization  
he called Gogic's arrest a ~

body blow to the home team  
the goal was a ~ (soccer)

body blow for Biden  
it's been a ~ (politics)

body blow to Manchester United  
make no mistake, this is a ~ (loss to Middlesbrough)

Body Blow for Assad's regime  
"A ~" (title of article)

knock-out blow  
he was unable to land a ~ on Amy Klobuchar (politics)

knockout blow  
the air campaign failed to deliver a ~ (Iraqi Freedom)  
the ~ was delivered when... (investigation / indictments)

**feeling, emotion & effect: boxing / fist / sensation**

### **blow (bitter blow, etc.)**

blow  
this is not a ~ but a boost

blow to the city  
the decision is an embarrassing ~

blows to this community  
a string of crushing ~

blow to our defense  
losing him, it's a huge ~ (football)

blow to the environment  
loss of the reefs will be a major ~

blow to the regime  
loss of the airport was a huge psychological ~ (war)

blow to the city's reputation  
the violence is a ~ (Rio / carnival)

blow to the (farmworkers) union  
the Supreme Court's decision was a mortal ~

dagger blow  
we must deal sharp ~s to the terrorists

knockout blow  
the air campaign failed to deliver a ~ (Iraqi Freedom)  
the ~ was delivered when... (indictments)

**crippling blow**  
his death dealt a ~ to his network (a terrorist)

**crushing blow**  
a string of ~s to this community

**devastating blow**  
loss of the coral reefs would be a ~

**embarrassing blow**  
the decision is an ~ to the city

**stinging blow**  
the death of a donor dealt the hospital's reputation a ~

**bitter blow**  
the defeat was a ~ for Serbia and Montenegro (soccer)

**final blow**  
they saw the confrontation as the ~ (firing)

**huge blow**  
losing him, it's a ~ to our defense (football)

**major blow**  
loss of the reefs will be a ~ to the environment

**mortal blow**  
the law would strike a ~ to a system that... (athletics)  
the Supreme Court's decision was a ~ to the union

**psychological blow**  
the takeover was a huge ~ to the regime (airport)

**sharp (dagger) blow**  
we must deal ~s to the terrorists

**string of (crushing) blows**  
a ~ to this community

**soften the blow**  
he tried to ~ (economic news)  
Boeing will try to ~ for them (supply chain)

**deal a blow against the enemy**  
we will ~

**dealt a (heavy) blow to Hamas**  
the offensive has ~ (Israel attacks Gaza)

**feeling, emotion & effect: fist / sensation**

**blowback (noun)**

**blowback risk**  
the ~ to Sanders is real (a political endorsement)

**explosive blowback**  
the group faced ~ when it... (Southern Poverty Law Center)

**legal blowback**  
the ~ forced the company into bankruptcy (opioids)

**political blowback**  
you can't attack Wall Street without ~

**getting blowback**  
she is already ~ on how and when schools should reopen

♦ "Brady just happened to be the blowback. He got caught up in the blowback, Skip, the collateral damage, that's what Brady is. And so, it was a blast radius. He dropped the bomb, 'I got BA [Bruce Arians], I got the Tampa medical staff, I got...' and Tom Brady and Guerrero, they got caught up in that, Skip, the blast radius. (Shannon Sharpe talking with Skip Bayless on their great sports show "Undisputed" about the Antonio Brown controversy of January 2022.)

**reversal: explosion / weapon**  
**resistance, opposition & defeat: explosion / weapon**  
**blow-by-blow (a blow-by-blow account, etc.)**

**blow-by-blow account**  
he gave me a ~ of what had happened

**sequence / speech: boxing**

**blow-in (noun)**

**blow-in**  
he is not quite a native but he's not a ~, an outsider

**migration: bird / wind**  
**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: bird / wind**

**blown away (feeling)**

**blown away**  
I was ~

**prepare to be blown away**  
~ (a TV ad for a new movie)

**feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / weapon**

**blown away (destruction)**

**blown away by a team**  
Manchester United were ~ in full cry (MU 0-7 Liverpool)

**destruction: explosion / weapon**

**blow off (verb)**

**blew him off**  
at first, she said, she ~ (dismissed him)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: breathing / verb**

**blowout (noun)**

**blowout**  
the fight was a ~ (easy victory)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: explosion**

**blow over (verb)**

**things blow over**  
we'll be gone until ~

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: storm / verb / wind**  
**starting, going, continuing & ending: storm / verb / wind**

**blowtorch (noun)**

**taking a blow torch towards that agenda**  
we are ~ (politics)

**destruction / force: tools & technology**

## **blow up (destroy / disrupt)**

blow up the norms

he did more to ~ than any five majority leaders (McConnell)

blow up the system

we want to ~ (anti-Nancy Pelosi young democrats)

blow up Wall Street

the guy who helped ~ (Michael Osinski)

blew up the Senate

this is the guy who ~ in the Obama years (McConnell)

**destruction / disruption: explosion / verb**

## **blow up (blow up on TikTok, etc.)**

blew up

the case ~ (attention paid to child abduction)

it had a signature dance that ~ with it (song "Hot Boy")

she was gonna ~, she's just that good (Spain's singer Rosalia)

blew up on TikTok

his song ~

blowing up on our help line

this is such a popular scam, it is ~ (rental cars)

blowing up on TikTok

I want to talk about an artist who is ~ (Blanco Brown)

blew up with congratulations

coaches' phones ~

blowing up with messages

his phone has been ~ from friends and colleagues

blowing up with texts

my phone starts ~ from Cari (I hate you, etc.)

blew up from other schools

my phone ~, "Are we in danger..." (superintendent shot)

blew up social media

the issue was a hit and ~ (Eilish on British *Vogue* cover)

blown up the internet

the nursing community has ~ rallying to her cause (nurse)

♦ "Women's boxing is blowing up and I'm super proud to be one of the girls." (The boxer Amanda Serrano talking with Steve Bunce.)

**increase & decrease / initiation: explosion / verb**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: explosion / verb**

**amount & effect: explosion / verb**

## **blowup (attention / noun)**

song's massive blowup

the ~ is partially thanks to TikTok

**increase & decrease / initiation: explosion**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: explosion**

## **blow up (blow up in one's face)**

blow up in his face

it could ~ (if he ignored the infraction)

blown up in our face

this has ~ (supporting Somali warlords)

**reversal: explosion / verb / weapon**

## **blow up (emotion)**

blew up

I couldn't take it anymore and I just ~

blew up over the issue

a recent city council meeting ~ (immigration)

♦ One hundred forty people were killed when a boiler blew up on a steamship in 1838. (See the Wikipedia entry "Steamship Pulaski disaster.")

**feeling, emotion & effect / initiation: explosion / pressure / verb / weapon**

## **blowup (conflict)**

blowup

there's going to be a ~ (controversy)

**initiation: explosion / pressure / weapon**

**conflict: explosion / pressure / weapon**

## **blue (out of the blue, etc.)**

out of the blue

I was thinking of calling her when ~ she called me  
pulmonary edema can, ~, strike down the best climber

absolutely out of the blue

her disappearance was ~

totally out of the blue

then something ~ happened... (a murder investigation)

bolt-from-the-blue

any US military action will look like a ~ act of aggression

appear out of the blue

a thunderstorm can ~

appears out of the blue

an electrical problem ~ (HomeWire)

came out of the blue

nobody could do anything about the pandemic, it ~ (boxing)

came (quite) out of the blue

the "genius award" ~ (John D. MacArthur Foundation)

comes out of the blue

it ~ and you don't know when it will hit you (pandemics)

♦ "She furrowed her brow. It was a question from left field... / Now they were the ones thrown a curveball... / This was another question out of the blue..." (A well written police procedural.)

♦ "In southern Indiana lightning struck a ball field, injuring four members of the Seymour girl's high school softball team. One of the girls was in critical condition, while the other three sustained non-critical injuries... The skies were reportedly clear at the time of the strike."

fate, fortune & chance: color / electricity / lightning / sky / storm  
appearance & disappearance / occurrence / origin: air / atmosphere / color / lightning / sky

## blue (politics)

blue state

is Iowa at this point a red state or a ~

♦ "Is Iowa at this point a red state or a blue state?" "Iowa is still a purple state." (US politics, as talked about on NPR.)

♦ "Red, R, Reagan, that's why we chose red." (A network broadcaster during the 1984 presidential election, explaining why states that had gone for Reagan were colored red on a national map. Democratic states were colored blue.)

identity & nature: color

## blue (feeling)

broken and blue

and so if I seem ~, walk on by (Dionne Warwick)

feeling blue

I'm ~

♦ "But when I'm down, and feeling blue, I close my eyes so I can be with you." (Irene Cara.)

feeling, emotion & effect: color

## blue blood

fellow blue-bloods

North Carolina and ~ Kentucky and Duke (basketball teams)

hierarchy / superiority & inferiority: blood / color / royalty

## blueprint

blueprint

they had to figure it out for themselves, there was no ~  
FDR didn't have a ~, he was an experimenter (New Deal)

blueprint about what

there is no ~ to do next

blueprint for change

the plan is a ~, for action

blueprint for a better future

clean energy is a ~

blueprint for reforming

his ~ education has some good points

administration's blueprint

the ~ calls on states to adopt new standards

education blueprint

the president will send his ~ to Congress

draw up a blueprint

leaders met to ~ for economic cooperation

script: infrastructure

## blues (the blues)

coronavirus blues

five glimmers of hope to beat the ~ (BBC)

feeling, emotion & effect: color / music

## blue whale

blue whale

it's what a journalist might call a ~ (a story)

♦ "So it's this vital, forgotten buried event that's what journalists might call a blue whale, it's this event that sounded and sank in the past, dwelled unspoken for years and decades, and then it resurfaced in our present time, specifically in the wake of the Pulse Nightclub Shooting... And it sings this really strange song of a very different past..." (Robert W. Fieseler, speaking about his book *Tinderbox: The Untold Story of the Up Stairs Lounge Fire and the Rise of Gay Liberation.*)

♦ see also *black swan*.

appearance & disappearance / fate, fortune & chance / occurrence: animal / color / sea

## bluff (verb)

bluffing

is the party ~, will they really do it (politics)  
she thinks I'm ~ but I'm not

bluffing on Brexit

the EU is not ~

bluffing over the terms

we are not ~ (diplomacy)

bluff his way out of it

he managed to ~ (a sticky situation)

position, policy & negotiation / sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty / strategy / strength & weakness / subterfuge: cards / gambling / verb

## bluff (noun)

call your bluff

you're lucky she didn't ~ (negotiations)

position, policy & negotiation / sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty / strategy / strength & weakness / subterfuge: cards / gambling

## blunt (speech)

blunt

he is ~ (speech)

sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: speech

speech: blade / knife / force

## blush (embarrassment)

saved Welsh blushes

his header ~ (soccer)

feeling, emotion & effect: blood / gesture / skin, muscle, nerves & bone

## board (on board)

on board with (Mursi's) changes

if the military is ~...

on board with the plan

she is not really ~

bring people on board  
they've gone out of their way to ~ (developer)

climbing on board  
many voters are ~ (politics)

get the managers on board  
we need to ~ (workplace flexibility)

hopped on board  
other companies have ~ (normcore fashion, music, etc.)

jumped on board  
Harvard ~ last month (sex / romance policy)

keep them on board  
it was hard to ~

unanimity & consensus: boat / train  
allegiance, support & betrayal: boat / train

### board (off the board / euphemism)

off the board  
the two other members of the ISIS cell are already ~

death & life: euphemism

### boast (verb)

boast of its (statistically high) success rate  
every summit allows a company to ~ (Mt. Everest)

title boasts  
*All the Grand Matches* is what the ~ (rare sports book)

fictive communication: speech / verb

### boat (boat of science, etc.)

boat of science  
he rocked the ~ (Pasteur)

♦ "[He] splashed up a great wave of excitement about microbes that rocked the boat of science for thirty years." (Pasteur. From *Microbe Hunters* by Paul De Kruif.)

bases: boat

### boat (in the same boat)

in the same boat  
all the teams are ~ (concerns about fuel)

empathy & lack of empathy / situation: boat

unanimity & consensus: boat

### boat (rock the boat)

rock the boat  
they can be expected to ~

rock (Mr. Erdogan's) boat  
the EU does not want to ~ (immigrants)

rocked the boat  
he ~ of science (Pasteur)

rocks the boat  
if anyone ~, it's not going to be me

♦ He wasn't there to rock the boat, he intended to sink it.

disruption / equilibrium & stability: boat  
unanimity & consensus / society: boat  
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: boat

### boat (slow boat to China)

proverbial slow boat to China  
what must have seemed the ~

speed / timeliness & lack of timeliness: boat

### boat (burn one's boats)

burned the boats  
we ~, the only way home was through them (sports)

♦ See the Wikipedia entry, "Point of no return." Cortes supposedly began his conquest of Mexico by burning his boats; the *Bounty* mutineers certainly burned the *Bounty* after reaching Pitcairn Island.

commitment & determination / fate, fortune & chance:  
allusion / history / journeys & trips / river

### boatload (amount)

boatload of (false) accusations  
no apology, just a ~ and mischaracterizations

amount: boat

### body (body of the plane, etc.)

body of the device  
the needle retracts into the ~ after use (safety syringe)

bases: body

### body (body economic, etc.)

body economic  
his description of the ~ had appeal (Adam Smith)

body politic  
see *body politic*

bases: body

### body (body of literacy, etc.)

body of world literacy  
the magazine is an open running sore on the ~

sore on the body  
the magazine is an open running ~ of world literacy

bases: body

### body (black bodies, etc.)

bodies and stories  
there are other ~ that encapsulate black queerness

black body  
"The Trial and Massacre of the ~" (Daniel Black)  
~s are treated as commodities in this country  
~s vs black greatness, black genius (slavery)

black bodies on stage  
~ singing, dancing, expressing joy (a musical)

black bodies in *Beloved*

the many ~—muzzled, mutilated, burned, hanged

black bodies killed by white hands

the unspeakable pain of ~

black bodies and black suffering

a country built on ~ (the US / Ta-Nehisi Coates)

stolen bodies

the richest men in America made their riches off our ~s

Asian body

what it's like to live in an ~ (in the US)

audacity of bodies

the ~ that dare move and live in the face of death (Blacks)

criminalization of black bodies

the ~ and brown bodies and...

violence against black bodies

images of ~

relationship between police and black bodies

the often precarious ~ (Timmhotep Aku)

objectification and commodification of Black Bodies

~ (*Caul Baby* by Morgan Jerkins)

built on Black bodies

this entire country was ~ (Regina King / *Harper's Bazaar*)

destroy the black body

in America, it is traditional to ~, it is heritage... (literally)

police Black bodies

the ways in which we sort of ~ in white spaces

put Black bodies in her visuals

Bey has continued to make an effort to ~

stolen his body

this is character assassination after they've already ~

dominate and control our bodies

white America is a syndicate to ~ (Blacks)

♦ "The employment of carriage whips, tongs, iron pokers, handsaws, stones, paperweights or whatever might be handy to break the black body, the black family, the black community, the black nation." (Ta-Nehisi Coates.)

♦ "The scourge of police and state violence against black bodies and brown bodies and immigrant bodies and people of color in this country." ("Invisible No More" Examines Police Violence Against Minority Women by Cheryl Corley, NPR, November 5, 2017.)

♦ "In the Southern states of the United States, where Black bodies could frequently be seen hanging from trees." (Maimouna Youssef about Billy Holiday and the song "Strange Fruit.")

♦ "The celebration of the margins—black bodies in motion, women's voices centered, black queer voices centered—is what ultimately vanquishes the state, represented by a NOPD car." ("We Slay, Part 1" by Zandria F. Robinson @ New South Negress about Beyonce's "Formation.")

♦ "Melina Abdullah, a friend of Patrisse Cullors and co-founder of Black Lives Matter Los Angeles, described the focus on narcotics as an 'assassination of Keenan's character after they've already stolen his body.'" ("A cousin of a prominent Black Lives Matter founder died after being tased by police" by Emily Olsen, NPR, January 14, 2023.)

♦ "This piece of public art, unveiled Friday, immediately garnered mixed reactions. In a long Twitter thread, *Washington Post* columnist Karen Attiah criticized the monument, saying that the artist 'reduced' the Kings

to 'body parts,' adding: 'For such a large statue, dismembering MLK and Coretta Scott King is...a choice. A deliberate one.' Attiah continued: 'Boston's Embrace statue perfectly represents how White America loves to butcher MLK. Cherry-picking quotes about love and violence. While ignoring his radicalism, anti-capitalism, his fierce critiques of white moderates. MLK in his fullness—is still too much for them.'" (From "New MLK statue in Boston is greeted with a mix of open arms, consternation and laughs" by Anastasia Tsioulcas, NPR, Culture, January 17, 2023.)

♦ "In October 2022, Cross generated controversy over Miami Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa's recent concussions. During her October 8 broadcast, Cross said Tagovailoa's treatment showed that white NFL coaches fail to protect 'Black bodies.' In fact, the Dolphins' head coach, Mike McDaniel, is biracial and Tagovailoa is of Samoan descent." (The Wikipedia entry for "Tiffany Cross.")

♦ This usage is very specific to its users. A conventional collocation would be "black *people*."

♦ MORE CONVENTIONAL USAGE: "Body found in Memphis identified as abducted jogger Eliza Fletcher."

♦ Wikipedia has no entry for "black body" with this usage.

**inclusion & exclusion: objectification**

## body count (actual)

coronavirus body count

with a ~ exceeding... (politics)

**death & life: military**

## body count (figurative)

professional body count

there has been quite a ~ (firings, replacements)

♦ see also *casualty* (noun)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: death & life / military**

## body politic

body politic

Republicans kowtow to the ~

body politic versus the body natural

the ~ and how it related to sovereignty and Kings

China's body politic

the damage that the British did to ~ was echoed in...

diseases of our body politic

more fundamental causes of the current ~

scar upon the body politic

homelessness is a ~

sore in the body politic

Bloody Sunday became a running ~ (Ireland)

injecting poison into the body politic

they are ~ (Fox News, etc.)

plaguing the body politic

he presents a litany of ills that are ~

poisoning our body politic

the media is ~, and hurting our entire country

♦ "Mungiu is offering an anatomical scan of the Romanian body politic. But not only the Romanian one..." ("This Romanian film about immigration and vanishing jobs hits close to home" by John Powers, NPR, Fresh Air, May 2, 2023.)

**bases: body**

## bog down (verb)

bog down U.S.-China relations  
Pelosi continues to ~

bog down the plot with earnest morality lectures  
the author doesn't ~ (a book)

talks bog down  
Iran nuclear talks ~ as deadline approaches

♦ "BLT 1/3 began to bog down when their A Company came under heavy rocket and mortar fire..." (The Vietnam War.)

**obstacles & impedance / progress & lack of progress:  
ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips / verb**

## bogeyman (and boogeyman)

bogeyman of many  
Venezuela has become the ~ on the right (politics)

Islamist bogeyman  
the US is obsessed with the ~ (foreign policy)

became a bogeyman  
Bible John ~ (Glasgow serial killer)

creates a boogeyman  
the myth ~ to stir up fear and repression (white anarchists)

**affliction: creature**

## bogged down

bogged down in (federal) bureaucracy  
the plan got ~ (to restore the Everglades)

bogged down in (scientific) squabbles  
the test has been ~ and bureaucratic foot-dragging

bogged down in the (UN) system  
the US is ~

bogged down by red tape  
rescue efforts got ~ (Kobe earthquake)

overloaded, bogged down  
hospitals are ~ (epidemic)

get bogged down  
if they ~ at some bottleneck like the Hillary Step (Everest)

got bogged down  
the plan ~ in federal bureaucracy (environment)  
rescue efforts ~ by red tape (Kobe earthquake)

♦ "Making our way through the submerged forest was no easy job. The mules sank up to their knees in the mud, fell into deep holes, and exhausted themselves. / It was not till dusk that we managed to reach the hills on the right side of the valley. The mules were dead beat, but the men were still more tired." (*Dersu Uzala* by V. K. Arseniev.)

**obstacles & impedance: ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips**

## boil (affliction)

perpetual boil  
this ~ needs to be lanced (diplomacy)

two boils  
~ were lanced today (fired from *The New York Times*)

**affliction: health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## boil (initiation)

emotions are boiling  
~ (Tea Party advocates in US)

tension are boiling  
~ (police shooting and verdict)

makes my blood boil  
it ~ (removal of fairy doors from forest)

**initiation: heating water / temperature / verb / water  
feeling, emotion & effect: temperature / verb / water  
activity: heating water / temperature / water**

## boil down to (verb)

boil down to  
but what does all this jargon ~

boils down to  
eventually it all ~ do I want a car or...

boils down to this  
it all ~...

boil down to the following  
your options ~...

boils down to cost  
the matter ~...

boiled down to the fact  
today it ~ we didn't get the bounces (loss / soccer)

boils down to one (major) issue  
the debate usually ~...

boil down to a (chronic) lack  
others say Metro's problems ~ of rail cars

boiled down to choice and safety  
the issue ~ (midwifery)

boiled down to two (simple) things  
his allure ~: money and power (drugs)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: direction / heating  
water / temperature / water / verb**

**bases: direction / heating water / temperature / water /  
verb**

## boilerplate (noun)

boilerplate  
some of the charges seemed routine, almost ~ (crime)

boilerplate about "common sense and compromise"  
there was nothing new, just ~

boilerplate element  
it contained the ~s of any rejection letter

boilerplate ideologies

they just repeat the ~ of their respective sides (a talk show)

boilerplate language

ABC added basic ~ about the falsity of both claims (guest)

boilerplate motion

it's a ~ filed by many defendants

boiler-plate points

he made all the ~ (a politician)

boilerplate sentimentality

the production is steeped in ~ (a play)

boilerplate statement

the auditor's report was little more than a ~

boilerplate stuff

the ~ you'd expect in any trial (jury-selection questions)

legal boilerplate

the warning was mere ~ (company's filing)

upbeat management boilerplate

it was written in the idiom of ~

♦ "Along with host Augusta Dell'Omo, Natalie takes us on a deep dive into..." (Right Rising / RR on Stitcher. In other episodes Michael takes us on a deep dive into...; Sophie takes us on a deep dive into...; Simon takes us on a deep dive into...; Ashton takes us on a deep dive into...; Ashley takes us on a deep dive into...; and Julia takes us on a deep dive into... That's a lot of divers and diving! The repetition shows how a figurative expression can go from novel to cliché to the kind of boilerplate language you might find in a disclaimer or label that is too boring to read. Guests break down, unpack, unpick, discuss, walk us through, give us an overview of, and help us with their respective topics.

♦ see also *buzzword* (noun), *doublespeak* (noun), *ese* (legalese, etc.), *funny language*, *language* (types), *lip service* (pay lip service, etc.), *newspeak* (noun), *speak* (NASA-speak, etc.), *supersizing* (linguistic supersizing), *talk* (mediator talk, etc.), *word salad*

**script: manufacturing / tools & technology**

**language: speech**

**boiling point**

reached a boiling point

the crisis has ~

sent (racial) tensions to a boiling point

his death ~ (Amadou Diallo, shot by police)

**feeling, emotion & effect / initiation: heating water /**

**temperature / water**

**boil over (verb)**

boiling over

as the #MeToo movement was ~, he was cooked (a chef)

anger boiled over

his ~ Monday when he... (student shoots professors)

crisis was boiling over

the energy ~

party boiled over

a ~ (violence)

resentment boiled over

her ~ and we had a big fight (husband / wife)

streets are boiling over

the ~ (Egyptian protests)

about to boil over

the situation is ~

**feeling, emotion & effect / initiation: heating water /**

**temperature / verb / water**

**bold (groups)**

bold name

a group with a ~ ("No Sex for Fish" / NPR)

bold gender-bending

Olga Neuwirth's ~ opera...

Be Bold

the ~ initiative (Misty Copeland)

♦ "Minneapolis' Bold Plan To Tackle Racial Inequity And Climate Change." (NPR.)

♦ "TikTok's new beauty filter, called Bold Glamour... (A viral sensation.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

**boldly (groups)**

boldly claim

being able to ~ "I slay" is radical resistance (Beyonce)

boldly protesting

women in Iran are ~ the compulsory hijab

boldly and fearlessly

the foundation strives to empower women to live ~

stands boldly

she ~ in her uniqueness (Amythyst Kiah)

♦ "Presidents Day / Bold Savings / Latest Tech / Live Limited-quantity Deals." (An advertisement for Dell Technologies.)

♦ "Soviet submarine commanders had to be bold and aggressive." (In the Black Sea, due to the shallow depth of the waters, German mines, German destroyers, and German sub-hunters. From "Soviet Storm: World War II in the East.")

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

**Bolshevik**

bolshevik against the science

Jules Bordet was a little ~ of his master, Metchnikoff

little bolshevik

he was a ~ against the phagocyte science (Bordet)

"saboteur" and "Bolshevik"

he was called a ~ (lexicographer Philip Babcock Grove)

♦ A FUNNY JOKE. Stalin visited his old mother and regaled her with stories about how nice the Kremlin was, how deep the carpets, how nice the furniture. His old mother listened, and her brows knit. "But Soso," she said. "What if the Bolsheviks come back?"

**disruption: allusion / history / violence**

**bolster (verb)**

bolster our forces against the enemy

we must ~

bolsters his analysis with an army  
he ~ of statistics

bolster their arguments  
to ~ the Egyptians... (NTSB investigation)

bolstered its capabilities  
the Coast Guard has ~ for port security

bolster their case  
to ~, FBI officials have prepared a... (terrorism)

bolster (babies') health  
living with a dog or a cat may ~ (germs)

bolster morale  
hot food and the Internet ~ (US military in Iraq)

bolster the myth  
this has helped to ~ that children... (intersexed)

bolstered the notion  
archaeological expeditions ~ of... (archaeology)

bolster patrols  
the Highway Patrol has hired 150 new officers to ~

bolster his reputation  
he was just shooting off his mouth to ~

bolster security  
funds to ~ for nuclear weapons and waste (terrorism)

**amelioration & renewal: infrastructure / verb**  
**protection & lack of protection: infrastructure / verb**  
**strength & weakness: infrastructure / verb**

## bolstered

bolstered by the courage  
~ of their teammate, they won the game easily

bolstered by (a handful of) studies  
his insights are ~

bolstered by the work  
his conclusions were ~ of...

findings are bolstered  
experts say the ~ by the fact that...

**amelioration & renewal: infrastructure**  
**protection & lack of protection: infrastructure**  
**bolt-hole (and bolthole)**

bolthole for the world's shadow elite  
it provides a ~ (the UAE)

♦ The woodchuck, feeling threatened, bolts to its hole.

**protection & lack of protection: animal / hole**  
**bomb (review-bomb, etc.)**

love-bombed  
Finch ~ her with texts and sentimental gifts

photobomb  
see *photobomb* (verb)

review-bomb  
audiences were so offended they proceeded to ~ the game

**computer: explosion / military / verb / weapon**  
**attention, scrutiny & promotion: verb / weapon**

## bomb (danger)

bomb cyclone  
West Coast braces for '~' (CNN Weather Center)

"lava bomb"  
a ball of solidified molten rock, also known as a ~

weather bomb  
Vancouver Island feeling the wrath of the coastal ~

ticking bomb  
we must control it, it's a ~ (online influence campaigns)  
he was a "~" planning to carry out attacks (a terrorist)

ticking bomb for any woman  
he was a ~ involved with him, glad he's in a cell

rhetorical bomb  
he had no qualms about throwing ~ (politics)

♦ "Any excuse to say Bomb cyclone and I am ON. BOARD."  
(#BombCyclone)

♦ 'Lava bomb' speeds down Cumbre Vieja volcano (© Harri Geiger @ Harrigeiger. Super!)

♦ see also *time bomb*

**danger: explosion / military / weapon**

## bomb (roach bomb, etc.)

roach bombs  
you can buy rat-resistant trash cans and ~ (at a store)

♦ "A New York City woman set off 21 bug bombs insider her apartment, causing an explosion that collapsed her five-story building, injuring 14 people."

**resemblance: explosion**

## bomb (code bomb)

"code bomb"  
after he was demoted, he inserted a ~ (hacker)

**computer: explosion / weapon**

## bomb (drop a bomb)

dropped this bomb  
Assange ~ without providing any evidence

dropped that little bomb in there  
you just kind of ~ that you yourself got COVID (NPR)

**amount & effect: explosion / weapon**  
**attention, scrutiny & promotion: explosion / sound / weapon**

## bomb (fail)

bombed  
his previous movie had ~

bomb at a comedy club

so badly does he ~...

bombing at the box office

Emancipation starring Will Smith is ~

**success & failure: explosion / weapon**

## **bomb (F-bomb, etc.)**

F-bombs

her language is full of ~

f-bomb

dropping an ~ will likely hurt and help O'Rourke (NPR)

N-bombs

the cop is a stock baddie, tossing ~... (a play)

drop F-bombs

they ~ with children in the crowd (Boston Celtics fans)

peppered with F-bombs

the song was ~ (Gayle / "abcdefu")

♦ "Dropping an f-bomb at a campaign rally will likely hurt and help O'Rourke." ("Motherfucker." The exquisite punditry we have all grown used to from NPR.)

♦ "But F-bombs, they used to kind of keep from showing you in those moments but now it's kind of for the world to see. So that's just the way it is." (NFL Quarterback Tom Brady, about his expletive-laden tirade at his offensive line, shown on TV for all to see and hear.)

♦ see also *word (the P-word, etc.)*

**speech: explosion / weapon**

## **bombard (verb)**

bombarded principals with messages

parents ~ (worried for kids)

bombard him with complaints

the young men he employed would ~

bombarded Friedel from all directions

Mexico ~ (soccer)

**amount & effect: explosion / military / verb / weapon**

## **bombarded**

bombarded with notices about today's deadline

her neighborhood has been ~ to file for compensation

bombarded with emails from opponents

lawmakers were ~

bombarded with faxes from around the world

the president's office was ~ from around the world

bombarded with complaints

the company was ~

bombarded by (job) offers from companies

he was ~

bombarded by hateful emails

she is being ~

bombarded by (visual and auditory) stimuli

we are constantly ~

bombarded by (so many unspecific) warnings

citizens have been ~ (terror)

bombarded by new ideas

in 1999, China was being ~ (due to Internet)

**amount & effect: explosion / military / weapon**

## **bombardment (noun)**

bombardment of (food) advertising

the constant ~ (health)

**amount & effect: explosion / military / weapon**

## **bombing (noun)**

review bombing

"~," when hordes of angry fans assign the lowest rating

*Bros* suffered from mass ~ (the queer film)

truth-bombing

viewers of CBS were treated to an uncomfortable ~

water-bombing

firefighters battled the wildfires with ~ planes (Gironde)

Zoom-bombing

there has been an increase in so-called '~'

Zoom bombing

the ~ was an attack on free expression

♦ "I remember I went down into this hole for another scoop of dirt, and then that's when the bomb hit. I looked at the man I was digging this hole with; half his body was gone. And I looked up at the trees and I could see body parts on the limbs on the trees, and I shook myself out of it and I stood up, and it was so quiet." (Private Manuel Orona, Hill 875, Dak To, Vietnam War. The 500-pound bomb from a Marine plane caused the worst friendly-fire incident of the Vietnam War.)

**amount & effect: explosion / military / weapon**

## **bombproof (adjective)**

bombproof

your pro should be ~ (climbing)

bombproof roll

you need a ~ (kayaking)

**flaws & lack of flaws: explosion**

## **bombshell (noun)**

bombshell

dropping a real-life ~ from his past

bombshell of a story

what a ~ (the horse Justified failed doping test)

bombshell claim

the ~ came on cross-examination (murder trial)

economic bombshell

the president dropped an ~ when he announced...

new bombshells

stayed tuned for ~ (entertainment TV)

bombshell landed

perhaps the most jaw-dropping ~ just 3 days ago (trial)

dropped his bombshell

he ~ (a lawyer)

fired (back) a bombshell

she ~ (divorce back-and-forth)

**amount & effect / attention, scrutiny & promotion / feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / military / sound / weapon**

## bonanza (noun)

bonanza of waves

the storm has created a ~ for surfers (hurricane)

bonanza for credit card companies

the move away from cash has been a ~

propaganda bonanza

the attack was a ~ for the insurgents

marketing bonanza

his success has been a ~ (Japanese ballplayer)

commercial bonanza

the drug has been a ~

financial bonanza

the ~ from Turkmenistan's gas fields

**activity / amount & effect / cost & benefit / worth & lack of worth: mining / money**

## bond (noun)

invisible bonds

the ~ that weave a country together into a single polity

**attachment / division & connection: chemistry**

## bone (close to the bone, etc.)

close to the bone

his arrest hit ~

**proximity: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## bone (cut something to the bone, etc.)

cut his rations to the bone

Shackleton had taken risks, he had ~

pared to the bone

the delegation has been ~ (government trip abroad)

♦ see also *pared* (*pared to the bone*)

**dismissal, removal & resignation / sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: knife / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## bone (racist bone, etc.)

bone in my body

I have not one evil ~

political bone

he doesn't have a ~ in his body (a military man)

racist bone

there's not a ~ in my body

I don't have a ~ in my body

to the bone

Marcos Llorente, a Blanco ~ (Real Madrid player)

to his bones

though he was an autocrat ~, he was not a fascist

♦ "When it comes to matters of morals, I'm Catholic right down to my little toes." (The abortion issue.)

**identity & nature: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## bone (throw a bone to someone)

throwing them a bone

she is just ~ hoping they'll support her (politics)

**coercion & motivation: animal / food & drink**

## bone (bone of contention)

big bone of contention

a ~ is Biden's embrace of "Buy American" (with Canada)

**conflict: animal**

## boo (verb)

boo

some of you may cheer and others will ~

**judgment: sound / verb**

**achievement, recognition & praise: sound / verb**

## boo (noun)

cheers and boos

the judge's decision drew ~

**judgment: sound**

**achievement, recognition & praise: sound**

## booby trap

booby trap of missteps

their fraudulent marriage creates a ~ (plot of book)

booby traps for unwary workers

many 401(k) plans have options that are ~

party booby traps

holiday ~ (ethics laws and partying / government)

budgetary booby trap

legislators concocted a ~ and must now defuse it (cuts)

political, ideological and geopolitical booby traps

the Middle East is such a mess of ~

overcome a booby trap

cooks had to ~ (the stink of Brussels Sprouts)

♦ "He took responsibility for and poured resources into improved public schools when most mayors thought schools were political booby traps." (Scott Simon's wonderful tribute to Richard M. Daley. From "Chicago's Recommended Daley Allowance, NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, September 11, 2010.)

♦ "Someone could get nailed for two beers and a bacon wrap. Nobody wants to be the example... I'm just going to avoid them this year." (A House GOP aide, about ethics "guidance" from House and Senate ethics

committees, that could turn simply attending a party into a “booby trap” that could “blow up in one’s face.”)

♦ “They’re trying to grab the House, and we’ve got barricades, picket fences and booby traps to defeat that.” (A Kentucky Democrat, presumably speaking figuratively.)

♦ “Booby traps: Man in Maine killed by own device.”

♦ “New technologies in cars are potential booby traps for first responders.”

♦ “I found a piece of red detonating cord between my legs. That’s when I knew I was screwed.” (Gunnery Sgt. Michael Burghardt, aka “Iron Mike” and “Gunny,” just before getting blown up by a trap while investigating an IED in Ramadi. Incredibly, he was not too badly wounded. A photo of him “flipping off” whoever detonated the trap became famous on the Internet.)

♦ “Victim-operated improvised explosive devices, known as VOIEDs, have various switches known as pressure plates. The idea is that the bomb is detonated by an unsuspecting individual by completing the circuit when pressure is applied or removed to the switch. / A power source supplies electricity between the switch and the detonator and by completing the circuit, the main charge explodes...” (“A U.S. Marine, A Curious Boy And An Unfathomable Moment” by AP investigative reporter James LaPorta, at NPR, September 9, 2021.)

**danger: explosion / military / weapon**

## booby-trapped

booby-trapped email

most ransomware attacks begin with a ~

**danger: explosion / military / weapon**

## book (rule book)

rip up the rule book

its willingness to ~ (*Fast & Furious* franchise)

**script: books & reading / sports & games**

**constraint & lack of constraint: books & reading / sports & games**

## book (close the book)

closed the book on a NFL future

he has ~ (athlete)

close the book on this

we need to ~ and move on

**curtailment / development: books & reading / verb**

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion / starting, going, continuing & ending: books & reading / verb**

## book (books and covers)

judge a book by its cover

you can’t ~

**appearance / appearance & reality / judgment: books & reading**

## book (open book)

open book

the rookie driver is a refreshingly ~ (interviews, etc.)

**character & personality: books & reading**

**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: books & reading**

## book (by the book)

by-the-book

he was strictly ~ (a soldier)

**character & personality: books & reading**

**constraint & lack of constraint / script: books & reading**

## book (throw the book at somebody)

“throw the book” at anyone

he vowed to ~ responsible

threw the book at him

the judge ~

**punishment & recrimination: books & reading / verb**

## book (development)

book of life

a man’s ~ should be considered, not just one chapter (trial)

what is the ~ itself but man’s war with nature (wild beasts)

♦ “It is a book as old as time: a good young person makes a mistake, chapter two is a good, young person is full of remorse. Chapter three is a good young person learns from the mistake and becomes a better person.” (Australia Olympic team boss Ian Chesterman, following the bad behavior of some Australian athletes at the Tokyo Olympics.)

**development: books & reading**

## bookend (development)

hormonal bookends

a woman’s ~ (puberty and period / menopause)

**development / starting, going, continuing & ending: books & reading**

## bookworm

bookworm

I admit it, I’m a ~

**enthusiasm: animal / books & reading / person**

**person: books & reading**

## boom (jade boom, etc.)

jade boom

the ~ has been fueled by the Chinese

boom and bust

Argentina is used to ~ (the economy)

**activity / cost & benefit: explosion**

## boom (increase)

booming

business is ~

**increase & decrease: explosion / sound / verb**

**activity: explosion / sound / verb**

## boomerang (verb)

boomeranged on him

it ~ (controversy)

boomerang (back) on us  
it could ~

**reversal: direction / verb / weapon**

## boomerang (noun)

boomerang kids  
millennial ~ may consume resources, finances and time

♦ "He has been hit by a boomerang launched by himself." (PM Boris Johnson.)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: weapon**

## booming (adjective)

booming popularity  
the ~ of audiobooks coincides with the rise of podcasts

**increase & decrease: explosion / sound**

## boost (verb)

boost the economy  
it will ~ (medical tourism)

boost his image  
this will ~ in the public eye (a fallen celebrity)

boost (sagging) morale  
they turned to sports to ~ (soldiers in war zone)

boost scores  
schools are under relentless pressure to ~

boosted my spirits  
it ~

**increase & decrease: direction / force / verb**

## boost (noun)

boost of expertise  
big business can offer a ~ (vaccination campaign)

boost from the private sector  
public health can get a ~ (outsourcing)

give a boost  
the deal would ~ to health programs (federal spending)

**increase & decrease: direction / force**

## boot (Italy's boot, etc.)

boot of Italy  
the ~ (*Io Stivale*)

Italy's boot  
Taras and Croton, on the heel & instep, respectively, of ~

instep of Italy's boot  
the road reached the Ionian Sea at the ~ (Taranto)

toe of (Italy's) boot  
the town of Riace lies near the ~ ('the global village')

♦ "If you look at that boot of Louisiana, the regions that will get hit the hardest are at the ball of the foot. Those sparsely populated parishes facing the Gulf like Terrebonne, Lafourche, and Plaquemines." (John Burnett reporting on Hurricane Ida.)

♦ The state of Missouri has a bootheel region, based on its shape.

**shape: clothing & accessories**

**area / geography: shape**

## boot (oppression)

boot  
as the ~ is removed from the neck of the people

boot of the Americans  
Latin America felt the heavy ~ (Guatemala / 1950s)

under the boot  
the people are ~ of barbaric power (Albania)

has its boot on the neck  
the government ~ of the company

**oppression: clothing & accessories**

## boot (shake in one's boots)

shaking in their boots  
a lot of HR folks are ~ (mass resignations / COVID)

**feeling, emotion & effect: clothing & accessories**

## boot (get the boot)

got the boot  
he ~ after making the final four (a dance contest)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: clothing & accessories**

## boot (soldier)

boots on the ground  
we needed ~ (soldiers abroad to fight terrorism)  
we have increased our ~ (US-Mexico border)

**military / person: sign, signal, symbol**

## boot (too big for one's boots)

get too big for their boots  
politicians are not allowed to ~ (Swiss referenda)

**character & personality: clothing & accessories / size**

## boot camp (education, etc.)

boot camp  
'~' helps caregivers manage stress (daylong workshop)

boot camp for people to learn  
she runs a 2-day ~ the tools and algorithms...

two-day bootcamp  
this ~ will also include... (freelancing / Jamie Lauren Keiles)

three-day (sustainability) "boot camp"  
a ~ run by the James Beard Foundation (cooking)

Publishing Bootcamp  
"~: Everything You Can't Google About Freelancing"

application boot camp  
Top Tier Admissions' "~" costs \$16,000 (for high-schoolers)

## Beauty Bootcamp

---Hooters Employee Handbook

## brain boot camp

older folks get modest memory boost from ~

## econ bootcamps

those ~ had a big impact (for federal judges)

## language boot camp

the ~ for Mormon missionaries

## Life Purpose Boot Camp

~ (: *The 8-Week Breakthrough Plan* by Eric Maisel)

## werewolf boot camp

so they asked to do a ~ (actor Emma Myers)

## academic book camp

professor launches ~ (algebra)

## conducts (free) boot camps

Ed Butowsky ~ for players (financial literacy / athletes)

♦ "What happens when you take some of the most powerful people in America—federal judges—and you teach them economics? / In the 1970s, an academic named Henry Manne had a radical idea. He wanted to show judges the power, the clarity, the logic of economics. So he invited the judges on trips to fancy resorts—all expenses paid—where they would mingle and take lessons from famous economists..." ("Econ's Brush with the Law," NPR, Planet Money, September 23, 2022. At one point, the presenter uses the term, "econ bootcamp." The intensity and total immersion, the reshaping of an individual, and the relatively short duration is what such a "boot camp" has in common with a real one. Everything else... Not so much!)

♦ "So we went after those kids from the very beginning, many basic math skills. The multiplication table, 1 through 15 became a way of life for them every single day, starting at 10 o'clock until 2, it was all algebra, algebra, algebra, basic math, basic math, basic math." (Daryao Khatri, a physics professor at the University of the District of Columbia. From "Professor Launches Academic Boot Camp," NPR, Tell Me More, May 7, 2014.)

♦ "A four-day "application boot camp," run by a company called Top Tier Admissions, costs \$16,000 (plus room and board). During the sessions, the high school juniors develop their essays, learn how to 'ace' their interviews, and create an 'activity sheet' to sum up all the awards, sports, club activities, and community work that admissions officers are eager to see." (*Weapons Of Math Destruction* by Cathy O'Neil.)

♦ "Now, legal groups are responding by training a new generation of activists to sue." ("Welcome To Voting Rights Boot Camp" by Carrie Johnson, NPR, Politics, April 7, 2014. In a similar vein, "Opposition Research Boot Camp: Learning to Dig For Political Dirt" by Tamara Keith, NPR, It's All Politics, April 1, 2013. NPR will use a cliché to death.)

♦ "So they asked me to come in and do, you know, werewolf boot camp, and I was like, 'Ok, what does that mean?'" (Emma Myers. From "'Wednesday' star Emma Myers went to 'werewolf boot camp' for the Netflix Series: 'I've never done so much parkour in my life'" by Eammon Jacobs, *Insider*.)

♦ "NYC wingwoman LLC, a relationship coaching service based in New York City, offers matchmaking, wingwoman services, 1-on-1 Coaching, and intensive weekend bootcamps."

♦ WRETCHED EXCESS. "Service members are known for their discipline and their ability to stay cool under fire. Veteran and financial planner Steve Repak says those skills are crucial to managing everyday finances. He speaks with host Michel Martin about his book, *Dollars and Uncommon Sense: Basic Training for Your Money...*" ("A Military Boot Camp For Your Money," NPR, Money Coach, November 15, 2012.)

♦ Boot camps for juvenile delinquents; boot camps to help veterans cook healthier food; boot camps to fight childhood obesity... (Boot camps...)

♦ Misery, Agony, and Heartbreak... (The three hills that recruits marched up and down at Fort Knox, Kentucky, for recruit training during the Vietnam War.)

♦ "Got the Fort Knox Boogie / Got the Fort Knox Boogie / What a crazy sound / What a crazy sound / If you want to have a ball / If you want to have a ball / Then you got to go AWOL / Then you got to go AWOL! / Sound off / One Two..." (Recruit training, Fort Knox, the Vietnam War.)

♦ "Raheel Siddiqui died after she threw herself off the barracks stairwell, falling 40 feet, while going through boot camp in 2016, an investigation into his death found." ("Family seeks Supreme Court in \$100M lawsuit for Parris Island Marine recruit's death" by Philip Athey, *Marine Corps Times*, Feb 6, 2020. The Supreme Court declined to hear the case.)

♦ "I asked Mario D'Aliesio, branch head of behavior health for Marine and Family Programs at Camp Pendleton, whether he found the string of suicides shocking or disturbing. / 'Does it seem shocking? I don't know,' he said." ("Over Six Years, There Have Been More Than 30 Suicides at Camp Pendleton" by Will Huntsberry, *Voice of San Diego*, July 19, 2022. The story was completed with assistance from the USC Annenberg Center for Health journalism.)

experience: military

## bootleg (adjective)

bootleg copy

he bought a ~ of Microsoft Windows

concealment & lack of concealment / subterfuge: alcohol / clothing & accessories

## bootlegger

digital bootlegger

new tools to go after ~s (a bill)

concealment & lack of concealment: alcohol

## boot out (verb)

boot out the IMF

Chavez helped Argentina ~

dismissal, removal & resignation: clothing & accessories / verb

## border (proximity)

border on the absurd

his arguments ~

bordered on miraculous

the last-minute goal ~ (sports)

bordered on obsession

his pursuit ~

bordered on panic

her response ~

border on racism

his comments ~

borders on rudeness

this ~

configuration / proximity: boundary

## border (doctors without borders, etc.)

Barbers Without Borders

TRAP Medicine— ~

Basketball Without Borders

he took part in the ~ (BWB) Africa Camp in SA

## Doctors Without Borders

- ~ sounded alarms (famine in Niger)
- ~ addresses charges of racism within its ranks (NPR)
- MSF, the acronym for ~ (Medicines Sans Frontieres)
- ~ to take legal action against Bollywood film

## Dub Without Borders

Adrian Sherwood: ~ by Sami Yenigun, NPR, 2012

## Food Without Borders

*Chocolate: A* ~ (Alejandra Garcia, NPR, 2009)

## Lawyers Without Borders

~? (NPR's Michele Kelemen / universal jurisdiction)

## Martyrs Without Borders

Mohammed Hafez on ~ (NPR, Fresh Air, 2007)

## Plumbers Without Borders

~'s main goal in Haiti is to teach (plumbing)

## Radio Without Borders

~: *Larry Lange, Eleni Mandell, Josh Rouse & More* (NPR)

## Reporters Without Borders

Reporters Sans Frontieres, or ~...  
~, known as RSF...

## Soccer Without Borders

~ uses soccer to reach underserved youth

## 'Tables Without Borders'

~ *Opens Restaurant Kitchens to Refugee Chefs* (NPR)

## Translators Without Borders

Alyssa Boulares, crisis response manager for ~

## Clowning Without Borders

~ *Aims To Give Refugees Another Way To Heal* (NPR)

- ♦ "Happy World Plumbing Day! We Celebrate By Interviewing...A Plumber" by Linda Poon, NPR, Goats And Soda, March 11, 2015.
- ♦ "Barbershops offer a unique setting for removing key barriers such as cost, literacy, proximity, and trust." ("Importance Of Colon Cancer Screening Among Black Men Highlighted After Chadwick Boseman Death," wbur, Here & Now, August 31, 2020.)
- ♦ "[The show evolved] into his Conan Without Borders specials." ("After 28 Quirky Years, Conan O'Brien Is Leaving Late Night" by Eric Deggans, NPR, Television, June 24, 2021. Cuba, Armenia, South Korea, etc.)
- ♦ "We see business without borders. You should have the ability to do business with anyone, anywhere. When business speaks a global language, the barriers disappear, and we believe technology can help. It inspires us to create software that brings companies closer to their customers and partners, regardless of language or location. Microsoft.com/potential. Your potential. Our passion.™ Microsoft. (A 2-page ad after the cover of *Smithsonian*.)
- ♦ Okay. Anything you can think of can be "without borders." Doctors, reporters, clowns, barbers, translators, plumbers, lawyers... Good marketing.

## constraint & lack of constraint: boundary

## borderland (noun)

### borderlands of science

a broad humanistic interest led him to pioneer on the ~

### proximity: boundary

### division & connection: boundary / line

### area / environment: ground, terrain & land

## born (born teacher, etc.)

### born to do it

she was ~ (the UK boxer Caroline Dubois)

### born athlete

the kid was a ~

### born bloodhound

he's a ~ who lives to track the scent of malfeasance

### born teacher

he was, it seemed, a ~

### born worrier

~s versus people who are carefree

### natural-born

~ genius is often deliberate technique (teachers)  
she is a ~ leader  
there are no ~ salesmen

♦ "You were born to do this." (A porn website.)

## identity & nature: birth

## born (creation)

### born

how to let peace be ~ despite the difficult labor pains  
the Red Guards were ~, and a period of madness began...  
Macedonia was where Slavic Christianity was ~  
it's where the Red Cross was ~ (Geneva, Switzerland)

### born of war

the Taliban were ~ (fundamentalist movements)

### born in the 1970's

the shadowy Baluchistan Liberation Army, ~ (Pakistan)

### born in the Swiss Alps

On was ~ (On is a company that makes running shoes)

### born in ancient Greece

the Olympics, ~ and reborn in Athens in 1896...

### born in New Orleans, Louisiana

Satch(mo), both you and jazz were ~, right (Roy Plomley)

### born in (great) jubilation

South Sudan, ~, is plunging into a vortex of violence

### born on 23 May 1991

the *Koori Mail* was ~ (indigenous Australian newspaper)

### born on platforms

it was ~ associated with far right extremism (QAnon)

### born on the kitchen table

the *Chicago Defender* was ~ of its publisher in 1905

### born on the (New York) subway

the Guardian Angels were ~ about 40 years ago (crime)

### born from Wounded Knee

he thinks of everything that's been ~

### born out of frustration or ignorance

his comments were ~

born digitally  
the material wasn't ~ and must be hand-scanned

conceived, born and raised  
*Nature* was ~ to serve polemic purpose (the magazine)

phrase was born  
the ~ in a Facebook post in 2013 ("Black Lives Matter")

star was born  
a ~ (Tom Daley at Beijing Olympics)

♦ "Six months after *Hotcakes* and Sally [Sarah] were born, James released his fifth Album, *Walking Man...* (Carly Simon's album, the baby, and James Taylor's album. From *Girls Like Us* by the fine writer Sheila Weller.)

♦ "Icebergs are born to wither and melt away." (BBC "How a colossal block of ice became an obsession" by Jonathan Amos, 15 Jan 2022.)

♦ *Born On The Fourth of July* was Marine Ron Kovic's affecting 1976 autobiography. It was made into a 1989 film directed by Oliver Stone and starring Tom Cruise.

**creation & transformation: birth**

## born-again

born-again Christian  
his conversion from hell-raiser to ~

born-again conservative  
he is a ~

sound like a born-again  
I hate to ~, but it has changed my life (hypnotism for...)

**commitment & determination / creation & transformation / identity & nature: religion**

## born-on (adjective)

born on date  
best consumed within 110 days of the ~ (Budweiser)

**creation & transformation: birth**

## bottle (British English / verb)

bottled it again  
he ~, he cannot handle the pressure of a big moment

bottled it against Italy  
he ~ in Euros (England manager / soccer)

bottle a (title) challenge  
3 points from 4 games, that's how you ~ (Arsenal FC)

♦ "Call him Peps Guardiola, because he knows how to bottle it." (Soccer snark after Manchester City snatches defeat from the jaws of victory against Real Madrid.)

♦ "Of course he bottled it...else he may have won a trophy.." (A sour sufferer of the "Robert Falcon Scott" syndrome about England-France at the World Cup in Qatar.)

**success & failure: bottle**

## bottle (British English / noun)

bottle and guts  
fair play to Chisora who is showing plenty of ~ (boxer)

♦ "No bottle no fight." (Soccer snark against Liverpool FC.)

**commitment & determination / courage & lack of courage: bottle**

## bottled up (emotions)

bottled up inside  
he must have a lot of fright and anxiety ~ (soldier)

bottled up rage  
the ~ of black people (the rapper Bobby Sessions)

kept them bottled up  
these things I internalized, I ~ (Andre Leon Talley)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bottle / container**

**access & lack of access: bottle / container**

**mental health: bottle**

## bottleneck (the Bottleneck, etc.)

the Bottleneck  
the climbers came to the infamous passage called the ~  
~, an hourglass-shaped gully beneath a serac (on K2)

Bottleneck Peak  
routes up ~ include Tippin The Bottle (Utah)

Bottleneck Wash  
~ enters from the left (into Granite Creek, Arizona)

**proper name: bottle / neck / shape**

**geography: bottle / neck / proper name**

## bottleneck (noun)

bottleneck  
Native Americans hunted the pronghorn at this ~  
the Panama Canal has become a ~ (too narrow, etc.)  
opening this ~ is critical (shortage of nurses)

bottlenecks on highways  
traffic ~

bottlenecks in the (nation's) power grid  
~ can cause outages

transportation bottleneck  
it's really going to be a ~ (lack of trucks)

genetic bottleneck  
blood samples reveal a ~ (too few Amur tigers left)

at some bottleneck  
if they get bogged down ~ like the Hillary Step (Everest)

become a bottleneck  
the Step has frequently ~ (Hillary Step / Everest)

remove (refining) bottlenecks  
industry must ~ (oil)

♦ "We will have more eh neck bottles, traffic jams, and that is a dangerous thing." (The remarkable Ecuadorian mountain guide Carla Perez on a relatively crowded K2 in 2019.)

**obstacles & impedance: bottle / neck / shape**

**shape: bottle / neck**

## bottle up (emotions)

bottles things up  
she ~

bottle it up and put it away  
you kind of ~ (male on male abuse)

bottle up your emotions  
you're trained to ~ and keep pushing from day one (a Marine)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bottle / container / verb**  
**access & lack of access: bottle / container / verb**

## bottle up (impede)

bottled up the Russian Far Eastern Fleet  
the Japanese ~ at Port Arthur (1904)

**obstacles & impedance: bottle / container / verb**

## bottom (at the bottom)

at the bottom of the barrel  
do their time ~ (worst job assignment)

at the bottom of the (economic) pyramid  
new jobs are coming ~ (poorly paid jobs)

at the bottom of the pecking order  
we were ~ (biker club)

**hierarchy: direction / position**

## bottom (hit bottom)

hit bottom  
we may have ~ (unemployment)

hit rock bottom  
the moment you ~ and admit to yourself... (addiction)  
he was a person who had ~  
things had ~ (bad relationship)  
before you can get better, you have to ~ (addiction)

hitting rock bottom  
livestock prices are ~

♦ "And so rock bottom became the solid foundation on which I rebuilt my life." (The remarkable J.K. Rowling in her remarkable speech at Harvard University.)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction**  
**decline: direction**

## bottom (get to the bottom of something)

get to the bottom of where  
he was never able to ~ the money had gone

get to the bottom of the error  
state officials said they would ~

get to the bottom of this case  
we want to ~

get to the bottom of this mystery  
no one wants to ~ quicker than... (crash)

get to the bottom of that  
we're never ever ever going to ~ (a boxing issue)

get to the bottom of things  
we need to ~ (a murder investigation)

get to the bottom of this  
we will ~ (investigation into fatal stampede)  
I want to ~ (US sits by during genocide in Rwanda)  
we'd really like to ~ (mystery illness)

get to the bottom about what happened  
we need to ~ (congressional investigation)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / bases / reconciliation, resolution & conclusion / searching & discovery: direction**

## bottom (no bottom)

no bottom to his willingness  
there is ~ to abuse his power (politics)

**extent & scope: depth / water**

## bottomless (adjective)

bottomless  
the well of outrage is ~ (fundamentalists)

bottomless thirst  
China has a ~ for oil and gas

**extent & scope: depth / direction**  
**amount: container / depth / direction**

## bottom line

bottom line  
what it is going to mean for the ~ (sanctions)

**cost & benefit: money**  
**analysis, interpretation & explanation: money**

## bouillabaisse (mixture)

bouillabaisse of his forebears  
Lil Nas X is a ~ (George Michael, Elton John, etc.)

**mixture: food & drink**

## bounce (verb)

bounced from one idea to the next  
I ~ (what to do this summer)

bounced around Southwest Asia  
he ~ (a terrorist)

bouncing around  
he was ~ a lot back then (rootless)

bounces in and out of bankruptcy  
everybody ~ (airlines)

bounced between homes  
his family ~ (rootless)

**movement: ball / direction / verb**

## **bounce back (verb)**

bounce back

the love and support of someone who helps them ~  
she was always able to ~ (Whitney Houston)

bounced back

I matured and ~ (a boxer)

bounce back from (natural) disasters

modern economies ~ (Kobe earthquake, etc.)

bouncing back from the pandemic

the economy is ~ (UK)

bounce back from setbacks

the UFC has been able to ~

bounce back quickly

resilient people ~ from failure

**resiliency: ball / movement / verb**

## **bounce back (noun)**

tremendous bounce back

we're going to see a ~ (lifting COVID restrictions)

**resiliency: ball / movement**

## **bound (destination)**

college-bound

~ high-schoolers are making their final deliberations

**direction: journeys & trips / movement**

## **bound (constrained)**

bound by a (strict) code

they are ~ of ethics (education consultants)

bound by the rules

he did not feel ~ that governed most men

bound by the (military's) code of silence

he didn't feel ~

desk-bound

the Chairman oversaw only the 1,600 ~ officers

duty-bound

nurses are ~ to report what they think is abuse

fogbound

the plane crashed in ~ mountains

fog-bound

a pileup on a ~ stretch of freeway killed eight (France)

hidebound

see *hidebound*

homebound

the ~ elderly

he takes meals to a ~ invalid

honor-bound

I am ~ to pay him back

house-bound

she is ~

ice-bound

Siberia's ~ expanse

the climate of ~ coastal regions

leather-bound

~ books

muscle-bound

a ~ frat boy

snowbound

we were ~

Nigata Prefecture is ~ for months (Japan)

spellbound

see *spellbound*

tradition-bound

the Marines are the most ~ of the services

tradition-bound

the Navy was run by ~ admirals

wheelchair-bound

the ~ author

feel bound

he didn't ~ by the military's code of silence

**constraint & lack of constraint: rope**

## **boundless (adjective)**

boundless energy

he was known for his ~ and tireless volunteerism

boundless enthusiasm

he didn't share his ~

boundless optimism

a ~ in the power of technology (computing)

**amount / extent & scope: boundary**

## **boundary (division)**

boundaries of the (doctor-patient) relationship

a psychiatrist may relax the normally strict ~

boundaries between plant species

the ~ are far more porous than among animals

boundary expressions

lexicographers must deal with these ~

racial boundary

Hispanic is an ethnicity crossing ~s

strict boundaries

a psychiatrist may relax the ~ (doctor-patient)

social, cultural and religious boundaries

his teachings transcend all ~

boundaries blur

when ~

relax the boundaries  
a psychiatrist may ~ of the doctor-patient relationship

transcended (racial) boundaries  
his work ~ (playwright August Wilson)

**division & connection: boundary**

## boundary (behavior)

boundary  
the usual ~s keep getting crossed (politicians)

boundaries of their (famed) tolerance  
the Dutch are rethinking the ~ (drugs, sex, squatting)

pushes boundaries  
he ~ (the comic Dave Chappelle)

♦ "People push the boundaries more and more and act like they are innocent. Kinda the equivalent of a toddler holding the finger an inch away saying 'I'm not touching you' over and over saying they are not doing anything." (Leon, commenting on the Yahoo article, "20-year-old claims bar manager 'humiliated' her because of her 'inappropriate' shirt: 'I wasn't topless'" by Katie Mather, September 1, 2022.)

**behavior / constraint & lack of constraint: boundary**

## bounded

bounded on the east  
the plateau is ~ by an escarpment of 100m

bounded (on the east) by an escarpment  
the plateau is ~ of 100m

plateau is bounded  
the ~ on the east by an escarpment of 100m

**configuration: boundary**

## bounds (no bounds, etc.)

knows no bounds  
the hypocrisy of the NCAA ~

overstepped his bounds  
he's a creep who ~ (gossip)

overstepping their bounds  
Homeowner's Associations are ~

**behavior / constraint & lack of constraint / extent & scope: boundary**

## bound up

bound up in the myths  
Indians are ~ white Americans have created

**constraint & lack of constraint: rope**

**involvement: movement / rope**

## bouquet (collection)

bouquet of memories  
this record brings back a particular ~ (Melvyn Bragg)

bouquet of tests  
Kerala is doing a ~, diagnostic, pooled... (pandemic)

**group, set & collection: plant**

## boutique (noun)

boutique (mountain guide) service  
Madison Mountaineering is a ~

**superiority & inferiority: money**

## box office (noun)

box office for *Sea of Love*  
~ was brisk from the outset (the film with Al Pacino)

**money: sign, signal, symbol**

## bow (and bow down)

bows before legend  
rational explanation often ~ (folklore)

bowing to cancel culture  
they are ~

bow to the inevitable  
we will have to ~

bowed to the inevitable  
he has ~ (minister under attack resigns)

bowed to pressure  
he has ~ from industrialists (a politician)

bow (down) to (government) pressure  
he thought the Washington Post would ~

bowed to (public) pressure  
he finally ~ to do something

bow (down) to Russia  
for cheap gas, we should ~ (a Moldovan taxi driver)

bowing to the U.S.  
the Turks are not ~ (arms dispute)

back down or bow  
she's an artist who won't ~ to convention

**dominance & submission / resistance, opposition & defeat: direction / religion / standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## bow (take a bow)

take a bow  
Graham Potter and team ~, well done (win over ManU)

**achievement, recognition & praise: gesture / sign, signal, symbol**

## bow (weapon)

strings to their bow  
Guardiola's side have many ~ (Manchester City soccer)

♦ *Arrow, bow, and quiver* are three words from archery that are used figuratively.

**help & assistance: military / weapon**

## bowels (noun)

bowels of the prison

a tiny, dark room in the ~ (solitary confinement)

bowels of Madison Square Gardens

we're now walking through the ~ (radio show)

bowels of the Los Angeles Superior Court

I found in the ~ a lawsuit... (O.J. Simpson trial)

bowels of the ship

he gathered his men in the engine room in the ~

deep in the bowels

scientists walk around ~ of the CDC (Atlanta, Georgia)

**place: infrastructure**

## **bowl (Vietnam's rice bowl, etc.)**

grain bowl

Punjab is India's "~"

rice bowl

the Mekong Delta, Vietnam's ~

**farming & agriculture: epithet / sign, signal, symbol**

## **bowl (America's salad bowl, etc.)**

"Salad Bowl of the World"

the city bills itself as the ~ (Salinas, California)

America's salad bowl

the Salinas Valley is known as ~ (greens)

the Salinas Valley is nicknamed ~

Northern California's Salinas Valley is often dubbed ~

**farming & agriculture: epithet / sign, signal, symbol**

## **bowl (salad bowl / mixture)**

mixing bowl

the club was a ~ (young musicians learn from elders)

melting pot, a (beautiful) tapestry, or a salad bowl

is the United States a ~

reimagined as a salad bowl

the melting pot was being ~ (ethnic identity, etc.)

♦ "Macedonia [was] the inspiration for the French word for 'mixed salad' (*macedoine*)." (*Balkan Ghosts: A Journey Through History* by Robert D. Kaplan.)

♦ Argentina was once describe by a Polish émigré as "batter that has not yet become cake." ("Another New World" by Larry Rohter, *The New York Review*, June 10, 2021.)

♦ "This points to a unique understanding of plurality of Indian society—it is more like a *thali* (an Indian meal comprising a selection of separate dishes served on a platter), rather than a melting pot." (Neha Sahgal, a lead author of a Pew study that found Indians support religious tolerance and religious segregation.)

**identity & nature / mixture: food & drink**

## **bow out (verb)**

bow out

he has refused pressure to ~ (a politician)

it would have been a good time for him to ~ (a boxer)

♦ "This is a pretty special way to bow out if this is indeed his swan song." (Commentary about the great and beloved boxer Amir Khan, who lost his

match to Kell Brook by TKO in the sixth round in a packed Manchester arena.)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / dismissal, removal & resignation / starting, going, continuing & ending: theater / verb**

## **box (box somebody into a corner)**

boxed himself into a corner

he has ~ on tax increases (a politician)

**movement: corner**

**constraint & lack of constraint / situation: boxing / corner / movement / sports & games / verb**

## **box (in / out / outside the box)**

out-of-the-box

how ~ can I go (actor takes strange roles)

out-of-the-box idea

she came up with an ~

think out of the box

we have to think ~ (WHO and Ebola)

think outside the box

she learned how to ~

fit it (neatly) into a (single conceptual) box

"data" escapes attempts to ~ (cloud, stream, mine)

**constraint & lack of constraint / idea: container**

## **box (labeling)**

Eurovision box

they didn't try to fit into a ~ (an Italian group)

broken out of a lot of boxes

I've ~ in my career (actor-filmmaker Elizabeth Banks)

put them in a box

we don't want to brand people, to ~ (legacy students)

forces autistic people into a box

the world often ~

**characterization: container**

## **box (tick a box, etc.)**

boxes of (so-called) diversity

there are easy ways to tick the ~ and not critically engage

box-ticking exercise

this is just a ~ to silence criticism

tick-box exercises

~ that really have no clinical value (NHS bureaucracy)

tick both boxes

trying to ~ was always the goal (to make a film popular)

ticked all the boxes

he had ~ he needed to (to travel / COVID)

ticks all the boxes

Tyson Fury ~ (the boxer)

ticks every box

her game ~ (Emma Raducanu)

ticks off (just about) every box

she ~ that liberals might want in a nominee (Supreme Court)

ticking a box

it's not just an exercise of ~ anymore, it's taken seriously

box ticking agenda

he fits their ~ perfectly (AJ as BBC commentator)

♦ "Satisfies all requirements for success."

**judgement / cost & benefit: letters & characters**

**box (check the box, etc.)**

box to be checked

the FAA was just another ~ (profits over safety)

checked a box

it feels like they ~ by having the vigil (Dartmouth College)

check the boxes

it seemed like an exercise to ~ (bureaucratic formality)

checked a lot of boxes for my dream next thing

this ~ (Anthony Weiner about his company)

check-the-box exercise

it's merely a one-week ~ (mental health / policing)

check-the-box holiday

a paid holiday vs. just a ~ (Juneteenth)

check off (multiple) boxes

it would ~ for ethnic and racial diversity

tick in a box

I don't think it is a procedural ~ (cold case investigation)

♦ "Check, check, check, and it was a no-brainer..." (The popular NFL player Cam Newton returns to the Carolina Panthers. Or as Newton himself said, "You know where I'm here, and this ain't for no play.")

♦ "It's about not having to label everything, not having to clarify what boxes you're checking." (Harry Styles, about sexuality.)

♦ "It feels like they checked a box by having the vigil in May and that they just want everyone to move on now." (A Dartmouth student, grieving over the deaths of four students. Two were suicides.)

♦ "Malcolm is all too obviously present to fill the biracial slot..." ("A Whole Lotta Pain" by Daniel Mendelsohn.)

♦ "I know the Rooney Rule [is] essentially a checkmark... that doesn't really require you to give any actual attention or intent to hiring Black coaches." (Mat Hostenetler, "Sometimes It Rains" podcast.)

**substance & lack of substance: letters & characters**

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

**boxed in (verb)**

boxed in

she's not about to be ~ (a singer and her style)

**constraint & lack of constraint: container**

**boy (noun)**

boy's club

see *boys' club (boy's club, boys club)*

mama's boy

see *mama's boy (and mummy's boy, etc.)*

blue-eyed boy

see *boy (blue-eyed boy)*

bad boy

see *bad boy (person)*

big boy

see *big boy (person)*

Old Boy

see *Old Boy (Old Boy network, etc.)*

golden boy

see *golden boy*

men against boys

Arsenal versus Manchester City, ~ (Man City 4-Arsenal 1)

**growth & development: life span**

**boy (blue-eyed boy)**

blue-eyed boy of publishing

audio is the ~ at the moment (audio books)

♦ "Mount must be Southgate's love child." (Soccer snark.)

♦ see also *guy (good guy, etc.), man (big man, little man, etc.), Mister (and Mr., Missus, Mrs.)*

**achievement, recognition & praise / superlative / worth &**

**lack of worth: family / person**

**character & personality: person**

**person: family**

**boyish (adjective)**

boyish appeal

he's twenty-eight, and his ~ is rushing past its sell-by date

charmingly boyish

at thirty-nine, he could still seem ~ (J. Robert Oppenheimer)

**resemblance: affix**

**boys' club (boy's club, boys club)**

boy's club

the upper echelon of music is still a ~  
economics still stands alone as a ~

boys club of comedy

he wants to change the ~ (Guy Branum)

"boys club" culture

sexual misconduct and a general ~ (media company)

boys' club network

she describes the Academy as a ~ (the Grammys)

good-old-boys

see *Old Boy (Old Boy network, etc.)*

break through the (sportswriting) boys' club

the battle to ~

break up the boys' club

the push to ~ at the Fed

confronted (Rock's) boys club  
they ~ (music)

♦ "This whole situation in the industry is like a big boy's club... I'm telling on one of y'all friends, now you're all about to hate me." (Testimony by Megan Thee Stallion at trial.)

♦ "If I want to join this boy's club, you better be able to take the blows." (The remarkable actor Michelle Yeoh, on learning and doing martial arts stunts with men. She received an Oscar for Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role in 2023. Super!)

♦ "There's a boys club culture at Scotland Yard that's allowed predatory behavior against women to flourish." (The Baroness Casey Report on the Metropolitan Police Service.)

**group, set & collection / hierarchy / society: school & education**

## brace (verb)

brace yourself  
~ for bad news

brace for (yet another) election  
Israelis ~

bracing for more fallout  
Washington is ~ from the scandal

braced for a typhoon  
the Philippines ~ that could trigger flooding

**readiness & preparedness: equilibrium & stability / infrastructure / verb**

## braced

braced for a long siege  
the demonstrators are ~

braced for a (tropical) storm  
Florida is ~

**readiness & preparedness: equilibrium & stability / infrastructure**

## Brahmin (person)

Brahmin Caste  
the ~ of New England (Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.)

brahmin elite  
they are an insular, intermarrying ~ (Bohemian Bourgeois)

Boston Brahmin  
the ~ is a Wikipedia entry

♦ "They have coalesced into an insular, intermarrying brahmin elite." ("How The Bobos Broke America" by David Brooks, *The Atlantic*, September 2021. A Bobo is short for Bohemian Bourgeois, or the young, multicultural left.)

♦ "And this is good old Boston, / The home of the bean and the cod, / Where the Lowells talk only to Cabots, / And the Cabots talk only to God." ("Boston Toast" by John Collins Bossidy.)

**acceptance & rejection / hierarchy: society**

**society: person**

**person: society**

## brain (noun)

brains behind the machinery  
he is the ~ that makes the wave (Kelly Slater's wave)

brains behind the project  
he was the ~

mathematical brain  
he is the ~ behind the striking timepieces (sundials)

**knowledge & intelligence: head**

## brain (on the brain)

sex on the brain  
not that men need help getting ~

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: addiction**

## brainchild (noun)

brainchild of a Ladakhi engineer  
the ice stupa is the ~ (Sonam Wangchuk)

brainchild of Ted Turner  
24-hour news was the ~ (CNN)

brainchild of a (16-year-old high school) student  
the stunt was the ~ (viral news story)

brainchild like STEM  
a ~ has many fathers (education / Charles E. Vela, etc.)

Mat Damon's brainchild  
*The Last Duel* is ~ (the film)

♦ "A brainchild like STEM has many fathers, and one who has credibly claimed paternity is Charles E. Vela..." (Education.)

**idea: family / head**

**creation & transformation: family / head**

## brain-dead (adjective)

brain dead  
Macron described NATO as "~"

'Brain Dead Liberal'  
"Why I Am No Longer a ~" (article by David Mamet)

"brain dead" and "morons"  
he labeled complaining residents as ~

♦ "*Porgy and Bess* is a buncha good songs but has nothing to do with race relations, which is the flag of convenience under which it sailed." (The great playwright David Mamet, from "Why I Am No Longer a 'Brain Dead Liberal,'" *The Village Voice*, March 11, 2008.)

♦ "Democrat politicians really do believe that the average US citizen is completely brain-dead." (A comment on a discussion board.)

**consciousness & awareness: health & medicine**

**condition & status: death & life / health & medicine**

## brain death (noun)

brain death of Nato  
what we are currently experiencing is the ~ (Macron)

♦ "You have to look at the background and see exactly which bits of Nato Macron was criticizing." (Sophie Pedder, Paris Bureau Chief of the *Economist*, talking on NPR about Macron's description of NATO as

"brain dead." Angela Merkle labeled Macron's description "drastic words.")

**condition & status: health & medicine**

## brain drain (and brain gain)

brain drain

the agency has suffered a severe ~

"brain gain"

out-of-state students lead to a ~ (at Chapel Hill, NC)

reverse brain drain

the US is seeing a ~ as foreign students go home

**knowledge & intelligence / leaking: head**

## brainstorm (verb)

brainstorm ideas

~ for his current script

brainstorm solutions

meet key people and ~ to the challenges you face

brainstorm everything

if we tried to ~ that could possibly go wrong, we'd...

**idea: head / storm / verb**

## brainstorm (noun)

latest brainstorm

his ~ is to open a chain of "As Seen on TV" stores

**idea: head / storm**

## brain trust

medical brain trust

he compared notes with the NFL's ~ (concussions, etc.)

**knowledge & intelligence: head**

**group, set & collection: money**

## brainwash (verb)

brainwashed him

the cult had ~

**violence: head / hygiene**

## brainwashed

brainwashed to believe

they have been ~ that everything is about race (CRT)

brainwashed by the media

he says his co-worker has been ~ (politics)

coerced, brainwashed or (even) drugged

she may have been ~ (a terrorist)

♦ According to the Wikipedia entry, "The term 'brainwashing' was first used in English by Edward Hunter in 1950" in reference to the Korean war."

♦ "He's a human being; we should treat him the same as we treat any other G.I.... I don't think it's the boy's own fault. No doubt at the time—I never seen him or never met him—No doubt he was young and he wasn't trained properly." (Charles E. Kelly, World War Two veteran and Medal of Honor recipient, when he was asked by Mike Wallace,

newsmen, "How do you think that we should treat US Army turncoats?" like Samuel David Hawkins, who had just returned back to the US from China in 1957.)

**violence: head / hygiene**

## brake (control)

emergency brake

they are pulling the ~ (COVID shutdown)

pump the brakes

some voters want them to ~ (impeachment)

moderates are saying, hey, let's ~ (slow down of demands)

somebody needed to tell her to ~ and to stop pushing to...

but when you're caught up in something, it's hard to ~ (cult)

tap the brakes

something is causing shoppers to ~ on spending

tapping the brakes

the Fed is ~ a bit on the economy

put the brakes on (economic) growth

industrialists fears the unions would ~

put the brakes on your feelings

you ~ to avoid confrontation (Japanese "Gaman")

tap the brakes on spring break

high gas prices may ~

**control & lack of control / increase & decrease / speed: mechanism / movement**

## branch (taxonomy)

branches of Buddhism

the various ~ (Zen, Tibetan, etc.)

branches of Christianity

the Armenian Church, one of the most ancient ~

branch of Islam

the Hazara are members of the Shiite ~ (Afghanistan)

discrimination against adherents of the Shi'a ~

the Salafiya ~ regards Shiites as non-Muslims

the Ismailis are a minority within the minority Shia ~

branches of Islam

the centuries of enmity between the Sunni and Shiite ~

branch of Shia Islam

Ismailism is a ~

branches of biology

ecology is one of the hardest ~ (it's so complex)

branches of the (Hawiye) clan

the many ~ (Mogadishu)

branch of government

judges constitute a third ~

branch of knowledge

theology was accepted as the supreme ~

branches of the military

special operations forces from various ~

branch of physics  
quantum mechanics is a ~

branch of engineering  
he felt the oil industry ~ suited his personality

branch of the Bani Hassan  
Al-khalayleh is a ~ (Jordan)

branch bank  
each of the four corners has a ~ (NYC)

branch library  
or any other ~

ordnance branch  
he is in the ~, which provides ammunition

service branch  
veterans from all four ~s

Salafiya branch  
the ~ of Islam regards Shiites as non-Muslims

Shi'a branch  
discrimination against adherents of the ~ of Islam

Shia branch  
the Ismailis are a minority within the minority ~

various branches  
special operations forces from ~ of the military

adherents of the (Shi'a) branch  
discrimination against ~ (in Saudi Arabia)

**taxonomy & classification: tree**

**branching system: tree**

## **branch out (verb)**

branch out  
I just thought I'd ~ (make new friends)

branched out into (food) wholesaling  
he ~ (a businessman)

**growth & development: tree / verb**

**branching system: tree / verb**

## **brand (verb)**

branded his accusers liars  
he ~ (convicted sex abuser)

brand them apostates  
Sunni Arab extremists ~ (Iraq's Christians)

branded the extradition "unlawful"  
the Russians ~

branded all Chechen rebels baby killers  
he ~ (post-Beslan)

**characterization: fire / mark / verb**

## **brand (non-product)**

brand of nationalism

the Scottish National Party promotes a "big tent" ~

brand of politics  
what makes Chicago's ~ so distinctive

political brand  
your particular ~ (identity, values)

♦ Shankar Vedantam: "I want to talk a moment about a non-business, non-consumer setting, uh, Republicans and Democrats don't think about their political parties as brands, but it sounds like they almost relate to them in the way people relate to brands... And I'm wondering, is the animosity we see in the country between Republicans and Democrats less to do with ideology and more about brand loyalty." / Americus Reed: "Political parties are indeed brands." ("I Buy, Therefore I Am: How Brands Become Part Of Who We Are," NPR, Hidden Brain, July 1, 2019.)

♦ "Because heat is invisible, and silent, it doesn't have the drama of the hurricane, and the tornado, and the flood, it needs extra identification and branding." (Kathy Baughman McLeod, a high-energy leader with a passion for local cultures, at the Atlantic Council. From "Naming heatwaves may help warn of the risks associated with them," NPR, Morning Edition, June 13, 2022.)

♦ "We've got to take a sober, humble, and honest look in the mirror and rebrand ourselves based on what we truly value." (Matthew McConaughey after a visit to the White House to meet President Biden and talk about the Uvalde school shooting.)

♦ "Shrink it and pink it." (Marketing to women.)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / identity & nature / taxonomy & classification: money**

## **brass (leader)**

Detroit Lions brass  
~ went wild in their war room (glad about draft pick)

**hierarchy: materials & substances / military / sign, signal, symbol**

## **brat (insult)**

petulant brats  
no room in team sports for arrogant egotists and ~

spoilt brat  
disgusting ~ behaviour (a poor loser / boxing)

arrogant narcissistic brat  
good riddance to the ~ (criticism of a soccer player)

♦ bye brat. You were a GOAT but your head is now far too big. (Criticism of a great soccer player.)

♦ "Brilliant performance by Brighton, I know it was only Liverpool, but you can only spank what's in front of you." (Sureditch on a BBC HYS. 1056 thumbs up.)

**growth & development: life span**

**behavior / character & personality / insult / person: baby**

## **brave (the brave)**

favours the brave  
fortune ~ (Super Bowl crypto ad with Matt Damon)

**courage & lack of courage: person**

## **brave (verb)**

braved the weather  
several hundred people ~ for a screening

**courage & lack of courage: verb**

## **brave (girls and women, etc.)**

brave book

Bari Weiss has written what must be judged a ~ (blurb)

braver than I am

he's a lot ~, he's been living in a small town being trans...

bravest (new) character

she is the ~ on TV (the Muppet Julia, who is autistic)

bravest (red carpet) looks

Taylor Swift's ~

brave plaintiffs

the two ~ who took on Florida's anti-gay marriage ban

brave (widower) type

the press wanted him to be this very ~ (Joe Biden)

Brave, a Badass, a Heretic

I have been called ~ (a female blogger)

bravest, most terrifying

Amy M. Holmes is one of the ~ writers working today

how brave

~ he is at being so outwardly gay (a pop star)

extraordinarily brave

she made the ~ decision to create a new show... (*I May Destroy You*)

incredibly brave

it's ~ that she has revealed her truth (depression)

bold or brave

I don't think it's ~ (Superman's son is bisexual)

emotional, brave, raw

it's ~... (Demi Lovato's new album *Holy F\*\*\**)

called Flo-Jo's style "brave"

Jamaica's Grace Jackson ~ (outfits, fingernails, etc.)

need to be brave

girls coming through ~ (Lisa De Vanna about lesbians)

called the professor extraordinarily brave

she ~ for leading the charge against the cancel mob

♦ "He's a lot braver than I am—he's been living in a small town, being trans, for 10 years, and he's not afraid of people. He did not want to be anonymous. He wanted pictures of himself published with the article." ("Jamie Lauren Keiles Follows the Surgical and Philosophical Journey of Phalloplasty" by Celia Ford, July 26, 2022. A rare usage of "been being.")

♦ "I have been called Brave, a Badass, a Heretic..." (A female blogger who has written for the Huffington Post, ScaryMommy, the Houston Moms Blog, etc.)

♦ "Choosing yourself, and acknowledging that you are worthy simply because you are breathing—that is a brave thing." ("A Letter to College Sports" by Cailin Bracken.)

♦ "What makes Lil Nas X so extraordinary is how brave he is at being so outwardly gay within the urban music world." (Elton John.)

♦ "There's not a lot of women I've worked with that are brave in the way that Anne is brave...she was very original." (Alec Baldwin in an Instagram video about Anne Heche.)

♦ "It was a very brave move by Hammer [Productions] because it was so out there, and a lot of people thought, 'wow, what is this film.'" (Cult actress Caroline Munro, about the film *Dracula AD 1972*. Ms. Munro got a part in it after a studio boss spotted her on a billboard advertisement for Lamb's Navy rum.)

♦ bibleexpert: He died after a "brave" battle with cancer. Dropping bombs on Iraq, on the other hand, didn't require quite as much bravery. / James to bibleexpert: The Air Force and Navy drop bombs the Army fights on the ground and that takes brave men and women. / Lake Life to bibleexpert: Speaking of bravery, a coward behind a key board criticizing a much greater man than he could ever be is pathetic. / bibleexpert to Lake Life: How did you assess that I'm a "coward"? (ABC's "Join the Discussion," about the death of an Army general who died of cancer.)

♦ "Why is this brave? What's brave about not being brave?" (Talk radio host Clay Travis about the gymnast who quit her Olympic team because, as she explained, "I was like, I am not in the right headspace." The gymnast was widely praised as brave.)

♦ "They said it's a bold new direction. I say [DC Comics is] bandwagoning. I don't think it's bold or brave... If they had done this 20 years ago, perhaps that would be bold or brave." (Dean Cain, commenting on DC Comics decision to make Superman's son bisexual.)

♦ "The same formula again and again. I want to post pictures of myself in bathing suits. When I get criticized I'll say I want to do it for others and for body positivity. When I get criticized for that, I will show sadness that the world doesn't support mental health and I'm a victim, and finally I'll get praised for being so brave for living my own truth." (Bob Loblaw. A BBC HYS about "SI Swim model Natalie Mariduena wants to 'be an example' of 'body normalcy'" by Stephanie Nolasco, August 20, 2022.)

♦ "Good morning, everyone. It's very brave of you to all be up this early." (Ramtin Arablouei and Rund Abdelfatah.)

♦ "An army's bravest men are its cowards. The death which they would not meet at the hands of the enemy they will meet at the hands of their officers, with never a flinching." ("What I saw of Shiloh" by Ambrose Bierce.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## **brave new world**

brave new workers

~, how workers adapt to the changing economy

brave new streaming world

we live in a ~ (a filmmaker)

brave new world of business

Wal-Mart and the ~

brave new world of 'editing' human genes

the ~ (CRISPR)

in the brave new world

it's a detective story ~ that we live in (hacking)

♦ Aldous Huxley wrote the book in 1931 and it was published in 1932. The book creates a dystopian future world, the only goal of which is stability based on the principles of science and social science. Huxley wrote it as a parody of H.G. Wells' books on utopias.

**oppression: allusion / books & reading**

**allusion: books & reading**

## **bravery (groups)**

bravery

his fear, and his ~, is not in doubt (John A. Symonds)

bravery and courage

that takes ~ (Simone Biles prioritizes her wellbeing)

act of bravery

when someone is openly queer in public, it is an ~

showed enormous bravery  
he ~ (Muhammad Ali refuses induction)

♦ "It takes huge bravery to say what she's saying." (Simon Biles withdraws from Tokyo Olympics event to prioritize her wellbeing.)

♦ "Her bravery for always standing in her truth, spreading her message of love and acceptance, will continue to have a lasting impact." (Anne Heche.)

♦ "It's bravery for the left, it's not bravery for the world." (Fox anchor Todd Piro, about DC Comics making Superman's son bisexual.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## **brawl (noun)**

political brawl  
the government's ~s with the Muslim Brotherhood  
this is turning into a ~ (funding)

public brawl  
he knew he would lose in a ~ with a Naval officer

scientific brawl  
his appetite for ~s is increasing with age (scientist)

**conflict: fist / violence**

## **brazen (adjective)**

brazen  
the company was ~ (bribes)

brazen play  
they orchestrated a ~ (political corruption)

so brazen  
he's gotten ~ that... (politics)

♦ The origin of this word relates to brass.

**restraint & lack of restraint: materials & substances**

**behavior: materials & substances**

## **breach (verb)**

breached (parts of) the agreement  
Iran has already ~ since the Trump administration...

breached a (2012) agreement  
the question of whether Facebook ~ over user privacy

breached article 16  
Hong Kong supporters ~ of the FIFA Disciplinary Code

breached a (a key, but seldom tested "morality") clause  
PBS argued that he ~

breached confidentiality  
the Board members who contacted the press ~

breached its contract  
reports that the startup ~ (Philly Fighting COVID)  
Parler claimed the tech giant breached ~ by...

breached their (fiduciary) duties  
the Board members willfully ~ to the union

breached EU Law  
Dutch rules ~ on protecting nature from...

breached his obligations

the court ruled Snowden ~ to the intelligence agencies

breached the terms  
Iran has since ~, enriching uranium past the limit

breached a certain threshold  
schools would have to shut down if infections ~

**protection & lack of protection: fortification / military / verb**

## **breach (noun)**

breach of etiquette  
the ~ was startling  
she was chastised for a ~ (teen golfer at tournament)

breach of the peace  
acts causing a ~ are prohibited (city park)

breach of (academic) politics  
the ~ destroyed his university career

breach of (investigative) protocol  
it is the worst ~ (leak about case)

breaches of respect  
~ are sometimes met with vicious reprisal (surfing)

breaches of the rules  
police were guilty of ~ on questioning suspects

breach of the (truce) treaty  
we urge the North to apologize for the ~

breach of trust  
Gordimer accused Roberts of ~ (over biography of her)  
charges include bribery, fraud and ~ (a Prime Minister)  
charges include misappropriation of Nissan funds and a ~

breaches of Islamic law  
they police the streets on the lookout for ~

breach in the public health system  
the closure creates a serious ~

breach with President Yeltsin  
how do you avoid a major ~ (diplomacy)

data breach  
the latest ~ (from the Dept. of Veterans Affairs)

safety breach  
China closed the lab after a ~ (SARS)

security breach  
a series of ~s on the Internet  
the CIA's handling of the ~  
a ~ of customer information (40 million credit-card holders)  
reports on ~s in airports

computer-security breaches  
many companies have detected ~

substantial and significant breaches  
police were guilty of ~ of the rules on questioning suspects

guilty of breaches  
the police were ~ of the rules on questioning suspects

detected (computer-security) breaches  
many companies have ~

jump into the breach  
the company enlisted him to ~

step into the breach  
the Germans and French have offered to ~ (intel)

stepping into the breach  
zoom fatigue set in months ago, but audio is ~

stepped into the breach  
ordinary citizens have ~ (disaster relief)

♦ "We showed we were willing to stand in the gap." (Sherrilyn Ifill of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, about the "challenge of 2020.")

♦ "Those who stormed this Capitol, and those who instigated and incited, and those who called on them to do so, held a dagger at the throat of America, and American democracy... I will stand in this breach, I will defend this nation, I'll allow no one to place a dagger at the throat of democracy." (President Joe Biden, in a speech on January 6th, 2022.)

♦ "The trenches having been opened and the works carried on in the usual manner, the artillery at length began to make a breach, and after a three days' cannonade having made such an opening in the massive wall that it was reported practicable by Colonel Wellesley, orders were issued for storming the place... / Crossing the rocky bed of the Cavery, under a terrible fire of cannon, jingalls, and musketry, the glacis and ditch were soon crossed... / Lieutenant-Colonel Dunlop was here wounded when half way up by a *sirdar* of Mysore, who met him scimitar in hand. Parrying a cut with his sabre, the colonel slashed open his antagonist's breast, and mortally wounded him. The *sirdar* made another cut that nearly hewed off the head of the colonel, and falling back into the breach was instantly bayoneted. Dunlop reached the summit, and then fell from loss of blood... / Within seven minutes from the time the assault began, the British standard was waving on the outer bastion of the fortress..." ("Seringatam, 1799, from *British Battles on Land and Sea* by James Grant.)

protection & lack of protection: fortification / military

## breached

breached during the pandemic  
IEPs have been ~ (education / a lawsuit)

breached by a (crippling) cyberattack  
the elections office was ~ (Florida in 2016)

breached lease  
he does not want to continue in a ~ (a landlord)

database was breached  
the FBI is investigating how the ~

information is breached  
when consumer's personal ~

privacy has been breached  
those whose digital ~ have little resort

♦ "Cynthia responded to that and said, 'You wanted to make her squirm a little.' / The fortifications had been breached, to continue the military metaphor, and Cynthia charged right through. She said, 'In fact, General, you knew your daughter was not the victim of some rapist...'" (*The General's Daughter* by Nelson DeMille. The author is noteworthy in the way he explicitly notices language and dialect.)

subterfuge: allusion / verb

## bread (noun)

breadbasket

see *breadbasket* (*Pakistan's breadbasket, etc.*)

breadcrumb  
see *breadcrumb* (evidence)  
see *breadcrumb* (verb)  
see *breadcrumbed*  
see *breadcrumbing* (leading someone on)

bread and butter  
see *bread and butter* (livelihood)

bread-and-butter  
see *bread-and-butter* (adjective)

sliced bread  
see *bread* (sliced bread)

## bread (sliced bread)

since sliced bread  
this is the greatest thing ~

♦ "Hang on I thought BBC said this Man Utd was the greatest thing since sliced bread." (An online commenter about Liverpool 7-0 Man Utd. A commenter to the commenter replied, "And today they was toasted.")

♦ "Funny how so many people who thought he was the greatest thing since sliced bread have changed their tune now." (Boxing snark about Anthony Joshua.)

♦ The greatest invention in human history is not the wheel, and it's certainly not sliced bread. As much of the nation broiled this week in temperatures in the high 90s and beyond, can there be any doubt that our most wondrous piece of technology is the air conditioner? / It was way back in 1902 that Willis Carrier created the Apparatus for Treating Air... ("An ode to AC" by William Falk, Editor, *The Week Magazine*.)

♦ "After the plates had been polished clean with bread that my mother used to cut holding the flat, four-pound loaf against her chest, the pudding came out, and let me tell you my mother's puddings would make you hold your breath to eat..." (*How Green Was My Valley* by Richard Llewellyn. Otto Frederick Rohwedder of Davenport, Iowa, invented a bread slicing machine, and commercially sold sliced bread was first sold in 1928.)

superlative: food & drink

## bread and butter (livelihood)

bread and butter  
positive stories are our ~ (*Koori Mail* newspaper)

bread and butter of prime-time TV  
medical dramas are the ~ (2020)

bread and butter to reporting  
making sources is ~

earn its bread and butter  
science has to ~ (practical applications)

♦ "This was bread, bread, black bread... Science is bread, bread for the soul." (Viktor Shtrum's physics breakthrough from *Life And Fate* by Vasily Grossman, New York Review Books, translated by Robert Chandler.)

bases / importance & significance: food & drink / sign, signal, symbol

## bread-and-butter (adjective)

bread-and-butter model  
the company's ~

bases / importance & significance: food & drink

## breadbasket (Pakistan's breadbasket, etc.)

breadbasket of Europe

the area is often called the ~ (Russia / Ukraine)

breadbasket of India

the Punjab is the ~ (Sikhs)

breadbasket to the Revolution

the Mohawk Valley acted as the ~ (U.S.)

breadbasket of the Confederacy

the Shenandoah Valley was known as the ~ (Civil War)

Afghanistan's breadbasket

the broad Shomali Plain that was once ~

Brazil's (southern) breadbasket

~ flourishes (vs. Amazon)

Pakistan's breadbasket

Punjab is known as ~ for its agriculture

country's breadbasket

Northern India, the ~ (larger farms, grain)

nation's breadbasket

the Great Plains are the ~ (western Kansas, etc.)

♦ This is the same as *granary*.

♦ "The Indus brings bread to our table. It is one of the longest rivers in the world, and it is also one of the wildest." (Wajahat Malik, filmmaker and leader of the Indus Expedition 2022.)

♦ (1) Russia (2) Canada (3) U.S. (4) France (5) Ukraine... (The five largest exporters of wheat. Canada and the U.S. owe a great debt to hardy and fast growing varieties of wheat brought over from Russia in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.)

**farming & agriculture / wheat: epithet / sign, signal, symbol**

## breadcrumb (evidence)

"bread crumbs" to follow

there are fewer ~ as time goes on (missing person)

breadcrumbs for the police

he would leave few ~ (serial murderer changes identity, etc.)

bread crumbs to the crime scene

her clothes were ~ (Central Park jogger)

breadcrumb trail

an electronic ~ lets users backtrack (GPS)

clickstreams are the digital ~ which Amazon follows

digital breadcrumbs

police followed the ~ left behind by the victim and suspect

trail of (digital) breadcrumbs

the leaker left a long ~ (Pentagon documents / 2023)

"Q drops" or "breadcrumbs"

these messages became known as ~ QAnon conspiracy)

♦ "We don't know precisely what the predicate was but we sure have a whole lot of bread crumbs that led to this moment." (NPR's David Folkenflik about the firing of Don Lemon by CNN.)

♦ A breadcrumb trail is an allusion to the fairy tale of Hansel and Gretel. The children's horrid mother wished to get rid of them in a time of famine.

She led them deep into the forest but the kids were able to return home by following a trail of small white stones they had dropped along the way. The second time, they had no time to collect stones, so they dropped crumbs of bread. But the birds ate the crumbs, and the kids were lost. They eventually come to a gingerbread house where a cannibal witch imprisoned them...

**direction / evidence: allusion**

## breadcrumb (verb)

breadcrumbing you

he's just ~ by hinting at a new position for you

**subterfuge: allusion / verb**

## breadcrumbbed

breadcrumbbed

how to know you're being ~

**subterfuge: allusion**

## breadcrumbing (leading someone on)

breadcrumbing

~ is a modern term for intermittent reinforcement

~ is leading someone on (at work or in a relationship)

♦ A boss might breadcrumb you by hinting at a reward that he never intends to give you. Or a person you're interested in might breadcrumb you by texting you just enough to make you think she is interested in you. Sound familiar?

**subterfuge: allusion**

## break (break the silence, etc.)

breaks silence

freed teen ~ (kidnapped)

broken my silence

I wouldn't be here today if I hadn't ~ (addiction)

**speech: verb**

## break (destroy / disrupt)

break capitalism

a super intelligent machine could ~ (AI)

broke the internet

what ~ (Facebook issues, etc.)

broke the Democratic Party

how Ted Kennedy ~

broke the Senate

many critics think that McConnell ~ (US politics)

*Broke the World*

*Lords of Finance: The Bankers Who* ~ (Liaquat Ahamed)

**destruction: mechanism / verb**

**disruption: mechanism / verb**

## breakdown (nervous breakdown, etc.)

mental breakdown

her first ~... (Nicole Linton, fatal traffic incident killed 5)

on the edge of a (nervous) breakdown

I'm ~

**mental health: functioning / mechanism**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism**

### **break down (explain)**

break it (all) down for us  
they will ~us (TV news analysis)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: mechanism / verb**

### **break down (functioning)**

authority broke down  
political ~

discipline can break down  
in a crisis, ~ (first responders)  
fire ~ upon contact (military)

negotiations broke down  
~ and resumed and broke down again

communications system broke down  
the state-of-the-art ~

social order is breaking down  
the ~ (in the wake of a great natural disaster)

law and order has broken down

**functioning: mechanism / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

**failure, accident & impairment: mechanism / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

### **break down (destroy)**

break down (trade) barriers  
the European Union seeks to ~

break down the resistance  
the operation seeks to ~ in Balad (military)

break down stereotypes  
we must ~ about Muslims

break down the stigma  
we must ~ of adoption

breaks down blood clots  
the enzyme ~ (medicine)

help break down  
study abroad can ~ stereotypes and prejudice

**destruction: mechanism / verb**

### **break down (emotionally)**

break down  
he would ~ and start sobbing about his dad

broke down  
when police arrested her, she ~

broke down in tears  
she ~ as she told her sad story

broke down into tears  
Walter Cronkite ~ on national television (Kennedy)

broke down in his tent  
he ~ and wept for 45 minutes (climber)

**feeling, emotion & effect / mental health: mechanism / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

### **break down (divide)**

breaks down into (many small-unit) battles  
combat in urban areas ~ (military)

breaks down into two (different) categories  
the issue ~

breaks down features into elements  
faction-recognition devices ~

broke down its data by age  
the company ~ as well as income

break down ounces into gram  
midsize dealers ~ (illegal drugs)

**taxonomy & classification: mechanism**

### **breaker (deal-breaker, etc.)**

deal-breaker  
it was a ~ in that respect (surprise rough sex)

rule breaker  
she is a classically trained ~ (a musician)  
he made a name for himself as a self-styled ~ (musician)

silence breakers  
*Time* announced the ~ as their person of the year (2017)

**destruction / disruption: affix / mechanism**

### **breaking point (at the breaking point)**

at the breaking point  
they are ~ (financially)

at a breaking point  
the system is ~ (immigration)

**failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances**

**feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances**

**condition & status: materials & substances**

### **breaking point (to the breaking point)**

stretched to the breaking point  
we are ~ (police chief facing layoffs)  
the Army and Marines are ~ (US in Iraq)  
fire crews are ~ (California wildfires)

**failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances**

**feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances**

**condition & status: materials & substances**

### **breaking point (other)**

breaking point  
every man has his ~ (the film *Shawshank Redemption*)

**mental health: materials & substances**

**condition & status / failure, accident & impairment / feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances**

### **breakneck (adjective)**

breakneck rate

Boeing has been churning out the popular model at a ~

**speed: animal / horse**

### **break off (verb)**

broke off the attack

the mountain lion finally ~ (on 70-year-old man / CA)

broke off his engagement

he ~ to the former Playboy model

broke off (diplomatic) relations

Venezuela then ~ in response

broke off (business) ties

it ~ with... (two companies)

broke off (diplomatic) ties

Ecuador ~ with Colombia

break it off

until I got the nerve to ~ with my then-girlfriend

**starting, going, continuing & ending: hand / verb**

**curtailment: hand / verb**

### **break out (verb)**

broke out in celebration

an army of fans ~ (#FreeBritney)

fight broke out

the ~ on Alexanderplatz square

typhus broke out

~ in the ships anchored on the Motherbank

**initiation / occurrence: pursuit, capture & escape / verb**

### **breakout (breakout sessions, etc.)**

breakout rooms

Zoom ~ (online video conferencing)

breakout session

a ~ has been scheduled... (TESL convention)

♦ My dictionary gives two definitions. One relates to escape from enemy encirclement or from a prison. The other is a skin eruption. Teacher education and educational conferences are well known for their "breakout" sessions followed by the blessed break for lunch.

**division & connection: school & education**

### **break through (verb)**

break through

it's difficult to predict which words will ~ (into dictionary)

**importance & significance / obstacles & impedance /**

**progress & lack of progress: direction / military /**

**movement**

### **breakthrough (noun)**

breakthrough

research failures are finally being outnumbered by the ~s

breakthrough in the (murder) case

we are hoping for a ~

breakthroughs in medicine

the new research might lead to ~

breakthrough in (stalled) talks

a ~ on a bill that... (lawmakers)

breakthroughs in (armor) technology

revolutionary ~ (military)

breakthrough cases

experts are monitoring ~ among the vaccinated (COVID)

breakthrough infection

a ~ doesn't necessarily mean the vaccine is failing

breakthrough lead

even a \$2.5 million reward has not produced a ~

breakthrough moment

it was a ~ for a young man (Federer beats Sampras in 2001)

breakthrough pain

a "rescue dose" for sudden, severe ~ (morphine)

breakthrough year

he is having a ~ (baseball player)

research breakthrough

~s have reduced the cost

~s have led to new treatments for stroke

diplomatic breakthrough

the U.N.-sponsored gathering is a ~

revolutionary breakthroughs

~ in armor technology (military)

scientific breakthrough

it's a ~

technological breakthrough

the first ATMs were a ~ (1970s)

chance of a breakthrough

climate policy is gridlocked, with no ~

♦ In dictionaries, this word dates to 1918—World War I—when soldiers struggled and died to break through enemy defenses.

**importance & significance / obstacles & impedance /**

**progress & lack of progress: direction / military /**

**movement**

### **breath (take one's breath away)**

took my breath away

it ~ (a huge inflated medical bill)

she ~ ("It must be love")

took your breath away

it ~ (an exciting boxing match)

takes your breath away  
the canyon always ~ (Grand Canyon in winter)

fairly took my breath away  
the book review was so spiteful it ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / breathing / verb**

### **breath (hold one's breath)**

held their breath  
everyone ~, to see what she was gonna do (raped)

holding their breaths  
people are ~ (waiting for a remedy)

holding its breath  
the world is collectively ~ (Japan nuclear disaster)

holding my breath  
I was ~ walking to the mailbox... (worried about a bill)

holding their breath  
people are ~, waiting to see what happens next

**fate, fortune & chance: bodily reaction / breathing / verb**

### **breath (take a breath, etc.)**

take a deep breath  
this is a moment to ~ and think through things (crisis)

take a deep breath and take the long view  
it's a good time to ~ (hope during pandemic)

♦ **Keep calm and carry on.** (Great Britain, World War II.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / breathing / verb**

### **breathe (caves breathe, etc.)**

breathe  
all caves ~

**resemblance: bodily reaction / breathing**

### **breathing space (and breathing room)**

breathing room  
provide ~ to consider the options

a little breathing room  
the Turks are giving the Saudis ~ (to reply)  
we have ~ to establish alternative energy sources

breathing space  
travel bans can give you ~ (to prepare for virus)

gives the Postal Service "breathing room"  
the rate increase ~

**amelioration & renewal: breathing**

**time: breathing / place**

### **breathless (adjective)**

breathless coverage  
blaring headlines, fleshy photos and ~ (the media)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / breathing**

### **brehtaking (adjective)**

brehtaking action  
he defeated his longtime rival in 6 rounds of ~ (boxing)

brehtaking advance  
this is a ~ (legislative act)

brehtaking performance  
she gave a ~ (skater)

brehtaking power  
American prosecutors have ~

brehtaking speed  
the cars go at ~s (racing)

brehtaking view  
a front porch with a ~ of the mountains  
the skyway provides ~s of the southern Appalachians

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / breathing**

### **breed (create)**

breeds (political) bedlam  
the system ~ (government)

breeds corruption  
the ruling ~ (campaign finance)

breeds the desire  
success ~ for more success (school)

bred jealousy  
success has ~ elsewhere (sports)

breeds peace  
strength ~, right (US still in S. Korea, etc.)

Breeds Peril  
Yellowstone Bison Thrive, but Success ~ (article)

bred (more) success  
success ~ (diplomacy)

breed further success  
that success would ~ (MGM gym)

**creation & transformation: animal / verb**

**relationship: animal / verb**

### **breed (type)**

breed of enthusiast  
roller coasters inspire a peculiar ~

breed apart  
the war made them a ~ (W.W. II veterans)  
they are a ~ and make no sense (white settlers)

breed of athlete  
a pole vaulter is a very special ~ (danger)

different breed  
they are a ~ to those who... (big riders / surfing)

new breed  
the ~ of explorers (Blacks / National Geographic)

peculiar breed

roller coasters inspire a ~ of enthusiast

rare breed

he's one of a ~ of technical divers

special breed

it's a dangerous job that takes a ~

a pole vaulter is a very ~ of athlete (danger)

♦ "Some professors are jerks, and students should learn the identifying marks of the latter breed early on." (Taking sexual advantage of students.)

♦ "There's a new breed of explorer... We down here ya' all." (Will Smith in the official trailer for "Welcome To Earth" by National Geographic, on Disney Plus.)

♦ "Chingachgook warned me about people like you... He said, 'Do not try to understand them. And don't try to make them understand you. That is because they are a breed apart and make no sense.'" (*Last of the Mohicans*, the 1992 film.)

**taxonomy & classification: animal**

**identity & nature: animal**

**breed (dying breed, etc.)**

dying breed

he is the last of a ~ (race car driver)

moderates are a ~ (politics)

Old Breed

With the ~ (World War II soldiers)

**decline / past & present: animal**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: animal**

**breeder reactor (noun)**

breeder reactor for extremism

the Punjab has been called a ~ (Pakistan)

**creation & transformation: nuclear energy**

**breeding ground**

breeding ground for (religious) extremism

mosques are a ~ (Pakistan)

breeding ground for (would-be) jihadists

Zarqa is a ~ (Jordan)

breeding ground for (serial) killers

the Pacific Northwest is a ~

breeding grounds for terrorism

the refugee camps are prime ~

the Sudan and Somalia, ~

breeding ground for viruses

the Internet is a ~

**creation & transformation: animal**

**breezy (speech)**

breezy and anodyne

"Gutsy" is ~ (on Apple TV)

♦ "Recently I got to do something I'd only dreamt of. Talked to an astronaut who's hanging out on the International space station, that global party house and space lab orbiting the earth 16 times a day...

Astronaut food! Which in my book is definitely as important as all the science." (Regina Barber on NPR. "An astronaut tells NPR what life is like on the ISS," NPR, All Things Considered, Jan 17, 2023. Whooh-whooh!)

♦ "I don't think we'll ever be able to do presidential politics with just two white guys ever again." (Breezy political punditry by Ali Vitali (female) on NPR.)

♦ "She is here to lay out something of a radio map for us, hey there, Diaa, so before we get to the fighting, would you give us the big map? Afghanistan, of course..." (Breezy language heard on NPR.)

♦ "It's not a sexy job per se, right? It's not a job that is chill..." (Jessica Malaty Riveria's breezy contempo-speak assessment of the legacy of "the elderly" Dr. Anthony Fauci, on NPR.)

♦ "Welcome to both of you." / Thank you, thank you." / Hello, Hello. / Hello, Hello." (Ailsa Chang and two guests on NPR.)

♦ NPR's "A" Martinez: That's NPR's pharmaceuticals correspondent Sydney Lupkin. Thanks. / Sydney Lupkin: You bet!

♦ "Breezy and anodyne." ("Chelsea and Hillary Clinton's 'Gutsy' Is a Toothless Girlboss Vanity Project" by Laura Bradley, *The Daily Beast*, Sept 9, 2022.)

**speech / substance & lack of substance: air / atmosphere / wind**

**brew (mixture)**

witches' brew

at one time, the US military was a ~ of racism

lethal brew

driving fatalities result from a ~ of... (India)

toxic brew

their illnesses resulted from a ~ of contaminants

we fight this ~ of stupidity and... (US exceptionalism)

**mixture: food & drink**

**brew (activity)**

brewing

this issue has been ~, and they knew it would bubble up again

brewing in Nasiriya

another humanitarian crisis may be ~ (Iraq War)

controversy is brewing

a ~

crisis (in Haiti) has been brewing

~ since...

problem is brewing

a new ~ (too little space at Metro stations)

revolution is brewing

a ~ (against bilingual education)

storm was brewing

outside, the ~ (protests against the government)

tensions are brewing

~ between supporters and opponents

**activity: heating water / temperature / verb / water**

**initiation: heating water / temperature / verb / water**

## bride (Bride of the Red Sea, etc.)

Bride of the Sea  
Venice, the ~

Bride of the Red Sea  
Jeddah, the ~ (Saudi Arabia)

configuration / relationship: epithet

### bridge (noun)

bridge between the diaspora and the continent  
explore your roots, build a ~ (Ghana)

mirror and a bridge  
we are a ~ to culture at large (TikTok)

build bridges to the Taliban  
he has sought to ~

burned some bridges  
he's ~ in the tennis world (troubled athlete)

serves as a bridge  
the Public Editor ~ between the newsroom and the public

division & connection: bridge / river

### bridge (verb)

bridge the divide  
they want to ~ and find common ground (gun control)

bridging the divide  
ballet and baseball are ~ (Cuba and the US)  
~ won't be easy (NFL players' protests)

bridge the gap  
~ between the life you lead and the life you want to live

bridge the rupture  
US diplomats are trying to ~ (Middle East)

division & connection: bridge / river / verb  
amelioration & renewal: bridge / river / verb

### bridge (air bridge, etc.)

bridge between the Middle East and Anatolia  
Turkey is a ~ (eastern Turkey / Van)

air bridge  
the ~ is important (food drops to starving refugees)  
Egypt poured men and materiel into Yemen over an ~  
she will fly out of Sanaa as part of this medical ~  
the ~ over the Hump (India to China / W.W. II)

Arctic Bridge  
Arctic warming could revitalize the so-called ~

trans-Atlantic bridge  
they have been trying to reestablish that ~ (Mafia / heroin)

transportation: bridge / river  
division & connection: bridge / river  
route: bridge / infrastructure / river

## bridge (water under the bridge)

water under the bridge  
it's ~ now

past & present: bridge / movement / river / water  
time: bridge / movement / river / water  
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: bridge / movement  
/ river / water

### bridge (a bridge to sell)

sell that same bridge over and over again  
they are happy to ~ (N. Korean promises)

sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: bridge

### bridge (a bridge too far, etc.)

a bridge too far  
the idea is ~ (a bad idea that goes too far)  
I hope he wins, but my head says it will be ~ (Amir Khan)  
he didn't ask them to wear a mask, that was a ~ (staff)

bridge too far for some viewers  
its use of racial slurs is an understandable ~ (Tarantino)

fight too late  
it seemed to be a ~ (Amir Khan vs. Kell Brook)

failure too far  
this will be one CL ~ for him ("Pepsi" Guardiola / Citeh)

a foul too many  
Christian Romero commits ~ and is booked (soccer)

a game too far  
it was, in some respects, ~ for England (World Cup)

a step too far  
this could just be ~ (Khan vs. Crawford)  
this approach is ~ (media coverage)  
this may be ~ (substituting "bae" for "babe" / 2014)

one step too far  
I think Tyson Fury would be ~ for Oleksandr Usyk (boxing)

♦ This echoes the title of the great 1977 Richard Attenborough film about Operation Market Garden during World War II. Its meaning is to overreach. The actual operation was a noble and heroic attempt to end the war early. It nearly succeeded. The unintended consequences were horrible, however, in the parts of Holland that weren't liberated: they included the Dutch famine of 1944-1945. Market Garden started September 17, 1944. Anne Frank was apprehended by the Gestapo on 4 August 1944, and she died in Bergen-Belsen, perhaps in March, 1945. Allusions like these are a double-edged sword. On the one hand, they memorialize. But as time goes on and people forget, they trivialize.

♦ "Christian Romero commits a foul too many, though, and is booked." (Argentina versus Croatia at the FIFA World Cup in Qatar. As opposed to, "Christian Romero commits one too many fouls, though, and is booked.")

♦ see also *far* (*too far*)

allusion: film & TV / military  
restraint & lack of restraint: allusion / bridge / history / military

## bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it)

bridge

that's a ~ she can cross at a later date

cross that bridge

we will ~ when we come to it

we will ~ and that decision will be made

we're going to ~ when we get to it on Friday

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things / future / time / timeliness & lack of timeliness: bridge / journeys & trips / movement / river / verb**

## bridge (burn one's bridges)

burn bridges

you never want to ~

burned some bridges

he's ~ in the tennis world (troubled athlete)

burned that bridge

but he ~ when he accused... (a soccer player)

**division & connection: bridge / river / water**

**fate, fortune & chance: bridge / river / water**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: bridge / river / water**

## bridge-building (through bridge-building)

resolve issues through bridge-building

they sought to ~

**division & connection: bridge / river**

**amelioration & renewal: bridge / river**

## bridge-building

bridge-building visit

the admission came ahead of Medvedev's ~ to Warsaw

**division & connection: bridge / river**

**amelioration & renewal: bridge / river**

## bridgehead (noun)

bridgehead

Hong Kong is not a ~ to subvert the mainland (China)

establish a bridgehead

hackers are keen to ~ on internal networks

**presence & absence: bridge / military / river**

**survival, persistence & endurance: bridge / military / river**

## bridle (verb)

bridled against it

Biden ~ (becoming a public symbol of grieving)

bridle against (received) norms

the film does not ~ (the pieties of the Cold War)

bridal at criticism

he has a tendency to ~ (a politician)

“bridle” the executive

impeachment is designed to ~ if he engages in excesses

photographers bridle

~ as NFL announces policy

♦ “Freddy is cussedly almost seethingly willful. She’s a born refuser, who bridles at people telling her what she ought to do.” (The brilliant movie critic John Powers about the main character played by first-time actor Park Ji-min in *Return to Seoul*. As Powers says, “In fact, her work here is more fascinating than any of this year’s Oscar nominees for acting.”)

**restraint & lack of restraint: horse / verb**

**constraint & lack of constraint: horse / verb**

**control & lack of control: horse / verb**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: horse / verb**

## bridle (mechanical bridle, etc.)

mechanical bridles

3 ~ hold the rover under the descent stage (Perseverance)

**configuration: horse**

## bright (adjective)

bright

her future is ~

brighter

the future for the company has never been ~

bright idea

it's not easy to turn a ~ into a genuine business

**superlative: light & dark**

## bright (bright side)

look on the bright side

well, ~... (consolation)

♦ “The most ironic thing is that it became really quite serious and in the Falklands War the sailors sitting on the HMS *Sheffield* after they had been hit by an Exocet sang it for 3 hours while they were waiting to be rescued. And the RAF pilots would sing it in great jeopardy, when they were changing for their long, low-level bombing in the Bush Wars, Desert Storm. And so you know, it took on a kind of optimistic component to it...” (“Always Look on the Brightside of Life,” Monty Python. BBC Radio 4-Inheritance Tracks, Eric Idle. U.S. veterans at Camp Vinnell in Saudi Arabia delighted in recalling and reenacting Monty Python sketches at the Tiki Hut on weekends.)

♦ seangamut: This is what is known as Karma! / Ambleside: “Always look on the bright side of life!” (Manchester United 0-Liverpool 4.)

♦ see also *Panglossian* (adjective)

**flaws & lack of flaws: light & dark**

**resiliency: light & dark**

## brighten (verb)

brightened the mood

the glad tidings ~ of Lincoln (military victories)

**mental health: light & dark**

**feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark / verb**

## brilliance (superlative)

flashes of brilliance

this was a performance of heart, quality and ~ (soccer)  
he produced occasional ~ when he returned (a soccer player)

**superlative: light & dark**

## brilliant (technology)

"brilliant" bomb

~s are in the future (Low Cost Autonomous Attack Systems)  
~s are the smart bombs of the future  
~s strike some as the ultimate nightmare

from dumb to smart to brilliant (m)

~ bombs (military)

**knowledge & intelligence: mechanism**

**ability & lack of ability: mechanism / tools & technology**

## brilliant (superlative)

brilliant (medical and military) career

after a ~

brilliant hacker

he is a ~ (computers)

brilliant idea

I had a ~

brilliant job

who did such a ~

brilliant (new) plan

a ~ to...

brilliant scientist

she's a ~ who...

brilliant and abrasive (m)

a ~ engineer named...

**superlative: light & dark**

**character & personality: light & dark**

## brim (verb)

brimming with patriotism

he staged a revival meeting ~

brims with irony

his account ~ (a book)

**amount: container / verb**

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: container / verb**

## bring (verb)

brought joy to the citizens

the musical ~ of an anxious nation at war ("Oklahoma!")

bring perpetrators to justice

we need to ~ (sexual abuse)

brought the South Pole into the public consciousness

Shackleton ~ (in the UK)

brought the (bitter) rift to the surface

the incident ~ (between military and government)

brought gusts

the storm ~ of almost 100 mph

brings (political) pain

Trump knows economic meltdown ~ (coronavirus)

brought its own problems

the solution has ~

brought territory

trade had ~, territory war, war an Empire (Great Britain)

brought (150mph) winds

the storm ~ (a hurricane)

brought invasions and plague

the third century ~ (to the Roman Empire)

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: verb**

**fictive transportation: verb**

**relationship: movement / verb**

## bring (the future can bring something)

see *future (the future can bring something)*

## bring (bring it)

bring it

if you're gonna sing it, you gotta ~ (gospel music)

brought it

people were looking for a new realism, and he ~ (Brando)

bringing the brawl

Ryder though is ~ and has done all night (boxing)

brought it in Game 1

Cassidy Hubbarth talks about who ~ (NBA finals)

♦ "It's all about that dog that he gonna bring to the fight." (A boxer speaking about what makes a winning boxer.)

♦ "We know what he's going to bring, like he always comes forward, puts on pressure, throws big bombs..." (Joseph Parker about an upcoming match with Derek "Del Boy" Chisora.)

**commitment & determination: giving, receiving, bringing & returning / verb**

## bring around (verb)

bring Londoners around

what will ~ (to support the Olympics)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: direction / verb**

## bring back (restore)

bring the beaver back

efforts are underway to ~

bring him back

nothing we can do can ~ (executed for murder)

**amelioration & renewal / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence / survival, persistence & endurance: giving, receiving, bringing & returning / verb**

## bring down (verb)

bring down some racial barriers  
it helped to ~ (basketball)

brought down his own career  
he ~ with drugs (a baseball player)

bring down the (whole) edifice  
any crack in the system would ~ (dictatorship)

**destruction: direction / ruins / verb**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / verb**

## bring up (a subject, etc.)

brought up Honnold  
Caldwell, sitting on the deck that night, ~... (climbers)

brought up the (new California sport) climb  
when I ~ (in conversation with a climber)

**speech: ground, terrain & land**

## brink (on the brink)

on the brink of collapse  
the government is ~

on the brink of default  
the country is teetering ~ (Greece / economy)

on the brink of disaster  
the country is ~ (economy)

on the brink of a (polio) epidemic  
West and Central Africa are ~

on the brink of failure  
the meeting was ~ (UN)

on the brink of insolvency  
the factory is teetering ~

on the brink of unconsciousness  
he was ~ (trapped caver)

on the brink of stardom  
he has been hovering ~ (a film actor)

on the brink of (another) summit bid  
10 days later, ~ (climbing)

hovering on the brink  
he has been ~ of stardom (a film actor)

teetering on the brink  
the factory is ~ of insolvency

**proximity: ground, terrain & land**

**fate, fortune & chance: ground, terrain & land**

## brink (to the brink)

push Iraq to the brink  
he urged them not to ~ of confrontation

**proximity: ground, terrain & land**

**fate, fortune & chance: ground, terrain & land**

## brink (back from the brink)

back from the brink  
Wall Street is ~

step back from the brink  
they must ~ (rioters battle soldiers)

bring them back from the brink  
we must ~ of extinction (endangered animals)

pull his friend back from the brink  
he tried to ~ (drug intervention)

**proximity: ground, terrain & land**

**fate, fortune & chance: ground, terrain & land**

**survival, persistence & endurance: ground, terrain & land**

## brinksmanship (noun)

brinksmanship  
there's a lot of ~ involved (negotiations)

**fate, fortune & chance: ground, terrain & land**

**position, policy & negotiation: ground, terrain & land**

## bristle (emotional arousal)

bristled at questions  
the senator ~ about his patriotism

bristles at the suggestion  
she ~ that she encouraged cheating (an educator)

♦ Piloerection is a sign of emotional arousal. In chimpanzees, it will cause the hair on their shoulders to stick straight up. At the same time, chimpanzees might hoot and throw pebbles.

**feeling, emotion & effect: animal / dog / hair / verb**

## bristle (with security, etc.)

bristling with security  
the courthouse is ~

**protection & lack of protection: animal / fortification / military / verb**

## British (British of South America, etc.)

British of South America  
people used to say we are the ~ (Chileans)

**character & personality / identity & nature / migration: epithet**

## brittle (emotionally brittle, etc.)

angrier and more brittle  
she seems ~ (emotions)

emerged (emotionally) brittle  
he ~ (from a turbulent childhood)

**feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances**

**ability & lack of ability: materials & substances**

## broad (adjective)

too broad

for some the brush stroke was ~ (cancel culture includes Abraham Lincoln)

**extent & scope: breadth**

## **broadside (noun)**

broadside against China

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo launched another ~

broadside against the 2015 same-sex marriage decision

Thomas and Alito issued a ~ on Monday when...

broadside' against fellow lawmaker

Tiller backs challenger in 'extraordinary ~ (politics)

Twitter broadside

Senator's Grassley's ~ at Obama...

Trump's broadsides

it's unclear if ~ will have much sway...

ferocious broadside

he launched a ~ against Jeff Sessions (politics)

legal broadside

she leveled the fiercest ~ yet against the Sackler family

aimed another broadside

he ~ at Pelosi (President Trump)

level broadsides

Democrats ~ at Romney's wealth (politics)

♦ "Hood, in the *Zealous*, took the station, and from the port-holes of his seventy-four poured such a tempest of shot upon the *Guerrier*, that in twelve minutes he riddled and totally disabled her... Passing gracefully and swiftly to windward of the *Zealous*, [the *Orion*] fired her larboard guns so long as they could be brought to bear upon the *Guerrier*, then passing inside the *Goliath*, by a single broadside she shattered and sunk a frigate, *La Serieuse*, which annoyed her, sending her to the bottom in an instant with all hands on board, 250 men... / By this time the sun had set. The *Audacious*, under Captain Gould, was pouring a crashing fire into the *Guerrier*... The *Theseus*, Captain Miller, following next, swept away the remaining masts of the *Guerrier*..." / The victory was ours; the loss to the French was terrible... (The Battle of the Nile, 1798, also known as the Battle of Aboukir Bay. Only four French ships escaped. From *British Battles on Land and Sea* by James Grant. Crowds of Arabs and Mamelukes on shore celebrated and cheered on the destruction of their enemies.)

**accusation & criticism: boat / military / weapon**

**conflict / speech: boat / military / weapon**

## **Brobdingnagian (adjective)**

Brobdingnagian Embassy

the US is downsizing its ~ in Iraq

Brobdingnagian stadium

Albert Speer's ~ (1935-1937)

♦ The allusion is to the satire *Gulliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swift. The same book contributed *Lilliputian* to the language.

♦ Elena Tapia in "Primary Metaphor and the Fantastic" analyzes *Gulliver's Travels* and other fantastical works of literature, including *Alice and Wonderland*, through the lens of conceptual metaphor in order to explain what it is that makes them so fantastic. Even better, her paper is freely available to all at ERIC ED472663.

**size: allusion / person**

**allusion: books & reading**

## **broken (failure)**

broken

our food-safety system in this country is ~ (salmonella)

there is no question in my mind that the system is ~

the economy is ~, and Obama can't fix it

what is ~ (teachers, parents, students / education)

the judiciary is ~, the law needs to change

broken home

he comes from a ~

broken life

put back the pieces of a ~ (schizophrenia)

**condition & status / failure, accident & impairment / flaws & lack of flaws / functioning: mechanism**

## **broken (English, etc.)**

broken Arabic

reporters asked him in ~ if...

broken English

the Peruvian liaison officer spoke ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: speech / mechanism**

**speech: functioning**

## **broken (feeling)**

broken

his brain is ~, he's a damaged human being

broken man

he left high-spirited, but he returned a ~ (war)

left (absolutely) broken

his family had been ~ by his death

♦ "You must not think of him as a man who had been broken... He had been hurt, he was wounded, but he was still the same man in great spirits. He thought the best spirit of resistance is joyfulness." (An acquaintance of Boris Pasternak in his last years.)

♦ "His brain is broken, he's a damaged human being." (Public defender Melisa McNeil, during the penalty phase of Nicholas Cruz, Parkland School Shooter.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: functioning / mechanism**

**mental health: mechanism**

## **broken-hearted**

broken-hearted (m)

a ~ man

**feeling, emotion & effect: functioning / heart**

**heart: functioning / mechanism**

## **bromide (noun)**

bromide

this is sound advice as far as it goes, but it's a ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

**speech: health & medicine**

## broom (broom of reform, etc.)

broom of reform

I will grab the ~ and sweep this state clean

♦ Michele Rhee was an educational crusader. As chancellor of the Washington, D.C. school system, she was given a mandate to "clean house." She appeared on the cover of *Time Magazine* with a broom. But community members felt like they had been compared to dirt, and she ended up having to resign her position.

**amelioration & renewal: house / hygiene**

**disruption: house / hygiene**

## brother (Instagram's brother, etc.)

brother of igneous volcanoes

mud volcanoes are the poor ~ (research, etc.)

big brother

he came from Instagram's ~, Facebook (Mosseri)

poor brother

mud volcanoes are the ~ of igneous volcanoes (research)

**relationship: family**

## brother (big brother, etc.)

big sister

I was like a mother hen to them, I was like ~

big sister to young rockers

Judy Collins was a kind of ~ (place to crash, etc.)

**help & assistance: family**

## brother (brother in arms, etc.)

brothers

the Serbs and Russians are ~ (Kosovo)

brothers to us

the Syrians are ~ (Iraqi Christian refugee)

brother in arms

the soldier's reflexive instinct to protect his ~

brothers in perseverance

they were ~ (two otherwise dissimilar artists)

brother from another mother

he was my ~ (David Grohl about Taylor Hawkins)

brothers and sisters

see *brothers and sisters*

fraternity brothers

he died after chugging whiskey with ~ (initiation)

band of brothers

they are more than a fun-loving, bike-riding ~ (gang)

♦ "The Diamonds have a 'sisters in arms' mantra." (Australian netball.)

**division & connection / person / relationship: family**

## brotherhood (noun)

brotherhood of the sea

we have seen what the ~ means (international rescue)

brotherhood of firefighters

the ~

brotherhood of submariners

the ~

brotherhood, loyalty, courage, and self-sacrifice

the virtues of ~

brotherhood, service, sacrifice

~ (Rangers)

Sufi brotherhoods

Chechnya's ~

have a (long) brotherhood

Columbia and Venezuela ~ (Cucuta Constitution, etc.)

♦ "The code, the brotherhood, the three hours we come together as one..." (Sports talk, about a player who controversially quit on his team during a game. Coaches often say, "There is no "I" in "team." Players retort, "There's an "I" in "win.")

♦ "We have seen in deeds, not words, what the brotherhood of the sea means." (A Russian Navy official, on the successful rescue of sailors aboard a sunken mini-sub. The British, Japanese, and Americans had all rushed to help.)

♦ "My hope is that this site contributes to making more people visit our museum and that the pilgrimage to the Island of Gorée provides an impetus to an enhanced brotherhood able to exorcise the demons of the past." (Abdoulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal, 2005, speaking about the island opposite Dakar which was one of many slave-trading centers on the African coast, ruled in succession by the Portuguese, Dutch, English and French.)

**group, set & collection: family**

**division & connection / relationship: family**

## brothers and sisters

fellow long suffering Browns brothers and sisters

I still love my ~ but I am done with the team (NFL fan)

**group, set & collection: family**

**division & connection / relationship: family**

## brought up

brought up to feel

I was ~ proud of the Empire

brought up harsh, strict

I was ~, but just normal discipline (boxer Conor Benn)

**growth & development: life span**

## bruise (verb)

bruised feelings

but the decision has ~ here (by church, to...)

bruised some egos

he ruffled some feathers and ~ (a general)

**feeling, emotion & effect: color / health & medicine / mark / sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

## bruised

left the Administration bruised

the experience ~ (diplomacy)

**feeling, emotion & effect: color / health & medicine / mark / sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

### **bruising (adjective)**

bruising (political) attacks  
after days of ~ on his tax returns and his record...

bruising election  
it was a ~

bruising encounter  
another ~ with a beast of a wave (Nazare surfing)

bruising encounter  
he was finding college a ~ (depression, etc.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: color / health & medicine / mark / sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

### **brush (characterization)**

same brush  
it is wrong to paint them all with the ~ (a few bad cops)

brush stroke was too broad  
for some, the ~ (cancel culture includes Abe Lincoln)

**characterization: picture**

### **brush aside (verb)**

brushed aside their hosts  
the Titans ~ (NFL football)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: hand / verb**

### **brush off (verb)**

brushed off concerns  
he ~ about his security

brushed off their concerns  
he angrily ~ (a manager)

brushed off his protest  
they ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation: hand / verb**

### **brush-off**

gave me the brush off  
she ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation: hand**

### **brush up against**

brushed up against this story  
I was amazed I had never ~ (author / camels in US)

**fictive meeting & seeing: verb**

### **brutality (noun)**

brutality of storms  
the suddenness, the ~ now, it is different (NYC mayor)

**force: violence**

### **bubble (verb)**

bubbling here  
there has been a long-term democracy moment ~

bubbling (just) under the surface  
conflict is ~

bubbled to the surface  
all those feelings and emotions ~ again (abuse)

**activity / initiation: bubble / heating water / temperature / verb / water**

### **bubble (bubble canopy, etc.)**

bubble canopy  
its ~ gave a superb, all-around view (a plane)

**resemblance: bubble**

### **bubble (activity)**

investment bubble  
their current popularity is an ~ (NFTs)

stock bubble  
but now that the ~ has burst (1990s)

dot-com bubble  
the ~

housing bubble  
the ~ will eventually pop (housing market)

in an (influence) bubble  
we are in ~ (the advertising industry)

boom and bust of (Iceland's tourism) bubble  
the ~

bubble has burst  
but now that the stock ~... (1990s)

bubble burst  
then the ~, and investors lost fortunes (stocks)

bubble has deflated  
Iceland's tourism ~

**activity: bubble / water**

**substance & lack of substance: bubble / water**

### **bubble (isolation)**

bubble of this isolated leadership  
Trump pierced the ~ (North Korea)

bubble of affluent cosmopolitans  
Said inhabited a ~ (in Cairo)

Canberra bubble  
he and the whole ~ face a much more persistent issue

filter bubble  
the term ~ was coined by Eli Pariser (Wikipedia)  
tailored web searches put users in a ~  
our ~s and self-reinforcing social-media silos

their own bubble

they can't see outside of ~ (Facebook leaders)

media bubble

the ~ caused blind spots and groupthink (politics)

the insular American ~

overprotective bubble

so many parents now raise their children in an ~

in a bubble

the people who live ~ (partisan, cultural identity)

he is an arrogant footballer living ~ (soccer snark)

built a bubble around herself

she had ~ that was cutting her off from reality (a boss)

live in a bubble

the people at Facebook ~

lives in a bubble

she ~, away from reality the rest of us face (a celebrity)

pierced the bubble

Trump ~ of this isolated leadership (North Korea)

get out of the (Washington) bubble

NPR needs to ~

♦ "Sixty-eight percent of tweets between journalists who work at The Washington Post, NPR, [and the] New York Times... are to each other." ("How Journalists Congregating Into 'Microbubbles' Affects Quality Of News Reporting," NPR, All Things Considered, August 12, 2020.)

♦ A FUNNY CARTOON. A shocked young man, his cellphone ringing, is saying to his equally shocked woman, "Oh, God, outside is calling." (*The New Yorker*, March 6, 2023. Millennials and Zoomers, of course, don't call.)

**isolation & remoteness: bubble / container / water**

**avoidance & separation: bubble / container / water**

## **bubble (quarantine)**

"Bubble Boy"

the ~ was described in a documentary in the mid '70s  
gene therapy to treat ~disease (SCID)

bubble experiment

for the NHL, the ~ paid off (sports goes on in pandemic)

quarantine bubble

some TV shows have continued to shoot in ~s

social bubbles

the pros and cons of ~ or pods... (COVID-19)

one-way 'bubble'

~ opens between Australia and New Zealand (Covid-19)

COVID-Free Bubbles

sleep away camps offer ~ for remote learning

in a bubble

when you're ~ for 100 days, it's tough (COVID-19)

in the Bubble

David Vetter became "the Boy in ~" (1984)

in the (NBA) bubble

what it's like to be one of the chefs cooking for athletes ~

created a bubble

the college has ~ to keep COVID-19 out

stay in their "bubble"

NBA playoffs are underway as players ~

♦ Beijing will be "bubble-ized," there will be "bubble-ized" flights... (A sports columnist about the Beijing Winter Olympics.)

**isolation & remoteness: bubble / container / water**

**avoidance & separation: bubble / container / water**

**protection & lack of protection: bubble / container / water**

## **bubble up (verb)**

bubble up

the Troubles continue to ~ in unexpected places (Ireland)

this issue has been brewing, and they knew it would ~ again

**activity / appearance & disappearance / initiation: bubble /**

**heating water / prep, adv, adj, particle / temperature / verb**

**/ water**

## **bubbling (adjective)**

bubbling, unsolved mystery

his case remained a ~ for years (Kim Philby)

**activity / initiation: bubble / heating water / temperature /**

**water**

## **bubbly (personality)**

chatty, bubbly and (unfailing) polite

~, she is comfortable in the spotlight (Emma Raducanu)

**character & personality: bubble / water**

## **buccaneer (person)**

individualist, a buccaneer

Amundsen was an ~ (not a public servant)

buccaneers, outsiders, (political) pirates

they want to be seen as ~ (opposition researchers)

**taking & removing: boat / crime / person / sea**

**person: boat / crime / sea**

**character & personality: boat / crime / person / sea**

## **buck (verb)**

bucked his party

he ~ (John McCain / politics)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: horse / animal / verb**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: horse / animal /**

**verb**

## **bucket (category)**

police bucket

maybe this shouldn't be in the ~ of things

neat buckets

the motivators don't fit into ~ (mass-casualty incidents)

essential and nonessential buckets

it's hard to put things in ~

divide things into three buckets  
Biden and Pope Francis can ~ (issues)

put them in the same bucket  
but with Snowden & Assange, I do ~

**taxonomy & classification: container**

## buckle (give way)

buckled  
instead of doubling down on the policy, he ~

**destruction / failure, accident & impairment / resistance, opposition & defeat: infrastructure / ruins / verb**

## buckle (attachment)

buckle on the strap  
Vicksburg was the ~ that held the Confederacy together

buckle of the Bible Belt  
they landed at the ~ (Fujianese workers in Oklahoma City)

♦ A belt often has a buckle. See *belt* (area).

**attachment / configuration: clothing & accessories**

## bud (nipped in the bud)

nipped in the bud  
the plot had been ~ at the zero hour  
sedition has been ~ (a plot)

**curtailment / growth & development: plant appearance & disappearance: plant**

## budding

budding adventurer  
the ~ claimed she was not afraid (Abby Sunderland, 16)

budding career  
her ~ came to a screeching halt (a Nike runner)

budding ("heritage language") movement  
the ~ in education

budding relationship  
they managed to keep their ~ a secret (guy / girl)

budding romance  
the innocence of a ~ (teens)

**growth & development: plant appearance & disappearance: plant**

## budge (verb)

budge  
the negotiators won't ~, they are immovable

budging  
Ukraine wants a boycott, but ballet companies aren't ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: movement / verb position, policy & negotiation: movement / verb commitment & determination: movement / verb**

## budget (attention budget, etc.)

attention budget  
ads take a toll on the user's ~ (internet)

**constraint & lack of constraint: money**

## buffet (noun)

buffet of injustices  
that place was a virtual ~ (Southern Poverty Law Center)

**alternatives & choices / amount: food & drink**

**group, set & collection: food & drink**

## buffeted

buffeted by the news  
for readers ~... (pandemic)

**force: fist / violence / wave / wind**

## bug (enthusiasm)

acting bug  
he took some drama classes and developed an ~

skating bug  
he caught the ~ at age 8 (ice-skater Rudy Galindo)

ballet bug  
if she hadn't been bitten by the ~...

travel bug  
she said she got the ~ from her father...

bitten by the bug  
and so I really got ~ (acting, in high school)

bitten by the (cycling) bug  
as a youth he played soccer before he was ~

get the (acting) bug  
when people ~, there's really nothing you can do about it

♦ "I have to say I was a seventeen-year-old freshman at Harvard, sitting in a lecture hall right around the corner, in Harvard Hall, and I was taking a class on contemporary Chinese politics, and I caught the China bug..." (From "Evan Osnos delivers the 2013 Joe Alex Morris Jr. Memorial Lecture" on YouTube. As he says, he began to study Mandarin, flew to Beijing, and the city "astonished" him, he found it absolutely "irresistible." Of course, so did Matteo Ricci, and so many others...)

**enthusiasm: insect**

## build (create)

build an (international anti-terror) coalition  
they seek to ~

build confidence  
rehearsals ~ and improve performance (military)

build his confidence  
he needs time to ~

build my confidence  
rehearsals ~ and improve performance (military)

built a (drug-trafficking) empire  
he ~ in the Caribbean

built a (nationwide freight-hauling) empire  
Johnnie B. Hunt, who ~

build the future  
the motto was *Pro futuro aedificamus*—we ~ (school)

build a (secure) future  
~ for their children

build interest  
Leslie's dunk will ~ in the WNBA

build a (16-point) lead  
~ (basketball)

built a good life  
we ~ together

build muscles  
some bodybuilders use GHB thinking it will ~

build opposition  
he participated in clandestine meetings to ~

build (a series of working) partnerships  
~ (federal agencies)

built a (fragile) present  
they ~ out of pieces of the past (Balkans diplomacy)

build rapport  
a personable style of communication that aims to ~

builds (close) relationships  
the chaplain ~ with prisoners (prison)

built her reputation  
she ~ as an educator over two decades (fired)

build a reputation  
you can't ~ on what you are going to do (Henry Ford);  
Cotto continues to ~ (the boxer)

build (deductive) skills  
~ early in doctors' training

build (company) solidarity  
he pays for Caribbean cruises to ~

build a team  
trying to ~ is a hard juggling act (basketball)

build (community) ties  
people don't stay long enough to ~

building a better tomorrow  
we are ~

build trust  
you can ~ by... (dealing with kid's separation anxiety)

build a (peaceful) world community  
they seek to ~

built her reputation over two decades  
she ~ (an educator)

building a case one block at a time  
they are ~ (for conspiracy)

build self-esteem  
some argue that the best way to ~ is to...

anger is building  
the ~ here (oil spill)

aims to build  
a personable style of communication that ~ rapport

trying to build  
~ a team is a hard juggling act (basketball)

failure to build  
his government's ~ a healthy economy

time to build  
he needs ~ his confidence

hard to build  
the company's reputation, ~, easy to destroy

**creation & transformation: infrastructure / verb**

**building block**

building block of society  
the tribe is the ~ (rural south Iraq)

use the experience as a building block  
you can ~

**bases: infrastructure**

**build up (verb)**

building up  
a lot of anger is ~

**increase & decrease: infrastructure / verb**

**built**

built around the church  
his life was ~

**configuration: infrastructure**

**built in**

built in  
is there an assessment tool that is ~

downtime built in  
their jobs have extended ~ (firefighters)

built-in incentive  
stock options provide a ~

**attachment: infrastructure**

**identity & nature: infrastructure**

**configuration: infrastructure**

**bulge (shape)**

youth bulge  
population trends will dramatically increase the Yemeni ~

**increase & decrease: shape**

## bull (bull in a china shop)

bull in a china shop  
she's a ~

bull-in-a-china-shop reputation  
he showed a tactical skill which belied his ~ (politician)

♦ **A FUNNY CARTOON.** There is a funny cartoon in *The New Yorker*, Feb. 1, 2021. Somehow a bull has become an employee at a china shop. The bull is standing behind the counter, carefully holding a cup by its hooves in order to display it to a customer. Two people are looking on and one is speaking. The "Finalists" for the best caption are (1) "You were right—putting him on commission changed his attitude" (2) "Now he breaks stereotypes instead" and (3) "He doesn't charge as much as he used to." Suggested, respectively, by J.F. Martin, Naples, Fla.; Ray Joyce, Acton, Mass.; and Alex Merrett, London, England.)

**force: animal / cows & cattle**

## bulldoze (verb)

bulldozed him  
Wilder then fell again as Fury ~ (boxing)

bulldoze me  
he tried to ~, but I resisted...

bulldozing values  
critics say he is ~ that Americans hold dear (politics)

**destruction: tools & technology / verb**

**force: tools & technology / verb**

## bulldozed

bulldozed through the parliament  
the bold reforms were ~ (India)

**force: tools & technology**

## bulldozer (epithet)

nicknamed "the Bulldozer"  
he was ~ for his toughness on corruption (John Magufuli)

**epithet: force**

**character & personality: epithet / force / tools & technology**

## bulldozer (noun)

expect a bulldozer  
if you took on Joe McCarthy, you could ~ coming your way

**destruction / force: tools & technology**

## bullet (velocity)

bullets of sound  
acoustic weapons can fire ~

bullet train  
at the controls of a Japanese ~

**speed: bullet / weapon**

## bullet (shape)

bullets, needles, prisms, columns  
snowflakes come in shapes: ~, stars cups, and plates

**shape: bullet / weapon**

## bullet (magic or silver bullet, etc.)

magic bullet  
nothing yet has proved a ~ (against oak-killing spore)

silver bullet  
the system was sold as a ~ but it never worked (E-Verify)  
this problem will take time to fix and there is no ~

vaccine 'silver bullets'  
COVID-19 advisor says there are no ~

proved to be a silver bullet  
hydroxychloroquine has not ~ (COVID)

♦ "I think the risk here is that we are putting all of our eggs in one basket, we're only focusing on boosting with vaccines, I think the issue is people are looking for a silver bullet, and, boosters are not a silver bullet to COVID." (Ominous reporting heard on NPR on September 6, 2022.)

**amelioration & renewal: bullet / magic / weapon**

## bullet (dodge a bullet)

dodged a bullet  
we ~ here (car bomb ignites but fails to explode)

dodged a (big) bullet  
we ~ (hurricane misses refineries)

**fate, fortune & chance: bullet / weapon / verb**

## bullet (take a bullet for somebody)

take a bullet for the president  
he has said he would ~ (a lawyer)

♦ "I've never seen an athlete in my generation take the bullets in the way he has taken the bullets. Metaphorically speaking, he is a martyr." (The broadcaster Craig Mitch about Raheem Sterling, and the latter's efforts to fight racism in football and the media.)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: bullet / weapon / verb**

**commitment & determination: bullet / weapon / verb**

## bullet (bite the bullet)

bite the bullet  
we're going to have to ~ (pay the tariff)

**survival, persistence & endurance: bullet / verb / weapon**

**commitment & determination: bullet / verb / weapon**

## bulletproof (adjective)

bulletproof  
your logic is ~  
our story was ~ (investigative reporter)  
the case against him needed to be ~ (expensive lawyers)

ironclad, waterproof, bulletproof, (legally) binding  
we need ~ guarantees (Sergey Ryabkov / diplomacy)

seemed bulletproof  
he ~ just a few weeks ago (politician under fire)

**flaws & lack of flaws: bullet / weapon**

## bullied

bullied by a liberal media  
we won't be ~ (politics)

bullied by the north  
southerners complain of being ~ (Sudan)

getting bullied  
Twitter is ~ by the government

**coercion & motivation: school & education**  
**oppression: school & education**

### bull's-eye (shape)

"bull's-eye" rash  
the disease is characterized by a ~ (Lyme disease)

**shape: target / weapon**

### bull's-eye (target)

bull's-eye on his back  
he has a ~ (a wanted terrorist)

put a bull's-eye on the city  
the hurricane has ~ (New Orleans 2012)

**target: weapon**

### bully (verb)

bullied colleagues  
there are charges that she ~ (administration)

bully the (national) judiciary  
his comments are a shameless effort to ~

bully the president into backing down  
the Republicans are trying to ~ on reform

let the US bully it  
China will not ~

**coercion & motivation: school & education / verb**  
**oppression: school & education / verb**

### bully (person)

bully in their region  
Israel was the classic ~ (Egyptians / 1973 war)

bullies on the block  
the Patriots are no longer the ~ (NFL football)

bully tactic  
the letter is a ~ (impeachment trial)

Hollywood bullies  
other ~ are being sidelined, but not...

internet bullies  
people who have been harassed by ~

regional bully  
many see Saudi Arabia as a ~ (its neighbors)

technological bully  
Google's co-founders reviled Microsoft as a ~

stood up to the (schoolyard) bully  
he ~ (student vs. record-industry lawyers)

♦ "Add 'online bullying' to the list of phrases rendered completely meaningless by applying it to everything." (An online commenter about

Sydney Sweeney, who considers nude screenshots of her online to be "bullying.")

♦ A boy shall learn to fight, or let him put skirts about his knees. This boy has never been taught to fight, but he shall have his first lesson to-night. We will see if the National Schools can beat a Morgan... Now, a good straight left is the bully's downfall. That is lesson one from the book. Like this." (*How Green Was My Valley* by Richard Llewellyn. Huw had been beaten up by a bully after his first day in class at a new school.)

**coercion & motivation: school & education / person**  
**oppression: school & education / person**  
**person: school & education**

### bulwark (resemblance)

sandstone bulwark  
the Ennedi is a ~ in the middle of the Sahara (Chad)

**resemblance: fortification**

### bulwark (protection)

bulwark against (Republican) excesses  
he was a ~ (a politician)

bulwark against (religious) extremism  
he had been a ~ (deposed leader)

bulwark against (government) tyranny  
the Second Amendment is a ~ (right to bear arms)

bulwark against vice  
playgrounds provide a ~ (urbanization)

bulwark of stability and democracy  
India represents a ~ compared with Pakistan

**protection & lack of protection: fortification / military**

### bump (speed bump)

speed bumps  
there have been a few ~ (negotiations)

speed bump of the land  
so as soon as it gets over the ~ (hurricane / Yucatan)

hit a speedbump  
his investigation ~ when he met with...

♦ "This is just a speed bump, Steven, I'll make it better." (Relationship issues. From the funny 1996 film *The Cable Guy*.)

**obstacles & impedance: journeys & trips**

**flaws & lack of flaws: journeys & trips**

### bump (bump in the road, etc.)

bump in the road  
this is just a ~ (personal setback)  
it was just a ~ of their ideal lives

bumps in the road to toilet training  
many families encounter ~

encounter bumps in the road  
many families ~ to toilet training

**obstacles & impedance: journeys & trips**

**flaws & lack of flaws: journeys & trips**

## bump (increase)

bump in business  
the films saw a ~ following their Tony wins

bump in earnings  
the company has seen a ~

increase & decrease: shape

## bumper (bumper crop)

bumper crop  
what a ~ (of works / Public Domain Day)

amount: farming & agriculture

## bumpy (adjective)

bumpy ride  
consumers are in for a ~ this year (customer service)

bumpy road  
the economy is on the ~ to recovery

flaws & lack of flaws: ground, terrain & land

## bunker (noun)

bunker mentality  
England must discard its ~ after Chennai defeat (cricket)

♦ "When we dug bunkers we saw how the dead lay in layers one above the other." (*The Storm of Steel* by Lieutenant Ernst Junger, quoted in *The Beauty and the Sorrow* by Peter Englund.)

protection & lack of protection: fortification / military

## buoy (verb)

buoy the movement  
Trump's rhetoric continues to ~

feeling, emotion & effect: direction / verb / water

## buoyant (feeling)

buoyant  
the Russian mood is definitely ~  
the German fans are ~ and singing (soccer game)

buoyant about ending  
they were ~ their opponents' unbeaten streak (sports)

buoyant mood  
the members of the expedition were in a ~

buoyant music  
she loved the musical's ~

buoyant optimism  
he expressed ~ that...

buoyant and hopeful  
her depression had lifted, and she felt ~

buoyant, lively (m)  
it was a ~ performance (music)

felt buoyant  
people who have ~ in the economy (housing market)

feeling, emotion & effect: direction / water

## buoyant (personality)

buoyant 70  
he is a ~ (years of age)

buoyant confidence  
she projects a ~

buoyant personality  
she has a ~ given her circumstances (illegal immigrant)

buoyant temperament  
she has a ~

character & personality: direction / water

## buoyant (strong)

buoyant  
voters supported him while the economy was ~  
Asian economies remain resilient, even ~

buoyant demand  
the offering has seen ~ from investors

buoyant (job) growth  
we are seeing rapid, ~

keeps prices buoyant  
the rarity of such collectibles ~

increase & decrease: direction / water

## buoyed

buoyed with hope  
he seemed ~

feeling, emotion & effect: direction / water

survival, persistence & endurance: direction / water

## burden (verb)

burden his wife with (toilsome and difficult) work  
a man should not ~, based on her abilities and custom

burden our grandchildren with this debt  
it is wrong to ~

affliction / oppression: burden / weight / verb

## burden (noun)

burden  
some view stress as a challenge rather than a ~  
that's a big ~ to carry (guilt, responsibility)

burden of expectation  
she suffers from the ~

burden of guilt  
they share a ~

burden of history  
the special ~ that contemporary Greece has to deal with

burdens of leadership  
the ~ are heavy (politics)

burden of the past  
future generations won't suffer the ~

burden of proof  
the ~ is on the FDA to show...  
the sedition charge requires a high ~

burden (of paperwork) on researchers  
the ~ can be great

debt burden  
she couldn't get out from under her crushing ~  
~ keeps poor countries from healing their sick

tax burden  
the ~ still falls on the shoulders of regular Americans  
the local ~ on the mall store

financial burden  
we must reduce the ~s on patients (health care)  
a wedding can be a huge ~ (Arab countries)

heavy burden  
he carries a ~ of responsibility (ruler)  
the ~ of this mammoth job (Man U manager)  
the stigma of AIDS is still a ~

physical and emotional burdens  
the ~ of child-rearing (on grandparents)

blessing and a burden  
patients see choice as both a ~

burden falls  
the ~ on the shoulders of those least able to bear it  
the ~ primarily on women (health-care decisions)

carry the burden  
some kids ~ of extra responsibility (autistic sibling)

ease the burden  
how can we ~ of the poor

get out from under her crushing (debt) burden  
she couldn't ~

shoulder the burden  
locals must ~ after regime change (Rumsfeld)

**affliction / oppression: burden / weight**

**burgeoning (adjective)**

burgeoning influence  
they wish to allay fears about its ~

burgeoning momentum  
a 3-week break stopped Baylor's ~ (basketball)  
♦ This verb form relates to the new growth of buds and branches.

**growth & development: plant**  
**increase & decrease: plant**

**buried (dead and buried, etc.)**

dead and buried  
the peace process is ~  
Spurs looked ~ when Ziyech scored against them, but...

Switzerland were ~ but kept fighting (Euro 2020)  
they looked ~ at half-time, but never write off this team

**condition & status / destruction: burial / death & life**

**buried (concealment)**

buried  
it's the past, it's ~, we don't want to dig it up again

buried in the archives  
the information was ~

buried in the past  
it is ~...

buried in a (158-page) report  
the information is ~

buried in the navigation bar  
the link was ~ (poor Web site design)

buried facts  
~ about the (plutonium) contamination

buried secrets  
~ have teeth (Ad for Truth be Told TV series)

stay buried  
the past did not ~ (The Troubles and Brexit)

♦ "Secrets, long buried, sometimes don't stay that way." (Dateline NBC.)

**concealment & lack of concealment: ground, terrain & land**

**buried (buried in debt, etc.)**

buried in debt  
are you ~

buried in work  
homicide detectives were ~ (leads)

buried under a (huge) mountain of debt  
they were ~

buried away  
she was ~ in the U.S. Department of Agriculture

**involvement / oppression: burial / ground, terrain & land**

**burn (reputational burn, etc.)**

reputational burn  
the ~ of this is enormous (crypto company collapses)

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire**

**burned (impressed)**

burned into our (collective) consciousness  
fairy tales or folktales ~

**impression: fire / mark / sensation**

**burned (hurt)**

burned by their (past) investments  
they were ~ in failed projects (tech industry)

got burned

many investors ~ (fraud)

♦ **Once burned, twice shy!**

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire / sensation**

## burned-out (and burnt-out)

burnt out from years

he felt ~ of working on...

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire / sensation**

## burner (front burner)

put the environment on the front burner

they seek to ~ (election)

put having more fun on the front burner

maybe it's time to ~ (ad for a cruise ship)

**importance & significance / priority / superiority & inferiority: center & periphery / direction / position**

## burning (burning desire, etc.)

burning desire

the ~ to be the best (basketball)

he has a ~ to get the facts (human rights investigator)

burning question

she has one ~ (what did my son die for in Iraq war)

burning righteousness

she pays a price for her ~ (a play)

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire / sensation**

## burning (slow-burning)

slow-burning rebellion

the nation is in the grip of a ~ against the regime

slow-burning war

the Troubles, the ~ in Northern Ireland

**activity: fire**

## burnish (verb)

burnished his credentials

his work in Beijing ~ (a politician)

burnished his reputation

his sermons have ~

♦ **If you burnish something, you rub it until it shines.**

**increase & decrease: light & dark / verb**

## burnished

burnished and tarnished

reputations were ~ (2021 Trump impeachment trial)

**increase & decrease: light & dark**

## burn off (verb)

burn off her (abundant) energy

your toddler needs to ~

burn off stress

exercise is a great way to ~

**amelioration & renewal: fire / verb**

## burn out (verb)

burn out

he warns that troops will "~" and leave the service

burned out

what happens to adjuncts once they've ~

burn out from the environment

people who ~ (technology and computers)

burn out or fade away

playboating didn't ~ (whitewater rodeos, etc.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire / verb**

**decline: fire / verb**

## burnout (noun)

burnout

the new IN thing is "~" (a *Times-Picayune* columnist)

*Women's Burnout*

~: *How to Spot It, Reverse It, Prevent It* (a book)

competitive burnout

he quit the tour, citing ~ (a surfer)

digital burnout

with the Web, people started talking about "~"

avoid burnout

maintain a happy work / life balance and ~

contribute to burnout

three key factors ~...

♦ The concept of "burnout," originally coined to describe the way many drug addicts felt in the late 1960s, has been expanded to *Achilles in the Bronze Age*. (See "It's Just Too Much" by Jill Lepore, *The New Yorker*, May 24, 2021. An excellent article by an excellent writer. The use of modern contempo-speak in a historical context is linguistic presentism.)

**mental health: fire**

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire**

## burn through (verb)

burning through cash

Boeing has been ~ at a significant rate

**consumption: fire / verb**

## burrito (shape)

"burritos"

~, long, sand-filled tubes covered by heavy fabric

sand burritos

~ contribute to beach loss (Sunset Beach, Oahu)

**shape: food & drink**

## burrow (burrow into)

burrowing into the coal industry

Communists are ~, newspapers and shipyards  
burrowing their way into the computer networks  
hackers were ~ of government agencies (SolarWinds)

**concealment & lack of concealment: animal**  
**subterfuge: animal**

## burst (activity)

burst of negotiating  
the crisis signaled a fresh ~

burst of recognition  
you're getting a ~ (an old Blues singer)

**activity: explosion**

## burst (burst into tears, etc.)

burst into applause  
the staff ~ (teachers)

burst into laughter  
she ~

burst into tears  
I ~, assuming...

**feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / verb**

## burst (burst into violence, etc.)

burst into violence  
lingering tensions ~

**initiation: explosion / verb**

## burst on / onto the scene, etc.

burst into our consciousness  
she's ~ (tennis player Emma Raducanu)

burst into the headlines  
the conservatorship ~ this week (#FreeBritney)

burst on the scene  
he ~ in 1991 (independent politician Ross Perot)

burst onto the stage  
he was one of several poets who ~ in the 60s (Russia)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: explosion / verb**

## bury (conceal)

bury it  
catch and kill is buying the rights to a story to ~

bury the truth  
the government is trying to ~

bury (radio) listings  
newspapers ~

buried the report  
Harvard found the same thing but ~ (race issue)

**concealment & lack of concealment: burial / light & dark / ground, terrain & land / verb**

## bury (bury oneself in something, etc.)

buries herself in her phone  
whenever they're together, she ~ (teen and father)

**absorption & immersion: burial / verb**

## bury (kill)

bury any chance  
annexation moves would ~ of peace (Middle East)

**destruction: burial / death & life / verb**

**curtailment: burial / death & life / verb**

## bus (throw somebody under the bus)

threw him under the bus  
the police chief ~ (a policeman)

threw us under the bus  
I felt like he ~ (a politician)

♦ Geoff Nunberg talked about this idiom in "Primaries Toss Some 'Under the Bus,' on Fresh Air, April 22, 2008.

♦ In 2019, NPR's All Things Considered gave the expression a "1-Minute Listen" with examples, dates of usage, and its use in a rap song. In that 1-minute listen, Ammon Shea at Merriam-Webster points out that the expression is not usually, if ever, used as a direct threat: "I will throw you under the bus!" certainly does sound odd. ("The Origins Of 'Throw Him (Or Her) Under the Bus,'" NPR, All Things Considered, November 11, 2019.)

♦ In a 2013 playoff game in Alabama, the McAdory High School football team played the Pinson Valley High School "Indians." The McAdory cheerleaders prepared a "bust thru" banner which read, "Hey Indians. Get ready to leave in a Trail of Tears. Round 2." Following criticism, school officials later apologized for the banner and sought to deflect responsibility: "The person who would normally be responsible for approving such signs is out on maternity leave" and "The cheerleading squad will be disciplined." Of course, throwing the girls and their pregnant leader under the bus only provoked further criticism.

**allegiance, support & betrayal: violence / verb**

## bus (control / allegiance)

bus driver  
~ means that it is your team (=you lead it / NBA)  
he must win a championship as the "~" (sports talk)

on the bus  
you're either ~ or not on the bus, and I'm driving the bus

driving the bus  
I am ~ to make sure we get this country back on track  
it doesn't really matter who is ~, Ole, Rangnick, Ten Haag

♦ This is like the politician who said, "This is my truck, and in my truck we go by my rules."

**allegiance, support & betrayal / control & lack of control / unanimity & consensus: mechanism**

## bus (park the bus)

park the bus for so long  
you can only ~ before getting found out (soccer)

parked bus on edge of own box

first 70 mins we ~ (Leicester City fan, about loss)

♦ "Parking the bus" in soccer is a defensive tactic and often considered a negative tactic.

**action, inaction & delay: engine / movement**

## busy (active)

busy with groups of hikers

unlike the previous day, the path was ~

busy hurricane season

it's expected to be a ~

**activity: movement**

## bust (oil bust, etc.)

oil bust

historic oil bust delivers a gut punch to Texas county

boom and bust

Argentina is used to ~ (the economy)

**activity: explosion**

**cost & benefit: explosion**

## butcher (verb)

butchered his presentation

he ~

**failure, accident & impairment: meat / verb**

## butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.)

Butcher of Baghdad

ridging the world of the ~ (Saddam Hussein)

Butcher of Ethiopia

General Rodolfo Graziani, the ~ (Yekatit 12, 1937)

Butcher of Fezzan

the Arabs called him "the ~" (Graziani, 1930-34, Libya)

butcher of Mosul

the execution of Shukair Farid, "the ~" (Iraq)

Butcher of the Monks

the general became known as the ~ (Zhao Erfang)

quisling butcher

he was a ~ (Croatia / Jasenovac)

criminals and butchers

the terrorists are ~ (Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia)

cast Grant as a "butcher"

Southern historians ~ (revisionism)

nicknamed the Butcher

the general, ~, seized power in a coup (Gwangju Uprising)

♦ "The Duce will have Ethiopia, with or without the Ethiopians." (The Italian General Rodolfo Graziani.)

♦ AVENUE DU BOUCHER BUGEAUD (A defaced street sign in Paris. Thomas Robert Bugeaud was instrumental in the subjection of Algeria in the 1830s and 40s.)

♦ "The duke, though not much of a general, was undoubtedly a man of courage, of energy, and steadiness of purpose; but his manners were boisterous and brutal, his temper hasty, harsh, and tyrannical, his

passions coarse and violent. He was detested by the people of England, who believed him capable of any atrocity; while the deeds that were to come in Scotland gained him the name of 'The Butcher,' and have stamped his memory to the present hour with an infamy that is indelible." (The Duke of Cumberland, who led the King's forces at Culloden in 1746. From *British Battles on Land and Sea* by James Grant.)

♦ "So they were had into the palace and showed the whole art of the sword for two hours at a stretch, before King George and Queen Carline, and the Butcher Cumberland..." ("I Hear Of Red Fox" from *Kidnapped* by Robert Louis Stevenson.)

**epithet: person**

**death & life / military / oppression: epithet**

**military: meat**

## butchery (war)

survived the day's butchery

the soldiers who ~ are forever marked by it (Borodino)

♦ "It was the Somme in miniature. To the Finns who witnessed these attacks, it seemed beyond belief that any army, no matter how fatalistic its ideology or inexhaustible its supply of manpower, would continue to mount attack after attack across such billiard-table terrain. / In some battles the Finnish machine gunners held their fire until the range was down to fifty meters; the butchery was dreadful. In a number of cases Finnish machine gunners had to be evacuated due to stress. They had become emotionally unstable from having to perform such mindless slaughter, day after day." (Taipale. From *Frozen Hell: The Russo-Finnish Winter War Of 1939-40* by William R. Trotter.)

**military: meat**

## butterfly (shape)

butterfly ballot

the ~ confused many voters (2000 presidential election)

"butterfly" mines

PFM-1 ~ scattered from the air (Afghanistan);

children think ~ are toys

**shape: animal / insect**

## butterfly (social butterfly)

social butterfly

she's a ~

**person: insect / society**

**character & personality / society: insect / person**

## butterfly (butterflies in stomach)

had butterflies in my stomach

I ~ (a nervous performer before a performance)

**feeling, emotion & effect: insect / stomach**

## button (push a button / action)

big button

we pressed the ~ with rescue helicopters, the Red Cross...

easy button

we never had any time for that, we just pushed the ~

push the button

officials must decide when to ~ (COVID circuit-breaker)

♦ "We pressed the big button with rescue helicopters, rescue dogs, the Red Cross, the civil defense, fire, health and police." (A Norwegian, speaking in Norwegian, about eight homes that were swept into the sea by a mudslide. His speech was translated by the BBC, which showed the

video of the astonishing event. Amazingly, nobody was injured in the disaster.)

♦ "We never had any time for that, we just pushed the easy button." (US in Afghanistan.)

♦ "We threw everything at it, search teams, dogs, aerial units, the whole nine." (A kidnapping.)

**action, inaction & delay / initiation: mechanism / verb**

## button (push a button / emotion)

buttons

he knows what ~ to push (to provoke reaction)

he knows how to push ~ (Jake Paul / boxing)

pushes South Africa's racial buttons

rugby ~

pushed my button

that's what ~ too far (a suspension)

push people's buttons

I like to ~ (George Carlin / comedian / taboos)

he likes to ~ (get them upset)

**feeling, emotion & effect / initiation: mechanism / verb**

## button (pause button)

hit the pause button

we need to ~ (gene editing)

it never really ended, we just ~ (Korean War)

**action, inaction & delay: mechanism**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism**

## button (panic button)

panic button

I was scared, I hit the ~

hit the panic button

it's not time to ~ yet

**feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism**

## button (hot button)

hot buttons

he addresses love, expectation, and other ~ (writer)

he addresses jealousy, grief, and other ~ (writer)

he addresses disappointment, fidelity and other ~

hot-button issue

another ~ at the WTO was dumping

let's talk about some of the ~s (politics)

hot-button subject

it's a ~ (racism and bias)

**feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism / temperature**

## buttress (verb)

buttress Ethiopia against threats

a better approach is to ~ to its survival by...

buttress its argument

Eritrea produced Italian colonial-era maps to ~

buttressed his case

he has ~ with science's latest discoveries about...

buttress European influence

the pipeline will ~ all the way to Azerbaijan

**amelioration & renewal: infrastructure / mining / verb**

**strength & weakness: infrastructure / verb**

## buttress (resemblance)

buttresses of (dark, gabbro) rock

these peaks and ~ are called the Black Cuillin

**resemblance: infrastructure**

## buttress (Castle Buttress, etc.)

Buttress Point

~ is a point in New Zealand

Castle Buttress

~ is a peak in KwaZulu-Natal

Porcupine Buttress

the ~ is a series of promontories (Western Cape)

**proper name: infrastructure**

**geography: infrastructure / proper name**

## buy (time)

see *time* (*buy time*, *etc.*)

## buy (buy into something)

buy in to the company

workers who ~ (enthusiasm vs. apathy)

bought into the bravado

he initially ~ (claims of a corporation)

bought into the (e-wallet) concept

parents that have ~

buy into the stereotype

does this guy ~ that Asian women are generally weak

**acceptance & rejection: money**

**allegiance, support & betrayal: money**

## buy (accept)

buy their argument

do you ~ that...

buy the (Democrats') semantic argument

even some on the left don't ~ (bank rescue isn't bailout)

buy the "bad apples" argument

I don't ~ (combat, war, and atrocities)

buying his excuses

his colleagues are not ~ (ethics violations)

buy it

Tyer didn't ~ (an explanation)

**acceptance & rejection: money / verb**

## buy-in (noun)

buy-in

~ is acceptance, support, participation (employment)

employee buy-in

companies that demand ~

~ is a major part of some corporate cultures

buy-in from parents

we didn't have enough of a deep ~ (school)

loss of buy-in

several factors can lead to a ~ (enthusiasm turns to apathy)

♦ A BBC Worklife article about buy-in included the following expressions: get on board; drinking the Kool-Aid; go all in...

**acceptance & rejection: money**

**allegiance, support & betrayal: money**

**commitment & determination: money**

## bypass (verb)

bypass Congress

the President will try to ~ to get what he wants

bypass the gatekeepers

the internet allowed people to ~ who controlled music

**avoidance & separation: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## buzz (sound)

buzz with the sound

forests ~ of chain saws

**sound: insect**

## buzz (activity)

buzzing with anticipation

the students were ~ (school assembly)

buzzing with excitement

the city is ~ ahead of next month's World Cup

buzzing with questions

my mind was ~

buzzed with possibilities

my mind ~

buzzed with rumors

the school ~

buzzing with shoppers

Rockefeller Center is ~

**activity: insect / sound**

## buzz (attention)

buzz

the ~ this years is that...

buzz about the (new) hotel

there was a lot of ~ (a Japanese robot hotel)

buzz and excitement and a coming together

there's a ~ for the city (Super Bowl LVI (56) / Cincinnati)

buzz about the Nationals

there has been a lot of ~ (sports team)

audience buzz

the TV show is getting critical acclaim and ~

water-cooler buzz

the ~ is underway (a controversy)

most buzz

which story is getting the ~

negative buzz

the group survived the initial ~

generated quite some buzz

this has ~ in the last 24 hours or so (politics)

♦ Buzzword has morphed to fuzzword (social-justice language, feminism, etc.)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: insect / sound**

## buzz (sensation)

beer buzz

I like a good ~ in the morning

euphoria or buzz or high

inhaling to get a sensation of ~ (toluene abuse)

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / sound**

## buzzed (buzzed about, etc.)

buzzed about

this is a company that is ~ and for good reason

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: insect / sound**

## buzz saw (noun)

hit the buzz saw

we were one of them that ~ (industry loses funding)

ran into a buzz saw

Minnesota went to Iowa and ~ (football loss)

♦ "Up to about the time of the Civil War, trees were cut down by axes, which was slow, laborious work. The arrival of the crosscut saw speeded this process immeasurably, and the cant hook and peavey, perfected in the pineries of Maine at about the same time, made it much easier to handle the logs... In the same way the equipment at the sawmills was vastly improved... and the mill's capacity for processing logs was almost unimaginably increased... So over most of the state of Michigan the forest was destroyed." (*Waiting for the Morning Train: An American Boyhood* by Bruce Catton.)

♦ According to Merriam-Webster, a buzz saw is the same as a circular saw, and its first known use was in 1847.

**destruction / force: tools & technology**

## buzzword (noun)

buzzwords about things

offer tidbits and ~ like attachment styles ("therapy TikTok")

buzzwords like *accredited, internationally recognized*

~ (the TEFL industry)

buzzword-laden

Kendall's ~ corporate-speak (the TV series *Succession*)

psychobabble buzzwords

an hour and a half of ~ (an online celebrity therapy session)

nonprofit and social justice buzzwords

all the ~ (Race2Dinner, a for-profit)

just a buzzword

is Web3 the future of the Internet or ~

sacred buzzwords

~ like "learning styles" and "learner centered" (education)

become a buzzword

mindfulness has ~ in current mainstream culture

♦ *Buzzword* has morphed to *fuzzword* (social-justice language, feminism, etc.)

♦ "Politics, Pundits And The Problem With The Word 'Pivot'" is a very nice opinion piece by Scott Simon. (NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, June 11, 2016.) Simon rightly characterizes the word as a buzzword.

♦ "To keep class discussion buoyant, lecturers are told to 'encourage students to practise the verbalisation aspect of knowledge'. Multiple 'learning outcomes', sacred buzzwords before the pandemic, have been supplemented with 'learner journeys', promising against the odds a positive experience as well as a realistic hope of achieving something." ("Diary: On Quitting Academia" by Malcolm Gaskill, *London Review of Books*, 24 September 2020. "In May, I gave up my academic career after 27 years...")

♦ "Kyle was not an active shooter, that is a buzzword the state wants to latch onto because it excuses the actions of that mob." (Defense attorney Mark Richards, an attorney defending Kyle Rittenhouse. The jury found Kyle not guilty on all counts.)

♦ see also *boilerplate* (noun), *doublespeak* (noun), *ese* (legalese, etc.), *funny language*, *language* (types), *lip service* (pay lip service, etc.), *newspeak* (noun), *speak* (NASA-speak, etc.), *supersizing* (linguistic supersizing), *talk* (mediator talk, etc.), *word salad*

**speech / substance & lack of substance: sound**

**language: speech**

## buzzy (adjective)

buzzy (electric vehicle) market

skeptics take aim at ~

buzzy (new) role

Anne Hathaway talks ~

buzzy (new AI) technology

ChatGPT is a ~ (as is GPTzero)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound**

## by (death by chocolate, etc.)

death by

see *death* (*death by PowerPoint*, etc.)

trial by

Amber Heard and Johnny Depp's "~ TikTok"

♦ "Eighty years on, how should the desire to move on be balanced with the need to remember?" ("Ukraine's forgotten 'Holocaust by Bullets,' BBC, 27 Sept 2021.)

**language: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## bygone (adjective)

bygone days

reliving ~ of going to drive-in movie theaters (pandemic)

bygone era

hallmarks of a ~

he dressed and sounded like he had stepped out of a ~ in modern-day America, there is no such thing as a ~

♦ *Ago* also means "gone by."

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: movement / prep, adv, adj, particle**

**past & present / time: movement / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## byproduct (noun)

byproduct of (Mexico's) culture

domestic violence is an ugly ~ of machismo

byproducts of the war

renditions and torture are ~ (US in Iraq)

ugly byproduct

domestic violence is an ~ of Mexico's culture of machismo

**product / relationship: manufacturing**

**creation & transformation: manufacturing**

## Byron (epithet)

Byron of the antipodes

the 33-year-old ~ (D'Arcy Wentworth)

**character & personality: allusion / epithet**

**allusion: books & reading**

## byzantine

byzantine (Third World) bureaucracy

solutions have been impeded by a ~

byzantine formula

fees are calculated according to ~s

byzantine (asylum) process

he navigates a ~ to finally get a court hearing

byzantine regulations

~ are difficult for the outsider to navigate (Egypt)

the ~ are stifling

byzantine tax law

he relied on Smith's knowledge of ~

Byzantine twist of fate

in a ~...

often-byzantine

navigating America's ~ health care systems

**complexity: history**

# C

## cadence (noun)

launch cadence

the Falcon 9 vehicle contributed to a faster ~

faster (launch) cadence

the Falcon 9 vehicle contributed to a ~

♦ "SpaceX's Falcon 9 vehicle contributed to lower prices, a faster launch cadence, and has helped attract investment..."

♦ I want to be an Airborne Ranger / I want to be an Airborne Ranger / I want to live a life of danger / I want to live a life of danger / I want to kill the Viet Cong / I want to kill the Viet Cong / Sound off / One two / Sound off / Three four / Bring it on down / One two three four one two THREE FOUR! (Vietnam War-era cadence at Fort Knox. In Vietnam, the Vietnam War is called the American War.)

♦ Wiii-iiide River / Wiii-iiide River / River of Saigon / River of Saigon / Wiii-iiide River / Wiii-iiide River / Oh! One more river to cross / Oh! One more river to cross... (Vietnam War-era cadence at Fort Knox. In Vietnam, the Vietnam War is called the American War.)

♦ Go to Cam Ranh Bay / Go to Cam Ranh Bay / Chasing Charley all the way / Chasing Charley all the way / Wiii-iiide River / Wiii-iiide River / Oh! One more river to cross / Oh! One more river to cross... (Vietnam War-era cadence at Fort Knox. In Vietnam, the Vietnam War is called the American War.)

**speed: military / walking, running & jumping**

## Caesar (Chinese Caesar, etc.)

Chinese Caesar

the "~," the precocious King Cheng (c. 221 BC)

**history / military: epithet**

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## cage (a gilded cage, etc.)

silent cage

nonspeakers with autism are locked in a ~

in a (gilded) cage

the 4 Russian princesses lived ~ (isolated in a palace)

**constraint & lack of constraint: animal**

## cage (jail, prison)

threw my boy in a cage

they ~ with those wild animals...

**oppression: animal / justice / sign, signal, symbol**

## cake (icing on the cake, etc.)

cherry on the top of my career

you want to talk about a ~ (an actor)

icing on the cake

for a career in the sciences, the Nobel Prize is the ~

“put the icing on the cake” of his performance

he then scored a goal to ~ (soccer)

♦ “You want to talk about a cherry on the top of my career...” (The extraordinary Jenifer Lewis, talking to Sam Sanders about her role on *Black-ish*. (“From ‘Black-ish,’ Jennifer Lewis: ‘The Mother of Black Hollywood,’” NPR, it’s been a minute, Nov. 28 2017. An enjoyable and uplifting interview!)

♦ “I’m not even sure I’d call it the icing on the cake. It’s like the cherry on the icing.” (A tax credit for paid family leave.)

**consumption / feeling, emotion & effect: taste**

## cakewalk (dance)

cakewalk

this election is not going to be a ~ for...

England are well placed, but it has not been a ~ (cricket)

no Indy 500 is a ~, it’s a massive challenge (motorsports)

military intelligence suggested the campaign would be a ~

♦ For the history of this word, see “The Extraordinary Story Of Why A ‘Cakewalk’ Wasn’t Always Easy” by Lakshmi Gandhi, NPR, Code Switch, Race and Identity, Remixed, December 23, 2013. The title says it all!

**attainment / difficulty, easiness & effort: food & drink**

## California (California of Europe, etc.)

California of Europe

Portugal, the ~ (beaches, wine, laid-back lifestyle, etc.)

**comparison & contrast / geography: epithet**

## calculus (noun)

calculus of subsidizing

for China, the ~ green industries is quite different

complicated calculus

it is a ~ (universities try to reopen during pandemic)

cynical (political) calculus

the racist language they used was part of a ~ (politicians)

economic calculus

the recent rise of shale drilling has changed the ~

mental calculus

he committed an instant ~ (a sports player)

new calculus

for many Mexicans looking north, a ~ favors home

political calculus

the recent ~ hasn’t resulted in a winning calculus

regional calculus

the ~ has swiftly and dramatically altered (diplomacy)

shrewd calculus

Vladimir Putin’s ~

strategic calculus

we cannot change Pakistan’s ~

moral and financial calculi

the ~ (a degree in humanities / the underclass)

part of our calculus

that was ~, if we... (war strategy in Afghanistan)

altering the calculus

changes in Cairo are ~ of the entire region

changed that calculus

her string of stumbles ~ (that she could win easily)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: number**

**strategy: number**

## calibrate (adjust)

calibrate its use

it must ~ of force (a country)

**amelioration & renewal: tools & technology / verb**

**measurement: tools & technology / verb**

## calibrated (adjusted)

calibrated to the moment

his temperament was exquisitely ~ (soldier)

**amelioration & renewal: tools & technology**

**measurement: tools & technology**

## Caligulan

Caligulan dissoluteness

Toghon Temur Khan, a man of ~ (last Mongol Emperor)

**behavior / character & personality: history**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## call (Orwell called, etc. / sarcasm)

Orwell called

he says he wants his 1984 manuscript back

♦ "Wonderful double speak from the @AP. Orwell called, he said he wants his 1984 manuscript back....." (An online commenter about the AP's proscription of "pro-life, pro-choice, or pro-abortion" unless they are in quotes or proper names.)

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

## call (the mountains are calling, etc.)

mountains calling him

he longs to return to Patagonia, there are so many ~

**appeal: sound / speech / verb**

**fictive communication: sound / speech / verb**

## call (call to arms)

call to arms for everyone

this is a ~ who may have a hospitalized relative

call to arms against the epidemic

the report was a ~ (Koop / AIDS)

troll call to arms

her followers saw it as a ~ (criticism)

wake-up call, cri de coeur, call to arms

his book is a ~ (about language)

**appeal / message: military / sound**

## call (close call / judgment)

close call

this was not a ~, there was no case (a judge)

scientific close call

this was a ~, and it was my call to make (CDC director overturns her advisory panel)

**judgment: baseball / sports & games**

## call (the right call)

right call

he remains convinced that he made the ~ (a judge)

**judgment: baseball / sports & games**

## call (call of duty, etc.)

call of duty

his extraordinary heroism, above and beyond the ~

call of fads

don't give in to the siren ~ (tattoos you can live with)

call of the wild

it heard the ~ and disappeared (a pet deer)

call to action

boredom should be a ~

call to duty

men and women who feel the ~

God's call

he has answered ~ to preach the Gospel (Billy Graham)

clarion call

his legacy is a ~ to pursue creative freedom (Dirk Bogarde)

siren call

don't give in to the ~ of fads (tattoos you can live with)

answered the call

she ~ of duty and lost her life (RCMP officer)

♦ "Chou has not abandoned the mountains entirely, though. He still feels their call." (The remarkable Chou Yeh-Cheng of Formosa. From "Can Taiwan become Asia's next great hiking destination?" by Joe Henley, BBC, Travel, 14 December 2021.)

**appeal / attraction & repulsion: speech / sound**

## call (appeal)

calls (for the FBI) to share

~ information

calls for the abolishment

Iraqi leaders have rebuffed ~ of the death penalty

calls for democracy

universal ~ and human rights

calls for his head

there have been ~ (a government official)

call for help

that night they got a ~ (climbing)

call for jihad

his out-and-out ~

call for a (mass) protest

a ~ against anti-Semitism and racism (France)

calls for (peaceful) protests

despite ~, trouble broke out

calls for resistance

~ emanate from mosque loudspeakers (Iraq)

calls for revenge  
rival families would issue ~

call for equal rights  
the ~ was heard all over the country (civil rights)

calls for democracy and human rights  
universal ~

heed his call  
I wish more gays would ~ (gays shouldn't assimilate)

rebuffed calls  
Iraqi leaders have ~ for the abolishment of the death penalty

**appeal: speech / sound**

### call (cattle call)

political cattle call  
all the Democrats will try to stand out at the ~ (Iowa)

**assembling: animal / theater**

### call for (appeal)

calls (out) for (decisive) action  
the crisis ~ (terrorism)

called for a ban  
he ~ of anti-personnel mines

call for (immediate) intervention  
these situations may ~ (medicine)

calls for the removal  
another option ~ of the population (Nauru)

called for a summit  
Yeltsin ~ among the superpowers

**appeal: speech / verb**

### call for (a recipe can call for something)

calls for flour  
when a gravy, sauce, soup, or stew recipe ~

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

### call (wake-up call)

wake-up call  
this death is a ~  
the oil spill has been a ~

wake-up call to world leaders  
Greta's message is a ~ everywhere (Greta Thunberg)

wake-up call to the Saudis  
the bombings are a ~ (terrorists)

wake up call for the colonized world  
it was a bit of a ~ (Russo-Japanese War for Egypt, Indians)

wake-up call, cri de coeur, call to arms  
his book is a ~ (about language)

**consciousness & awareness / warning: sleep**

### calling card

calling card  
the way he positions his victims is his ~  
the way the body was left amounted to a ~ (murder)  
bravado, cunning and carelessness are his ~s  
her openheartedness has always been her ~ (a singer)

calling card of many (neo-Nazi) groups  
the swastika is still the contemporary ~

calling card of a monstrous storm  
debris everywhere, tossed and scattered, the ~ (hurricane)

calling card for one's personality and lifestyle  
weddings serve as a ~

grim calling card  
mesothelioma has become the substance's ~ (asbestos)

microscopic call cards  
touch DNA, the ~ we leave behind (murder)

became his calling card  
the film ~ in Hollywood (an actor)

♦ A calling card was a visiting card. Calling cards were once very important in the days of "society." They would include a name, perhaps an address, and a lady's "day at home." Cards were left at balls, receptions and teas. Those arriving in a new city might inform members of society there by sending calling cards.

**evidence: object**

### call out (verb)

call his teammates out  
he isn't afraid to ~ publicly (NFL quarterback)

called them out  
the students ~, we go on the ground and rallied (protest)

**accusation & criticism: speech / verb**

**judgment: speech / verb**

### callout (criticism)

callout  
not every ~ escalates into a full-scale dragging

callout question  
well, that is a bit of a ~ (aggressive BBC interviewer)

callouts, draggings, and pile-ons  
some Y.A. books are targeted in intense social-media ~

**accusation & criticism / judgment: speech**

### calm (emotion)

calm in a sea  
he is ~ of performative-anger posers (election candidate)

calm atmosphere  
in a ~, we tend to win the debate

oasis of (relative) calm  
it provides an ~ within Iraq (Kurdish region)

keep calm

~ and carry on

remained calm

the atmosphere on the plane ~ (hijacking)

stay calm

~, there is no reason for alarm

- ◆ Keep calm and carry on. (Great Britain, World War II.)
- ◆ Keep calm and chive on. (KCCO.)
- ◆ Keep calm and wear a mask. (The COVID-19 pandemic.)
- ◆ Keep Calm and Call Drew! (Drew Cochran, criminal defense, Maryland State Bar.)
- ◆ Keep calm and f\*\*\* off (on handbags, backpacks, etc.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: water / wind**

## calm (activity)

calm

right now, things are ~

calm before the storm

this is likely to be the ~ (lull in computer hacking)

this is still the ~ (pandemic cases)

**activity: water / wind**

## calm (verb)

calm traffic

the aim is to ~ (low traffic neighborhoods / LTNs)

a radar speed display, or "speed trailer," can ~

- ◆ "Roundabouts are one example of the modern effort to make urban roads safer by reducing speeds. Other tactics include traffic calming and road diets, such as the narrowing of Charlotte Street from four lanes to three." ("Embrace the age of roundabouts" by Bill McGoun, Columnist, *Asheville Citizen Times*, Sunday, August 1, 2021.)

**amelioration & renewal / control & lack of control / feeling, emotion & effect: animal / verb**

## calve (verb)

calved from the Ronne ice shelf into the Weddell Sea

a giant iceberg has ~ (A-76)

calved from the east of the continent

D28 ~ (Antarctica)

calve (immense serac) avalanches

hanging glaciers ~ (Everest base camp)

calve icebergs

tidewater glaciers ~

calve underwater

glaciers can ~, causing an iceberg to leap up

**creation & transformation: animal / birth / cows & cattle / glacier / snow & ice / verb**

## calving

calving of icebergs

the ~ by glaciers

calving of an iceberg

the ~ can create a huge wave

**creation & transformation: animal / birth / cows & cattle / glacier / snow & ice**

## camel (camel's nose in the tent, etc.)

camel's nose in the tent

he sees the decision as the ~ (a judicial case)

- ◆ "In August 1942 a single reinforced US Marine division splashed ashore on Guadalcanal Island... [Ernest J.] King knew full well that it would also be the camel's nose under the tent. That once you put one division ashore...it would have to be supported, and supplied, and reinforced. It would draw more equipment and men and materiel like a black hole into Guadalcanal and that is exactly what did happen." (The Guadalcanal Campaign violated the "Germany First" US policy and almost failed for lack of materiel. From "World War II at Sea: A Global History," presented by Craig L. Symonds to the New-York Historical Society, May 17th, 2018.)

**access & lack of access: doors & thresholds / tent**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: doors & thresholds / tent**

## camel (break the camel's back)

broke the camel's back

this was the straw that ~ (a shooting leads to riots)

breaks the camel's back of economic globalization  
the pandemic could be the straw that ~

- ◆ An inconsequential event, after a series of indignities, causes an extreme reaction.
- ◆ "This for me was like the one drop that made the bucket overflow." (Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp, after receiving a red card for berating a referee's assistant.)
- ◆ "We probably are seeing the result of a lot of long time increased ocean warming there, it's just been melting and melting. And then last week's warming probably is something like, you know, the last straw on the camel's back." ("A previously stable ice shelf, the size of New York City, collapses in Antarctica.")
- ◆ "You know at some point there's a straw that breaks the camel's back." (A Supreme Court Justice, about an argument.)
- ◆ The following online comment seems to conflate "the straw that broke the camel's back" and the related "the last / final straw": "It appears that the threat of taking her child using child protective services was the last sanity straw that was broken."
- ◆ Never abuse a camel, for the camel has a wonderful memory and will never forget an insult. Long after you have forgotten what you did to the camel, the camel will grab your shoulder and crush it. Every Bedouin knows this.

◆ see also *straw (last straw / final straw)*

**development: weight**

## cameo (noun)

celebrity cameos

the film featured a cavalcade of ~

necklace of (burnished) cameos

his book affords a ~ (*Germany: Memories of a Nation*)

**characterization: clothing & accessories / picture**

## camouflage (verb)

camouflage my disability

growing up, I was always trying to ~ (polio victim)

**concealment & lack of concealment: military / verb**

**subterfuge: military / verb**

## camouflage (concealment)

camouflage

“boring” is his ~ (criticism of a vice president)

‘social camouflage’

~ may lead to underdiagnosis of autism in girls

**concealment & lack of concealment: military**

**subterfuge: military**

## camp (division)

camps of advisers and loyalists

frictions between their ~ (politicians)

two camps

there will be ~, just as there are now (a debate)

the fault lines break people into ~ (computers)

split into (rival) camps

our fear that America is ~ (Red / Blue)

**division: military**

## camp (math camp, etc.)

training camp

the actors took part in a breath hold ~ (*Avatar* sequel)

band camp

Oh, and this one time, at band camp, I...

boot camp

see *boot camp* (education, etc.)

math camp

I went to ~ when I was 14 (*Weapons of Math Destruction*)

Mathcamp

Bankman-Fried attended Canada/USA ~, a summer program

♦ “I went to math camp when I was fourteen and came home clutching a Rubik’s Cube to my chest... I majored in math in college and went on to get my PhD...” (Cathy O’Neil, author of *Weapons Of Math Destruction: How Big Data Increases Inequality And Threatens Democracy*. Chapters are titled: Bomb Parts; Shell Shocked; Arms Race; Propaganda Machine; Civilian Casualties; Ineligible To Serve; Sweating Bullets; Collateral Damage; No Safe Zone; and The Targeted Citizen. *The New York Times Book Review* praised her for her “gift for analogy.”)

**knowledge & intelligence: military**

## can (kick the can down the road)

kicked the can down the road

they just ~ (negligent doctor not dealt with)

kicked the can down the road for a year

they ~ (a troubled NFL team)

♦ “We just continue to kick the can down the road, and the problem gets worse and worse.” (The high cost of education, rising tuition and costs, the burden of student debt, the inequality of the debt, etc.)

**action, inaction & delay / confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## canal (birth canal, etc.)

birth canal

push the baby through the ~

a woman can die if her baby becomes stuck in the ~

alimentary canal

the ~ extends from the mouth to the anus

anal canal

the sigmoidoscope is introduced into the ~

auditory canal

sound waves go through the external ear into the ~

♦ “On a turnpike four horses could draw in a day three thousand pounds a distance of 18 miles; on the canal four horses could draw in a day a boat loaded with two hundred thousand pounds of goods a distance of twenty-four miles.” (The US in 1825. From *A New American History* by W.E. Woodward.)

♦ “There is but one way to enter life, but the gates of death are without number.”

**route / shape / transportation: canal / infrastructure**

**route: water**

## canary (canary in the coal mine / cave)

canary in the coalmine

brook trout are the ~ (for water quality)

Jews are the ~ and they are raising the alarm (hate, etc.)

canaries in the coal mine

they are the ~, super-sensitive to warming (corals)

canary in the cave about rationing challenges

it’s the ~ (changes to who gets a transplant kidney)

canary in the coal mine for disconnected societies

Japan’s lost generation could be the ~ (*hikikomori*)

**evidence: animal / bird / mining**

## cancel (groups, etc.)

cancel

we don’t have to ~, to dismiss or silence... (books)

cancel John Audubon

will the National Audubon Society ~

#CancelColbert

the ~ hashtag is trending (2014)

cancel Harry Potter

~, drag her (J.K. Rowling)

cancel Walt Whitman

should we ~

cancel or erases

I want to assure people this in no way ~ history

♦ “Good point. ‘Cancel’ alludes more power than they have. they’re just boycotting.” (On a discussion board.)

♦ “Every step I’ve taken has gaslighted those whom I love... I am not a culture vulture. I am a culture leech. You should absolutely cancel me, and I absolutely cancel myself.” (Rachel Dolezal, an academic who claimed “identities of color,” including Black Caribbean, North African Blackness, US rooted Blackness, Caribbean rooted Bronx Blackness, *Boricua*...)

♦ See “The strange journey of ‘cancel,’ from a Black-culture punchline to a White-grievance watchword,” by Clyde McGrady, *The Washington Post*, April 2, 2021. Then compare with quote immediately below.

♦ “Cancelling is what comes out of Black discourse, it’s what comes out of Black Queer discourse... If this had remained something that just stuck within Black communities, within Latinx communities, then this wouldn’t really be a story. But because it has crossed over...” (Meredith Clark, who teaches media studies at the University of Virginia. From “Cancel Culture Debate Has Early ‘90s Roots: Political Correctness,” NPR, All Things Considered, July 9, 2021. Compare with McGrady’s article cited directly above.)

### **inclusion & exclusion: judgment / verb** **cancel culture (groups, etc.)**

cancel culture

~ is leading us to an Orwellian dystopic society

cancel culture people

the ~, the woke people... (the beloved John Cleese)

“cancel culture” and “language orthodoxy”

she shares her thoughts on ~ (Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie)

left-wing cancel culture

the case has provoked allegations of ~ (France)

constitutional cancel culture

this is ~ (Trump’s second impeachment trial)

victims of cancel culture

the Free Speech Union supports people who are ~

pushback against cancel culture

a ~ (students are rethinking university education)

♦ “It was ironic, it was arch, so it felt like, ‘Oh My God! they’re using this against us!’” (Ruth Perry, who founded the Women’s Study Department at MIT in 1984, about the term “political correctness.” From “How Cancel Culture Became Politicized—Just Like Political Correctness,” NPR, All Things Considered, July 26, 2021.)

♦ “Straight white people have to worry about cancel culture. Almost no one else does.” (An online commenter.)

♦ “Honestly, I think we should probably retire the phrase ‘cancel culture’ at this point. Because it’s losing its meaning...when people just use it to mean, ‘I resent your drawing attention to my crazy ideas.’” (Mona Charen, the *Bulwark*.)

♦ “I realize I’m in the crosshairs of the woke mob right now, so before the final nail gets put in my cancel culture casket, I’d like to set the record straight...” (The NFL’s Aaron Rodgers, employing nice alliteration.)

♦ “Your Fave is Problematic.” (In 2013. From the brilliant podcast “The Witch Trials of J.K. Rowling,” Chapter 3: A New Pyre. The triumph of sensitivity and the strengthening of taboos, begun by a teenager.)

**inclusion & exclusion: judgment**

### **cancellation (groups, etc.)**

cancellation

many Broadway pros aren’t too torn up about his ~

cancellation culture

this ~ is the SJW McCarthy moment (of Walt Whitman)

fourth or fifth cancellation

I must have been on my ~ by then (J.K. Rowling vs trans)

act of cancellation

the ~ is still mostly conceptual or socially performative

♦ Lynchings and running people out of town on a rail after having tarred and feathered them have been replaced by doxing, swatting, pile ons, and cancellation. Ain’t we civilized!

**inclusion & exclusion: judgment**

### **cancelled (groups, etc.)**

cancelled

Chris should not be ~ (the comedian Chris Rock)

this holy priest is ~ while... (a bishop about Frank Pavone)

cancelled no more

the program got cancelled, but she is ~

♦ “sorry, henry david Thoreau—ya (sic) cancelled” (Gerry Canavan of Marquette University, Wisconsin. According to a ratemyprofessors comment, “His Afrofuturism class is uber-interesting and a piece of cake...”)

♦ “It hasn’t been cancelled, to use a common parlance.” (English culture writer Alice Vincent about *The Secret History* by Donna Tartt.)

♦ “John James Audubon’s racism is the albatross rotting around the necks of those who would hold him in reverence. It is past smelling foul and beginning to reek.” (“What Do We Do About John James Audubon?” by J. Drew Lanham. Which begs the question...)

♦ “Some nights at the bar I would descend into discussions with cosmologists and other[s]... and discover that Doctor Seuss meant more to them than a menagerie of imagined animals and a vivid and troublesome cat.” (“The Science of Dr Seuss,” BBC, Sounds, with Robin Ince. Seven Doctor Seuss books were cancelled in 2021.)

♦ “The program got cancelled, but she is cancelled no more.” (The presenter for Blue Origin’s *New Shepard* flight, referring to Mary Wallace “Wally” Funk. Her real name seemed to have gotten cancelled in all of the publicity. She was almost exclusively referred to as “Wally Funk” by the media.)

♦ “I shudder, I really shudder, at the thought that great swathes of art and literature would suddenly be under pressure to the point of being outlawed because sentiments that a character might have expressed normally 100 or even 50 years ago have made the whole work toxic. Do I want *Huckleberry Finn* to be altered or put on some kind of restricted list? The answer is no.” (The playwright Tom Stoppard. From Talk by David Marchese, *The New York Times Magazine*, December 4, 2022.)

**inclusion & exclusion: judgment**

### **cancer (noun)**

cancer

this is a ~ that has been allowed to metastasize (issue)

government corruption is a ~ that destroys from within

cancer of our time

fake news is the ~

cancer on our society

Wall Street is a ~

cancer on the Internet

Facebook is a ~ (parent of teen)

cancer has metastasized

the ~ into a regional crisis (terrorism)

cut out this cancer

there is a need to ~ that we found (misconduct)

considers hacking a cancer

the Chinese government ~ to the whole society (Internet)

**affliction: health & medicine**

**growth & development: health & medicine**

## cancerous (adjective)

cancerous growth

how can we stop the ~ of hate radio

**affliction: health & medicine**

**growth & development: health & medicine**

## candle (candle of hope, etc.)

candle of hope

we need to light a ~ (victims of mass shootings)

♦ The lighthouse is an important symbol and icon to certain groups of Christians.

♦ Florence Nightingale was known as “the Lady with the Lamp.” She was not, in fact, a nurse. She was an administrator, logistician, statistician, advocate, reformer, founder, writer, etc. And beloved by all those to whom she administered “stump pillows.” There’s a collocation for you.

♦ “She became the center and the hope of the sick men’s lives. Their letters home were filled with her, and through these letters her name became a byword in thousands of English homes. ‘What a comfort it was to see her pass even,’ wrote one of her men, in the most famous of all letters about Florence Nightingale. ‘She would speak to one and nod and smile to as many more; but she could not do it to all, you know. We lay there by hundreds. But we could kiss her shadow as it fell, and lay our heads on the pillow again, content.’ / This was the passage that inspired the American poet Longfellow to write the poem on which the popular image of Florence Nightingale is based: Lo! in that hour of misery / A lady with a lamp I see / Pass through the glimmering gloom, / And flit from room to room. / And slow, as in a dream of bliss, / This speechless sufferer turns to kiss / Her shadow as it falls / Upon the darkening walls.” (From *Florence Nightingale* by Ruth Fox Hume.)

♦ “We stopped killing whales for oil only when kerosene and finally electric bulbs provided better and cheaper lighting.”

♦ “We will make electricity so cheap that only the rich will burn candles.” (Thomas Edison, December, 1879.)

♦ “An attendee holds up a digital candle on her phone as a moment of silence is taken for the victims during a vigil at the University of Idaho...” (Caption of a picture.)

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: light & dark / sign, signal, symbol**

## can do (ability)

‘can do’ attitude

the ~ that defines Hong Kong

**ability & lack of ability: part of speech**

## candy (noun)

eye candy

many go to auto shows looking for ~

eye candy for philistines

the work is ~ (Koons’ Bouquet of Tulips)

blond eye candy

there’s lots of ~ Down Under (Oz)

“goose candy”

replacing Kentucky blue grass, called ~

♦ This idea is also expressed as “sugar.”

**attraction & repulsion / consumption: food & drink / taste**

## cannibal (the Cannibal, etc.)

Cannibal

his nickname is “the ~” because he chews up his rivals

Cannibal

in snowy weather, ‘The ~’ took off... (Eddy Merckx)

‘Corsa Cannibals’

~ can strip Vauxhall Corsas of their parts in just minutes

♦ “Timotheé Chalamet has reunited with *Call Me By Your Name* director Luca Guadagnino for this budding cannibal romance...” (Nicholas Barber’s review of *Bones and All*.)

♦ “The victim responded to a posting placed by Mr. Meiwes on the Internet seeking a person willing to be killed and eaten.” (Armin Meiwes killed the willing victim in 2001, ate parts of his body, and was sentenced to a few years in prison. There was an uproar about his “light” sentence, and he was re-sentenced to life in prison.)

**epithet: person**

**destruction: epithet / person**

## cannibalism (noun)

democrat cannibalism

~ is a beautiful thing to watch (politics)

cultural cannibalism

~ (poet Oswald de Andrade / 1928)

♦ The modernist Brazilian poet Oswald de Andrade, in his 1928 “Cannibalist Manifesto,” wrote about Brazil’s propensity for “cultural cannibalism” (*cannibalismo cultural*), or the mixing of various cultures to create something new, which he considered a very good thing indeed.

♦ “Like Saturn, the revolution eats its children.” (See the Wikipedia entry for “Jacques Mallet du Pan.”)

♦ “America must not devour her own children.” (1950s anticommunist hysteria.)

♦ “They eat their own; they get eaten by their own; they cannibalize themselves, please don’t stop; Woke cannibalism! Sweet!; democrat cannibalism is a beautiful thing to watch... (Snarky comments at Breitbart about infighting at *The Washington Post* that led to a suspension and a firing.)

♦ “In 1809 [the Maoris] captured the vessel *Boyd*, further up the coast, and killed and ate its crew...” (The *Boyd* massacre in New Zealand. From *The Fatal Impact* by Alan Moorehead. See the Wikipedia entry.)

♦ “I collected here a great many specimens of the beautiful *Paradisea Guilielmi*, in my opinion one of the most exquisite of all the *Paradisea*; also a great number of rare and new papilios. After spending a few days here we returned to Simbang in time to catch the *Ysabel*, which took us back to Stephansort.” (*Through New Guinea and the Cannibal Countries* by Herbert Cayley-Webster, 1898.)

♦ In World War I, the western part of the Island of New Guinea was controlled by the Dutch (neutral), the southeast was controlled by Britain, and the northeast was controlled by Germany. Hermann Philipp Detzner wrote a book about his adventures: *Four Years Among the Cannibals in the Interior of German New Guinea under the Imperial Flag, from 1914 until the Armistice*.

♦ “When an Edwardian anthropologist told her Nenets hosts the story of Captain Oates’s heroic ‘I am just going outside; I may be some time,’ they refused to believe her. Scott, they objected would surely have eaten him.” (*The Shaman’s Coat* by the great journalist Anna Reid. This refers to survival cannibalism.)

♦ “That period confirmed the ancient proverb, ‘man is a wolf to man.’ Traveler turned off the road at the sight of traveler, stranger meeting stranger killed for fear of being killed. There were isolated cases of cannibalism. The laws of human civilization were suspended. The jungle law was in force. Man dreamed the prehistoric dreams of the cave dweller...” (*Doctor Zhivago* by Boris Pasternak.)

**destruction / creation & transformation: consumption**

## cannibalize (verb)

cannibalized (canonical) art history

he ~ (the figurative painter Robert Colescott)

cannibalizing other formats

that fear that e-books were ~ in the book world

cannibalizing the sale

library lending is ~ of e-books (borrowed for free)

**taking & removing: verb**

## cannibalized

cannibalized

the buildings had been ~

**taking & removing: consumption**

## cannon (loose cannon)

loose cannon

there are a lot of ~s out there (crazy people)

police are calling him a ~ (man on crime spree)

had he appointed a ~ who would wreck the system

**person: military / weapon**

**behavior / character & personality / control & lack of control / restraint & lack of restraint: military / person / weapon**

## cannon fodder (military)

used as cannon fodder

the prospect of being ~ makes many conscripts defect

♦ Merriam-Webster dictionary gives 1847 for the first use.

♦ "There is a very real sense in which the modern world—our world—was born between 1914 and 1918. Something changed in human sensibility. Soldiers wouldn't be willing to engage in such slaughter. Toward the end of the first World War, even, tolerance for past norms had begun to end. In 1917, much of the French Army mutinied and refused to attack. They would defend but not attack. The days of cannon fodder were over forever as a result of that war..." ("Why World War I Resonates," by William Boyd, NYT, Jan. 21, 2012. At the beginning of the Battle of the Somme, on July 1, 1916, the British Army suffered 60,000 dead and wounded—in one day. It was arguably the worst butcher's bill in military history.)

♦ The Butcher of Baghdad; Cannon fodder; Hamburger Hill; lambs to the slaughter; fresh meat... (Warfare.)

**military: animal / consumption / farming & agriculture / plant**

## cannon fodder (other)

cannon fodder

West Ham has been ~ for years now (EPL)

written off as ~, they triumphed (World Series)

cherry picked cannon fodder

all his early fights were ~ (the boxer Anthony Joshua)

**worth & lack of worth: military**

## canon (literature)

canon of (English) literature

certain authors occupy a central place in the ~

canon of "great books"

who decides what the ~ is (literature)

standard canon

defenders of the ~ often agree to its expansion (lit)

traditional canon

the battle between defenders and detractors of the ~

parallel, oppositional canons

establish ~ of work by women, gays...

concept of the canon

many would repudiate the ~ entirely (literature)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## canon (other)

culinary canon

a native ~ embraces rice, persimmons, corn, bison (US)

vegetables are certainly part of his ~ (Niklas Ekstedt)

canon has been blasted apart

but that ~ (doctors withhold prognosis)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## canonical (adjective)

canonical

his Cold War scholarship is ~ (John Lewis Gaddis)

canonical example

it was a ~ of what a computer couldn't do

canonical greats

reissuing the work of ~ like Kurt Vonnegut (publishing)

canonical rules

it breaks many of the ~ of the series (a film)

canonical songs

they cover some of Waits' ~

canonical (theatrical) works

~ such as those of Shakespeare

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## canonize (verb)

canonized him

since his suicide, his fans have ~ (an author)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion / verb**

## canter (noun)

canter

at a ~, take us through the voyage... (radio show)

at a canter

he should beat Jake Paul ~ (Tommy Fury)

City won ~ versus a strangely passive West Ham

win (the league) by a canter

Man City will ~ (soccer)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: animal / horse / movement / speed / walking, running & jumping**

**speed: animal / horse / movement / walking, running & jumping**  
**movement: animal / horse / speed / walking, running & jumping**

### canter (verb)

cantering to their first league title

Liverpool is ~ since 1990 (soccer)

♦ "Humphrey, the whole national health service is an advanced case of galloping bureaucracy." / "Certainly not. Not galloping. A gentle canter at most." (The TV series *Yes Minister*, "The Compassionate Society.")

**difficulty, easiness & effort: animal / horse / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

**speed: animal / horse / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

**movement: animal / horse / speed / verb / walking, running & jumping**

### canyon (resemblance)

urban canyons

narrow ~ created by the form and arrangement of buildings

**resemblance: ground, terrain & land**

### cap (tip one's cap)

tip their cap to Duke Ellington

younger musicians like Sonny and Max Roach always ~

**achievement, recognition & praise: gesture / hat / verb**

### capital (value)

capital in the bank

any study, any work you do on your voice is ~ (an actor)

creative capital

how the hip-hop generation aimed to own their ~

cultural capital

leveraging the ~ of barbershops to promote wellness  
Pierre Bourdieu and Jean-Claude Passeron coined the term ~  
the humanities' loss of ~ (in academia, versus STEM)

human capital

we must invest in ~

political capital

he is willing to spend ~ on the issue  
when you're president you have a limited amount of ~

symbolic capital

the desire to acquire ~ (vs. knowledge / TESOL acronyms)

capital evaporated

in the last 2 weeks his political ~ (resigned)

♦ The French sociologist Pierre Bourdieu wrote "The forms of Capital" in 1986. He talked about economic, cultural, and social capital. Cultural capital is knowledge, social capital is your network.

♦ "As a Black woman, I see things through color... race is a lens for me, and it's a lens that my children experience as well and I think for someone to say, "Well, I don't see skin color, I just see who you are," I think you're leaving out a really big part of who I am, you're leaving out my cultural capital." (Gina Parker Collins, founder of RIISE. From "The Trials of Critical Race Theory," CBSN Originals.)

♦ "Others, though, suggest that the humanities' loss of cultural capital has been hastened by the path of humanities scholarship itself... Now, you might write a paper about how the text enacts a tension by both constructing and subtly undermining the imperial patriarchy through the descriptions of landscape. What does this have to do with how most humans read?" ("The End Of The English Major" by Nathan Heller, *The New Yorker*, March 6, 2023.)

♦ "Maybe I'll lean into the pain narrative, write that and get a good advance, ya'll pay me for that, right." (Fantasy author L.L. McKinney.)

**cost & benefit / worth & lack of worth: money**

### capital (capital of the world, etc.)

capital of the dancing world

it boasted it was the ~ (Barrowland Ballroom / Glasgow)

world's capital

the ~ of advanced yachting (Monaco / megayachts)

world's turkey capital

Cuero, Texas, the ~ (disputed by Worthington, MN)

"cherry capital of the world"

Traverse City bills itself ~ (Northwestern Michigan)

cowboy capital of the world

they call it the ~ (Stephenville, Texas)

Crawfish Capital of the World

Breaux Bridge is the ~ (Louisiana)

"Gem Capital of the World"

Franklin, North Carolina, the ~

golf capital of the world

Myrtle Beach, the ~ (South Carolina)

Granite Capital of the World

Elberton is billed as the ~ (state of Georgia in US)

hockey capitals of the world

Toronto, one of the great ~...

"Live Music Capital of the World"

Austin bills itself as the ~ (Sixth Street, etc.)

Loon Capital of the World

Mercer, Wisconsin promotes itself as the "~"

"ostrich capital of the world"

Oudtshoorn, the ~ (South Africa)

perfume capital of the world

Grasse is known as the ~ (France)

Shark Bite Capital of the world

Volusia County, Florida, has been dubbed the ~

stabbing capital of the world

Alice Springs now holds the unenviable title of ~ (2008)

Storytelling Capital of the World

Jonesborough bills itself as the "~" (Virginia)

waterfowl hunting capital of the world

Katy, Texas, ~

**geography / superlative: epithet**

## capital (Black Bear capital, etc.)

capital of America

San Francisco was the car-break-in ~

capital of Canada

Thunder Bay is the murder ~

capital of crime

Detroit has a reputation as the ~

capital of the White emigration

France was the world-wide ~ (from Russia / White emigres)

capital of happiness

it's unofficially known as Brazil's ~ (Salvador de Bahia)

cardoon capital

Vaulx-en-Velin is known as the ~ of France

Back Bear Capital

Pine Mountain is claimed to be the ~ of Kentucky

coal capital

Blackwater, the ~ of Queensland (Australia)

gem capital

Ratnapura is known as the ~ of Sri Lanka

lightning capital

Nasa has declared it Earth's '~' (Catatumbo, Venezuela)

murder capital

Thunder Bay is the ~ of Canada

poultry capital

Namakkal, Tamil Nadu, the ~ of India

surf capital

Scheveningen is known as the ~ (Holland)

shark attack capital

New Smyrna Beach is known as the ~ (Florida)

Trout Capital

boosters say Jackson County is the North Carolina ~

Whale Capital

the town calls itself the ~ of Iceland (Husavik, Iceland)

next crypto currency capital

Texas is becoming the ~

financial capital

an earthquake rattled Italy's ~ of Milan (no injuries)

**geography: epithet**

## capital punishment

capital punishment

this was the political equivalent of ~ (calls for resignation)

career capital punishment

an apology should have sufficed, not ~

**punishment & recrimination: justice**

## capstone (noun)

capstone of his career

the banking overhaul was the ~ (politician)

he wants health-care legislation to be the ~ (politician)

capstone of the peace treaty

the independence vote is the ~ (Sudan)

capstone to his agenda

the ratification of the treaty was the ~ (president)

capstone to his career

his present job is the ~ (service to his homeland)

capstone for the neighborhood

it will be the ~ (architectural project)

capstone (warfighting) doctrine

AirLand Operations is the Army's ~

legal capstone

the case puts a ~ on a historic election (court)

♦ Two pillars often support a capstone, which is the stone at the top.

**importance & significance: infrastructure / height**

## captive (held captive, etc.)

captive to its own delusions

the Party was a ~

captive to its past

America, once forward looking, is now ~ (1619, etc.)

held captive

an anxious nation suddenly ~ by crisis (a pandemic)

**possession / taking & removing: crime**

**constraint & lack of constraint / control & lack of control: crime**

## captivity (noun)

live in captivity

child stars ~ (US female celebrities)

**possession / taking & removing: crime**

**constraint & lack of constraint / control & lack of control: crime**

## capture (verb)

captured him on a phone in the airport

security cameras ~ (terrorist)

captured it on video

no one had ~ until now (citizens videoing cops)

captured Oscars

it ~ for best picture, director and actor (film)

captured (the world's) attention

airstrikes in Baghdad ~

capture headlines

it goes on every day but doesn't ~

captured my heart

the first time I saw him, he ~ (an orphan)

captured my imagination  
that speaks to me, that ~ (a quotation)  
the mountain ~ (Machhapuchhare)

captured the imagination  
the job of fire watcher has long ~  
he has ~ of fans (an athlete)  
the young Mancini has ~ of boxing fans everywhere  
climbing films have ~s of movie goers (*Free Solo*, etc.)

captured imaginations  
theories about what happened have ~ for decades (Earhart)

captured the (public's) imagination  
what has most ~ is...  
he is riding on a new artistic wave which has ~ (Doug Hyde)

captured the (public) imagination  
the film character ~ (Dirk Bogarde as Simon Sparrow)

captured the (nation's) imagination  
her rise and sudden downfall ~ (Elizabeth Holmes)

capture the loyalty  
it has managed to ~ of working women (WNBA)

captures our minds  
the story encapsulates how outrage ~ (viral online clip)

capture ("impulse") moviegoers  
advertising to ~

captures the plight  
Scott Adams's Dilbert ~ of the cubicle slave (cartoon)

capture market share  
~ while the market is small

captures (satellite) signals  
the GPS receiver ~

captures the uncertainty  
she ~ that comes with big life changes (a songwriter)

captured the (post-pandemic) zeitgeist  
the notion of quiet quitting has ~

captured the hearts and minds  
he has ~ of Americans (Olympic athlete)

failed to capture  
they ~ audio of the landing , but... (Perseverance / Mars)

♦ "Now that we have captured your imagination, don't make us come after the rest of you. (A clever TV advertisement from the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation promoting tourism on their reservation in Cherokee, North Carolina.)

♦ "California Highway Patrol Captures Runaway Emu After 30 minutes... The Highway patrol said no one was hurt..." / "A [Chapel Hill] emu on the run in North Carolina was most recently seen jumping on the hood of a car. It's been loose for weeks..." (NPR. So many emus on the run. Emu?)

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb**

**fictive possession: hand / verb**

## capture (noun)

carbon capture

Wyoming has invested heavily in ~ (coal)  
there are two types of ~ (point-source and direct air)

hard capture  
~ is complete (SpaceX crew capsule docks with ISS)

regulatory capture  
this is an example of ~ (Boeing and FAA)

♦ "We can confirm hard capture is complete." (SpaceX's Crew Dragon capsule attaches itself to the International Space Station.)

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting**

**fictive possession: hand**

## captured

captured by an anti-intellectual, illiberal mob  
Brearley has been~ (the school / obsession with race)

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting**

**fictive possession: hand**

## carapace (protection)

subjects' protective carapaces  
her job is to cut her ~ down to the bone (a journalist)

♦ A carapace is the exoskeleton of a creature like a turtle or crustacean such as a lobster, crab, shrimp or prawn, or an arachnid (8-legged creature vs. a 6-legged insect) like a spider or scorpion.

**protection & lack of protection: animal**

**isolation & remoteness: animal**

## carcass (noun)

carcass of a tank  
he stood by the burned-out ~

**destruction / resemblance: animal**

## card (in the cards)

in the cards  
that's not ~  
if you're a Congolese, you know a life of comfort is not ~  
a permanent revival is just not ~ (the coal industry)

**fate, fortune & chance: cards / gambling / sports & games**

## card (guilt card, etc.)

compassion card  
Democrats are playing the ~ (unemployment benefits)

evidence card  
they had the race card, we were playing the ~ (O.J. trial)

gender card  
stop playing the ~, the fact you're a woman... (politics)

guilt card  
the ~ works—if they have any guilt (Internet suck sites)

race card  
he played heavily on the ~ (Peru)  
some accused the lawyer of playing the ~ to the jury  
they had the ~, we had the evidence card (O.J. trial)  
he'll probably pull out the ~ next (a boxer who lost)

sympathy (get-out-of-jail) card  
no ~ for this case, go straight to jail

get out of jail card  
no sympathy ~ for this case, go straight to jail

political cards  
but the New Left never had any ~ to play (students)  
he played his ~ right and got a plum job

policy and philosophical cards  
they will have to show their ~ (party in power)

**strategy: cards / gambling / sports & games**

### card (play one's cards)

played his cards very carefully  
he ~, negotiating a deal that... (Ahmed Zaki Yamani)

play my cards right  
if I ~, I could be head cheerleader

played his (political) cards right  
he ~ and got a plum job (Secretary of State)

**strategy: cards / gambling / sports & games / verb**

### card (hold one's cards close)

holds his cards close to his vest  
he ~ and knows just when to play them (an official)

**character & personality / concealment & lack of  
concealment: cards / gambling / sports & games / verb**

### card (dealt cards)

dealt some cards  
they were ~ they can't play (under-privileged)

♦ "They were dealt some cards they can't play to this day. Fortunately, I was dealt cards and somehow managed to play the right hand." (Olympic champion speaking of his heroin-addict mother and step-father.)

♦ "It's not the cards you're dealt, it's how you play your hand."

**fate, fortune & chance: cards / gambling / sports & games**

### card (strong card)

strong card  
we don't have ~s but... (negotiations)  
fear is a ~, if not a trump card (national security / politics)  
his only ~ is that he...  
it would be a ~ to play, but not perhaps a winning one  
literature was never his ~

strong card in Afghanistan  
he is the Pakistan Army's ~ (network leader)

Administration's (last) strong card  
the ~ is to maintain economic sanctions against...

hold one strong card  
we ~

**strength & weakness: cards / gambling / sports & games**

### card (trump card)

trump card  
this was her ~ (an endorsement for her)  
fear is a strong card, if not a ~ (national security / politics)

pulled his trump card  
the assistant prosecutor ~ (damning evidence at trial)

**strength & weakness: cards / gambling / sports & games**

### card (hold all the cards)

hold all the cards  
when prosecutors ~, can any defendant get a fair trial

**strength & weakness: cards / gambling / sports & games**

### card (cards on the table)

cards on the table  
~, I can't say... (I won't lie to you)

**concealment & lack of concealment / sincerity, lack of  
sincerity & honesty: cards / gambling / sports & games**

### card (the cards are stacked against us, a stacked deck, etc.)

get more cards stacked against you  
you couldn't ~ (Fauci about the pandemic / US divisions)

**obstacles & impedance: cards / gambling**

### career (noun)

career of the metaphor  
a case study of the ~ (*weaponization*)

**growth & development: life span**

### caretaker (role)

caretaker government  
the ~ is fragile and weak  
Israel's ~ can only make limited decision (2019)

caretaker manager  
a ~ will be appointed  
he met with ~ Michael Carrick (the new interim manager)

caretaker PM  
Hassan Diab is currently serving as ~ (Lebanon)

caretakers of the land  
farmers are ~

**help & assistance: infrastructure / person**

### carnage (noun)

carnage  
the ~ let behind in the dot-com bust

carnage in football  
~ pays (Georgia Tech wins 222-0 / a "slaughter")

carnage in the oil industry  
low prices cause ~

convention carnage

TV brought the ~ into our living rooms (Chicago 1968)

American carnage

this ~ stops right here (President Trump)

complete carnage

~ in coastal areas (Typhoon Rai / property damage)

economic carnage

they should be spared the worst of the ~ (“Frugal Four”)  
as the ~ from the coronavirus pandemic continues...

greater carnage

Obama and Clinton saw even ~ (midterm losses)

jobs carnage

~ mounts: 17 million file for unemployment (COVID)

Young Thug, Carnage and Meek Mill

~ (“feasting and beasting”)

brunt of the carnage

Black communities face the ~ (illegal drug overdoses)

extent of the carnage

in the coming days we’ll see the ~ (pandemic)

carnage that ensues

novels about marriages failing and the ~

carnage being waged

NPR conveniently skips the ~ (social justice demos)

let the carnage begin

so ~ (review of Roman Polanski’s 2011 film *Carnage*)

♦ “Mothers and children trapped in poverty in our inner cities, rusted out factories scattered like tombstones across the landscape of our nation, an education system flush with cash but which leaves our young and beautiful students deprived of all knowledge. And the crime, and the gangs, and the drugs that have stolen too many lives and robbed our country of so much unrealized potential. This American carnage stops right here and stops right now.” (President Trump, from his inaugural address, Friday, January 20, 2017.)

♦ “The word *carnage* moved up to us through Italian and French from the Latin term *caraticum* signifying “flesh” or “meat.” Once *carnage* meant the time for eating meat and was also the name for the flesh thrown to the dogs after a hunt. Later on, the word was applied to the heaps of carcasses on a battlefield, finally to any massacre or butchery.” ( *Word Origins And Their Romantic Stories* by Wilfred Funk, Litt.D.)

♦ “Nearly the whole of the Highland wounded were destroyed by the butt-end of the musket, or the bayonet. On the day after the battle, the houses of the peasantry were searched, and every wounded Highlander who could be found was dragged out and murdered in cold blood. To be found wearing tartan was sufficient to ensure death. In one place seventy-two were butchered together. In another, forty were enclosed in a hut, which was then fired, and all within were burned to death. The whole road to Inverness was strewed with the bodies of the slain...” ( *British Battles On Land and Sea* by James Grant, Culloden, 1746. “Such is the story of Culloden, happily the last battle fought on the soil of Great Britain.”)

♦ “John J. Hardin, an Indiana volunteer, found it ‘dreadful...to see the poor soldier just thrown in a ditch and covered over without any box.’ / Burials like these dehumanized the dead and appalled many of the living. A Union chaplain observed that in pit burials bodies were ‘covered over much the same as farmers cover potatoes and roots to preserve them from the frost of winter; with this exception, however: the vegetables really get more tender care...’ Frequently, corpses were quite literally naked... Soldiers desperate for clothing robbed the dead... and thieves and scavengers appeared on battlefields immediately after the end of hostilities... / Soldiers worried that the piles of dead might include those

still living, unable to speak...” ( *The Republic of Suffering, Death And the American Civil War* by the great American historian Drew Gilpin Faust.)

♦ “On Sept. 19, 1862, just two days after the Battle of Antietam, Alexander Gardner, an employee of the photographer Mathew Brady, began documenting the battle’s grim aftermath. One of Gardner’s photographs, titled ‘Dead Horse of Confederate Colonel: both killed at Battle of Antietam,’ depicted a milky-white steed lying on the field in an eerily peaceful repose...[The Horse] very likely belonged to Colonel Strong, and it became something of a landmark among the Union soldiers left on the field because of its strangely peaceful appearance. Gen. Alpheus Williams wrote, ‘The number of dead horses was high. They lay, like the men, in all attitudes. One beautiful milk-white animal had died in so graceful a position that I wished for its photograph. Its legs were doubled under and its arched neck gracefully turned to one side, as if looking back to the ball-hole in its side. Until you got to it, it was hard to believe the horse was dead. / Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr. saw the horse four days after the battle while searching for his wounded son. Later, Holmes examined Gardner’s photograph and said it was the same horse.” (“The Dead of Antietam,” by Terry L. Jones, *The New York Times*, September 24, 2012.)

♦ “Soon we strike the scene of conflict. As we emerge from a body of woods, our eyes are met by the sight of scores of dead and wounded Federal Zouaves, whose blood-red pants mark them out conspicuously wherever they lay on the sloping field and little meadow before us. Over these we rush at a double-quick and on the opposite hill we see a battery of artillery which our men have just captured. The pieces are still pointed towards us, but around them are strewn numbers of the enemy, dead and wounded. At one of the pieces, as our line passes between them, we see what can never be effaced from our memory—a pile of artillery horses, all harnessed together, shot down manifestly just as they were in the act of moving a gun, one or more apparently dead, the others living, but bleeding profusely and writhing in apparent agony, the sight presenting a horrible spectacle of war.” ( *War Talks of Confederate Veterans*, compiled and edited by Geo. S. Bernard, Petersburg, VA.)

**destruction: military**

**military: meat**

## Carnegie Hall (epithet)

Carnegie Hall of Broadway

onstage at the Shubert Theatre, the ~

♦ “Thiaif Oval in the Netherlands is the Yankee Stadium of speed skating.” (NPR’s Tom Goldman.)

**comparison & contrast / superlative: epithet**

## carnival (noun)

carnival

boxing has always been a bit of a ~, a con (Jake Paul)

carnival of hysteria

the ~ hampered the investigation (U.K. Nicola Bulley case)

♦ “The carnival of hysteria over Nicola Bulley shows us the very worst of human nature.”

♦ Jock Colville, Churchill’s private secretary, in Bayeux, witnessed the humiliation of *les tondues* (shorn women, also referred to as horizontal collaborators) in the aftermath of World War II. (“An ugly carnival” by Antony Beevor, *The Guardian*, Thursday 4 June 2009.)

♦ Tyburn Fair (execution day at Tyburn gallows); the Hanging Psalm (Psalm 51, which the condemned had to recite at the foot of the gallows); the dismal ditty (a conventional speech of repentance following the Hanging Psalm, optional); “He died with Cotton in his ears” (Cotton was the name of the praying sexton at Newgate Prison); the Paddington spectacles (Tyburn was in Paddington Parish, and this refers to the hood put over the condemned persons head); dancing the Paddington frisk (spasmodic jerking after the drop); the three-legged mare (the Tyburn gallows had three posts, linked by cross-bars); the wooden mare and “to ride a horse foaled by an acorn” (the Tyburn gallows were made of oak)... ( *The Fatal Shore: The Epic of Australia’s Founding* by Robert Hughes. The public executions took place in a carnival-like atmosphere.)

**performance / resemblance: circus**

attention, scrutiny & promotion: circus

## carpet (verb)

carpets the (rolling) highlands in emerald and gold  
cheatgrass ~

carpeted the meadow  
flowers ~

cover / resemblance: carpets & rugs / verb

configuration: carpets & rugs / verb

## carpet (a carpet of flowers, etc.)

carpet of ash  
a ~ covered the city (eruption)

carpet of (low-rise) buildings  
a ~ cover the seven hills (Istanbul)

carpet of color  
wildflowers create a ~ (Arctic summer)

carpet of flowers  
a ~ has been left (a memorial for dead fans)

carpet of frogs  
there was a ~ (on a road in Greece)

lush carpet  
the bird nests in the ~ of moss and vines (in a crater)

thick carpet  
a crew laid down a ~ of insulation

carpet of wildflowers  
the ~ in subalpine meadows (Mt. Rainier)

cover / resemblance: carpets & rugs

configuration: carpets & rugs

## carpet (under the carpet, etc.)

brush it under the carpet  
they will try to ~

brushing it under the carpet  
it's a whitewash, they're ~ (education / PS752)

sweep it under the carpet  
we can't any longer ~ (educational issue)

♦ "The problem with brushing things under the carpet is that they are still there and one day someone is going to lift that carpet up and all you are going to feel is shame and embarrassment." (A celebrity who committed suicide, who had been trolled mercilessly on social media.)

♦ see also *rug* (*under the rug*)

concealment & lack of concealment: carpets & rugs

## carpet (Operation Magic Carpet, etc.)

Operation Magic Carpet  
service members were repatriated by ~ (1945-1946)  
Operation on Wings of Eagles, also known as ~ (1949)  
the White Helmets were rescued in ~ (2018)

proper name: carpets & rugs / magic

military: proper name

## carpet (magic carpet / other)

magic carpet  
a ~ made of steel (a train)

magic carpet into a (serious intellectual) life  
librarians were her ~

magic carpet away  
Azerbaijan is a magical land, just a ~

♦ "Feel the wheels rumbling 'neath the floors / And the sons of Pullman Porters / And the sons of Engineers / Ride their fathers' magic carpet made of steel..." (The rousing song "Good Morning America How Are You? / City of New Orleans.")

transportation: carpets & rugs / magic

## carpetbagger (person)

carpetbagger  
Canada's Olympic team has the most ~s (born elsewhere)

carpetbagger politicians  
~ adopt Florida as their native land

East Coast carpetbagger  
he is an ~ (Montana politics)

gentrifying carpetbaggers  
he accuses his neighbors of being ~

opportunistic carpetbagger  
he accused her of being an ~ (politics)

social carpetbagger  
he's a ~, always code-switching to blend in

♦ "He is a carpetbagger disconnected from the state's residents and culture." (Politics.)

♦ "He calls himself an activist investor, and I would call him a carpet bagger, and one who is trying to spread a climate of fear that pushes studios to want to make only tent poles... He's trying to manipulate the market... Hedge fund guys do not create jobs, and we do." ("George Clooney To Hedge Fund Honcho Daniel Loeb: Stop Spreading Fear At Sony" by Mike Fleming Jr, *Deadline*, August 2, 2013.)

♦ "But, of course, the new South had embraced all of this [commercial strips, huge parking lots, motels, fast-food places, discount store, car dealers, nightclubs, etc.], not quickly, as we had done up North, but embraced it nonetheless. And in some strange way, the garish commercial strip was now more associated with the South than with anywhere else in the country. The carpetbaggers have finally taken over." (*The General's Daughter* by Nelson DeMille.)

♦ Isn't it interesting how a Southern reconstruction slur against Northerners persists as a slur?

character & personality: history / person

identity & nature: history / person

## carpeted

carpeted with flowers  
the meadow was ~

carpeted with wild blueberry plants  
the tiny island is ~

carpeted (at the base) with starfish and mussels  
we drifted into an inlet alongside cliffs ~

carpeted eastern Washington  
old-growth forests once ~

**cover / resemblance: carpets & rugs**

**configuration: carpets & rugs**

## carried away

get carried away

it is no time to ~ (panic over virus)

**control & lack of control: movement**

**feeling, emotion & effect: movement**

**fictive transportation: movement**

## carried off (died)

were carried off

one third of the population of Europe ~ (the Black death)

**death & life: euphemism**

## carrot (reward)

carrot

offering ~s and wielding sticks to persuade people to...  
amid the ~s, there will be some sharp sticks

carrot of membership

the EU is dangling the ~ in front of the two countries

♦ "The carrot of a clash is dangling." (Oleksandr "the Ukrainian Cossack" Usyk versus Tyson "the Gypsy King" Fury.)

**coercion & motivation: fruits & vegetables / plant**

## carrot-and-stick

carrot-and-stick approach

it requires a ~ (a zoning alternative)  
using a ~ to the millions moving into the fire zone  
commanders say a ~ is necessary (military occupation)

♦ "The carrots do not work much. Now, we're seeing more pressure coming from the other side." (Dr. Arthur Caplan, about requiring COVID vaccinations in the US.)

**coercion & motivation: fruits & vegetables / plant**

## carrousel (noun)

carrousel of helicopters

this constant ~ flying over the reactor (Chernobyl)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / movement:**

**sports & games**

## carry (carry me away, etc.)

carry me away

I let my emotions ~

carry the memory of my half-brother with me

I ~ every day (murdered)

carry the pain

families still ~ 19 years later (9/11 memorial)

**feeling, emotion & effect: movement / verb**

**fictive transportation: movement / verb**

## carry (transport)

carry this loss

while I will ~ for a long time, it will motivate me

carries some privilege

any white person ~ due to their skin color

carries a (maximum) sentence

Count Fourteen ~ of 20 years imprisonment

carry viruses

smuggled pangolins have been found to ~

carry weight

such recommendations do ~ (a government taskforce)

**fictive transportation: verb**

## carry (assist)

carried this team

he ~ like we needed him to (Olympic basketball)

carried the team on his back

he ~ (football player)

♦ See the Wikipedia entry, "He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother."

**help & assistance: burden / verb / weight**

## carry on (verb)

carry on

I got injured, but you still got to ~

**resiliency / starting, going, continuing & ending / survival,  
persistence & endurance: burden / journeys & trips / prep,  
adv, adj, participle / verb**

## cart (cart off)

carted (31) Christians off to the station

police ~

carted him (off the field) on a stretcher

they ~ (injured player)

**transportation: animal / verb**

## cartwheel (do cartwheels, etc.)

doing cartwheels

the NBA must be ~ (glad about exciting post-season games)

**feeling, emotion & effect: movement / verb**

## carved out

carved out of the Middle East

Jordan was ~

carved out of the Maasai land

the Masai Mara was ~

carved out by the British

Jordan was ~

carved out in the 1920's

Jordan was ~

**creation & transformation: blade / knife**

## carve out (verb)

carve out an Islamic state  
they want to ~ in Mindanao

carve a Muslim state out of the south  
the group is fighting to ~ (Mindanao)

carve out a future  
young Brazilians are trying to ~

carve out her own lane  
she has managed to ~ (singing, fashion, etc.)

carve out (decent) lives  
homesteaders tried to ~ (North Dakota)

carve out a living  
wolves are forced to ~ on the steeper slopes

carved out (new) markets  
some entrepreneurs have ~ by selling...

carve out a new role  
Britain wants to ~ (post-Brexit)

♦ Carve out, fashion, shape...

**creation & transformation: blade / knife / verb**

## Casanova (Serbian Casanova, etc.)

Casanovas in the rear  
they cursed the ~ who tried to make off with soldiers' wives

determined bovine Casanova  
a feat impossible for even the most ~ (insemination)

Serbian Casanova  
Dusko Popov, a ~... (a double agent for MI6)

♦ "Casanovas who have clocked up serious bedroom mileage; Lotharios with thousands of notches on their bedposts; The Sun's shagger of the Year; three- and foursomes; 'And their mothers...'; [He] has kept the traffic between the sheets busier than the M25; 4,600 bedpost notches; his bulging little black book; 'I don't pay prostitutes for sex, I pay them to leave...'" ("The Lovers' League" by Lauren Windle, *The Sun*, 14 August 2016.)

♦ "Well, he has one girl per book, approximately, and that's one a year. He's a bachelor, and he moves around the world pretty rapidly. And umm I don't see any great harm in that myself." (Ian Fleming speaking about his fictional creation James Bond to Roy Plomley on BBC's Desert Island Discs in 1963.)

♦ The NBA player Wilt Chamberlin famously boasted of having fucked over 20,000 women.

**allusion: books & reading**

**sex / character & personality: allusion / epithet / books & reading**

## cascade (verb)

cascade through generations  
negative attitudes ~

**movement: direction / water**

## cascade (noun)

cascade of decisions  
the computer models triggered a ~ (transportation)

cascade of disasters  
we have seen a ~ lately

cascade of (damaging) events  
head injury can initiate a ~

cascade of honors  
throughout this time there was a ~ (an academic scholar)

cascade of problems  
the events combined to create a ~

casades of white death  
the 22 natural avalanche chutes are ~ (pass and highway)

set off a cascade  
the decision has ~ of accusations and counter-accusations

trigger a cascade  
these chemicals ~ of allergic symptoms (food allergies)

**amount & effect: water**

## cascade (a cascade of hair, etc.)

cascade of strawberry-blond hair  
she has pale skin and a ~

**resemblance: water**

## cash in (verb)

cashing in  
the economy is growing, but not all are ~

cash in on the experience  
a failure is a man who blundered but is not able to ~

cash in on his fame  
opportunists who want to ~ (sex-abuse accusers)

cash in on those investments  
early success could position her to ~ (candidate's hard work)

♦ "They are monetizing, they know what the game is." (A lawyer for a singer accused of sex abuse.)

**cost & benefit: money / verb**

## cash (money)

cash cow  
see *cow* (*cash cow*)

cash machine  
see *cash machine* (*noun*)

## cash machine (noun)

cash machine  
Hearn must find himself another ~ (AJ loses second time)

♦ "It's bye bye cash cow." (A gleeful reference to a boxing promoter and his fighter's shock defeat.)

♦ "The Glazers treat Manchester United like a cash machine." (Gary Neville.)

**worth & lack of worth: mechanism / money**

## Cassandra

Cassandra

for years he was a ~, his message ignored

♦ "Go Ahead! regardless of the consequences and indifferent to the value of human life." (A diarist in the 1840s about science, technology, and the use of steam for power.)

**message: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey**

### cast (cast of candidates, etc.)

cast of candidates

a whole new ~ will be onstage at their debate (politics)

**group, set & collection: theater**

### cast (cast doubt)

cast doubt on the (confession's) accuracy

the defense ~

cast doubts on such assumptions

the hearings ~ (politics of abortion)

cast doubts on plans

the difficulties could ~ to reopen New Orleans

cast (any) doubt on (Hamilton's) skills

she said she did not want to ~

casts (serious) doubt on another theory

the new finding ~ that had...

casts (some) doubt on a (popular) theory

the report also ~ that...

**throwing, putting & planting: arm / verb**

### cast (light)

cast a beam

reflectors ~ (lighthouse)

cast a (dark) shadow

the tragic accident ~ over US-Korean relations

**throwing, putting & planting: arm / verb**

### cast (other)

cast blame

officials can ~ only so much before the backlash starts

cast a curse

somebody must have ~ on his camel

cast discredit

the government alleges the paper ~ on the courts

cast a net

the authorities have ~ for the escapees

cast a pall

Chen's death ~ over the mountain (climbing)

cast a spell

at times he seemed to ~ on the ball (Ronaldo)

**throwing, putting & planting: arm / verb**

### cast (characterize)

cast Grant as a "butcher"

Southern historians ~ (revisionism)

cast the debate as a class struggle

they have ~

cast the problem as a health issue

she has ~ (TV violence, etc.)

**characterization: manufacturing / verb**

### cast (characterized)

cast as a hero

a guard ~ was recast as a villain (Richard Jewell)

**characterization: manufacturing**

### cast aside (verb)

cast your fears aside

and you ~ (song)

cast security aside

at 48, he ~ to pursue his passion (left his profession)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: arm / verb**

### castaway (person)

Hollywood castaways

mix with ranchers, fishermen and ~ (Livingston, Mont.)

homeless castaways

a dystopian future where children are ~ (a song video)

life's castaways

she gives ~ the gift of merriment (film *River of Grass*)

society's castaways

~—hookers, addicts, the homeless...

♦ A castaway usually becomes one by shipwreck. In cases of mutiny, a person or persons might be cast adrift or left marooned on a deserted shore. Alexander Selkirk is a famous example of a voluntary castaway. He spent 4 years 4 months on one of the Juan Fernandez Islands in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Chile before being rescued. He probably inspired Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*.

♦ Classic castaway stories include *Robinson Crusoe* and *The Swiss Family Robinson*. The TV show *Gilligan's Island* ran for 3 seasons. The film *Cast Away* with Tom Hanks was very popular. People remember his companion, Wilson, a soccer ball, and the scene where he removes a rotten tooth with an ice skate.

♦ Tromelin Island in the Indian Ocean got its name from the captain who rescued a group of castaways from that place. The whole story is quite amazing!

**person: island / society**

**isolation & remoteness / society: island / person / sea /**

**throwing, putting & planting**

### caste (noun)

caste society

America as a ~

caste system

lodgings follow a kind of unwritten ~ (officials)

the airlines use a ~ (paying more gets better treatment)

warrior caste

Marine pilots are an insular ~

professional military caste

the ~ will retain its grip (in time of war and conscription)

♦ "It's a caste system, and we are the untouchables of academia." (An adjunct professor.)

♦ "Major Sleeman reveals the fact that the trade union and the boycott are antiquities in India. India seems to have originated everything. The 'sweeper' belongs to the bottom caste; he is the lowest of the low—all other castes despise him and scorn his office. But that does not trouble him. His caste is a caste, and that is sufficient for him, and so he is proud of it, not ashamed... A footnote by Major Sleeman's editor, Mr. Vincent Arthur Smith, says... 'The sweepers cannot be readily coerced, because no Hindoo or Mussulman would do their work to save his life, nor will he pollute himself by beating the refractory scavenger.' They certainly do seem to have the whip-hand... Just like a milk-route; or like a London crossing-sweepership." (*Following the Equator: A Journey Around the World* by Mark Twain.)

**division & connection / hierarchy: society**

**society: person**

## castle (protection)

castle

a man's home is his ~

castle doctrine

Texas has a ~ which extends to your vehicles (force)

~ is similar to "stand your ground" (deadly force)

♦ "Warning / Castle Doctrine / "No Duty to Retreat" (A sign / decal / sticker.)

**protection & lack of protection: fortification / military / royalty**

## castle (Castle Peaks, etc.)

Castle

the Smithsonian is popularly known as the ~ (D.C.)

Castle Peaks

the ~ are peaks in Queensland, Australia

Castle Valley

~, Utah, is east of Arches National Park

Baboons Castle

the ~ is a mountain in KwaZulu-Natal (South Africa)

New Castle

they were arrested in ~, Indiana (a town)

White Castle

~ is an oasis for late-night customers (hamburgers)

♦ This word often appears in geographical place names, as well as cities. For example, Castle Creek / Islet / Mountain, Pass / Peak / Point / Rock, etc.

**proper name: fortification**

## castrated

castrated on the evening news

~ (see red text below)

♦ Atlanta mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms, in her press release announcing that she would not run for reelection as mayor, decried the possibility of Atlanta officials being "castrated on the evening news." One would assume the word was "castigated," but no correction was ever made.

**attenuation: health & medicine**

**force / strength & weakness: health & medicine**

## castration (noun)

"castration" of the CIA

they also lament the ~ by the 1975 Church Committee

**attenuation: health & medicine**

**force / strength & weakness: health & medicine**

## casualty (noun)

casualty of the (real-estate) boom

the development was an early ~

casualties of Covid-19

this is one of the biggest ~ (great boxing match, no fans)

casualty of his own faith

he became a ~ (Columbus and geography)

casualties of the internet

RIP to the great magazine era, one of the unfortunate ~

casualty of the (slimmed-down) plan

the proposed sum is an apparent ~ (money for VA hospitals)

casualty of early stardom

he could have become Basquiat, a ~ (Jean Michel Basquiat)

too many casualties

there have been ~ (man touches female athletes)

among the casualties

So, I was ~ today at *Sports Illustrated* (mass layoff)

one of the first casualties

the low price of petrol has become ~ (pandemic recovery)

♦ "Two bass boats collided at night and there was a casualty."

♦ Deaths from COVID have been described as a *body count*.

**failure, accident & impairment: death & life / military**

## cat (cat and mouse)

see *game (game of cat and mouse)*

## cat (cat out of the bag, etc.)

cat was (already) out of the bag

the ~, it already spread (virus)

**concealment & lack of concealment / pursuit, capture & escape: cat / container**

## catalogue (list)

catalogue of failures

the report describes a ~ (an air crash)

catalogue of problems

it's one of a ~ caused by unplanned overdevelopment

**amount: money**

## catalyst (noun)

catalyst

he was the ~, not the cause of the problem

this is a bill that will jump start, jolt, be a ~ (business)  
the ~ for the government shutdown was...  
Auschwitz was the ~ that made him into a great writer

catalyst of the team  
he's been the ~

catalysts in this conflagration  
Lincoln and his cronies were the ~ (US Civil War)

catalyst for change  
disaster can be a ~  
art can be a ~

catalyst for (economic) growth  
the software industry could be a ~ (India)

catalyst for a (cultural) shift  
snowboarding was a ~ in the world of skiing

catalyst for moving  
the Morton case is going to be a ~ reforms forward (law)

economic catalyst  
she said the museum would be an ~

served as a catalyst  
the crash served as a ~ to mend relations (Poland-Russia)

**initiation: chemistry**

**catalyze (verb)**

catalyzed them to come forward  
other accusers said that she ~ Me Too Movement)

**initiation: chemistry / verb**

**catapult (verb)**

catapulted Western Europe to (global) dominance  
the industrial revolution ~

catapulted him to fame  
his admission ~

catapulted Obama into the White House  
the type of voter who ~

catapulted into the ranks  
the company has ~ of top tech companies

catapulted over (more veteran) officials  
she ~ (government promotion)

catapulted from an unknown to a superstar  
he ~

**throwing, putting & planting: mechanism / verb**

**catapulted**

catapulted to the forefront  
he has been ~ of the death-penalty debate

catapulted to stardom  
she was plucked from obscurity and ~ (talent show)

catapulted out of obscurity  
he was ~ (a politician who won an election)

catapulted into the limelight  
after the broadcast, he was ~ (sports doping)

catapulted from obscurity to (prime-time) fame  
he was ~ (an actor)

**throwing, putting & planting: mechanism**

**catch (catch the imagination, etc.)**

catch the (national) imagination  
his account of the aerial voyage would ~

caught FitzRoy's imagination  
but it was the sea that had ~

caught the (national) imagination  
his account would be published in the *Times*, where it ~

caught my interest  
it really ~ so I started researching (a mine disaster)  
the team ~ after I watched the game against Celtic

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb**

**fictive possession: hand / verb**

**catch (marriage)**

seemed the perfect catch  
when she met him, he ~ (marriage / murdered by him)

**pursuit, capture & escape: fish / hunting / love, courtship & marriage**

**catch (catch and release)**

catch and release  
they basically had a ~, they should have been arrested  
why the repeated ~, was he an informant

pattern of catch and release  
it supports the ~ (interference to protect informant)

**pursuit, capture & escape: fish / verb**

**Catch-22**

in a Catch-22  
he's ~ (the rapper Bobby Shmurda and police protection)

**allusion / alternatives & choices / situation: books & reading**

**catchment (noun)**

catchment area  
about 1/3 of the state falls within our ~ (medical examiner)

**extent & scope: river / water**

**catch on (verb)**

catch on  
I thought the slogan would ~, but it didn't...

**transmission: verb**

**catch up (his past caught up to him, etc.)**

caught up to him

his past finally ~  
the allegations have trailed him, and today the claims ~  
by 2008, the truth had ~ (Bernie Madoff)

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb**

**past & present / time: hunting / verb**

### **catch up (catch up to something)**

catching up to men  
women are ~ in their number of partners

catching up to science fiction  
reality is finally ~ (AI)

catching up in submarines  
China is ~ (to the US)

**competition / progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips  
/ movement / sports & games / verb / walking, running &  
jumping**

### **catch up (catch up with something)**

catch up with the technologies  
standards have begun to ~ (biometrics)

catch up with the outside world  
Fanning Island is anxious to ~ (Kiribati)

♦ "Let's keep moving, guys. Keep the line tight and keep it moving.  
United 8114, I need you to catch up with the group." (An air-traffic  
controller, directing traffic.)

**progress & lack of progress: movement / walking, running  
& jumping / verb**

### **catchy (attention)**

catchy headlines  
these are ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: hunting**

### **catechism (noun)**

Cold War catechism  
the ~ dictated that...

**script / unanimity & consensus: religion**

### **cathedral (Cathedral Cave, etc.)**

Cathedral Cave  
large elliptical cupolas have been found in ~ (Australia)

Cathedral Mountain  
we visited ~ (Tasmania)

Cathedral Room  
~ is 204 feet high (Marvel Cave, Missouri)

**proper name: religion**

**geography: proper name / religion**

### **cathedral (resemblance)**

cathedral of water  
the 16th-Century cistern has been likened to a “~”

calcite cathedrals  
these flooded caves are spectacular ~ of stalactites...

♦ The Palombaro Lungo, a manmade 16<sup>th</sup>-Century cistern, has been  
likened to a “cathedral of water.” (Matera Sassi, Italy.)

**resemblance: religion**

### **cathedral (Big Snowbird Creek, etc.)**

cathedral  
mountains are truly ~s (“Big” Jim Whittaker)  
it's my church, it's my ~ (Yosemite on foot in winter)

cathedral of the Russian underground  
the club was a religion, the ~ (the Leningrad Rock Club)

cathedral of stock-car racing  
Daytona track, the ~...

cathedral of Mexican popular music  
El Tenampa is a sort of ~ (Plaza Garibaldi / Mexico City)

cathedrals for fly fishermen  
the waters here are ~ (Montana)

**enthusiasm / reverence: place / religion**

### **catnip (attraction)**

catnip to (post World War I) audiences  
adultery and divorce were ~

catnip to screenwriters  
it has proved ~ (*The Turn of the Screw*)

catnip for (avid) travelers  
lost and abandoned places are ~

box-office catnip  
he was ~ (Dirk Bogarde)

cinematic catnip  
the Cinderella story has been ~ (*Pretty Woman*, etc.)

theatrical catnip  
he is ~ (Shakespeare's character Richard III)

**attraction & repulsion: cat / plant**

### **caught (other)**

caught in the middle  
civilians are ~ (war)

caught in the open  
3 people ~ suffocated in the dust storm (Kansas / 1935)

caught in a (lightning) storm  
they were ~ on a mountainside

caught in a (ferocious) storm  
they were ~ near the summit of Les Droites

caught in a rip current  
if you become ~, swim parallel to shore

caught in the drift ice  
we'd be ~, but it was all right (fishing)

caught in a crossfire  
three soldiers were ~

caught on film  
unsuspecting women ~... (Internet porn)

caught on the back foot  
police admit they have been ~ by the protests

become caught  
if you ~ in a rip current, swim parallel to shore  
the straps of his river sandals ~ on a rock

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting**

**fictive possession: hand**

## caught out

caught out by public reaction  
he seemed to be ~ (a leader)

♦ Many associate this with the game of cricket.

**failure, accident & impairment: ball / sports & games**

## caught up (in or by something)

caught up (again) in drugs  
they go back out on the streets and get ~

caught up in the film  
I was ~ and didn't hear the door open

caught up in a web  
~ of drug addiction and crime

caught up in red tape  
his expedition got ~

caught up in the drinking  
I just got ~ and the drugs and fighting

don't get caught up in that  
~ (weight loss / low self-esteem)

got caught up in red tape  
his expedition ~

**involvement: hunting**

**pursuit, capture & escape / situation: hunting**

## cauldron (the Cauldron, etc.)

the Cauldron  
the Stalingrad pocket, or ~ (World War II)

♦ "And so [Hitler] ordered Paulus to remain inside what would thereafter be referred to as the Stalingrad Pocket to history and the Cauldron to the men who fought there." (The Battle of Stalingrad, Wars of the World, YouTube.)

**epithet: container / fire / heating water / temperature**

## cauldron (noun)

cauldron  
it's going to be a ~ in there on Saturday (boxing match)

cauldrons of contagion  
wet markets are ~ (coronaviruses, etc.)

cauldron of (internal) controversy

the Republican party is a ~

cauldron of grievances  
a ~ bubbles beneath the surface

cauldron of noise  
the Lusail Stadium was a ~ (Argentina v. Mexico in Qatar)

cauldron of socialization  
the school bus used to be a ~

cauldron of (sectarian) violence  
the country has become a ~

cauldron of war, violence and brutality  
the US has hurled Afghanistan into the ~

witch's cauldron  
the US is a ~ of unemployment and poor education

bubbling cauldron  
the country has become a ~ since Ben Ali left (Tunisia)

simmering cauldron  
you've got this ~ of hatred and revolution (Paris)

ethnic cauldron  
the Balkans are a confused, often violent ~

red-hot cauldron  
the Middle East is a ~ (protests, etc.)

revolutionary cauldron  
many emerge from the ~ to become conservatives

send its children into that cauldron  
a humane society would not ~ (war)

♦ "It was known as the cauldron to those who fought there." (The Stalingrad pocket, World War II.)

**environment: container / fire / heating water / temperature**

## caustic (adjective)

caustic characterization  
the leaked cables contained ~s of world leaders

caustic comment  
she made a few ~s

caustic observation  
she offered some ~s about their qualifications

caustic remark  
they direct a lot of ~s and mockery

caustic welcome  
he got a ~ (politics)

blunt and (sometimes) caustic  
he defended his ~ style (governor)

**feeling, emotion & effect / speech: chemistry / materials & substances / sensation**

## caustically

caustically critical  
she is now ~ (about school reform)

once a supporter, she is now ~ (an educator)

caustically funny  
she is ~ (comic)

caustically intelligent  
he is ~

caustically witty  
his song is ~

caustically described  
she ~ him as a figurehead

caustically dismiss  
some scientists ~ his claims

said caustically  
but he ~, "On a political level, ...

**speech: chemistry / materials & substances / sensation**

## cavalcade (noun)

cavalcade of (Nashville) artists  
she is joined by a ~ (an album)

cavalcade of (celebrity) cameos  
the film featured a ~

cavalcade of arm gestures  
his every sentence is punctuated by a ~ (a politician)

cavalcade of people  
there's going to be a ~ saying you were wrong

♦ "We stood up now and then to get our circulation going, and it was always the same: the wind was always blowing, there was always a semblance of moon... and in front of the moon a fantastic cavalcade of ragged clouds..." ("Bear Meat" by Primo Levy, translated by Alessandra Bastagli.)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / group, set & collection: horse / movement**

## cavalier (adjective)

cavalier attitude  
he had a ~ towards going to war (a hawk)

cavalier and disrespectful  
Pelosi said Barr was ~ (at a Senate hearing)

♦ The root is from *caballus*, Latin for horse, with the meaning of supercilious. The rider has traditionally been dominant over the man who walks.

**character & personality: height / horse  
hierarchy / superiority & inferiority: height / horse  
cavalry (mechanized cavalry, etc.)**

mechanized cavalry  
today's ~ means mobility and speed (military)

♦ Cincinnati, Jeff Davis (U.S. Grant); Little Sorrel (Stonewall Jackson); Traveller (Robert E. Lee); Rienzi (renamed Winchester by General Philip H. Sheridan); Comanche (the Battle of Little Bighorn); Kidron (Black Jack Pershing)... (The names of famous war horses. The jeep replaced the horse in World War II, and in Vietnam the helicopter replaced the jeep.)

♦ "Comanche was known as the sole survivor of the General George Custer's command at the Battle of the Little Bighorn on June 25, 1876. A mustang captured as a wild horse and gelded, he became the favorite

mount of Captain Myles Keogh of the 7th Cavalry. He saw frequent action and sustained some 12 wounds. A burial party found him severely wounded on the battleground and transported him by steamer to Fort Lincoln, 950 miles away, where he spent the next year recuperating. He was never again to be ridden, and orders excused him from all duties. Most of the time he freely roamed the Post and flower gardens. At formal regimental functions he was led, draped in black, stirrups and boots reversed, at the head of the Regiment. When the Cavalry was ordered to Fort Riley, Kansas, in 1888, Comanche, aging but still in good health, accompanied them and continued to receive full honors as a symbol of the tragedy at Little Bighorn. Finally, on November 7, 1891, about 29 years old, Comanche died of colic." (The Smithsonian Institute.)

**military: horse**

## cavalry (noun)

cavalry  
the ~ has come, God bless you all (military aid in disaster)  
the ~ is on the way (regulation of online abuse)

called in the cavalry  
he ~, the FBI, ATF, State Police, US Marshalls (murder)

♦ "He claimed his newspaper had ridden heroically to the rescue of the campaign."

♦ "There's no cavalry, no one will magically appear and save you." (The need to be self-reliant when mountain climbing.)

**help & assistance / resistance, opposition & defeat: horse / military**

## cave (isolation)

cave  
unless you are living in a ~, you know...

**isolation & remoteness: mountains & hills**

## cave in (verb)

caved  
instead of doubling down on his policy, he ~

caved in  
I ~, just as Jean knew I would (and admitted truth)

cave in to his fears  
he refuses to ~ (a stock-market investor)

cave in to (Serb) pressure  
Europe will ~ (diplomacy)

caved in under the weight  
the regime finally ~ of its impossible contradictions

cave to threats or fear  
he did not ~ (from MS-13 members)

**failure, accident & impairment: mining / verb  
resistance, opposition & defeat: mining / verb**

## cavernous (adjective)

cavernous headquarters  
as we left the ~, only we were in the lobby (pandemic)

**resemblance / size: ground, terrain & land  
comparison & contrast: affix**

## ceasefire (noun)

Ceasefire on Immigration  
Clergy urge ~ (politics)

ceasefire in the war  
there needs to be a ~ of words (dispute)

judicial ceasefire  
the DA's office has offered to declare a ~ (drop charges)

**conflict: military**

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: military**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: military**

## ceiling (glass ceiling)

glass ceiling  
the ~ is alive and well on Wall Street

glass ceiling for women in politics  
there is a perceived ~ (Massachusetts)

glass ceilings and other barriers  
~ barring women

Japan's glass ceiling  
she has helped to crack ~ (Toshiba team leader)

Oscars' glass ceiling  
Kathryn Bigelow broke the ~ (Best Director)

age barrier, (no) gender gap, (no) glass ceiling  
no ~

break the glass ceiling  
success is the best way to ~

broke the (Oscars') glass ceiling  
Kathryn Bigelow ~ (first woman Best Director)

raise the glass ceiling  
quotas could ~ (employment)

shatter that glass ceiling  
women can ~ once and for all

♦ **Related is the glass cliff. That refers to putting a woman or minority in a position of power in a bad organization, in which they are bound to fail.**

♦ "There are studies that suggest that women are more likely to get jobs at a point at which a company is in crisis. And I wonder if you think that might be an issue as well." / Jill Abramson: "It definitely was bad times, I mean it was very soon after I became executive editor that we had one of the biggest waves of staff reduction which, you know, creates pain and misery throughout a newsroom." ("Transcript: Former 'New York Times' Editor Jill Abramson Addresses Book Allegations," NPR, All Things Considered, February 7, 2019.)

♦ "The 'Tear The Paper Ceiling' Campaign to raise awareness..." (The Ad Council and its STARS, which stands for "Skilled Through Alternative Routes.")

**obstacles & impedance: infrastructure**

**constraint & lack of constraint: infrastructure**

**concealment & lack of concealment: infrastructure**

## ceiling (debt ceiling, etc.)

debt ceiling  
politicians battle over budget deficits and the ~

biological ceiling  
120 years old is the ~ for human longevity

**obstacles & impedance: infrastructure**

**constraint & lack of constraint: infrastructure**

## ceiling (high point)

ceiling and the floor  
his numbers have been durable, the ~ (president's popularity)

**increase & decrease: direction / height / house**

## celebrate (groups)

celebrate women in birding  
she founded World Girl Birders, to ~

celebrate my body  
I'm able to ~ (a *Sports Illustrated* model)

celebrate Black children  
her books for very young readers ~

celebrate your differences  
her goal is to help you acknowledge, accept and ~

celebrate these differences  
every child is different, and you know, we should ~

celebrates Black excellence  
in Newark, a drive-in movie theater ~

celebrates itself  
the night Hollywood ~ (the Oscars)

celebrate Juneteenth  
Americans ~ after it becomes a national holiday  
NPR employees ~

celebrate (Black History) Month  
this week we ~ with an episode featuring...

celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month  
Alt. Latino and Tiny Desk ~ (NPR)

celebrates Asian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month  
how NPR ~

celebrate their (childhood) neighborhood  
2 cousins ~ in 'Dream Street' (a children's book)

celebrate my sexuality  
I'm a sexual being, and I wanted to ~ (singer Ari Gold)

celebrates powerful women  
on 'Celia,' Tiwa Savage ~

celebrates the cultural heritage, triumphs, adversities  
Black History Month ~ that are part of our history

celebrates all shapes and sizes  
a growing body positivity movement ~

celebrate, educate, and empower  
we ~ African American/Diverse people (arts & counseling)

celebrate and (we) honor

we ~ the women who made history...

accepts and celebrates

*Sports Illustrated* ~ you for being you (swim model)

preserve, celebrate

she uses social media to ~ Inuit throat singing

rouse, unite, celebrate and call to action

American Anthem, songs that ~ (NPR)

♦ "The thin ideal is definitely a white ideal... So celebrating a thin white body as the ideal body is a way to 'other' and demonize Black and brown bodies, bigger bodies, anyone who doesn't fit into that norm. So this is really about maintaining systems of white supremacy and patriarchy..." (Journalist Virginia Sole-Smith. Interview highlights. From "Diet culture can hurt kids. This author advises parents to reclaim the word 'fat,'" NPR, Fresh Air (Tonya Mosley), April 25, 2023.)

♦ "My son was suicidal, and I knew that celebrating who he was, and his gender and his authenticity was the piece that was going to keep him alive. So we leaned into that celebration. We threw a party the day we changed the name and pronouns." (A mother.)

♦ "What I wanted to do in this book was to create those kind of poems of celebration for places and people that were denigrated, right? So they're also poems of reparation for me." (Joshua Bennett. From "'Owed': Poems That Celebrate Denigrated Places And People," NPR, All Things Considered, September 23, 2020.)

♦ "How to properly celebrate Juneteenth in the age of commercialization" by Destinee Adams, NPR, Race, June 20, 2022.

♦ "Sandra Oh on celebrating Pixar, puberty and periods."

♦ "Megyn Kelly celebrated MSNBC's decision to fire Tiffany Cross." (Kelly had referred to Cross as "the most racist person in all of TV.")

♦ "It's kind of disappointing to see our work getting attacked by someone we thought would celebrate it." (Film producer John Martinez O'Felan, responding to criticism by John Leguizamo about a casting decision. "I don't got a prob with Franco but he ain't Latino!" Leguizamo had written on Instagram, along with a call to boycott O'Felan's film.)

♦ "We celebrate her spirit and the gift that we all received in knowing her." (A teen found in her car in a lake after a party, drowned.)

♦ "Well, it's a moment we're celebrating." (Tom Goldman on NPR, about two Black quarterbacks starting Super Bowl 2023.)

♦ Who gives a fuck; I'm not sure why we're celebrating this; Who.the.fuck.cares; Why is this a celebrated achievement; attention whore I guess... (Members of the climbing community respond to an article about the first non-binary climber to send a 5.14 trad at *East Coast Fist Bump* in Sedona, Arizona.)

♦ "We all want to be here together, we all want to experience something where we celebrate the amazing life of our queen..." (David Beckham, having stood 12 hours in line to see Queen Elizabeth lying in state.)

♦ "I heard the chief monarch of a thieving raping genocidal empire is finally dying. May her pain be excruciating." (Uju Anya of Carnegie Mellon University, about Queen Elizabeth II.)

♦ "Already, conscientious objectors—bakers, florists, Web designers—have had to spend years and fortunes trying to defend their right not to celebrate same-sex marriages." (*National Review*, December 19, 2022.)

♦ "Swiss Celebrate Tradition Of Blowing Up Snowman To Ring In Spring."

♦ "US zoo celebrates 50 years of giant pandas." (BBC.)

♦ In the old days, the people and the nation celebrated birthdays, national holidays, military victories, and important men and women. Nowadays, anything is worthy of "celebration." Or not. TGIF!

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation / verb**

## celebrated (groups)

celebrated

Black lives are ~ in her extraordinary quilts

connected, celebrated and supported

all employees are ~ (Silicon Valley Bank)

♦ "Harry Potter star Tom Felton has been trolled by trans rights activists after praising JK Rowling and saying her work should be celebrated."

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## celebration (groups)

celebration of (Boston's unique) accents

a ~

celebration of (Black) artists

*the Black Opry* is a ~

celebration of (Indian-American) cuisine

*Bollywood Kitchen* is a ~ (a cookbook)

celebration of cultures

it's a ~ (a dress worn at a Met Gala)

celebration of diversity

*Waiting for the Waters to Rise* is a ~ (a book)

celebration of heritage

the event is a ~ (Nottingham Carnival, W. London)

celebration of (gay-marriage) law

in New York, a ~

celebration of the margins

the ~ (Blacks, women, queers)

celebration of (Haitian) music

Rasambleman (Red Moon) is a ~ (an album)

celebration of (indigenous) resilience

the forest will be renamed as a ~

celebration of women

*In Defense of Witches* is a ~ (a book)

celebration of (Southern) rap

the South got something to say: a ~

celebration of love, inclusion and strength

it's a ~ (Jon Batiste's "FREEDOM")

celebration of uniqueness, individuality, representation

Pride is a ~ and so much more...

♦ "There can be celebration and joy, and also purpose in protest." (Jennifer Pizer, Lambda Legal.)

♦ "The celebration of the margins—black bodies in motion, women's voices centered, black queer voices centered—is what ultimately vanquishes the state, represented by a NOPD car." ("We Slay, Part 1" by Zandria F. Robinson @ New South Negress about Beyonce's "Formation.")

♦ "You couldn't even see the beach in places." (Cleaning up tons of trash after a Brighton Beach "Pride" weekend. Trash included broken glass bottles, cans, plastic bags, food wrappers, disposable barbecues, feather boas, parts of costumes, nitrous oxide cannisters, and balloons which can be deadly to wildlife.)

♦ "We're all sinners. These pilgrims teach us how to be joyful and tolerant." (A Ukrainian, about the annual pilgrimage of Hassidic Jews to Uman, Ukraine. The pilgrimage includes drunkenness, fighting, nudity, etc.)

♦ "We thought this was a fun way to invite Vol Nation to continue in the celebration. We had heard before and during the game that the fans would support a celebration, no matter the cost, so we leaned into that

enthusiasm." (Athletic Director Danny White at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tennessee, seeking donations from fans to replace the goalposts that fans tore down after a victory over Alabama. Chase McGrath hit a 40-yard field goal with no time remaining to win the game, and fans stormed the field. The suggested contributions were: (1) \$16 (# of years since Vols beat Alabama) (2) \$52.49 (the final score) and (3) \$1,019.15 (# of sold-out crowd at Neyland Stadium). Members of the Vol Nation donated \$50,000 almost immediately, 35% of the goal of about \$143,000. In addition, Tennessee faces a \$100,000 fine for allowing fans to rush onto the field. Now, that's a nation!)

♦ "It's world sleep day, a celebration of an activity we don't do enough." (NPR.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## cement (verb)

cemented it in the public consciousness

the book really ~ (*Helter Skelter* scenario / Manson Family)

cemented his position

he has ~ as front-runner in the race (politics)

cemented his status

the show ~ as Britain's best rapper (Glastonbury)

cement her surge

she is looking to ~ in opinion polls (politician)

**attachment / strength & weakness / survival, persistence & endurance: materials & substances / verb**

## cemented

cemented in the American consciousness

how did this narrative become ~ (Manson Family murders)

**attachment / strength & weakness / survival, persistence & endurance: materials & substances**

## cemetery (things)

graveyard for (Antarctica's greatest) icebergs

South Georgia is something of a ~

bell cemeteries

collection points, known as *Glockenfriedhofe*, or ~

spacecraft cemetery

Point Nemo, also known as the ~ (remote Pacific Ocean)

♦ Between 1939 and 1945, 175,000 bells across Europe were taken by Nazi Germany. They were transported to collection points, known as *Glockenfriedhofe*, or bell cemeteries, the biggest of them in Hamburg. ("The seizing of Europe's bells" by Stephen J. Thorne, in *Legion: Canada's Military History Magazine*, November 21, 2018.)

♦ see also *graveyard (things)*

**place: burial / death & life**

## cemetery (people)

biggest cemetery

the ~ in the world (the Mediterranean)

♦ "The Mediterranean has been described as the biggest cemetery in the world." (Migrants.)

♦ see also *graveyard (people)*

**death & life: burial**

## center (center their voices, etc.)

center her family

she has chosen to ~ (politics)

center the movie on Bobby

it was a clever move to ~ (queer visibility)

center their voices

this was an opportunity to ~ in this conversation

♦ The New Lines Institute is a think tank that centers authentic voices.

**inclusion & exclusion: messaging / verb**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: center & periphery / position / verb**

## center (society)

center

you drive people from the ~ towards the fringes (extremism)

**society: center & periphery**

## centered (survivor-centered, etc.)

centered around the Black American person representation ~ (Bethany C. Morrow)

centered on equity

a global response that is ~ (monkeypox)

centered on whiteness

two shows so ~ (an Eric Deggans' review)

advocacy-centered

helping LTAs become ~ organizations (ELT)

African-centered

the decline of ~ schools is a loss (Detroit)

Asian American-centered

Reappropriate, an ~ race and gender blog

Black-centered

one of the most influential ~ films (*Super Fly*)

a burgeoning, ~ film and theater movement (NYC)

mentorship and building ~ community

female-centered

fast-paced, ~ adventure (*The Testaments*)

gay-centered

gay kids connecting on ~ sites (All Tech Considered)

immigrant-centered groups

local Asian and ~ groups joined forces to...

patient-centered

~ health care ("gender-affirming care")

trans-centered

we pulled together a really strong ~ education campaign

White-centered

the narratives are still pretty ~ (an Eric Deggans' review)

survivor-centered and trauma-informed

our Special Victims Division is ~ (appeal for sex victims)

♦ "The celebration of the margins—black bodies in motion, women's voices centered, black queer voices centered—is what ultimately vanquishes the state, represented by a NOPD car." ("We Slay, Part 1" by Zandria F. Robinson @ New South Negress about Beyonce's "Formation.")

♦ "He's the sort of guy who would announce his own engagement during his best friend's wedding ceremony." (Self-centered.)

♦ "It's not all about you."

♦ see also *adjacent (rich-adjacent, etc.), centric (Afro-centric, etc.), me (like me, look like me, speak like me, be like me, etc.)*

**contempo-speak: affix**

**inclusion & exclusion: affix / center & periphery / messaging**

## center of gravity

center of gravity of Europe

Vienna had become the musical ~, drawing to it...

center of gravity for so many important developments

Asia and China are going to be the ~ in the 21st century

political center of gravity

Buffalo is not the ~ in New York State

**bases: astronomy**

**attraction & repulsion: astronomy**

## centerpiece (noun)

centerpiece

its ~ is the Inc. record label (a studio)

a ~ of their argument is... (scientific evidence)

centerpiece of the Circumpolar North

the Arctic Ocean is the ~

centerpiece of his agenda

he has made it the ~ (crime bill)

centerpiece of our (domestic) agenda

health care is the ~

centerpiece of her campaign

her support of Medicare was the ~ (politician)

centerpiece of their culture

the camel is the ~ (Arab Bedouins)

centerpiece of their lives

for many people, work is the ~

centerpiece of their plan

city officials see the pier as the ~ to unify various sites

**importance & significance: center & periphery / position**

## central (adjective)

central

the military is ~ (in Egyptian society)

**importance & significance: center & periphery / position**

## central nervous system (basis)

central nervous system of modern life

the internet is the ~

**bases: back / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## centric (Afro-centric, etc.)

Afrocentric

so-called "~-~" hair styles

Anglocentric

the conventional ~ narrative is that... (the Alamo)

body-centric

minimize ~ content in your feed (females)

the algorithm is pushing ~ content to you (girls, etc.)

buttocks-centric

an extremely ~ bit of choreography for "Rude Boy"

customer-centric

Earth's most ~ company (Amazon)

ethnocentric

I'm ~, I think my race is the superior one

Eurocentric

he upends the ~ narrative (*In the Forest of No Joy*)

the ~ narrative will always discount African trauma

this ~ stereotype ignores the diversity of a group...

London centric

the ads only appeal to a ~ audience

member-centric

a ~ approach to prepare... (webinar / register today)

pop-centric

shamed for being a Black woman who made ~ music

queer-centric

the ~ podcast 'Hot White Heist' (Nick Quah)

actor-director-centric

we were focused on creating an ~ process (*Avatar*)

♦ see also *adjacent (rich-adjacent, etc.), centered (survivor-centered, etc.)*

**inclusion & exclusion: affix / messaging / center & periphery**

## cesspit (noun)

cesspit of snarky poison

you know how social media and twitter in particular is a ~

cesspits of arguments, misinformation

the comment threads are absolute ~

**environment: hygiene**

**corruption: smell**

## cesspool (noun)

cesspool

the neighborhood is a ~ that breeds crime

cesspool of corruption

college sports are a ~

cesspools of fraud  
the federal mortgage agencies are ~

cesspool of hate  
the website is a ~

cesspool of negativity  
the Internet can be a ~ (consumer reviews, comments)

cesspool of character assassination  
the Web site is a ~ (gossip site in rural towns)

reality-show cesspool  
it's hard to stand out in the ~ (TV)

ethical cesspool  
he is disgusted by the ~ of Albany (New York politics)

moral cesspool  
this is indicative of the ~ that is America (nudity on TV)

political cesspool  
finally somebody was doing something to clean up the ~

social cesspool  
the tenements are ~s (1903)

clean the cesspool  
they are trying to ~ (Web)

drain this (stinking) cesspool  
he wants to ~ (New York politics)

**environment: hygiene**  
**corruption: smell**

**Ceuta and Melilla**

linguistic Ceutas and Melillas  
stranded like ~ (fuzzy semantics)

**division & connection: history**

**chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff)**

separate the wheat from the chaff  
we need to ~ (real cases vs. imagined of a syndrome)

separating the wheat from the chaff  
G-2 had great difficulty ~ (military intelligence)

**searching & discovery: farming & agriculture / verb / wheat**  
**worth & lack of worth: farming & agriculture / verb / wheat**  
**dismissal, removal & resignation: farming & agriculture / verb / wheat**

## chain (configuration)

chain of camps  
the porters established a ~ up the mountain

chain of islands  
the southern end of the ~ known as Lofoten (Norway)

chain of mountains  
this great ~ (Caucasus Mountains)

human chain

policemen formed ~a (Hajj)  
arriving police formed a ~ (rescue boys in river)

island chain  
a nearby ~ was evacuated (typhoon)  
an ~ that is part of the Antarctic peninsula

mountain chain  
the Rwenzori ~ includes Africa's third highest peak

750-mile chain  
a ~ of rugged mountains (the Caucasus)

divided into four chains  
Tonga is composed of 140 islands ~

**configuration: chain**

**chain (chain of events)**

chain of events  
the ~ that caused the airliner to crash  
problems in this ~ (conception and infertility)

chains of events  
describing hypothetical ~, he noted if...

chain of critical events  
disasters are triggered by a ~ (engineering, crashes, etc.)

bizarre chain of events  
in a ~, a passenger was killed... (NJ Transit Train)  
surprise and sadness at the ~ (astronaut arrested)

fatal chain of events  
the ~ began at 10:04 (car wreck)  
falling debris started the ~ (loss of shuttle Columbia)

hypothetical chains of events  
describing ~, he noted if...

## sequence: chain

## chain (oppression)

people's chains  
we must break the shackles of an oppressed ~

invisible chains  
she was exploited by “~” (sex trafficking)

**constraint & lack of constraint / oppression: chain**

## chain (other)

chain of custody  
drug screeners must follow the ~

chain of evidence  
a ~ ties him to the crime  
the ~ must be preserved (rape)

chain of (massive) explosions  
Lagos struggled to recover from a ~ (ammo)

chain of trial and error  
behind every discovery is a long ~ (astronomy)

cold chain

the ~—keeping the vaccine refrigerated (for measles)

### supply chain

they have a very efficient ~ (Wal-Mart)  
the army's ~ across the open desert is vulnerable to attack  
there's a whole ~ that feeds the production of the plane

### link in the (global) chain

you're only as secure as the weakest ~ of information

### predators in the chain

they were the top ~ (Iraqi terrorists)

### break the chain

we need to ~ of transmission (COVID-19)

### sequence: chain

## chain of command (and chain)

### chain of command

contact your immediate ~ if you believe...(military)  
requests go through the normal ~ (military)  
he forwards the report through the ~ (military)  
the information went up the ~ to President Bush

### program's chain of command

the ~

### launch-control chain of command

those in the ~ (NASA)

### top-down chain of command

older workers are used to a ~ (business)

### military chain of command

federal military forces remain under the ~

### level in the chain of command

the highest appropriate ~ must address...

### chain of command (soon) broke down

the ~ (Suvla Bay / Gallipoli)

### complained (for months) to the chain of command

he ~ about the poor gear

### come down from the chain of command

a memo had ~ that said...

### run it up the chain

Irving told him he'd have to ~ (a request for troops)

### went outside of his chain of command

he was removed after he ~ (Navy captain)

♦ "You can jump the chain of command if you want and take the consequences, you can disobey the chain of command and take the consequences, but there is no, no situation where you go to the media..." (Acting SECNAV Thomas Modley on his decision to reassign Captain Brett Crozier from command of the nuclear powered aircraft carrier USS *Theodore Roosevelt*.)

### hierarchy: direction / chain / military

## chain reaction

### chain reaction

the ~ can go on for centuries (cyanide pollution)

### chain reaction of car hitting car

a ~ (traffic pileup)

### chain-reaction accident

a ~ that involved 125 vehicles (fog in Georgia);  
low visibility caused a number of ~s (dust storm)

### chain-reaction crash

the ~ happened in a snowstorm (highway)

### chain reaction wreck

16 cars had a ~

### chain reaction, a snowball effect

this will create a ~ (falling in a crowd crush)

### sequence: chain

## chainsaw (noun)

### take a chainsaw to regulations

he wants to ~ (politics)

### destruction / force: tools & technology

## chalice (poisoned chalice)

### poisoned chalice

the United job is a ~ (English soccer)  
the prime ministership has been a ~ (Truss resigns)

### poisoned chalice of naval command

Baltaoglu vanished, and the ~ passed back to Hamza Bey

### poisoned chalice of a job

it's a ~ (Thomas Tuchel sacked by Chelsea)

### biggest prize and a poisoned chalice

the job is both the ~ (being the mayor of Rome)

♦ "It is not yet clear who will succeed Ms Lambrecht in a job which is considered such a poisoned chalice that many refer to it as 'the ejector seat.'" (The position of Germany's Defense Minister.)

### fate, fortune & chance: allusion / food & drink

### appearance & reality: allusion / food & drink

### destruction / subterfuge: health & medicine

## challenge (TikTok, etc.)

### TRY NOT TO LAUGH Challenge

99% lose this ~ (BabiezTV)

### blackout challenge

parents sue TikTok over deaths of 2 girls following '~'

### 'Footloose' dance challenge

Kevin Bacon and Kyra Sedgwick do the ~

### headline challenge

the ~ is very artificial (*Love Island*)

### internet challenges

~ have been a growing source of panic (injuries / fatalities)

### internet drug 'challenge'

15 students in Mexico treated for ~

### Keepy Uppy Challenge

Euro 2020 ~ (soccer / see Wikipedia "Keepie uppie")

### Ledyard Challenge

his friends said he didn't engage in the famous "~~" (died)  
online challenge

he may have been taking part in an ~ that went wrong

python challenge

a ~ has done little to reduce the invasive species (Florida)

video challenges

~ can harm people and even cause death (FDA)

materials and challenges

designers drip-feed their players new ~ (ARGs)

♦ The blackout challenge encourages social media users to choke themselves until they pass out. Twelve-year-old Archie Battersbee may have been participating in this challenge. See the Wikipedia entry, "Archie Battersbee case."

♦ "Fifteen grade school students in Mexico have been treated after apparently taking part in an internet 'challenge' in which groups of students take tranquilizers to see who can stay awake the longest." (AP. Guanajuato State.)

♦ The milk crate challenge; the Benadryl challenge; the blackout challenge... (Dangerous social-media challenges.)

♦ Silly and unappetizing; very unsafe; inhaling the medications while cooking could cause high levels of the drugs to enter your body; it could hurt your lungs..." (The FDA about a challenge that encourages people to cook chicken in NyQuil. The FDA had previously called attention to the Benadryl challenge, which also involved an over-the-counter medicine.)

♦ "[Gallagher's] friends insisted he did not engage in the famous 'Ledyard Challenge.'" ("Dartmouth graduate who died near campus bridge identified as police launch investigation" by Clara McCourt, Boston.com, August 9, 2022. The Ledyard Challenge is a 'beloved Dartmouth summer tradition' that is also a 'calculated risk'—a student drowned while participating in the challenge in 2005. In the Ledyard Challenge, a Dartmouth student streaks (runs naked) across the bridge to Vermont, and then swims back across to Hanover, New Hampshire, avoiding legal loopholes in both states. Gallagher was in town to attend the delayed Class of 2020 commencement ceremony, postponed by the pandemic. He was 24 years old.)

♦ "Challenges like a sculpting contest in which couples try to accurately re-create the male partner's erection out of modeling clay..." ("Trouble in Paradise" by Anna Peele, *Vanity Fair*, July / August 2022.)

♦ "Authorities are blaming a social media challenge for an alarming rise in car thefts." (Hyundai and Kia cars.)

♦ "Car crash that killed 4 teens in Buffalo may be linked to TikTok challenge." (The "Kia challenge." Stealing a car and then joyriding in it.)

♦ "STRAIGHT PEOPLE GO SEE BROS CHALLENGE." (An advertisement campaign to drum up box office for the gay romcom. The film's marketing roll-out was budgeted higher than the production of the film.)

♦ Pornhub features "challenges."

♦ "NYC subway-track deaths soar, driven by social-media dares."

♦ "Chandra, who didn't know the teens, testified at trial that one of the boys rang his doorbell and exposed his buttocks before running away..." ("California man guilty of killing 3 after 'ding dong' prank," the Associated Press, April 28, 2023.)

♦ "The teens were participating in a dangerous TikTok challenge where social media users use flammable aerosols to create miniature flamethrowers." ("TikTok challenge leaves teen disfigured with nearly 80% of body burned.")

♦ Dares, pranks, challenges...

♦ World War I (gassed); the flu pandemic; hunger; the depression; World War II... (The challenges faced by my grandfather...)

**behavior: society**

## chameleon (change)

cultural chameleon

he's a ~ (Jack Harlow / demographics)

style chameleons

celebrities tend to be ~, changing their looks...

political chameleon

he was a ~ who charmed France (Jacques Chirac)

social chameleon

I was a ~, I went from group to group...

describe Liz Truss as a (political) chameleon

you ~, what do you mean by that

♦ "One of his nicknames was the Chameleon, his career was a stylistic kaleidoscope." (The musician Chick Corea.)

♦ Ari Shapiro: You describe Liz Truss as a political chameleon. What do you mean by that? / Ben Judah: Liz Truss has made her career by telling whatever audience she was right in front of at a given time what they wanted to hear. ("The United Kingdom's next prime minister could be a foreign policy hardliner," NPR, All Things Considered, September 2, 2022.)

♦ "I'm so glad I was a Canadian in a way, because the Canadian can take the best of the British, and the best of the American school, and uh we're rather good at that, we're kind of like chameleons, in that respect, that's why there's so many good Canadian comics." ("Remembering 'Sound of Music' Star Christopher Plummer," NPR, Fresh Air, Feb 12 2021, originally broadcast in 2007.)

♦ "[Chameleons] can camouflage themselves well... but they ultimately did not outsmart the X-Ray machine." (Smuggled chameleons from the Usambara Mountains of Tanzania discovered in a suitcase at the Vienna airport.)

**appearance & reality / character & personality / creation & transformation / identity & nature: animal**

## chameleonic (adjective)

chameleonic

her transformation was so ~ (Taylor Swift's *The Man* vid)

chameleonic and controversial

to the public, she's been a ~ celebrity (Angelina Jolie)

surprisingly chameleonic

the series has proved ~ (*Fast & Furious* films)

**appearance & reality / character & personality / creation & transformation / identity & nature: animal**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## champagne (money)

champagne corks

the metaphoric ~ will be popping at Nato (accessions)

Champagne Johnny

his high living earned him the nickname ~ (John Osborne)

champaign lifestyle

she led a ~ built on lies (Anna Sorokin)

champagne socialists

~ are far removed from reality (politics)

champagne wishes

"~ and caviar dreams" (*Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous*)

♦ "Collaborating with these gentry was a mixed crowd of wide-minded, wide-mouthed Liberals, who darkened council with pious but disintegrating catch-words, and took care to live very well indeed." (*Something of Myself* by Rudyard Kipling.)

♦ "He wants champagne on beer money." (An online commenter about the owner of Tottenham Hotspur Football Club.)

♦ "No, I can't swig that sweet champagne, I'd rather drink beer all night, in a tavern, or in a Honkey-tonk, or in a four-wheel-drive tailgate... Let me get a big 'hell yeah' from the Redneck girls like me." (Gretchen Wilson, "Redneck Woman." Hell yeah!)

**money: sign, signal, symbol**

## champion (verb)

championing women's voices  
we have been ~ (a publisher)

**allegiance, support & betrayal / attention, scrutiny & promotion: Middle Ages / verb**

## champion (noun)

champion of social justice  
he was a ~

champion of justice and equality  
she was a giant in the law, a ~ (RBG)

its champions  
each one has ~ (translations of Dante's *Divine Comedy*)

**allegiance, support & betrayal / attention, scrutiny & promotion: Middle Ages**

## championed

championed by authors, consultants, and startup gurus  
gamification is ~

**allegiance, support & betrayal / attention, scrutiny & promotion: Middle Ages**

## change (sea change)

sea change for Saudi Arabia  
it's a ~ (ending reliance on oil)

political sea change  
there has been a ~ in Virginia (election)

**amount & effect / creation & transformation / reversal: sea change (pocket change)**

pocket change for most oil and gas companies  
the fine is ~ (methane emissions)

**amount: money  
money: purses & wallets**

## channel (direct)

channeled (corporate) donation to Texas state races  
he ~ (a convicted politician)

channeled his fears in music  
he ~ (sickness therapy)

channel his (mental) illness to stay  
he learned how to ~ functional

channels (more) money to (local) health centers  
his plan ~ (reform)

channeled her unhappiness into writing  
she ~

**directing: verb / water**

## channel (through channels)

through administrative channels  
submit requests ~ (military)

through diplomatic channel  
India informed the US ~s that...

through operational channels  
send NBC reports ~ (military)

through proper channels  
a request has to go through ~

submit requests through administrative channels

informed the US through diplomatic channels  
Spain ~ that...

go through proper channels  
a report has to ~

**route: water**

## channel (back channel)

back-channel operation  
he was alarmed by a ~ in Ukraine (diplomacy)  
supply chains, ~s, costs and cycle times

**route: water**

## channel (distribution channel, etc.)

distribution channel  
a new ~ has arisen (e-commerce)  
supply chains, ~s, costs and cycle times

**route: water**

## channeled

channeled to paramilitaries  
US dollars have been ~

channeled through the I.S.I.  
Pakistan wants talks with the Taliban to be ~

channeled to militants  
it is not clear how much money is ~

channeled and exploited  
people's anger is being ~ by corporate interests (politics)

**directing: water**

## chaotic (adjective)

chaotic  
Fury's life has been ~

chaotic home  
they were raised in a ~ with lots of siblings

**flaws & lack of flaws: hygiene**

## chaperone (role)

worldly chaperone

he positioned himself as the grownup in the room, the ~

**control & lack of control / experience: person**

**person: school & education**

## chapter (close a chapter, etc.)

close a chapter

the decision helps ~ on a painful period (Baylor University)

close a (tragic) chapter

the resolution will help ~ in Balkan history (apology)

close that chapter

we want to ~ in the department (remedy for racism)

it was time to ~ of my life (quit job)

close this chapter

it is time to ~ in our history (discrimination)

close this (dark) chapter

we would rather ~ of our history and move on

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion / starting, going,**

**continuing & ending: books & reading**

## chapter (other)

chapter

I'm definitely glad that ~ is over (in a career)

chapter of the (euthanasia) debate

ending that ~

chapter of history

we are spectators in a ~ (a significant labor dispute)

chapter of their lives

as they venture into this next ~ (retirement)

chapter of your life

it's kind of sad to end a ~ (breakup of band)

chapter of our (not-so-recent) past

that troubling ~

chapter in a career

fans witnessed another bizarre ~ that... (Mike Tyson)

chapter in his life

he started a new ~

chapter in the (still-unfolding) story

a ~

concluding chapter

the play was the ~ in a spellbinding story (series of plays)

troubling chapter

that ~ of our not-so-distant past

bizarre chapter

fans witnessed another ~ in his career (a boxer)

dark chapter

we would rather close this ~ of our history and move on

darkest chapter

his capture was one of the country's ~s of the war

final chapter

the war against terrorism is not near its ~

last chapter

a bizarre ~ in a divorce battle (townhouse explodes)

latest chapter

the ~ in the long, checkered history of...

this ~ has only tightened the family bonds (injury)

this is the ~ in the tragedy that is Haiti (epidemic)

new chapter

he is poised to write a triumphant ~ (Obama)

next chapter

as they venture into this ~ of their lives (retirement)

painful chapter

it was a ~ in Indian history (white boarding schools)

dark and forgotten chapter

it was a ~ in history (Kinkaseki POW camp / Taiwan)

succession of chapters

the lives of athletes are a ~ (playground, NBA, China)

begin the (next) chapter

he will ~ of his distinguished career

close a chapter

the decision helps ~ on a painful period (Baylor University)

close a (tragic) chapter

the resolution will help ~ in Balkan history (apology)

close that chapter

we want to ~ in the department (remedy for racism)

it was time to ~ of my life (quit job)

close this chapter

it is time to ~ in our history (discrimination)

marks a new chapter

his win ~ in American history (election)

write more chapters

it's been a storybook season, hopefully we can ~ (team)

write a (new) chapter

the protests could ~ in Arab politics

write his most glorious chapter

on Sunday he could ~ (Raheem Sterling, Euro 2020)

♦ "It closes the chapter but hasn't ended the story, has it? I mean, clearly there will be further trials connected to the violence of 2015... Even during this trial there was more violence..." (BBC Newshour for 16 Dec 2020, "Fourteen people convicted in Charlie Hebdo trial.")

♦ "It is a book as old as time: a good young person makes a mistake, chapter two is a good, young person is full of remorse. Chapter three is a good young person learns from the mistake and becomes a better person." (Australia Olympic team boss Ian Chesterman, following the bad behavior of some Australian athletes at the Tokyo Olympics and on their way home.)

**development: books & reading**

## character (non-human)

character in her work

fashion is as much a ~ as everyone else (music videos)

becomes a character

the music is woven into the documentary and ~

♦ Nonhuman and nonliving things can have biographies, autobiographies, obituaries, eulogies, and even be characters.

♦ "The year is 1925, and the place is Montana, which is played onscreen by Campion's native New Zealand. Whether it fulfills the role convincingly...is a question that only Montanans will be qualified to answer." ("All In The Family: *The Power of the Dog and King Richard*" by Anthony Lane, *The New Yorker*, November 29, 2021.)

person: books & reading

## charade (noun)

Charade of Changing the World

Winners Take All: The Elite ~ (a book)

stop this charade

we need to ~ ("rubber rooms" for bad teachers)

performance / subterfuge: sports & games

substance & lack of substance: sports & games

## charge (in, into, ahead, etc.)

charged ahead

the president ~ with his plans to...

charging forward

she is ~ with a civil case (a lawyer)

charging into (one of the country's) leading debates

the leading philanthropy is ~ (Mellon / monuments)

commitment & determination / driving force / eagerness & reluctance: horse / military / movement / verb

## charge (lead the charge, etc.)

leading the charge

Republicans are ~ (for fiscal responsibility)

the young people are ~ (new media)

led the charge

he disappeared when he should have ~ (a politician)

led the (political and rhetorical) charge

the NRA ~ (guns and 2nd Amendment)

led the charge to go

Republicans ~ to war with Iraq

leading the charge to make

she is ~ mandatory (systemic racism / high schools)

led the charge to overturn

he ~ the ban

led the charge for restricting

the three organizations have ~ immigration

led the charge against the notion

he ~ of human-caused global warming

led the charge against charter schools  
school boards have ~

led the charge for (educational) reform  
he ~

led the charge for (greater) regulation  
Democrats have ~

driving force: military / verb

## charged (highly charged, etc.)

charged with desperation and despair  
the words, recently so ~...

highly charged

these are ~ issues (protests)

there was a ~ atmosphere in Kenosha (rioting)

in this ~ atmosphere the bombings started (Saudi Arabia)

♦ "The words 'I'm hungry,' recently so charged with desperation and despair, only slowly reverted to their old function of expressing an ordinary desire for lunch." (*Leningrad* by the great writer Anna Reid.)

feeling, emotion & effect: electricity

## charisma (attraction)

a lot of charisma

he has ~ (a politician)

attraction & repulsion: religion

## charm (verb)

charmed New Yorkers with his humor  
the mayor ~

charmed everyone with her culture, grace and beauty  
she ~

charmed her with his good humor  
he ~

charmed his way into homes and shops  
he ~ (the photographer Peter Seikaer)

charm the pants off (just about) anyone  
he could ~ (politician Ronald Reagan)

charmed the audience  
he ~ (a dancer)

charmed fans  
Baghdatis ~ at the 2006 Australian Open (tennis)

charms people  
with his gentle manner, he ~ wherever he goes (a boxer)

charmed reporters  
while he has ~, others find him abrasive

charmed and impressed  
she ~ colleagues with her low-key style and commitment

feeling, emotion & effect: magic / verb

attraction & repulsion: magic / verb

## charm (noun)

charm bracelet

her ~ spelled out "LOVE"

one of the year's hottest jewelry fads is the ~

charm campaign

Sudan's ~

charm school

beauty pageants and charm schools

charm and beauty

for centuries, visitors praised Basra's ~

charm, warmth and vivacity

stories of her ~ are innumerable

period charm

set in 1980, the show has a certain ~

**attraction & repulsion: magic**

## charmed (charmed life, etc.)

charmed circle

teachers compete to enter the ~ of tenured academe

they spend their time in a ~ (acquaintances, etc.)

charmed existence

he enjoyed a ~, and then his family was poor

charmed life

she led a ~ (affluent)

charmed run

their ~ finally ended (sports team)

charmed years

for a few ~, he was on top (success)

**fate, fortune & chance / protection & lack of protection: magic**

## charmed (charmed by something, etc.)

charmed by the architecture

he was ~ (buying a house)

charmed by the (rugged) beauty

we were ~ of New Mexico

charmed by his speeches

voters were ~ and inspired by his vision (Obama)

charmed by the terrain

the young artist was ~ (the desert)

charmed by her good-heartedness

we were ~

**attraction & repulsion / feeling, emotion & effect: magic**

## charming (people)

charming

he was cute, he was ~, he was very athletic... (psycho)

utterly charming

she could be ~ (a narcissist)

**attraction & repulsion / character & personality: magic**

## chart (verb)

chart its own course

Iraq is free to ~

chart a (fresh) course

helping convicted felons ~

charted a (new) course

President Obama has ~ for the next two years

chart the future

Iraqis will ~ of Iraq

chart a new path

the leader is trying to ~

**direction: boat / journeys & trips / map / verb**

## chase (verb)

chase after their dreams

artists and actors ~

chase (small) effects

studies ~ (unable to replicate)

chase headlines

scientists who manipulate data and ~

**pursuit, capture & escape: walking, running & jumping / verb**

## chase down (verb)

chase it (all) down

but what is the implicit comedy of that song, if you ~

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: walking, running & jumping / verb**

## chasm (noun)

chasm between Africans and African-Americans

the ~ (in Ghana)

widen into a chasm

the cracks could ~ (politics)

**division & connection: ground, terrain & land**

## chatter (signals intelligence, etc.)

far-right chatter

experts tracking ~ online said...

speculation and chatter

there's a lot of ~ on social media (an issue)

jump in (suspicious) chatter

there has been a ~

**activity / analysis, interpretation & explanation / surveillance: sound / speech**

## chatterbox (person)

chatterbox

I was a ~ (MLB's Keith Hernandez playing first base)

♦ A box full of chatter...

**person: speech**

**speech: container / person**

## cheap (words are cheap, etc.)

cheap

words are ~, let's see what they do

♦ "Talk is cheap. All eyes will be on what AJ does with his hands and not his mouth." (Boxing.)

**worth & lack of worth: money / speech**

**speech: money**

## cheap (life is cheap, etc.)

cheap on those streets

life is very ~ (parts of Essex County, New Jersey)

getting (very) cheap

life is ~ (gang violence)

**death & life / worth & lack of worth: money**

## cheap shot

cheap shot

he may have thought his ~ was funny, but it wasn't

his comment was a ~, totally unwarranted (insult)

his insinuation is unsubstantiated and a ~

~s get cheap laughs

cheap shot against him

that was a real ~ (a comment in newspaper)

cheap shot against the White House

she has taken a ~ (political commentary)

cheap-shot artist

he's a clever ~ (a political comedian)

cheap shot and dirty trick

he has bashed him with every ~ in the book (politics)

takes a cheap shot

she ~ at him when she says...

♦ In sports, a cheap shot refers to an unnecessary and vicious hit on a defenseless player.

**accusation & criticism / behavior / speech: sports & games / violence / weapon**

## check (in check)

in check

we have to keep North Korea ~

**control & lack of control: chess / movement / sports & games**

## checkmate (verb)

checkmate the West's harshest sanctions

the Kremlin can ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: chess / sports & games / verb**

## checkmate (noun)

checkmate

your American critics say you have run out of moves, ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: chess / sports & games**

## checkbook

open their checkbooks

a few companies may ~ (reparations for slavery)

**money: purses & wallets / sign, signal, symbol**

## checkpoint (at a checkpoint)

at progress checkpoints

assign a grade or points ~ (projects / schools)

**progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement**

## cheer (verb)

cheer

some of you may ~ and others will boo

**judgment: sound / verb**

**achievement, recognition & praise: sound / verb**

## cheer (noun)

cheers and boos

the judge's decision drew ~

**achievement, recognition & praise / judgment: sound**

## cheerlead (verb)

cheerlead for big projects

volunteers are less likely to ~ (Peace Corps)

**enthusiasm: school & education / verb**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: school & education / verb**

## cheerleader (person)

cheerleader

Roger Ver is its most visible ~ (Bitcoin Cash)

cheerleaders for the Pentagon

some say they served as ~ (reporters)

cheerleader for the city

he is a ~ (mayor of Las Vegas)

cheerleader for the industry

she was a ~, no matter what it was selling (Louella Parsons)

cheerleader for the superiority

she is a ~ of all things American

cheerleader for war

he was the exile ~ (an Iraqi)

cheerleaders for war

women have often been ~ (Spartan mothers)

**cheerleader role**

he is in the ~, he wants the economy back up (pandemic)

♦ "In Aristophanes' comic play, *Lysistrata*, the women go on sex strike as a way of ending the Peloponnesse War. Do you think we would be as warlike if women were in charge?" [Delighted laughter and clapping from the audience.] / "It's such a good question. My brief answer is no. [Nervous laughter from audience.] You know, the Peloponnesian war, it was the Spartan mothers who said, 'Come back bearing your shield or on it....' I'm not sure that women are by nature kinder or gentler." (Margaret MacMillan, "War and Humanity," the Reith Lectures, BBC.)

♦ "Wars are almost always begun with gaiety and lightness of spirit, with cheers and songs. The day after the surrender of Fort Sumter the entire land, both North and South, blazed with an ardent and confident patriotism, although the patriotism of the South was precisely opposite to that of the North. The streets of the cities were colorful with flags and smart uniforms. Ladies waved handkerchiefs and threw kisses. The barrooms did the largest day's business in the history of the nation, up to that time... The churches were kept open all day for the saying of bloodthirsty prayers. God, as usual, was on both side." (*A New American History* by W.E. Woodward.)

**person: school & education**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / enthusiasm: person / school & education**

**cheer on (verb)**

cheered him on

everybody ~ (musician who abused underaged girls)

cheering her on for years

her mother and father have been ~ (a tennis phenom)

**enthusiasm: sound / verb**

**Che Guevara**

"Africa's Che Guevara"

the murder of the man known as ~ (Thomas Sankara)

found an unlikely Che Guevara

in Pospisil, the P.T.P.A. ~ (tennis reform)

**disruption: allusion / history**

**chemistry**

chemistry of the team

he insists the ~ is fine (troubled NFL team)

chemistry between client and therapist

~ is crucial (psychotherapist)

chemistry between a boxer and a trainer

the ~ is crucial

Dream Team's chemistry

the ~ turned out to be the hallmark to their success (1992)

screen chemistry

the two actors have so much ~ (movie)

on-screen chemistry

they had great ~ (Donna Reed and John Wayne)

team chemistry

his top priority is to improve ~ (sports)

good chemistry

teams, actors, orchestras require ~

are teams good because they have ~

do teams have ~ because they are good

~ sometimes trumps outright talent (sports team)

**lack of chemistry**

a ~ is blamed for failure

**wealth of chemistry**

a ~ is credited for success

**chemistry can trump talent**

good ~ (sports teams)

**have chemistry**

in sports, good teams ~

**hurt the (team) chemistry**

he ~ (an athlete)

♦ "Chemistry is when you hang around each other when you don't have to. That's us." (Chris Weber, speaking of the Sacramento Kings, an NBA team.)

**functioning / mixture: chemistry**

**Chernobyl (rainforest Chernobyl, etc.)**

Party's Chernobyl

a few thought COVID might be the Communist ~

rainforest Chernobyl

Texaco created a ~ (toxic waste in Ecuador)

**comparison & contrast / destruction / failure, accident &**

**impairment: epithet / history / nuclear energy / place**

**cherubic (adjective)**

cherubic preteen

a ~ with a gentle smile

**appearance: creature / religion / sign, signal, symbol**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

**chess (noun)**

playing chess

he was ~ (Larry Bird of the NBA)

♦ "He was playing chess and everybody else was playing checkers. He was three moves ahead of everybody else." (Tommy Heinsohn, Celtic broadcaster, about the great Larry Bird from French Lick, Indiana.)

**strategy: chess / sports & games**

**chess (chess game)**

see *game (chess game)*

**chessboard (noun)**

*North Korean Chessboard*

"The ~: What Next for The Main Players" (Wapo)

complex geopolitical chessboard

trying to figure out Putin's next move on a ~

strategic chessboard

Truman and the Soviets were arranging pieces on a ~

off the board

the two other members of the ISIS cell are already ~ (one killed, one in prison)

moves on the chessboard  
these were big ~ in Asia (US versus China)

pawns on a chessboard  
they must stop being used as ~ (migrants)

square in (Europe's Military) Chess Board  
Sweden's Gotland is a crucial ~

removed Mary from the chessboard  
Elizabeth's statecraft eventually ~ (history)

shift its pieces around the chessboard  
the U.N. has had to ~ (troops in DRC)

♦ "The Democrats wrote the rules, then set up the chessboard. We are now playing in the chessboard with the rules they set up." (Voter drop-boxes, which became controversial during the 2020 presidential election.)

**strategy: chess / sports & games**

## chess match (noun)

chess match  
so far this match has been a ~ (Arguello vs. Ray Mancini)

**strategy: chess / sports & games**

## chest (beat one's chest, etc.)

chest-thumping  
liberals dismiss conservatives as ~ cartoons

stand up and beat their chests  
terrorists want to take credit, they want to ~

thump his chest  
of course he's going to ~ during an address to parliament  
I think he likes to kinda ~ about that a bit (a politician)

**conflict: animal / gesture / standing, sitting & lying**  
**performance: animal / gesture / standing, sitting & lying**  
**attention, scrutiny & promotion: animal / gesture / standing, sitting & lying**

## chew (and chew up)

chew barbed wire in Flanders  
is there an alternative to having our armies ~

chews up his rivals  
his nickname is "the Cannibal" because he ~ (cycling)

♦ "His nickname is "the Cannibal" because he chews up his rivals." (The great Eddy Merckx)

♦ "Are there not other alternatives than sending our armies to chew barbed wire in Flanders?" (Winston Churchill, in a letter of advice to Prime Minister Herbert Henry Asquith. The alternative turned out to be Gallipoli.)

♦ "No, they will fight more actively with empty bellies, and, besides, it would be a bad omen. You remember what a dessert they got to their dinner at Falkirk." (The Duke of Cumberland on whether to allow his army its noontime meal prior to the Battle of Culloden. From *British Battles On Land and Sea* by James Grant. Culloden, 1746. "Such is the story of Culloden, happily the last battle fought on the soil of Great Britain.")

**consumption / experience: food & drink / verb**

## chew over (verb)

chew it over with relish  
the old women ~ (a bit of gossip)

**consumption: food & drink / verb**

## Chicago (China's Chicago, etc.)

Chicago of China  
six hundred miles up the Yangtze lies Hankow, "the ~"

China's Chicago  
the city they call ~ (Wuhan)

modern-day Chicago  
the leaders of Chongqing hope to turn it into a ~ (2007)

♦ "With all these fake Chinese Chicagos, how can anyone use the phrase, "the Chicago of China" with any confidence or authority? Fact is, nobody can." ("The Chicago(s) of China" by Lauri Apple, the *Chicago Reader*, August 17, 2010. Her delightful article mentions Chongqing (Chungking, the "Chicago on the Yangtze"); Hankow (now part of the larger area of Wuhan, also on the Yangtze River); Zhengzhou (Chengchow, on the Yellow River, referred to as the "Chicago of the East); and Shanghai. She includes a link to "Chinese City's 'Chicago' Hopes Face Obstacles," the *Wall Street Journal*, July 27, 2007, which lists good and interesting reasons why Chongqing deserves the epithet.)

♦ US newspaper readers knew Hankow as the Chicago of China in 1918 and also in the 1930s. The city was mostly forgotten until the 2019 COVID pandemic, associated with Wuhan.

**comparison & contrast / geography: epithet**

## chicken (chicken and egg)

chicken and egg  
this is the classic ~ that has plagued rural America (housing)

chicken and the egg  
it's kind of the ~ (support for losing team)

chicken and egg problem  
it's a ~

chicken-and-egg problem  
it's a ~ (plants need oil, oil refineries need power)

chicken and egg situation  
so, there's kind of this ~ (NPR political punditry)

chicken or egg thing  
it's kind of a ~, what come's first...

♦ "Which came first, the chicken or the egg?"

**relationship: bird**

## chicken (come home to roost)

chickens coming home to roost  
this is a sort of ~ (political battle)

chickens would come home to roost so soon  
Kennedy never foresaw that the ~ (Malcolm X)

they came home to roost  
these chickens took a very long flight before ~ (scandal)

*Justice of Roosting Chickens*  
*On the ~* (notorious book blaming the West for 9/11)

♦ The legend of the "Brazen Bull" (Wikipedia) is instructive. Perillus of Athens invented and built it for Phalaris, Tyrant of Sicily. Its first victim was its inventor and its owner ended up within it.

♦ "This rude automaton is a tiger, killing and about to devour a European, who lies prostrate under the savage beast. In the interior of the tiger there is a rude kind of organ, played upon by turning a handle, like our street hand-organs, and the notes produced are intended to represent the growls of the tiger and the moans of the dying man." (Charles Macfarlane, in *Our Indian Empire*, quoted by James Grant in *British Battles on Land and Sea*. Tipu Sultan, the Tiger of Mysore, met his end at the Battle of Seringapatam, 1799.)

♦ "Yep, could be called a 'shooting pandemic'... Unfortunately the planets are lining up and the chickens are coming home to roost." (Fredrika Wade to Rick Chase on ABC's "Join the Discussion" about the latest mass shooting.)

♦ "We misuse our military power, and the chickens came home to roost."

♦ "The hate is coming home to roost."

♦ Karma; what goes around comes around; live by the sword, die by the sword; you made this bed, now lie in it...

**fate, fortune & chance / judgment / responsibility / reversal: animal / bird / justice / verb**

## chicken-hearted

chicken-hearted  
he is ~ (afraid)

**courage & lack of courage: animal / bird / heart**  
**heart: bird**

## chicken (game of chicken)

see *game (game of chicken)*

## chicken out (verb)

chickened out  
he ~ and never gave her the letter

**courage & lack of courage: animal / bird / verb**

## chieftain (noun)

corporate chieftain  
~s who sell off shares of their companies (ethics)

banking industry chieftain  
a former ~

**power: person / military**

## child (spoiled child, etc.)

West's spoiled child  
Israel is the ~

petulant child  
he's a ~... (a boxer)

♦ "He's a petulant child in a hulking body builder's frame." (A BBC HYS commenter about Anthony Joshua after Joshua's second loss to Oleksandr Usyk.)

♦ That is a really childish comment but you probably think it is clever How old are you? (A commenter on a BBC soccer HYS.)

♦ "Fernandez should be playing in the under 8's." (An online commenter about Man Utd 0-7 Liverpool.)

♦ "10 year olds can manage it, but not the grown ups? Really?" (An online commenter about the soccer rule that says a player must not touch a referee.)

**growth & development: life span**  
**behavior / character & personality / insult / person: baby**  
**child (child of the Soviet Union, etc.)**

child of the Victorian era  
Churchill freely conceded that he was a ~

child of Soviet and post-Soviet Russia  
he was a cynical ~

child of Bill Cosby  
I was a ~, he was part of the wallpaper of Black America

children of the same (foul) spirit  
they are ~ (domestic and international terrorists)

child of the underground  
I, too, was a ~ (Zionist Palestine)

**identity & nature: family / person**  
**child (bastard child)**

bastard child, the second class citizen  
creative non-fiction is no longer the ~ (to literature)

♦ "He was now Fortune's pet instead of her stepson." (Change in fortune to good fortune from awful fortune.)

**person / relationship: family**  
**worth & lack of worth: family / person**

## chill (feeling)

chill  
I get ~s thinking about it (an exciting event)

**feeling, emotion & effect: skin, muscle, nerves & bones / temperature**

## chill (oppression)

sent a chill through the academic world  
the sentences ~ (police arrests)

**oppression: temperature**

## chilling (adjective)

chilling  
the accusations against him are ~ (a terrorist)

chilling account  
he has written a ~ of the murder (writer)

chilling development  
it is the latest ~ in this chilling case (sniper murders)

chilling effect  
this will have a ~ on the coal industry (project vetoed)  
these bills will have a ~ (Internet regulation)

chilling incident  
there have been two ~s (religious attacks)

chilling message  
it was a ~

chilling street name

the crimes have a ~, "Guat-bashing" (Guatemalans)

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature**

### chilly (adjective)

chilly toward women's soccer  
England has been ~

chilly reception  
she received a ~ (a politician)

chilly response  
he got a ~ from... (meeting / law-enforcement officers)

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature**

### chime in (verb)

chimed in that  
he ~ he does the same thing (conversation)

chimed in on the controversy  
readers ~

chimed in with his own statement  
he has ~

chimed in from Haiti  
he ~ (a reporter)

**involvement: sound / verb**

**speech: sound / verb**

### chimera (noun)

chimera work  
UNC has no oversight of the ~ (virus)

**creation & transformation: allusion / creature**

### chimeric (and chimerical)

chimeric coronaviruses  
the NIH grant was used to construct two ~

chimeric virus  
a ~ is one that combines fragments of different viruses

♦ "Proponents of what became known as gain-of-function research claimed it would help prevent pandemics by highlighting potential threats. Critics argued that creating pathogens that didn't exist in nature ran the risk of unleashing them." ("Risky Business" by Katherine Eban, *Vanity Fair*, June 2022.)

♦ "In their mythology the Greeks had a fire-eating monster called a chimaira that was believed by some to have the body of a goat, the head of a lion, and the tail of a serpent. When this word finally came into English we began to use it in a poetic way. A chimera with us can be a foolish fancy. When we speak of a scheme as being chimerical, we mean that it is visionary and won't work, that it is as much of a fantastic figment of the imagination as the old chimera itself. It may be comforting to know that a hero by the name of Bellerophon eventually slew this terrifying but imaginary beast." (Word Origins and Their Romantic Stories by Wilfred Funk, Litt. D., 1950. Publishers Grosset & Dunlap New York. Every high-school student in the country should be required to study it.)

**creation & transformation: creature**

### chin (take something on the chin)

took the news on the chin  
she ~ (Naomi Wolf)

**feeling, emotion & effect / force: boxing**

### Chinatown (the film)

"forget it, Jake, it's Chinatown"  
a fatalistic ~ notion...

**allusion: film & TV**

**feeling, emotion & effect: allusion / film**

**fate, fortune & chance: allusion / film**

### chink (chink in one's armor)

chink in her opponent's armor  
she uncovered a critical chink in her ~

chink in his armor  
she found a ~  
the one ~ has been... (an athlete)  
he has not been able to find a ~ (tennis)

**protection & lack of protection: Middle Ages / military / weapon**

### chink (flaw)

chink in conditioning  
any ~ could mean defeat (Olympic swimming)

chink of vulnerability  
he hasn't shown a ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: hole**

### chip (bargaining chip)

bargaining chip  
the proposals are on the table as a ~

bargaining chip in (peace) negotiations  
the fleet was a ~ (World War I)

used as a bargaining chip  
he was kidnapped to be ~ with Washington

**position, policy & negotiation / strategy: gambling**

### chip (chips fall, etc.)

let the chips fall where they may  
let's have the hearing and ~ (investigation)

let the chips fall where they will  
I'll say what I have to say, and ~ (Jordan Bernt Peterson)

chips may fall  
the ~ in ways that are uncomfortable for all sides

**fate, fortune & chance: tree**

### chip away (verb)

chip away at an employee's confidence  
he uses insults to ~ (bad boss)

chip away at our information  
these companies will never stop trying to ~ (Internet)

chip away at personal privacy  
big tech companies continue to stifle speech and ~

chipping away (at the edifice) with hammer or chisel  
lawyers are ~ (of personal responsibility)

**taking & removing: blade / verb**

## chloroform (noun)

chloroform in print  
Young Adult Literature is ~ (paraphrase of Mark Twain)

**consciousness & awareness: health & medicine**

## chocolate (African Americans)

‘chocolate cities’  
~ should be viewed as America’s heartland (Ernest Owens)

**identity & nature: color**

## choir (preach to the choir)

preaching to the choir  
they are ~ (sympathetic audience)  
we are ~ (a drug program / parents)

“preaching to the choir” problem  
the genre has a ~ (“cli-fi” books, films)

**message / unanimity & consensus: religion**

## choirboy (behavior)

choirboy  
he was a ~ compared to some of Hernandez’s other friends

**behavior: person / religion**

**person: religion**

## choke (verb)

choking on its own success  
China is ~ (pollution)

choke on those words  
Sanders would ~ (perfect is the enemy of good)

**acceptance & rejection / affliction / consumption /  
obstacles & impedance: bodily reaction / breathing / food  
& drink / throat / verb**

## choke (fail)

chokes during pressure  
she ~ (an athlete)

**success & failure: breathing / verb**

## choke chain (noun)

choke chain around its neck  
the Kim regime has an international ~, and we can tug it

♦ “Choke collar” is an entry in the dictionary I use, but not “choke chain.”  
Dictionary entries of words and phrases can be maddening! “Dollar yoke”  
also appears in the article that uses this phrase.

**constraint & lack of constraint: animal / breathing / chain /  
dog / pressure / violence**

## choked

choked with emotion  
..., he said, his voice ~

choked with people  
the prisons are ~ who stole to eat (Mexico)

choked with traffic  
crowded intersections ~ (Brooklyn)

boulder-choked  
the ~ Cheoah River in Graham County, North Carolina

briar-choked  
as a boy, he explored the ~ woods behind his house

cholesterol-choked  
he needs an operation for his ~ arteries

smoke-choked  
the firefighters ascended the ~ stairwell

traffic-choked  
it has been an average, ~ rush hour (Los Angeles)

weed-choked  
behind the house was a ~ garden  
the footbridge cross a ~ stream

**obstacles & impedance: breathing**

## chokepoint (noun)

choke points, bridges, tunnels  
identify ~ (military)

choke point or kill zone  
as the enemy moves into the ~

chokepoints in the Northwest Passage  
include one off Barrow, Alaska, and in Canada

choke points on interstates  
~ and state highways

world's choke points  
the ~—the Suez and Panama Canals, the Bab el Mandeb  
the ~—the Straits of Gibraltar, and the Malacca Strait

oil choke point  
Hormuz is the most important ~ in the world

important chokepoint  
it is one of the world's strategically ~ (Strait of Hormuz)

migratory chokepoint  
the Central Valley is an incredibly important ~ for birds

♦ This word seems to have arisen during World War II. Other words  
derived from warfare include *blockbuster*, *breakthrough*, *breakout*, and  
*basket case*.

**obstacles & impedance: breathing**

## choose (chose me, found me, etc.)

domesticated humans  
some say wheat ~

chose him  
history, in its many meanings, ~ (John Hope Franklin)

chooses me  
the part ~, I don't choose it (actor Peter O'Toole)

chose me  
golf ~, it's the most fun thing I have (Aditi Ashok)  
tennis ~ (Bernard Tomic)

found me  
boxing ~, I didn't have to look for it (Bilal Fawaz)

found him  
Tommy has never sought notoriety, it just sort of ~

shape us  
we shape our buildings and afterwards they ~

♦ "Tennis chose me. It's something I never fell in love with." (The extraordinary Bernard Tomic.)

♦ "History, in the many meanings of the term, chose him." ("John Hope Franklin: Race & the Meaning of America" by Drew Gilpin Faust, *New York Review*, December 17, 2015.)

♦ This idea, once so fresh, is becoming quite a cliché nowadays.

alternatives & choices: verb

## chop (get the chop, etc.)

getting the chop  
kids' shows are ~ as Netflix swings the ax (programming)

dismissal, removal & resignation: ax / blade / tools & technology

## chopping block (on the chopping block)

on the chopping block  
their heads will be ~ the next election (politics)  
my neck is ~ (accountability)  
many social services are ~  
their collective-bargaining rights are ~ (teachers)

put the school on the chopping block  
officials have ~ (underperforming)

fate, fortune & chance: ax / blade / head / neck

destruction: ax / blade / head / neck

dismissal, removal & resignation: ax / blade / head / neck

## chopping block (other)

keep the program off the chopping block  
supporters are trying to ~

saved from the chopping block  
19 schools were ~

taken off the chopping block  
some bus routes will be ~

dismissal, removal & resignation: ax / blade / head / neck

fate, fortune & chance: ax / blade / head / neck

destruction: ax / blade / head / neck

## chops (expertise)

chops to do the job

she proved she had the ~ (Pelosi / politics)

acting chops  
the film only rarely allows Elba to show his ~ (*Beast*)

curatorial chops  
she proved her ~ (an art show)

narrative audio chops  
NPR is looking for editors with ~ (job advertisement)

foreign-relations chops  
any candidate will have to show their ~ (election)

experience / knowledge & intelligence: music

ability & lack of ability: music

## chops (lick one's chops)

licking their chops  
energy companies are ~ at the prospect of new oil pipelines  
these guys are ~, they want to eat up the defense (NFL)

eagerness & reluctance: animal / bodily reaction / mouth

## chord (evidence)

chord of jealousy  
some Russians detect a ~ (attitudes to immigrants)

evidence: sound

## chord (strike a chord)

struck a chord with her book  
she clearly ~

struck a chord with the (American) public  
these cases have always ~ (capital cases)

striking a strong chord  
his message is ~ with voters (about corruption)

striking the wrong chord  
I'm terrified of ~ (a writer and cultural appropriation)

effect / feeling, emotion & effect: sound / verb

## choreographed

meticulously choreographed  
the Jan. 6 hearings were ~ (politics)

♦ "Instead, the Jan. 6 hearings were meticulously choreographed... Unlike typical congressional hearings, these would have a script. 'Every word was intentional,' one senior staff member recalled. 'Nothing was spontaneous.'" ("Inside the Jan. 6 Committee" by Robert Draper and Luke Broadwater, *The New York Times Magazine*, January 1, 2023.)

directing / performance: theater

## chorus (chorus of critics, etc.)

chorus of (outraged) denunciation from liberals  
the term brought a ~ (Asianization)

chorus of critics  
every four years a ~ calls for an end to conventions

joined a chorus  
she ~ of Democrats who have called on Mr. Barr to resign

led a chorus

Iran's Javad Zarif~, calling the picture inappropriate

**amount & effect: music / speech**

**unanimity & consensus: music / speech**

## chorus (resemblance)

dawn chorus

birdlife, we had this incredibly vibrant ~ (extinction)

**resemblance: music**

## Chris Farley (Chris Farley of silent cinema, etc.)

Chris Farley of silent cinema

"Fatty" Arbuckle was the ~ (beloved, pratfalls, etc.)

**allusion: film & TV**

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## christen (verb)

christened it the "green hell"

travelers ~ (Mato Grosso)

christened the plane the A320neo

Airbus ~

**characterization: religion / verb**

## Christmas

Christmas

May is the ~ of the limousine business (proms)

Christmas list

see *Christmas (Christmas list)*

**superlative: epithet / day**

**epithet: day**

## Christmas (Christmas list)

Christmas list of unrelated progressive spending

the bill is a ~ (politics)

**amount / wants, needs, hopes & goals: day**

## chum (noun)

chumboxes

Outbrain and Taboola specialize in ~ (clickbait)

internet chum

he pulled up a Blogspot page bloated with ~

political chum

Biden and his allies use that as ~ ("fund the police")

♦ "A mysterious gut doctor is begging Americans to throw out 'this vegetable' now. But, like, which?" by Kaitlyn Tiffany, Vox, May 8, 2019.

♦ see also *clickbait (noun)*

**attraction & repulsion: fish / hunting**

## chunk (amount)

chunk of that traffic

people in the US are the biggest ~ (to Pornhub)

**amount: materials & substances**

## church (noun)

church

it's my ~, it's my cathedral (Yosemite on foot in winter)

♦ "It has become my church, my therapists, my playgrounds, and my gym." (Bradley Noone, a 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division veteran about Camp Hale, recently designated a National Monument. Bradley served in Afghanistan.)

**enthusiasm / reverence: religion**

## Churchillian (adjective)

Churchillian expressions

he was fond of ~ like "our flesh and blood..." (a Zionist)

**military: epithet**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## churn (move)

churned up the coast

a winter storm ~

churn through the (criminal justice) system

millions of people ~

**movement: force / verb**

**force: movement / verb**

## churn out (verb)

churn out books

she continued to ~, among other pursuits (comic)

churn out so much content

there is pressure to ~ (films post-COVID)

churn out (unneeded advanced) degrees

universities continue to ~

churn out jobs

small firms also ~ (economy)

churns out (around six and a half gallons of) milk

the cow ~ a day

churns out misinformation

the rumor mill ~

churning out the (popular) model

Boeing has been ~ at a breakneck rate (a plane)

churn out products

factories ~

churn out great product

I ~ (Questlove)

**creation & transformation: manufacturing / tools & technology / verb**

## cide (femicide, etc.)

ecocide

~, should killing nature be a crime

femicide

victims of ~ (women of Peru)

Mexican Women stay home to protest ~s

Francocide

~ (the murder of French people by immigrants)

genocide

see *genocide* (noun)

♦ "There's a name for the killing of women because of their gender: femicide." (Mexico.)

♦ "At least he's putting words to the problem." (A Frenchman at an Eric Zemmour rally about the term 'Francocide,' or the murder of French people by immigrants.)

**death & life: affix**

**inclusion & exclusion: affix**

**Cinderella**

Cinderella of Tech

she was hailed as the ~ (Sophia Amoruso)

Cinderella Man

the real-life ~ (Steve Bunce talks about Maxi Hughes)

Cinderella story

T.M. Landry school has become a viral ~

Cinderella team

France will play Morocco, the ~ of the tournament (Qatar)  
we're a ~, they say we don't belong (NCAA championship)

♦ This story relates to "unjust oppression and triumphant reward."

♦ "T.M. Landry school has become a viral Cinderella story, a small school...whose predominantly black, working-class students have escaped the rural South for the nation's most elite colleges. A video of a 16-year-old student opening his Harvard acceptance letter las year has been viewed more than eight million times." ("Louisiana School Made Headlines for Sending Black Kids to Elite Colleges. Here's the Reality" by Erica L. Green and Katie Benner, *The New York Times*, Nov. 30, 2018.)

♦ "It's been six years of trying times—so strange when one day you're Cinderella, so to speak, and then in 0.6 seconds, you're Quasimodo." (The actor Johnny Depp, about how people's attitudes towards him have changed.)

♦ "They didn't consider themselves to be a Cinderella, an underdog... (A College football team.)

♦ "FAU doesn't want to be called a Cinderella because they believe they are good enough to be here and good enough to keep winning." (The NCAA college basketball tournament. A cute headline in The Washington Post read, "FAU doesn't want the slipper, it wants March Madness crown.")

♦ "The Bucks had the best regular season record, it was the Miami Heat that beat them, and then they took game one of the Knicks on the road in New York, I'm like, they're the lowest seeded team left, so are the Heat the slipper-wearing Cinderella team of the playoffs?" (A Martinez, from "NBA playoffs enter round 2 with no clear favorite," NPR, Morning Edition, May 2, 2023.)

♦ The Cinderella story has been cinematic catnip... (*Princess Diaries*; *Ever After*; *Two Weeks Notice*; *Ella Enchanted*; *Made In Manhattan*; *Pretty Woman*, etc.)

**oppression / success & failure: allusion**

**allusion: books & reading**

**circle (predation)**

circling

his rivals are ~ (politics)

the vultures are already ~ on the web (health of official)

**behavior: animal / bird / predation / shark / verb**

**circle (a circle can close)**

circle is closing

the ~ (around Saddam's regime / Iraqi Freedom)

a ~ (memories of Holocaust dim)

a ~ (Israeli Holocaust survivor returns to free Berlin)

♦ This expression seems to relate to the completion of a development, to something being finished.

**development / fate, fortune & chance / reconciliation,**

**resolution & conclusion: geometry / shape**

**circle (full circle)**

full-circle moment

it's very much this ~ (vagaries of fate)

comes full circle

this week she ~ (ends career where it started)

**development: geometry / shape**

**circle (run circles around somebody)**

running circles around us

China is ~ (in technology)

**superiority & inferiority: verb / walking, running & jumping**

**circle (go in circles)**

going in circles

we're just ~

**failure, accident & impairment / progress & lack of**

**progress: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb**

**circle back (return)**

circle back to something

let's ~ you mentioned, Marcia... (talk show)

circle back to the United States

I want to ~... (changing the subject, talk radio)

circle you back to the question

so let me ~ I posed at the onset (talk radio)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: direction /**

**journeys & trips / movement / verb**

**past & present: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb**

**circle back (judgment)**

circled back to you

this has all ~ (sex abuser gets long sentence)

**judgment / responsibility / reversal: justice / verb**

**circled**

circled by a (jogging) trail

the park is ~

circled with (high) walls

the towns are ~ (Palestine)

**configuration: shape**

## **circuit breaker (noun)**

circuit breaker

a ~ is a short period of tightened restrictions (COVID)

circuit breakers

can ~ stop rumors on Facebook or Twitter

used as “circuit breakers”

lockdowns should be ~ (pandemic)

**control & lack of control: electricity / tools & technology**

**curtailment: electricity / tools & technology**

## **circus (media circus, etc.)**

circus

this case was a ~ (O. J. Simson trial)

the ~ that is now our political system (New Age candidate)

boxing is a ~ at times (sanctioning bodies / rankings)

circus of the literary circuit

he found the ~ insufferable

circus act

he's a ~ and he's killing boxing (a troubled boxer)

2019 circus

the ~ led directly to casualties (crowding on Mt. Everest)

travelling circus

the heavyweight division is little more than a ~ (boxing)

walking circus

he is seen as a ~ by some (a flamboyant boxer)

media circus

he became the attention of a ~

publicity circus

he is a one-man ~ (Richard Branson)

unbelievable circus

most Americans won't watch this ~ (government hearing)

♦ “The heavyweight division used to be the pinnacle of the sport but now it's little more than a travelling circus where the ring masters behind the scenes lift your wallets by putting on a clown show.” (Captain Y-Fronts, on BBC's HYS about the Fury-Schwarz fight.)

♦ “The circus is back in town, might be a new ringmaster but the clowns are still all there.” (Manchester United 1-Brighton 2.)

♦ “Tottenham is a circus and the clowns are in charge.” (Soccer snark.)

♦ “The thing that keeps the whole circus moving is money.” (The English Premier League / soccer.)

♦ “Celebrity trails are relatively frequent, and they are often media circuses.” (Harvey Weinstein, Danny Masterson, Johnny Depp versus Amber Heard, Gwyneth Paltrow, etc. From “Gwyneth Paltrow's Trial Is Her Best Role in Years” by Naomi Fry, *The New Yorker*, March 30, 2023.)

♦ “Oh my gosh, that girl is doing all those circus tricks...” (U.S. consumers of porn.)

**behavior / performance / resemblance: circus**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: circus**

## **citadel (the Citadel, etc.)**

Citadel LLC

~ is one of the world's largest asset managers (\$35 billion)

the Citadel

~, the Military College of South Carolina

Operation Citadel

~ was the German attack that initiated the Battle of Kursk

**proper name: fortification**

## **citadel (noun)**

citadel of our democracy

the Capitol is the very ~

citadel of segregation

whites detected a crumbling in the ~ (the South)

citadels of free inquiry

universities are supposed to be ~ but... (campus censorship)

attacks on citadels

this was only one of Valla's ~ of orthodoxy

**protection & lack of protection: fortification / military**

## **citizen (as verb)**

citizen

“to ~” is to participate, understand power

“to~” is to value the collective, invest in relationships

♦ “First, to citizen is to participate. It's a verb, not a noun, not an adjective. It's to show up. All right?” (“How To Citizen With Baratunde,” a production of iHeartRadio Podcasts.)

**inclusion & exclusion: part of speech**

## **civil war (noun)**

civil war within the world

it's nothing less than a ~ football (proposed ESL league)

**conflict: military**

## **claim (stake a claim)**

staking his claim to be the moderate

he is ~ (a politician)

laid claim to the feminist mantle

she has ~

**possession: boundary / ground, terrain & land / surveying**

## **claim (kill)**

claimed (an estimated) 10,000 lives

a killer heat wave ~ (France)

claimed (more than) 16,000 lives

the virus has ~

**death & life: euphemism**

## **claim (take)**

claimed another big scalp

Palace ~ (victory against Tottenham Hotspur)

claim a seat

the drive was on to ~ at the table (minority poets)

claimed victory

he ~ in a photo finish (Mathieu van der Poel)

**taking & removing: hand / verb**

**fictive possession: hand / verb**

## clamor (verb)

clamoring for an investigation

they have been ~ of the investigators (politics)

clamor for playlists and show lineups

listeners ~ that reflect diversity (Blacks, gays, etc.)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / conflict / resistance,**

**opposition & defeat: sound / verb**

## clampdown (noun)

clampdown

flights have been cancelled since the ~ began (eruption)

clampdown by the authorities on credit

a new ~ could hurt domestic demand

clampdown on opponents

the arrest are part of a broader ~

government clampdown

the ~ includes a strict curfew

major clampdown

security forces engaged in a ~

vicious clampdown

the ~ has estranged millions from the regime

promoted a clampdown on intellectuals

the government ~

**pressure: tools & technology**

**coercion & motivation: pressure**

**oppression: pressure**

## clamp down (verb)

clamp down on criminal activity

we must ~ in the informational sphere (ransomware)

**pressure: tools & technology / verb**

**coercion & motivation: pressure / verb**

**oppression: pressure / verb**

## clap (noun)

claps from 49 people

~ for "A message from Coinbase CEO..."

**achievement, recognition & praise: sign, signal, symbol / sound**

## clap back (contempo-speak / verb)

claps back at (Lightfoot's) comments

Chicago alderman ~ about his father

clapping back at criticism

she is ~ of her looks (an actor)

claps back at critics

Kristin Davis ~

claps back at haters

she ~ over her wrestling name (Scissor Melong)

clapped back at the person

she ~ for being sexist (accused her of wearing vulgar dress)

♦ Tagged by Wiktionary as African-American Vernacular and gay slang.

**resistance, opposition & defeat: sound / gesture / verb**

**contempo-speak: language**

## clap back (contempo-speak / noun)

satisfying clap back

Oh this is a very ~ (Greta Thunberg's vs. Andrew Tate)

♦ The verb is tagged by Wiktionary as African-American Vernacular and gay slang.

♦ Andrew Tate's response to Greta Thunberg's clap back has not gotten the credit it deserves. It was, "How dare you?!", which Greta herself had said previously, in a different context, and which is a meme. Funny! Who can keep up?

♦ "Sam [Sanders of NPR] has been writing recently about tweetstorms, and we used that as part of a broader conversation about the culture place and execution of the 'clapback' (whether it still needs quotation marks is up for debate, but we'll play it safe)." ("Pop Culture Happy Hour: 'Fate Of The Furious' Plus Clapbacks and Feuds" by Linda Holmes, NPR, Pop Culture Happy Hour, April 21, 2017.)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: sound / gesture / verb**

**contempo-speak: language**

## clarify (verb)

clarify details

law enforcement attempted to ~ Thursday (Uvalde)

**amelioration & renewal / comprehension &**

**incomprehension: light & dark / verb**

## clarity (adjective)

clarity on how

we need full ~ such a tragedy happened (Flight 752)

clarity of purpose

without scrutiny, there could be no ~ (war)

**concealment & lack of concealment: eye / light & dark**

## clash (verb)

clashed with the network

but he ~ and resigned (a reporter)

clashes with these local laws

what happens when free speech ~ (Twitter in India, etc.)

**conflict: sound / verb**

## clash (noun)

clash

the ~ showed how a small spark could ignite another war

clash with Henry Kissinger

he left government after a ~

generational clash

this is a ~ between two progressives (politics)

maritime clash

the ~ has hardened opinion

wild clash

a ~ erupted during a motorcycle rally

**conflict: sound**

### **claw (verb)**

fought and clawed

once you've ~ your way up the tenure ladder (academia)

scratch and claw

she is going to ~ for the maximum she can get (politics)

**conflict / difficulty, easiness & effort: animal / verb**

**behavior / conflict: animal / verb**

### **claw (noun)**

claw of the pincer

he wanted to see the southern ~ on the map (war)

tooth and claw

Nature, red in ~

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / hunting / predation**

### **clay (noun)**

soft clay

he is ~, you can manipulate him (politics)

**creation & transformation: materials & substances**

**character & personality: materials & substances**

### **clean (verb)**

clean the cesspool

they are trying to ~ (of the Web)

clean our shame

kill yourself and ~ or we will kill you first (honor killing)

**amelioration & renewal: hygiene / verb**

### **clean (computer / verb)**

clean

confirm tracker removal ~

**computer: hygiene / verb**

### **clean (come clean)**

came clean

he ~ and confirmed what many had suspected

come clean

if you're a sinner, ~ (a preacher)

instead of letting the questions fester, why not ~

come clean about the origins

they have refused to ~ of the coronavirus

come clean with the information

they should ~ they have (nuclear power plant)

**concealment & lack of concealment: hygiene / verb**

**amelioration & renewal: hygiene / verb**

**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: hygiene / verb**

### **clean (a clean record, etc.)**

clean

my name is ~ (falsely convicted, then exonerated)

she has been ~ for two years (an addict)

clean of corruption

he is widely viewed as ~ (government)

clean (final) draft

the writer finally produced a ~ (on a typewriter)

clean money

it's hard to separate dirty money from ~ (sports)

clean, evocative prose

he crafts imaginative narratives using ~

clean (driving) record

I have a ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: hygiene**

### **clean out (verb)**

clean them out

if there are any VC in there, that will sure as hell ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation: hygiene / verb**

### **cleans (make clean)**

cleansed his rhetoric of cliché

the murk of the trenches ~ (Wilfred Owen)

cleansed him of this sins

being Obama's vice-president ~ (Joe Biden)

**amelioration & renewal: hygiene / verb / water**

**dismissal, removal & resignation: hygiene / verb / water**

### **cleans (violence)**

cleans the area of agents

we must ~

cleans the Foca area of Muslims

the purpose of the Serb campaign was "to ~"

cleansing their enemies

they are ~ (government loyalists against protestors)

**violence: euphemism / hygiene / verb**

### **cleansing (ethnic cleansing)**

victims of ethnic cleansing

they claim they are the ~

**violence: euphemism / hygiene**

### **clean up (speech)**

cleaned up the language

they have ~ to make Mark Twain available to schools

**speech: hygiene / verb**

## clean up (improve)

clean up your act  
you need to ~

clean up your document  
review and ~ (text document)

clean up its image  
in a drive to ~, the club holds charity events (bikers)

clean up L.A.  
he unsuccessfully ran on a law-and-order platform to “~”

clean up the mess  
he has had to ~ the previous administration created  
we need to ~ in government (politician)

cleaning up this mess  
we're ~ (diplomacy)

clean up (Mexico's human rights) record  
Fox has promised to ~, but...

clean up her reputation  
if the book is seen as an attempt to ~...

clean up their resumes  
even engineers have learned to ~

clean up the sport  
it may be impossible to ~ of cycling (Tour de France)

clean up the (education) system  
it will be difficult to ~

♦ “Some day a real rain will come and wash the scum off the streets.”  
(The film *Taxi Driver*.)

**amelioration & renewal: hygiene / verb**

## cleanup (military)

cleanup operation  
she was a victim of a government ~ against the rebels

**violence: euphemism / hygiene / military**

## clear (crystal clear)

crystal-clear  
it was ~ that...

crystal clear  
the Second Amendment is ~

crystal-clear (m)  
the trouble is the show doesn't have a ~ message

**certainty & uncertainty: eye / light & dark**

**comprehension & incomprehension: eye / light & dark**

## clear (perception)

clear picture  
confused parents have no ~ of their kids

clear seeing  
the crystal was the symbol of the mind and of ~ (Navaho)

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye / light & dark**  
**comprehension & incomprehension: eye / light & dark**

## clear (clear conscience)

clear conscience  
you can sell them to widows and orphans with a ~

**guilt: light & dark**

## clear (in the clear / into the clear)

out of the woods and into the clear  
we are not ~ yet (pandemic)

♦ An ABC news reader, speaking about a resurgence of COVID, warned, “Another reminder that we are not out of the clear just yet.” Surely, she meant, “out of the woods and into the clear.”

♦ “You can only go halfway into the darkest forest, then you are coming out the other side.” (Chinese.)

**danger / obstacles & impedance / survival, persistence & endurance: forest / journeys & trips**

## clear (unambiguous)

clear  
it was not ~ how many would take the advice  
it is not ~ if...  
it's not ~ how long the warming cycle will last  
make it ~ that it was nobody's fault  
as many writings of the frontier era make ~  
the specific target of the threats was not ~ (terrorism)  
dirty air is often blamed, but its role isn't ~ (asthma)  
the cause of the blast was not immediately ~

clear to him  
what was ~ was invisible to others (native tracker)

clear how  
it's not ~ one would deter an attack like 9/11

clear whether  
he did not make ~ he supported a timeline or a deadline

clear if  
it is not ~ they are using any sterile technique at all

clear directions  
the nurse must give ~ (when delegating tasks)

clear evidence  
we see ~ that...

clear goal  
the decisive use of force with a ~ (military)

clear indication  
the results from this testing provided the first ~ of...

clear link  
no ~ between thimerosal and autism has been found

clear objectives  
establish ~ (warfare)

clear (but unstated) objective  
the ~ was to...

clear proof  
the company had ~ the drug was dangerous

clear provenance  
museums should refuse antiquities without a ~

clear sign  
take it as a ~ he's not interested

clear signal  
no ~s from the miners had been heard since... (cave-in)

clear strategy  
we need a ~ to achieve those goals (Iraq)

clear threat  
the town seemed under ~ of destruction (wildfire)

clear warnings  
the pilot missed ~ and crashed (airport)

clear warnings  
signs should give ~ of the end of the detour (military)

clear directions and instructions  
did the nurse give ~

clear guidelines  
have ~ on what behavior is not acceptable

clear, concise (m)  
the commander issues ~ orders and guidance

clear, concise, and complete  
make the text ~ (military message)

clear and consistent  
be ~ (disciplining a toddler)

clear and convincing  
there is no ~ proof that...

clear and present  
experts see a ~ danger (terrorism / Olympics)

clear and thorough  
explains information in a ~ manner (nurse assistant)

clear, unambiguous  
provide ~ instructions (teachers)

become clear  
it has ~ that reversing it will require... (global warming)

make clear  
as many writings of the frontier era ~  
he did not ~ if he supported a timeline or a deadline

make it clear  
~ that it was nobody's fault

made his position clear  
he ~

**certainty & uncertainty: eye / light & dark**  
**comprehension & incomprehension: light & dark**

## clear-eyed (adjective)

clear-eyed about the risks  
we are ~

**consciousness & awareness: eye**

## clear up (verb)

clear (all) this up  
he could ~ by releasing the records (controversy)

**amelioration & renewal: light & dark / verb**

## click (verb)

clicking  
the team is ~

**functioning: sound / verb**

## clickbait (noun)

clickbait  
~ is being replaced by subscriber bait (paywalls)  
~ will be with us always

video clickbait  
"ripped from the headlines" docs can function as ~

forms of "click bait"  
catchy headlines and other ~ (information and warfare)

dismissed the claims as clickbait  
McGraw's personal attorney ~

referred to the article as "clickbait"  
he ~ (a sports controversy)

- ♦ 'Explosive sex' wins top wildlife photo award (BBC)
- ♦ Scientists discover clitorises in female snakes (BBC)
- ♦ Do Dolphins living near Wales have a Welsh accent? (BBC)
- ♦ Gorilla Behaves Weird, Then Staff Notices His... (Yahoo)
- ♦ A Tasty Looking Moon And Sharing Caring Chimpanzees (NPR)
- ♦ "Airlines hate when you do this (but can't stop you)!" (Substitute "Amazon" for "Airlines," or any other entity you can think of. Tiresome. To paraphrase the great Sir Edmund Hillary, "It's all clickbait on the internet these days." ("It's all bullshit on Everest these days," 2003.)
- ♦ Space sleeping bag to stop squashed eyeball disorder (BBC)
- ♦ Teachers 'should not be crawling on ice for money' (ABC)
- ♦ Canada's 6,000-year-old 'Silk Road' (BBC. The article is about the Nuxalk-Carrier Grease Trail in British Columbia, which is 279 miles long.)
- ♦ "In the disinformation world, we know that those questioning headlines are just clickbait." (For example, "Can you have sex while pregnant?" Many pregnancy apps not only spread misinformation but also have the malign intent to make money off of pregnant women.)
- ♦ "Yet another clickbait title and I fell for it." (An online commenter reacting to an article about Sydney Sweeney. So did I!)
- ♦ "Nobody pays any attention to this gibberish outside of media looking for clicks. Which of course worked on me." (Clicker's remorse.)
- ♦ "Extremists and political opportunists trying to get clicks..."
- ♦ see also *chum* (noun)

**attraction & repulsion / computer / pursuit, capture & escape: hunting**

## cliff (glass cliff)

got pushed off a glass cliff  
she ~ (set up to fail)

♦ This is a variation of the glass ceiling. It refers to putting a woman or minority in a position of power in a bad organization, in which they are bound to fail.

**destruction: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills**

## cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.)

eviction cliff  
the bill will prevent them from falling off an ~ (relief)

fiscal cliff  
the country is headed off a ~ of runaway spending

on the edge of the cliff  
we're ~, we don't have much time to back away (diplomacy)

dropped off a cliff  
I noticed that sales just ~ (online fake negative reviews)

fell off a cliff  
but then demand ~ (poor economy)

fallen off a cliff  
venture capital investing ~ (low returns)

fallen off an economic cliff  
we have just ~ (recession)

going over a cliff  
the economy is ~

push American off a (fiscal) cliff  
political paralysis may ~

fall off a cliff tomorrow  
we're not going to ~ in terms of vaccine efficiency (mutations)

♦ "He has put himself on a one-way road heading toward a cliff and there is no turning back."

♦ "Social Media made everyone narcissistic. I feel like the world went off a cliff around 2007/2008." (An online commenter about 4 maternity nurses who got fired for disparaging patients on TikTok.)

**decline / destruction / fate, fortune & chance: direction / ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills / verb**

## climate (work climate, etc.)

climate of cooperation  
a ~ between the media and police

climate of fear  
there is still a pervasive ~ (Basra under Baath control)

climate of (growing) hostility  
coming of age in a ~ to immigration

climate of intimidation  
an election marred by low turnout and a ~

climate of violence  
a ~ has always run through American politics

climate of fear and anxiety

people are living in a ~

climate of fear and intimidation  
people live in a ~ (Iraq / Baath party)

climate of backlash  
today in the ~ against bilingual education

climate review  
Harvard College conducted what it referred to as a "~"

Zimbabwe's poisonous political climate  
the report details ~

command climate  
our ~ surveys measure toxic leadership (military)  
you are accountable for true ~ (military officers)

investment climate  
the nanotechnology ~ is warming up

work climate  
a negative ~ is created

classroom climate  
establish a ~ that supports learning  
create a ~ that is accepting, comfortable, and noncompetitive

revenue-driven climate  
UCLA is in a ~ (coach fired for losing record)

bitter (political) climate  
the increasingly ~ ahead of elections next summer

negative (work) climate  
a ~ is created

poisonous (political and rhetorical) climate  
politics suffers from a ~

political climate  
the increasingly bitter ~ ahead of elections  
a reporter asked him if he was afraid, given the ~

racial climate  
the ~ in our country today

social climate  
the ~ is bad there (a black / U-Michigan)

tense climate  
the ~ following the terrorist attacks

toxic (command) climate  
he fostered a ~ (military)

create a (classroom) climate  
~ that is accepting, comfortable, and noncompetitive

fostered a (toxic command) climate  
he ~ (military)

improve (class) climate  
~ through incentives or rewards (teachers)

maintain a climate  
we struggle to ~ that meets our expectations (rape in military)

♦ "In 2009, Sullivan had become the first Black person to be appointed a faculty dean at Harvard College, and he presided over Winthrop House, an undergraduate residence. Dozens of students protested his defence of [Harvey] Weinstein and called for his resignation as dean. Although a majority of the law-school faculty signed a petition defending Sullivan, Harvard College conducted what it referred to as a 'climate review' of Winthrop House, and on My 23th announced that Sullivan's position as dean would not be renewed, adding that his dismissal was not directly caused by his representation of Weinstein." ("Harvey Weinstein's Last Campaign" by Ken Auletta, *The New Yorker*, June 6, 2022.)

♦ A FUNNY CARTOON (that is not so funny, actually). In the *Chicago Tribune*, on August 2, 2012, the Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist Dick Locher published a cartoon that relates the weather to the US climate of violence. It shows a TV weatherman, pointing to a weather map of the US with highs and lows. The caption reads, "LIGHT TO MODERATE GUNFIRE WITH OCCASIONAL SHOWERS OF AUTOMATIC WEAPON FIRE COUPLED WITH INTERMITTENT GUN SALES ACTIVITY AND SCATTERED DRIVE-BY SHOOTINGS."

**environment:** air / atmosphere / weather & climate

**feeling, emotion & effect:** air / atmosphere / weather & climate

## climax (noun)

climax

antagonism reached a ~ in 1994 (illegal immigrants)

climax of the Hajj

the Standing on Mount Arafat is the ~

climax of my career

covering Hajj is the ~ (a journalist)

climax of the (religious) festival

Shia pilgrims flocked to Karbala for the ~ (Ashura)

climax of the pilgrimage

the short trek to Mount Arafat, marking the ~

marks the climax

the ceremony ~ of the summer season (battlefield)

nearing a climax

the drama is ~ (who to select as goalkeeper)

reached its climax

partisan politics ~ with the impeachment

**development:** theater

## climb (scale)

climbed a (well-worn) immigrant ladder

Chaudri ~ (dishwasher, cab driver)

way to climb

the people of Africa have a long ~

**attainment / progress & lack of progress:** direction / mountains & hills / movement / verb

## climb (increase)

climbed to 612

as Los Angeles' murder count ~ for the year

climbed to 40 degrees

as the temperature ~

climbed in velocity

the wind suddenly switched in direction and ~ (ship)

climbed 21%

Nokia earnings ~

climbed to \$70

the price of a barrel of oil ~

continued to climb

as gasoline prices ~ last week

continues to climb

the online population ~

started climbing

in the 1980s the numbers of TV deaths in the US ~

earnings climbed

Nokia ~ 21%

**increase & decrease:** direction / number / verb

## climb (roads, etc.)

climbs the (green) slopes

Highway 37 ~ of Haleakala (Hawaii)

**route:** direction

**fictive motion:** verb

## climb down (verb)

climbed down from his decision

he has ~ to expel US diplomats

climb down from all this

how do you ~ (diplomatic problem)

**reversal:** direction / verb

## climbdown (noun)

climbdown came

the ~ after threats from FIFA (no "OneLove" armbands)

**reversal:** direction

## climber (social climber, etc.)

determined climber

he was a ~ (a young drug lord)

**society:** person

## cling (verb)

cling on

he tried to ~ by offering new elections

cling to the belief

some parents ~ that vaccines cause autism

cling to their faith

the people here ~ (after Uvalde school shooting)

clings to her

it's a deeply embarrassing episode that still ~ today (singer)

cling to hope

families ~ as the search for survivors continues

clung to his innocence

a large minority ~ (guilty verdict)

cling to their own language  
in this region of China, where Tibetans ~ (Qinghai)

clings to life  
Paret in coma, ~ (Benny Paret / boxing)

clinging to life  
he is in the hospital, ~  
he is critical and ~ (shot)

clung to the marriage  
she ~ for longer than she should have

cling to the past  
it's foolish to ~ (an opinion)

clinging to power  
how is he ~ (Maduro)

cling to their language and customs  
the Berbers in the Kabylia region ~

clung to the hope  
some convicts ~ of a last-minute pardon

clung to the traditions  
Trinidad has ~ of carnival

clung to the (fading) values  
he ~ of honor and omerta (mobster)

**attachment / possession: hand / verb**  
**survival, persistence & endurance: hand / verb**  
**clingly (adjective)**

possessive and (more) clingy  
he got more ~ towards her (abusive relationship)

**feeling, emotion & effect / possession: hand**  
**attachment / character & personality: hand**  
**cloak (conceal)**

cloaks itself in "Christian" values  
the party cynically ~

cloak a bully's identity  
the Internet can ~

**concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / clothing & accessories / verb**

**cloak (under a cloak)**

under a cloak of secrecy  
she arrived in Yemen ~ (government official)

**concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / clothing & accessories**

**cloak (in a cloak)**

in the cloak of journalism  
gossip is dressed ~

in the cloak of reform and patriotism

scoundrels shroud themselves ~

**concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / clothing & accessories**

**cloak (cloak of secrecy, etc.)**

cloak of legality  
judges twisted the law to give a ~ to crimes

cloak of respectability  
a deal built on rank expediency needed a ~ (Kenya)

cloak of secrecy  
the White House has reaffirmed the ~ (Area 51)  
the air force hung a ~ over the mission (X-37B)

cloak for (business-friendly) politicians  
reform can provide a ~ to appear respectable

invisibility cloak  
Tor's protocol is a kind of digital ~

cover themselves in the (righteous) cloak  
they ~ of religion (blasphemy laws)

reformer cloak  
he has donned the ~

constitutional cloak  
club members wrap themselves in a ~ (men only club)

hung a cloak (of secrecy) over the mission  
the air force ~ (X-37B)

**concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / clothing & accessories**

**cloaked (covered)**

mist-cloaked  
the dispute centers over the ~ region of Tawang (India)

**configuration / cover: clothing & accessories**

**cloaked (concealed)**

cloaked in the mantle  
blasphemy laws are ~ of religion

**concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / clothing & accessories**

**cloak and dagger**

cloak-and-dagger precautions  
they took elaborate ~

**subterfuge: clothing & accessories / sign, signal, symbol**

**lobber (verb)**

verbally lobber  
Rock used his comedy special to ~ Smith for slapping him

**accusation & criticism: fist / verb**

**lobbered (by rain, etc.)**

lobbered by (relentless) rain

San Diego has been ~

**storm: force**

### clock (turn back the clock)

turn back the clock

- you can't ~ (return to the past)
- maybe we can ~ (relationship)
- we don't want to ~ (plunging vaccination rates)

turn the clock back

- how do you ~ at this point (Gibraltar and sovereignty)

turn back the clock some twenty years

- one needs to ~ to understand how... (history)

turn back the clock (about) a hundred years

- when we ~...

turn back the clock on aging

- a wrinkle cream that promises to ~

turn back the clock on (racial) progress

- they accuse him of helping to ~ (a judge)

turn back the clock on voting rights

- they are trying to ~ (Supreme Court rejects early voting)

try to turn back the clock

- are we going to stay quiet as they ~ (a protest)

**past & present / time: clock / direction / verb**

### clock (types)

body clock

- the best way to follow your natural ~

ticking (biological) clock

- her pursuit to satisfy the ~

biological clock

- jet lag and the ~
- her ~ is ticking (motherhood)

reproductive clocks

- men's ~ are also ticking as they age (low sperm counts)

**time: clock**

### clock (race with the clock, etc.)

in a race with the clock

- we are ~

racing the clock

- we are ~ trying to prevent another tragedy (serial bombs)
- they were ~, tying up their oyster boat (hurricane)

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: clock**

**competition / time: clock**

### clock (clock winds down, etc.)

clock is winding down

- the ~ to the strike deadline

clock has run out

- now the ~ (Brexit negotiations)

clock runs out

- concerns about what happens when the ~ (diplomacy)

**time / timeliness & lack of timeliness: clock**

### clock (clock is ticking, etc.)

clock in the back of your head

- you have this ~ of how much time you can spend (Everest)

ticking clock

- he filed the notice to gain the advantage of a ~ (legal matter)
- they are also facing a ~ since... (an investigation)

clock is ticking

- and now, the ~ (to a royal wedding)
- the ~ (legal decision setting a deadline)

clock is ticking on his benefits

- the ~ (unemployed)

clocks are (also) ticking

- men's reproductive ~ as they age (decreasing sperm counts)

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: clock**

**time: clock**

### clock (around the clock)

work around the clock

- we will ~ to fix the problem

**direction: clock**

### clock (reset the clock)

clock has been reset

- the ~ (deadline extended)

**time / timeliness & lack of timeliness: clock**

### clock (run the clock, etc.)

run out the clock

- the strategy is to punt to the courts and ~ (politics)

run the clock down

- all the Giants had to do now was ~ (NFL game)

♦ "Do they think they're winning and they just have to not screw it up, and are they running the clock?" (Republican operative Dan Senor on Biden's debate strategy and election campaign.)

**action, inaction & delay: clock / football / sports & games / verb**

### clockwork (noun)

clockwork universe

- the metaphor of a ~ (Bishop Nicole d'Oresme)
- the ticks and tocks of a ~ (savagery)

understand the (entire) clockwork

- now we ~ better than ever before (Polarstern MOSAiC)

**operation: mechanism**

### clog (noun)

clog

- such ~s affect users (distributed denial of service)

clog disappeared  
highway officials added one lane and the ~ (traffic)

**obstacles & impedance: water**

## clogged

clogged with people  
Mexico's courts and jails are ~ like Hurtado

clogged with rubbish  
alleyways ~

clogged with traffic  
the Central Artery is ~ day and night (Boston)

clogged with (cheap Chinese) motorbikes  
streets are ~

clogged artery  
Boston's ~ (the Central Artery)

clogged roads  
he is perturbed by ~ (Seattle)

Mercedes-clogged  
we snaked our way through the ~ streets

snow-clogged  
a ~ mountain pass  
keeping commuters off ~ streets and highways (blizzard)

traffic-clogged  
at the intersection of a ~ street

streets are clogged  
~ with cheap Chinese motorbikes (Ho Chi Minh City)

**obstacles & impedance: water**  
**amount & effect: water**

## cloistered

cloistered himself in his (hotel) room  
he ~ (from reporters)

cloistered atmosphere  
she felt secure within the ~ (psychiatric ward)

remain cloistered  
the Wakhis ~ in their world of wind and ice

**avoidance & separation / division & connection / isolation**  
**& remoteness / protection & lack of protection: religion /**  
**place**

## close (close to, etc.)

close to losing  
I was ~ my temper

**proximity: distance**

## close (future)

close  
the deadline is ~

**proximity: distance**

**future / time: distance**

## close (feeling)

close  
we're very close (relationship)

close family  
we're such a ~ (ethnic Puerto Rican-American)

keeps memories of her late grandfather close  
she ~

♦ "You don't get close to your lieutenants because they're going to die."  
(A captain. Heavy combat. The Vietnam War.)

**proximity: distance**

**division & connection / feeling, emotion & effect /**  
**relationship / social interaction: distance / proximity**

## close (and close-run)

close-run thing  
reaching the depots in time was often a ~ (in Antarctica)  
that was a pretty ~ (death sentence commuted)  
I think it will be a ~ (vote of confidence / Parliament)

nearest-run thing  
the ~ you ever saw in your life (Wellington / Waterloo)

**fate, fortune & chance: proximity**

**competition: horse**

## close call (danger)

close call  
I could have died, it was a ~

**danger / fate, fortune & chance: proximity**

## close-minded (adjective)

called his critics close-minded  
he ~

**mind: container**

## close shave

close shave  
it was a ~ (narrow escape)

♦ "Death is as close as your jugular and as far away as the ends of the earth." (Fate.)

**danger: blade / hair / proximity**

**fate, fortune & chance: blade / hair / proximity**

## closet (secret)

closet homosexual  
some people speculate that Hitler was a ~

closet radical  
he is a ~ (accusation of one politician by another)

closet rapist  
who would have thought he was a ~ (Harvey Weinstein)

family closet  
ghosts and phantoms from the ~

in the closet  
living ~ brought her pain (a lesbian)

skeleton in the closet  
see *skeleton (secret)*

emerging from the closet  
more and more gay celebrities are ~

**concealment & lack of concealment: house**

## clothes (the emperor has no clothes)

emperor has no clothes  
look, the ~, you got nothing (a consulting firm)  
it's been obvious for years now that this ~ (Tottenham FC)

**substance & lack of substance: allusion / clothing & accessories**

## clothes (deception)

dressed in scientific clothes  
exploration now had to be ~

**appearance & reality / subterfuge: clothing & accessories**

## clotheslined

get clotheslined  
you can ~ by a fence, cable, bar, swing, or a person

**failure, accident & impairment: clothing & accessories**

## cloud (verb)

clouded his judgment  
drugs ~

**consciousness & awareness: atmosphere / cloud / verb**

## cloud (cast a cloud)

cloud has been cast  
a ~ over much of his work (fabricated data)

**oppression: atmosphere / cloud / light & dark / shadow**

**feeling, emotion & effect: atmosphere / cloud / light & dark / shadow**

## cloud (under a cloud)

under a cloud  
she has left the Olympics ~

under a cloud of suspicion  
he lived ~

under a cloud of uncertainty  
they continue to work ~

under a legal and ethics cloud  
he is ~ because of the affair (politician)

lived under a cloud  
he ~ of suspicion

get out from under the cloud  
he couldn't ~ of suspicion

**feeling, emotion & effect / oppression: atmosphere / cloud / light & dark / shadow**

## cloud (dark cloud, etc.)

cloud

I had a ~ over my head  
there is a ~ over the White House

coronavirus storm clouds  
given that these ~ have gathered...

dark cloud  
there are still ~s on the horizon (economy)

economic cloud  
he acknowledged ~s on the horizon

ethical cloud  
he left under an ~ (government)

storm clouds  
if there are some ~ on the horizon, they could come...

clouds have gathered  
given that these coronavirus storm ~...

cloud has been lifted  
the ~ over this presidency

cloud (hanging over the President) has been removed  
the ~ by this report

♦ "I had a cloud over my head, and I knew that was a cloud that wasn't going to go away." (Problems at work.)

**feeling, emotion & effect / oppression: atmosphere / cloud / light & dark / shadow**

## cloud (resemblance)

cloud street  
~s can indicate thermals (hang gliding)  
~s are rows of cumulous clouds

bat cloud  
radar can estimate the number of bats in a ~

**resemblance: atmosphere / cloud**

## cloud (consciousness)

clouds of depression  
antidepressants can help part the black ~

part the (black) clouds  
antidepressants can help ~ of depression

**consciousness & awareness: atmosphere / cloud**

## cloud (sign)

war clouds  
as ~ gathered over the region (Iraqi Freedom)

clouds gathered  
but ~ quickly

**evidence: atmosphere / cloud**

## clouded

clouded by drugs  
his thinking was ~

clouded in mystery  
his past is ~

**consciousness & awareness: atmosphere / cloud**

## cloudy (consciousness)

cloudy with drugs  
his mind was ~

**consciousness & awareness: atmosphere / cloud**

## cloudy (certainty)

become cloudy  
news can ~ when information is controlled (rumors)

**certainty & uncertainty: cloud / light & dark**

## clout (noun)

clout of financial journalists  
the ~ can affect the corporate bottom line

Washington's clout  
~ is fading (diplomacy)

economic clout  
Boeing has tremendous ~ (economy, jobs, etc.)

global clout  
China's ~

immense clout  
the business network carried ~ with investors

**power: fist / violence**

## cloth (cut from the same cloth, etc.)

cut from different cloth  
scientists are not ~ (self-interest)

cut from a different cloth  
entrepreneurs are ~

cut from the same cloth  
you and he don't seem to be ~ (husband and wife)  
he is ~ as Steve Jobs (entrepreneurship)  
Hussein, Gaddafi, Assad, Chavez, Kim, they're all ~  
you and I, we are ~

**character & personality / identity & nature: cloth**

**taxonomy & classification: cloth**

## clown (verb)

clowning around  
stop ~

**behavior: circus / verb**

## clown (person)

clowns

plane was designed by ~ supervised by monkeys (Boeing)

class clown  
he was the ~, always dancing, singing, and joking  
he survived bullies by acting as the ~ (Richard Pryor)

overrated, overhyped clown  
he's an ~ (said by a boxer about another boxer)

♦ "The circus is back in town, might be a new ringmaster but the clowns are still all there." (Manchester United 1-2 Brighton.)

♦ "Tottenham is a circus and the clowns are in charge." (Soccer snark.)

**character & personality: circus / person**

**insult / person: circus**

## club (noun)

boy's club  
see *boys' club* (*boy's club*, *boys club*)

## coach (noun)

career coach  
~ answers questions about job hunting during pandemic  
~ shares tips on how to work from home (pandemic)  
Ken Coleman calls himself "America's ~"  
Michele Martin talks to ~ and resume writer Laura DeCarlo...  
a ~ unlocks the secret to acing your job interview

certified coach  
a ~ focused on empowering others (LinkedIn)

Dating Coach  
Imad Jbara is a ~ for NYC Wingwoman LLC

dialect coach  
to help Jessie with her accent, she sees a ~

dialogue coach  
Frawley Becker was the ~ on the film

Executive Coach  
~ and Learning and Development Consultant (LinkedIn)

life coach  
how this ~ gets students into Ivy League schools...

mental health coach  
Lyra Health ~... (LinkedIn)

Mental Health Coach  
a ~ (Heather)

neurodiversity coach  
Sullivan is a ~ (autistic and agender)  
she's a 37-year-old ~ (autistic and agender)

performance coach  
FTX's former in-house ~ George Lerner (Bankman-Fried)  
Andrew Herr, an elite ~ who's worked with pro athletes  
and...

relationship coach  
she acted as her fans' ~, advising them on their heartbreaks

sobriety coach  
Weinstein sent drafts of his statement to a ~ (sex addiction)

success coach  
the self-described “~” (the influencer Andrew Tate)

Health & Wellness Coach  
a National Board Certified ~ (Heather)

Leadership and Resilience Coach  
as a ~, she enjoys supporting others (Heather)

financial coach  
new parents get help from a trained ~ (pediatric clinic)

vocal coach  
her mother worked as a ~ (singing)

♦ “Imad Jbara is a Dating Coach for NYC Wingwoman LLC, a relationship coaching service based in New York City. ‘NYC Wingwoman’ offers matchmaking, wingwoman services, 1-on-1 Coaching, and intensive weekend bootcamps. Imad services 100+ clients, men and women, to improve their dating lives through authentic communication skills. He has a BA in Psychology from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.”

♦ “In addition one of Heather’s passions is coaching, and as a National Board Certified Health & Wellness Coach, Mental Health Coach, and Leadership and Resilience Coach, she enjoys supporting others in enhancing their well-being and emotional intelligence to make desired changes in their lives. She is also a Certified Nature and Forest Therapy guide...”

**directing: sports & games**

## coach (verb)

coached her on how to answer  
the sheriff ~ to the FBI

**directing: sports & games / verb**

## clumsy (adjective)

clumsy remarks  
her ~ (Jill Biden)

clumsy term  
it’s a very ~ (“systemic racism”)

clumsy writer  
at first she was a ~

♦ “The fact that a speechwriter wrote this, thought it was perfect for the first lady and didn’t expect Latinos to take offense says it all.” (Susanne Ramirez Arellano, journalist and cultural critic, NBC Think, July 13, 2022.)

**ability & lack of ability: movement**

**flaws & lack of flaws: speech**

## coal (rake somebody over the coals)

rake him over the coals  
let’s not ~s for a remark he made 30 years ago

**punishment & recrimination: fire / verb**

**speech: fire / verb**

## coalface (and coal face)

coalface  
this is the real coalface that we’ve dealing with

♦ “It’s quite tough sometimes when I have phone calls from players I used to play with and against and they’re in a really dark place. There have been a few where we’ve had to get professional help to their house on a Sunday evening. This is the real coalface that we’re dealing with

with some of these players.” (Former Wales forward Alix Popham about serious brain injury, including early onset dementia and probable CTE, in rugby players.)

**experience / place: mining**

## coarse (speech)

coarse word  
it’s a ~ (*asshole*)

**flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances**

**speech: materials & substances**

## coast (coast is clear)

coast is clear  
let’s wait 2 weeks until we say the ~ (epidemic)

**danger: boat / sea**

## coast (coast to victory, etc.)

coasted to victory  
the team ~

**difficulty, easiness & effort: movement / verb**

**attainment: movement / verb**

## coast (noun)

third coast  
Atlanta is the ~ of rap (vs. LA, NY)

♦ “Atlanta artists and producers were trying to establish the local scene as the ‘Third Coast.’ / ‘We wanted to make y’all eat this Southern fried chicken,’ says Breeze. ‘Not chicken cordon bleu. Not pineapple chicken.’ / So Breeze sat down with the pen. Someone made the West wild, he reasoned. He was going to make the South dirty. Over time Dirty South, not Third Coast, became a banner for artists throughout the region.” (“Derivation of Dirty South” by Tony Rehagen, *Atlanta Magazine*, Nov 1, 2012. The *dirty* in Dirty South reflects the *soil* of the South, the red clay, etc.)

♦ “Sometimes called the ‘Third Coast’ of the US, this place is nowhere near an ocean.” (A Microsoft screen picture of Chicago. Search this work for *St. Joseph* and *Put-in-Bay*.)

**center & periphery: ground, terrain & land / sea**

## cobble together (verb)

cobbled together a living  
for a while she ~ acting and waitressing

cobbled together a resume  
I ~ and was invited to interview

cobbled together a video  
he ~ with claims of an ‘amazing cancer cure’

**creation & transformation: clothing & accessories / verb**

## cockroach (noun)

cockroach  
he is an autocrat, a “~,” despoiling the country (a leader)

**insult / violence: animal / insect**

## cocktail (noun)

cocktail of (psychoactive) drugs  
he downs a daily ~ (mental illness)

cocktail of ash, acids, aerosols  
the cloud, a toxic ~ (pollution / S. Asia)

cocktail of things  
it's a ~, it's never one thing (what makes serial killers)

Disney's cocktail  
~ of morality, stereotypes and magic (animated films)

drug cocktail  
new ~s make living with HIV a reality

toxic cocktail  
the cloud, a ~ of ash, acids, aerosols (S. Asia)

**mixture: alcohol / bird / food & drink**

## **cocoon (verb)**

"cocoon" in their homes  
they were asked to ~ (elderly in Ireland during pandemic)

**avoidance & separation / division & connection / isolation  
& remoteness / protection & lack of protection: insect /  
verb**

## **cocoon (isolation)**

cocoon of high expectations  
it was a ~ and harsh discipline (black school)

cocoon of seclusion  
she maintains a ~ through the burqa (in public / Afghan)

cocoon of sorrow, rage and despair  
he began to emerge from the ~ that had enveloped him

digital cocoon  
she gets lost in her ~

ideological "cocoon"  
the digital age makes it easy to spend your time in ~

security cocoon  
he was wrapped in a tight ~ (president)

spiritual cocoon  
I was in a ~ (a nun in her pre-social justice period)

emerge from the cocoon  
he began to ~ of sorrow, rage and despair

peel away the (thick) cocoon  
I started to ~ I had built around my life (gay comes out)

**avoidance & separation / division & connection / isolation  
& remoteness / protection & lack of protection: insect**

## **cocoon (resemblance)**

cocoon of air bags  
it bounced down in a ~ (Mars "Spirit")

**resemblance: insect**

## **cocooned**

cocooned in (protective) boxes  
three of the volumes, ~... (T.S. Eliot Foundation)

cocooned in privilege  
a metropolitan elite ~ (Great Britain)

cocooned in a (dignified) silence  
the stadium is now ~ (memorial to dead fans)

**avoidance & separation / division & connection / isolation  
& remoteness / protection & lack of protection: insect**

## **coffer (noun)**

campaign coffers  
she'll have to replenish her ~ quickly

**money: container / sign, signal, symbol**

## **coffin (death / actual)**

coffin or the suitcase  
it is the choice between the ~ (Algerian Civil War)

♦ "Suitcase or prison." The headline of a Le Monde article, on why Algerian human-rights campaigners feel impelled to emigrate. From an article in *The Economist*, November 19 2022.)

**death & life: sign, signal, symbol**

## **coffin (nail in the coffin, etc.)**

coffin of the Voting Rights Act  
the case could put the final nail in the ~

standards coffin  
the nails went into the ~ when... (education)

Razor Ruddock's (career) coffin  
Tommy Morrison put the final nail in ~ (boxing)

nail in the coffin of the party  
the immigration issue will be the final ~

final nail in the coffin  
that was the ~

nail in the coffin came  
the ~ when the army dropped him (a leader)

coffin isn't nailed shut  
the ~ on her possible return to the series (tennis)

driven "a big nail in the Coffin"  
Grant thought his victory had ~ of rebellion" (Chattanooga)

put the (final) nail in the coffin  
he ~ when he... (sports victory)

♦ "I think that was the final nail in the coffin... that the church could no longer offer to subsidize these schools. But that was just the final straw..." (Decline of Catholic schools.)

♦ "I realize I'm in the crosshairs of the woke mob right now, so before the final nail gets put in my cancel culture casket, I'd like to set the record straight..." (The NFL's Aaron Rodgers, throwing three perfect on-target spirals of alliteration.)

♦ "David Denby in *New York* magazine was just one of the many critics who hammered their own personal nails into the coffin." ("Al Pacino looks sallow and exhausted..." From *Al Pacino: A Life On The Wire* by Andrew Yule.)

**destruction / fate, fortune & chance: burial**

## cog (cog in the machine, etc.)

cog

Evans was a ~ (one of thousands of government workers)

cogs in that machine

he creates a machine and the players are just ~ (ten Hag)

cog in the (Norwegian pedagogical) machine

he thinks of himself as a ~

cogs of a (bloodthirsty) war machine

making soldiers into the interchangeable ~

cog in a (vast, capitalist) machine

everyone was just a ~, it was brutal (1930s Hollywood)

cog in the machinery

he was a fossilized bureaucrat, a ~ for decades

important cog

I had always felt I was an ~ in the medical machine

interchangeable cogs

making soldiers into the ~ of a bloodthirsty war machine

vital cog

Reynolds remains a ~ in the Joshua operation (boxing)

♦ Alice Evans was just a cog, a "mote among drab-seeming thousands...only a cow bacteriologist buried away in the U.S. Department of Agriculture... nothing more than a pleasant-looking girl bacteriologist, anonymous among insignificant boy and girl microbe hunters...destined to no famous end...plodding...her specialization...Ford-factoryish." (And yet, she made an important contribution to science. From *Men Against Death* (1932) by Paul De Kruijff.)

♦ "On the playing field of medicine, with all its established positions and specialized players, I felt increasingly like the man from the moon, the man playing left-out. Nobody dwelled on what it was like to be in my shoes, they were merely thankful that they were not. / This was a new situation for me. I had always felt I was an important cog in the medical machine. An underpaid cog, perhaps, but still part of the team..." (*My Own Country: A Doctor's Story* by the remarkable Abraham Verghese, who selflessly took care of HIV-AIDS patients in the 1990s.)

♦ see also *machine* (*publicity machine*, etc.)

**functioning / importance & significance / operation:  
mechanism**

## cognitive dissonance

cognitive dissonance

~ was not pathology, it was policy (US in Afghanistan)

♦ "I distinctly remember the NFL game between the Vikings and the Green Bay Packers was on the TV the whole time. It's just so American, [our] capacity for cognitive dissonance. If it's something that we love, we can look past the evils because we love it." (Reid Forgrave, author of *Love Zac*, interviewing the family of Zac Easter. Zac, age 24, shot himself in the chest and donated his brain to science. A football player, he was diagnosed with CTE.)

♦ "I guess we all deal with cognitive dissonance in sports in our own way." ("The cognitive dissonance of Fox's NFL Theme Song, 'Injury Version'" at hillmansburger.com.)

♦ "In the memoir, the juxtaposition of their testimonies with Newman's self-analysis produces a sort of cognitive dissonance." (The actor Paul Newman said he was nothing special. Others said differently. From "Becoming Paul Newman" by Louis Menand, *The New Yorker*, October 24, 2022.)

♦ "But when a reader who knows Laxness only from 'Independent People' encounters his contemporaneous political writing, in which mere human beings seem to count for nothing compared with the success of

the socialist project, the cognitive dissonance is enough to crash the operating system of the brain." ("A Rower on the Open Sea: The rediscovery of Halldor Laxness" by Salvatore Scibona, *The New Yorker*, July 11 & 18, 2022.)

♦ "this is a perfect example of the zeitgeist of cognitive dissonance permeating our devolving society." (An online commenter about "NJ transgender woman transferred from women's only prison after impregnating 2 inmates, report says" by Stephen Sorace, *Fox News*, July 17, 2022.)

♦ Didn't expect it, doesn't compute... (In the past, this would have been expressed as the perfectly understandable "coping mechanism," "rationalization," etc.)

♦ See the Wikipedia entry, which is tagged as "social psychology."

**disruption / feeling, emotion & effect: music / sound**

**contempo-speak: language**

## coin (verb)

coined the term

he ~ ("virtual reality")

**creation & transformation: money / verb**

## coin (side of a coin)

two sides of the same coin

obesity and hunger are ~ (nutrition)

affluence and poverty should not be ~

**relationship: money**

## coin (double-sided coin)

double-sided coin

it's a ~ (trust can help or hurt you)

**relationship: money**

## coined

coined in the early 1980s

the term "serial killer" was only ~

coined in the early 1990s

the acronym, ~, is pedagogical vapor (STEM)

**creation & transformation: money**

## cold (feeling)

cold feeling

a ~ just came over me

cold and hard

administrators can seem ~ (high school)

cold and impersonal

the big city can be ~

cold and calculating

she is ~

emotionally cold

I'm pretty much ~ (a marine)

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature**

**character & personality: temperature**

## cold (in the cold)

left out in the cold  
the West will be ~ (by Russian diplomacy)

leave (excellent) workers out in the cold  
requirements for degrees ~

**acceptance & rejection / dismissal, removal & resignation:**  
**society**

**isolation & remoteness / society: ground, terrain & land**

## cold (cold case, etc.)

cold case  
~s can rip open the wounds of the past

gone cold  
his trail had ~ (crime)

went cold  
the case ~ for a decade (murder solved by DNA)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: temperature**  
**activity: temperature**

## coldblooded (and cold-blooded)

cold-blooded one  
it was a “one-off incident,” a hot-blooded crime, not a ~

seemed as coldblooded  
Biden ~ as Nixon (Afghanistan / Vietnam withdrawal)

**character & personality / feeling, emotion & effect: blood / temperature**

## cold feet

cold feet  
the Saudi leaders were getting ~  
she got ~ (bride-to-be who disappeared)

cold feet about testifying  
he was getting ~

getting cold feet  
he was ~ about testifying

got cold feet  
he ~ (a reporter’s source)

**eagerness & reluctance: foot / temperature**

## coldhearted (adjective)

coldhearted person  
she is a ~

coldhearted or cowardly  
their decision was not ~ (climbers)

**heart: temperature**  
**empathy & lack of empathy: heart / temperature**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: heart / temperature**

## coldly

coldly dismissed

she was ~ by the all-male institutions (explorer)

watched coldly  
diplomats ~ as the family was dragged away

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature**  
**empathy & lack of empathy: temperature**

## cold shoulder

cold shoulder from members  
I received the ~

received the cold shoulder  
I ~ from the members of the group

gave the cold shoulder to the Russians  
Georgia let the US help and ~

♦ Some say this refers to offering a visitor a cold shoulder of meat, as opposed to a more hospitable hot meal. This must have been before the invention of the microwave.

**acceptance & rejection: temperature**

## cold war

cold civil war  
America is in a state of ~ (black vs. white history)

cold war and zero-sum  
the bill is full of ~ thinking (Chinese criticism of US)

tech cold war  
this ~ matters (US vs. Huawei and 5G network)

long-running cold war  
a ~ between news and opinion (at Fox News)

**conflict: allusion / history / temperature**

## collapse (verb)

collapsed mentally and physically  
Cherry-Garrard had ~ (in Antarctica)

**destruction: infrastructure / ruins / verb**  
**failure, accident & impairment: infrastructure / ruins / verb**

## collapse (noun)

collapse  
the system will reform itself or face its own ~

collapse of the (oil) boom  
but with the ~

collapse of communism  
since the ~ in 1991

collapse of the (cod) fishery  
the ~

collapse of the (Iraqi) government  
the situation could lead to the ~

collapse of (stock) prices  
with the ~ (Silicon Valley)

collapse of talks  
the ~ between...(two companies)

collapse of Taliban rule  
since the ~ (Afghanistan)

collapse in their self-esteem  
men who experienced a near ~ (financial crisis)

company's collapse  
an internal probe into the ~ shows...

colony collapse (m)  
a new bee problem, called ~ disorder (honeybees)

price collapse  
because of the ~ of commodities (sub-Saharan Africa)

catastrophic collapse  
secrecy can make a system prone to ~

economic collapse  
engulfed Russia (following fall of communism)

prone to (catastrophic) collapse  
secrecy can make a system ~

on the brink of collapse  
the government is ~ (Northern Ireland)

on the edge of collapse  
the air travel network teeters ~ (Unfriendly Skies)

on the verge of collapse  
the provincial government is ~ (Iraq)

probe into the (company's) collapse  
an internal ~ shows...

collapse engulfed Russia  
economic ~ (following fall of communism)

faced collapse  
the company asked for government intervention as it ~

lead to the collapse  
the situation could ~ of the Iraqi government

**destruction: infrastructure / ruins / verb**  
**failure, accident & impairment: infrastructure / ruins / verb**

**collateral damage (noun)**

collateral damage  
we don't want to talk about the ~ he has done (behavior)

collateral damage in trade wars  
farmers are tired of being ~

collateral damage of (pandemic-era) measures  
considering the ~ (kid's education, mental health, etc.)

collateral damage of the pandemic  
mental health has been the ~ (CEO of CVS Health)

collateral damage on the Swiss financial market  
the bankruptcy of Credit Suisse would have had a huge ~

cultural collateral damage  
the ~ was felt at the orchestra (tour cancelled)

♦ "Her ambition was voracious and it brooked no interference. If there was collateral damage on her way to riches and fame, so be it." (*Bad*

*Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup* by John Carreyrou. The final two sentences of the Epilogue.)

♦ "Brady just happened to be the blowback. He got caught up in the blowback, Skip, the collateral damage, that's what Brady is. And so, it was a blast radius. He dropped the bomb, 'I got BA [Bruce Arians], I got the Tampa medical staff, I got...' and Tom Brady and Guerrero, they got caught up in that, Skip, the blast radius." (Shannon Sharpe talking with Skip Bayless on their great sports show "Undisputed" about the Antonio Brown controversy of January 2022.)

♦ Parents and the left are in an all-out war, and the kids are collateral damage" by Andrea Peyser, Opinion, *New York Post*, August 21, 2022.)

♦ "War sounds dramatic, but that's what it feels like, being caught in the middle of, and my business is collateral damage." (An English businesswoman losing orders and facing complaints due to industrial action by postal workers.)

♦ In a report about the rescue of a failing bank, the words "collateral damage," "contagion," and "domino effect" were all used.

♦ "The mission received reports... of a strikingly high percentage of patients with severed legs... The amputations mostly occurred at waist height in children, generally lower in adults... Where the amputation took place, the flesh was cauterized... The patients... had no shrapnel wounds... The Mission understands such injuries to be compatible with the impact of DIME weapons." (From the Goldstone Report on Israel's "Operation Cast Lead" in Gaza in late 2008 and early 2009. DIME weapons are a focused blast explosive full of a dense inert metal like tungsten. They were developed by the US Air Force to minimize collateral damage.)

♦ "When the elephants fight, the grass gets trampled."

**destruction: military / ruins**

**collide (verb)**

collide with (ancient) traditions  
modern mores often ~ (Africa)

generations collide  
when ~ at work (boomers / Gen X)

**conflict: crashes & collisions / verb**

**collision (noun)**

collision between the human and animal world  
the bear's death highlights the ~

collision of cultures  
the dispute was a result of a ~ (temple bell vs. condo)

collision of (all these different) cultures  
it was a ~ (1930s Shanghai)

**conflict: crashes & collisions**

**collocation (language)**

capable to  
~ (capable *of*?)

exhausted at  
I'm so ~ these white folk (*with? tired of?*)

excited for  
the extra level of protection, that's what we're ~ (*about?*)

excited of my return  
they were so ~ (Chicago woman visits Guinea Bissau)

respectful of your parents  
it means being ~ (*to?*)

safe space

~ (a safe *place*?)

at a rapid pace

he was losing blood ~ (*rate*? / an “eggcorn”?)

in military bases

Afghans are living ~ (*on* / *at*?)

on accident

he knocked her phone out of her hand ~ (*by* accident)

on Camp 2

tents are pitched ~ (*at*? / photo caption / Mount Everest)

in the end of the day

so, ~ I guess... (*at* the end of the day?)

in a later time

I will take any and all questions ~ (*at*?)

nearby of one another

each ring was formed when the stars were ~ (*near* one another?)

on shallow water

he was ~ (reporter meant *in* / report of a downing)

on another hand

but, ~, there is still... (on *the* other hand?)

into sunbathers

cicadas were falling from the sky ~ (*onto*?)

formed a few years ago

the marriage ~...

fasting from

~ food and drink (a Black academic about Ramadan)

sound big

now, you might think five hours, that doesn't ~ (*long*?)

steer clear from him

~ (steer clear *of* him?)

♦ “The marriage between crypto and sports formed a few years ago and has only strengthened since...” sounds odd to me. Marriages don't ordinarily “form” in the sense that ice forms, for instance. A marriage *can* certainly strengthen, though.

♦ “The lawsuit alleges that the women felt uneasy by Langford.”

♦ This sort of language has many possible explanations.

language: collocation

## Colonel Blimp

Colonel Blimp-ish figure

in person, Fisher cuts a ~...

♦ The cartoon appeared in 1934.

allusion: books & reading

character & personality: allusion / history

military: sign, signal, symbol

## colonialism (data, etc.)

data colonialism

this is called ~ (zero-rating WhatsApp)

digital colonialism

the company engages in “~” (WhatsApp)

control & lack of control / possession / taking & removing:  
ground, terrain & land

## colonialism (groups)

#86colonialism

a black T-shirt that read ‘~’ on the back

♦ “Bearstail, like the rest of the staff, wore a black T-shirt that read ‘#86colonialism’ on the back. Eighty-six, in kitchen slang, indicates that a dish is sold out. A month earlier, Bearstail, who is a member of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation, in North Dakota, had moved from Fargo to Minneapolis to work at Owamni. His previous job was at a Red Lobster. ‘Sometimes I have to pinch myself,’ he said.” (“Tribe To Table: A Minneapolis restaurant reconceives Indigenous cuisine” by Carolyn Kormann, *The New Yorker*, September 19, 2022.)

inclusion & exclusion: possession

## colonialization (groups)

form of colonialization

he called poverty in Kenya a “new ~” (Pope Francis)

♦ Older people think of colonialization in terms of history—the *actual* colonialization of Africa and Asia, etc., particularly in the 19<sup>th</sup> century—not of anything connected to the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

inclusion & exclusion: possession

## colonization (groups)

colonization of beauty

reflect on the ~ and reconsider the Eurocentric beauty ideals

ideological colonizations

gender ideology, today, is one of the most dangerous ~

♦ “Being uncomfortable with the human body is colonisation / brainwashing. It's just a body. We all got em.” (Zoe Kravitz, about the revealing Saint Laurent crystal mesh dress she wore to the 2021 Met Gala. Presumably she is referencing the missionaries who clothed indigenous peoples in places like Tahiti, etc.)

♦ “Beware of the new ideological colonization that tries to destroy the family. It's not born of the dream that we have from God and prayer—it comes from outside and that's why I call it a colonization.” (“Pope Warns Of ‘Ideological Colonization’; Praises Catholics in Caucasus” by Rebecca Hersher, October 2, 2016. Pope Francis opposed rich countries foisting gender theory, contraception and gay marriage on poorer countries in return for development aid.)

inclusion & exclusion: possession

## colonize (groups)

colonize Chatwin into the gay world

she felt a gay biographer might ~ (Bruce Chatwin's widow)

♦ “It's just that I'm half-English and sometimes the English in me colonizes everything else.” (“Is it really offensive to say ‘the French?’” by Arwa Mahdawi, Opinion, *The Guardian*, 30 Jan 2023. Funny!)

♦ “Kathy Hochul colonizing Long Island with housing order, NY GOP pals say” by Zach Williams, *New York Post*, Feb 3, 2023. The article is about Governor Kathy Hochul's “imperial-like” plan to increase Nassau County's density and turn the county into New York City's ‘sixth borough.’”

♦ I guess I knew it wouldn't work out when I discovered that she had colonized my medicine cabinet with her feminine hygiene products...

♦ see also *decolonize* (verb)

inclusion & exclusion: possession / verb

## colonized

colonized

British English has been ~ (by American English)

colonized takes

~ on indigenous ingredients (restaurant politics)

♦ "In August, Siebert left Owamni. Some employees felt that she hadn't been the right fit—that she pushed specials featuring colonized takes on Indigenous ingredients. 'I do have a European background in cooking, but so does Sean,' Siebert said. 'He taught himself how to decolonize his own food, and I was still in the process of that.' Soon afterward, a bartender was fired, in part for drinking on the clock..." ("Tribe To Table: A Minneapolis restaurant reconceives Indigenous cuisine" by Carolyn Kormann, *The New Yorker*, September 19, 2022.)

**inclusion & exclusion: possession**

## color (verb)

color the residents (of the Gulf Coast) unimpressed

~ by the government reaction to the disaster

colors his perspective

he is a wealthy small businessman, and that ~

colors his thoughts

his negativism ~

colors his views

his vegetarianism ~ of certain countries

**perception, perspective & point of view: picture / verb**

## color (color outside the lines, etc.)

color outside the lines

back then, you could ~ (boxing marketing)

**constraint & lack of constraint: color / line / picture / verb**

## color (communities of color, etc.)

colors

all races, creeds and ~ have racists in their groups

color barrier

Jackie Robinson broke the ~ (baseball)

activists of color

vegan ~

authors of color

some ~ write historical romance about people of color

children of color

the mental health crisis among American ~

communities of color

failing water systems in ~ (Flint MI, Jackson MS, etc.)

promote financial literacy amongst ~

~ are overpoliced

create spaces for artists, especially LGTBQIA ~

consumers of color

corporations sell Juneteenth branded products to ~

deals with Black celebrities expand their ~

dancers of color

Alvin Ailey and ~

farmers of color

~ are still waiting on billions in debt relief

girls of color

four young ~...

identities of color

Rachel Dolezal claimed "~" with...

immigrants of color

NPR's new series featuring ~

kids of color

anxiety and depression among ~ surging

neighborhoods of color

'pharmacy deserts' are common in Chicago ~

owners of color

there are few ~ in the NFL

people of color

satisfaction surveys don't track how well hospitals treat ~

~ crying out for help has [sic] always been ignored...

missing person cases involving ~

~ are more likely to be killed by police

this is not a safe space for ~ (sorority disbands)

misidentifying ~ in majority white spaces (work, media, etc.)

the creator reclaims the genre space for ~ (a horror film)

a less than welcoming place for ~ (NPR)

you do start to see other ~ as rivals rather than as allies

person of color

'Dr. Who' casts a ~ in the main role (Ncuti Gatwa)

NASA can't put the first ~ on the moon until 2025

mall shooting revives talk of what attracts a ~ to extremism

Professionals of Color

TESOL ~: Past, Present, Future (TESOL 2023)

skin of color

dermatologists advancing better care for ~

students of color

the pandemic widened the education gap for ~

welcome and safe space to ~ (high schools)

a peer mental health program for ~ (Well Being In Color)

voters of color

to build support among ~... (politics)

women of color

criminalization of pregnancy and ~

few ~ are pilots

4 NPR hosts quit last year, 3 were ~

Womxn of Color

she won WWU's ~ Empowerment Faculty Award

workers of color

~ are disproportionately affected

youth of color

the generational cycle of incarceration and ~

skin color

white ~ equals entitlement and privilege

♦ "some of the most racist people I've met or known have been of color."  
(An online commenter.)

♦ "He had to deal with being the only young person of color in Narcotics Anonymous meetings."

♦ "How do I become something I don't see?" From this simple question, The Delta Project was born. The Delta Project exists to break the generational cycle of incarceration by reconnecting youth of color and their families to community relationships through mentorship, coaching and storytelling. Help young men see what they can become. Take action. [thedeltaproject.co/action](http://thedeltaproject.co/action). (A full-page advertisement for The Delta Project in *The Atlantic* magazine.)

♦ "People of color at 'New York Times' get lower ratings in job reviews, union say," by David Folkenflik, NPR, August 23, 2022.

♦ "Absolutely, So we have our community going missing at an alarming rate. Typically, when families are going to law enforcement, their cases are often dismissed. Our children are classified as runaways and runaways does [sic] not meet the criteria to initiate an Amber Alert. And when it's adults, oftentimes their disappearance is associated with some sort of criminal activity. And it really dehumanizes and desensitizes the fact that these are valuable members of our community." ("Ebony Alert" legislation could help address racial disparity in missing persons cases, advocates say" by ABC News, May 3, 2023.)

♦ "Look, I mean voters of color don't talk about voters of color. Who the hell lives in communities of color? The people I know live in neighborhoods. Right, so there's this whole you know sort of rhetorical lexicon the left of the Democratic party has become obsessed with and insists on using. Which basically just alienates normie voters, including normie non-white voters. I mean, we have people in and around the Democratic Party talking about how all white people have white privilege, and how this is a white supremacist society, and so on, and I just don't think this is the way people think about the world, including you know normie non-white voters." (The political scientist Ruy Teixeira. From "Hispanic and minority voters are increasingly shifting to the Republican party," NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, July 23, 2022.)

♦ "I don't know of a single person that thinks of themselves as a 'person of color.' I really don't..." (James Carville, sounding honestly regretful on "Conversations with Bill Kristol.")

♦ "People of color? What an incredibly ignorant and offensive thing to say. Just exactly who are the people you believe do NOT have a color? There are none... Ditch the racist rhetoric. America deserves better, and you should KNOW better." (An online commenter.)

♦ "White, Black, brown, yellow, red, we all bleed red." (The military.)

## **inclusion & exclusion: color**

### **colored**

colored by their relationship

countries' views are ~ with Iran (on an issue)

**perception, perspective & point of view: picture**

### **colorful (language)**

colorful language

we learned and delighted in ~ (New York City)

I apologize for my ~ (expletives)

**speech: color**

### **colorful (politician, etc.)**

colorful history

Eagles fans have a ~ (Philadelphia)

colorful language

we learned and delighted in ~ (New York City)

colorful (British) politician

the ~ Boris Johnson

**character & personality: color**

## **colorism (groups)**

colorism

how ~ haunts *In The Heights* (Lin-Manuel Miranda film)

~ within U.S. Latino and Latin American culture

she recalls experiencing racism and ~ growing up

Thandiwe Newton opened up about ~ in the film industry

the anti-Blackness and ~ that's common among Latinos

*Other People's Skin* highlights ~ in the Black community

colorism in the (Black) community

*Other People's Skin* highlights ~ (a book)

colorism and racism

~ exist among Latinos from every country

anti-Blackness and colorism

the ~ that's common among Latinos

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection / color**

## **colors (true colors, etc.)**

true colors

he didn't show his ~ until after the wedding (abusive)

peoples' true colors

hardships often bring out ~

showed his true colors

he ~ with his shameful, dishonest attacks on a great man

he ~ by walking out on his team with five minutes left

♦ "His true colours have come out once again, he just can't help himself, can he." (A BBC HYS comment about Anthony Joshua's bizarre post-fight antics following his second loss to Oleksandr Usyk.)

♦ "Bearing on, the fleet came to anchor in the recent scene of Nelson's glory, the Bay of Aboukir...; the fleet consisted of 175 sail of all kinds. / Broken and squally weather rendered the attempt to land impracticable for a week; and in the meantime a French frigate, which, by capturing some British ships, had become acquainted with our private signals, and daringly accompanied the expedition as if she formed part of it, suddenly shot ahead of the fleet, and, hoisting the tricolour, ran safely into the harbour of Alexandria, with a reinforcement for General Menou." ("Alexandria, 1801" from *British Battles on Land and Sea* by James Grant.)

♦ "Duncan Gordon Boyes, Royal Navy, Midshipman of Her Majesty's Ship *Euryalus*... He carried a Colour with the leading company, kept it in advance of all, in the face of the thickest fire, his colour-sergeants having fallen, one mortally, the other dangerously wounded...The Colour he carried was six times pierced by musket balls." (From the citation, in the *London Gazette*, for Boyes' Victoria Cross, for his actions at Shimonoseki, Japan, in 1864. Born in Cheltenham, Glos., England, Boyes joined the Royal Navy at the age of 14. He received his VC at the age of 17. Later, he was kicked out of the navy for ill-discipline and went to New Zealand. Suffering from depression and alcoholism, he committed suicide at the age of 22.)

♦ "These colors don't run." (A T-shirt with an American flag.)

**identity & nature: flags & banners**

## **colossal (adjective)**

colossal (national) disaster

the situation is a ~ (nuclear-power-plant failure)

colossal failure

it was a ~

colossal misunderstanding

the message led to a ~

colossal problem  
we have ~s

**size: allusion / statue  
amount & effect: size**

## colossus (noun)

colossus

Weir was a ~, what an inspiration (Scottish Rugby)

Antarctic colossus

the ~ is melting at a rapid rate (Thwaites Glacier)

business colossus

the rise and fall of a ~ (Carlos Ghosn)

trading colossus

the East India Company was a ~

♦ A colossus was a gigantic statue. The Colossus of Rhodes was one of the seven wonders of the ancient world.

**size: allusion / statue**

**importance & significance: allusion / size / statue**

## Columbus (Chinese Columbus, etc.)

Chinese Columbus

but Cheng Ho, the ~, had no successors (isolation)

found its Columbus

in Dr. Schliemann the science of classical antiquity ~

♦ "Ali never doubted that his victory against Sonny Liston in Miami was legitimate and repeatable. 'In Miami I was Columbus,' he would say. 'I was traveling to the unknown. I had to be cautious because I didn't know what to expect. Now I know.'" (*King of the World* by David Remnick.)

**history / searching & discovery: epithet**

## comatose (adjective)

comatose

"~," the term for servers using energy but doing no work

comatose demeanor

his ~ at a G-7 meeting generated criticism

comatose state

the system is in a ~ (healthcare in Zimbabwe)

politically comatose

they pronounced him ~ (a politician who later revived)

**activity / condition & status / consciousness & awareness /  
functioning: health & medicine / mechanism / sleep**

## comb (verb)

combed the area on hands and knees  
police ~

combed the foothills in a (futile) search  
they ~ for the girl

comb (former) battlegrounds for artifacts  
hobbyists ~ (Civil War buffs)

combed the (city's famed) canals for bombs

authorities ~ (Venice)

combing the roadsides for evidence  
volunteers were ~ (murderers)

combed the slope for signs  
Anker ~ of his missing friends (avalanche)

comb (Arabian) Desert for suspects  
unmanned US planes ~

comb the seas for bluefin tuna  
fishermen from New Zealand to Libya ~

comb through (decades-old) cases  
detectives are beginning to ~, hoping...

comb through (international travel) records  
analysts began to ~ (terrorism)

combed (abandoned) buildings  
police ~ (for missing woman)

combed the school  
the Jackson County Health Department ~ (rash)

combed the region  
police ~

combed the countryside  
volunteers ~, on A.T.V.'s and on horseback (for girl)

combed the foothills  
they ~ in a futile search for the girl

**searching & discovery: hair / verb**

## combat (verb)

combat the disease  
he ordered a broad mobilization to ~ (SARS / China)

combat (street) homelessness  
it remains the principal tool to ~ (supportive housing)

combat boredom and tension  
they play Monopoly to ~ (soldiers / Iraq)

tool to combat  
it remains the principal ~ street homelessness (supportive housing)

**conflict: military / verb**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military / verb**

## combat (noun)

political combat  
he relished ~ (a politician)

waging (political) combat  
he has been ~ with Democrats (politics)

♦ "In our social media age, disagreement can feel like combat." (A cultural critic.)

♦ "Fear and filth went hand in hand." (*With the Old Breed: At Peleliu and Okinawa* by E. B. Sledge.)

**conflict: military**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military**

## combative (adjective)

combative moments

this triggered several ~ today (a House hearing)

got combative

he was apologetic but he also ~ at times (at a hearing)

**conflict / feeling, emotion & effect: military**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## combustible (adjective)

combustible (recent Carter) interview

perhaps the most ~ aired over the weekend

**initiation / speech: fire / temperature**

## come (winter is coming, etc.)

coming

the future is ~, whether we like it or not

a time is ~ when all will suffer under the terror...

coming our way

a new kind of war is ~

come again

it's a time and style that will not ~ (Mississippi steamboats)

came around

I didn't get to sleep that night till the morning ~

comes around

when the anniversary ~ every year (9/11)

coming up

a big week is ~ (politics)

coming next

what is ~ is using machine learning (medicine)

come and go

see *come and go (time)*

good days are coming

the worst part is behind us, we are seeing a new dawn, ~

♦ "Every year, we know it's coming, the birds sing differently..." (Kay Oxendine, a member of the Haliwa Saponi Tribe in North Carolina, about the spring powwow season.)

♦ "About the year, my folks would say, "This year," or "next year," but I couldn't discover what they meant. I used to wonder what it meant, when they said, "A year." Sometimes they would say, "One year," or "Two years," and sometimes, "Many years." I wondered what a year was, and where it was. I used to think, "It must be around here." But I couldn't see it. I always thought that the year must have arms and legs and a head. It must have a body like an animal. I used to wish that I could see it when it came around. But I never saw the year." (*Old Man Hat, A Navaho Autobiography.*)

**future / time: direction / movement / verb**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: direction / movement / verb**

## come (a time comes along)

came a time

then ~ when the meat supply ceased...

came along

nobody saw a virus until the electron microscope ~

comes along

just when things are improving, this new crisis ~

Knott came along

before ~, fishermen caught lobsters the same way...

psychoanalysis came along

until ~, the accepted antidote to hysteria was rest

time came

when the ~, Russian industrialization turned the tide of the war

♦ "Like most creatures of the Wild, the grey cub early experienced famine. There came a time when not only did the meat-supply cease, but the milk no longer came from his mother's breast." (*White Fang* by Jack London.)

**past & present / time: direction / movement / verb**

## come (come before / at an earlier time)

came before me

I am very thankful for the women who ~ and helped...

**past & present / time: direction / movement / verb**

## come (come after / at a later time)

come after me

I hope the women who ~ will get more chances to succeed

**future / time: direction / movement / verb**

## come (occur, develop)

come

it should not have ~ as a complete surprise (oil bust)

with Empire had ~ immense problems of security (UK)

come along

see *come along (appearance)*

came in the evening

the phone call ~

came with the airing

the final straw ~ of *The Shop*

came with a (heavy) price

fame ~

comes every year

influenza is an old enemy, one that ~

♦ "It seemed like there was light at the end of the tunnel, and then the Delta variant came along, the Omicron variant came along..."

**appearance & disappearance / coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / development / occurrence / relationship: direction / movement / verb**

## come (come a long way)

come a long way

we have ~ (a business)

we have ~, but we have much further to go

we have ~, but not far enough

come a long way in race relations  
we have ~, but we keep going backwards

come a long way since the 1990s  
Kosovo has ~

come a long way from its (humble) beginnings  
the company has ~

come a long way in four decades  
the sport has ~

**development / progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips  
/ movement**

### **come (to come)**

to come  
more hearings are ~

yet to come  
there are changes ~ (global warming)  
it does make you wonder what is ~ (politics)  
the best is ~

sure to come  
change is ~

decades to come  
we are left with this legacy for ~

future to come  
they are waiting for the ~, but it's already here

generations to come  
these issues will affect ~  
what we do will echo through ~ (2020 election)

months to come  
there will be ups and downs in the ~

more (Inside Edition) to come  
there is ~

things to come  
this is a sign of ~

**future / time: direction / movement**

### **come (see something coming)**

saw it coming  
*see see (see something coming)*

### **come (for a time to come)**

for years to come  
the problem will occupy botanists ~

for decades to come  
he may last ~ (a leader)

for centuries to come  
shrinking coastlines will be the new normal ~

**future: direction / movement**

### **come (come out swinging)**

came out swinging  
the president ~  
she ~ against her critics

**accusation & criticism / conflict / resistance, opposition &  
defeat / speech: boxing**

### **come after (and come for)**

coming after our children  
they are ~ (culture wars)

come after your guns  
everybody's trying to ~ (gun control)

come after their studios next  
we're going to ~ (a demonstrator)

come after you  
if you speak up, the immigration system will ~ (an activist)

coming for you  
we're ~, the party is over (cops versus gang)

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb**

### **come along (appearance)**

came along  
and when the war ~, they went South (West Pointers)

come along very often  
opportunities like this don't ~ (quite job for a better one)

**appearance & disappearance: movement / verb**

### **come and go (currency)**

come and go  
trendy eateries ~  
fashion trends ~ (normcore)

come and gone  
technological fads have ~ in schools  
I admire AJ but his time has ~, my money is on Usyk

came and went  
other American intelligence warnings ~

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / primacy,  
currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / movement /  
verb**

### **come and go (time)**

came and went  
four more years ~ (murder investigation)

come and gone  
the years have ~ (old family photos)

year has come and gone  
a ~ since we heard the news about Billy Joe...

2021 has come and gone  
well, ~

future / past & present / time: movement / verb

## come away with (verb)

came away with  
the message I ~ is that...

analysis, interpretation & explanation: giving, receiving,  
bringing & returning / verb

## come back (to bite, haunt, etc.)

come back  
I never thought it would ~ again (convicted of cold case)

come back to haunt  
what you do on the computer can ~ (queries)

come back to bite the president  
a lot of that conduct and those words may ~

come back to bite us  
this will ~ (no test to get driving license)

come back to haunt the Ethiopians  
such tactics may ~ (torture / rebels)

come back to haunt you  
gossip can ~

♦ "Be careful about sharing intimate gossip in a party situation—you may find it comes back to haunt you..."

reversal: animal / teeth / verb

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: verb  
judgment: verb

## come back (resiliency)

came back to level it  
the defending champions ~ (Olympic basketball)

come back stronger  
I'm going to ~ than ever

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / resiliency /  
survival, persistence & endurance: direction / movement /  
verb

## come back (from extinction, etc.)

coming back  
the Atlantic cod is ~ after strict catch limits

appearance & disappearance / coming, arriving, staying,  
leaving & returning / resiliency / survival, persistence &  
endurance: direction / movement / verb

## comeback (noun)

comeback kid  
he's not the ~, he's Lazarus (a politician)

comeback trail  
they are on the ~ after serious injuries (skiers)  
the genre is on the ~ (hard rock music)

spark for his comeback  
the rivalry was the ~ (a rapper)

made a comeback  
he ~

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / resiliency /  
survival, persistence & endurance: direction

## come down on (verb)

came down (hard) on his critics  
President Trump ~

accusation & criticism: direction / verb  
oppression: direction / verb

## come down to (verb)

comes down to greed  
a lot of this just ~

analysis, interpretation & explanation / bases: direction /  
verb

## come forward (verb)

came forward  
dozens of women ~ and said... (sex abuse)

come forward  
she decided to ~, despite the publicity (accusation)  
police have appealed for any witnesses to ~

come forward with allegations  
4,000+ people have ~ of sexual assault (Australia)

appearance & disappearance: direction / verb  
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: direction / verb

## come from (origin)

come from  
where does his temper ~ (a politician)

comes from dishonesty  
nothing good ever ~

♦ You don't harvest grapes from planting thorns. (An Arab proverb.)

origin / product / relationship: verb

## come from (analysis)

come from  
where did all this ~ (stigmas and stereotypes)

analysis, interpretation & explanation: journey & trips / verb

## come from (emotion)

coming from  
he understood where their anger was ~ (an official)  
I just want people to understand where you're ~ (mom died)

feeling, emotion & effect: place / verb

## come out (verb)

coming out  
people ask why I'm ~ now (male on male historical abuse)  
now the truth is ~ (an expose that was quashed)

concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / verb

## come out (as nonmonogamous, etc.)

comes out as nonmonogamous

Georgia lawmaker ~

♦ "Bakhtiar said that too often stories like theirs will come out 'in a scandal.' / 'But we're openly showing it and proud of it,' Bakhtiar, 34, said during a video interview, as Brown and Al-Khayyal sat on either side. 'It should be destigmatized. It's a very valid familial structure that people should embrace.'" ("Georgia lawmaker comes out as nonmonogamous: 'I'm in love with two wonderful people'" by Jo Yurcaba, NBC, Sept. 28, 2022. Yurcaba's story reads like fiction and is the urtext for these sorts of things.)

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology / verb**

## come out (against something)

come out against anti-Semitic tropes

we felt the need to ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: movement / verb**

## comer (up-and-comer, etc.)

up and comer

I know he's an ~ so... (Ray Mancini about Connor Benn)

up-and-comers

there's a long list of ~ bringing fresh sounds to the city

up-and-comer from Chattanooga

in 2013, Rashad was still a relatively unknown ~

up-and-comer artist

~ Gemma Laurence (sapphic folk music / w/w)

Republican up-and-comer

from Texas underdog to ~ (Ted Cruz / politics)

♦ See *up-and-coming, arrive (attainment)*

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / movement**

## come to (come to an answer, etc.)

come to

what decision did they ~

came to his decision

he asked for an assessment and that's how he ~

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## come to (development)

coming to

impeachment is crazy, what is this ~ (politics)

come to mean

"gaslight" has ~ a type of psychological manipulation

came to a head

it all ~ in December (conflict)

**development: movement / verb**

## come through (verb)

still came through

Italy was not at its best but it ~ (a Euro 2020 game)

came through for people

I ~ (the great Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini / Youngstown)

**obstacles & impedance / success & failure / survival & perseverance: journeys & trips**

## come up (appear)

come up

that's an option that has ~

**appearance & disappearance: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## come up with (discovery)

come up with nothing

they have dug through and ~ (investigation)

**searching & discovery: direction / ground, terrain & land / verb**

## come up on (a date, etc.)

coming up on a new trial

he is ~

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: movement future / time: direction / movement / verb**

## coming (in the coming months, etc.)

in the coming months

a series of reports is expected ~

in the coming years

such events will become more frequent ~ (droughts)

**future / time: direction / movement**

## coming out (party, etc.)

coming out party

this was his ~ to set up big money (Brit boxer fights in US)

**experience: love, courtship & marriage / sex**

## come with (and come along with / attachment)

comes with being

her poems involve the cultural baggage that ~

come with its territory

his book avoids the pitfalls that ~ (a biography)

come along with that

there are questions that ~ (athlete's drug-taking)

come with the sudden wealth

leeches ~ (pro athletes)

**attachment / relationship: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## command (deserve and get)

commands (an annual) rent  
the space ~ of \$800 a square foot

commands respect  
she ~ (a veteran teacher)

commands the highest prices  
sweet crude ~... (oil)

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: speech / verb**  
**fictive communication: speech / verb**

## common denominator

common denominator  
music is a ~ (vs. class, race, ability)

**division & connection: number**

## commodity (noun)

commodity  
in Hollywood, sex was a ~ (Harvey Weinstein's lawyer)

most precious commodity  
time was now Scott's ~, and time was running out

questionable commodity  
for all his talent, he is still a ~ (athlete)

scarcest commodities  
time is one of your ~ (owners of small businesses)

limited and precious commodity  
time is a ~

treat virginity as a commodity  
men should not ~

**worth & lack of worth: farming & agriculture**  
**consumption / product: farming & agriculture**

## community (groups)

communities of color  
failing water systems in ~ (Flint MI, Jackson MS, etc.)  
promote financial literacy amongst ~  
~ are overpoliced  
create spaces for artists, especially LGTBQIA ~

communities of victimhood  
NPR seeks to perpetuate ~

community of women and gender-expansive folks  
there's a ~ who believe you and love you

community and sympathy  
I found ~ online (gender dysphoria)

racially marginalized communities  
people from poor, immigrant, and ~

Black community  
I used it in the way it's used in the ~ (Lizzo about "spaz")  
~s face the brunt of the carnage (illegal drug overdoses)

black community

the black body, the black family, the ~, the black nation

Latino community  
what the shooting in Uvalde has meant for the ~ (NPR)  
host more mental health conversations in the ~

Latinx community  
within Black communities, within ~s

indigenous community  
this is a 'death warrant' for ~s (COVID policy)

mental health community  
the plan was a big deal in the ~ (mobile units, etc.)

LGBTQ+ community  
Kendrick Lamar's new song divides the ~

colorism in the (Black) community  
*Other People's Skin* highlights ~ (a book)

platform and an audience and a community  
building a ~ on Twitter

create a (sense of) community  
~ for our LGBTQ+ employees and allies (SV Bank)

divides the (LGBTQ+) community  
"Kendrick Lamar's new song 'Auntie Diaries' ~" (NPR)

empower the (Deaf) community  
she hopes her appearance can ~ (Raven Sutton)

♦ "To raise funds for trans communities, an artist has pledged to do 1,000 pansy tattoos." (The tattoo artist Cedre Csillagi. They call their project "A Thousand Pansies." To get the tattoo, participants must donate \$500 to a designated charity. From "To raise funds for trans communities, an artist has pledged to do 1,000 pansy tattoos" by Halisia Hubbard, NPR, Culture, Nov. 25, 2022.)

♦ "You know, when we talk about our children—I know for this group, we all believe that when we talk about the children of the community, they are a children of the community." (Vice President Kamala Harris, who clearly believes in "community.")

♦ "Blackline is a hotline geared towards the Black, Black LGBTQ+, brown Native, and Muslim communities."

♦ "Look, I mean voters of color don't talk about voters of color. Who the hell lives in communities of color? The people I know live in neighborhoods. Right, so there's this whole you know sort of rhetorical lexicon the left of the Democratic party has become obsessed with and insists on using. Which basically just alienates normie voters, including normie non-white voters. I mean, we have people in and around the Democratic Party talking about how all white people have white privilege, and how this is a white supremacist society, and so on, and I just don't think this is the way people think about the world, including you know normie non-white voters." (The political scientist Ruy Teixeira. From "Hispanic and minority voters are increasingly shifting to the Republican party," NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, July 23, 2022.)

♦ "'Community' is one of those words that have been hijacked and ruined, like 'preferred,' 'appropriation' and 'equity,' among others." ("Sorry, progressives: There is no 'trans community'" by Rich Lowry, Opinion, *The New York Post*, April 3, 2023. "Preferred" is not entered in this work, but presumably it refers to collocations such as "preferred pronouns" and "preferred gender identity.")

♦ "Texas mall shooting revives talk of what attracts a person of color to extremism," NPR, Morning Edition, May 12, 2023.

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## companion (noun)

companion of time  
change is a constant ~ (said by a diplomat)

companion to a (bewitching) city  
for me, the book was a perfect ~ (Kaplan / *Kim* / Lahore)

companion for 105 days  
the wind was a pretty constant ~ (Antarctica)

constant companion  
exhaustion is a ~ (work at nursing homes)  
cruelty is their ~ (untouchables / India)

constant companions  
thirst and hunger were their ~  
modern life and ancient traditions are ~ (Bangkok)  
a camera and tape recorder were his ~ (a filmmaker)

near companion  
death was always a ~ (diseases / British Raj)

turns a poem into a companion  
memorization ~ (Billy Collins)

♦ "It's a respected companion." (Fear. See the Wikipedia entry for "Hilaree Nelson.")

relationship: person

## compass (within / outside the compass)

within the compass of that subpoena  
if there are papers that are ~

♦ "Keep within compass and you shall be sure to avoid many troubles which others endure." (An illustration of a virtuous woman, inside the legs of a compass. The compass is not a nautical one, but the one used to inscribe a circle, the drawing tool. The idea is that correct behavior is circumscribed by precise boundaries.)

extent & scope: boundary / tools & technology

## compass (moral compass)

moral compass  
a friend with a stronger ~ (told police of crime)  
so many are intelligent, with decent ~s (teens / dating)  
~ can point you in the right direction

his own inner moral compass  
he had lost sight of ~

strong moral compass  
her proper, small-town upbringing had given her a ~

compass was (badly) askew  
there's no question that her moral ~ (Elizabeth Holmes)

compass had shifted  
the moral ~ 180 degrees (seduction is abuse)

compass went off course  
tell us about a time your moral ~

lacks a moral compass  
he is a menacing creature who ~ (a dictator)

lose their moral compass  
they are so mired in bad fortune they ~

♦ The metaphor of a compass is a very trendy cliché in writing and speaking nowadays, and it is obvious that almost everyone utilizing the word has never needed, owned or used one. The compass doesn't waver, the compass *needle* does. The compass doesn't go off course, the *user* of the compass does. What in the world does it mean to

"realign" a compass "once wires get crossed," or to be "tuned in to" your moral compass, as though the compass were a radio? Is there really a compass or something like it *inside* us? Are compasses ordinarily distinguishable as "strong" or "weak"? How can a compass "waver off true north" when its sole job is to *indicate* north! Read or listen to "Resetting Your Moral Compass After An 'Ethical Slip,'" NPR, Talk of the Nation, April 8, 2013.

♦ "The world's MORAL COMPASSES have become DEMAGNITIZED thus producing an UNSTABLE society that is LOST and RUNNING AMOK." (Karan Prather on the Breitbart website about the latest school shooting.)

♦ "[B]oth Mr. Riach and the captain were singularly patient. I could not but fancy they were making up lee-way with their consciences, and that they would scarce have been so good with me if they had not been worse with Ransome." (*Kidnapped* by Robert Louis Stevenson.)

behavior / direction: tools & technology

## compass (other)

trusted her own compass  
Williams has always ~ (the actor Michelle Williams)

behavior / direction: tools & technology

## competence (metaphoric competence, etc.)

competence-based  
~ education (CBE)  
~ programs define learning in terms of specific skills

communicative competence  
grammar, vocabulary and ~ (language education)

cultural competence  
medical schools don't focus on ~ (healthcare)  
the need for greater diversity and ~ (in education)

metaphoric competence  
"The development of a ~" (Regina Gutierrez Perez / Regina Gutiérrez Pérez)

social competence  
students with "~ deficits" (autism, etc.)

♦ See "The development of a metaphoric competence" by Regina Gutierrez Perez / Regina Gutiérrez Pérez, Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Sevilla.

♦ compare with *literacy* (noun), *literate* (adjective), *illiterate* (adjective)

♦ "Knowing something about the fights—being good with your hands, or maintaining an opinion about the welterweight division or fixed bouts or how to beat a southpaw—was a very common piece of equipment in the tool box of American cultural competence, especially the section of it devoted to masculinity." (Carlo Rotella, quoted in "Money' And 'Canelo' Punch It Out For Black And Latino Fans" by Gautham Nagesh, NPR, Code Switch, September 13, 2013.)

♦ "Beware, Monsieur, of the memory of the illiterate man!" ("The Bull That Thought" by Rudyard Kipling.)

♦ "Ability has no school." (Turkey.)

♦ "Time teaches more than books." (*Po but siklos bersentar sar lilentar* / Roma.)

♦ "A whale-ship was my Yale College and my Harvard." (*Moby Dick* by Herman Melville.)

♦ "The Eskimos were right!" (An excited scientist in a helicopter in 1994, noticing a bow whale swimming with a group of beluga whales. This is but one example of traditional ecological knowledge.)

ability & lack of ability: school & education

## complex (euphemism / adjective)

complex (rock-and-roll) icon

the ~ (Little Richard, *I Am Everything*)

♦ “Lisa and Rhali: We see you and we hear you.” (Football Australia (FA) chief executive James Johnson, responding to their accusations of “women protecting women who abuse women,” presumably lesbians. From “Lisa De Vanna’s allegations highlight tensions in Australia’s *complex* [italics mine] football culture” by Samantha Lewis, ABC Australia, Analysis, Sport, 18 Oct 2021.)

♦ *One Night In Miami* is a wonderful film, and a feel-good film, but many of its real-life characters and their offspring had “complex” fates.

language: euphemism

## complex (military-industrial complex, etc.)

action industrial complex

Hollywood’s ~

celebrity industrial complex

by the 1950s, he was a big face in the ~ (Dirk Bogarde)

celebrity-media complex

the ~ has always found room for nepo babies

college-industrial complex

the ~’s next trick (college admissions)

conspiratorial-industrial complex

a ~ has eroded American democracy

deadline-industrial complex

we buy in to the ~

Democrat-media complex

the full ~ was on display (politics)

Democrat-Media Complex

the ~ lives in the past... (historical debate)

fertility industrial complex

the dark side of the ~ (US)

“Lolita” industrial complex

the ~ (film adaptations, fashion shows, podcast, etc.)

media-industrial complex

the best-of-the-decade ~ (2019-2020)  
she represents the ~ (Kristen Hentschel)

medical-industrial complex

Duke University Medical Center—a ~... (Abraham Verghese)

movie industrial complex

its CGI feats put the superhero ~ to shame (*Avatar* sequel)

nonprofit-industrial complex

we got a crash course in the ~ (drag queen)

prison industrial complex

the ~ is profit driven (for-profit incarceration)  
what she refers to as the “~” (Angela Davis UC Santa Cruz)

Wedding Industrial Complex

“Breaking down the Jennifer Lopez ~ Canon” (NPR)

‘Wellness-Industrial Complex’

breaking down the ~ (the podcast *Maintenance Phase*)

tragedy-industrial complex

the printed press and its ~ (the film *Ace in the Hole*)

♦ “Dwayne Johnson is one of the most likable hulks in Hollywood’s action industrial complex.”

♦ Dwight D. Eisenhower used the term “the military-industrial complex” in his Farewell Address to the Nation on January 17, 1961. About that, the linguist Noam Chomsky said, “There is no military-industrial complex: it’s just the industrial system operating under one or another pretext.”

power: allusion / history

language: affix

## conceived

conceived, born and raised

*Nature* was ~ to serve polemic purpose (the magazine)

creation & transformation: birth

## conciERGE (person)

conciERGE-style

a ~ (health care) start-up with offices in...

Book ConciERGE

NPR’s annual literary recommendation tool ~

♦ *Wealthy Bobos expect to be catered to by Sherpas, conciERGES, elementary schools, universities, etc.*

help & assistance: person

## concoct (verb)

concocted such a (wild artistic and musical) gumbo

few have ~ (Van Dyke Parks)

concocted an (escape) plan

she ~ (to get away from a cult)

♦ *Originally, this meant to cook together. As such, it is congruent with cook up.*

creation & transformation: cooking / mixture / verb

## concoction (noun)

plot-driven concoction

*State of Terror* is a ~

creation & transformation / mixture: cooking / food & drink

## concrete (noun)

concrete

their thinking becomes less ~ and more abstract (kids)

concrete actions

what are the ~ you’re gonna take (an activist)

concrete evidence

for now, there was no ~ linking... (terror attack)

concrete examples

some ~ will illustrate this point

concrete information

he didn’t give any ~ about the crime

concrete offer

I haven't gotten any ~s (job search)

concrete question

unable to answer ~s about...

concrete results

we need ~ from this conference (U.N.)

**substance & lack of substance: materials & substances**

## concretize (verb)

concretize what's going on

trying to ~ today (racial attitudes)

concretize (possible) approaches

steps designed to ~ to the problem of...

concretized the connection

Foucault further ~ between knowledge and power

concretized a Palestinian national identity

the Nakba ~ post-1949

concretizes it

if everybody knows about it, it ~ (death of a person)

concretize the opinion

the bumper sticker helps to ~ of the driver (or "firm up")

concretized our solidarity

the connection ~ (Ferguson / Gaza) (BLM / Hamas)

concretize or literalize

I want to ~ something that is happening (an author)

♦ The Merriam-Webster online dictionary defines this as simply "to make concrete, specific, definite."

♦ "PLEASE SET ASIDE SOME TIME TO READ THIS OUTSTANDING, ENGAGING PIECE ON COLONIALISM, THE CLIMATE CRISIS AND THE MECHANICS OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCE... IT CONCRETIZES A LOT." (The favorable comment from @MirandaKSMassie in the *New York Times Magazine*, August 14, 2022, about a previous article by Abraham Lustgarten. The illustration by Giacomo Gambineri, however, directs itself to the idea of taking a "slice" of time, NOT the idea of making something "concrete." An opportunity missed!)

♦ Wikipedia redirects "Concretization" to "Abstract and concrete." It relates to metaphysics.

**contempo-speak: language**

## concretized

concretized

once a clear definition is ~ (academia)

**contempo-speak: language**

## condemn (verb)

condemned his men to march or die

he had ~ (Robert Falcon Scott / logistics)

condemned Scott as a "sentimentalist"

Meares ~ (Antarctica)

**judgment: justice / verb**

## conduit (noun)

conduits for contributors

Visa and PayPal refused to be ~ (to WikiLeaks)

conduit for refugees from Tibet

the passes into Sikkim became a ~ after 1950

conduit between publishers and consumers

originally the company was to be a ~ (Amazon)

communications conduit

he acted as a ~ (terrorist messenger)

media conduit

the group acts as a ~ for the ALF

vital conduit

the Gulf of Aden is a ~ for Middle East oil

**route: water**

## confetti (noun)

turned the insulation into confetti

the machine-gun fire ~ (an aircraft)

**resemblance: waste**

## conflagration (noun)

financial conflagration

proprietary trading added tinder to the ~ (2008)

added tinder to the (financial) conflagration

proprietary trading ~ (2008)

avoid a conflagration

the US and the UN are seeking to ~ (in Sudan)

ignite a (larger) conflagration

Somalia could ~ across the Horn of Africa

provoked a conflagration

nationalists ~

**amount & effect: fire**

## confluence (noun)

confluence of agendas

a "~" between Algeria and the West (terrorism)

confluence of (natural and manmade) disasters

the ~ (war, drought, etc.)

confluence of events

the odd ~ (volcanoes erupt on same day)

the ~ occurring in Iran is very sad (Hillary Clinton)

a ~ brought the Web site down

where is this ~ taking all of us (news-show host)

confluence of factors

a ~ has contributed to the spike in lethal violence (U.S.)

confluence of (several) factors

a ~ is likely responsible (falling crime rates)

confluence of two problems

many cities struggle with the ~ (coronavirus / homelessness)

odd confluence

the ~ of events (volcanoes erupt on same day)

♦ "Many different streams of migrants were to make their confluence in the future United States. But the British stream flowed first and remained foremost. From the beginning its leaders were out of sympathy with the Government at home..." (*A History of the English-Speaking Peoples*, Volume 2, "The New World," by Winston S. Churchill.)

**division & connection: river**

## conga line

conga line of headlamps

climbers create a long ~ in the dark (Mt. Everest)

conga line of storms

a ~ is heading towards the US

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: movement**

## connect (verb)

connect

two lonely teens meet and try to ~

connect the distant parts

migrating birds ~ of the world

**social interaction: tools & technology / verb**

**division & connection: tools & technology / verb**

## conquer (verb)

conquer social anxiety

ways to ~

conquer coronavirus

how Iceland clamped down to ~

conquered (some of the world's) deadliest diseases

the science and medical innovations that ~

conquer their fears

students ~ at the outdoor adventure center

conquer her stage fright

he helped her to ~

conquered Yosemite's Half Dome

how two skiers ~

conquering Hollywood

digital de-aging is ~

conquered the world

he ~ of American entertainment (Marvin Hamlisch)

conquered all in Middlesbrough

she ~ (Miley Cyrus / 2019)

love conquer

can ~ travel bans (coronavirus pandemic)

♦ "Here's how to conquer the responsibilities on your to-do list."

♦ "Veni, vidi, vici." (Julius Caesar.)

**success & failure: military / verb**

## conscious (aware)

conscious of the value

people are more ~ of relationships (post-9/11)

conscious of what

I've always been very ~ I eat, how much I exercise

conscious (and unconscious) beliefs

their ~ (stereotyping)

conscious decision

some people make a ~ to go missing, start a new life

conscious and unconscious (m)

their ~ beliefs (stereotyping)

budget-conscious

~ parents

celebrity-conscious

Los Angeles is America's most ~ town

cost-conscious

a ~ chef

ecology-conscious

an ~ audience

fashion-conscious

~ customers

party-conscious

his move could alienate ~ Democrats (politics)

safety conscious

kayakers are usually ~

safety-conscious

NASCAR is extremely ~ (auto racing)

security-conscious

this year's Academy Awards will be the most ~ ever

status-conscious (m)

~ people are stuck up

style conscious

Gabriella was ~ and had expensive taste

technology-conscious

in ~ San Francisco

weight-conscious

data on nearly 500 ~ women

earthquake-conscious

Japanese are the most ~ people

environmentally conscious

an ~ business

in an ~ world

ethically conscious

ethically conscious investors

**consciousness & awareness: health & medicine**

## conscript (noun)

warriors and conscripts

its ~ are always looking for new battles (culture wars)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: military**

## constellation (noun)

constellation of folks

C-PAC is this ~ (pundits, politicians, conspiracists, etc.)

constellation of symptoms

the ~ at the end of life

he had another patient with the same bizarre ~ (AIDS)

♦ "Greek constellations (myths), Latin constellation names and Arabic star names." (*Stargazing: Astronomy Without a Telescope* by Patrick Moore.)

♦ It took him a very long time, but he finally identified it, from the shore of the Red Sea south of Jeddah: Kemble's Cascade, a brilliant white rivulet among the stars that made him think of Appalachia... He went to sleep very satisfied and slept soundly, only waking for a moment to feel the dew precipitating on his body. In the morning he woke well rested, fresh, and relaxed.

**configuration: astronomy**

**group, set & collection: astronomy**

## construct (social construct, etc.)

constructs of Blackness

Kene explores ways that overfamiliar ~ infect his expression

construct of race and power

the institutionalized ~

artificial construct

this notion of genre is an ~ anyway (Rachel Yoder)

new construct

it's a relatively ~...

psychological construct

the "Locus of control" is a ~ with a long history of research

the "Locus of control" relates to agency (psychology)

religious constructs

witches are bound up with many ~

social construct

gender is a ~ (versus biology)

race is a ~ and difficult to pin down (mixed races, etc.)

many academics have argued that race is a ~

♦ "Deep belief in racial equity work and challenging the institutionalized construct of race and power. Intentional career focus on increasing my depth of knowledge of the intersection of social welfare, social justice and 'access' as a civil right..." (A licensed clinical social worker describing herself on LinkedIn.)

♦ "Well, geez, if gender is just a 'social construct' shouldn't ethnicity be as well? By the progressive tenants of gender identity she should be able to identify as any ethnicity she pleases." (An online commenter about "Activist Raquel Evita Saraswati has faked her 'Arab and Latin' racial identity as far back as 2004: reports" by Ben Kessler, *The New York Post*, February 21, 2023. The article states that the activist has been referred to online as "the new Rachel Dolezal.")

♦ "You know, this whole teenager-coming-of-age thing, I mean it's a relatively new construct. They came up with it in the 50s, so..." (The silly and fun 2009 film *I Love You, Beth Cooper*, with Paul Rust and Hayden "Hello" Panettiere. Free with ads on YouTube.)

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## constructed (socially constructed, etc.)

constructed, reconstructed, read and misread

the many way in which black masculinity is ~ (rap)

socially constructed

gender is ~

race is ~

rights are always ~ (legal rights for environment)

♦ "There's a great deal of hope in knowing that all of the inequality we see has been constructed. That means it's not natural. It's not innate. It doesn't have to be that way." (Nikole Hannah-Jones, on ABC, talking about the Hulu docuseries based on the 1619 Project.)

♦ "Nothing is socially constructed, everything is real, so deal with it..." (A gay man's criticism of privileged people with their own affirming narratives.)

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## construction (of gender, etc.)

construction of race

the story of the social ~

social construction

issue regarding the ~ of gender (feminism)

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## consume (emotions)

consumed him

guilt and shame ~ (financial infidelity)

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire / verb**

## consume (consumption)

consumed books

Melville ~ and was consumed by them

consuming the media

people are ~ differently nowadays

consumed no news

many had ~ about the case (jurors)

consumed online

what they ~ warped and narrowed their vision of the world

**consumption: food & drink / verb**

## consume (destroy)

consumed 4 Turkish divisions

Yemen ~ in the 19th century

**destruction: fire / food & drink / predation / verb**

## consumed (emotion)

consumed by envy

I was not ~, but it was there (a boy)

consumed by an uncontrollable rage

someone ~ (girl stabbed 40 times)

consumed by thoughts of revenge

he was ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire**

## consumed (destroyed)

consumed in confidence  
your wisdom is ~

consumed by a fight  
today will be ~ over the rules of the trial

**destruction: fire / food & drink / predation**

## consumer (of information, etc.)

consumers of culture  
we're not just ~ but producers of culture (U.S. Muslims)

consumers of information  
I want people to be critical ~

consumers of media  
~ in a capitalist, money-obsessed country love a fraudster

consumers of (social) media  
the rules will have implications for U.S. ~ (data privacy)

consumers of news  
it would be a disservice to ~ for me... (CNN's Bernard Shaw)

consumers of (fake) news  
what is going on with ~

consumers of (mobile) technology  
Blacks and Latinos are heavy ~

main consumers  
women are the ~ of true crime narratives

fans and consumers  
girls have always been crucial ~ of rock (music)

♦ *People are a commodity to be exploited in the U.S.*

**consumption: food & drink / person**

## consumption (noun)

media consumption  
~ and loneliness in the midst of hyper-connection

public consumption  
everything is on social media, for ~ (a scandal)

♦ *"While they've mostly shed their fusty reputation, documentaries still give the impression of being more nutritious than the average TV treat."*

**consumption: food & drink**

## contagion (noun)

contagion  
if the ~ spreads widely... (failing economies of states)

contagion of meaninglessness  
this ~ (the word *progress* applied to Afghan War)

contagion of stupidity  
he described what happened as a ~ (mass beach brawl)

'turnover contagion'  
a chain reaction known as ~ (mass resignations)

social contagion  
~ and peer influences (friends / transgender-identification)  
the TikTok mental health explosion is a modern version of ~

risk of contagion  
regulators were worried about the ~ (Silicon Valley Bank)

lead to contagion  
amplification in the media can ~ (names of mass shooters)

♦ *A report on the Credit Suisse Bank failure and bailout used the words "collateral damage," "contagion," and "domino effect."*

**affliction / corruption / transmission: health & medicine**

## contagious (emotion)

contagious  
the girl's lack of ambition was ~ (to high-school boy)  
feelings are ~  
she had a laugh that was ~  
overconfidence can be ~ (teams)  
winning is ~ (sports teams)  
his boldness and confidence were ~ Alex Honnold)

**feeling, emotion & effect / transmission: health & medicine**

## contaminate (verb)

contaminated the inquiry  
the media ~ (Amanda Knox)

contaminate the interrogation  
interrogators can ~ by providing details

**corruption: materials & substances**

## contamination

contamination  
~ is the primary factor in wrongful convictions

**corruption: materials & substances**

## contaminated

contaminated  
confessions are ~ when interrogators supply details

**corruption: materials & substances**

## contest (noun)

contest of measure and countermeasure  
it's a grim ~ (IEDs / Iraq)

popularity contest  
he was bound to lose the ~

grim contest  
it's a ~ of measure and countermeasure (IEDs / Iraq)

lose the (popularity) contest  
he was bound to ~

**competition: sports & games**

## contour (noun)

contours of it

we know some basic ~ now (from the Muller Report)

basic contours

we already knew the ~ of both sides' arguments (politics)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / area / environment:**

**ground, terrain & land**

**shape: ground, terrain & land**

## control (in control)

in control of his emotions

he is not ~

more in control

I always enjoy leading and it helped me feel ~ (kayaking)

felt (very much) in control

she ~ (a positive job interview)

**feeling, emotion & effect: control & lack of control**

## control (out of control)

out of control

the \$100 billion timber industry is ~

the perception that juvenile violence is ~

he's ~ (behavior)

our wireless bills are ~

out-of-control drivers

laws against ~

out-of-control person

an ~

out-of-control quality

a wild, nervy ~ to his writing

out-of-control rebel

the angry, ~

out-of-control shopper

an ~

out-of-control (urban) sprawl

~ (Austin)

blossom out of control

the consequences can ~ (problems on 767 jetliner)

feel out of control

badly designed intelligent technology makes us ~

getting out of control

things were ~

the situation seems to be ~

got out of control

they were away and the kids ~

spinning out of control

digital downloading and copying is ~

his personal life seemed to be ~

Nairobi is ~ (crime)

spinning (faster) out of control

Hernandez was ~

spun out of control

the argument ~

spiraled out of control

Rye's junior prom ~ (drunk teens)

spiraling out of control

in danger of ~

spiral out of control

medical expenses can often ~

his life seemed to ~ (drug addict)

**restraint & lack of restraint: control & lack of control**

## control (under control)

under control

everything is ~

I've got everything ~

**restraint & lack of restraint: control & lack of control**

## control (behavior)

under control

he can get his erratic behavior ~

get his (erratic) behavior under control

he can ~

**behavior: control & lack of control**

## control (out of one's control)

out of your control

some things are ~

**fate, fortune & chance: control & lack of control**

## conversation (groups, etc.)

conversation

is this mainly a ~ that takes place among a select group

there's never a ~ about it (race and slavery in the U.S.)

conversations where

we're having these dishonest ~ children... (race)

have these ~ people can you know choose mental health...

conversation about what

a new chapter in the American ~ racial justice / inequity...

conversation about whether

the result will provoke a ~...

conversation about race

it's time to retire the "serious ~" (SCAR)

her work helped change the national ~ (1619 Project)

conversation about these shows or plays

collectively, the industry must have ~ that are problematic

(the rape and murder of girls and women)

conversations on Black Language education

she is a national leader in ~ (a Black academic)

conversation on police reform and race  
 his death jumpstarted a national ~

conversation between Black men  
 a ~ (ABC News with T.J. Holmes)

conversation around Native Hawaiians  
 he is working to change the ~

water cooler conversation  
 see *water cooler (digital water cooler, etc.)*

thousand conversations  
 this acutely argued book will engender a ~ (blurb)

growing conversation  
 there has been a ~ about the mental health of athletes

broader conversation  
 there's a ~ happening around Critical Race Theory  
 there's a ~ taking place, there's a hot debate... (CRT)

"courageous conversations"  
 the office hosted a series of ~ about race (education)

cultural conversation  
 it's provoked a conversation that has dominated the ~  
 (#FreeBritney)

difficult conversation  
 the ~ about Bill Cosby

environmental conversation  
 she brought the ~ to petrolheads (Leilani Munter)

familiar conversations  
 he tells stories that follow ~ into unfamiliar territory (ad)

fearless conversations  
 the ~ about race you've been waiting for (NPR)  
 ~ about race (CODE SW!TCH® RACE. IN YOU FACE.)

hard conversations  
 I had to have these kind of ~ with myself about... (marriage)

honest conversation  
 it's time for a more ~ (linguist John McWhorter)

intentional conversations  
 ~ between partisans could be a catalyst for national healing

national conversation  
 her work helped change the ~ about race (1619 Project)  
 the ~ has become so binary and simplistic  
 her reporting always advances the ~ (NPR's Tovia Smith)

necessary conversation  
 engage in a ~ about how to avert these risks

open conversations  
 we have to start having more ~ about this (ageism)

parallel conversations  
 I think we need to have two ~ (about Elon Musk's Twitter)

public conversation  
 make this a public shaming and ~ (online petition site)

ridiculous conversation

but ultimately this is a ~ (a teacher who used racial slurs)

sophisticated conversation  
 society has to have an even more ~ about how the roots of...

tricky conversations  
 it's important not to shy away from ~ (reintroducing wolves)

uncomfortable conversation  
 you have to be ready to have the ~

gatekeeper of (public) conversation  
 Twitter has become this ~ (India, Turkey, etc.)

part of the (national) conversation  
 the video became ~ over police responses

rise of conversations  
 with the ~ around police brutality...

weight in this conversation  
 it's crazy he has ~ at all (Clooney about an investor)

conversation has (really) given us space  
 the ~ to say, "I don't agree with what's going on"

conversation go next  
 where does this ~ (sports and mental illness)

conversation has to translate  
 when ~ (policing reform)

conversation is long overdue  
 this ~ (about porn and the U.S.)

add something (of substance) to the conversation  
 journalist scrutiny would ~ (Ronan Farrow)

advance the conversation  
 I wrote the book to encourage and ~ about race

advances the (national) conversation  
 her reporting always ~ (NPR's Tovia Smith)

belongs in the conversation  
 he will have to win to prove that he ~ (MMA)

bring families into the conversation  
 discretion in terms of when to ~ (school counselors)

brought the environmental conversation to petrolheads  
 she ~ (Leilani Munter)

changed the conversation  
 the #MeToo movement ~ around sexual assault

change the (national) conversation  
 her work helped ~ about race (1619 Project)

dominated the (cultural) conversation  
 it has provoked a conversation that has ~ (#FreeBritney)

dominating the conversation  
 inflation is really ~ right now (politics)

drive more conversation  
 it's important we help ~ about these drugs (son died)

elevate the conversation

the more we ~ of how Black women are maligned...  
 encourage (and advance) the conversation  
 I wrote the book to ~ about race (Rachel Dolezal)  
 have this conversation  
 we think it's time to ~  
 host more (mental health) conversations  
 Camila Cabello wants to ~ in Latino community  
 lead the (national) conversation  
 we will continue to ~ on gun safety reform (Gov. Newsome)  
 left out of the conversation  
 the hospitality industry has been ~ about ending lockdown  
 opening up a conversation  
 it is ~ for people (about mental health)  
 prompt conversations  
 we hope our expert report will ~ among... (a think tank)  
 provoke a conversation  
 the result will ~ about whether...  
 provoked a conversation  
 the documentary has ~ about tabloids and celebrities  
 provoking the conversation  
 I'm glad he's asking the questions and ~ (about Bill Cosby)  
 rate the quality of this conversation  
 how would you ~ (very toxic / toxic / neither / healthy / very healthy)  
 retire the ("serious) conversation  
 it's time to ~ about race" (SCAR)  
 spark conversation  
 it will ~ and educate people (Aboriginal flag on bridge)  
 spark conversations  
 the shootings should ~ about mental health, violence...  
 sparked a conversation  
 his death has ~ around the treatment of sumo wrestlers  
 start these conversations  
 workers can ~, move these conversations, ignite that fire  
 stays in the conversation  
 making you wonder is how he ~ (politics / Trump)  
 take on this (national) conversation  
 as we continue to ~ about systematic racism and...  
 ♦ see also *talk* (*talk about something / groups, etc.*)  
 ♦ "We do support the independence of museums and heritage organizations, this is just the start of a conversation about working together to protect heritage." (Government statement after it threatened to withhold funds from museums and was rebuked by the Museums Association.)  
 ♦ "[Her case] is opening up this space to have these conversations where people can you know choose mental health over you know necessarily you know showing up to work when they're feeling miserable." (ABC, "Naomi Osaka Steps Away.")  
 ♦ "That was a direct result of her uplifting our space during her conversation." (Fawn E. Pocheil, who identifies as First Nations Ojibwe,

about a speech by Cutcha Risling Baldy at Dominican University that resulted in \$200 in "unexpected" donations to the First Nations Garden.)  
 ♦ "I think it's more than a conversation now, I think it's a movement. (Osaka, Biles, etc.)  
 ♦ "It does open up a conversation because it's her using her voice and her platform to really call out systemic change, which she has done before. I think she can show other girls and women who look like her how to empower them to stand up for themselves in ways that I think we haven't always been able to see." (C. Vaile Wright, PhD, a clinical psychologist and the American Psychological Association's Senior Director of Health Care Innovation, about Naomi Osaka and mental health.)  
 ♦ "Much of the conversation about antisemitism has nothing to do with antisemitism, it's actually about influencing and controlling the conversation inside the Jewish community. It's an arms race to define what is antisemitism in the Jewish community, which is, of course, stupid and it's a waste of resources." (Andres Spokoiny, president of the Jewish Funders Network. From "Dark money, questionable partners behind new group fighting antisemitism" by Arno Rosenfeld, *The Forward*, April 22, 2021.)  
 ♦ "[W]e are spending a lot of time on erasure, and these are great conversations to have with children..." ("Born on the Water" puts the '1619 Project' into kids' hands," NPR, All Things Considered, February 17, 2022.)  
 ♦ "The 'good' conversation versus the 'sexual assault' conversation." (About Bill Cosby.)  
 ♦ "Of course, one man's negotiation is another man's conversation is another man's ransom." ("A Metaphor Meltdown At The White House," NPR, It's All Politics, Ari Shapiro, October 10, 2013.)  
 ♦ "Why It's Time To Retire The 'Serious Conversation About Race,'" with Damon Young, 1A, WAMU, NPR, July 16, 2020.  
 ♦ "We should have that conversation; We need to have that conversation; What an interesting idea, I think we should have that conversation..." (Excellent ways not to say yes or no, to make no commitment, while at the same time sounding sympathetic.)  
 ♦ "We need you to talk. We need you to stop sitting around the dinner table acting like everything's great because it's not. Just because you aren't experiencing it doesn't mean it's not happening. Your role in this is to help change the system." (Jillian Hanesworth's advice to white people about systemic racism. From "Buffalo's poet laureate calls for change" by Raquel Maria Dillon, NPR, Race, May 17, 2022.)  
 ♦ "I want to change the conversation for the better. Everyone should reconsider the ways they think and talk about athletes." (The ultimate goal of all these "conversations." You need to change the way you think and talk. End of conversation.)  
 ♦ "In any event, what all committeemen like to call 'conversations' could now go forward." (January 1, 1635. Martin Gerritsen gets down to trade business with the Oneida Indians on the Mohawk River. From *The Mohawk* by Codman Hislop.)  
 ♦ "She was not in the quote unquote conversation." (*New Yorker* writer Michael Schulman about the actor Andrea Riseborough and the 2023 Oscars.)  
 ♦ "It's commonplace today to speak of our 'national conversation.' This metaphorical phrase seems almost insincere, especially when you consider that it necessarily entails the three subjects normally considered conversationally taboo: politics, religion, and money. These subjects sow division. And so it seems unlikely that any 'national conversation' will meet Emerson's standard of 'wise, cultivated, genial conversation' amounting to 'the last flower of civilization.' Let's hope it's not the last flower." ("Conversation As One of the Fine Arts" by Bryan A. Garner, *National Review*, August 1, 2022.)  
 ♦ "it is becoming an idiotic buzz word." (JohnSchreiber) (2011.)  
 ♦ "You can like it, not like it, be upset about it all you like. But ultimately this is a ridiculous conversation." ("Kansas City teacher fired after repeated use of racial slur" by the AP, Dec. 19, 2022. The article did not mention which racial slur was used.)  
 ♦ "It's time for a more honest conversation."

#### inclusion & exclusion: messaging

## convert (person)

backcountry converts  
many are ~ (at Bluebird Back Country skiing resort)

out for converts  
he is a culinary evangelist ~ (chef)

won many converts  
he ~ to his ideas

**message / enthusiasm: person / religion**

**person: religion**

## conveyor belt

conveyor belt of assistants  
a ~ rotates in and out (an abusive Hollywood assistant)

conveyor belt of houseguests  
a ~ didn't staunch the loneliness

talent conveyor belt  
he is just one to come off the club's ~ (Lochend boxing)

♦ The Lochend Boxing and Fitness Club welcomes anyone. It has produced many fine boxers, Josh Taylor being but one.

**movement: mechanism**

**creation & transformation: manufacturing**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: mechanism / movement**

## convulse (verb)

convulsed in a spasm  
for 3 minutes the casino ~ of violence (biker riot)

convulsing with change  
Ethiopia has been ~

convulsed India  
globalism and capitalism has ~

convulsed the country  
waves of anti-foreign sentiment ~

**affliction: health & medicine / movement / verb**

**activity: health & medicine / movement / verb**

## convulsed

convulsed by nationwide protests  
the US has been ~

convulsed by (ethnic) strife  
the area is ~

**affliction: health & medicine / movement**

**activity: health & medicine / movement**

## convulsion (noun)

financial convulsion  
a breakup of the EU would cause a ~

**affliction: health & medicine / movement**

**activity: health & medicine / movement**

## cooked up

cooked up at Eglin Air Force Base  
the planes were armed by a new bomb ~

**creation & transformation: cooking**

## cookie jar (noun)

cookie jar of jobs, concessions, contracts  
Daly wants to protect the ~ (politician)

got caught with his hand in the cookie jar  
he ~ (corruption)

**money: sign, signal, symbol**

## cook up (verb)

cooked up a plan  
he and Tomaz ~ to climb Nuptse by a new route

cooked up the story  
they ~ to get the reward (murder case)

**creation & transformation: cooking / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## cool (cool off / activity)

cool off  
his career began to ~ (a singer)

**activity: temperature / verb**

## cool (feeling)

maintain their cool  
they need to ~ (a team)

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature**

## cool down (verb)

cool down  
I got a postponement, it will give things a chance to ~

♦ "Let me take my own advice and cool the temperature in the room a little bit." (An upset Michael Van Der Veen at the impeachment trial in 2021. He paused, sighed, and then continued in a less emotional tone of voice.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature / verb**

## coolheaded (and cool-headed)

coolheaded killer  
he is a ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: head / temperature**

**character & personality: head / temperature**

## coolly (adverb)

coolly  
she looked at me ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature**

## cool off (verb)

cooled off

he regrets what he did now that he has ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature / verb**

## coop (fly the coop)

flying the coop to Mastodon

Twitter users are ~

**allegiance, support & betrayal: bird / verb**

## cooped up

cooped up in the White House

an active man, he felt ~ (President Grant)

cooped up (in his study) since six o'clock

he's been ~ this morning

cooped up indoors

he loved the outdoor life and hated being ~

**constraint & lack of constraint / isolation & remoteness:**

bird

## coopt (and co-opt)

coopt and control

elite, white-led institutions ~ the historical narrative

♦ "It was ironic, it was arch, so it felt like, 'Oh My God! they're using this against us!'" (Ruth Perry, who founded the Women's Study Department at MIT in 1984, about the term "political correctness." From "How Cancel Culture Became Politicized—Just Like Political Correctness," NPR, All Things Considered, July 26, 2021.)

♦ "My body, my choice": How vaccine foes co-opted the abortion rallying cry" by Rachel Bluth, NPR, Public Health, July 4, 2022.

♦ "The property was stolen from us because it was bringing Black and white people together to preserve democracy. The land should be repatriated, back to the Highlander Folk School, which is now the Highlander Research and Education Center." (Ash-Lee Woodard Henderson. From "Fight over future of library that sparked civil rights ideas" by Travis Loller, AP, September 3, 2022. A very interesting article.)

♦ According to the Wikipedia entry, the term "moral distress" originated in the 1980s in reference to health-care workers. Through "concept inflation" or "co-option," the construct has since been applied to soldiers, police, firefighters, EMTs, legal defenders and lawyers, people in child and adult protective services, and even to veterinarians, leading inevitably to the construct's disparagement: "moral injury Olympics."

♦ The concept of "burnout," originally coined to describe the way many drug addicts felt in the late 1960s, has been expanded to *Achilles in the Bronze Age*. (See "It's Just Too Much" by Jill Lepore, *The New Yorker*, May 24, 2021. An excellent article by an excellent writer. The use of modern contempo-speak in a historical context is linguistic presentism.)

♦ "The push to expand the trained workforce coincides with a growing understanding of trauma's effect. The National Council for Behavioral health, a nonprofit organization of mental health care providers, calls trauma a "near universal experience" for people with mental and behavioral health issues." ("Not Just For soldiers: Civilians With PTSD Struggle To Find Effective Therapy" by Caroline Covington, NPR, May 20, 2019.)

♦ The term is coopted (and perhaps modified) by others groups. "Black lives matter" becomes "Blue lives matter," "All lives matter," "Black Dykes Matter," etc. "Homophobia" becomes "hot phobia." "Ghosting" becomes "zombie." Doing anything "while black" morphs to NPR's Selena Simmons-Duffin's "Talking while Female." The term is picked up by corporate advertisers, looking to appeal to specific groups and make profits. The term is used by aging news anchors, dowager readers, and

ancient pundits. The term is used by politicians. The term is repeated from the pulpit. (Dialects are a major way everyone from corporations and pastors and military leaders and the like reach target demographics.) In the media, the term might be used first with quotes, but later the quotes will be dropped. The term begins to occur in the captions of cartoons: a real estate agent showing an apartment to a hip young couple says, "The refrigerator isn't just smart, it's woke!" (*The New Yorker*.) Finally, the term becomes a porn category: "Lesbian ASMR," etc..... (The stages of linguistic cooption that weaves a cliché into the fabric of society.)

♦ You can "weaponize" absolutely anything nowadays. Mental health might refer to a gymnast's "twisties" or a mass shooting. What *doesn't* "matter" nowadays? What animal *can't* be an "emotional support animal" nowadays? What *can't* cause "harm" or "PTSD" or "trauma" nowadays? Who *isn't* a "survivor" of something nowadays? Who or what *can't* be a "hero" nowadays? When everything "matters," nothing matters.

♦ see also *appropriate (groups), appropriation (groups), misappropriate (groups), misappropriated, misappropriation (groups, etc.), reappropriate (groups), reappropriation (groups), reclaim (groups), reclaimed (groups), take back (take back one's life, etc.)*

**inclusion & exclusion: possession**

## cop (good cop, bad cop)

played the good cop to King's bad cop

Boies ~ (*Bad Blood* by John Carreyrou)

**role / subterfuge: crime**

## copybook (noun)

copybook case

it was a ~ of child abuse (born with cleft palate)

**script: school & education**

## copycat (noun)

copycat of a terrorist attack

the shooting was initially feared to be a ~

copycat acts

officials feared publicity would trigger ~

copycat films

*The Omen* (1976) inspired sequels and ~

copycat Hollywood

audiences starved for originality in ~

copycat threats

students charged in rash of ~ after Oxford High shooting

♦ Merriam-Webster identifies the first known use as 1896. Others identify first use as 1887. The idea of a *copycat crime* seems to come from the 1960s and seems to have achieved acceptance by the 1980s.

**repetition: cat**

## core (basis)

at its core

~, this issue all boils down to money

**bases: center & periphery**

## core (cottagecore, etc.)

balletcore

she brought ~ to the Met Gala red carpet

the ~ aesthetic (a pastel ensemble)

~ can be red carpet or casual

Barbie core  
~, the 80s-inspired unapologetically pink aesthetic...

cottagecore  
~ is a fashion aesthetic (teens, young adults)  
~ enthusiasts shared videos of themselves baking bread  
lesbians have particularly been fond of ~  
~ was a reaction to the pandemic (COVID)

Digicore  
~ is made up of mostly queer people of color

nightcore  
~ is a genre that increased the pitch and tempo of songs

slowcore  
the ~ trio Codeine... (music 1990)

thrift-core  
a shift from label obsession to ~

little Mexican girl-core  
the popularization of aesthetics like “~”

♦ Grandmacore, farmcore, goblincore, fairycore...

♦ see also *aesthetic (and aesthetics)*

**contempo-speak: affix**

## **corkscrew (verb)**

corkscrewed above the airport  
he took off and ~ until we reached 8,000 feet (plane)

**direction / movement: shape / verb**

## **corkscrew (shape)**

corkscrew ascents and descents  
~ to evade fire (Iraqi Airways)

**direction: shape**

## **corner (spring is just around the corner)**

Halloween is around the corner  
~ and guess what that means

victory is around the corner  
officials insist ~ (war)

spring is just around the corner  
~ and I can't wait

just around the corner  
planting season is ~  
Christmas is ~

**proximity: corner / distance**

**future / time: corner / distance**

## **corner (in remote corners, etc.)**

in the corners of the internet  
the theories began ~ and made it into mainstream news

in the dark corners of cyberspace  
~ (child pornography)

in some corners of the humanities  
there is resistance to such analysis ~

in the (more) paranoid corners of the Internet  
he posted messages ~

in many corners of the West  
uranium mining boomed ~

in some corners of the book world  
there is opposition ~

**area: center & periphery / corner**

## **corner (other)**

from all corners of the (political) spectrum  
he received criticism ~

shines light into some of the darkest corners  
the book ~ of M15

ventured into remote corners  
he ~ (a photographer)

**area: center & periphery / corner**

## **corner (turn the corner)**

turned the corner  
we have ~ (economic upturn after downturn)  
this month he ~, and made a profit (businessman)  
so has America finally ~ (economic downturn)

turned a corner  
United fans hoped their club had ~ (loss after 3 wins)

turn the corner on unemployment  
we are beginning to ~

beginning to turn the corner  
we are ~ on unemployment

**progress & lack of progress: corner / verb**

**development: corner / verb**

## **corner (in a tight corner, etc.)**

tightest corner  
United somehow got out of the ~ in Paris (soccer win)

backed ourselves into a corner  
we've sort of ~ (war strategy)

boxed himself into a corner  
he has ~ on tax increases (a politician)

painted himself into a corner  
he has ~ (world leader)

**movement: corner**

**constraint & lack of constraint / situation: boxing / container / corner / movement**

## **corner (in one's corner)**

in my corner  
she supports me, she's ~

**allegiance, support & betrayal: boxing / corner**

## corner (cut corners)

cut corners

oil companies ~ to maximize profits

cut any corners

in this business we don't ~ (helicopter tours)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: corner / distance / journeys & trips**

## corner (corner cases, etc.)

edge and corner

it doesn't take long to find ~ cases (grammar rules)

**division & connection: boundary**

## cornered (adjective)

felt cornered

the boss ~ and that person ended up quitting (pay dispute)

♦ "If you bait a cornered dog, he will bite."

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting**

## cornerstone (noun)

cornerstone of the BBC

impartiality is a ~

cornerstone of the collection

the painting will be the ~ (a new museum)

cornerstones of the economy

blue-chip companies, once considered ~... (recession)

cornerstone of identity

Egyptians increasingly emphasize Islam as the ~

cornerstone of (US) policy

Egypt is the ~ in the Middle East

cornerstones of terrorism

unemployment creates one of the ~ (Prince Talal)

cornerstone of (addiction) treatment

Alcoholics Anonymous remains the ~ in the US

cornerstone of Roma life

child marriage is a ~ (tradition)

cornerstone of academic culture

peer review is a ~ (publishing)

cornerstone of the scientific method

replication is a ~

emphasize Islam as the cornerstone

Egyptians increasingly ~ of identity

**bases: infrastructure**

## cornucopia (variety)

cornucopia of (political) books

this fall's ~ features two kinds...

cornucopia of candidates

the debates have featured a ~ (Democratic politics / 2020)

cornucopia of goods

a ~ flooded the American marketplace (post-WWII)

cornucopia of (educational) opportunities

colleges have traditionally offered a ~ (in good times)

cornucopia of shit

it's a ~ basically (dialogue from *Words On Bathroom Walls*)

make a cornucopia

climate change could ~ out of frigid, unproductive land

♦ From *cornu*, Latin for horn, and *copia*, plenty: the horn of plenty. Based on a Greek myth involving the goat Althea who nursed the infant Zeus.

**alternatives & choices / amount: allusion / food & drink**

**group, set & collection: allusion / food & drink**

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: allusion / food & drink**

## coronation (noun)

veritable coronation

the Chicago convention was a ~ of Grant (Republicans)

**achievement, recognition & praise: royalty**

## corral (verb)

corralled her family

she ~ (husband and 8 kids / and fled house / war)

corral multiple fires

fire crews rushed to ~

corralled a group

five people were arrested after cops ~ of squatters who...

corral him

Georgia has to find a way to ~ (Bryce Young / football)

corral the far left

can she ~ in her party (politics)

corral all 50 members

he is still trying to ~ to agree... (politics)

corral their models

scientists need real-world data to ~ (for realistic outcomes)

corral the (necessary) support

he is still working to ~ for his bid to be speaker (politics)

corrals (a range of) voices

*Women on Food*, a book that ~ (Charlotte Druckman)

corral wildfire

winds frustrate effort to ~ near lake Tahoe

corralled politicians, executives, and officials

for nearly six months, she ~ (Deborah Birk / pandemic)

paywalls corral readers

~ like cattle into the subscriber pen

♦ "So, what we did was, just get shoulder to shoulder...and started pushing the people back to the other side of the airstrip, corralled them there... That turned into two and a half days of a constant bitter struggle..." (Marine Lt Col Chris Richardella on the events of August 15, 2021, at the Kabul airport.)

**conflict / control & lack of control: animal / cows & cattle / horse / verb**

## corralled

corralled in left field  
the speedy cat was ~

♦ "The speedy cat evaded the grounds crew before being corralled in left field." (Yankees vs. Baltimore Orioles at Yankee Stadium.)

**control & lack of control: animal / cows & cattle / horse**

## correct (political correctness)

see *political correctness (groups)*

## correct (politically correct)

see *politically correct (groups)*

## corridor (route)

commuter corridors  
the ~ have become the "covid corridor" (East Coast)

"covid corridor"  
the commuter corridors have become the ~ (East Coast)

drug corridor  
Interstate 44 is a ~ (Missouri)

migration corridor  
the Bering land bridge served as a ~ for people

travel corridor  
the region is a ~ for illegal immigrants

ventilation corridors  
natural landscape features can function as ~ (heat / cities)  
~ are very relevant for large, dense coastal cities

pedestrian and bicycle-friendly corridors  
~ (urban planning)

I-95 corridor  
heroin goes down the ~ to secondary markets (from NYC)

maritime humanitarian corridor  
3 more grain ships departed through the ~ (Ukraine War)

**route: infrastructure**

**transmission: infrastructure / route**

## corridor (area)

wildlife corridor  
nature preserves provide a ~ for birds and animals

high-technology corridor  
the metro services Northern Virginia's ~

commercial corridor  
the Metro revitalized the sagging ~ between...

green corridor  
in places the ~ is only 50 feet wide (along river)

strategic corridor  
Georgia is a ~ for Western oil companies

31-mile corridor  
deforestation occurs in a ~ on either side of roads

tiny corridor  
oil exports are squeezed through this ~ (Strait of Hormuz)

**area: shape**

## corridor (Siliguri Corridor, etc.)

corridor between the Eastern and Western hemispheres  
the Aleutian Islands form a natural ~ (W.W. II)

Gansu Corridor  
the ~ between Suchow and Chang 'an (Xi'an / Silk Road)

Hexi corridor  
the narrow, 600-mile defile known as the ~ (Gansu)  
the ~, the passageway for traders from the outer west...

"Lachin corridor"  
the ~ links Stepanakert to Armenia

Lachin Corridor  
the ~ connects Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh

Neum corridor  
a 9km-long section of Bosnian coastline known as the ~

Siliguri Corridor  
the ~ is also known as the Chickens Neck

National Heritage Corridor  
the Blackstone River Valley ~

Wakhan Corridor  
the ~ (Afghanistan)

**geography / proper name: infrastructure**

## corridor (corridors of power)

corridors of power  
ordinary Americans are kept out of the ~ (politics)

Australia's corridors of power  
allegations of a toxic work culture in ~

in the corridors of power  
the religious right is flexing its muscles ~  
the fine line between persuasion and intimidation ~

access to the corridors of power  
the reporter has unrivalled ~ (Bob Woodward)  
he loved his ~ (a media person)

gain admittance to the corridors of power  
once women ~

kept out of the corridors of power  
ordinary Americans are ~

**power: infrastructure / sign, signal, symbol**

## corrosive (adjective)

corrosive for democracy  
rich contributors are ~ (money)

corrosive effect  
corruption was perhaps the most ~ of communism

corrosive role  
the ~ of money in politics (rich special-interest groups)

**feeling, emotion & effect: chemistry / materials & substances / sensation**

### corrupting

corrupting force  
the tabloids portrayed her as a ~

**corruption: health & medicine**

### corruption (noun)

moral corruption  
TV and radio promote ~

**corruption: health & medicine**

### coruscating (adjective)

coruscating observations  
he had room to make his ~ (TV)

**superlative: light & dark**

### cost (verb)

cost them  
the editor knew all along it would ~ (controversy)

cost me my hand  
one tiny wound ~ (a firefighter)

cost him his job  
the revelation ~ (child porn on computer)  
his failure to deliver on his promise ~ (a coach)

costs you nothing  
it ~ but your time (a free Internet program)

costing teachers their jobs  
budget cuts are now ~

cost him his life  
his drug habit very nearly ~ (a musician)  
his diligence ~ (a police officer)

cost the climbers a shot  
helping the other group ~ at the summit

cost him his (boxing) title  
his refusal to serve ~ (Muhammad Ali)

cost Unsoeld his toes  
that night ~ (high-altitude bivouac)

cost the state thousands of jobs  
his economic policies have ~

cost you an arm and a leg  
this vacation getaway won't ~

cost the team big time  
the mistake ~

cost the lives  
the civil war ~ of 100,000 Maya Indians (Guatemala)

cost her votes  
the proposal could ~ in a general election (politics)

**cost & benefit: money / verb**

### cost (at a cost)

at the cost of his life  
Sfc. Ashley's bravery ~ was in the highest traditions of...

at enormous cost  
gold is wrung from the earth ~

even at the cost  
they are desperate to flee their country ~ of their lives

**cost & benefit / judgment: money**

### cost (at all costs, etc.)

at all costs  
Czech hedgehogs symbolized "defense ~" in the USSR

protect (passengers) at all costs  
air marshals must ~

hold Stalingrad at any cost  
we are to ~, Comrade Stalin knows best

**commitment & determination / cost & benefit / resistance, opposition & defeat: money**

### cost (cost time, etc.)

see time (cost time, etc.)

### cost (other)

costs of Vietnam  
the ~ remain with us (troubled vets, sons, etc.)

cost of his life  
absorbing the grenade blast at the ~

cost of war  
let us not forget the terrible ~

costs of war  
the ~ and the price of peace (soldiers)

costs of gambling  
the hidden ~ (divorce, etc.)

cost to having  
there is a ~ an overload of choice

hidden costs  
the ~ of gambling (divorce, etc.)

environmental cost  
war has not only a human cost, but a tragic ~ as well  
gold is wrung from the earth at enormous ~

human cost  
war has not only a ~, but a tragic environmental cost

political cost

both leaders are paying a ~ at home for... (foreign policy)

reputational cost

the wars have carried a ~ (civilian casualties)

tragic (environmental) cost

war's ~

financial and human cost

the ~ was enormous (the Ugandan Railway)

**cost & benefit / judgment: money**

## costly (adjective)

costly

you have laid so ~ a sacrifice... (Lincoln)

politically costly

it's ~ to criticize Jews (US elections)

**cost & benefit: money**

## couch (casting couch)

casting couch

Hollywood's seedy underbelly, the ~

spoke out against the casting couch

she ~ (Maureen O'Hara)

**sex: euphemism**

## cough (snark / noun)

\*Cough\* AJ

~ (reply to an online commenter)

♦ Commenter 1 (AJ): Yarde's gum shield kept falling out of his mouth—to get a breather. Could they not have glued it on... / Commenter 2: Too many fighters rely on the old juice in the ring. Then they gas because their lungs can't cope with the extra muscle. / Commenter 3: \*Cough\* AJ. (Wicked boxing snark on a BBC HYS about Beterbiev vs. Yarde.)

**language: sarcasm**

## cough up (verb)

cough up more money

the US wants its allies to ~ (for world defense)

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: bodily reaction**

## countdown (noun)

countdown

the ~ starts now (ad for big game in future)

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: clock / number**

## counted out (boxing)

counted out

he was ~, but... (Trump wins Republican primary)

**resistance, opposition & defeat / starting, going, continuing & ending: boxing / sports & games**

## counterattack (verb)

cold counterattacked

then the ~... (Antarctica temperatures fall)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military / verb**

## counterattack (noun)

counterattack

the Embassy began a ~

the besieged politicians have started a ~ (politics)

preparing a counterattack

the gas industry was ~

**conflict / resistance, opposition & defeat: military**

## counterbalance (verb)

counterbalance his dependence

he is trying to ~ on the US by dealing with China

counterbalance Western media

Al Jazeera was founded to ~

**equilibrium & stability: scale / verb**

**amelioration & renewal: equilibrium & stability / scale / verb**

## counterbalance (noun)

counterbalance to industry

the FDA is the ~

counterbalance to the presidency

the Supreme Court is a ~

counterbalance to the US press

Al Jazeera is an excellent ~

counterbalance to the liberal Western order

he wants to establish Russia as a ~ (Putin)

counterbalance to corporate power

unions are a ~

generational counterbalance

the mothers of nominees provided ~ (Academy Awards)

liberal counterbalance

she will serve as a ~ to the conservative wing

**amelioration & renewal: equilibrium & stability / scale**

**equilibrium & stability: scale**

## counterweight (noun)

counterweight

the international media is biased, there must be a ~

counterweight against Britain and France

he needed a ~ (Bismarck at the Berlin Conference)

counterweight to Iran

US forces remain as a ~ (on the Arabian Peninsula)

political counterweight

he was there to serve this ~ function (Joe Biden)

**amelioration & renewal: equilibrium & stability / scale**

**equilibrium & stability: scale**

## count on (count on me, etc.)

count on me

you can always ~

♦ "You can always count on me, for sure, that's what friends are for." (Dionne Warwick with Gladys Knight, Stevie Wonder, and Elton John. 137 million views and counting.)

♦ "A friend in need is a friend indeed." (This means, "A friend who helps you when you are in great need is a friend indeed. For example, if you need money. But the true friend is the one who will die for you.)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: number / verb**

## coup (power)

coup

I was fired, it was basically a ~ by... (political job)  
the impeachment process is a ~ (President Trump)

board coup

she had survived an aborted ~ and was back in power

boardroom coup

the son deposed his father in a ~ (Budweiser beer)  
the ~ was shrouded in mystery (Tata / India)

parliamentary coup

the opposition leaders are calling this a ~ (Venezuela)

**dismissal, removal & resignation / power: military**

## coup (achievement)

publicity coup

Kipchoge's achievement is a ~ for Ineos (marathon)

diplomatic coup

the conference was a ~ for Iran

great coup

workers hailed the decision as a ~ (unionization)

pulled off a (massive) coup

the Clippers ~, by signing... (the best free agent / NBA)

**achievement, recognition & praise / success & failure:**

**military / violence**

## coup de grace (deathblow)

coup de grace

facing down Biden was the ~ on her evening (politics)

courtroom coup de grace

his political adversaries were hoping for a ~ (report)

**destruction: death & life / violence / weapon**

## coupled

coupled with love

high expectations ~ is a gift (child-rearing)

**division & connection: tools & technology**

**relationship: tools & technology**

## courage (groups)

courage not to go

it's about ~ to the Vietnam War... (Ken Burns on Ali)

extraordinary courage

PM David Cameron praised her ~ (Megan Bhari / charity)

incredible courage

we think Amber has demonstrated ~

true courage

he's shown ~ by acknowledging where he is at (troubled)

in awe of my courage

many said they were ~ to follow my dream (female blogger)

find the courage

they had to ~ to come forward (female gymnasts)

♦ "Logging 50 hours of supervised driving time, an Illinois requirement, takes a lot of time, patience and courage." (Dana Westreich Hirt, a Parent Coach "helping increase positive outcomes and decrease anxiety.")

♦ "My children can have an example of what courage looks like in real time, not in history." (Dr. Carl L. Hart of Columbia University, author of *Drug Use for Grown-Ups*, about being a regular heroin user.)

♦ "I know this has been a difficult decision for him. He's shown true courage by acknowledging where he is at and acting on it. We will support him in any way we can..." (Wallabies coach Dave Rennie about Australian captain Michael Hooper, who determined he was not in the right 'mindset' to play and returned home.)

♦ "We think Amber has demonstrated incredible courage..." (Larry Komp, attorney for his client Amber McLaughlin, 49, the first openly transgender woman to be executed in the U.S.)

♦ "Still, Hutchinson was the only witness, female or male, around whose testimony an entire hearing would be built. She was visibly nervous. Muldavin told her that her coming forward to testify was a show of courage that women and girls would look up to: 'You're going to be iconic.'" ("Inside the Jan. 6 Committee" by Robert Draper and Luke Broadwater, *The New York Times Magazine*, January 1, 2023.)

♦ A "crass exploitation play... I think this is just a play to pump up the audience, the way lots of things are put on television to attract eyeballs— not because of the validity but because of whatever the kind of gawker factor is." (Bob Costas on Caitlyn Jenner receiving the 2015 Arthur Ashe Courage Award.)

♦ The mascot of the North Carolina Courage, currently based in Cary, North Carolina, is a lioness, to "reflect the team as a group of professional women."

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## courageous (groups)

courageous conversations

the office hosted a series of "~" about race (education)

Courageous Conversations

"~: Racism and Linguistic Well-being in ELT" (TESOL)

visible, courageous and present

LBGQT folks have been so ~

call courageous

she put on a performance I think it's safe to ~ (Simon Biles)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## courageously

courageously sharing

the NFL family is proud of Carl for ~ his truth (gay)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## course (over the course / time)

over the course of the next month

Alabama will experience a steep increase in cases ~

over the course of a month

anxiety following a trauma that fades ~ isn't depression

**time: journeys & trips / movement**

## course (run its course, etc.)

run its course

Carley's relationship with Russ had ~

**starting, going, continuing & ending: movement / route / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## course (on course)

on course for victory

they looked ~ when... (sports)

**direction: journeys & trips**

## course (on a collision course)

on a collision course

the two countries are ~

on a collision course

people and the natural world are ~

on a collision course with his boss

he was ~ (Navy top brass)

on a collision course with the clerics

the royal family is ~ (Saudi)

on a collision course for the finals

they are ~ (two teams)

**conflict: crashes & collisions**

## course (change course, etc.)

course correction

the country is heading in the wrong direction, we need a ~

we can't move forward without a ~ (bribery scandal)

this could create a real ~ in the tech industry (fraud trial)

fresh course

helping convicted felons chart a ~

changed the course

their testimony has ~ of the investigation (police)

chart a (fresh) course

helping convicted felons ~

charted a new course

he has ~ and tacked to the center (politician)

corrected course

the agency has ~ on asylum detentions

change course

he didn't hesitate to ~ (a politician)

we are skeptical that Iran will ~ (diplomacy)

**direction: boat / journeys & trips / map / verb**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: boat / journeys & trips / map / verb**

## course (stay the course)

stay the course

he vowed to ~ (general leading war)

it is unacceptable to ~ (pandemic response)

stays the course

once he makes up his mind, he ~ (businessman)

**direction: boat / journeys & trips / map / verb**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: boat / journeys & trips / map / verb**

## course (reverse course)

change course

he was forced to ~ (government policy)

reversed course

Iran ~ and reopened its nuclear labs

the President ~ and grounded the plane (Boeing problem)

**reversal: direction / boat / journeys & trips / map / verb**

**direction: boat / journeys & trips / map / verb**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: boat / journeys & trips / map / verb**

## course (development)

course of the conflict

we cannot predict the length or the ~ (military)

course of the disease

we can sometimes slow the ~

the challenge is to identify patients earlier in the ~

course of HIV infection

the ~ is characterized primarily by latency

course of the war

during the ~ (Gulf War)

disease course

we are here to help them through the ~

relentless course

as the epidemic follows its ~ (AIDS)

length or the course

we cannot predict the ~ of the conflict (military)

follow its (relentless) course

if we sit back and let the epidemic ~...

run its course

the common cold will ~ within seven days

slow the course

we can sometimes ~ of the disease

**development: journeys & trips / route**

## course (course of action, etc.)

course of action

we thought the best ~ was to...  
I could think of no other ~  
is this the right ~ (government policy)

similar course  
see if other schools should follow a ~ (sex ed)

safest and wisest course  
the ~ to follow (alcohol and pregnancy)

follow a (similar) course  
see if other schools should ~ (same-sex classes)

took the (politically risky) course  
he ~ of prosecuting a member of government

**direction: journeys & trips**

### **course (course of justice, etc.)**

course of justice  
he was charged with perverting the ~

take its course  
the law must ~

**operation: journeys & trips**

### **court (verb)**

courting Hispanics with (Spanish) advertising  
the company is ~

courting danger with his rhetoric  
he is ~ (racist stereotypes)

courting rebellion by pushing ahead  
he is ~ with his plan (political party)

courted adventure  
when she was young she ~ (hitchhiking, etc.)

court controversy  
he has been known to ~ (Joe Rogan)

court (resource-rich) countries  
China, India ~ like Nigeria and Kazakhstan

courted death  
he ~ with his use of drugs and wild lifestyle

courting (economic) disaster  
we are ~

courting its favor  
both Democrats and Republicans are ~ (N.R.A.)

courting veterans  
for-profit colleges are ~

court the Black vote  
Democratic politicians ~ and then fail to follow through

courting (younger) voters  
the party is ~ (politics)

courted and won  
he ~ popular acceptance (a musician)

actively courted  
they ~ publicity (two feuding pop stars)

aggressively courting  
he has been ~ endorsements (running for office)

assiduously courted  
he has ~ mainstream support (a politician)

feverishly courting  
she has been ~ black voters

publicly courting  
the president has been ~ him (a politician)

quietly courting  
he has been ~ contributors (for a political run)

**attraction & repulsion / pursuit, capture & escape: love, courtship & marriage / verb**

### **court (in the court)**

in the world court  
they have been convicted ~ of public opinion (doping)

in the (world) court of public opinion  
they have been convicted ~ athletes / doping)

tried in the court  
he has been ~ of public opinion

**judgment: justice**

### **court (hold court)**

held court for 90 minutes at the press conference  
he ~ (the 90-year-old Don King / boxing)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: royalty**

### **court (other)**

court of public opinion  
the ~ condemned him

**judgment: justice**

### **court (the ball is in someone's court)**

ball is in Russia's court  
(see *ball (the ball is in somebody's court)*)

**action, inaction & delay / confronting, dealing with & ignoring things / position, policy & negotiation / responsibility / social interaction: ball / sports & games**

### **courthouse (Devil's Courthouse, etc.)**

Devil's Courthouse  
the first person to climb ~ (a rock outcropping)

Majlis al Jinn  
the ~ (the assembly of the devils, a cave in Oman)

**proper name: infrastructure**

### **courtship (noun)**

courtship of Africa

both India and China have stepped up their ~

economic courtship  
Sino-Israeli ties, strong after a decade of ~...

stepped up their courtship  
both India and China have ~ of Africa

**attraction & repulsion: love, courtship & marriage**  
**pursuit, capture & escape: love, courtship & marriage**

**cousin (relationship)**

cousin  
open-wheel racing and its stock-car ~, NASCAR

cousin of Ebola  
Lassa fever is sometimes described as a ~

cousin of estrogen  
BPA is a chemical ~

cousin to smallpox  
Vaccinia, a ~ which can cause illness

cousin of Turkish  
Uighur is a ~, but it's an Arabic script (the language)

dictionary's cousin  
it's like the ~ (the thesaurus)

American cousins  
our ~ speak the wrong kind of English (Brits)

British cousins  
tell our ~ I'll meet them in Eindhoven (WWII)

Nepali cousin  
K2 and its ~, Mount Everest

potato cousins  
incredible ~ still survive in the Andes (wild potatoes)

chemical cousin  
BPA is a ~ of estrogen  
EPO and its ~s became rampant in sports

closest cousin  
*denial* is associated with its ~, *addiction*

distant cousin  
it's a ~ of true cinnamon (bark of cassia tree)

larger cousin  
the mudpuppy looks a lot like its ~, the Eastern Hellbender

older cousin  
archaeology and its far ~, tomb robbing

ugly cousin  
sarcasm is anger's ~  
the Razzies are the “~ to the Oscars” (the worst films)

xenophobic cousin  
the lab-leak hypothesis is a ~ to anti-vaxxism and ...

white concrete cousin  
the Obelisk, a ~ of the Wash. D.C. Monument (Buenos Aires)

♦ “The mudpuppy is relatively rare and looks a lot like its larger cousin, the Eastern hellbender. (WNC anglers: Seen any mudpuppies lately?” by Karen Chavez, *Asheville Citizen-Times*, USA TODAY Network, Sunday, December 27, 2020. Hellbenders are also known as “snot otters” and “water dogs.”)

**person / relationship: family**

## **cover (under cover)**

under cover of darkness  
the attacks began ~  
the convoys move both in daylight and ~ (Iraq)

living under cover  
Al-Khilewi, who was granted asylum, is now ~

**concealment & lack of concealment: cloth**

## **covered up**

covered up  
his pedophilia had been known for years but ~ (priest)

**concealment & lack of concealment: cloth**

**subterfuge: cloth**

## **cover up (verb)**

cover up his crime  
he smashed his own head and face to ~

covers up violations  
Saudi Arabia ~ of human rights abuses

covered up (security) shortcomings  
the FAA ~ for years (airports)

covered up (widespread) doping  
officials ~ by... (sports)

cover up the killing  
their attempts to ~ were unsuccessful (Saudi police)

covered up for the (cheerleader) coach  
cops allege the school's principal ~

covered up for him  
when they finally did land in court, she ~ (abuse)

cover up for "honor killings"  
deaths are ascribed to suicide in order to ~

covered it up  
the Army ~ (contamination from weapons depot)

tried to cover up  
they ~ what they had done... (tribal vengeance)  
he also ~ the crime... (tribal vengeance)

**concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / verb**

**subterfuge: cloth / verb**

## **coverup (noun)**

cover-up  
a ~ to conceal the affair

cover-ups and corruption  
investigations marred by official ~ (Mexico)

government coverup  
charges of a ~

failed cover-up  
prison terms for colluding in the ~ (mine disaster / China)

politically motivated cover-up  
a ~

official coverups  
investigations marred by ~ and corruption (Mexico)

allegations of a cover-up  
officials will investigate the ~ (China / storm)

charges of a (government) coverup  
they have been ~

mystery and cover-up  
dealing with the UFO ~

denied a cover-up  
local officials have ~ (no typhoon warning)

**concealment & lack of concealment: cloth  
subterfuge: cloth**

### **covey (group)**

covey of bureaucrats  
what's needed is a ~ to better govern the country

covey of (industry) tycoons  
a ~ and their wives assembled

**group, set & collection: animal / bird**

### **cow (bell cow)**

bell cows  
give the running backs a chance to be ~ like they want

♦ "You have yet to give the running backs a chance to be bell cows like they want." (Emmitt Smith about running backs.)

♦ Recognized by Wiktionary, with excellent citations.

**direction: animal / cows & cattle**

### **cow (cash cow)**

cash cow  
brand AJ fails again, he's a ~ and nothing else (boxing)

cash cow for universities  
online education is a ~

cash cow for publishers  
textbooks are the last ~

cash cow of (American) ballet  
the *Nutcracker* is the ~

Boeing's (long term) cash cow  
~ is the 737

company's cash cow  
the drug is the ~

Microsoft's cash cow  
Windows is ~

as a cash cow  
he needed Clay ~ and recruitment vehicle (boxer)

♦ "Hearn must find himself another cash machine." (AJ loses second time.)

♦ "The Glazers treat Manchester United like a cash machine." (Gary Neville.)

♦ Asa W. Morris in California owned the legendary Tilly Alcartra, known as "the Queen of Holsteins" for her milk production. Was she a victim of an anthrax outbreak, destroyed and buried along with thousands of others to prevent the spread of that disease?

**worth & lack of worth: animal / cows & cattle**

### **cowboy (person)**

Cocaine Cowboys  
the cartels' ~ turned the market (1970s Florida)

**person: animal / cows & cattle / horse  
behavior / character & personality / control & lack of control: history / person**

### **cower (verb)**

cower in the face of (NCAA) abuses  
universities ~ (sports)

cowered before demands  
the publishing industry has ~ to cancel books

♦ If a dog can't bite, it licks. (An insult.)

**dominance & submission: standing, sitting & lying / verb  
courage & lack of courage: bodily reaction / verb**

### **coy (adjective)**

coy about the idea  
China has been ~ (of an East Asia Community)

coy about the year  
she is ~ of her birth

coy on the subject  
he has been ~ (about retiring)

a bit coy  
he's a ~ about how much he can raise (a politician)

surprisingly coy  
politicians can be ~ about asking direct questions

being coy  
she is not ~ about wanting to win (a politician)

playing coy  
many possible candidates are ~ about running

remaining coy  
most potential candidates are ~ for now (presidency)

**eagerness & reluctance: love, courtship & marriage**

### **coyote (predation)**

gangs of "coyotes"  
~ smuggle people in from Mexico

**character & personality: animal / person / predation**

## cozy (adjective)

cozy with Boeing  
the FAA was too ~

cozy relationship  
he has a ~ with the prince

too cozy  
the agency was ~ with the company

**feeling, emotion & effect: proximity / temperature**

**relationship: proximity / temperature**

**social interaction: proximity / temperature**

## crab (crab in a bucket, etc.)

crabs in a barrel  
oh, ~, I say, to hell with them all (St. Simons Island)

crab mentality  
~ is, "If I can't have it neither can you"

crab-basket quarrels  
he had managed to avoid the ~ and ignore the slights

crab bucket syndrome  
when others hold you back is the ~

♦ Filipinos notice this behavior in the Philippines. Crabs in a bucket or pot instinctively grab at things above them. Thus, no crabs can climb out of a pot.

♦ "Ladies, we are supposed to be rooting for one another not pulling one another down." (Britney Spears about Alyssa Milano.)

**behavior / sanctioning, authority & non-conformity / unanimity & consensus: animal**

## crack (attempt)

crack at it  
we'll take another ~

**attempt: sound**

## crack (verb)

cracked  
their relationship ~ under the pressure

**failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances / verb**

## crack (verb / emotion)

cracked  
I ~ under the pressure

**feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances / verb**

## crack (division)

crack  
the ~s could widen into a chasm (politics)

crack in the coalition  
the Arab League statement is a worrying ~ (Libya)

cracks in (military) solidarity  
there have been few ~ (Venezuela political unrest)

**division & connection: ground, terrain & land**

## crack (flaw)

cracks  
the ~ were beginning to show (troubled corporation)

cracks in Bierenbaum's façade  
~ started to appear (surgeon convicted of murder)

**flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances**

## crack (fall through the cracks, etc.)

dropped through the cracks  
Cho had ~ of the university bureaucracy

dropped through the cracks  
Cho had ~ of the university bureaucracy

fell through the cracks  
she ~ (foster system)

slipped through the cracks  
he has ~ (terrorist)  
many sex sites have ~ (Internet)

**failure, accident & impairment: ground, terrain & land / verb**

## crackdown (noun)

crackdown on corruption  
the government has launched a ~

crackdown against (unlicensed) Internet Cafes  
authorities kicked off a nationwide ~ (China)

draconian crackdown  
he has presided over the most ~ on leaks in US history

racist crackdown  
Tunisia's ~ on migrants (NPR)

**coercion & motivation: violence / whip**

**punishment & recrimination: violence / whip**

**oppression: violence / whip**

## crack down (verb)

crack down on party-goers  
Florida police ~ on spring break

cracked down on the opposition  
the government has ~

cracking down on immigration  
they are ~

cracking down on both men  
judges are ~ (investigation)

**coercion & motivation / oppression / punishment & recrimination: verb / violence / whip**

## cradle (strangled in the cradle, etc.)

kill any (climate-change) bill in its cradle  
he will ~ if he has a chance (legislator)

strangled in its cradle

Bolshevism must be ~ (Winston Churchill on Russia)

strangle the experiment in its cradle

if nobody watches, it will ~ (TV show)

♦ "I think the critics felt, we mustn't knock this new venture too much, we've waited so long for a national theatre we can't kill it at birth."  
(William Gaskill, about Peter O'Toole as Hamlet at the Old Vic, 22 October 1963. Directed by Laurence Olivier.)

**curtailment / destruction: baby**

**cradle (cradle of Islam, etc.)**

coronavirus cradle

Wuhan, the ~, has partially reopened

"Cradle of (U.S. Navy) Aviation"

Pensacola is known as the ~

cradle of Islam

Saudi Arabia is the ~

cradle of civilization

the Caucasus was a ~

cradle of (ancient) civilizations

the plateau is a ~

cradle of (Chinese) civilization

Hubei and Henan provinces, the ~  
the Yellow River is known as the ~

cradle of (Serbian) civilization

Serbs claim Kosovo as the ~

cradle of independence

Dolores Hidalgo is known as the ~ (Mexico)

**epithet: baby**

**origin: baby / birth / epithet / sign, signal, symbol**

**cradle (symbol)**

cradle-to-grave

the ~ work force

from the cradle to the grave

she gave advice on problems people face ~

**death & life: sign, signal, symbol**

**craft (ringcraft, etc.)**

Bushcraft

Discover ~ aims to help women learn bushcraft skills

icecraft

the subtle science of snow and ~ (Edmund Hillary)

junglecraft

he was very adapted at ~ (a Tamil Nadu bandit)

ringcraft

the ~, the intelligence, the mentality... (a boxer)

spellcraft

her rigor and ~ (Karina Longworth / podcaster)

spycraft

technology is redefining ~ for a new era

stagecraft

he is vigilant about the ~ of statecraft (SecDef)

statecraft

conservatism requires skilled ~ (foreign affairs)

tradecraft

some of the ~ was damn sloppy (CIA)

per policy, we cannot discuss ~ (A.T.F.)

witchcraft

villagers said it was ~ (Prey Rognieng / Cambodia)

♦ "The ringcraft, the intelligence, the mentality, just think about it."  
(Oleksandr Usyk's performance against Anthony Joshua.)

**ability & lack of ability: affix**

**crank up (verb)**

cranked up the pressure on the manager

a defeat would have ~ (soccer)

**increase & decrease: mechanism / verb**

**crap (noun)**

dog whistle crap

he called concerns about Afghan refugees "~"

♦ "He called worries about Afghan refugees 'dog whistle crap.'" (Gov. Tony Evers of Wisconsin, about the Afghan refugees at Fort McCoy, after 2 refugees were charged with crimes.)

**worth & lack of worth: waste**

**crash (crash and burn)**

crash and burn

so what role did he play in making it all ~ (politics)

crashed and burned

you know the Democratic Party has ~ when...

**destruction: crashes & collisions / fire / flying & falling / plane / verb**

**crash (car crash)**

car crash of an interview

this was a ~ (sexual abuse)

walked away from more car crashes

he has ~ than any other sitting president

**destruction: crashes & collisions**

**failure, accident & impairment: crashes & collisions**

**crash (crash down)**

came crashing down

she was the youngest female billionaire before it all ~  
his empire ~ (a company)

**destruction: direction / infrastructure / ruins / verb**

## crash (crash course, etc.)

crash course  
an eight-day ~  
he took a ~ in genetics

crash diet  
~s can be dangerous

**haste: crashes & collisions**

## crash (population crash, etc.)

crash and bleed-out  
what they call the ~ (Ebola virus)

computer crash  
the data disappeared after 2 ~s (voting records)

population crash  
a ~, part of the natural cycle  
likely to cause an unprecedented ~

stock-market crash  
the ~

ecological crash  
you're going to see an ~ (marmots / Mongolia)

**failure, accident & impairment: crashes & collisions**

**functioning: crashes & collisions**

## crash-land (verb)

crash-landed on (hard) facts  
his theory ~ and common sense

**failure, accident & impairment: crashes & collisions / plane / verb**

## crater (verb)

cratered  
demand and prices have ~ (oil)

cratered oil prices  
massive supply with almost no demand ~ (pandemic)

travel cratered  
global ~ during the pandemic

**decline: direction / flying & falling / plane / verb**

**increase & decrease: number**

## crave (fans crave the bout, etc.)

craved it  
the media wanted it, fans ~ (a boxing matchup)

crave stories, memories, (behind-the-scenes) morsels  
fans crave ~ (podcasts by athletes)

**enthusiasm: addiction / food & drink / health & medicine / verb**

## crave (verb)

so craves  
the legacy he ~ will suffer (sports doping)

craved fame  
he ~

**enthusiasm / wants, needs, hopes & goals: addiction / food & drink / health & medicine / verb**

## crawl (activity)

crawling with reporters  
our hotel was ~

**activity: animal / insect / verb**

## crawl (time can crawl, etc.)

crawl  
boredom makes time ~, interest makes it race

minutes crawled by  
the ~

**speed: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

**movement: speed / verb / walking, running & jumping**

**time: movement / speed / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## crawl (skin can crawl, etc.)

crawling  
my skin is ~ (disgust)

**feeling, emotion & effect: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

## crawl (noun)

crawl to (Aug.12) peak  
Perseid meteor shower begins slow ~

crawl phase  
having accomplished the ~ (military training)

crawl, walk, run  
instruction should follow a ~ sequence (military)

news crawl  
run a ~ across the bottom of the screen (TV)

slow crawl  
Perseid meteor shower begins ~ to Aug. 12 peak

slowed to a crawl  
the market for initial public offerings has ~  
the storm's movement has ~

slow to a crawl  
the ambush was set where the convoy had to ~

brought to a crawl  
traffic was ~ in Cincinnati (snow and ice)

**movement / speed: walking, running & jumping**

## craze (noun)

craze of the 80's  
the cocaine ~

craze in the 1920s

tree sitting was a national ~, like phone-booth stuffing

**craze in Japan**  
platform shoes are the ~

**craze in clothes, music, illegal drugs**  
the latest teen ~

**craze for (sudoku) puzzles**  
the worldwide ~

**cocaine craze**  
the ~ of the 80's

**crossword craze**  
the First World War was the start of the ~

**dance craze**  
the mambo fueled a brief but intense American ~ (1940s)

**fitness craze**  
cash in on the ~

**teen craze**  
the latest ~ in clothes, music, illegal drugs

**cowboy craze**  
the '80s ~ (urban cowboys)

**snake meat craze**  
snakes are disappearing due to the nationwide ~ (China)

**tail-fin craze**  
the designer behind the ~ (cars)

**extreme sports craze**  
encouraged by the ~

**Internet craze**  
the ~ is causing distortions

**worldwide craze**  
the ~ for sudoku puzzles

**skateboarding craze**  
a few years later the ~ was over

**current craze**  
the ~ is tread and shred (exercising)

**international craze**  
its triumph as a full-blown ~ in the 60's (folk music)

**latest craze**  
the ~ is... (sports)

**national craze**  
tree sitting was a ~ in the 1920s, like phone booth stuffing

**new craze**  
platform shoes are the ~ in Japan

**behavior / enthusiasm: mental health**

**crazed (sex-crazed)**

sex-crazed  
college students are often portrayed as ~

**sex: mental health**

## **crazed (crazed fans, etc.)**

**crazed fan**  
~s scoured the Web ("Blair Witch Project")

**cricket-crazed**  
the ~ countries of the former British Empire

**media-crazed**  
the ~ public...

**soccer-crazed**  
the World Cup is a huge even in ~ countries

**seafood-crazed**  
in this ~ country, tuna is king (Japan)

**behavior / enthusiasm: mental health**

**crazy (behavior)**

crazy  
you must be ~...  
are you ~ or what...

**crazy to do**  
you have to be a little ~ it (ice canoeing / Quebec City)

**crazy boss**  
coping with a ~

**crazy and hostile**  
Boston Celtic fans are ~ (NBA)

**crazy and wild**  
it was ~ (wedding in non-traditional location)

**a little crazy**  
you have to be ~ to do it (ice canoeing / Quebec City)

**too crazy**  
his ideas were rejected as ~ by the grant process (a scientist)

**stupid, crazy or not cool**  
"gay" as an adjective to describe anybody ~

**wild and crazy**  
he was ~, young and dumb

**wild and crazy**  
the NFL has its ~ side

**act crazy**  
scream and run or ~ (date-rape-prevention strategies)

**acting crazy**  
you got so many kids out here ~ (South LA gangs)

**drive me crazy**  
I need a lover who won't ~

**drive you crazy**  
I like to tease you and ~

**driving me crazy**  
the itch is ~

**rejected as (too) crazy**  
his ideas were ~ by the grant process (a scientist)

♦ "It's going to be chaos with Republican leadership. And, sadly, the crazy caucus has grown among the Republicans." (Representative Adam Schiff, Democrat-California, on the possibility of losing his position as chair of the House Intelligence Committee after Republicans took control of the House of Representatives.)

**behavior: mental health**

**control & lack of control: mental health**

## crazy (enthusiasm)

crazy about that dog

she's ~ (a woman and a pit bull)

crazy about her

I'm ~ (man about his female friend)

crazy about hunting

he was ~ and loved to gather trophies

Internet-crazy

~ Americans

boy crazy

girls may become "~" (preadolescence)

get crazy

I can't ~ about... (don't care, not moved by...)

goes crazy

while the rest of the world ~ over the World Cup

♦ The word *balletomane* comes from the Russian for ballet and mania.

**behavior / enthusiasm: mental health**

## crazy (and mad / as adverbs)

crazy ambitious

that sounds ~, I understand that (Abigail Disney)

Crazy Delicious

he served as a judge on Netflix's ~

crazy jealous

he'd be ~ and paranoid about what I'd been up to

crazy strong

the winds are ~ up there (Mount Everest)

mad respect

crazy stuff, ~ for everyone sending it that day (surfing)

mad impressed

I was ~ by that (a scene from a movie)

mad crazy

some people go ~ about him (gay talk)

mad funny

he called him a snake ~ bc (because)...

♦ "I was mad impressed by that." (Jimmy "I'll mispronounce your name" Whisman about the scene in the 1994 film *The Chase* in which Charlie Sheen and Kristy Swanson have sex in the driver's seat while fleeing the cops. The film predated by a few month's O.J. Simpson's low-speed chase of the same year.)

**superlative: part of speech**

## crazy (as noun)

crazy

was it just her ~ showing, or did she have help (drugs)

bit of crazy

a ~ can be good (Morocco WC coach Walid Regragui)

in between the crazy

~, she likes to... (biography of mom with 3 kids)

battled his crazy

AB's talent has constantly ~ for years (the NFL player)

get the crazy out of me

it took 31 years to ~...

married crazy

it started when he realized he ~ (erectile dysfunction)

understand crazy

you can't ~ (Nashville suicide bomber)

♦ "I'm not crazy. But it's a crazy life. I was raised in a crazy family and it took 31 years to get the crazy out of me." (Anne Heche, speaking to ABC News. Her 2001 memoir is called *Call Me Crazy*. She died crashing into a house in her car and setting car and house on fire. Crazy...)

♦ "Do we have the results back from the blood samples? Was she drunk, was she high, what was in her system. Was it just her crazy showing, or did she have a little help?" ("Nicole Linton Was Involuntarily Committed Multiple Times Before LA Crash, Attorney Said" by Kui Mwai, yahoo news, August 16, 2022.)

**character & personality: part of speech**

## cream (superlative)

cream of (Irish country music) artists

Daniel O'Donnell introduces the ~

France's intellectual *crème de la crème*

~ have attended the elite Ecole Nationale d'Administration

**superlative: food & drink**

## creature (creature of habit, etc.)

creature of his era

he was a ~ (Frank Kameny)

creature of habit

he is a ~

creature of Fleet Street

a former ~ ... (a new TV interviewer)

creature of the theater

he was a ~ (George M. Cohan)

creatures of their own time

like Luther, they were ~ (slavery and Southern Baptists)

funny creatures

actors are ~ ("My dear boy, why don't you try acting?")

rare creature

she's a Beethoven figure, a genius, a ~ (precocious student)

unique creature

he was a ~ in absolutely every department (Marlon Brando)

♦ "Crowds are very dynamic creatures and can change rapidly." (A bullet point on a Minneapolis Police training slide.)

character & personality / identity & nature / taxonomy & classification: animal / creature

## creature comfort

creature comforts

our campsite and all its ~ (Mt. Everest guided trip)

wants, needs, hopes & goals: creature

## creep (mission creep, etc.)

mission creep

there's a real ~ in what tech companies are doing

"torture creep"

interrogators get sneaky, thus ~

mission drift

that's too big an issue, it's ~ (saving environment *and...*)

♦ In *Churchill: Walking With Destiny*, Andrew Roberts says that Churchill, in 1940, "vigilantly guarded against *mission-creep*." That phrase struck a very wrong note with me. Luckily, Wikipedia has an entry: "The phrase first appeared in 1993, in articles published in the *Washington Post* and in the *New York Times* concerning the United Nations peacekeeping mission during the Somali Civil War." Roberts *could* have put the phrase in quotation marks, or added "in what is today called X," as he rightly did when he used "groupthink" in another part of his book, but for some reason he didn't. This is an example of linguistic presentism. See also *self* (*authentic self*, *true self*, *etc.*) and *neck* (*oppression*), both of which have been applied to the past.

increase & decrease: movement

starting, going, continuing & ending: movement

## creep (verb)

creep westward

the storm continues to ~ at 1 mph (hurricane)

movement: verb / walking, running & jumping

speed: verb / walking, running & jumping

## creep up (numbers)

crept up

gradually the thermometer ~ towards -20 degrees C.

increase & decrease: number

## crescendo (noun)

crescendo of anti-abortion legislation

the Alabama law tops a ~

steady crescendo

the ~ of questions led him to release a statement...

amount & effect: music / sound

development: music / sound

## cricket (sound)

clackers or "crickets"

whistles, bells, sirens, ~, and horns (military signals)

sound: insect

## crickets (silence)

crickets

no blacks were involved, so ~

crickets chirping

hello, where are you on this violence, ~ (criticism)

crickets on the Supreme Court

but after the decision, it was essentially ~ (gun rights)

♦ The slang expression "crickets" has come to mean silence, based on the sound of crickets in films to indicate dead silence.

♦ Bailey Olive: "In the last two days there has been a mass shooting in Chicago and Philadelphia, too but they are, like this one, not one white involved, so crickets." / Bluejay to Bailey Olive: "Did you hear that from voices in your head?" / bibleexpert to Bailey Olive: "So crickets? Then how did you find out about them?"

♦ "But after the landmark decision and an adjunct case two years later, it was essentially crickets at the court on the subject of how far states may go in regulating guns." (Nina Totenberg, "High Court To Hear 1st Major Gun Rights Case In More Than A Decade, NPR, Morning Edition, April 27, 2021.)

♦ "As Carole sat down at the grand piano... and curled her hands over the keys, the noise receded to cricket-hearing silence." (The great Carole King. From *Girls Like Us* by Sheila Weller.)

♦ "Check out playgrounds today: when I grew up, 50s and 60s, had 100 kids playing in the playground...Now..Crickets in most." (A comment on an article about body positivity, weight, models, etc.)

sound: film / insect

## cri de coeur

wake-up call, cri de coeur, call to arms

his book is a ~ (about language)

appeal: heart / sound / speech

sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: heart / sound / speech

## crime (fashion crime, etc.)

no crime

it's ~ to be selfish sometimes

it's ~ for those who were right to feel a little superior

fashion crime

wearing socks with sandals is considered a ~

judgment: crime / justice

## criminalization (groups)

criminalization of rap lyrics

the Change.org petition addresses the ~

criminalization of prostitutes and insane people

her dissertation examined the ~ and the "mad narratives..."

inclusion & exclusion: division & connection

## criminalize (groups)

criminalize

we ~ poverty and mental illness

inclusion & exclusion: division & connection / verb

## criminalized (groups)

criminalized

Black creativity and artistry is being ~ (RICO)

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## cringe (verb)

cringing

I was ~, he embarrassed himself so badly (boxer AJ)

cringed when I heard

I ~ what he said (a comedian)

laugh and cringe

what makes you ~ reveals your hidden biases

makes some cringe

a 9/11 key chain ~ (9/11 Memorial store)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / gesture / verb**

## cringe (as adjective)

cringe

the writing is usually ~ (by non-specialists)

I nearly had to turn it off it was ~ (AJ vs Usyk)

cringe comedy

~, without the laughs (a review of a movie)

so cringe

this is ~ (Kahn pose in NYT mag photo)

super cringe

~ (Anthony Joshua's behavior after 2<sup>nd</sup> loss to Usyk)

♦ "Around that time, I also learned—from watching the British version of 'The Office'—that the word 'cringe' could be an adjective, as in the phrase 'so cringe.'" ("Affective Disorder" by Nikhil Krishnan, *The New Yorker*, August 8, 2022.)

♦ "Cringe. If they had term worse than 'cringe,' I'd use it here." (A commenter about a "dirty / creepy old man President.")

**feeling, emotion & effect: part of speech**

## cringe-worthy (adjective)

cringe-worthy

the ~ beginnings of a relationship

the video was criticised as being tone deaf and ~

finds the self-promotion cringeworthy

he ~ (a climber about climbing videos / documentaries)

♦ Pathetic and cringeworthy; cringeworthy to watch... (Anthony Joshua's bizarre post-fight antics after his second loss to Oleksandr Usyk.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / gesture**

## cringey (adjective)

cringey

it was ~ because it was true (TV series *In Living Color*)

in the ~ first 20 minutes of the movie... (negative review)

cringey sex

while having ~ with Robert... (the film *Cat Person*)

cringy video

making fun of a ~

cheesy but not cringy

ahhh, the era when movies were ~ (2011 *Monte Carlo*)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / gesture**

## cripple (verb)

cripples networks

they sow malware that ~ (ransomware gangs)

crippled the city

23 inches of snow ~

cripple his presidency

Biden's critics say this will ~ (Afghanistan withdrawal)

cripling our society

unemployment is ~

**functioning: health & medicine / movement / verb**

## crippled

crippled by (economic and political) troubles

Zimbabwe remains ~

crippled reactor

the damage at the ~ is worse than thought

remains crippled

Zimbabwe ~ by economic and political troubles

**functioning: health & medicine / movement**

## cripling

cripling blow

his death dealt a ~ to his network (a terrorist)

cripling fear

~s of loss and disaster (children of divorce)

cripling poverty

the ~ among mountain people (United Nations)

cripling, paralyzing (m)

I do not favor ~ sanctions (Russian President)

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**

## crisis (mid-life crisis)

unpredictable mid-life crisis

democracy isn't dying, but it's having an ~

**growth & development: life span**

## Cromwellian (adjective)

Cromwellian air

his railings lent a ~ to his leadership (mixed swimming)

**oppression: allusion / history**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## crooked (adjective)

crooked

the election was ~

crooked books  
crooked auditors certified the ~

crooked business  
insurance is a ~

crooked cops  
the force must root out ~

crooked dealer  
~s take advantage of young soldiers (autos)

crooked employers  
~ pay less, and make workers work more

crooked governors  
two ~ in a row have been sent to prison (Illinois)

crooked politician  
~s steal our money

straight and crooked  
he knew the difference between ~ work (a farmer)

**behavior / character & personality: direction**  
**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: direction**

## crop (noun)

crop of (American) offspring  
the first postwar ~

good crop  
we've got a ~ that's just behind her (boxing prospects)

**growth & development / product: farming & agriculture**

## crop up (verb)

cropped up in its Proton rockets  
the Russians must fix problems that have ~

problem cropped up  
the ~ just hours before liftoff (space shuttle)

questions crop up  
legal ~, too

continually crop up  
look for keywords that ~ in ads

**appearance & disappearance: farming & agriculture / plant**  
**/ prep, adv, adj, participle / verb**

## cross (cross someone)

cross him  
he got even with people he perceived to have ~ (a boss)

**conflict: sword / verb**

## cross (a bridge can cross a river, etc.)

bridge crosses the river  
a ~ there

**fictive motion: verb**

## crossfire (noun)

rhetorical crossfire  
the purpose of the bill has been lost in the ~

caught in the crossfire  
sensible people are ~ (far left and right / gun control)

**conflict: weapon**

## cross hair (in the cross hairs)

in the cross hairs  
another Arab dictator is ~ (Bashar al-Assad of Syria)  
he is ~ (a wanted terrorist)

in the crosshairs of a (Justice Department) lawsuit  
Google is ~

in the crosshairs of the woke mob  
I realize I'm ~ right now (NFL's Aaron Rodgers)

in the crosshairs of the NCAA  
it's not the first time USC's basketball program has been ~

in regulators' crosshairs  
the firm is ~ (for fraud)

in the (trade war) crosshairs  
the company is ~

in our crosshairs  
he's ~ (a pedophile)

found himself in the crosshairs  
he has ~ between the left and the right over... (economy)

end up in the crosshairs  
I don't want to ~ of somebody who wants to clean house

♦ In 2011 in the US, the figurative versus literal meaning of this word caused a political controversy when the politician Gabby Giffords was shot. The opposition had indicated her district on a map with a cross-hairs icon. In 2019, Roger Stone apologized to Judge Amy Berman Jackson for posting an Instagram photo of her next to a rifle scope's crosshair. In 2022, a court heard a case involving the original icon and *The New York Times*. The USS *Gabrielle Giffords* is named after Gabby Giffords, and her husband is Mark Kelly, astronaut. The original shooter was mentally ill, with access to a gun.

♦ "Trump in the Crosshairs: Will the former President be prosecuted?" by Jane Mayer, *A Reporter at Large, The New Yorker*, March 22, 2021.)

**target: weapon**

## cross-pollination

cross-pollination  
there's so much ~, hyping each other (Black Hollywood)

cross-pollination of languages  
the natural ~ where they intersect

cross-pollination between the classics and pop culture  
that ~ has characterized my writing (Daniel Mendelsohn)

**growth & development / transmission: insect / plant**

## crossroad (Crossroads of the World, etc.)

crossroads of the Pacific  
the ~ (Honolulu)

## Crossroads of the World

the ~ was packed with tourists and revelers (Times Square)

## crossroads for Africa, Asia, and Europe

Zanzibar is a small island that is also a major ~

## at the (strategic) crossroads of Europe and Asia

Adrianople, ~

♦ London 9490 miles; San Francisco 2090 miles; Tahiti 3366 miles; New York 6720 miles; Los Angeles 2230 miles; New York 6720 miles; Manila 4870 miles; Sydney 4420 miles... (The famous "Crossroads of the Pacific" sign in Honolulu circa 1941.)

♦ Wikipedia has a very nice entry at "fingerpost." The iconic fingerpost from the beloved US TV show M\*A\*S\*H shows the directions and distances from that little base in Korea to places in the larger world.

♦ Beirut; Santiago; Moskva (19613 km); Cairo; Houston Texas; Vukovar (km 13.877); Munster 13,794 km, Rio de Janeiro 4.101 kms... (Signposts in Punta Arenas, Chile, near the tip of South America and the traditional gateway to the Antarctic.)

♦ According to the Wikipedia entry "Sign Post Forest," the signpost forest in Watson Lake, Yukon, "was started by a homesick GI in 1942." We've all been there before!

♦ see also *road (fork in the road, etc.)*

## geography / place: epithet

## crossroad (at a crossroad)

### at a crossroads

his career is ~

the South was ~ (Civil War)

South Sudan is ~ (elections for secession)

America is ~ (midterm elections)

### at a political crossroads

he finds himself ~ (president)

### at a crossroads of his presidency

he is ~

### stands at a crossroads

the US ~ (support or non-support for dictators)

♦ "We're at a crossroad, and there is a right side." (Wearing masks during the COVID pandemic.)

♦ see also *road (fork in the road, etc.)*

## alternatives & choices: journeys & trips

## development / direction: journeys & trips

## crossroad (other)

### crossroads in his life

he'd reached a gloomy ~

### crossroads fight

this is a ~ for Andy Lee (vs. John Jackson / 2014)

### crossroads moment

the government is at a ~ (crisis)

♦ see also *road (fork in the road, etc.)*

## alternatives & choices / development / direction: journeys & trips

## crow (verb)

### crowed that

he ~ he had forced the president to decide (politics)

### crowing about its (online holiday) sales

the company was ~

♦ "Foreign Minister Erko was vilified as a crowing rooster, a writhing serpent, and a phobic rat." (*Frozen Hell: The Russo-Finnish Winter War of 1939-40* by William R. Trotter.)

♦ "Kahgahgee, the King of Ravens, / With his band of black marauders." ("The Song of Hiawatha.")

## speech: bird / verb

## crowd (society)

### crowdsourcing

~ can get you many things...

### follow the crowd

be honest with yourself and don't ~

## society: sign, signal, symbol

## crowd (superlative)

### 'worst traffic' crowd

~ passes from L.A. to new city (New York-Newark)

### jewels in the crown

they are the ~ of public education (elite NYC high schools)

### contending for that crown

Don Bongino is ~ (king of right-wing media)

## primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence / superlative:

## royalty

## crowned (verb)

### crowned at the (party) convention

the eventual Democratic nominee will be ~ in July

## sanctioning, authority & non-conformity royalty

## crowd jewel

### crowd jewels of the RAF

the Red Arrows are among the ~

### crowd jewel of their empire

the building is the ~ (a business)

### crowd jewel of the system

Banff is the ~ (Canadian National Park)

## superlative / worth & lack of worth: royalty

## crucible (noun)

### crucible of anxiety

how to handle the ~ (college admissions)

### crucible of power

Kandahar has been the main ~ in Afghanistan since...

### crucible of suffering

in this ~ (Arctic exploration)

### crucible of (free-market) thought

he got his degree from the University of Chicago, the ~

### crucible of (Nobel Prize) Winners

the *Institut Curie* became a ~, producing 4 more

crucible for young actors  
it was a noted ~ (the Pasadena Playhouse / Hoffman, etc.)

war's (hottest) crucible  
the British were sent into the ~ (Sangin, Afghanistan)

**environment: container / fire / manufacturing /  
temperature**

## crucified

crucified by the media  
she has been ~

♦ "In the old days, Yamamoto would have had to commit ritual disembowelment." / "No, he wouldn't have been given the honor! He would simply have been crucified!" ("The Emperor's Code: Breach Of Protocol Spurs Debate in Japan" by Lucy Craft, Nov. 13, 2013.)

**accusation & criticism: religion / violence  
punishment & recrimination: religion / violence**

## crucifixion (noun)

media crucifixion  
Des Christy of *The Guardian* called it a '~' (BBC's Wogan)

♦ "The Bayonet Tree got its name when one of Herkimer's men was crucified on it. George Walter lay beside a spring, pretending to be dead while an Indian ran a scalping knife around his skull, tearing off, finally, hair and skin from the bloody head. The Senecas captured Robert Crouse, the tallest and strongest man in Tryon County. They trussed him up, and then, in order to cut him down to their size, they whittled his legs off below the knees, cut the ropes holding him, and told him to walk." (*The Mohawk* by Codman Hislop. His book is about the Mohawk River.)

**accusation & criticism: religion / violence  
punishment & recrimination: religion / violence**

## crucify (verb)

crucify cops  
lawyers, politicians stand ready to ~ for taking action

crucify him  
the media will be quick to ~ when his form dips (soccer)

crucify me  
they are going to ~ this season (on a reality show)  
I feel like this town is gonna ~ (murder trial)

**accusation & criticism: religion / verb / violence  
punishment & recrimination: religion / verb / violence**

## crude (speech)

crude language  
he used ~ to deride the investigation (politics)  
he used unusually ~ for a public appearance (politician)

**flaws & lack of flaws / speech: materials & substances**

## cruel (adjective)

cruel  
football is ~ sometimes (play better but still lose)

cruel disease  
it's a ~, but it was especially cruel to him (AIDS)

cruel sea  
they face the ~

cruel sport  
it's true, it's a ~ (a boxing career)

*Cruel Way*  
*Everest the ~* by Joe Tasker (a book)

cruel and absurd  
life is ~

unjust, cruel  
an ~ world

♦ "[T]he poem has already entered the language. This time last year, for instance, if you had opened the business section of the London *Sunday Times*, you would have found an article with the headline 'I never like buying shares in September—its the cruellest month for stocks.' (Eliot, who worked at Lloyds Bank from 1917 to 1925, might have frowned at this financial counsel, though what would have vexed him sorely is the lack of an apostrophe.) You may not know "The Waste Land," and you may not like it if you do. But it knows you." ("On The Rocks: A hundred years of "The Waste Land" by Anthony Lane, *The New Yorker*, October 3, 2022. Of course, the allusion is to "April is the cruellest month, breeding / Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing / Memory and desire, stirring / Dull roots with spring rain.")

**character & personality / oppression: person**

## crumb (amount)

crumb of comfort  
if the team were looking for a ~... (loss)

crumbs of hope  
the ~ were so few and far between (a singer)

♦ "When I think back now to those years, I'm flabbergasted. What the hell was keeping me going? The crumbs of hope were so few and far between." (The singer Sam Ryder on his life before recognition.)

**amount: food & drink**

## crumble (verb)

crumbled  
their relationship has ~ (enmity)  
in 1968, the Democratic Party ~ (Nixon elected)

crumbling  
the regime is ~ (protests)

life crumbled  
my ~

marriage (to Charlie) was crumbling  
her ~ (the great Carole King)

began to crumble  
in the off-season, his world ~ (troubled pro athlete)  
his world ~ last October, when...

**decline / destruction / failure, accident & impairment:  
erosion / ruins / verb**

## crunch (crunch time)

crunch time  
in terms of the school year, it's ~ (tests)  
as we head into November, ~ (college football)  
it was ~, end of the month (military recruitment)  
this is ~, we're in the home stretch (election campaigning)

crunch time in the fields

it's ~ (harvesting Christmas trees)  
crunch time in college football  
it's ~  
in crunch time  
the team is ~, trying to reach the playoffs...  
comes down to crunch time  
I think when it ~ he will choose... (athlete must pick college)  
♦ "Crunch-time culture is rampant throughout Oberlin College."  
(Deadlines.)

**situation: pressure**  
**timeliness & lack of timeliness: pressure**  
**crunch (cash crunch, etc.)**

budget crunch  
most states are in the middle of a horrific ~  
cash crunch  
the agency found itself in a ~  
the bank faced a ~ (Silicon Valley Bank shut down)  
power crunch  
the ~ has eased (after previous rolling power outages)  
stave off a cash crunch  
options to ~ include bankruptcy protection

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: pressure**  
**timeliness & lack of timeliness: pressure**  
**crunch (crunch the data)**

crunch the data  
the pandemic may have peaked, depending on how you ~

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: verb**  
**crusade (on a crusade)**

on a crusade to document  
he is ~ underage model sites (porn)

**campaign: Middle Ages / religion**  
**message: Middle Ages / religion**  
**crusade (in a crusade)**

act in (his anti-government) crusade  
it was the final ~ (Oklahoma City bombing)  
engaged in an (undercover) crusade  
she has ~ to document teen porn sites

**campaign: Middle Ages / religion**  
**message: Middle Ages / religion**  
**crusade (noun)**

crusade to improve  
her ~ the city parks she loved (M.M. Graff / NYC)  
crusade of violence  
a ~, intimidation and harassment (animal rights)  
crusade for a bargeway  
the ~ on the Red River

crusade for Ms. Katz  
finding terrorists has become a ~ (on Internet)  
mothers' crusade  
the ~ (to find serial killer of their daughters)  
anti-government crusade  
it was the final act in his ~ (Oklahoma City bombing)  
anti-bullying crusade  
an ~ (schools)  
anti-cockfighting crusade  
successful ~s in Missouri and Arizona  
moral crusade  
a harsh and intolerant ~  
personal crusade  
he used his seniority to further his ~s (politician)  
political crusade  
a grieving mother's ~ (son killed in Iraq)  
signature crusade  
he made health-care reform the ~ of his career  
successful (anti-cockfighting) crusade  
~s in Missouri and Arizona  
undercover crusade  
she has engaged in an ~ to document... (teen porn)  
unlawful crusade  
stop an ~ of violence, intimidation, harassment  
harsh and intolerant (moral) crusade  
a ~  
crusade has sparked a backlash  
his ~ (make school lunches more healthful)  
engaged in an (undercover) crusade  
she has ~ to document... (teen porn)  
**campaign: Middle Ages / religion**  
**message: Middle Ages / religion**  
**crusader (role)**  
crusaders for change  
articulate ~ (victims of child abuse by clergy)  
crusader for peace  
she is a ~ (against war in Iraq)  
crusader for human rights and harmony  
he was a ~ among creeds and races (Tutu)  
crusader for miners' rights  
Mother Jones, a ~  
environmental crusader  
Erin Brockovich, the ~ who...  
anti-drug crusader  
Angela Dawson was an ~ (East Baltimore)  
**campaign: Middle Ages / person / religion**

**message: Middle Ages / person / religion**

**person: religion**

## crush (love)

crush on him

I had the biggest ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: force / love, courtship & marriage**

## crush (destroy)

crushed Brazil 3-0

France ~ in the final (soccer)

crush (Chechnya's) bid

the latest campaign to ~ for independence

crush dissent

the government justifies the tactics it uses to ~

crushed (political) protest

he has ~ (King Mswati)

crush the rebels

Ethiopian officials vowed to ~ (Ogadenis)

crush the rebellion

the government vows to ~ (in Darfur)

crushed the revolt

Hussein's loyal military units ~ (Iraq / Shiites)

crush the uprising

a swift military response would ~

vowed to crush

Ethiopian officials ~ the rebels

**destruction: fist / hand / verb**

## crush (confidence, spirit, etc.)

crushes (a child's) confidence

nothing ~ faster than unkind words

crush the human spirit

realities in life that almost ~

**feeling, emotion & effect / oppression: destruction / hand / verb**

## crush (verb / accomplishment)

crushed it

dude, we ~ today, bro... (kayaking Rhondu Gorge)  
the first famous Cuban in the US that ~ (Desi Arnaz)

crushing it

we are ~ in the five-star-review game (a hair product)  
N.K. Jemisin is ~ (Hugo Award winner)

crushing the market

these German hearing aids are ~ (an internet ad)

crushing that market

SpaceX is ~ (space)

crushing it academically

he's an excellent student, he's ~

♦ "They are killing it, they are crushing KFC." (Chick-fil-A versus Kentucky Fried Chicken, according to a professor of marketing at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, also known as Wharton Business School. The University of Pennsylvania is a private Ivy League university in Philadelphia, established in 1881.)

♦ "Science is awesome, now go crush that test." (The 2009 film *Fired Up!*)

♦ "7-year-old girl who slayed the makeup game is back." (An online ad from Brightly Creative.)

**success & failure: death & life / fist / force / hand / verb**

## crushed (feeling)

crushed

when she heard the restaurant had closed, she was ~

I was ~ (gay coach loses support)

**feeling, emotion & effect: force**

## crushed (destroyed)

had been crushed

how I felt like all of my dreams ~

must be crushed

stubbornness ~, and crushed it shall be (kids)

**destruction: force**

## crushing (adjective)

crushing blows

a string of ~ to this community

crushing (debt) burden

she couldn't get out from under her ~

crushing debt

they are in ~ and facing financial ruin

crushing defeat

Stalingrad ended in a ~ for the Germans

**destruction: force**

## crutch (noun)

crutch

sleep is a ~ (military-training bravado)

crutch of metaphor

people lean on the ~ (technology)

victim crutch

we'd be far better off without the ~ (race)

permanent crutch

a crutch can become a ~ (controlled economies)

lean on the crutch

people ~ of metaphor (technology)

use genetics as a crutch

alcoholics ~ to explain their behavior

turned assistance into a crutch

the welfare state has ~

**amelioration & renewal / dependency / help & assistance:  
standing, sitting & lying**

## **cry (verb)**

cried the Chicago Herald and Examiner  
"Radio Fake Scares Nation," ~

♦ see also *scream* (*scream "premium," etc.*)

♦ "Radio Listeners in Panic, Taking War Drama as Fact," declared *The New York Times*. "Radio Fake Scares Nation," cried the *Chicago Herald and Examiner*. "US Terrorized By Radio's 'Men From Mars,'" said the *San Francisco Chronicle*. ("The Halloween myth of the War of the Worlds panic" by Professor W Joseph Campbell, BBC, 30 October 2011.)

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

## **cry (cry foul, etc.)**

crying foul  
Democrats are ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: sound / verb  
speech: sound**

## **cry (cry for help)**

heartbreaking cry for help  
a ~

**appeal: speech**

## **cry (rallying cry)**

rallying cry  
"economic empowerment" has become the ~  
its "best in the world" ~ (U.S. Olympic skiing team)  
his comments are more of a ~ than a concrete plan

rallying cry in education  
the ~ has been...

♦ "My body, my choice": How vaccine foes co-opted the abortion rallying cry" by Rachel Bluth, NPR, Public Health, July 4, 2022.

**appeal: military**

## **crybaby (person)**

crybaby  
don't be a ~

cry-baby scientist  
Truman described Oppenheimer as a ~

just a crybaby  
she is ~ looking for sympathy (celebrity trial)

just another crybaby  
he is ~ hiding behind his lawyer's skirt

called Musk a 'crybaby'  
Dan O'Dowd ~ (the Dawn Project)

♦ "[President Truman] later told Dean Acheson, 'I don't want to see that son-of-a-bitch in this office ever again.' Even in May 1946, the encounter was still vivid in his mind, he wrote Acheson and described Oppenheimer as a 'cry-baby scientist' who had come to 'my office some five or six months ago and spent most of his time wringing his hands and telling me they had blood on them because of the discovery of atomic energy.'" (*American Prometheus: The Triumph And Tragedy Of J. Robert Oppenheimer* by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin.)

♦ "He dishes it out often, but gets crybabyitis any time it's his turn to take it." (A comment about two feuding tech CEOs.)

♦ "Neymar is a real crybaby. One minute he's fouling someone and then the next he's playing the victim. No one is allowed to touch him." (Marco van Basten in *Le Parisien*.)

♦ Baby; big baby; petulant baby; crybaby; Grow up, you baby; it's not all about you; a little boy; a man-child; "the incredible sulk"; selfish; self-centered; self-obsessed; spoilt brat; whiner; preening prima donna; bad loser; "He'll go blind if he keeps winking..."; "News just in.....The world cup is now over for everyone as they were playing with Ronaldo's ball and he has taken it home with him." (World Cup soccer snark about a player.)

♦ "My hope is that the Competition Committee looks at this in the next set of meetings, and, you know, we take the dresses off." (Ex quarterback and NFL Hall of Famer Troy Aikman about a roughing-the-passer call he disagreed with. He was accused of being sexist, and one commenter posted, "the 60s called, they want their chauvinist back.")

♦ "Dump Rodgers, she's a prima donna, and doesn't get the TEAM culture." (Shade against the great future Hall of Famer Aaron Rodgers of the NFL Green Bay Packers, using a female pronoun!)

♦ "Really tricky situation, FA, Prem and FIFA only had 12 years to prepare. You do wonder who ties shoelaces for those in charge." (A sarcastic commenter about "tired, overworked" soccer players and the Qatar Soccer World Cup.)

♦ "Bleating millionaire wimps. How about grow a pair." (An online commenter about "tired, overworked" soccer players and the Qatar Soccer World Cup.)

♦ Man up!

♦ "Mama's boy" is a flex, not an insult." (According to Neda Ulaby, NPR Culture. Neda is a lesbian.)

♦ see also *apron strings*, *baby (insult)*, *brat (insult)*, *child (spoiled child, etc.)*, *mama's boy (and mummy's boy, etc.)*

**growth & development: life span**

**behavior / character & personality / insult / person: baby**

## **cry out (verb)**

cries out for attention  
it ~ (immigration policy)

cried out for a canal  
the narrow isthmus for centuries ~ (Corinth)

crying out for a Grealish  
I think this game is ~ (Euro 2020 final)

cried out for a (legal) remedy  
the injustice ~

crying out for positive stories and new stars  
athletics is ~ (running)

**appeal: speech / verb**

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

## **crystal ball**

crystal ball  
I don't have a ~ (speaking about what might happen)  
stock analysts are fortunetellers looking into ~s

**fate, fortune & chance / future: magic**

**time: magic**

## **cub (noun)**

cub reporter  
I was a ~ at the time (mid-70s England)

**experience: animal / wolf**

## **cudgel (noun)**

cudgel against people of color  
when civility is used as a ~

political cudgel  
they use the term as a ~ against liberals (*cancel culture*)

rhetorical cudgel  
the word *socialism* has often been used as a kind of ~ (US)

turned into this kind of a cudgel  
eventually the term was ~ and mockery (*politically correct*)

use the rising rates of fatness as a cudgel  
we ~ to get folks to lose weight (and spend money)

wielded COVID-19 as a cudgel  
he ~ against China (Trump)

**coercion & motivation: speech / violence / weapon  
oppression: speech / violence / weapon**

## **cue (noun)**

taken cues from Trump  
his campaign has ~

**repetition / script / unanimity & consensus: theater**

## **cul-de-sac**

cul de sac  
his job was another ~ for him (unable to be creative)

gone down cul-de-sacs  
they've got it wrong, taken wrong turns, ~ (a company)

**success & failure: journeys & trips**

**failure, accident & impairment: journeys & trips**

**progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips**

## **cull (noun)**

cull  
the ~ includes plans to... (news job cuts)

BBC's (brutal) cull  
~ (headline / 450 job cuts)

mass cull  
a ~ will affect follower numbers (Twitter bot accounts)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: animal**

## **cull (verb)**

cull the (primary) field  
Iowa will ~ (2020 election caucus)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: animal / verb**

## **cult (noun)**

cult of the outlaw  
its air of Western romance and ~ (Wyoming)

**group, set & collection / reverence: religion**

## **cult (cult following, etc.)**

cult classic  
his book became a ~ among academics (*Orientalism*)

cult following  
the film has a ~ (*Caddyshack*)

**enthusiasm: religion**

## **cultivate (verb)**

cultivates allies  
he assiduously ~ (a promoter and businessman)

cultivated a (laissez-faire) approach  
the unit ~ (psychiatric ward)

cultivate the habit  
~ of proper hand washing

cultivated that image  
he probably ~ (James Le Mesurier / T. E. Lawrence)

cultivated informants  
he ~ on the streets (military intelligence)

cultivating a relationship  
the Russian agent was ~ with a prominent Democrat (US)

cultivate (long-term) relationships  
~ with preferred customers

cultivated a role  
she ~ of her own (versus her husband's role)

cultivate their (financial) support  
we must grow our audience and ~ (WBUR)

cultivate a (less conformist) taste  
give her the courage to ~ (teens)

cultivate trust  
the killings are a blow to the alliance's efforts to ~

cultivated a circle of (devoted) friends  
she ~

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant / verb**

## **cultivated**

carefully cultivated  
their ~ image was exposed (royals)

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant**

## **cultivation (noun)**

cultivation of the mind  
~ versus career training (the humanities)

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant**

## **curate (verb)**

curate lists  
sites like MTV ~ (of songs)

curates the narrative

he carefully ~ around his exploits to enlarge them

curated NPR's home page

he wrote and edited feature news coverage and ~

studied and curated

at the Harvard College Observatory, women ~ the night sky

♦ The Merriam-Webster online site has an excellent article in its Usage Notes entitled, "Can You 'Curate' Anything? Or can it only be art?"

♦ "I curated it like I curate a show or DJ gig." (Questlove, touting his documentary *The Summer of Soul*.)

♦ Some internet language is just odd. Like, "Curating 'friendscapes' post-Covid..."

♦ "Gen Z, the new curators of our country's youth culture..." (An ABC report on doxing, activism, protest, etc.)

♦ "Curate your social media feed to limit content that makes you feel bad."

**group, set & collection: picture / verb**

**contempo-speak: language**

## curated

curated for you

trending meme templates, ~

curated by NPR

great reads, thoughtfully ~ (the Books We Love)

curated list

we create a ~ of 100 books (a reader poll)

artistically curated

young people crowd its ~ cafes (Matanzas, Cuba)

highly curated

the duo is building ~ pop sounds (Magdalena Bay)

lovingly curated

*On Girlhood* is a ~ anthology celebrating... (Liveright)

meticulously curated space

The Wing is a ~ (private women-only club)

perfectly-curated

the ~ Instagram profile of the wellness blogger

♦ "Like cruise ships or nursing homes, New York's luxury buildings have waged an amenities arms race, trying to lure buyers with perks such as a pool with an underwater soundtrack curated by Carnegie Hall..." ("Can A Building Be Too Tall?" by Bianca Bosker, *The Atlantic*, January / February 2023.)

♦ "View the incredible work of X and over a hundred handpicked, independent artists... Shop online 24/7 at (a website)..." (A full-page ad in *Harper's Magazine* that did NOT use "curated.")

♦ Old: we have selected some wines you might like... / New: we have curated a list of wines you might like...

**group, set & collection: picture**

**contempo-speak: language**

## curb (kick something to the curb)

kicked to the curb

executives are now ~ for bullying (toxic workplaces)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: waste**

## curdle (corruption)

curdled

on her second day, however, the atmosphere ~

curdled into arrogance

his confidence ~ (a politician)

curdled into queasiness

my initial excitement ~

curdle into resentment

their joy will ~ (sports fans)

**corruption: food & drink / verb**

## cure (verb)

cures

spanking causes more problems than it ~

cure the men of their loneliness

the bar scene fails to ~

cures fears

real knowledge of what's outside one's garden ~

"cure" homosexuality

you can't ~

cures problems

aid often causes rather than ~ (in Africa)

♦ "Ten Hag still has many ills to cure but he is at least prescribing the sort of medication that is returning Manchester United to something like their former health." (Phil McNulty, Chief football writer for the BBC. Five of the words in that single sentence relate to health.)

♦ "But talking cures no ills..."

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine / verb**

## cure (noun)

cure

the ~ would be worse than the disease (solution)

cure for boredom

poor, uneducated youths use heroin as a ~ (Butuo)

joining a club is a good ~

cure for (the world's) problems

a ~

magic cure

there is no ~ (for kid fire-setting behavior)

miracle cure

there's no ~ on the horizon (brain tumors)

disagree on the cure

experts and leaders ~ (world economy)

use heroin as a cure

poor uneducated youths ~ for boredom (Butuo)

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

## cure-all

technological cure-all

all too often planners seek ~s (computer security)

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

**curious (bi-curious, etc.)**

“bi-curious”

~ is now considered uncool (in 2014)

Buddhist-curious

our gatherings will appeal to the ~

“canna-curious”

the new product is for the ~ (seltzer with THC)

crypto curious

Gensler’s class on Blockchain is popular with the ~

firearm curious

we’re looking to bring the ‘~’ into the fold (NRA)

sober curious

why Gen Zers are growing ~ (hangovers, mental health)

trans-curious

~ means to be interested in one’s potential transness

♦ “Bi-curious” is a Wikipedia entry. Merriam-Webster also lists it and gives first use to 1984. It is also listed by Wiktionary.

♦ “Trans-curious” is listed in the Wiktionary and tagged “LGBT.”

♦ “Bay Curious is a podcast about the unexplored San Francisco Bay area. Each week we take a deep dive into the mysteries that make this area quirky, delightful and, at times, dysfunctional...” (KQED Podcast.)

♦ “The pawpaw-curious arrived and sat in a semicircle around Judd.” (Yasmine AlSayyad, Dept. Of Foraging, Pawpaws For The People, “The Talk Of The Town,” *The New Yorker*, September 19, 2022.)

♦ “Curiosity killed the cat.”

**inclusion & exclusion: affix**

**contempo-speak: affix**

**curiouser and curiouser**

curiouser and curiouser

it was all about to get ~

Curiouser and Curiouser

“~: Curiosity Rover Finds Piles of Silica on Mars”

♦ This is an allusion to *Alice in Wonderland*.

♦ “Although the weather was growing rapidly colder, no winter clothing had been received from London. Many units were now at half strength or less, the remaining soldiers reduced to skin and bone. The guns were rationed to two shells a day. Munro’s first sight of Suvla Bay confirmed his worst fears. ‘Like Alice in wonderland,’ he was heard to murmur, ‘curiouser and curiouser.’ The following day he sent Kitchener his recommendation.” (Lt. Gen. Sir Charles Monro had been sent to advise on whether the Gallipoli Peninsula should be evacuated or not. From *The Middle Sea* by the wonderful historian John Julius Norwich.)

♦ “Large animals that hopped, foxes that flew, fish that climbed—this was the world of Edward Lear and his *Book of Nonsense*.” (Cook and his men in Australia, on first contact with kangaroos, flying foxes, and mud-skipper. From *The Fatal Impact* by Alan Moorehead. *The Book of Nonsense* by Edward Lear was published in 1846. *Alice in Wonderland* was published in 1865.)

**fantasy & reality: allusion / books & reading**

**allusion: books & reading**

**currency (worth)**

currency in its negotiations

China can use its relationship with Korea as ~ with the US

gaining currency

terms like “systemic racism” are finally ~, thank goodness

**worth & lack of worth: money**

**current (swim with the current, etc.)**

swimming with the scientific currents

Newton was ~ of his time (vs. Galileo)

**orientation: direction / river**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: direction / orientation / river**

**current (swim against the current, etc.)**

beat on against the current

I applaud women like Hou who ~ (competitive chess)

swim against the current

he had to ~ his entire life

they thought he would somehow ~ (have just one wife)

swim against the current of chaos

how is it possible to ~ in life and still remain calm

swim against the current fiscally

the economy has shrunk, so it is hard to ~, so to speak

♦ “It isn’t easy to swim against such a polluted current but here I am.” (Politics.)

**orientation: direction / river**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: direction / orientation / river**

**current (noun)**

current of racism

the underlying ~ is still very real

deep current

a ~ of fear is running through Iraq’s Christian minority

**force: river**

**current (feeling)**

current passes

no ~ between this Macbeth and Lady Macbeth (Coen’s film)

**feeling, emotion & effect: electricity**

**curse (Curse of Caricola, etc.)**

Curse of the Bambino

the ~ finally ended in 2004 (Boston)

Curse of the Billy Goat

the ~ mortified Cubs fans for decades (Chicago)

Curse of Caricola

the club has since been haunted by the ~ (own goal)

Kardashian Curse

the “~” derails the lives of the men who enter their lives

**fate, fortune & chance: epithet**

## curse (noun)

curse

the bureaucracy, already a ~, is getting worse (Russia)  
it's my gift, and my ~ (an athlete about his personality)

curse of Somalia

clan rivalries have been the ~

curse of capitalism

materialism is the ~

curse of the taigá

the ~, flies (gnus / Ussuria)

oil's (historic) curse

~ (a hollow economic boom, followed by bust)

salmon's curse

it is the ~ to be so nutritious (bears, eagles, etc.)

resource curse

Venezuela suffers from the ~ (has energy, blackouts)  
break the so-called ~ (wealth siphoned off by corruption)

blessing and a curse

these gems have been a ~ (Sierra Leone diamonds)  
the annual rains are a ~ for the subcontinent (monsoon)

gift and a curse

having a good platoon, it's both a ~ (combat medic)

break the (Alabama) curse

it seemed Georgia would not be able to ~ (2022 / football)

break the (so-called) resource curse

~ (mineral wealth siphoned off by corruption)

comes with a curse

many believe the position ~ (Grateful Dead keyboardist)

♦ "We approached the hull, where a bottle of spumante hung from a ribbon in Italian colors. Two members of the family pulled back the bottle and slung it against the yacht. It bounced off and failed to shatter. 'Oh, that's bad luck,' a woman murmured beside me. Tales of that unhappy omen abound. In one memorable case, the bottle failed to break on *Zaca*, a schooner that belonged to Errol Flynn. In the years that followed, the crew mutinied and the boat sank; after being re-floated, it became the setting for Flynn's descent into cocaine, alcohol, orgies, and drug smuggling. When Flynn died, new owners brought in an archdeacon for an onboard exorcism." ("The Floating World: Outrageously luxurious superyachts are attracting political scrutiny—and buyers in record numbers" by the brilliant writer Evan Osnos, *The New Yorker*, July 25, 2022. About Errol Flynn, one appreciative woman is reputed to have said, "He was hung like a horse and could go all night.")

♦ "About the breaking of a bottle to baptize a new megayacht or warship, has nobody thought to fabricate a flimsy, thin-skinned bottle for just this purpose? Considering the cost and the stakes, really? WTF!" (An online commenter.)

♦ see also *evil eye*

**affliction: magic / religion**

**fate, fortune & chance: magic / religion**

## cursed

cursed with allergies

I am ~

cursed with droughts

the area is ~

cursed by weak leadership

the country is ~

cursed team

it seemed that Brazil was a ~ (soccer)

seemingly cursed

she belongs to a ~ family

felt cursed

he ~ by the poker gods

♦ I have been cursed with an adventurous life.

**affliction: magic / religion**

**fate, fortune & chance: magic / religion**

## curtain (pull back the curtain, look behind the curtain, etc.)

looked behind the curtain

I ~ to see what data the apps were collecting (on kids)

pull back the curtain

he is expected to ~ on the president's business dealings

pulled back the curtain on his secret life

the video has ~

pulled back the curtain on dozens

he ~ of failed analyses (scientist)

pulls back the curtain on the media

the *Confider* ~ (*Daily Beast* newsletter)

pulled back the curtain on spycraft

he wrote novels that ~ to reveal how things really got done

pulled the curtain back on who

this database ~ was responsible (corporate opioid pushing)

**concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / theater**

**searching & discovery: cloth / theater**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: cloth / theater**

## curtain (the con man behind the curtain, etc.)

con man behind the curtain

Americans have now seen the ~ (politics)

♦ "It's kind of, don't look behind the curtain, you know?" (Noam Chomsky about the "culture wars" that beset the United States.)

♦ This is a reference to *The Wizard of Oz*.

**subterfuge: allusion / cloth / film**

## curtain (lower the curtain, etc.)

final curtain

this might be the ~ for the Gypsy King (final fight)

lower the curtain on his (half-century) career

it's just about time to ~ in American politics (election)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: theater**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: theater**

## curtain (curtain wall, etc.)

curtain walls  
old castles and modern buildings may utilize ~

**protection & lack of protection / resemblance: cloth**

## curtain call

made a curtain call  
he ~ and tipped his hat (baseball)

brought winter back for a curtain call  
the spring snowstorm ~

**appearance & disappearance: theater**  
**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: theater**

## curtain raiser (noun)

last night's curtain raiser  
after ~, VAR took center-stage (start of soccer season)

season curtain-raiser  
Iowa is the primary season ~ (US elections)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: theater**

## curve (behind / ahead of the curve)

ahead of the curve  
we have been ~

stay ahead of the curve  
we need to ~ (deep-fake videos / fake news)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: geometry**

## curveball (noun)

curve ball  
this a ~ that we don't believe they saw coming

throws a curveball  
nature always ~ (Covid vaccine)

♦ "She furrowed her brow. It was a question from left field... / Now they were the ones thrown a curveball... / This was another question out of the blue..." (A well written police procedural.)

**subterfuge: ball / baseball / sports & games**

## cushion (verb)

cushion the blow  
the official tried to ~ (son grievously wounded in war)

**amelioration & renewal / attenuation: hardness & softness**

## cushion (noun)

cash cushion  
corporations are sitting on ~s

economic cushion  
his savings provided him with an ~

financial cushion  
did you save a ~ for yourself

**amelioration & renewal: hardness & softness**

## culp (on the culp)

on the culp of adulthood  
her child died ~  
she plays high schoolers ~ (an actor)

on the culp of (finally) getting  
Golding was ~ a book deal (*Lord of the Flies*)

**proximity: astronomy / star**

**division & connection: astronomy / star**

## custodian (role)

custodian of this democracy  
we should expect the president to be the ~

custodians of hope  
we can be ~ (environmental activism)

custodian of this lost history  
she saw herself as a ~

♦ "Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques" is a Wikipedia entry.

**help & assistance: infrastructure / person**

## cut (road cuts, etc.)

cut inland  
the Via Appia itself ~ and headed further east

**fictive motion / resemblance: blade / knife / verb**

## cut ( a person from a team, etc.)

cut Hernandez  
the Patriots ~ (NFL team and player)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: ax / blade / knife**

## cut (budget cuts, etc.)

deep cuts  
he wants to make ~ in programs for the poor

**curtailment: ax / blade / knife**

## cut (cut the budget, etc.)

cutting the cord  
people are ~ (paid TV subscriptions)

cut taxes  
he wants to ~ (a politician)

**curtailment: ax / blade / knife / verb**

## cut (cut both ways)

cuts both ways  
the Western concept ~ (human rights)

**feeling, emotion & effect: blade / knife**

## cut (a thousand cuts)

death by a thousand cuts  
he's suffering ~ (a prosecutor with weak case)  
a ~ is the future (restricting right to abortion)

suicide by a thousand cuts  
the company is committing ~ (failing)

♦ This references an *actual* form of torture. See the Wikipedia entry "Lingchi."

**affliction: blade / knife**

## cut down (killed)

cut down  
he was ~ in his prime (killed in battle)

♦ Death traditionally has been associated with reaping, "cutting down," sickles, and scythes. The Grim Reaper, for example, is often shown carrying a scythe.

**death & life: farming & agriculture**

## cut off (verb)

cut off (diplomatic) relations  
Venezuela ~ Colombia

**curtailment: blade / knife / verb**

**dismissal, removal & resignation: blade / knife / verb**

## cut off (speech)

cut me off  
I tried to tell her but she ~

**speech: blade / knife / verb**

## cut short (verb)

cut short  
his life was tragically ~

**curtailment: blade / farming & agriculture / knife / verb**

## cutthroat (competition)

cutthroat behemoth  
antitrust regulators depict it as a ~ (a tech company)

cutthroat business  
back then in Russia, it was a ~ (oil)

cutthroat game  
he wasn't there to play the ~ (Survivor)

cutthroat world  
in the ~ of college admission applications

**allegiance, support & betrayal: blade / knife / violence**

**behavior: blade / knife / violence**

**competition: blade / knife / violence**

## cutting edge (on the cutting edge)

on the cutting edge  
Californians are ~ (exercises)

on the cutting edge of outbreak surveillance  
the Medical Center is ~

**driving force: blade**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: blade**

## cutting edge (other)

cutting-edge drug  
a ~ like Zofran

cutting-edge field  
the ~s of computer engineering

cutting-edge research  
the chase to produce ~

cutting edge can grow dull  
his life reminds us that the ~ (Hugh Hefner)

**driving force: blade**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: blade**

## cyclone (noun)

cyclone of chaos  
disinformation experts are bracing for a fresh ~

**amount & effect: air / atmosphere / storm / wind**

**activity: air / atmosphere / storm / wind**

## Cyclops (creature)

Cyclops eye  
the dim ~ of the military

♦ "[The Soviets] turned the dim Cyclops eye of their military on the people themselves. They destroyed any village the mujahidin were spotted in. They carpet-bombed the Panjshir Valley..." (From *Fire* by Sebastian Junger, the chapter entitled "The Lion In Winter (2001)," about the great Ahmad Shah Masoud, the Lion of Panjshir.)

♦ In the *Odyssey*, Odysseus outwits the Cyclops Polyphemus and ends up blinding him, in a great win for the "nobodies."

**allusion: books & reading**

**oppression: allusion / books & reading / creature / eye / Iliad & Odyssey**

## cylinder (fire on all cylinders, etc.)

firing on all cylinders  
the team was ~ (won championship game)  
imagine Tyson ~ (the boxer Tyson Fury)  
we weren't ~ (a relationship)  
it was a fantastic month, the economy was ~

**functioning: engine / mechanism**

## czar (and tsar)

czar of the movies  
Hays's first major act as "~" was to ban Arbuckle

climate tsar  
John Kerry, the Biden administration's ~

coronavirus czar  
Dr. Ashish Jha, new White House ~

homelessness czar  
she has already appointed a ~ (mayor of Los Angeles)

rat czar  
New York City crowned Kathleen Corradi its first ~

cybersecurity czar

Dick Clarke, a former ~

Covid-testing Czar

Dr. Tom Inglesby, the ~ at the White House

anti-trust tsar

the president might create an ~ (and break up Big Tech)

♦ "He's a former leak Czar at the Department of Justice." (NPR's "A" Martinez introducing Brandon Van Grack to talk about the latest government security leak.)

**power: history / person / government**

## D

### daddy (and zaddy, etc.)

big daddy

see *big daddy* (authority)

granddaddy

see *granddaddy* (and *grandfather*)

Zaddy

~, an older 'Daddy' who is attractive, has extra swag...

♦ "Oof, Y'all, Dictionary.com Just Added Over 300 New Words and Definitions" by Josie Fischels, NPR, Pop Culture, July 16, 2021. One of them is "Zaddy." The word "zaddy" is at Wiktionary, tagged as "African-American Vernacular, slang." Not (yet) recognized by Merriam-Webster.

♦ "So basically Harry Styles would be classified as a Daddy, and George Clooney a 'Zaddy.'" ("My fling wanted me to call him Daddy and really turned me off" by Jana Hocking, news.com.au, March 10, 2023.)

**relationship: father**

### dagger (insert the dagger, etc.)

dagger to this Cameroon side

that is a ~ (third English goal in World Cup)

dagger blows

we must deal sharp ~ to the terrorists

3-point dagger

he sealed the deal with a ~ with 5 seconds left (basketball)

inserted the dagger

he ~ with a 15-foot-jumper (basketball)

put the dagger in

you get a chance to shoot the three, ~ (basketball)

♦ "Out here, people had a smile on their face and a dagger behind their back." (Bigotry and discrimination.)

♦ "Quoted sources suggested... that more than one knife was out for him." (PM Boris Johnson / politics.)

♦ "Antwerp was often described as a 'dagger pointed at the heart of England.'" (The Napoleonic wars.)

♦ "Korea is a dagger pointed at the heart of Japan." (Japan fights Russia for control of the Korean Peninsula during the Russo-Japanese War.)

♦ "Those who stormed this Capitol, and those who instigated and incited, and those who called on them to do so, held a dagger at the throat of America, and American democracy... I will stand in this breach, I will defend this nation, I'll allow no one to place a dagger at the throat of democracy." (President Joe Biden, in a speech on January 6th, 2022.)

♦ A rich, stupid city man insulted a Bedouin. Twenty years later, the Bedouin wiped the man's blood from his dagger, thinking regretfully, "Why was I in such a hurry to kill him?"

**destruction / feeling, emotion & effect: blade / death & life / knife / violence / weapon**

### dam (psychological dam, etc.)

air dam

shave one inch off their front ~ (NASCAR)

deflection dams

avalanche fences and ~

dental dams

male condoms, ~, and female condoms (public health)

psychological dam

a flood of memories burst through the ~ he had built

crack in the dam

this fill was the ~... (right-to-repair bill / PIRG)

♦ "I could feel the unity of tens of millions of brothers and sisters, rising to join the fight, creating a living dam to block the invaders' path..." (Vasily Grossman, author of *Life and Fate*.)

♦ "I was a dam-builder / cross a river deep and wide / where steel and water did collide / a place called Boulder on the wild Colorado / I slipped and fell into the wet concrete below / they buried me in that great tomb that knows no sound / but I am still around..." (YouTube. "The Highwaymen—Highwayman" (American Outlaws: live at Nassau Coliseum, 1990.)

**obstacles & impedance: dam / river / water**

**constraint & lack of constraint: dam / river / water**

### dam (water over the dam)

water over the dam

technically all of us are living on Indian land, but it's ~

**past & present: dam / movement / river / water**

**time: dam / movement / river / water**

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: dam / movement / river / water**

### damage (collateral damage)

collateral damage

see *collateral damage* (noun)

### damage (noun)

damage to Amanda

the TV show is causing real ~ (a murder case)

ongoing damage

there is an ~ (a TV show about murder case)

threat of damage

there is a ~ (to a murder case, by a TV show)

**destruction: ruins**

### damaged (mental illness)

this very damaged woman

what a life of turmoil, abuse and sadness ~ has lived

damaged and lonely

she was almost 40, ~...

**mental health: euphemism**

## damage control

damage control

he is not a seasoned politician who knows how to do ~

attempted damage control

she attempted ~ a day after her message sparked the vitriol

do damage control

the CEO went on CNBC to ~ (about product safety)

♦ "It wasn't the Exocet that sank HMS *Sheffield*, it was poor damage control." (The Falklands War.)

**amelioration & renewal: boat / military**

## damn (damn with faint praise)

damned him with faint praise

critics ~ (a film actor)

♦ "There is much to be said for failure. It is more interesting than success." (Max Beerbohm.)

**language: sarcasm**

## damning (adjective)

damning

the verdict was ~ as the team finished sixth (Olympics)

damning (internal) documents

~ leaked by a whistleblower

**judgment: religion**

## dampen (verb)

dampen a man's (sexual) arousal

the smell of a woman's tears will ~ (a study)

dampen the enthusiasm

heavy security didn't ~ of fans (Olympics)

the weather did not ~ at the fair

dampened (people's) spirit

the wet weather has ~ (France)

**feeling, emotion & effect: water / verb**

**attenuation: water / verb**

## dampening (adjective)

dampening effect

this will have a ~ on reporting (nurse convicted of error)

**attenuation / obstacles & impedance: mechanism**

## damper (noun)

damper on our sex life

taking care of a baby put a real ~

**attenuation / obstacles & impedance: mechanism**

## dance (coordination)

dance between the telescope and the dome

it's a ~, they work together (Giant Magellan Telescope)

**relationship: music**

## dance (dance with death, etc.)

dance with death

high-altitude climbing is a constant ~ (K2, etc.)

**fate, fortune & chance: love, courtship & marriage**

## dance (resemblance)

dance across the flats

whirling dust devils ~ (Nevada)

heat waves danced

down in the valley the ~

**resemblance: verb / walking, running & jumping**

**movement: verb / walking, running & jumping**

## dance (dance around something)

dancing around partisan gerrymandering

the Supreme Court has been ~ for years

danced around the issue

he ~

dance around it

we ~, but I want to come back to it (women's language)

**avoidance & separation / confronting, dealing with &**

**ignoring things: verb / walking, running & jumping**

## dance (last dance)

last dance

Phil Jackson called that season the ~ (Jordan's Bulls)

last dance at the World Cup

this is his ~ (the great Lionel Messi in Qatar)

Last Dance scenario

that sets up a potential ~ this season (two NFL players)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: music**

## dandelion (character)

dandelions

most kids tend to be like ~, fairly resilient and able to cope

orchid or a dandelion

is your child an ~

♦ Compare with *teacup* and *snowflake*. In the old days, such people were compared to plants: a *shrinking violet*; a *pansy*; a *wallflower* or *wilting flower*. The modern update on that is *orchid* (versus a *dandelion*).

**person: plant**

**character & personality / resiliency / strength & weakness:**

**person / plant**

## dangle (verb)

dangled this inducement

he ~ (diplomacy)

dangled military aid as a way to press

he ~ Ukraine to...

dangled a White House visit as leverage to get

officials ~ Ukraine to...

**attraction & repulsion: hunting / verb**

**coercion & motivation: arm / verb**

## Dantesque (adjective)

Dantesque horror

it was a scene of ~ (surgery during genocide)

♦ "It's Dante, it's inconceivable, it's an inferno." (An Israeli reminiscing about the 1973 tank battle around Hushniya, in the Golan.)

♦ "It is *another* path that you must take / if you would leave this savage wilderness."

**environment / situation: allusion / religion**

**allusion: books & reading**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## Danton

raging Danton

his views were still liberal, he was no longer a ~

**disruption: allusion / history / violence**

## daredevil (person)

daredevil

more executives should be ~ (risky hobbies)

daredevils and cautious persons

~ and everything in between

thrill-seekers, daredevils, and adrenaline junkies

the psychology of ~

♦ "Samuel Patch was America's first daredevil." (See the Wikipedia entry "Sam Patch." He died jumping from the High Falls of the Genesee River in 1929 in front of 8,000 people.)

♦ "Up there you feel that you're standing on the line between life and death—your life is hanging by a thread—that if something goes wrong you may die... What's the point of being scared? [Death] is inescapable. It comes to us all." (The remarkable Siberian daredevil Alexander Chernikov, a then 23-year-old living on the outskirts of Barnaul, 4,000 kilometers east of Moscow. He specialized in jumping off of buildings into snowbanks.)

♦ "[Muhammad] Ali... peeked out the window, where a crowd stood waiting to see a young man named Gary Wells attempt to jump the water fountain at Caesars on a motorcycle, the same jump that had almost killed stunt rider Evel Knievel. Ali turned away. / 'I don't want to see nobody get his head ripped off,' he said. 'They encourage him, but I know what people want to see when they watch something like that.' / Ali... lay down on this bed and his rubdown man, Luis Sarria, closed the curtains... / An hour later, the young man on the motorcycle missed his landing ramp and nearly killed himself crashing into a brick wall at eighty-five miles an hour." (*Ali: A Life* by Jonathan Eig.)

**character & personality / fate, fortune & chance: circus / person**

## dark (in the dark)

in the dark on that

we were ~ (Iran nuclear purchases)

in the dark about how

the US was ~ events would unfold (diplomacy)

in the dark about the fraud

they claimed to be ~

completely in the dark

our communications are down, we're ~

groping in the dark

doctors were really ~ (cures for infection in the 1800s)

keep the opposition in the dark

it's a way to ~

kept the public in the dark

he denied he ~ about... (official)

kept in the dark

lawmakers complained they were ~ (politics)

many officials were ~ about the journey (secret visit)

he thought that the Pope was being ~ regarding key events

even her father was ~

left in the dark

transparency was never there, the community was ~

she ghosted me and I was ~ (as to why)

**concealment & lack of concealment / comprehension & incomprehension / consciousness & awareness / knowledge & intelligence: light & dark**

## dark (dark mood, etc.)

dark

that period of life was a ~ (a struggling writer)

darkest chapter

his capture was one of the country's ~s of the war

dark decade

the so-called ~ (1992 onwards / Algeria)

dark history

Germans remember their ~ (the Holocaust)

darkest hour

we are now in the ~ of our political existence

dark mood

she returned in a ~

darker mood

a ~ is setting in, it's not a happy place at the White House

dark name

Antwerp was to be a ~ among British military failures

dark obsession

his hatred for him had become a ~

dark place

see *place* (in a *dark place*, etc.)

dark predictions

there are ~ that Boeing will lay off even more workers

dark secret

I realized that people are carrying around ~s (pastor)

dark space

see *space* (in a *dark space*, etc.)

dark times

you keep on going even through the ~ (musician)

dark tradition  
the Pacific Northwest's ~ of serial killers

dark truth  
there is ~ in what you are saying (a harsh conclusion)

dark, complicated  
the HBO show follows the ~ lives of a groups of teens

dark and honest  
Vasily Grossman's ~ account of the battle of Stalingrad

got very dark  
I was a no-hoper kid, things ~ for me (Simon Reeve)

looks (very) dark  
his future ~ indeed

**feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark**

**oppression: light & dark**

### **dark (go dark, etc.)**

go dark  
a lot of radio stations would ~ without public funding

gone dark  
he had ~ (investigative reporter unable to contact source)

went dark  
the station's FM signal ~ (shut down by government)  
when he tried to pull out his money, Mitchel ~ (a conman)

live or die, survive or go dark  
they can decide which Web sites ~ (Web hosts)

**curtailment: light & dark / verb**

### **dark (concealment)**

dark art  
the methods used have always been a ~ (party obedience)

dark money  
these so-called ~ groups

dark web  
on the ~, he shared tens of thousands of images (paedo)  
drugs, death and the ~  
he tried to buy grenades and Semtex on the ~ (a terrorist)

♦ "Black books, dark arts, and quiet words..." (How political parties enforce obedience.)

♦ "Natalegawa's stories constitute a primer on the dark arts of diplomacy, including the value of ambiguity, the cultivation of personal relationships with fellow leaders, creative word and punctuation choices, the profligate use of the passive voice—and just showing up." (A review of his book, entitled "Does ASEAN Matter? A View From Within," *Foreign Affairs*, March/April 2019.)

**concealment & lack of concealment: light & dark**

### **Dark Ages (in the Dark ages)**

in the dark ages  
in those days, medical knowledge was ~  
~, when you and I were growing up (rotary phones)

in the dark ages of (personal) computing  
~, if you wanted to...

in the predigital dark ages  
~, before computers...

keep (medical) science in the dark ages  
the fundamentalists would ~

take us back to the dark ages  
the fundamentalists would ~

**past & present / time: history**  
**decline / growth & development: history**  
**knowledge & intelligence: history**

### **Dark Ages (other)**

Dark Ages of ignorance  
the Republican's stem-cell policy represents the ~  
ideological dark ages  
this is a step forward from the ~ (education issue)

out of the dark ages  
we're ~, women have equal rights (surprise rough sex)

dark age had begun  
the electric vehicle ~ (1920 / gas engine triumphs)

return to the dark ages  
this is a ~

sinking into the dark ages  
the country is ~ (immigration)

brought our country out of the dark ages  
he ~ (Sultan Qaboos bin Said)

**past & present / time: history**  
**decline / growth & development: history**  
**knowledge & intelligence: history**

### **Dark Continent**

dark continent of the atom  
man had opened the ~ (Hiroshima)

**searching & discovery: map**

### **dark (Dark Matter, etc.)**

Dark Matter or Dark Energy  
the Standard Model can't explain ~ (physics)

**comprehension & incomprehension: physics**

### **darken (verb)**

darkened  
his outlook ~

darken his mood  
the stressful process seemed to ~ (troubled soldier)

**feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark / verb**

**oppression: light & dark / verb**

### **darkness (depression)**

in darkness  
there are a lot of people still ~ (the boxer Tyson Fury)

climb out of this deep darkness  
that was the moment I started to ~ (Mark Whetu)

found my way out of that same darkness  
I once ~ (“A Letter to College Sports”)

navigate my way out of the darkness  
I was able to ~ (“A Letter to College Sports”)

**mental health: light & dark**

**feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark**

## **darknet (computers)**

darknet  
the “~,” a private swath of the Internet  
the ~ is beyond the reach of law enforcement

building the “darknet”  
Freenet is one of several technologies that are ~

join a darknet  
to ~, a potential user must be trusted (file sharing)

**computer: light & dark**

## **Dark Star**

Dark Star of obligation  
expectations have produced a massive ~ (US weddings)

**oppression: allusion / astronomy / light & dark**

## **darling (noun)**

darling of the (Obama) Administration  
the solar company Solyndra was a ~ (failed)

darling of conservationists  
the spoon-billed sandpiper has become a ~

darling of the family  
Zygmunt, bright second child and only son, was the ~

darling of the judges  
Alvarez brushed off the notion that he is the ~ (boxing)

darling of Wall Street  
rapid growth made the company the ~ (addictive pain meds)

darling of Silicon Valley  
she was the ~, a woman who could do no wrong (Elizabeth Holmes)

biscuit darling  
Lesley Riley, “the ~” (founder of Mama’s Biscuits)

tech darling  
Theranos was on the cusp of becoming a ~

indie darling  
it hits similar beats as movies by other ~ directors

progressive darlings  
he won the endorsements of ~ Sanders, Warren and...

**attraction & repulsion: love, courtship & marriage / person**

**pursuit, capture & escape: love, courtship & marriage / person**

## **dart (throw darts, etc.)**

throw more darts  
he logged back in to ~

**accusation & criticism / affliction: weapon**

## **dart (dart about)**

darts about  
the staff ~

**activity / movement / speed: verb / weapon**

## **Darwinian (adjective)**

Darwinian  
the process is ~ (casting boys for a popular play)

Darwinian competition  
women live in ~ with one another for rich men

Darwinian reality  
the ~ of capitalism (investing during pandemic)

Darwinian situation  
street hailing can create ~s (cabs)

Darwinian system  
it’s a very ~, Marty was out for himself (career)

Darwinian (insurance) system  
sick people are further stricken by a ~ (US)

Darwinian view  
this ~ of the workplace is widespread

Darwinian world  
the ~ of the bond market

**competition: allusion**

**allusion: books & reading**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## **dashboard (noun)**

national test dashboard  
the CDC launched its ~ two weeks ago (pandemic)

see the dashboard  
go to the state’s website to ~ (coronavirus info)

**measurement: tools & technology**

## **daughter (noun)**

daughter of Hope and Fear  
Religion is a ~ (Ambrose Bierce)

daughter roots  
the roots produce offshoots called ~ (fig tree bridges)

**product / relationship: family**

## **daughter (daughter of Brooklyn, etc.)**

daughter of Brooklyn  
she told the audience that she was a proud ~

**identity & nature: family / person**

## David (David and Goliath, etc.)

### David

we can be a ~ in a situation where there's a Goliath (politics)  
I'm essentially the ~ taking on the Goliath (whistleblower)

### David-and-Goliath affair

major league bat making is a ~ (Louisville Slugger is #1)

### David-and-Goliath battle

waging a ~ against Time Warner

### David versus Goliath situation

this is definitely a ~ (a coach of a team)

### David overcame Goliath

despite long odds, ~ (American independence)

### David coming up against Goliath

it's brilliant when you get a ~ (Leicester City football)

### people versus Goliath

the ~, that's what this is (day traders vs Wall Street)

♦ "We felt like David, without a slingshot." (A naval officer facing the Japs in the Leyte Gulf.)

**strength & weakness: allusion / Bible / religion**

**size: allusion / Bible / religion**

## dawn (verb / comprehension)

### dawning on him

it was ~ that...

### dawn on me

it didn't ~ at the time that...

### dawned on her

it eventually ~ that...

### dawning on us

it was slowly ~ the Germans had killed them all (Holocaust)

**comprehension & incomprehension / consciousness &**

**awareness: day / light & dark / verb**

## dawn (verb / start)

### 2021 dawned

they were hoping for better times as ~

♦ "A new day is dawning on the horizon." (The Democrat Nancy Pelosi. The final three words are redundant and fall flat. !!! "It's the new dawn." (Grace Slick live at Woodstock. Not flat.)

**starting, going, continuing and ending: day / verb**

**future / time: day / verb**

## dawn (from / since the dawn)

### from the dawn of Japanese TV

~, every sumo tournament has been broadcast live

### since the dawn of the Petroleum Age

~ more than a century ago...

**starting, going, continuing & ending: day**

## dawn (noun)

### dawn of a new (pandemic) age

it's the ~

### dawn of a new era

today marks the ~ (political speech)

this is the ~ in human spaceflight (SpaceX Crew Dragon)

Midway was the ~ in naval warfare

### dawn of the Roaring Twenties

it was the ~ and Dempsey was just getting started (boxing)

### false dawn

there have been many ~s leading to frustration (unity)

it may be a building block or a ~ (a rare Man U win)

the Old Trafford side have had some ~s and difficult years...

### new dawn

the worst part is behind us, we are seeing a ~, hold on...

**starting, going, continuing & ending / time: day**

## day (have one's day)

### had its day

the German shepherd has ~ (the dog breed)

### had their day

cats have ~ (on the Internet)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**

## day (win the day)

### won the day

even if the government ~, it is unclear if...

**conflict / success & failure: day / military**

## day (in the old days, etc.)

### early days of YouTube

it was a viral sensation, 2010, the ~ (Usman Ahmed)

### in Nelson's day

cannons didn't recoil inboard, as in ~ (the Armada)

### in his day

he was admired by millions ~ (Walter White / NAACP)

### in its early days

radio astronomy was still ~

### in the better days

we were in Beirut, Beirut ~, and we were playing cards

(O'Toole and Sharif)

### in the old days

the reverence accorded ~ to Joe Hill (Kentucky)

~ it was known as Happy Top (area of Andrews, NC)

~ racial hatred was common

~ costumes were very heavy (ballet at the Mariinsky)

~, before salt blocks for sheep... (Navaho)

### in the old old days

back ~ of TV, before streaming or cable...

in the old days of coal  
this couldn't have happened ~ (mountaintop removal)

in the "bad old days"  
~ of Times Square (porn sleaze)

life in the old days  
~ was perhaps not so good

**past & present / time: day**  
**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**  
**day (old days)**

old days  
many are speaking fondly of the ~  
just think back to the ~ when people didn't have...

bad old days  
memories of the ~ of Suharto (Indonesia)  
this is a step backwards to the ~ of the 1980s (policy)

good old days  
I heard quite a bit of talk of the so-called ~, when...  
in the ~, which was just a few months ago (Brexit)

return to the "old days"  
what he really wants is a ~ (Pakistani Christian)

faces from the old days  
seeing the familiar ~ (a windsurfer)

spoke (fondly) of the old days  
he ~ (reminiscing)

♦ "Just the one minute of added time. Like the good old days." (A commentator at the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar. The tournament was notable for the amount of extra time attached to all periods of play.)

**past & present / time: day**  
**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**  
**day (back in the day)**

back in the day  
~, a teacher could keep a bottle of whiskey in her desk  
the first time I heard it was ~, with my Mum (Billy Jean)

listened to back in the day  
that's the music I ~

**past & present / time: day**  
**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**  
**day (days of yore)**

days of yore  
the parents yearned for those ~ (when the family was rich)

**past & present / time: day**  
**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**  
**day (latter-day)**

latter-day Mary Magdalene  
a sexually adventurous mother, a ~

♦ "Of present or recent times."

**past & present / time: day**

## day (day after tomorrow)

day after tomorrow  
it feels like it might be the ~ but there's still 2 years to go

today, tomorrow and the day after tomorrow  
we are well prepared ~ (German response to pandemic)

**future / time: day / distance / position / prep, adv, adj,**  
**particle**

## day (at the end of the day)

at the end of the day  
but ~ the true beauty of the stone remains  
but ~ they support our lives (sheep / herders)  
but ~, he has been repudiated (politician loses election)  
~, you can't put a price on that (happiness in career)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: day**

## day (early / late in the day)

early in the day  
it's still ~ (the progress of a war)

late in the day  
it's rather ~ to be suggesting a change to the plan

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: day**

## day (of one's day / of its day)

astronauts of their day  
whalers were the true ~

spaceships of their day  
whaling ships were the ~

moonshot of its day  
the Brooklyn Bridge was the ~

Panama of its day  
the Miracle Canal was truly a ~ (Qin dynasty)

♦ "Entrepreneurs in the auto industry and other innovators made the Midwest the Silicon Valley of its day." ("Recovering The Heartland" by Hendrik Meijer, *National Review*, December 19, 2022.)

**past & present / time: day**  
**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**  
**day (of the day)**

government of the day  
we occupy the towns to show that the ~ is unfair (IS)

problem of the day  
if they don't react to whatever the ~ is... (politicians)

topic of the day  
what the media tells us is the ~ (criticizing the media)

**past & present / time: day**  
**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**  
**day (the light of day)**

saw the light of day  
the report never ~ (government)

seen the light of day  
the story might not have ~ if...

**concealment & lack of concealment: light & dark**

## day (these days)

these days

~, when Chevron signs a contract...  
Africans ~ are quicker to express their anger  
but few people are buying baskets ~ (famine)  
~, we eat once or twice a day (Zimbabwe)  
many marginally qualified climbers flock to Everest ~

**past & present / time: day**

## day (those days)

those days

~ are obviously long gone (dumb workers)  
~ are over (no running water)  
that was the way we operated in ~ (journalism)

**past & present / time: day**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**

## day (dark day)

darkest days of the pandemic  
the ~ could lie ahead

dark day in the history

it's a ~ of the church (pedophilia scandals)

darkest day in the club's history

it was the ~ (Munich air disaster / Manchester United)

dark day for Muslims

a leading Swiss Islamic group said it was "a ~" (referendum)

**feeling, emotion & effect: day / light & dark**

## day (a new day)

bright new day

Hubert Humphrey promised America a ~

new day has come

a ~

♦ "A new day is dawning on the horizon." (The Democrat Nancy Pelosi. The final three words are redundant and fall flat. !!! "It's the new dawn." (Grace Slick live at Woodstock. Not flat.)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: day**

**future / time: day**

## day (save the day)

saving the day

we're not ~ but we add capacity (field hospitals)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military / verb**

## day (glory days, etc.)

"Those were the days"

I don't look back and think, ~

glory days are back

the ~ at this hotel (restored 1891 hotel)

return to better days

I want to help my hometown club ~ (soccer)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**

## day (early days)

early days for the organization

it's still ~

early days for making

it's still ~ a direct comparison (a new virus)

in the early days

it's still ~, there's a lot we don't know (Omicron variant)

**growth & development: day**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: day**

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: day**

## day (day has arrived, etc.)

day has arrived

the big ~ (heavy-weight boxing match)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: day / direction / movement / verb**

**past & present / future / time: day / direction / movement / verb**

## day (modern day)

modern-day Noah's Ark

Norway's Global Seed Vault is a ~ for plant seeds

modern-day P. T. Barnum

he is sort of a ~ (an arena builder and promoter)

modern-day hermits

in Japan half a million people live as ~ (*hikikomori*)

modern-day lepers

we treat them like ~ (fat people)

**past & present: day**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**

## day (call it a day)

call it a day

it's time to ~ (a boxer retires)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: day**

## day (last day / final day / death)

until her last day

she believed he would be caught ~ (Michelle McNamara)

**death & life: day**

## daylight (division)

daylight between the two men on the issue

there is not much ~

leave little daylight

his campaign has worked to ~ for primary challengers

division & connection: light & dark / proximity / shadow

## daze (in a daze)

in a daze

he was ~ (news of murder)

feeling, emotion & effect: force

consciousness & awareness: sensation

## dazzle (verb)

dazzled the delegates

he ~ (a politician)

dazzled him

the kid ~ (Zion Williamson, basketball player)

feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark / verb

## de (defund, etc.)

defund

~ the police

dename

it's time to ~ Winthrop House (*The Harvard Crimson*)

inclusion & exclusion: affix

## dead (status)

dead

reform is ~

dead and buried

the peace process is ~

Spurs looked ~ when Ziyech scored against them, but...

Switzerland were ~ but kept fighting (Euro 2020)

they looked ~ at half-time, but never write off this team

all but dead

the Cape Horn route was ~ (due to the Panama Canal)

deal is dead

the ~ (boxing negotiation)

appears to be dead

Joshua versus Fury now ~ (Usyk beats Joshua / boxing)

♦ "[T]he many moving tributes to cursive leave me convinced that it is far from dead, and not going quietly." (The great historian Drew Gilpin Faust's response to letters about her October 2022 article "Gen Z Never Learned To Read Cursive: How will they interpret the past?" in *The Atlantic*. Cursive writing used to be taught in the third grade.)

condition & status: death & life

## dead (functioning)

dead

the rocket has been ~, following the laws of gravity...

went dead

the line ~ before a reporter could get more details

functioning: death & life

## dead (feeling)

felt (kind of) dead

I ~ inside (mundane job, etc.)

mental health: death & life

feeling, emotion & effect: death & life

## dead (activity)

dead

we got downtown, but it was ~

activity: death & life

## dead (dead on arrival)

dead on arrival

a month ago the initiative looked ~

the film is ~ (critic did not like film)

condition & status: death & life / health & medicine

## dead (dead in the water)

dead in the water

the initiative is now ~

the Iran nuclear deal is not quite ~ but... (trouble)

that ship is ~ (a legal case)

they economy was ~, they were doomed to failure

condition & status: boat / movement

progress & lack of progress: boat / movement

## dead (rise from the dead)

rose from the dead

they ~ (a winning football team)

amelioration & renewal: religion / verb

## dead (dead and gone)

dead and gone

it won't make much difference to the ~

death & life: journeys & trips / movement

## dead end

dead ends

most of the tips turned out to be ~ (investigation)

dead-end job

characters with ~s

whiling away productive years at a ~

dead end scientifically

drugs to remove amyloid may be kind of a ~ (Alzheimer's)

disappointing dead ends

there were many ~ (hunt for missing girl)

wrong turns and dead ends

the series had some ~ (a TV show)

led to dead ends

attempts to find his birth mother ~

led to a dead end

every lead ~ (missing hunters)

success & failure: journeys & trips

failure, accident & impairment: journeys & trips  
progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips

## deadening (effect)

mind-deadening  
~ checks

sound-deadening  
install ~ windows

feeling, emotion & effect: death & life

## dead heat

dead heat  
the presidential run-off is a ~, too close to call

statistical dead heat  
he is in a ~ with Bernie Sanders (election)

competition: horse

## deadly

politically deadly  
if the accusations are true, this would be ~ for him

destruction: death & life

## dead man walking

dead man walking  
Steve Nash was a ~ from day 1 (sports talk / coach fired)

destruction: death & life / justice

## dead weight

deadwood  
get rid of Pogba, he is ~ 80% of the time (soccer snark)

worth & lack of worth: weight

## deadwood

deadwood  
as the lowest-ranking official, I felt like ~

worth & lack of worth: tree

## deaf (adjective)

blind, deaf and dumb  
terrorists are ~ to all reason and decency

consciousness & awareness: ear

## deal (done deal)

done deal  
just three weeks ago, his nomination looked like a ~

certainty & uncertainty: money

## deal (close the deal)

close the deal in the playoffs  
they were a good team, but they could never ~ (NBA)

attainment / reconciliation, resolution & conclusion /  
success & failure: money / verb

## dean (person)

Dean of American Cookery  
Turgeon nicknamed Beard "the ~"

dean of Middle Eastern correspondents  
she has been described as the ~ (Liz Sly)

dean of American medicine  
William H. Welch, known as the ~  
William Osler, the ~... (diagnostician / internal medicine)

dean of legal reporters  
she is the ~ covering the Supreme Court (Nina Totenberg)

♦ "Wilson, the dean of southern studies, has given us a monumental interdisciplinary and multicultural reassessment of a fabled and oft-troubled region." (A blurb for a book in *Harper's Magazine* "celebrating the newest releases from Ferris and Ferris Books. Learn more about Ferris & Ferris Books at... (a website)."

epithet: school & education

person: school & education

achievement, recognition & praise: epithet / person /  
school & education

## death (Death Valley, etc.)

nicknamed the Korangal Valley 'Death Valley'  
troops ~ (Kunar Province, Afghanistan)

military: epithet

## death (to death)

love her to death  
I ~ but she gets a little crazy... (a brother about sister)

love it to death  
I grew up with doo-wop and Motown, and I ~

scared me to death  
it ~

bored to death  
I'm ~, let's do something

scared to death  
I was ~ during the encounter

thrilled to death  
I was ~ at his success

hyperbole: death & life

## death (death by PowerPoint, etc.)

death by a thousand cuts  
he's suffering ~ (a prosecutor with weak case)  
a ~ is the future (restricting right to abortion)

"Death by hydrofracture"  
the iceberg experienced ~ (A68)

death by possession  
sideways passing and its attempt to inflict ~ (Spanish soccer)

death by PowerPoint  
they call it ~ (not *another* slide)

Death by Chocolate Trifle  
this ~ recipe is rich, decadent, and crazy delicious

♦ "Death by firing squad is a form of execution usually reserved for military personnel."

♦ "The twelve soldiers, under the command of an officer, stood in front of the condemned man. The sentence [for desertion to the enemy] was read and the provost-marshal drew a cap over the man's eyes. Then the officer gave the stern commands: 'Get ready, aim, fire!' Eleven bullets struck the young man; still he was not dead. The provost-marshal was obliged to use his own revolver, to put him out of pain. Scenes like this jarred my nerves much more than a battle. And now, when more than a quarter of a century has passed since this took place, it causes a shuddering sensation to think of it; still more to write all the circumstances of such a dreadful spectacle." (From *Memoirs of Chaplain Life* by W. Corby. He served through the Civil War.)

♦ "You may break my neck, but you can not break the seal of manhood." He seemed to be roused to say more but, fearing he might become excited, I suggested that he ought to stop there, and he did. The black cap was adjusted over his eyes, the rope placed about his neck, the signal was given, and he dropped into eternity, April 25, 1864." (Private Thomas R. Dawson, Company H, Nineteenth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, then in the Second Corps.)

♦ "One day, just as we were sitting down to dinner, three men were brought to the door of the tent by the Provo. The case against them was clear, and I had nothing for it but to decide that they should be led away and hanged in some place where they might be seen by the whole column in its march next day. I had a good many guests with me on that occasion, and they seemed dreadfully shocked and could not eat their dinner. I didn't like it much myself, but, as I told them, I had no time to indulge my feelings, I must do my duty. Well, the dinner went off rather gravely, and next morning, sure enough, three men in uniform were seen hanging from the branches of a tree close to the high road. It was a terrible example and produced the desired effect. But you may guess my astonishment when, some months afterwards, I learned that one of my staff took counsel with Doctor Hume, and as three men had just died in hospital, they hung them up and let the three culprits return to their regiments. I suppose I was angry at first. But as I had no wish to take the poor fellows' lives and only wanted the example, and as the example had the desired effect, my anger soon died out and I confess to you, that I'm very glad now that the three lives were spared." (Arthur Wellesley, 1st Duke of Wellington, during the Peninsular War of 1807-1814.)

**hyperbole: death & life**

## death (cheat death)

cheated death  
by recovering from such severe wounds, she ~

**fate, fortune & chance: death & life**

## death (decline and death)

death of journalism  
digital journalism is the ~

death by a thousand cuts  
he's suffering ~ (a prosecutor with weak case)  
a ~ is the future (restricting right to abortion)

deathbed  
see *deathbed* (noun)

death rattle  
see *death rattle*

death spiral  
see *spiral* (*death spiral*)

death and rebirth

the primordial pageant of ~ of light (solar eclipse)

social death  
ostracism is a form of ~ (academia)

dying a slow death  
VHS is ~ (film fans prefer DVDs)

**condition & status / decline / destruction: death & life**  
**death (Angel of Death, etc.)**

Angel of Death  
Josef Mengele, the ~ (Nazi doctor at Auschwitz)

Merchant of Death  
Victor Bout, the arms dealer dubbed the "~"

**death & life: epithet**  
**epithet: creature**  
**deathbed (noun)**

on its deathbed  
American democracy is in peril and may even be ~

**condition & status: death & life / health & medicine**  
**deathblow (noun)**

death blow to my enterprise  
I realized it was the ~

deathblow to our hopes  
we were dealt a ~

campaign's death blow  
the ~ came weeks earlier, in Michigan (elections)

deliver a deathblow  
the army is trying to ~ to the militants

dealt a deathblow to both ideas  
the financial meltdown ~ (foreign policy)

dealt the hospital a deathblow  
Hurricane Katrina ~

**destruction: death & life / violence / weapon**

## death rattle

death rattle of the American dream  
dystopian rap is the ~

**decline / destruction / resistance, opposition & defeat / starting, going, continuing & ending: bodily reaction / breathing / death & life / sound**

## death sentence (figurative)

melting "death sentence"  
Greenland's ice faces ~ (global warming)

economic death sentence  
the bill would be an ~ for Maine's lobster industry

**destruction: death & life / justice**

## death sentence (literal)

death sentence

he thought it was a ~, but... (accidental needle stick)

death sentence for whales

getting tangled in fishing gear can be a ~

automatic death sentence

H.I.V. is no longer an ~

no longer a death sentence

AIDS is ~ (antiretrovirals)

♦ "I just signed your death warrant." (A judge, sentencing a man to a long term that meant he would die in prison.)

**death & life: justice**

## death warrant (literal)

signed his own death warrant

he effectively ~ by planning attacks (terrorist killed)

signed his death warrant

when he signed those accords, he essentially ~ (Sadat)

♦ "I just signed your death warrant." (A judge, sentencing a man to a long term that meant he would die in prison.)

**death & life: justice**

## death warrant (figurative)

death warrant of capitalism

the president has signed the ~ (a senator against FDR)

'death warrant' for indigenous communities

the strategy amounts to a ~ (COVID / Maori)

death warrant for the Trans-Pacific Partnership

on his first day in office President Trump signed the ~

death warrant for us

anything over 2 degrees is a ~ (Marshall Islands / climate)

**destruction: justice**

## debris (noun)

debris of a failed season

fans have been left to sift through the ~

sorting through the debris

Democrats are ~ left by Republican wave (election)

**destruction: ruins**

## debt (in somebody's debt)

in his debt

America is deeply ~ (a US politician)

in your dept for visiting us

we are ~ (Russian President)

deeply in his debt

America is ~ (a US politician)

**obligation: money**

## debt (obligation)

debt of gratitude

we can never repay the ~ owed to our nation's veterans

I owe a ~ to... (writer / acknowledgments)

debt to society

he has paid his ~ (released from prison)

debt to soldiers

the nation's ~ who fight abroad

debt to the (Hollywood) musical

the choreography owes a clear ~ (filmmaker John Woo)

nation's debt

the ~ to soldiers who fight abroad

sleep debt

racking up a large ~ during the week

one of the first signs of ~ is irritability

paid his debt

he has ~ many times over (44 years in prison)

owes a (clear) debt

the choreography ~ to the Hollywood musical (film)

repay the debt

we can never ~ of gratitude owed to our nation's veterans

**obligation: money**

## debutant (noun)

debutant Joe Burrow

it was heartbreak for ~ (close loss in his first NFL game)

tournament debutants

the US team showed no mercy against the ~

youngest-ever Bundesliga debutant

he became the club's ~ (Kai Havertz)

**experience: person / love, courtship & marriage / sex**

## decapitate (verb)

decapitate al-Qaida

our goal is to ~, to dismantle it

decapitate the nation's military center

he told undercover agents he wanted to ~ (Pentagon)

decapitate any future discussion

imposing new sanctions would ~ with Pakistan

decapitate the cartels' leadership

he has deployed troops to ~ and reclaim their territory

decapitate the management

it's just an effort to ~ (media leader / security law)

decapitated a terrorist organization

we ~ by killing him (targeted killing)

decapitate me professionally

the NFL tried to ~ (the renowned Dr. Bennet Omalu)

decapitate (the agency) and eviscerate (its capacity)  
opponents worked to ~ to execute the law (politics)

♦ "Don't simply uncork your bottle, decapitate it!" (*Sabrage*.)

**destruction / dismissal, removal & resignation: ax / blade / head / neck / verb**

## descendant (noun)

direct descendants

*Blade Runner and Battlestar were ~ of Frankenstein...*

**relationship: family**

## decode (verb)

decodes what it means

*Want Me* kinda ~ to reclaim desire for yourself

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: verb**

## decolonialization (groups)

decolonization, DEIA, and antiracism

~ in ELT (the TESOL 2023 Convention)

represents decolonialization

a powerful man who ~ (an Oglala Lakota chef)

♦ "I think that a lot of people appreciate the face that Sean puts out front. He's the epitome, right? Long braids, a powerful man who represents decolonialization." ("Tribe To Table: A Minneapolis restaurant reconceives Indigenous cuisine" by Carolyn Kormann, *The New Yorker*, September 19, 2022.)

♦ Decolonization is conventionally thought of as the *actual* independence movements following World War II. When I think of decolonization, I think of Algeria, Vietnam, and India, not of anything connected to the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**inclusion & exclusion: possession**

## decolonize (verb)

decolonize the (birding) experience

I'm seeking to ~ (Tykee James, a "Birding activist")

decolonize his own food

he taught himself how to ~ (an Oglala Lakota chef)

decolonize the (Thanksgiving) meals

I've tried to ~ by eating a variety of food (a Potawatomi)

decolonizing philanthropy

we are ~ (a group accused of corruption)

♦ "I'm seeking to decolonize the birding experience." (Tykee James, a "birding activist" and co-founder of Freedom Birders. From "Monuments And Teams Have Changed Names As America Reckons With Racism. Birds Are Next" by Jeff St. Clair, NPR, June 5, 2021.)

♦ "I've tried to decolonize the Thanksgiving meals by eating a variety of food." (A Potawatomi who works for NPR.)

♦ "In August, Siebert left Owamni. Some employees felt that she hadn't been the right fit—that she pushed specials featuring colonized takes on Indigenous ingredients. 'I do have a European background in cooking, but so does Sean,' Siebert said. 'He taught himself how to decolonize his own food, and I was still in the process of that.' Soon afterward, a bartender was fired, in part for drinking on the clock..." ("Tribe To Table: A Minneapolis restaurant reconceives Indigenous cuisine" by Carolyn Kormann, *The New Yorker*, September 19, 2022.)

♦ see also *colonize (verb)*

**inclusion & exclusion: possession**

## decolonized

decolonized rule

Owamni breaks its ~ with coffee, beer, and wine (restaurant)

describes the food as decolonized

Sherman ~ (Owamni restaurant, Minneapolis, Minnesota)

**inclusion & exclusion: possession**

## decompression (noun)

decompression

after a day at work, all I'm thinking about is ~

decompression time

it's real important to have ~ (rescued POWs)

**amelioration & renewal: pressure**

**feeling, emotion & effect: pressure**

## deck (deck is stacked)

deck is stacked against them

the ~

deck is stacked on every hand

what if the ~ (justice for the poor)

**fate, fortune & chance: cards / sports & games**

## deck (re-shuffle the deck)

re-shuffle the deck

it's totally going to ~ (effects of political controversy)

**disruption: cards**

## declare (verb)

declared *The New York Times*

"Radio Listeners in Panic, Taking War Drama as Fact," ~

label (printed on the interior of the pocket) declares

a ~: "the only kind made by White Labor" (Levy Jeans)

♦ "Radio Listeners in Panic, Taking War Drama as Fact," declared *The New York Times*. "Radio Fake Scares Nation," cried the *Chicago Herald and Examiner*. "US Terrorized By Radio's 'Men From Mars,'" said the *San Francisco Chronicle*. ("The Halloween myth of the War of the Worlds panic" by Professor W Joseph Campbell, BBC, 30 October 2011.)

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

## deconstruct (verb)

deconstructed the (show's) finale

the creators and producers ~

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: infrastructure / verb**

## deconstruction (noun)

pop deconstruction

her podcast is an intensive project of ~ (diet culture)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: infrastructure**

## decry (verb)

decried the move

the oil and gas industry ~, saying... (a windfall tax)  
decried the sale  
groups have ~ of these dangerous products (infants)

decried 'nativism' and 'bigotry'  
the ex-president ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: sound / verb**

**accusation & criticism: sound / verb**

**conflict: sound / verb**

## deep (adverb)

deep into  
see *into* (*be into something*)

delves deep  
the story ~ into what he sees as...

dig deep  
see *dig deep* (*analysis*)

dig deep  
see *dig deep* (*determination*)

dive deep  
see *dive deep* (*analysis*)

## deep (person)

deep  
she's ~ (opposite of *shallow*)

♦ "Still waters run deep."

**character & personality: depth / water**

**person: depth / water**

## deep (deep past, etc.)

deep past  
apparently, in the ~, Neanderthals...  
questions about the ~ are hard to answer  
the Great Rift Valley acts as a history book of the ~

deep in winter  
a hike ~...

♦ "Deep into the rat race, far from the finish line of retirement."

**time: depth / water**

**past & present / time: distance**

## deep (emotion)

deep alienation  
she began to feel a ~

deep care  
he was remembered for his "~" (James "Buster" Corley)

deep desire  
bound by a ~ to have meaning in our lives

deep passion  
she had this ~ for issues she cared about

deep sense  
they have a ~ of sadness

run (especially) deep  
fears of Moscow ~ in Poland (2009)

runs deep  
Wright's admiration for the marines ~ (correspondent)  
the sense of allegiance to the Catholic Church ~  
resentment of the US ~ (Arabs)  
support for the insurgency ~ (Kandahar)

runs deepest  
in places where anti-American sentiment ~ (Iraq, etc.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: depth / water**

## deep (deep sleep, etc.)

deep in thought  
we drove in silence, both of us ~

deep coma  
he was in a ~ for 16 days, and he was tube-fed...  
when EMTs brought him to the hospital, he was in a ~  
the 3-drug cocktail puts the prisoner into a ~ (execution)

deep depression  
a lot of athletes fall into a ~ after the Olympics  
he sank into ~ and thought about ending his own life  
he fell into a ~, and his addiction spiraled out of control

deep sleep  
he fell into a ~

**consciousness & awareness: depth / water**

## deep (situation)

deep in debt  
he was ~

deep trouble  
he was in ~ before he won (an exciting tennis match)

neck deep  
see *neck-deep* (*in debt, etc.*)

**extent & scope / involvement / situation: depth / water**

## deep (extent and scope)

deep connections  
he had ~ in Washington with politicians (Biden)

deep dive  
see *dive* (*deep dive*)

deep divide  
the ~ between the haves and have-nots (*The White Tiger*)

deep ecology  
books about ~

deep (foreign affairs) experience  
he had this ~ (a politician)

deep knowledge  
what makes them such good cooks is a ~ of food  
he may have ~ about him, but he is a proven liar (politics)  
she integrated her ~ of folk music into the opera

deep roots

they have ~ in the community (Croatsians / Louisiana)

♦ A Cognitive Study of Spatial Metaphors in English "Deep" and Chinese "Shen" by Yanting Wu is a wonderful paper. It is available online at ERIC at EJ1342324.

**extent & scope: depth / water**

**substance & lack of substance: depth / water**

## deep (in deep)

in deep

he is ~ and I can't get him out (financial problems)

getting in deeper

you're ~ every moment you're gone (*Thelma and Louise*)

**involvement / situation: depth / water**

## deepen (verb)

deepened the mystery

the new information ~

**extent & scope: depth / water / verb**

## deeply

deeply in his debt

America is ~ (a US politician)

deeply embarrassing

it's a ~ episode that still clings to her today (singer)

deeply troubling

the allegations are ~

deeply disappointed

he was ~ that...

deeply entrenched

lighting fireworks to celebrate is a ~ custom (Peru)

deeply moved

to watch them was to be ~ (old soldiers)

deeply troubled

he was a ~, haunted by demons (Timothy Treadwell)

deeply woven

Arab Americans are ~ into the fabric of America

deeply loyal

like many in the force, he is ~ to her (Dame Cressida Dick)

**extent & scope: depth / water**

## deep-rooted (adjective)

deep-rooted problems

the company must overcome its ~

**bases: depth / plant**

## deer (deer in the headlights)

deer in the headlights

the first time I was a ~ (MMA fighter wins rematch)

♦ "Anthony Joshua lacked ambition, and he was like a deer in the headlights from the start, and he never wanted to get going." (Carl Froch, commenting on Usyk-Joshua.)

**behavior: animal / hunting**

## defang (verb)

defanged the (country's once-feared religious) police

he has ~ (MBS in Saudi Arabia)

defang them

he wants to demystify deadlines in order to ~ (a writer)

defang the consumer watchdog

the administration wants to ~

**strength & weakness: animal / snake / verb**

**attenuation: animal / snake / verb**

## deficit (noun)

attention deficit

children diagnosed with ~ hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)

information deficit

there's an ~ right now (vaccine controversy)

innovation deficit

the US has an ~ (less funding for science, etc.)

nature deficit

suffering from ~ disorder (forest bathing)

trust deficit

the UN chief says the world has "~ disorder" (Guterres)

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: money**

## define (verb)

define me

I refuse to let it ~ (sex abuse)

I won't let this event define me (drugged, blacked out)

**identity & nature: verb / writing & spelling**

## definitely (contempo-speak)

definitely not

it's ~ happy (murder house to be torn down)

definitely make me laugh

they ~ (a cashier / senior citizens at checkout counter)

definitely your next binge

'Sort of' is ~ (HBO Max series)

definitely famous

from 'almost famous' to ~, Billy Crudup is...

definitely obviously

see *obviously* (contempo-speak)

definitely pretty

see *pretty* (contempo-speak)

definitely maybe

see *maybe* (contempo-speak)

definitely very

see *very* (*contempo-speak*)

### Almost Definitely

“Meet Fragile Rock: ~ The World’s First Puppet Emo Band”

### Almost Definitely

“Beyonce’s Baby Is ~ Cooler Than...” (NPR.)

♦ “It really is definitely a pattern.” (An NPR pundit.)

♦ “The ‘Weird’ Al Yankovic (definitely not-at-all exaggerated) biopic” (NPR.)

♦ “‘Yep. Nope. Very definitely.’ Kathryn Schulz, a writer for *The New Yorker*, heard that seemingly-contradictory response to a question recently...” (“No, Yes, Definitely: On The Rise Of ‘No, Totally’ As Linguistic Quirk,” NPR, All Things Considered, April 12, 2015. NPR is a great apologist for such language and is in fact—in its quest for the younger demographic—one of its greatest promoters.)

♦ “He chuckles particularly, he says, over the discovery that society seems to consider the word ‘definitely’ so necessary to a sophisticated conversation, when the fact happens to be that the average English scrubwoman or ‘dustman’ uses it continually.” (Wilfred J. Funk of Funk & Wagnalls. From the article “Ten Overworked Words” in the newspaper *The Day*, New London, CONN., Thursday Afternoon, April 1, 1937. *Plus ca change.*)

♦ “Are you sure?”

♦ see also *actually* (*contempo-speak*), *obviously* (*contempo-speak*), *really* (*and REEE•lee*, etc.)

### contempo-speak: adverb

## deflate (emotion)

deflated a nation

the loss ~ where... (Mexico / soccer)

deflates them

having pumped the rookies up, he now ~ (NFL)

feeling, emotion & effect: air / atmosphere / verb

## deflate (pressure)

deflated some criticism

by admitting his mistakes, he has ~ (politician)

deflate (unrealistic) expectations

he would try to ~

deflate a stereotype

people can ~ by embracing it (Hillbilly Days Festival)

attenuation: air / pressure / verb

## deflated

deflated

does your job or land of one have you feeling ~

bored and deflated

he sounds ~ despite the Zoloft

feeling, emotion & effect: air / atmosphere

## defrock (verb)

“defrock” Oppenheimer

Lewis Strauss and his like-minded friends had managed to ~

♦ “For a few years after World War II, scientists had been regarded as a new class of intellectuals, members of a public-policy priesthood who might legitimately offer expertise not only as scientists but as public philosophers. With Oppenheimer’s defrocking, scientists knew that in the

future they could serve the state only as experts on narrow scientific issues.” (*American Prometheus: The Triumph And Tragedy Of J. Robert Oppenheimer* by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin.)

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion / verb

## defuse (verb)

defuse her anxiety

try to ~ (separation anxiety / toddler)

defuse crises

promote regional stability and peace and ~ (military)

defuse (volatile) crises

he was sent in to ~ (FBI hostage negotiator)

defuse the disagreement

he is trying to ~ among his allies (coalition)

defuse the issue

the first thing to do is ~ by backing off... (toddlers)

defuse the situation

he tried to ~ (and got shot)

Melissa Arnot intervened to ~ (on Everest)

the agents attempted to calmly ~ (at an airport)

he tried to ~ by...

defused the situation

tribal elders ~

defuse tensions

the US has urged the Russians and Georgians to ~

a move to ~ between the traditional rivals (China / Japan)

amelioration & renewal: explosion / verb

## deleted (groups)

deleted from history

women who have been ~ (scientists, politicians, artists)

inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence

## delicious (adjective)

delicious dollop

his concern for disclosure is a ~ of hypocrisy (politics)

delicious novels

here are three ~ (romance)

delicious (Gothic) romance

a ~ strikes just the right balance (book review by Caitlyn)

delicious, raunchy

Bridgerton is a ~ tale (wealth, lust, and betrayal)

how delicious

you have something to confide, ~ (two women)

♦ 9 1/2 Weeks (strawberries); Tom Jones (chicken bones, apples, oysters); Jamon Jamon (prosciutto or Serrano ham); Women in Love (figs). (Films that associate food with sex, and vice versa.)

♦ “In their hotel room she was staggered at the sight of a watermelon of incredible size. It was Komarovsky’s housewarming gift, and to her it was symbol of his power and wealth. When he thrust a knife into this marvel, and the dark green globe split in half, revealing its icy, sugary heart, she was frightened, but she dared not refuse a slice. The fragrant

pink mouthfuls stuck in her throat, but she forced herself to swallow them." (*Doctor Zhivago* by Boris Pasternak.)

♦ "The significance of sex and food is reversed between the Siriono and us Westerners: the Sirionos' strongest anxieties are about food, they have sex virtually whenever they want, and sex compensates for food hunger, while our strongest anxieties are about sex, we have food virtually whenever we want, and eating compensates for sexual frustration." (The Siriono Indians live in Bolivia. From *The World Until Yesterday* by Jared Diamond.)

**consumption: food & drink / taste**

**attraction & repulsion: food & drink / taste**

## delirious (adjective)

delirious (Korean) fans

millions of ~, aptly known as the Red Devils (soccer)

delirious celebration

scenes of ~ at Moscow's Luzhniki Stadium (World Cup)

**behavior / enthusiasm: health & medicine**

## delirium (noun)

delirium of his fans

he raised an arm aloft to acknowledge the ~ (a boxer)

**behavior / enthusiasm: health & medicine**

## deliver (verb)

deliver a deathblow

the army is trying to ~ to the militants

deliver despair

they promise hope and ~ (a Mexican gang)

deliver on his promise

his failure to ~ cost him his job (a coach)

deliver a knockout blow

the air campaign failed to ~ (Iraqi Freedom)

delivered a (passionate) response

she ~

deliver tonight

anything can happen in boxing, boy did they ~

**fictive transportation: verb**

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: verb**

## Delphic (adjective)

Delphic pronouncements

he hands out index cards inscribed with ~ (self-help guru)

**comprehension & incomprehension: allusion / religion**

## deluge (noun)

deluge

the trickle became a ~ (customer orders)

deluge of (electronic) data

how to organize and search through a ~

deluge of (holiday) orders

companies couldn't handle the ~

deluge of refugees

Tunisia is struggling to cope with a ~

deluge of tips

the public has responded with a ~ (hunting terrorists)

**amount & effect: flood / water**

**movement: flood / water**

## deluged

deluged with advice

you'll be ~ (about how to potty train your toddler)

deluged with complaints

they are being ~ from residents and merchants

deluged with questions

Hale has been ~ about Islam (9/11)

deluged with (thousands of) requests

the office was ~ (for a pamphlet)

drug-deluged

a ~ neighborhood

**amount & effect: flood / water**

## delusion (under a delusion)

under no delusion

I'm ~ this will stop everyone from cheating, but...

**fantasy & reality: mental health**

## delusion (other)

mass delusion

a ~ renders drivers blind to their faults (a study)

the "better-than-average effect" points to a ~

delusion, denial and fantasy

they seek refuge in ~ (the Middle East)

**fantasy & reality: mental health**

## demand (verb)

demand your attention

Mr. Whitfield, there is a matter that ~

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

## demand (noun)

demands of history and destiny

none of us can escape the ~

**fictive communication: speech**

## demented

demented policy

the Republicans are committed to a ~ of failure

**fantasy & reality: health & medicine / mental health**

**behavior: health & medicine / mental health**

## demesne (control)

gang's demesne

children serve as lookouts on the frontline of the ~

**area / control & lack of control: ground, terrain & land**

## demig (infodemic, etc.)

epidemic

see *epidemic* (noun)

infodemic

the WHO has called the spread of misinformation an “~”

triple-demig

the so-called “~” of flu, RSV and COVID-19 (NPR)

Thanksgiving gatherings could accelerate a “~” (NPR)

twindemic

flu this winter raises fear of a ‘~’ (flu + Covid / NPR)

**affliction: affix / health & medicine**

**increase & decrease: affix / health & medicine**

**language: affix**

## demise (death / actual)

demise

he discharged one round, causing his ~

demise of a subject

this officer-involved shooting resulted in the ~

**death & life: euphemism**

## demise (political demise, etc.)

demise of the (old-style) demolition derby

the ~ (at county fairs, etc.)

coal's demise

~ was predicted in the 1980s

show's demise

a corporate spokesperson confirmed the ~ (CNN)

political demise

the recall vote resulted in his ~

political and personal demise

the ~ of congressman Jackson

rise and demise

the ~ of the league (US Football League)

rumors of my demise

~ may be a little exaggerated (politics)

faces its demise

the mental health model ~ (the Trieste model)

♦ “For years, flapper information displays, known as Solari boards, were a fixture in railway stations, airports and bus terminals. Now, most are gone. New Haven’s board is the last of its kind on the Metro-North line. But officials say it’s hard to maintain, and they’re replacing it with two electronic panels.” (“Train Station Board’s Demise Is Sign Of The Times” by Diane Orson, NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, January 3, 2010.)

**destruction / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: death & life**

## demolition (noun)

demolition job

a packed Manchester arena witnessed a ~ (boxing)

this was an absolute ~ (Liverpool 4, Man U 0)

**destruction: infrastructure / ruins / tools & technology**

## demon (mental health)

inner demons

due to ~, it didn’t work out (talented football player)

personal demons

her life has been plagued by drugs and other ~

he certainly had some kind of ~ (Nashville bomber)

drugs and other (personal) demons

her life has been plagued by ~

fight those demons

I had hoped he’d be able to ~ (dead of overdose)

get rid of the demons

he has to get a rematch and ~ (boxer who lost in upset)

had (similar) demons

we both ~ (a boxer, a trainer, and drugs)

haunted by demons

he was a deeply troubled man, ~ (Timothy Treadwell)

shake her demons

she couldn’t ~ (singer dies of drug overdose)

stared down his (personal) demons

he ~

♦ When minorities OD they’re labeled junkies. When celebrities OD they have “demons” Move on nothing to see here (An online commenter.)

**mental health: creature**

## demon (affliction)

demons of the past

we must exorcise the ~ (Island of Gorée and slavery)

demons of (political) disorder, extremism, and cruelty

WWI unleashed the ~

threatening demon

another ~ of the Greek male, feminism...

exorcise the demons

~ of the past... (history)

unleashed the demons

WWI ~ of political disorder, extremism, and cruelty

♦ “I’m not a saint but I’m not a demon or anything either.” (A man acquitted of the murder of Tina Fontaine, an indigenous girl.)

**affliction: creature**

## demonic (adjective)

demonic explosion

there was a ~ (ethnic conflict)

**feeling, emotion & effect: creature**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## **demonization (noun)**

demonization of a black Muslim woman

over-the-top ~ (Omar Ilhan)

**accusation & criticism / characterization: creature**

## **demonize (verb)**

“demonize” the rich

he promised not to ~ (politics)

demonize all Southerners

she did not ~, or beatify all Northerners (Harriet B. Stowe)

“other” and demonize

celebrating a thin white body as the ideal is a way to ~ us

**accusation & criticism / characterization: creature / verb**

## **demonized**

demonized in the press

Ms. Maxwell has been ~ (trial)

idolized and demonized

he has been alternately ~ by the press (a boxer)

**accusation & criticism / characterization: creature**

## **den (den of thieves, etc.)**

den of dysfunction

they described its presidency as a ~ (politics)

den of spies

Vienna has long been a ~

**place: animal / house**

## **dent (noun)**

dent in spending

they want to make a big ~ and the deficit

making a dent in that (appalling) statistic

they are ~ (death in childbirth)

put a dent in the deficit

he wants to ~ (a politician)

**feeling, emotion & effect: mark**

## **depression (mental illness)**

depths of depression

as one nears the penultimate ~ (before suicide)

touchstone of depression

loss in all of its manifestations is the ~

fell into a depression

she ~

fell into a (deep) depression

he ~, popping pain pills and swilling tequila

♦ “When I was first aware that I had been laid low by the disease, I felt a need, among other things, to register a strong protest against the word ‘depression.’ Depression, most people know, used to be termed ‘melancholia,’ a word which appears in English as early as the year 1303 and crops up more than once in Chaucer, who in his usage seemed to be aware of its pathological nuances. ‘Melancholia’ would still appear to be a far more apt and evocative word for the blacker forms of the disorder, but it was usurped by a noun with a bland tonality and lacking any magisterial presence, used indifferently to describe an economic decline or a rut in the ground, a true wimp of a word for such a major illness. It may be that the scientist generally held responsible for its currency in modern times, a Johns Hopkins Medical School faculty member justly venerated—the Swiss-born psychiatrist Adolf Meyer—had a tin ear for the finer rhythms of English and therefore was unaware of the semantic damage he had inflicted by offering ‘depression’ as a descriptive noun for such a dreadful and raging disease. Nonetheless, for over seventy-five years the word has slithered innocuously through the language like a slug, leaving little trace of its intrinsic malevolence and preventing, by its very insipidity, a general awareness of the horrible intensity of the disease when out of control. / As one who has suffered from the malady in extremis yet returned to tell the tale, I would lobby for a truly arresting designation. ‘Brainstorm,’ for instance, has unfortunately been preempted to describe, somewhat jocularly, intellectual inspiration. But something along these lines is needed...” (*Darkness Visible: A Memoir of Madness* by William Styron.)

**mental health: direction**

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / flying & falling / height / hole**

## **depth (substance)**

depth and experience

the soccer team has ~ at virtually all positions

♦ “From breadth through depth to perspective.” (Motto of State University of New York at Binghamton.)

**substance & lack of substance: depth**

## **depth (out of one's depth)**

out of our depth

we were way ~ (ignorance)

out of their depth

they realized they were ~ and consulted psychiatrists

out of my depth in this matter

I'm ~ (lacks expertise)

out of his depth during engineering discussions

he was ~

**ability & lack of ability: depth / water**

**knowledge & intelligence / experience: depth / water**

**situation: depth / water**

## **depth (depths of winter, etc.)**

in the depths of (the arctic) winter

they had to find a way to survive ~

**time: depth / water**

## **depth (extent)**

depths of their bitterness

grasp the ~ (Turks on death fast)

depth of its (fiscal) distress

accounting obscured the ~ (hospital)

depth of his knowledge  
they came away impressed with the ~

depth of your sorrow  
we cannot imagine the ~ (daughters murdered by MS-13)

**extent & scope: depth / water**

## descend (verb)

descended into mob rule  
the confirmation hearing ~ (protests)

descended into violence  
a peaceful mass rally ~

**behavior: direction / verb**

## derail (verb)

derailed AGAIN  
the hype train ~ (England soccer / Qatar 2022)

derailed his career  
laziness ~ (athlete)

derail a professor's career  
it's just as likely that a student can ~ these days (sex)

derail (health-care) reform  
the Republicans tried to ~

derail her story  
he is trying to ~ (a celebrity)

derail our strategy  
the insurgents will not ~

derail this (vulnerable economic) upturn  
a conflict with Iran could yet ~ (in US)

♦ [Mr. Webb]: Well, she's late. Reckon she might've jumped the tracks.  
/ [Loretta Lynn]: Oh, Daddy, them things [trains] don't do that. Do they?  
/ [Mr. Webb, grimly]: They've been known to. (From the great film, *Coal Miner's Daughter*.)

**failure, accident & impairment: train / verb**

## derailed

derailed  
the hype train was ~ (a Y.A. book, by sensitivity readers)

derailed by an avalanche  
the murder trial was nearly ~ of prejudicial comment on social media

career and life were derailed  
her ~ when she met Ray...

**failure, accident & impairment: train**

## descend (descend on)

descend on Iowa  
candidates ~ ahead of crucial caucus (election)

descend on London  
a million tourists will ~ (Olympics)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: insect / verb**

**behavior: insect / verb**

## descendant (come after / down)

descendants of the (US-backed) mujahedeen  
some consider the Taliban the ~

♦ de- = "down," "down from," "away."

**past & present / sequence / time: direction / height / history / mountains & hills**

## descent (decline)

descent into alcoholism  
she herself began a gradual ~

descent into (pugilistic) dementia  
his slow and steady ~ (Mike Quarry)

descent into despair  
her public ~ (suicide at MIT)

descent into intolerance  
this is a sad milestone on our ~ (murder)

descent into (Webcam) pornography  
he described his ~

public descent  
her ~ into despair (suicide at MIT)

slow and steady descent  
his ~ into pugilistic dementia (Mike Quarry)

**decline / feeling, emotion & effect: direction**

## desert (verb)

deserted the village for the (big) towns  
his own grown children have ~ (Indonesian Borneo)

deserted him  
his smooth putting stroke ~ ("the yips" / golfing)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: military / verb**

## desert (food desert, etc.)

maternity care deserts  
one-third of U.S. counties are ~ (a report)

child-care deserts  
about half of Americans live in ~

food desert  
~s have little access to fresh food (urban areas)  
~s are poor areas bereft of fresh-food grocers

food-desert  
the ideal store for ~ residents is a chain supermarket

"fresh food deserts"  
nutritious food is hard to find and expensive in ~ (Bronx)

green desert  
that's a ~, nothing living in it ("rewilding" agriculture)

internet deserts  
~ in rural America make it hard for people...

## library desert

countless families live in ~, areas without a reachable library

## news desert

Youngstown is a ~ (*Daily Vindicator* ceases)

she tracks ~s (no local news)

he tried to fight back against the encroaching ~, but...

## news “deserts”

~ are growing (local newspapers go out of business)

## ‘pharmacy deserts’

~ are the new front in the race to vaccinate (COVID)

## food and health care deserts

many people live in so-called ~ (US)

## cultural desert

the third- and fourth-tier cities are no longer ~s

## dental desert

~s, where there is little or no access to NHS care (U.K.)

## digital deserts

rural communities are stuck in ~ (broadband)

## sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: desert / ground, terrain & land

## desert (environment)

### turning huge swathes of rainforest into desert

the illegal gold mining is ~ (Peru)

♦ “The view from the highest range of these dunes, the Hills of the Singing Sands, is unforgettable. Dawn is the best time to climb: the sky (like the lake) is invariably crystal-clear, the robin’s egg blue of early morning. The lower dunes rise and fall and glitter, immense sharp-sculptured waves of pale yellow crystal, as far as it is possible to see. The sun rises fast over a white-hot horizon. To the west, toward the trackless wastes of the Taklamakan and Lop deserts, all is still dark, but cloudless, and the summits of the distant dunes are tricked out with gold as the sun catches their edges.” (*The Man Who Loved China* by Simon Winchester.)

♦ “The living glow of the desert dawn wrapped a blue turban around the mountain’s lofty peak” (From *Gold Dust* by Ibrahim al-Koni.)

♦ “The green was heaven’s gift in the desert.” (A desert pasture with fodder for a camel. From *Gold Dust* by Ibrahim al-Koni.)

♦ “In the desert, the soul empties and clears and becomes free and brave in the process. And so it enables you to defy the endless open space, challenge the horizon, and explore the emptiness that leads beyond the horizon, beyond the desert void. It invites you to face the other world, the hereafter. It was here, only here, in the labyrinths of never-ending desert plains, that the extremes converge—open expanse, horizon, and desolation—to form a firmament that expands outward, toward eternity, toward the afterlife.” (*Gold Dust* by Ibrahim al-Koni. The desert plays a central role in the three Abrahamic religions of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.)

♦ “This processional way greater than imagination.” (Wadi Rumm. *Seven Pillars of Wisdom*, Chapter LXII, by T.E. Lawrence.)

♦ “Two days later an old man came into our camp. He was limping, and even by Bedu standards he looked poor... The Rashid pressed forward to greet him... I wondered at the warmth of their greetings... Bin Kabina said to me: ‘Once he was one of the richest men of the tribe, now he has nothing except a few goats... His generosity ruined him. No one ever came to his tents but he killed a camel to feed them. By God, he is generous!’” (*Arabian Sands* by Wilfred Thesiger.)

♦ “The Bait Kathir prayed at dawn. A little later, I would hear bell-like notes as someone pounded coffee in a brass mortar, varying his stroke to produce the semblance of a tune...” (*Arabian Sands* by Wilfred Thesiger.)

## environment / resemblance: desert / ground, terrain & land

## destabilize (verb)

upend and destabilize

sports podcasts often ~ stereotypes about black athletes

**feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability / verb**

**disruption: equilibrium & stability / verb**

## destabilizing (adjective)

destabilizing standoff

US officials scrambled to defuse the ~ (in Iraq)

**feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability**

**disruption: equilibrium & stability**

## destroy (emotion)

destroyed him

it just ~, he would melt down in my office (death of father)

**feeling, emotion & effect / mental health: destruction / ruins**

## destroy (verb / accomplishment)

destroying the (\$300 million) industry

he’s ~ (YouTube ad for a new flashlight)

**success & failure: force / verb**

## detached (emotions)

completely detached

emotionally I was ~ (denial)

**feeling, emotion & effect: distance / proximity**

## detangle (verb)

detangle from technology

our lives are impossible to ~

**complexity / involvement: cloth / rope / verb**

## detective (person)

detectives

editors are gatekeepers, not ~ (fraudulent studies)

armchair detective

an ~ is a fictional character who solves crimes

Kar is the typical ~ (a murder investigation)

the ~s out there on social media (a quadruple murder)

~s who had read the story (“In the Footsteps of a Killer”)

~s and internet sleuths are sharing their own theories

~s and keyboard warriors piled on (Nicola Bulley case)

keyboard detectives

~ might disagree with me (a murder case)

**searching & discovery: person**

## dethrone (verb)

dethrone New Zealand

they produced a fine performance to ~ (rugby)

dethroned Anthony Joshua  
he ~ with an incredible performance (Usyk)

dethrone the champs  
this is the start of their quest to ~ (NBA)

dethrone (cultural) gatekeepers  
the digerati effort to ~ (Web)

dethrone the king  
Yildirim will be attempting to ~ (Saul 'Canelo' Alvarez)

**dismissal, removal & resignation / primacy, currency,  
decline & obsolescence: royalty / verb**

## dethroned

outboxed and dethroned  
Taylor had been ~ in his own backyard (still got decision)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty  
dismissal, removal & resignation: royalty**

## detonate (verb)

detonated (national) outrage  
the manner of his killing ~ (hate crime)

primed to detonate  
the film was ~ this weekend (open)

ready to detonate  
a blast is ~ (the Kyoto Protocol)

**initiation: explosion / verb**

## detonator (noun)

detonator  
she was handling unstable explosives, and that letter was the  
~ (a relationship)

**initiation: explosion**

## detour (noun)

inexplicable detour  
to me, it's an ~ that your life took (musician works as  
currency trader)

**course / direction: journeys & trips**

## detox (and detoxification, etc.)

digital detox  
CEO Marc Benioff took a 10-day '~' (on Polynesian resort)

♦ According to a BBC article, the term "digital detox" first occurred in 2010. Related words and phrases in that article included "tech obsession," "tech abstinence," and "detangle from technology."

**amelioration & renewal: addiction / health & medicine  
mental health: addiction / health & medicine**

## Detroit (India's Detroit, etc.)

India's Detroit  
Chennai is ~, an auto-industry hub

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## devastated (emotion)

devastated  
everyone was ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: destruction / force / ruins**

## devastating (feeling)

devastating blow  
loss of the coral reefs would be a ~

devastating course  
the cholera epidemic is now waning, having run its ~

devastating incident  
this ~ that happened (police shooting)

devastating rape  
the ~ of Indonesia's forests

devastating turn  
and then the case took a ~ (missing woman found murdered)

beyond devastating  
this is ~ (hospitals ban visitors during pandemic)

**feeling, emotion & effect: destruction / force / ruins**

## devil (Lady Devils, etc.)

*Devil's Playground*  
*The ~* (book by James Traub / Times Square circa 2004)

Devil Dogs  
leathernecks, jarheads, ~ (U.S. Marines)

Lady Devils  
~ Take 5 Set Win Over Andrews (Bryson City, NC)

Red Devils  
Korea's fans, aptly known as the ~

**epithet: creature**

**group, set & collection: creature**

## devil (Devil's Falls, etc.)

Devil's Backbone  
the road is called El Espinazo del Diablo—the ~...  
the ~ on the Great North Road (Sydney)

Devil's Courthouse  
the first person to climb ~ (a rock outcropping)

Devil's Elbow  
the ~ trail parallels the river (Panthertown, NC)

Devil's Falls  
~ (Wales)

"Devil's Glacier"  
as the ~ it remains to this day on the maps (Antarctica)

Devil's Gulch  
the family was found dead in the ~ area of the forest

Devils Hole  
the ~ (both a cave and a North Sea undersea feature)

Devil's Home

the ~ (a stony hill / Udehé)

Devil's Nose

the ~ (a section of the Mokelumne River)

Devil's Path

the ~ (bleak desert terrain in the Southwest of the US)

Devil's Pulpit

the ~ (an outcrop in a gorge)

Devil's Staircase

the ~ Wilderness is named after a waterfall (Oregon)

Devil's Throat

~ is a must (Iguazu Falls)

Devils Tower

~, the otherworldly butte in northwest Wyoming

Devil's Courthouse

the ~ (a rock outcropping)

Devil's Highway

the ~ (a 5-turn section on bobsled track)

the ~ runs between Yuma and Ajo, Arizona

Devils Thumb

the ~ is a striking summit on the Alaska-BC border

the NW face of the ~ has never been climbed

the NW face of the ~ rises from the Witches Cauldron

the NW face of the ~ is 6,700 feet

Devil's Thumb

are pets allowed at ~ Ranch Resort & Spa (Colorado)

Espinazo del Diablo

El ~ (the Devil's Backbone, a road in Durango, Mexico)

Majlis al Jinn

the ~ (the assembly of the devils, a cave in Oman)

♦ There are Devil's Backbones in New Zealand, Ireland and South Africa.

**proper name: creature / religion**

## devil (behavior)

devil

he can be a real ~ at times (a toddler)

comma-shaped devils

a man-killing dose of those ~ (cholera microbes)

**behavior / character & personality: creature / religion**

## devil (deal with the devil)

make a deal with the devil

you want something so badly you're willing to ~

**fate, fortune & chance: allusion / religion**

## devil (evil)

devil personified

he was the ~ (a serial killer of women)

**affliction / insult: creature / religion**

## devotee (person)

devotee of (a particular) theory

he's no ~ (a coach)

orchid devotees

as other ~ will attest...

trout fishing devotees

~ worship Snowbird Creek (Graham County NC)

**enthusiasm: person / religion**

**person: religion**

## devour (devour the classics, etc.)

devoured these books

I ~ (on mountaineering and travel / Heinrich Harrer)

devoured the classics

I ~

devoured *Dracula*

he had ~ by the age of five

devoured these films

this generation of adults ~ as children (Disney)

devoured (HG Wells') *War of the Worlds*

as a child, Brunner ~ (the writer)

devour Christie's work

readers continue to ~ (Agatha Christie)

devoured them

he stumbled onto books and completely ~ (Melville)

**consumption: food & drink / verb**

## devour (destroy)

devoured hundreds of acres

the fire ~

devoured a pine forest

a wall of fire ~ and threatened villages (the Gironde)

**destruction: animal / food & drink / predation / verb**

## devoured (by an emotion, etc.)

devoured by anxiety

she is ~ when she's not working (magazine editor)

devoured by guilt

Caldwell was ~ (the climber Tommy Caldwell)

**mental health: animal / consumption / predation**

**destruction: animal / food & drink / predation**

**feeling, emotion & effect: animal / food & drink / predation**

## diabolical (adjective)

diabolical

gamification is thoughtless at best and ~ at worst

**behavior / character & personality: creature / religion**

## diagnosis (noun)

diagnosis

the ~ is wrong, and the prescription is malpractice

diagnosis for America's ills

it has made equality a ~ (the Democratic Party)

American diagnosis

they share the ~ but not the prescription (Quad nations)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: health & medicine**

## dial down (and dial back)

dial it back

don't drink every day, ~ (alcohol)

dial back arrests, incarcerations

we need to ~ (reform)

dial down the rancor

we need to ~

dial down speculation

they reviewed the investigation in an attempt to ~

refused to dial down

he has ~ his wolf-warrior diplomacy (diplomacy)

**increase & decrease: direction / mechanism / verb**

## dialed in

dialed in

if he gets back ~, he can help his team (troubled athlete)

**target: weapon**

## dialogue (global dialogue, etc.)

global dialogue

we are hoping to change the ~ around mental health

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: speech**

## dial up (increase)

dial it up to eleven

you see an effort to ~ every night (media "rage inflation")

**increase & decrease: direction / mechanism / verb**

## dial up (order)

dial up more passing plays

why didn't Clint Kubiak ~ (NFL game)

**initiation: direction / mechanism / verb**

## dice (noun)

roll of the dice

publishing is a constant ~, a gamble

it's a ~, I suppose (correctly controlling development)

throw of the dice

the substitution was a late ~ (soccer)

roll the dice

the Air Force is going to ~ (new plane)

okay, if you want to ~, go ahead (take the chance)

we're going to ~ and see what happens

you know I like to ~, but this is going too far

I don't think we should ~ and take that risk

every time we go out, you ~, it's life or death (*Hurt Locker*)

**fate, fortune & chance: gambling / sports & games**

## Dickensian (adjective)

Dickensian character

he was a ~, a poor immigrant adopted, then rejected

Dickensian childhood

his ~ may have fueled his ambition (poverty)

she survived a ~

Dickensian poverty

she lived in ~

Dickensian (rags-to-riches) story

the film is a ~

Dickensian tenements

he rose out of the city's ~ (India)

Dickensian times

these are ~ indeed (class and class mobility)

Dickensian world

a ~ of haves and have-nots

Dickensian warehouses

its orphanages became famous as ~ (Romania)

♦ "Maybe there is just a bit of desire to find a way out of this, and an offramp..." (A BBC commentator about a threatened UK rail strike in 2022. One "bit of desire" the commentator mentioned was the fact that Christmas was approaching. What man wishes to be unemployed at Christmas, having to worry about money to pay the heating bills and also buy gifts for his family.)

♦ "Then children began to die. / The processions over the mountain were long at first, and sometimes two and three a day. Then they grew shorter, and the hymns fewer, for the people had no strength. / July, August, September, October. / November. / The cold was on us and the snow was thick in the very first week. People were burning wood, and some of the men went down to the colliery to get coal and were stopped by the watchmen, but they took no notice and loaded up. Next morning, police came by brake and went to live in the lamp house. Two men who were caught were taken over the mountain and had six months in jail. So those who had no money for coal went up on the mountain for wood, and since all the people in other valleys were looking for wood, there was soon no wood to be had, except standing trees. But they were green and not to be lit by anything but a fire. / More and more children were dying, and now women were dying, and men. No more were coffins built by Clydach. A sheet had to do, and did. / Two, three, and four families went into one house to eat and have warmth together. Windows were boarded to keep out cold. Even Mr. Gruffydd had trouble to keep the men from a riot, and going down to the colliery and killing the police..." (*How Green Was My Valley* by Richard Llewellyn. The Welsh coal miners were on strike.)

♦ "It's a hard-knock life for us / it's a hard-knock life for us..." (The wildly successful musical *Annie*, based on the 1885 poem by James Whitcomb "the Hoosier Poet" Riley. Everyone involved in the production and audience gets to go home and eat what they want.)

♦ "This adaptation feels staler than Miss Havisham's wedding cake." (Cute writing by Hollie Richardson about Steven Knight's TV adaptation of *Great Expectations*.)

**environment: allusion**

**allusion: books & reading**

comparison & contrast: affix

## dictate (verb)

dictated (just) one course of action  
military logic ~

fictive communication: speech / verb

## die (hyperbole)

dying to meet him  
I'm just ~

die from boredom  
we were just about ready to ~

dying back here  
can we turn up the AC, I'm ~ (car)

died laughing  
I nearly ~

innovate or die  
"~" has long been the mantra in the computer world

hyperbole: death & life

## die (non-human)

die  
the fire would not ~ (civil rights)  
where do statues go when they ~ (cancel culture)

Die  
*How Democracies* ~ (by Steven Levitsky, Harvard U.)

died  
the rumors never ~ (of marital infidelity)

dies  
no good thing ever ~ (*Shawshank Redemption*)

died in France  
*Alfie* ~ (the film *Alfie*, which did not do well in France)

dying at a rate of 2 each week  
US newspapers are ~

die hard  
dreams ~  
old habits ~  
race-based voting traditions ~ here

dreams die  
~ hard

habits die  
old ~ hard

project died  
the ~ before it got off the ground

traditions die  
race-based voting ~ hard here

come to die  
Washington, D.C. is a city where ideas ~

go to die

South Georgia is where many big icebergs ~  
it's a graveyard where all good things ~ (US Senate)  
the hidden life of garbage and where old PCs ~  
this is where huge ships ~ (Indian scrap yards)  
this is where championships ~ (football / Iowa)

needs to die  
the phrase "people of color" ~ (Damon Young)

seemed (to many people) to be dying  
New York in 1968 ~ (crime, closed theaters, etc.)

♦ "The balance beam is where Russia's gold medal hopes have gone to die in recent years." (Commentary about the Tokyo Olympics.)

♦ "You know, the cowboy in me just ain't gonna die." (A 92-year-old black ex-rodeo rider.)

♦ "Soldiers who die are taken to a holding area, where they are made to do manual labor to underscore the point that dying is never fun." (Military training.)

♦ "I'll tell you a funny thing about [the film] *Alfie*. Well, I had a very close friend who was a Frenchman. And *Alfie* died in France, it was the only place in the world where it died. And I said to this very close French friend of mine, *Alfie* died in France, you know. He said I know it did. I said why do you think that is, and he said no Frenchman could believe that an Englishman could seduce ten women." (The great actor Michael Caine speaking about the 1966 film *Alfie*. From "TimesTalks: Michael Caine: Five Favorite Films, *The New York Times*" on YouTube. The sentence, "*Alfie* died in France, it was the only place in the world where it died," must present quite a problem in natural language processing!)

♦ "Internet Explorer, the love-to-hate-it web browser, has died at 26."

♦ "Why the #DiedSuddenly movement must die."

♦ "It is very hard to die in a modern ICU [intensive-care unit] these days. This can make it harder for families to accept that there is no chance a fatally ill patient will recover." (End of life issues, "pulling the plug," religion, ethnicities, health-care costs, etc.)

♦ "When I eat, I live. When I drink, I die. What am I?" (A fire, of course!)

♦ Cattle die / Friends die / Thou thyself shalt die / I know a thing / That never dies / Judgement over the dead

condition & status / starting, going, continuing & ending / survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / verb

## die (the die is cast, etc.)

die is cast  
there is nothing more, the ~ (eve of battle)

♦ In *Word Origins and their Romantic Stories*, Wilfred Funk, Litt. D., devotes a couple of paragraphs to "the die is cast." He mentions that "even today hundreds of loaded dice, be they clay, wood, or bone, are still being dug out of Roman ruins."

fate, fortune & chance: gambling / sports & games

## die down (verb)

hype dies down  
once the media ~ (elections)

opposition has not died down  
~ (Chechnya)

wind had died down  
the ~

gunfire died down  
after the ~...

eventually died down  
the uproar ~ (dismissal of coach)

**decline: death & life / fire / verb**

## die out (end)

fire is dying out

we've used up all our wood, and the ~

faded or died out

knowledge of the language has ~ (Cherokee)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life / fire / verb**

## diet (noun)

diet of him

none of us wanted a steady ~ (a dominant golfer)

diet of left hooks and right hands

he fed Mayorga a steady ~ (De La Hoya)

media diet

the questionnaire focused on each juror's ~ (trial)

social-media diet

how to manage your ~ (Life Kit / Mayowa Aina)

steady diet

none of us wanted a ~ of him (a dominant golfer)

fed on a (steady) diet

we are ~ of gruesome news (terrorism, etc.)

fed Mayorga a (steady) diet

he ~ of left hooks and right hands (De La Hoya)

served up a steady diet

evangelists ~ of jargon stew (the Ethereal Summit)

♦ "If it means swallowing some humble pie, and it means eating some of your words, I can't think of a more excellent diet." (Prime Minister David Cameron, on his coalition government formed with the Liberal Democrats.)

♦ "In the course of my life I have often had to eat my words, and I must confess that I have always found it a wholesome diet." (Winston Churchill about the volte-face in his attitude to Nehru, from dislike to complete approval.)

♦ Man U have been force-fed their fair share of humble pie and it's done them good. Now, as a neutral, I see their recovery under Ten Hag. Good for them (A commenter on a BBC HYS.)

**consumption / experience: food & drink**

## dig (search for)

dig deep

see *dig deep* (determination)

dig deep

see *dig deep* (analysis)

digging for (more) information

we are ~ (TV news story)

dig beneath the surface

documentaries are the ideal way to ~ of sports

**searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / mining / verb**

## dig deep (determination)

dig deep

they had the determination to ~, overcome adversity...

dug deep

Italy was less than perfect, but Mancini's side ~ (soccer)

dig deep to avoid

they had to ~ a heavy defeat (Wales / Euro 2020)

♦ "I don't think Beterbiev has ever had to dig as deep as he's had to dig tonight." (A commentator after the exciting Beterbiev versus Yarde boxing match.)

**commitment & determination: depth / ground, terrain & land / mining / verb**

## dig deep (analysis)

dig deeper

~ (command to a detective)

dig (a little) deeper

as we ~, we discover...

dig deep into the story

in this series we ~ of his senseless murder (podcast)

dug deep into the science

he has ~ of spices

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / mining / verb**

## digest (verb)

digest the facts

it was hard to ~

digesting the news

veterans are still ~ that all troops will leave Afghanistan

♦ "How do you think this will be processed going forward, how do you think what has happened will you know sort of be metabolized?" (A question asked by Lulu Garcia-Navarro, NPR, Weekend Edition, Sunday, Dec. 13, 2020 for "Jewish Telegraphic Agency' Commemorates Members Of the Community Lost to COVID-19.")

**consumption: food & drink / verb**

**comprehension & incomprehension: food & drink / verb**

## digestible (adjective)

digestible form

he did a good job distilling the big issue into a ~ (debate)

**consumption: food & drink**

**comprehension & incomprehension: food & drink**

## dig in (verb)

digging in

he is ~ (embattled leader)

he is firing back and his legal team is ~

**protection & lack of protection / resistance, opposition & defeat / survival, persistence & endurance: fortification / ground, terrain & land / military / verb**

## dig into (verb)

dug into actions

investigators ~ and uncovered crimes

digs (deep) into their lives

he ~ until they... (TV therapist Phil McGraw)

dig into a word's history

it's fun to ~ (etymology)

dug into the community's past

residents ~ (local history)

dig into this

now to ~ more... (talk show)

♦ "You know what, we need to dig in a little bit deeper, so this year we decided to go underneath the covers and peel back some of the layers." (Megan Bigelow, about a survey of Portland, Oregon, women in technology.)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / mining / verb**

## dig out (verb)

dig our way out of this problem

we must think how we will ~

dug herself out of the hole

she finally ~ (financial)

**situation: hole / verb**

## dig through (verb)

digs through (bargain) bins

he ~ for rare music tapes

dig through my crates

I'm gonna ~ for your old funky tapes

dug through the (old case) files

he ~ (police)

dug through a pile of (shiny) rocks

they ~ at a gem stand

**searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / mining / verb**

## dig up (verb)

digs up documents from Web sites

she ~

dug up (a lot of) information at the library

I ~

dug up this citation from an old magazine

he has ~

dig it up

it's the past, it's buried, we don't want to ~ again

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / appearance & disappearance / concealment & lack of concealment /**

**searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / mining / verb**

## diluted (weakened)

heavily diluted

calls for his power to be ~ (Zuckerberg of Facebook)

**attenuation: water**

## dim (decline)

hope is dimming

I imagine that ~ (survivors in collapsed building)

memories dim

~ over time (criminal cases)

star (of Lucy Lunsford) dimmed

how the ~

**decline: light & dark / verb**

## dim (the dim past, etc.)

dim and distant

the ~ past

**time: distance / eye**

## dim (overshadow)

dim the event

every year some crisis threatens to ~ (awards show)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence / superiority & inferiority: light & dark / shadow / verb**

## dim (hope, etc.)

hope dimmed

~ for two lost, injured whales (swam upriver)

hope dimming

is your ~ as you watch things play out

optimism dimmed

their ~ fairly quickly (government watchdogs)

**feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark / verb**

## din (attention)

add their voice to the din

students are eager to ~ (campus sex policies)

heard above the din

she is doing her best to be ~ (running for president)

you don't get ~ by arguing politely or with ambivalence

♦ "Was this that? Where is that conversation right now? I mean in this particular moment... Okay! How come?... Shore... What does that look like?" (NPR.)

♦ "This is it's it's so funny just because I mean literally yesterday you were doing..." (The Gayly Prophet podcast.)

♦ "[Life] is a tale / told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, / signifying nothing." (*Macbeth* by Shakespeare.)

attention, scrutiny & promotion / conflict / feeling, emotion & effect / obstacles & impedance / resistance, opposition & defeat: sound

## dinosaur (noun)

dinosaur

pull those old ~s from the shed (retro rodeo / kayaking)  
many like to argue that libraries are ~s (WRONG!)  
the network news anchormen are ~s  
we're ~s (rely on old technology)  
it's a ~, a concrete monster (an old sports stadium)  
she thinks I'm a ~, which I am, I guess (generations)  
they said I was behind the times, a ~ (early critic of...)  
DVDs are really ~s (Netflix ends DVDs by mail)

dinosaur comment

it's a ~ (Eddie Hearn about something Bob Arum said)

dinosaur feminist

I'm sounding like a ~, but...

dinosaur radios

those ~ (the German military / SEM 80-90)

walking dinosaur

it's like I'm a really cute ~ (older actor Lucy Lawless)

called the (downtown) landmarks dinosaurs

the mayor has ~

go the way of the dinosaur

frats and sororities should ~ (yet another hazing death)

remain a dinosaur

times change, you either ~ or move with the times (boxing)

viewed the (conventional) machines as dinosaurs

they ~ that would soon be rendered extinct

♦ "It's clear that there are still a few crusty old misogynists clinging on. St Barnabas Church would surely be a much better place if it had a woman priest. Some of the local people who have left might return, but we now see that the dinosaurs have won yet again." ("Male only vicar job advert 'misogynistic,'" BBC, 27 September 2018.)

♦ "As I'm becoming more and more of a dinosaur in this league at 31 years old, I've got to do every little thing I can to get the ball to go just a little bit farther." (Baltimore Ravens kicker Justin Tucker, about his record 66 yard field goal. He took an extra step or two back to get more power.)

♦ "Sunny and Elizabeth viewed [that lab's] conventional machines as dinosaurs that would soon be rendered extinct by Theranos's revolutionary technology, so they called it 'Jurassic Park.'" (*Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup* by John Carreyrou.)

♦ "And I mean it's also embarrassing to German soldiers if they are coming to an exercise or into common missions with armed forces of other NATO countries and ours are coming with those dinosaur radios." (SEM 80—90 German military radios in 2023. A 1980s analog radio system, not digital, not encrypted.)

♦ "We're really in a golden age of dinosaurs." (Finding new species, computer modeling, theories about dinosaur behavior based on birds, shows like *Prehistoric Planet* with David Attenborough, etc.)

♦ "For a group of reptiles that went extinct 65 million years ago, dinosaurs are really good at staying in the news."

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: animal

past & present / time: animal

## dip (decrease)

dip

temperatures should start to ~ by the end of the week

decline / increase & decrease: direction

increase & decrease: number

## dip (a route can dip)

dipped southeastward

the route ~ through the Dzungarian Gap

fictive motion: direction / verb

## dip (noun)

dip in (American) deaths

after a ~ last spring, fatalities are rising

decline / increase & decrease: direction

increase & decrease: number

## diplomacy (noun)

model of diplomacy

a woman who had been a ~ began to cry

politeness and diplomacy

~ are often the enemies of action (vs. being rude)

behavior / role: government

## diplomat (noun)

best diplomat

sport is the ~ we have (Qatar hosts event)

person / representation: government

## diplomatic (adjective)

more diplomatic

you should have been ~

behavior / role: government

comparison & contrast: affix

## direction (in every direction)

lurks in every direction

danger ~

extent & scope: direction

## direction (a new direction, etc.)

in another direction

I'm going ~

in a new direction

a study that takes stress research ~

course: direction

## direction (the right / wrong direction, etc.)

in the right direction

they are going ~

they are heading ~ (a company)

the talks are moving ~ (negotiations)

the trends are moving ~

we're moving ~ (research on brain tumors)  
I trust you will get the team pointed ~  
from what I hear, it's a step ~  
the decision is a small step ~

in the wrong direction

this is a step ~  
Washington is headed ~ (politics)  
70 percent of the public believes the country is heading ~  
they are going ~ (a losing sports team)  
Washington is headed ~ (politics)  
he was a high-priced 1st-round draft pick heading ~ (athlete)  
the numbers are heading ~

**course / decline / failure, accident & impairment /  
progress & lack of progress: direction / journeys & trips**

## direction (course / on a course)

direction of (scientific) research  
who determines the ~

direction of his life  
he wanted to change the ~

direction in their lives  
those who lack purpose and ~

future direction  
China's ~

in a direction of hope, unity, conviction  
he said he would take Britain ~, and common purpose

change the direction  
he wanted to ~ of his life

determines the direction  
who ~ of scientific research

follow the direction  
the investigation will ~ the evidence leads...

led you in that direction  
and what ~ to start writing (an actor)

take Britain in a direction  
he would ~ of hope, unity, conviction, and...

take Britain in a historic new direction  
we will ~ (elections)

**course: direction / journeys & trips**

## direction (purpose)

purpose and direction  
those who lack ~ in their lives

**course: direction / journeys & trips**

## direction (symbol)

directions  
~ are historically metaphors

♦ "The cardinal points are always, historically, metaphors. West is the area of promise for Westerners—follow the sun. The allure of the north—it's the gate to Heaven, as native people say. The fear of the south starts with Captain Cook. The east is always behind you, you know where you

came from." (The photographer Thomas Joshua Cooper, from "The Ends of the Earth" by Dana Goodyear, *The New Yorker*, October 7, 2019.)

♦ "As the sky breaks open its fans around him, and shimmers / And into its northern gates he rises / Snarling, complete, in the joy of a weasel..." ("For the Last Wolverine" by James Dickey. A beautiful description of the aurora borealis.)

♦ "Gog and Magog were generally located in the extreme north." (Early maps, based on the Bible.)

♦ "The destination, and the real north of life is that you're here only for a short time." (The Mexican filmmaker Guillermo del Toro.)

♦ "I'm goin' way down south... / Way down to Mexico way... / Ain't no hangman gonna / He ain't gonna put a rope around me..." ("Hey Joe" by Jimmie Hendrix.)

♦ "Why care for these dead bodies? They really have no friends but the worms or fishes. Their owners were coming to the New World, as Columbus and the Pilgrims... I saw their empty hulks that came to land; but they themselves, meanwhile, were cast upon some shore yet further west, toward which we are all tending, and which we shall reach at last..." ("The Shipwreck" by Henry David Thoreau, writing about the Irish immigrant ship *St. John*.)

♦ "It's a mile to your objective now, but it's a mile of thrills... A one-pounder in a hedge scares you with several well-placed shots before it 'goes west' [is destroyed]." (A member of a tank crew in World War I.)

♦ "The Montana doctor, McCray, had tried to find a serum to guard his fellow citizens and one morning woke up with bloodshot eyes and an ache in his bones. In ten days McCray had gone West to join McClintic..." (McCray died, as had McClintic before him. From *Men against Death* by Paul De Kruif.)

♦ "The East signified luck to the ancient soothsayers; the sunrise represented life and the beginning of things. These old time prophets judged the future by the flight of birds. If the sacred birds flew east when the priests released them from their cages, it meant good fortune. This superstition was taken over by the Christians [in the architecture of early churches]. In these ancient Roman augurs, however, if the sacred birds happened to fly west it presaged disaster, for the early fathers associated the setting sun with death and destruction." (*Word Origins and their Romantic Stories* by Wilfred Funk, Litt.D.)

♦ "With the morning came the minatory prayers, the hoarse clanging bells and the procession westward along the busiest streets of London, from Newgate to Tyburn, the present site of Marble Arch. Each condemned man sat in the cart facing the rising sun, with a noose bound to his chest." (*The Fatal Shore: The Epic of Australia's Founding* by Robert Hughes.)

**course: direction / journeys & trips**

## dirt (worthless)

dirt  
his name is ~ in the journalism world (disgraced)

**reputation / worth & lack of worth: ground, terrain & land**

## dirt (political dirt, etc.)

political dirt  
this is top-grade ~

dig up dirt  
he hired a firm to ~ on his accusers and reporter

reveal some dirt  
critics hoped the report would ~ on the President (politics)

sought political dirt  
he ~ from a foreign source (politics)

**accusation & criticism: ground, terrain & land**  
**content: ground, terrain & land**

## dirty (dirty people, etc.)

dirty people  
the Harif are a ~ (disparaging remark about a tribe)

**insult: hygiene**

## dirty (dirty energy, etc.)

dirty coal  
we need clean energy, not ~

dirty money  
how easy it is to hide ~ in the UK (Pandora Papers)  
it's hard to separate ~ from clean money (sports)

dirty truth  
the ~ is that they are... (social-media companies)

♦ "Boxing is a very dirty business, the sport can be full of broken promises." (The boxer Savannah Marshall.)

**flaws & lack of flaws: hygiene**

## dirty (behavior)

dirty tricks  
Democrats have always had double standards over ~

dirty war  
in the 1970s, Argentina fought a "~" against subversion

"dirty war"  
the ~ in Northern Ireland (English against the IRA)

get dirty  
we're all in the mud and have to ~ (intelligence)

playing dirty  
he is ~ (a politician)  
some online retailers are ~ (fake negative reviews)

**behavior: hygiene**

## dirty (sex)

dirty  
what she did was ~ (sex)

**sex: hygiene**

## dirty (dirty word)

dirty word  
Obama has made profit seem like a ~

**speech: hygiene**

## dirty laundry

dirty laundry  
the divorce is over with no ~ being aired...

aired a lot of the group's dirty laundry  
the bankruptcy trial ~

exposed some of our dirty laundry  
this video ~, as Latinos (colorism)

hung their dirty laundry out to dry

he dug into their claims and ~

sorting through (weeks of) dirty laundry  
Depp-Heard jury still ~

**concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories / hygiene**

## disappear (from the scene, etc.)

disappear  
you turn 35, and you ~ (Doree Shafir, author)

disappeared  
taco trucks ~ (gentrification)

disappeared into obscurity  
he ~, he just faded away... (L.A.'s William Mulholland)

disappeared into (relative) obscurity  
the group ~ the following year

disappeared from online learning  
students who ~ (during the COVID pandemic)

disappeared from the limelight  
after the success of those films, he largely ~

disappeared from the scene  
accused of plagiarism, he ~ (composer Osvaldo Golijov)

**appearance & disappearance: eye / verb  
attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye / verb**

## disappear (extinction)

disappeared  
since 1970, roughly 30% of North American birds have ~

**appearance & disappearance: death & life / verb**

## disappear (oppression / transitive verb)

disappeared (six of) the opposition candidates  
he has ~ (Daniel Ortega)

disappearing into prisons  
many of those arrested are ~ (Nicaragua / incommunicado)

**euphemism / oppression: death & life / verb**

## disappear (as transitive verb)

disappear the bruises  
just eating the nice parts of the apple doesn't ~

disappear problems  
prisons do not ~, they disappear human beings

♦ "Just eating the nice parts of the apple doesn't disappear the bruises." (An article by Raven Smith at *Vogue* about the murder of the 16-year-old transgender girl Brianna Ghey in England. Raven Smith has been described as "the UK's wittiest millennial writer." Watch "Raven Smith reads from RAVEN SMITH'S MEN—live at Hay Festival Tales 2022.")

♦ "Prisons do not disappear problems, they disappear human beings. And the practice of disappearing vast numbers of people from poor, immigrant, and racially marginalized communities has literally become big business." (Prison abolitionist Angela Davis, distinguished professor emerita at UC Santa Cruz. From "History Is A Weapon: Masked Racism: Reflections on the Prison Industrial Complex.")

♦ "Prisons do not disappear problems, they disappear human beings." (A T-shirt, available for sale on the internet.)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence / verb**

## disappearance (oppression)

Involuntary Disappearances

the United Nations Working Group on Enforced or ~

murders and disappearances

his death was just one of many unsolved

**oppression: death & life**

## disappeared (detained, murdered, etc.)

"disappeared" after being kidnapped

up to 30,000 were ~ (Argentina dictatorship)

forcibly disappeared

he was ~ after making allegations...

arrested and disappeared

the elected mayor was ~ (BBC Six O'Clock News)

dead and disappeared

as the number of ~ rise (violence in Indian country)

♦ "By the time he walked away, the man had already disappeared two of the shrimp and was about to get to work on the quesadilla." ("The Iceman" by Emma Cline, *The New Yorker*, August 23, 2021.)

**death & life / oppression: euphemism / presence & absence**

## discard (verb)

discard the possibility

don't ~ of appendicitis (diagnosis)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: cards / verb**

## disciple (person)

Disciples

New Nordic Cuisine Draws ~

disciple of the furniture maker Ward Bennet

he was a ~ (an interior designer)

**enthusiasm: person / religion**

**person: religion**

## disconnect (noun)

generational disconnect

there is a ~ (society)

**division & connection: tools & technology**

## discordant (adjective)

discordant friendships

the ~ ring quite true

**disruption: music / sound**

## disease (affliction)

disease of grade inflation

the ~ has infected the educational system

disease of intolerance

the attack was a part of a greater ~ (terrorism)

♦ "Initially the word *disease* was introduced to try to force open the doors of hospitals and otherwise get medical treatment for people with addiction... The term is messy." (Carl Erik Fisher, author of *The Urge: A History of Addiction*, a memoir and history. From "The Urge" says calling addiction a disease is misleading." Jeevika Verma, NPR, Morning Edition, January 20, 2022.)

**affliction: health & medicine**

## disease (enthusiasm)

disease

it's a bit of a ~ (Jay Leno on collecting cars)

sickness for flight

his wife accused him of having a ~ (Mark Stucky)

**enthusiasm: health & medicine**

## diseased

fundamentally diseased

the tax code is ~

**condition & status: health & medicine**

## disequilibrium (noun)

fallen into disequilibrium

academic publishing has ~ and needs a new approach

**equilibrium & stability: scale**

**flaws & lack of flaws: equilibrium & stability**

## dish (revenge is a dish best served cold)

dish

revenge is a ~ best served cold

♦ A rich, stupid city man insulted a Bedouin. Twenty years later, the Bedouin wiped the man's blood from his dagger, thinking regretfully, "Why was I in such a hurry to kill him?"

♦ "It must be understood that neither by word nor deed had I given Fortunato cause to doubt my good will. I continued, as was my wont, to smile in his face, and he did not perceive that my smile now was at the thought of his immolation." ("The Cask of Amontillado" by Edgar Allan Poe. A just-as-creepy-and-nefarious contemporary version is Thomas McGuane's short story, "Balloons.")

♦ "If you dig a hole for your brother, you will fall down in it." (Said in Saudi Arabia, about revenge.)

♦ He who seeks revenge digs two graves.

**revenge: food & drink**

## dish out (verb)

dished out abuse to the children

nuns ~

dishes out advice to millions

she ~ of people

dished out a beating to Margarito

Pacquiao ~ (boxing)

dished out (ice-cold) revenge on his enemies

he ~ (a media magnate)

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: food & drink / verb**

## disinfect (verb)

disinfect the computers

French police were able to ~ (a global pirate botnet)

**computer: health & medicine / hygiene / verb**

**amelioration & renewal: hygiene / health & medicine / verb**

## disinfectant (noun)

disinfectant of public scrutiny

gangs operate where the ~ struggles to reach (poor neighborhoods)

**amelioration & renewal: hygiene / health & medicine**

## disintegrate (verb)

families have disintegrated

~ (as jobs have moved out of area)

marriage had disintegrated

evidence indicated that their ~

respect is disintegrating

when human ~ (the song "Eve of Destruction")

began to disintegrate

as Enron's house of cards ~ (bankrupt company)

**failure, accident & impairment: erosion / verb**

**destruction: erosion / verb**

## disintegration

disintegration of authority

the ~, courtesy and the English language (email, etc.)

**failure, accident & impairment: erosion**

**destruction: erosion**

## dismantle (verb)

dismantle (legal and de facto) discrimination

the government should ~

dismantled the (social) safety net

he ~ (Pinochet / Chile)

dismantle the old order

he hopes to use EU membership to ~

dismantle the (terrorist) threat

a campaign to identify, disrupt and ~

dismantle the 'strong Black woman' trope

Black women are working to ~

identify, disrupt and dismantle

a campaign to ~ the terrorist threat

**dismissal, removal & resignation: infrastructure / verb**

**curtailment: infrastructure / verb**

## dismember (verb)

dismember Turkey

a nation taught of how the West tried to ~

**destruction: health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

## dismembered

dismembered into a scattered collection

the Byzantine empire was ~ of Frankish states and Italian colonies

**destruction: health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## dismemberment (noun)

dismemberment of the Chinese nation

the treaty would begin the ~ (1842 Treaty of Nanking)

**destruction: health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## Disneyland

NOT Disneyland

Venice is ~ (Venice mayor about surfers on canals)

calls the record a "Black Disneyland"

he ~ (Terrace Martin / *Drones*)

turn this site into Disneyland

we as a royal commission will never ~ (Jordan / Elijah's Hill)

♦ "Sometimes foreigners don't completely understand that Bali is still a home for people. They see it as just this Disneyland that's there for their enjoyment and their pleasure."

♦ "It is an extremely important place, not a playground or theme park like Disneyland." (Sammy Wilson about Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park.)

♦ "Ninety-five people are now confirmed to have come down with the measles, part of a growing outbreak that originated at Disneyland [in California]."

**fantasy & reality: place**

**environment: place**

## dispirited (adjective)

dispirited voters

many ~ stayed home

**feeling, emotion & effect: religion**

## dissect (verb)

dissected the case

she ~ in a book (a murder)

dissected his sound

I really ~ (a singer)

dissect every rumor

blogs are always ready to ~

dissecting, analyzing

we are ~ the blood-testing company Theranos

research and dissect

the hosts ~ someone's leap into stardom (*Who? Weekly*)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: death & life / health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

## dissection (noun)

Pauline Kael's dissection

~ was fully up to her usual standards (a negative review)

**destruction: health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## dissolve (verb)

dissolve into anarchy

celebration could ~ (Gaza)

dissolves into predictability

the movie's unpolished charm ~

**appearance & disappearance: water / verb**

## dissolve (break up)

dissolved in a wave of dissension

the team ~ (World Cup soccer)

**appearance & disappearance: water / verb**

## dissolve (fade away)

culture dissolved

the hunting ~ and many Sami became settlers

**appearance & disappearance: water / verb**

## dissolve (emotions)

dissolved into tears

when his Mom tried to leave, he ~ (toddler)

**feeling, emotion & effect: verb / water**

## dissolve (terminate)

dissolve her marriage

a judge may ~ (Islam)

dissolve Parliament

he is considering giving himself the power to ~

dissolved the system

in 1993 Yeltsin ~ of village councils

**curtailment: water / verb**

**dismissal, removal & resignation: water / verb**

## dissolved (ended)

have her marriage dissolved

she has the right to ~ (Muslim ruling)

**curtailment: water**

## dissonance (noun)

cognitive dissonance

see *cognitive dissonance*

## distance (verb)

distanced themselves from him

colleges have ~ (college admissions fraud)

distanced themselves from the star

companies and organizations have ~ (Morgan Waller)

**avoidance & separation: distance / proximity / verb**

**division & connection: distance / proximity / verb**

## distance (noun)

distance between the two sides

the ~ is so great that... (politics)

no distance

there is ~ between us (in our opinions)

**division & connection: distance / proximity**

## distance (feeling)

emotional distance

his ~ has caused problems

**feeling, emotion & effect: proximity**

## distance (time)

distance of time

when I think of Bombay now, at this ~...

she can joke about it with the ~

at this distance

~, one cannot say... (a historian)

**past & present / time: distance**

## distance (go the distance)

go the distance

they just couldn't imagine that he could ~ (Trump ./ 2016)

**survival, persistence & endurance: distance / horse / sports & games**

## distant (feeling)

distant father

she didn't get support, love or acceptances from her ~

grown distant

she hand her son had ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: proximity**

## distant (past)

distant America

rare film is a glimpse of a ~ (*Daughter of Dawn* 1920)

distant dream

retiring at 60 has become a ~

not-so-distant history

the ~ of radio jingles

**past & present / time: distance**

## distant (future)

not-so-distant future

they imagine a ~

not too distant future  
we hope to improve this feature in the ~

seems distant  
a deal ~ (politics)

**future / time: distance**

## distant (separation)

distant from our everyday experience  
climate change seems ~

**division & connection: distance**

## distant (relationship)

distant cousin  
she is a ~

**relationship: distance / proximity**

## distant (a distant second, etc.)

distant second  
Biden was a ~ in Nevada (electoral election)

**extent & scope: distance**

## distaste (noun)

distaste for such associations  
he has a ~

**enthusiasm: taste**

## distill (verb)

distill the big issue into a digestible form  
he was able to ~ (a politician at a debate)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: chemistry**

## distress (mental, etc.)

economic distress  
people are mired in ~

fiscal distress  
accounting obscured the depth of its ~ (hospital)

mental distress  
we develop new language around ~ (Project LETS)

anguish and distress  
~ plays to the gallery (aggrieved groups)

chaos, distress and horror  
psychiatric hospitals, referred to as snake pits for their ~...

fear and distress and anger  
terrorists know that headlines sow ~

signals of distress  
rockets, as ~, soared into the air

♦ "In *Between Us: How Cultures Create Emotions* (Norton), the Dutch psychologist Batja Mesquita describes her puzzlement, before arriving in the United States, at the use of the English word *distress*. Was it 'closer to the Dutch *angst* (anxious/afraid),' she wondered, 'or closer to the Dutch *verdriet/wanhoop* (sadness/despair)?' It took her time to feel at home with the word..." ("Affective Disorder: Some psychologists contend

that our emotions are culturally specific. How should we feel about that?" by Nikhil Krishnan, *The New Yorker*, August 8, 2022.)

♦ "There were far-going Arab dhows on the pearly waters, and gaily dressed Parsees wading out to worship the sunset. Of their creed I knew nothing, nor did I know that near our little house on the Bombay Esplanade were the Towers of Silence, where their Dead are exposed to the waiting vultures on the rim of the towers, who scuffle and spread wings when they see the bearers of the Dead below. I did not understand my mother's distress when she found 'a child's hand' in our garden, and said I was not to ask questions about it. I wanted to see that child's hand." (*Something of Myself* by Rudyard Kipling, which he wrote "Looking back from this my seventieth year." At the time, he was a boy of perhaps four, in 1869.)

♦ "I am distressed and disappointed with the tenor of this conversation."

♦ According to the Wikipedia entry, the term "moral distress" originated in the 1980s in reference to health-care workers. Through "concept inflation" or "co-option," the construct has since been applied to soldiers, police, firefighters, EMTs, legal defenders and lawyers, people in child and adult protective services, and even to veterinarians, leading inevitably to the construct's disparagement: "moral injury Olympics."

♦ "Every horror that could make war hideous attended this retreat; distress, conflagration, death in all modes... And the spirit of cruelty smote even the brute creation, for the French general, to lessen incumbrances, ordered beasts of burden to be destroyed, and the inhuman fellow charged with the execution hamstrung 500 asses, and left them to starve. They were found so by the British; and the mute, sad, deep expression of grief and pain visible in the poor creatures' looks excited a strange fury in the soldiers—no quarter would have been given at that time..." (Napier on combat against the French in 1811 on the Iberian Peninsula. Quoted in *British Battles on Land and Sea*.)

♦ "After weeks of incessant but minor cannonading, the grand attack was made on the 13th of September, 1782... / By evening the ship cannonade began to slacken; rockets, as signals of distress, were seen soaring into the air, while boats were rowed about the disabled men-of-war, in which our artillery must have made the most dreadful havoc, for, during the short intervals of cessation, a strong, indistinct clamour, the mingled sound of groans, and cries, and shrieks, came floating upward to the ears of the garrison..." (*British Battles on Land and Sea* by James Grant.)

**mental health: boat**

## ditch (stuck in a ditch, etc.)

stuck in a ditch  
while our students are ~, the world is moving ahead

get out of the ditch  
we're just spinning our wheels, hoping to ~ (war)

pull the government out of the ditch  
he seeks to ~ (a politician)

**obstacles & impedance / progress & lack of progress: movement / ground, terrain & land**

## diva (person)

diva behaviour  
critics branded her decision "~" (a tennis player)

diva role  
she chose to perform her ~ to the hilt (celebrity trial)

talented but troubled diva  
the ~ wore out his welcome (football player)

called the player a "diva"  
Bruce Arians ~ (Antonio Brown)

**person: theater**

**behavior / character & personality / performance: person / theater**

## dive (analyze)

diving into the details  
she has been ~ of the bill

dive deep  
see *dive deep (analysis)*

♦ "NPR Congressional correspondent Kelsey Snell has been diving deep in the details of the bill, she has resurfaced, and she joins us now, 'Hey Kelsey.'" (Mary Louise Kelley, NPR, All Things Considered.)

**absorption & immersion / analysis, interpretation & explanation: verb / water**

## dive (noun)

stock market's dive  
the ~ proved temporary

**decline: direction**

## dive (deep dive)

deep dive into how  
Megan takes us on a ~ far-right actors (the radical right)  
for a ~ COVID-19 may have first begun...

deep dive into what  
a ~ is known about the coronavirus  
NPR takes a ~ the Mueller report reveals...  
her new album takes a ~ it means to love (Jill Scott)

deep dive into (plant-focused) diets  
his latest cook is a ~

deep dive into everything  
"13: A Taylor Swift Fan Podcast" is a ~ Taylor Swift

deep dive into her life  
investigators and reporters would be doing a ~ (murdered)

Deep Dive Into The Science  
'Invisibilia' Team Takes A ~ Of Desire

monthly deep-dive  
BTM takes a ~ behind the scenes of the arts and sciences

do a deep dive  
let's ~ right into this (news show)

did a (really) deep dive  
these researchers ~ to analyze alcohol consumption

takes a deep dive  
OPB Politics Now ~ into the hottest political topics

takes us on a deep dive  
Michael ~ into the rallies undertaken by the far right

♦ "Along with host Augusta Dell'Omo, Natalie takes us on a deep dive into... In other episodes Michael takes us on a deep dive into... Sophie takes us on a deep dive into... Simon takes us on a deep dive into... Ashton takes us on a deep dive into... Ashley takes us on a deep dive into... Julia takes us on a deep dive into... (Right Rising / RR on Stitcher. That's a lot of divers and deep diving! The repetition shows how a figurative expression can go from novel to cliché into the kind of boilerplate language you might find in a disclaimer or label that is too

boring to read. Guests *break down, unpack, discuss, walk us through, give us an overview of, and help us with their respective topics.*)

♦ "The OPB Politics Now podcast offers the inside scoop, in-depth analysis, insight, rousing conversation, and, of course deep dives into the hottest political topics of the week."

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: water**  
**contempo-speak: language**

## dive deep (analysis)

dive deep into policy issues  
his willingness to ~ (Buttigieg)

dives deep into lives  
*The Pioneers* ~ of Northwest Territory settlers

**absorption & immersion / analysis, interpretation & explanation: verb / water**

## dive in (verb)

dive (right) in  
too many friends just ~ giving advice before...

dove into politics  
he ~

dove into peacekeeping  
Clinton ~ and failed (diplomacy)

**absorption & immersion / commitment & determination / involvement: verb / water**

## diverse (groups)

diverse dolls  
Mattel has released a range of more ~ (vitiligo Ken, etc.)

neurodiverse  
people use the term ~ to recognize the rich differences...

♦ A hearing aid; a prosthetic limb; a wheelchair; the skin condition vitiligo; transgender; gender neutral; a Barbie doll with Down Syndrome... (New Barbie and Ken Dolls that are more diverse.)

♦ "While the supporting cast is both racially and sexually diverse, the characters are sometimes reduced to easy punchlines in a movie that focuses on two gay white cis men..." (Justin Chang's review of *Bros* on Fresh Air.)

**inclusion & exclusion: society**

## diversity (groups)

diversity in policing  
does ~ address police brutality

diversity problem  
the great outdoors has a ~ (*Christian Science Monitor*)

diversity, equity, and inclusion  
embed ~ (DEI) more intentionally in TESOL activities

model diversity  
~ and the ever-changing face of fashion

aural diversity  
a Public Editor bemoaned the lack of ~ on NPR (2005)

horizontal diversity  
~ lets people in but not necessarily up (at NYT, etc.)

## neurodiversity

~ recognizes the rich differences...

she's a 37-year-old ~ coach (autistic and agender)

## Neurodiversity

*Unmasking Autism: Discovering the New Faces of ~*

## vertical diversity

~ lets people rise (vs. simply letting them in)

## boxes of (so-called) diversity

there are easy ways to tick the ~ and not critically engage

## drive for diversity

the ~ at flagship universities (US)

## respect for diversity

build inclusion, belonging, and ~ (Georgetown Law)

## reflect diversity

playlists and show lineups that ~ (music)

♦ see also *inclusion (groups)*, *representation (groups)*

♦ "The screen flashes to five faces. Those invited. All white faces. But the criticism around who got a seat at the table goes a lot deeper than just a lack of diversity." ("Biden's meeting with historians over threats to democracy draws criticism" by Sandhya Dirks, NPR, All Things Considered, Sept. 1, 2022.)

♦ "Barbie knows that representation matters and is committed to continuing to increase diversity across collections, so that more people can see themselves reflected." (The trans Barbie doll, a Barbie doll with a prosthetic limb, the Ken doll with vitiligo, a Barbie doll with Down Syndrome, etc.)

♦ "We need [a woman in Formula 1], we need diversity. (Caitlyn Jenner.)

♦ "There is a lack of representation of Black people in mountaineering and in high-altitude mountaineering." (Philip Henderson, leader of the Team Full Circle Everest, an American / Kenyan group, in 2022. Ten Black climbers had previously climbed Everest.)

♦ "Bringing diversity to Maine's nearly all-white lobster fleet," NPR, All Things Considered, Sept. 15, 2022.

♦ Economic injustice; the fragility of the social contract; white entitlement; indigenous and environmental dispossession; environmental crisis; sexual harassment; rape; cross-cultural irony; racial diversity and identity; her tween self; punk; sorta-bleak; sorta-gross; less loveable; "antics seem designed to alienate the reader"; raw; less compromising; 8-panel orgy of micturition (urinating); depressive; acid; ever-caustic captions; ambiguous characters; grotesque violence; horror; yucky... (Themes and adjectives from "These fall graphic novels reflect the diversity of the genre" by Etelka Lehoczky, NPR, Book Reviews, Oct 1, 2022.)

♦ "Yanagihara's cast is as carefully diversified as the crew in one of those 1940s wartime bomber movies, however twenty-first-century their anxieties may be... Malcolm is all too obviously present to fill the biracial slot." ("A Whole Lotta Pain" by Daniel Mendelsohn,)

♦ "The way diversity at Riverdale was being practiced was to diminish people." (A parent who removed his children from the school.)

♦ "This points to a unique understanding of plurality of Indian society—it is more like a *thali* (an Indian meal comprising a selection of separate dishes served on a platter), rather than a melting pot." (Neha Sahgal, a lead author of a Pew study that found Indians support religious tolerance and religious segregation.)

♦ "What is all this talk of diversity when no diversity of opinion is allowed?" ("Woke" universities.)

♦ "I don't want to hear one more peep out of them about diversity, equity, and inclusion. I don't wanna see any more of our C-suite execs recommend books for women's history month. There were tangible actions they could've taken and they chose to perform these values. No thank you." (An underpaid employee with an Asian name who was repeatedly turned down for a raise. She finally applied for her job as a new hire at a higher salary, and her posts went viral.)

♦ "The Olympic Games are universal. They stand above all differences that divide us. The Olympic Games unite humanity in all our diversity. In our fragile world, where division, conflict, and mistrust are on the rise, the Olympic Games always build bridges. They never erect walls." (Mr. Thomas Bach OLY, the President of the International Olympic Committee, speaking on October 18, 2021 in Ancient Olympia, Greece, at the marvelous torch-lighting ceremony for the 2022 Winter Olympic Games.)

## inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence

## divide (noun)

divide between him and his coaches

the ~ grew (an athlete)

left-right divide

another election isn't going to change the ~ (politics)

great divide

they stood on two sides of a ~ (Old and New Hollywood)

impossible divide

that may be an ~ to cross

cultural, gender and political divides

the battle rubbed raw the country's ~ (politics)

generational and ideological divide

this exposes a ~ (in the Democratic party)

divide (between him and his coaches) grew

the ~ (an athlete)

bridging the divide

ballet and baseball are ~ (between Cuba and the US)

bridge the divide

they want to ~ and find common ground (gun control)

divide to cross

that may be an impossible ~

## division & connection: ground, terrain & land

## dividend (pay dividends, etc.)

dividends of peace

the ~ are all around us (Belfast / Good Friday Agreement)

dividends in good-will

the new policy is paying ~

huge dividends

the concept has paid ~ (military uses drones to kill)

political dividends

his wooing of Jews will pay ~

paying dividends

the new policy is already ~

paid dividends

England's pressure ~ when Owen scored (soccer)

## cost & benefit: money

## divorce (noun)

divorce

Brexit was a ~, which was nothing to celebrate

Web divorce

NBC and Microsoft agreed to an amicable ~

diplomatic divorce

a trade war could lead to a ~ (US and Canada)

ugly divorce

the UK and the EU are having an ~

**division & connection: love, courtship & marriage**

**relationship: love, courtship & marriage**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: love, courtship & marriage**

## divorce (verb)

divorced themselves from nature

cities have ~ (environmentalists)

divorce yourself from the past

you can't ~ (why a man helped a felon)

**division & connection: love, courtship & marriage / verb**

**relationship: love, courtship & marriage / verb**

## dizzying (adjective)

dizzying (new) evidence

~ in human evolution provokes debates

dizzying changes

~ to our understanding (evolution)

dizzying developments

the ~ in Puerto Rican politics

♦ "This has been the most dizzying, jaw-dropping, eyeball-popping, head-spinning news conference I have ever attended. And I was at Bill Clinton's news conference in 1998 when he faced the press for the first time over his relationship with Monica Lewinsky." (John Soper for the BBC, following a press conference with President Trump on Monday, April 13, 2020.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability / sensation**

## DNA (in the DNA)

in the DNA of the country

conspiracies are ~ (conspiracists)

in the English DNA

losing is ~ (soccer snark)

in her DNA

maybe tribalism is just ~ (politics)

in its DNA

the FBI had politics ~ back to its creation in 1908

in my DNA

he insisted, "stopping isn't ~" (boxer Anthony Joshua)

in my family DNA

it's ~, I'm a loyal Democrat (Evan Bayh / politician)

in our DNA

~, we are a company that builds tech to connect (Meta)

in their DNA

winning is ~ (Brazilian soccer team)

challenging death is ~ (Wallenda family)

inscribed in our DNA

some places are ~ (Lake Ohrid, the Balkans)

♦ "It's sort of in our genetic makeup if you're from Pueblo." (In Colorado. The Arkansas River flood of 1921.)

**identity & nature: biology**

## DNA (other)

nation's DNA

confrontation and conflict are hardwired into the ~ (US)

musical DNA

the depth and complexity of their own ~ (Egypt)

part of your DNA

as a football player, ~ is hard work and effort

share the same DNA

he believes the kitchen and bath industry ~ (House of Rohl)

**identity & nature: biology**

## doctored

doctored

the photo has been ~

**creation & transformation: health & medicine**

## dodge (verb)

dodged a (big) bullet

we ~ (hurricane misses refineries)

dodged a question

he also ~ about whether...

dodged questions

both candidates ~, reverting to talking points (debate)

dodges questions

he ~ about where he gets his ideas

dodged a long prison term

she ~ (Anita Vestal)

**avoidance & separation: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## dodo (noun)

going the way of the dodo

privacy may be ~ (Facebook, government, etc.)

white-male secretaries of state seem to be ~

the dealmakers are ~ (U.S. Congress)

gone the way of the Dodo

pay phones have ~

pension plans have ~

kind of gone the way of the dodo

the notion that we are the indispensable power has ~ (U.S.)

♦ "The Wake Island Rail became a victim of World War II. It was hunted and eaten to extinction after the Japanese forces who occupied this island in 1941 became cut off from the supply route in 1944." (Wikipedia entry for "Wake Island Rail.")

♦ "It's hard to put into words. To me they are a symbol of strength, endurance and the failure—the absolute failure—to go the way of the

dodo bird. They were teetering, but now they're back." (Horse Capture Jr, a member of the Aaniiih Tribe, about the bison. From "Big Money Is Building A New Kind Of National Park In The Great Plains" by Nate Hegyi, NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, December 8, 2019.)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: animal**  
**past & present / time: animal**

## dog (afflict)

dog him

his health problems continued to ~

dogged him

asthma has ~all his life (the great boxer Shannon Briggs)

dogged her

her criminal record ~

**affliction: animal / dog / verb**

## dog (dogs of war)

calling up the dogs of war

the US is ~ (against Russia in 2022)

♦ See the Wikipedia entry, "The dogs of war (phrase)."

♦ "War Dogs' Cries Havoc And Lets Slip The Dudes Of War," NPR, Movie Reviews, Mark Jenkins, August 18, 2016. (A clever use of the allusion!)

**affliction: allusion / animal / dog**

## dog (dogfight)

see *dogfight* (noun)

**affliction: allusion / animal / dog**

## dog (big dog)

big dog

I'm the ~ here, whatever I say, goes...

♦ "He's a young puppy, I'm a big dog here, whatever I say, goes." (Magic Johnson talking trash about Michael Jordan at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics. The team was famous for its chemistry.)

♦ "Justice will be served and the battle will rage / This big dog will fight when you rattle his cage..." ("Courtesy Of The Red, White And Blue / The Angry American" by Toby Keith.)

**person: animal / dog**

**dominance & submission: animal / dog / person / size**

## dog (mad dog / epithet)

'Mad Dog' Marcio Freire

~ dies in surfing accident in Nazare, Portugal

"Mad Dog" Mattis

General ~ earned his spurs on the battlefield

Jim ~ was fiercely protective of his troops

Zinovy "Mad Dog" Rozhestvensky

Admiral ~ (he had a fiery temper / Russo-Japanese War)

"mad dog of the Middle East"

Reagan called him the ~ (Gadhafi)

♦ The Wikipedia entry for "Daniel Morgan (bushranger)" has an excellent section, "The epithet 'Mad Dog.'" The epithet seems to relate to the 1976 film *Mad Dog Morgan*, an "Ozploitation film," starring Dennis Hopper, who perhaps better deserves the titular epithet for his crazy behavior while filming.)

♦ "The Mad Dogs challenged the notion of what was possible." (A tribute to the great Marcio Freire and his group of Brazilian big-wave surfers.)

♦ "Only mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the midday sun."

**behavior / epithet / person: animal / dog**

## dog (attack dog)

attack dog

normally the vice-presidential nominee would be the ~

attack dog for the president

he has been an ~

attack dog for the Republicans

he is the ~ on the committee (impeachment trial)

♦ "Norman Tebbit, her minister and loyal Rottweiler..." (For Margaret Thatcher.)

♦ "In the Big Rock Candy Mountains, all the cops have wooden legs, and the bulldogs all have rubber teeth, and the hens lay soft-boiled eggs." (Harry "Haywire Mac" McClintock's hobo song. Heard in the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*)

**coercion & motivation: animal / dog**

**person: animal / dog**

## dog (insult)

"Dogs!"

~ they yelled at the riot police (protestors)

mad dog

all he is, is a ~ now (ex-marine kills cop)

called him a dog

Chavez had ~ in the week of the fight (boxing)

♦ "When I have a mad dog in my yard there is only one solution." (A comment on a discussion board about a particularly heinous murderer.)

**insult: animal / dog**

**person: animal / dog**

## dog (dog won't hunt)

dog will hunt

I don't think that ~ (legal challenge to president)

**eagerness & reluctance / success & failure: animal / dog / hunting**

## dog (dog in the fight)

our dog in the fight is the fair trial

~ for Mister... (prosecutor to judge)

have a dog in the fight

I don't think you ~ at this point (judge to prosecutor)

he doesn't ~ (a witness in a trial)

don't have a dog in this fight

I am neither white or black, so I ~ (reader comment)

see also *horse* (*horse in the race*)

**involvement: animal / dog / hunting**

## dog (black dog / mental health)

black dog starts howling

I gotta get out before my ~ (madness, not melancholia)

black dog returns

he might be useful to me if the ~ (a German doctor)

fend off the black dog

I am trying to hold on to my senses, to ~ (madness)

♦ Winston Churchill used this term to describe his depression. "Where the black dog metaphor for depression comes from" by Marc Wilson is an interesting read.

♦ However, Andrew Roberts in his book *Churchill: Walking With Destiny*, downplays the idea that Winston was clinically depressed, much less manic depressive. He mentions that Winston only used the term *once* in his writing. He also explains that the term was "used by Victorian and Edwardian nannies to describe their charges as out of sorts or ill-tempered."

feeling, emotion & effect: color

mental health: euphemism

## dog-and-pony show (noun)

did a dog-and-pony show

other legislators ~

performance: animal / horse / theater

## dog-eat-dog

dog eat dog

the rag trade was ~, survival of the fittest (clothing)

dog-eat-dog world

in a ~

♦ "The majority of the country doesn't want to see a dog-eat-dog world where everybody is angry all the time." (Barack Obama, urging Democrats to preach hope and unity.)

competition: animal / dog / predation

## dogfight (noun)

dog fight

we knew it was going to be a ~ (NBA playoff game)

dogfight

fighter-bombers execute mock ~s

it's a ~ (competition for market share)

Sergio Aguero scored 64 minutes into the ~ (soccer)

dogfight among experts over the cause

there has been a ~ of the crash

competition / conflict: animal / dog

## dogged (hounded)

dogged by controversy

the company has been ~ (KBR)

dogged by questions

he is being ~ about whether he... (politics)

dogged by rumors

he has been ~ of drug and alcohol abuse (NASCAR)

he has been ~ of excessive drinking (a politician)

dogged with poor health

he had been ~ his entire life

affliction: animal / dog

## dogged (determined)

dogged determination

our ~ sent an important message to our enemies

dogged persistence

justice arrives through ~ (social justice)

dogged (Iraqi) resistance

a day of fierce fighting and ~ (Iraqi Freedom)

commitment & determination: animal / dog

## doghouse (in the doghouse, etc.)

Tom's doghouse

Gronkowski fell into ~ (NFL football)

in the doghouse

he's ~ (in trouble with his wife)

in the coach's doghouse

he started out ~ because of weight problems

punishment & recrimination: animal / dog

situation: animal / dog

## dogleg (shape)

dogleg bend

wood with a natural ~ to it (for head of golf club)

dogleg turn

an icy, rutted ~ (downhill skiing)

♦ A dogleg is an abrupt angle or sharp bend. *Dogleg* is also an intransitive verb. Golf courses often have doglegs.

shape: animal / direction / dog

## dogma (noun)

Republican dogma

the plan contains every ~ about political economy

centuries of (medical) dogma

he turned ~ topsy-turvy

trapped by dogma

don't be ~ (Steve Jobs / Apple Computer)

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion

## doldrums (noun)

in the doldrums of middle age

she strives, ~, to defeat her own disappointment

stuck in the doldrums

the economy is ~

lead us out of the doldrums

it's Obama's job to ~ (poor economy)

mired in the doldrums

we remain ~ (poor economy)

went back into the doldrums

it would break my heart if Wales ~ (2019 Rugby)

**progress & lack of progress:** boat / sea / wind

## dollar sign (noun)

dollar signs in their eyes  
companies with ~

see \$\$\$ signs  
he can only ~ (a boxing promoter)

**money: letters & characters / sign, signal, symbol**

## dollop (noun)

dollops of envy  
I must admit large ~ for both groups (young Obama)

dollop of (international) intrigue  
a Picasso, a yacht, and a ~

big dollop  
her new album features jazz with a ~ of swing rhythm

delicious dollop  
his concern for “disclosure” is a ~ of hypocrisy (politics)

generous dollop  
the film adds a ~ of Jack Nicholson

♦ “Ma would serve it with a dollop of ghee and some spicy mango pickle and sweet potato fries on the side.” (*Khichuri*.)

**amount: food & drink**

## dom (memedom, etc.)

fandom  
the Potter-verse ~ has not dwindled over the years

fiefdom  
see *fiefdom* (control)

guydom  
Jason Segel explains the mysteries of ~

kingdom  
see *kingdom* (control)

memedom  
the dog remains immortal in the ~ (Question Hound)

Muscledom  
John Grimek, “The Monarch of ~” (the bodybuilder)

officialdom  
the presentation gave the accusations the veneer of ~ (at UN)

**area / environment / language: affix**

## dome (shape)

granite dome  
Half Dome is a ~ (Yosemite National Park)

salt dome  
~s can rise to the surface

heat dome  
experts are blaming what’s known as a ~ (for heatwave)  
the central US is baking in a ~ (2021)

**shape: infrastructure / roof**

## dome (Iron Dome, etc.)

“Iron Beam”  
Israel has successfully tested the new ~ laser interceptor

Iron Dome  
many rockets were intercepted by the ~ air-defense system

**proper name: infrastructure / roof / shape**  
**protection & lack of protection: materials & substances / proper noun / shape**

## dome (Half Dome, etc.)

Castle Dome  
~ is a summit in Cochise County, Arizona

Clingmans Dome  
~ in Swain County is worth the visit (Great Smokies NP)

Craggy Dome  
~ is near Asheville, off the Blue Ridge Parkway

Half Dome  
~ is a granite dome (Yosemite National Park)

**proper name: infrastructure / roof / shape**  
**geography: proper noun / shape**

## domino (domino effect, etc.)

damaging domino effect  
a series of minor setbacks created a ~ (suicide)

set off a domino effect  
this ~ (economic collapse)

toppled a lot of racist dominoes  
it ~ (boycott)

dominos began to fall  
the ~ (fallout over athlete’s death, firings, etc.)

♦ “The left started the dominoes falling, and now it has no way of stopping them.” (“Hands up, don’t shoot,” Defund the Police, and increased crime.)

**effect / feeling, emotion & effect / relationship / sequence: sports & games**

## done (over)

done  
after the Battle of the Bulge, the Germans were ~

**starting, going, continuing & ending: prep, adv, adj, particle**  
**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## done and dusted

done and dusted  
I thought the Troubles were ~ (Northern Ireland and Brexit)  
another episode ~ and in the can (a podcast)  
the game was ~ (but France blew its lead against Swiss)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: cloth**  
**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: cloth**

## Don Juan

Nordic Don Juan

Gran was tall, well-built, flamboyant, a ~

**allusion: books & reading**

**sex / character & personality: allusion / epithet / books & reading**

## donkey (insult)

donkey

he's as stubborn as a ~

donkey job

it's a ~

“led by donkeys”

~ is a British expression for incompetent leadership

♦ “It is difficult to force or frighten a donkey into doing something it sees as contrary to its own best interest.” (A comment on the alleged “stubbornness” of donkeys.)

♦ “I dislocated my arm a few months ago while pulling one of the donkeys.” (A Jordanian at Petra.)

♦ “Donkeys are often shown in a silly light, as though they're somehow ridiculous.”

♦ “They have a hard life and work their entire lives.” (Ethiopian donkeys.)

♦ “Without a donkey, my wife and I become the donkeys.” (A saying of Ethiopian farmers.)

♦ Better the ass that carries you than the horse that throws you!

♦ It is better be the head of a donkey than the tail of a horse.

**behavior / character & personality / insult: animal**

## doomed

doomed

is longhand ~ (handwriting)

doomed to fall behind

they are ~ (certain categories of students)

agenda could be doomed

the president's climate change ~ (Build Back Better)

**decline: death & life**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: death & life**

**fate, fortune & chance: death & life**

## door (Durdle Door, etc.)

Durdle Door

~, the natural arch on Dorset's Jurassic Coast

**proper name: doors & thresholds**

**geography: epithet**

## door (back door / computer)

backdoor

a ~ is a little portal into the software (SolarWinds hack)

backdoors to their networks

private encryption keys are the ~ (tech vs. cops)

**computer: doors & thresholds**

## door (behind closed doors)

behind closed doors

they are conducting business ~ (politics)

~, without any sunlight whatsoever... (hearings)

♦ “The only way that I have been able to get anything done is behind closed doors, by hoarding favors, by bribing, by wheedling...” (The character played by Donald Sutherland in the great film *Citizen X*.)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / concealment & lack of**

**concealment: doors & thresholds**

## door (closure)

shut its doors

he notified the charter school that it must ~...

**curtailment: doors & thresholds**

## door (opportunity)

doors of opportunity

many died opening the ~ (civil rights)

opening the ~ to all God's children (Martin Luther King)

doors in life

many ~ open automatically for you when you're rich

open door

baseball offers a very good ~ for a better life (Latinos)

closes one door

if God ~, he opens a thousand others (Turkish proverb)

doors (in life) open

many ~ automatically for you (when you're rich)

knocking at the door

opportunity is ~ (the boxer Daniel Dubois)

open doors

going to school will ~ for you

money tends to ~

opened doors

it ~ I had never imagined (employment with Ford)

open all doors

good clothes ~ (a proverb)

opened the door

it ~ to a decent education for blacks (court decision)

it ~ to what could be done (penicillin and transplants. etc.)

**opportunities & possibilities: doors & thresholds**

## door (portal)

doors of the spirit world

the Shaman's aim is to throw open the ~ (Korea)

opened the door

he ~ to the rave world for us

**portal: doors & thresholds**

## door (back door / front door)

rear door

I was back in Central Europe, albeit at the very ~  
(Transylvania)

“back door” communication  
the Cape Horn Route provided ~ (Japan / Germany)

created back doors  
are the hackers lying in wait, having ~ to come and go

**access & lack of access: doors & thresholds**

### **door (back door / illegality)**

back door for Russian spying  
Italy has become somewhat of a ~

created back doors  
are the hackers lying in wait, having ~ to come and go

going out the back door  
all those fish are ~ illegally (poaching)

♦ “So where did you get it?” / “It fell off the truck.” (Stolen, fenced goods...)

**access & lack of access: crime**

### **door (and doorway / access)**

doorway to access  
all children in Maine have a ~ a public education

open-door  
I have an ~ policy (boss)

opened its doors  
Saudi Arabia has ~ to foreign tourists

banging on the door  
they are ~ of city government (Yimbies)

keep the door open  
I wanted to ~ with him (an interviewer)

breaking down doors  
she was ~ herself (a precocious college student)

broke down doors  
she ~ in comedy (Phyllis Diller)

found the doors barred  
those trying to escape to the US ~ (to them (Jews))

had (many) doors slammed in his face  
he ~ (a black American)

kicks down the door  
Dick Gregory ~, and Bill Cosby followed

♦ “I lift my lamp beside the golden door.” (From the famous Emma Lazarus poem “The New Colossus,” which is inscribed on a brass plaque and mounted inside the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty.)

**access & lack of access: doors & thresholds**

### **door (knock at / on the door)**

knocking on the door  
death was ~

knocked at my door  
the opportunity has ~ and I took it (boxer takes fight)

knocking at the door  
we're ~ (a team a game away from the playoffs)  
they are ~ (a pressing soccer team)  
opportunity is ~ (the boxer Daniel Dubois)

**proximity: doors & thresholds / verb**

### **door (at someone's door, etc.)**

leadership's door  
she placed much of the blame at the ~ (Labor defeat)

manager's door  
he is injured and that has to come to the ~ (soccer)

laid the blame at Churchill's door  
many ~ (the Battle of Leros / Dodecanese)

**responsibility: doors & thresholds / proximity**

### **door (get one's foot in the door)**

get his foot in the door  
he lied on his resume to ~

**opportunities & possibilities: doors & thresholds / verb**  
**starting, going, continuing & ending: doors & thresholds / verb**

### **door (open the door, etc.)**

open door  
the 1st virus weakens, the 2nd then has an ~ to sicken

open a door  
appeasement may ~ to peaceful co-existence, or...

opens the door to future lawsuits  
Monday's decision ~ (Supreme Court)

door opens  
once that ~, who knows what will happen

**opportunities & possibilities: doors & thresholds**

### **door (hold the door open, etc.)**

hold the door open  
he seemed to ~ for a change in Germany's policy

**opportunities & possibilities: doors & thresholds**

### **door (leave the door open)**

left open the door  
the US has ~ for storing nuclear waste in the US

leave the door open  
he seemed to ~ to the possibility of a change

left the door open  
it ~ for an insanity defense

leave the door open for the possibility  
he appears to ~ of a pardon

**opportunities & possibilities: doors & thresholds**

## door (close a door, etc.)

close the door

it's wrong to ~ on promising research (human cloning)

closed the door on the investigation

we haven't ~ (Delphi murders)

door has closed

the ~ on reform...

**opportunities & possibilities: doors & thresholds**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: doors & thresholds**

## door (shown the door, etc.)

shown the door

official after official in the Department of Homeland Security was ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation: doors & thresholds**

## door (check something at the door, etc.)

checked her lithe beauty at the door

Zellweger ~ to become Pam Hupp (*The Thing About Pam*)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: doors & thresholds**

## doormat (person)

muse and doormat

the muddy line between collaboration & codependence, ~

become a doormat

she allowed herself to ~ (woman-woman relationship)

made herself into a doormat

she ~, she has nobody to blame but herself

**person: doors & thresholds**

**admiration & contempt / character & personality /**

**dominance & submission / insult / superiority & inferiority:**

**foot / person / sign, signal, symbol**

## doorstep (on / at the doorstep)

at the doorstep of an (NFL) title

they are ~

on the doorstep of the EU

for a month he's ~ (a migrant vlogging his journey)

on Baghdad's doorstep

coalition forces are poised ~

on Russia's doorstep

an invasion army quietly assembled on ~ (1941)

on death's doorstep

he's ~ (very sick)

the economy is ~

on its doorstep

Saudi Arabia discourages liberalization ~ (Qatar)

Turkey seeks to contain the crisis unfolding ~ (Syria)

on our doorstep

another storm behind Fred will be ~ by mid-week

poised on (Baghdad's) doorstep

coalition forces are ~ (Iraqi Freedom)

**proximity: doors & thresholds / house**

## dormant (adjective)

long-dormant

the ~ volcano has erupted (La Soufriere / St. Vincent)

**activity: animal / death & life / sleep**

## dose (amount)

dose

it's the ~ that makes the poison (emailing, etc.)

dose of criticism

the president received a fair ~ for his speech

dose of humility

we all need a good ~ (debate and opinions)

dose of inspiration

he provided the team a ~

dose of reality

he needs a ~ (selfish teen)

many teenagers could use a strong ~

dose of sanity

we could use a ~

dose of wisdom

they got a ~ from the coach

he brings a ~ to the government

dose of goodwill

the project has earned the US a ~ (foreign aid)

dose of good news

we could all use a ~

double dose

a ~ of fantastic news from Vicksburg and Gettysburg (war)

healthy dose

he uses research and a ~ of imagination (writer)

heavy dose

in Copenhagen he ingested a ~ of Aristotle (Tycho Brahe)

small doses

I could only read it in ~ (a book)

strong dose

many teenagers could use a ~ of reality

provide a dose

recent advances ~ of hope for sufferers

**amount: health & medicine**

## dot (connect the dots)

connect the dots

I must ~

we couldn't ~ (terrorism)

why didn't we ~

it's impossible to ~ looking forward  
people are starting to ~ (climate change)  
this report helps us ~ (climate change)

fill in the blanks, connect the dots  
they want to ~, and figure out what's going on (probe)

♦ Steve Inskeep: I don't want to connect these dots too firmly yet, Carrie, but I want to note what some of the dots are... What would it mean if these dots were more firmly connected? / Carrie Johnson: I think we're going to need to wait and see... rather than speculate... There's been a lot of bad reporting in this case, we've got to be careful. / Steve Inskeep: But what we do know is those dots are there, and that the Muller investigation continues. / Carrie Johnson: Yes, that's right." (Vague and ominous dots. From "News Brief: Paul Manafort, Parkland Shooting, Spying Charges," NPR, Morning Edition, 14 February 2019.)

♦ "They are essentially laying the dots out there for their listeners to connect. And when you connect those dots, it becomes far more plausible to use violence." (A liberal pundit / expert upset about something Steve Bannon said on talk radio.)

♦ You're dotty...

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: picture / verb**

## dot (verb)

dot the lake  
floating restaurants ~ (Tonle Sap)

**configuration: mark / verb**

## dotted (arrangement)

dotted with surveillance) cameras  
Times Square is ~

dotted with (observatory) domes  
the mountain is ~ (telescopes)

dotted with (small mangrove) islands  
a shallow lagoon ~ (Khor al-Beidah)

dotted with (thousands of) kites  
the sky is ~ of different colors and styles

dotted with monuments  
the area is ~ to him (Lorca)

dotted with the ruins  
a valley ~ of 16th-century fortresses (Georgia)

dotted with smokestacks  
he looked out on hills ~ (Zarqa)

ice-dotted  
~ rivers

island-dotted  
the Aegean, the ~ region (sailors rarely far from land)

monastery-dotted  
a beautiful, ~ land (Montenegro)

**configuration: mark**

## double down (verb)

doubling down on its decision  
the government is ~

double-downed our efforts

we ~ to not have it happen again

doubled down (at the White House) and tripled down  
the president ~ on Twitter (political dispute)

♦ "They were doubling down, they were really going for it." (Ex-Prime-Minister Liz Truss and her advisor on cutting taxes and raising spending.)

**action, inaction & delay / commitment & determination:  
cards / gambling / verb**

## double-edged (sword)

double-edged sword  
opium and its derivatives are a ~  
science is a ~ and can be used for good or evil  
for Pakistan, success of this kind is a ~ (terrorists)

double-edged sword of biotechnology  
the ~ (germ warfare)

**feeling, emotion & effect: blade / sword**

**relationship: blade / sword**

## doublespeak (noun)

double speak  
wonderful ~ from the @AP (don't use "pro-life," etc.)

♦ Wikipedia has entries for "Doublespeak" and "Newspeak." Both are related to George Orwell, particularly *Nineteen Eighty-Four*.)

♦ see also *newspeak* (noun)

**language: speech**

**speech / subterfuge: allusion**

## doublethink (noun)

Doublethink  
"~ is Stronger Than Orwell Imagined" (George Packer)

doublethink  
we stagger under the daily load of ~ (politics)

progressive doublethink  
~ has grown worse in reaction to the right-wing kind

♦ Wikipedia has entries for "Doublespeak" and "Newspeak." Both are related to George Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four*.)

**subterfuge: allusion**

## doughnut (cars, etc.)

do doughnuts  
spectators have blocked streets as cars ~ (Fort Worth)

**movement: shape**

## doughnut (doughnut-shaped)

doughnut-shaped  
a tokamak, the large ~ machine

**resemblance: affix / object / shape**

**shape: food & drink**

## dove (person)

dove  
he is not a ~, but he opposes attacking Iran

person: animal / bird  
military: sign, signal, symbol  
character & personality / violence: animal / bird / person / predation

## dovetail (verb)

dovetails with contemporary anxieties  
the film ~ (a zombie movie)

dovetailed with (energy) plans  
construction plans have not ~ (China)

dovetailed with US policy  
reports by US cyber-security companies appear to have ~

dovetail with his (warped) view  
he denigrates ideas that don't ~ of what America should be

configuration: animal / bird / verb

## dowager (old)

dowager of the medium  
the podcast, which at five years old is practically a ~

♦ "Ebony Magazine turns 76 tomorrow." (Once a pillar of the Black community, this great magazine has fallen on hard times, and is now only available online. You would think some US philanthropist would endow a print version in perpetuity.)

growth & development: life span / person

## down (feeling)

down time  
my life is a roller coaster and this is a ~

get me down  
it doesn't ~ (criticism)

feeling, emotion & effect / mental health: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle

## down (decline)

down  
it's a long way ~

down market  
a ~ is as much an opportunity as an up one

decline: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle

## down (functioning)

down  
the system is ~

condition & status / failure, accident & impairment / functioning: direction / mechanism / prep, adv, adj, particle

## down (down for something)

down for this  
are you ~

down for that  
if you're ~, then...

♦ You can be down for something or up for something with the same meaning! English is crazy.

allegiance, support & betrayal / commitment & determination: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle

## down (down through the centuries, etc.)

down through the centuries  
the voice of Herodotus can be heard speaking ~ (writings)

down through the generations  
dancers pass their knowledge ~ (ballet)

down the generations  
that voice still echoes out ~ (the filmmaker John Ford)

down hundreds of years  
the saint's feast day had been kept ~ of worship

on down  
the legend lives on from the Chippewa ~ (Gordon Lightfoot)

come down (to me) through time  
it's like hearing a voice that has ~ (bard recites Gesar)

handed down  
see *handed down* (by ancestors, etc.)

passed down  
see *passed down* (by ancestors, etc.)

♦ Barbara Dancygier and Eve Sweetser have a wonderful discussion of up-down metaphors for time in *Figurative Language*, and give "high / low Middle Ages" as a French example. They mention that the metaphor might relate to "reverence for the past" in French and Chinese. But the basis for the metaphor might also relate to topography. Sound travels farther in all directions from a high point like a mountain peak, as people of mountain cultures know, from Tibet through Afghanistan and Switzerland to the Southern Appalachians.

♦ This is an instance of up-down metaphors for time and contrasts with *up* (*up to now*, *up to date*, etc.). Time seems to come down from the past and then up to the present. Perhaps this reflects a cyclical view of time, or simply a hilly topography.

past & present / time: direction / height / history / mountains & hills / prep, adv, adj, particle

## downdraft (noun)

downdraft of debt  
the hopelessness of families caught in a ~

downdraft in the markets  
concern about Europe helped to lead the big ~

economic downdraft  
the powerful ~ started with the failure of Lehman

severe downdraft  
the fund could be damaged again by a ~ (money)

bucking the downdraft  
some candidates are ~ (elections)

caught in the downdraft  
media companies have been ~ of advertising revenue

amount & effect: air / atmosphere / storm / wind  
force: air / atmosphere / wind

## downfall (noun)

downfall

their greed will be their ~

contributed to his downfall

his protectiveness may have ~

♦ The front cover of *The Economist* for November 19<sup>th</sup> 2022 shows asteroids or perhaps comets plunging to Earth on a Western desert landscape and is titled, "Crypto's Downfall." "On the cover" explains: "The collapse of FTX has dealt a catastrophic blow to crypto's reputation and aspirations. Is this the end?"

**decline / destruction: direction**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction**

## downhearted

downhearted

it made you ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / heart**

**heart: direction**

## downhill (go downhill, etc.)

downhill direction

they are going in a ~ (sports team)

going downhill

education has been ~

goes downhill

the health of children with the disease ~

gone downhill

things have ~ in the last few years (polarized society)

went downhill

their relationship ~

things ~ from there

spiraled downhill

at home, he ~ (troubled soldier back from Iraq)

♦ "He got laid off... He went downhill, way downhill, he gave up on himself...He drunk every day, all day, and one day..."

♦ How can *downhill* mean something easily accomplished and also mean decline and failure? J.P. Postgate, Litt.D., Prof. of Comparative Philology, addressed this question in an Inaugural Address delivered at the opening of the Session 1896-7, at University College, London. He said its relationship to the meaning of easiness was an obvious metaphor. As for decline, he explained that at the time of Plautus, who used the word in both senses, "Roman waggons and carriages had no efficient brakes." In addition, Postgate mentioned that when Plautus used the word for decline or failure, it was always in contrast with a flatter level.

♦ "Winter horseshoes are equipped with little spikes that give a horse traction on snow and ice, and prevent it from slipping. Without them, a horse can neither tow a wagon uphill, nor use them as brakes on the way down. In the Russian winter of 1812, this spelt disaster for Napoleon's reduced force. Horses in summer shoes would have 'fallen down underneath whatever it was they were towing,' in the words of Bernie Tidmarsh, one of Britain's leading farriers. 'They wouldn't have got any grip going downhill any more than they would have going up,' he says. 'The end result would have been broken legs and mutilated limbs.' In some cases the horses were butchered for food while still alive by starving soldiers." ("Napoleon's failure: For the want of a winter horseshoe," by Saul David, BBC, 8 February 2012.)

**decline: direction / mountains & hills**

**failure, accident & impairment: direction / mountains & hills**

## downhill (easy)

all downhill

the hard part was over, and it was ~

**difficulty, easiness & effort: direction / mountains & hills / walking, running & jumping**

## downplay (verb)

downplay his own gifts

he does not ~, but... (a politician)

downplayed the need

he has ~ for widespread testing (pandemic)

downplays the (important) role

this comment ~ that dogs play as sentries

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / verb**

**attenuation: theater / verb**

## downshift (verb)

downshifting to stall speed

the economy is ~

**starting, going, continuing & ending: engine / verb**

**speed: engine / verb**

## downside (noun)

downside

modern agriculture has a ~

downside of the electoral college

another ~ is...

downsides to 5G

are there any ~ (geo locating, facial recognition, etc.)

big downside

outsourcing has a ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: direction / orientation**

## downstream

downstream

Nasa sets the goals, it no longer designs everything ~

downstream in their education

grad students who were further ~

downstream business

Chevron's ~ posted profits (refining, marketing)

downstream consequences

depression and PTSD have a number of ~, including suicide

downstream impact

the technology can have a ~ (GM autos)

downstream industries

are squealing ~ (steel tariffs)

downstream operations

Chevron will merge its chemical arm with ~

downstream processing

a lot of ~ will be done by China (rare earths)

♦ In the oil business, oil and gas fields are upstream assets, pipelines are midstream, and refineries and retail outlets are downstream.

♦ In the area of health, upstream interventions are things like wireless scales for weighing people, and free rides to medical appointments. These measures are largely preventative in nature and save money in the long run. Downstream outcomes are things like hospitalizations and surgeries.

**orientation:** river

## down to earth (adjective)

down-to-earth (“anyone-can-do-it) approach

her ~ to the work of social justice (bell hooks)

grittier, more down to earth

it’s a ~ story... (a film)

proud and down to earth

her ~ mom

straightforward, down to earth

he demonstrates ~ cooking

**character & personality:** direction / earth & world

## downturn (noun)

downturn in business

hotels have experienced a 90 percent ~ (war)

economic downturn

the company foundered during the ~

**decline:** direction

## doyen (squad leader)

doyen of (American film) critics

the ~ Pauline Kael raved, “O’Toole is astounding...”

doyen of inaction movies

Andersson, the ~ (*New Yorker* review of the filmmaker)

**experience:** military / person

**person:** military

## draconian (adjective)

draconian

the punishments for food theft were already ~

draconian charges

she faces ~, including sedition (Nuttaa Mahattana)

draconian (budget) cuts

he will not give in to ~ (president)

draconian crackdown

he has presided over the most ~ on leaks in US history

draconian measures

if hospital cases spiral, more ~ may be needed (pandemic)

draconian justice and rule

many Afghans prefer the ~ meted out by the Taliban

criticised as draconian

his radical left-wing policies have been ~

**judgment / oppression:** allusion

**comparison & contrast:** affix

## Dracula (noun)

Dracula

they’re ~ (the Boston Red Sox / comebacks)

Dracula-esque

he sports a ~ widow’s peak (Black Adam)

full Dracula

the Marvelverse has Leto going ~

♦ “It’s like a Dracula movie. Every 20 years or so, it surges up out of the coffin. You have to drive the stake back through the thing and make it go away again. But it never really goes away. It keeps coming back.” (Cornell University anthropologist Terence Turner, about the Belo Monte dam project on the Xingu River, in 2008. The dam was approved and has since been constructed.)

♦ “[It’s like] putting Count Dracula in charge of the blood bank.” (Republican Meg Whitman, about Jerry Brown and the labor unions together negotiating pay rises and pensions. In other words, Brown and the unions will suck taxpayers dry.)

♦ Dracula is associated with bats; stakes through the heart; coming back from the dead; sucking blood; heliophobia; coffin-sleeping with arms crossed over the chest; not having a reflection in a mirror; and a Goth aesthetic: a widow’s peak; teeth; cape; white skin, etc.

♦ The Dracula sneeze is when you sneeze into the crook of your elbow.

♦ “He had devoured *Dracula* by the age of five.” (The book, not the creature.)

♦ A FUNNY JOKE. Bill: You’ve heard of Blacula, the black Dracula. Well, we have a Jewish Dracula. / Seth: What’s his name? / Bill: Sidney Applebaum. (“Nick Kroll And John Mulaney Relive Raging Hormones And First Kisses In ‘Big Mouth,’” NPR, Fresh Air, March 1, 2018.)

♦ “World Dracula Day was May 26 and people in Whitby, England, came out in force.”

♦ see also *heart* (*stake through the heart, etc.*), vampire (noun)

**affliction:** allusion / creature

**allusion:** film & TV

## draft (verb)

drafted into a trade war

they have been ~ that was not of their making (farmers)

**assembling:** military / verb

## drag (drag on the economy, etc.)

drag on the economy

Brexit uncertainty has been a ~  
higher taxes are not necessarily a ~

**obstacles & impedance:** burden / movement / physics

## drag (verb)

drag her knees through the playoffs

Staley is set to ~ (WNBA)

dragged her butt out of bed

she ~ (teen waking up)

**difficulty, easiness & effort:** burden / movement / verb

## drag (contempo-speak / verb)

drag Grant  
fans took to social media to ~ (a-hole, jerk, douche, etc.)

drag her  
cancel Harry Potter, ~ (J.K. Rowling)

♦ "YouTubers are constantly dragging each other because we see ourselves reflected in the other." (Natalie Wynn at ContraPoints.)

**judgment / punishment & recrimination: verb / violence**  
**inclusion & exclusion: judgment**

## drag (drag somebody into something)

dragged you into this  
I shouldn't have ~ (dangerous situation)

drag some along kicking and screaming  
he may have to ~ (a reform police chief)

**involvement: burden / verb**  
**eagerness & reluctance: burden / verb**

## drag down (verb)

drag Lara down with you  
don't ~

dragging the country down into the gutter  
they are ~ of rancor and vitriol (politics)

**obstacles & impedance: arm / verb**

## dragging (contempo-speak)

callouts, draggings, and pile-ons  
some Y.A. books are targeted in intense social-media ~

♦ Incel; breeding weak men by design; literally retarded; coward; a soft dribbly mouth little mess; brain dead; scum; scumbag; soyboy trash; POS; narcissistic little prick; airhead; typical Reddit user; loser; everything that's wrong with society social media generation; piece of garbage; disgrace to Canadians... (And on and on and on... An internet dragging.)

♦ See the Wikipedia entry "Murder of James Byrd Jr." Jasper, Texas.

♦ "She's been bucked off before. Dragged, too. But nothing that's kept her out of the saddle." (A nine-year-old girl in west Kansas who participates in youth rodeo.)

**judgment: violence**  
**inclusion & exclusion: judgment**

## dragnet (noun)

dragnet  
the largest ~ in American history (Eric Rudolph)

dragnet for the murderer  
authorities cast a ~

DNA dragnet  
authorities have conducted a ~ (Louisiana serial killer)

international dragnet  
authorities cast an ~ for... (accused rapist)

conducted a (DNA) dragnet  
authorities have ~ (Louisiana serial killer)

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / fish**

## dragnet (cast a dragnet)

cast a dragnet for the murderer  
authorities ~

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / fish / verb**

## dragon (Dragon's Jaw, etc.)

Dragon's Back  
the ~ is a ridge in KwaZulu-Natal

Dragon's Jaw  
the North Vietnamese called it the ~ (US bridge target)

Dragon Shoal  
~ is a reef off Rakhine, Myanmar

♦ The Drakensberg is the highest mountain range in South Africa. Its name means, "the Dragon Mountains."

**proper name: creature**

## dragon (resemblance)

dragon of the bush  
the ~, a carrion-eating monitor lizard (the goanna)

**resemblance: creature**

## drag on (verb)

drag on for a while  
this is going to ~ (a controversy)

dragged on (in this way) for four more hours  
the meeting ~ (lawyers and reporters)

dragged on for months  
the crisis has ~ now (pandemic)

drag through Christmas  
US shutdown looks set to ~

case dragged on  
the ~ without any arrests

negotiations drag on  
~ (Brexit)

quarantine drags on  
frustration and exhaustion as the ~ (COVID-19 lockdown)

war drags on  
as the ~ (casualties)

**time: burden / movement / speed / verb**  
**timeliness & lack of timeliness: burden / verb**  
**starting, going, continuing & ending: burden / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## drain (remove)

drain spiritual energy from the land  
they worry that the drilling will ~ (Medicine Lake area)

drain the Kingdom of \$16 billion  
expatriates ~ each year (Saudi Arabia)

drained out of him  
eventually, the fight ~ (abuser)

drained his finances  
what really ~ was the roll-call bribe (Mexico prison)

drained him  
his anger seemed to have ~, and he slumped

strength drained away  
as their blood thickened and their ~ (climbers)

**leaking: verb / water**

### **drain (an emotion, etc.)**

drained out of him  
eventually, the fight ~ (abuser)

drained him  
his anger seemed to have ~, and he slumped

strength drained away  
as their blood thickened and their ~ (climbers)

**feeling, emotion & effect: verb / water**

### **drain (noun)**

drain of experience and manpower  
the departures meant a great ~

drain on the kingdom's economy  
banning women from driving causes a tremendous ~

drain on resources  
responding to a terrorist event causes a tremendous ~

economic drain  
it's going to be a huge ~ (spending on weapons)

time drain  
place limits on TV watching, as it is a great ~

swirling down the drain  
the country is ~ (Somalia)

**leaking: water**

### **drain (go down the drain, etc.)**

swirling down the drain  
the country is ~ (Somalia)

**failure, accident & impairment: infrastructure / verb**  
**destruction: infrastructure / verb**

### **drained (attenuation)**

drained of color  
under an overcast sky the prairie looked ~

**attenuation: water**

### **drained (feeling)**

drained and shaken  
I left feeling ~ (tour of Auschwitz)

physically drained

he was out of oxygen, ~, and alone (climber on Everest)

physically and mentally drained  
you're ~ and then, boom...

end up (emotionally) drained  
you ~ (search for missing child)

**feeling, emotion & effect: container / water**

### **drama (tense drama, etc.)**

drama  
bring the ~ to an end (mine rescue)  
figure skating is known for its ~

drama of (athletic) competition  
choking and the ~

hijack drama  
the ~ saw its final act played out (Medina)

hostage drama  
one ~ may be over, but...

wildlife drama  
a compelling ~ (mountain pond)

life-and-death drama  
they watched their own ~ unfold on satellite TV sets

sporting drama  
the ending was wild, the ultimate in ~ (an NFL game)

tense drama  
a joyous end to a ~ (mine rescue)

end to a (tense) drama  
a joyous ~ (mine rescue)

bring the drama to an end  
~ (mine rescue)

drama (that) is unfolding  
the US should stay out of the ~ in Egypt (protests)

watched their own drama unfold  
passengers ~ on satellite TV sets (JetBlue Flight)

**feeling, emotion & effect: theater**

### **drama (and drama queen, etc.)**

drama queen  
Nikki is fussy, she's a ~ (sister)  
~, always stirring the pot, wants attention (Gabbie Hanna)  
just get on with it you over paid ~s (soccer players)  
Lol, little ~ got caught, good try at the spin though (politics)

Antonio Brown drama  
and you thought the ~ was over (ongoing sports story)

baby daddy drama  
tragic deaths & ~ (celebrity news)

sense of drama  
such a high-flung ~

start drama

Dave Chappelle is a great comedian, stop trying to ~

♦ "He has always surrounded himself with some sort of drama, really surrounded himself with drama this time that got him in real trouble. He posted to his social media followers..." (Sports talk about the NBA player Kyrie Irving.)

♦ "If it's that bad, stop and chose another career. Sick of hearing all the whinging. If you take the Kings shilling then just get on with it you over paid drama queens." (A commenter about "tired, overworked" soccer players and the Qatar Soccer World Cup.)

♦ "He's an oversharing trauma queen." (An online commenter about a celebrity.)

**behavior / character & personality / performance: theater**

## dramatic (the dramatic)

flair for the dramatic

he displayed a ~ (traffic commissioner)

**feeling, emotion & effect: theater**

## dramatic (dramatic child, etc.)

dramatic child

I was a very ~ (threats, etc.)

**behavior / character & personality / performance: theater**

## dramatic (effect)

dramatic action

this sort of ~ (invasion of Kuwait)

dramatic event

this ~ (the eruption of a volcano)  
during that season's ~s (on Mt. Everest)

dramatic (new) evidence

even in the face of ~

dramatic example

the dying Aral Sea is the most ~ (ecological damage)

dramatic feature

Karchner's most ~ (a cave)

dramatic photograph

French TV showed a ~ of the plane in flames

dramatic return

the ~ of this national symbol (the bald eagle)

dramatic turn

the case took another ~ when... (murder)

dramatic twist

this was a ~ in the trial (Trump's second impeachment)

dramatic cityscape

the ~ of steel and lights (Hong Kong)

dramatic turnaround

in another ~ (football coach's fortunes)

**feeling, emotion & effect: theater**

## dramatic (extent)

dramatic changes

he can be counted on to make few ~s

dramatic decline

the ~ in fatality rates (boating)

dramatic improvements

in the absence of ~ in the fortunes of Nigerians

dramatic increases

manufacturing has seen ~ in productivity

dramatic results

the controversial cancer drug didn't produce ~

dramatic (dust) signatures

rapid movement causes ~ (military)

**extent & scope: theater**

## dramatically

changed dramatically

the racial makeup of Canarsie ~

declined dramatically

Lake Chad's area has ~ since the 1960s

fallen dramatically

infection rates here have ~ over the past month (COVID)

**extent & scope: theater**

## draw (attract)

drew people from all direction

Rome ~ (history)

drawn criticism from whistle-blowers

the company has ~

drawn criticism for being derivative

her videos have also ~ (music)

drawn an outpouring

her film has ~ of both praise and outrage

drawn swarms of protestors

the meetings of the World Bank have ~

drawn rave reviews

his new pitch has ~ (a pitcher)

drew cheers and boos

the judge's decision ~

drawing both praise and scorn

their efforts are ~

**attraction & repulsion: movement / verb**

**relationship: movement / verb**

## draw (luck of the draw)

luck of the draw

there is a ~, we are on a wheel (how judges get cases)

**fate, fortune & chance: cards / gambling / sports & games**

## draw (late / early on the draw)

late on the draw

you were very ~ (to take action)

action, inaction & delay / initiation: weapon

## draw alongside

drew alongside the railway line  
the road ~

fictive motion: verb

## drawbridge (protection)

their own drawbridges  
countries pulling up ~ (Internet sovereignty)

drawbridge came up  
I arrived just before the ~ (France bans travelers from UK)

pull up the drawbridge  
Americans want to ~, bring the troops home

division & connection: military / fortification

protection & lack of protection: military / fortification

## draw in (verb)

drew so many people in  
the conspiracy theory ~

attraction & repulsion: movement / verb

involvement: movement / verb

## drawing board (on the drawing board)

on the drawing board  
also ~ is...

creation & transformation: infrastructure

## drawing board (other)

going back to the drawing board  
we're ending the council and ~ (Google ATEAC)

creation & transformation: infrastructure

## draw near (winter is drawing near, etc.)

night draws near  
the ~

time is drawing near  
the ~

future / time: direction / distance / movement / verb

## drawn in

drawn in  
just as Daniel was leaving Larry's orbit, others were ~

situation: container / movement

involvement: astronomy / movement

attraction & repulsion: astronomy / movement

## drawn into

get drawn into  
we want people to ~ the tent of conservation

involvement: astronomy / movement

situation: container / movement

attraction & repulsion: astronomy / movement

## drawn to

drawn to a Web site  
"eyeballs," or the number of people ~

drawn to (conspiracy) theories  
I've always been ~ like this

drawn to Ralph Waldo Emerson  
as a teen, Nietzsche was ~'s "Promethean individualism"

attraction & repulsion: movement

## dream (verb)

dream about  
this is what guys like myself ~ (NFL rookie)

dream of dancing  
in Russia, all ballerinas ~ at the Mariinsky

dream of finding  
scientists and capitalists ~ a drug that could...

dreams of returning  
my father ~ to his birthplace

dreamed big  
she has always ~ (Lizzo)

wants, needs, hopes & goals: sleep / verb

## dream (fever dream, etc.)

fever dreams about Russian collusion  
they fill their airtime with ~ (MSNBC, CNN, etc.)

fever-dream projections  
"~" regarding pedophilia (conspiracy theories)

dream world  
she lives in her own ~

♦ "During his fever Davy later said that he had a repeated hallucination of a beautiful, tender, unknown woman who nursed him, held him and had 'intellectual conversations' with him. '[When] I contracted that terrible form of typhus fever known by the name of jail fever... there was always before me the form of a beautiful woman... This spirit of my vision had brown hair, blue eyes, and a bright rosy complexion... Her figure was so distinct in my mind as to form almost a visual image... [but] as I gained strength the visits of my good angel, for so I called it, became less frequent.'" (*The Age of Wonder* by Richard Holmes.)

consciousness & awareness / fantasy & reality: health & medicine / sleep

## dream (noun)

dream  
my ~ had been to play in the final... (World Cup)  
our ~ is to save enough to buy a one-family home  
its banking system is still more a ~ than fact (Russia)

dream that  
it was a ~ I never thought would come true (immigrant)  
first the ~, then the doubts, then the commitment

it was his dream to drive  
~ a bus since he was 9

it was (always) his dream to end up  
~ in the United States

it had been a dream (of hers) to canoe  
~ in Algonquin Park

dream of El Dorado  
what local newspapers call "the ~" (jobs in Europe)

dreams of (artistic) greatness  
he had all these ~

dream of hers  
it had been a ~ to canoe in Algonquin Park

dreams of marriage  
their ~ were delayed yet again (Pakistani man, cousin)

dream of peace  
the ~ has often turned into a nightmare of war (Africa)

dreams of a better tomorrow  
~ for our children

dreams of holy war  
~ vanished in the flames (Afghanistan)

dream of attending  
he sacrificed his ~ college to finance his brother's studies

dream of becoming  
it was a jolting blow to his lifelong ~ a fighter pilot

dream of developing  
his ~ a practical turbine-powered car

dream of turning  
he had a ~ a town into a metropolis (William Mulholland\_)

dreams for the future  
they talked about their own ~ (Wilma Mankiller)

dream car  
they got their ~ for thousands less  
the Suby is a young athlete's ~ (Subaru Outback Limited)

dream (surfing) destination  
Indonesia or other ~s

dream guy  
new dating services guarantee a ~

dream home  
completing his ~

dream house  
he talked of a ~ and a dream car  
on Wednesday, their ~ was destroyed (wildfire)

dream job  
his ~ secured, he is now...  
Notre Dame was his ~ (coach)  
your man tanked the interview for his ~

dream lover  
at a restaurant with my ~  
~, come rescue me, take me anyway you want me

"dream sheets"  
we were handed ~ (requests for military schools)

dream ship  
a fantastic ~

dream store  
invited her to help him open his ~

dream trip  
this is a ~ (extended canoe trip)

dream vacation  
~s and weekend getaways

dream wedding  
the fairy-tale star of her ~

dream world  
it was her ~

dream, fantasy, or vision  
the only way to keep a ~ intact or rosy

dream and nightmare  
every surfer's ~ (Condition Black / huge surf)

designer's dream  
her (fashion) show is a ~

everyone's dreams  
~ are different—like the former pilot who swam...

immigrant's dream  
he had realized the classic ~

kid's dream  
it is most any ~ of the perfect place to eat dinner

promoter's dream  
Ali was a ~ (poetry, quips, putdowns, predictions, etc.)

skateboarder's dream  
20 competitors on a course that's every ~ (street)

Everest dreams  
Walter Mittys with ~ need to keep in mind... (climbing)

Pakistani dream  
the ~ of a weak Afghanistan under Islamabad's sway

boyhood dream  
he fulfilled his ~ of sailing...  
for some, ~s come true (an astronaut)

childhood dream  
she has realized her ~

laboratory dreams  
these ideas are still ~ (nanotechnology / foods)

rock dream  
he realized he wouldn't be living the ~

secret dream  
the ~ of any woman...

lifelong dream  
it's an opportunity for him to fulfill a ~

it was a jolting blow to his ~ of becoming a fighter pilot

complete dream  
it's a ~ (reaching the semifinals of World Cup)

sweet dreams  
you hug her and kiss her and wish her ~

age-old (Pakistani) dream  
the ~ of a weak Afghanistan under Islamabad's sway

car of my dreams  
a tiny red Miata, the ~

man of (your) dreams  
find the ~  
ask the ~ out on a date

man of her dreams  
she had a star-crossed affair with the ~  
and then she met the ~

blow to his (lifelong) dream  
it was a jolting ~ of becoming a fighter pilot

hopes and dreams  
do you have ~ beyond tomorrow morning  
his ~ have to do with...  
the TV show represented my ~ (Mary Tyler Moore)

plans, hopes, dreams, and ambitions  
adults often resent death because it affects ~ (nursing)

potential and dreams  
a chance to fulfill their ~ (SuAnne Big Crow Center)

dreams die  
~ hard

dream had consumed them  
the ~ (climbing K2 together)

dreams come true  
I guess ~ (player on tournament victory)  
can their ~...

dreams (of holy war) vanished  
~ in the flames (Afghanistan)

dream (vacation) turned into a nightmare  
their ~

abandoned the dream  
I ~ as preposterous (climbing Mt. Everest)

achieve your dreams  
we will help you ~ (teen modeling Web site)

achieved my (goal and) my dream  
I ~ (Vitali Klitschko / boxer)

chase their dreams  
tonight will inspire people to ~ (Olympic successes)  
we are boys who, with great sacrifice, ~ (F1 driver)

chase his dreams  
he is a hero for taking the risk he did to ~ (Anthoine Hubert)

dream a new dream

you are never too old to set another goal or to ~

exceeded their (wildest) dreams  
what they actually saw ~ (astronomers)

find your dream  
follow every rainbow, 'till you ~ (song)

fulfill his dream  
he wants his young friend to ~ (to become world champ)

fulfill (some of) his dreams  
so, either way, I did ~ (son, speaking of father)

have a dream  
I ~ (Martin Luther King Jr.)

lived her dream  
she ~, then died in a lonely hotel room (Anna Nicole)

living his dream  
he is now truly ~ (professional windsurfer)

living the dream  
we thought we were ~, but... (blacks in north / US)

pursue her dream  
she quit her job to ~ of becoming...

pursue a dream  
people who switched courses late in life to ~

realize your dream  
how does it feel to ~ (award show)

sacrificed his dream  
he ~ of attending college to help his brother

go after your dreams  
it's important to ~ because life is short (skateboarding)

give up the dream  
no one expects them to ~, either (for independence)

given up his dream  
he had almost ~ of being an opera singer (Paul Potts)

give up those dreams  
maybe it's best to ~ (a musician)

give up on my dream  
I'm not one to ~ (disappointed "American Idol")

give up on her dream  
she doesn't want to ~ of being a "real" professor (adjunct)

allow the dream to die  
he wouldn't ~ (an athlete)

take your dreams away  
don't let anyone ~

turned the dream into a nightmare  
the loans have ~ (home ownership)

make your dreams come true  
it will ~ (how-to-kiss book for teens)

make their dreams come true

they feel that they can ~ with hard work and...

make that dream a reality

she can now afford to ~ (an Indian able to buy an AC)

abandoned the dream as preposterous

I ~ (climbing Mt. Everest)

♦ "Each day as I go through the hospitals with younger colleagues, they give me of their dreams and I give them of my experience, and I get the better of the exchange." (William J. Mayo, M.D.)

♦ "Why do people talk about dreams so much in sports? Dream seasons. Dream matchups. Dream opportunities..." ("NBA "The Dream Team 1992" full documentary, narrated by Ed Burns.)

♦ "Playing video games for a living is a dream for many." (Amazon's Twitch, etc., and online streamers.)

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: sleep**

## dredge up (verb)

dredging up old allegations

they are ~

dredge up wild beliefs

they ~ from online fever swamps (a podcast)

dredged up (painful) memories

the fires have ~ of how black churches were razed (arson)

**appearance & disappearance / concealment & lack of concealment / searching & discovery: boat / ground, terrain & land / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## drenched

blood-drenched allegory

the film is a ~

drama-drenched

~ retellings of scorn and mockery (epic sports failures)

neon-drenched

the seedy, ~ combat zone of massage parlors

sun-drenched

in the ~ deserts of California

**absorption & immersion / amount & effect: water**

## dressed (dressed up, etc.)

dressed in scientific clothes

exploration now had to be ~

dressed up as control

it is curiosity ~ (Netflix and interactive shows)

♦ "Good clothes open all doors."

♦ "Clothes make the man, naked people have little or no influence on society." (Mark Twain.)

♦ "Fine feathers make fine birds."

**appearance & reality / subterfuge: clothing & accessories**

## dressing down (noun)

public dressing down

the impact of this ~ was critical

**accusation & criticism / judgment: military**

## dress up (verb)

dress that up

however you ~, that is the fear...

dress up incompetence as heroism

it is less disturbing to ~ (Scott and the South Pole)

**substance & lack of substance: clothing & accessories**

**appearance & reality: clothing & accessories**

**concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories**

## drift (consciousness)

drifted in and out of (bizarre) hallucinations

he ~ (K2 climber in distress)

drifted in and out of (fitful) sleep

I ~ (high-altitude bivouac)

drifted off

I was exhausted and ~ in short order (went to sleep)

**consciousness & awareness: atmosphere / movement / verb**

## drift (sound)

drifted in

funeral music ~ through our windows

drifts outside

music from the choir ~

drifted (in) through our windows

funeral music ~

drift across the cuts and trails

they can hear the sound of hammers ~

♦ "A warm wind from the south blew in through the casements. Locomotives at their distant stations roared like sea lions." (*Doctor Zhivago* by Boris Pasternak, "The Hour Of The Inevitable.")

**movement: sound**

## drift (move)

drifted back

but some laborers have since ~ (to Sichuan)

drifted to the left

Biden has ~ since getting elected

drift into oblivion

he admitted he would likely ~ (boxer)

drifted into construction work

he ~

drifted (apart) from his parents and siblings

he had ~

drifted from job to job

for the next several years he ~ (famous actor)

drifted through a series of jobs

he then ~

drifted about the country

disdaining regular employment, he ~

drifting (closer) to towns and cities  
most Nukak clans are ~ (Colombia)

**control & lack of control / movement: atmosphere / verb / wind**

### **drift (control)**

drift in the (US) approach  
evidence of a ~ in Afghanistan

**control & lack of control: atmosphere / boat / wind**  
**direction: atmosphere / boat / wind**

### **drift (drift apart)**

drifted apart  
we ~ (a relationship)

drifted apart from his parents and siblings  
he had ~

**division & connection: atmosphere / boat / verb / wind**

### **drill (drill down, etc.)**

drill deeper  
we need to ~ into their claims (government claims)

drill down  
they can ~ and address the problem (regulators)

drill down into the rankings  
it doesn't really make sense, until you ~

drills down (very) deep  
she ~ on these issues (a political analyst)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: direction / ground, terrain & land / mining / verb**

### **drink in (verb)**

drank in every (tiny) detail  
I ~ of her office

drank in knowledge  
he ~ from every person and place he met

drank in the scene  
I ~ (a town)

drank in the (stunning) sights  
I ~ (a trip abroad)

drank in the vistas  
we ~ and toured the pastures

**absorption & immersion: food & drink / verb**  
**consumption: food & drink / verb**

### **drip (and drip-drip, etc.)**

drip-drip  
this isn't ~, it's a flood (sexual harassment)

drip of negative press coverage  
the president was not pleased with the continuing ~

drip of these transcripts  
we had a ~ being released all week long (politics)

drip drip drip of (leaked) emails  
the ~ (that hurt Hillary Clinton's chances)

drip drip of propaganda  
the effect of this slow ~ was that... (ethnic cleansing)

drip drip drip of revelations  
this ~ (a Royal scandal)

drip-drip effect  
it's a ~ (online anti-Semitism)

'drip drip' effect  
the ~ of gender-stereotyping (children)

drip-drip way  
virginity had a corrosive effect on my self-esteem, in a ~ (adult)

constant drip-drip  
this ~ distorts all your feelings (effects of anti-Semitism)

constant drip-drip-drip  
the ~ of stuff (leading to criminal conviction)

daily drip  
there has been a ~ of new disclosures (impeachment)

slow drip  
the ~ of vote counting revealed his leads were dwindling

steady drip  
this ~ as life is draining from England (Extinction Rebellion)

steady drip-drip  
an increasingly ~ of irritations

steady drip, drip  
the ~ of casualties (Iraq)

described the build-up as a "slow drip"  
the official ~ (troops on border with Ukraine)

**amount & effect / feeling, emotion & effect / leaking / movement: sound / water**

### **drip-fed**

drip-fed information  
we have been ~ over a long period of time

drip-fed to the media  
every day leaks are ~

**directing: water**

### **drive (verb)**

drives the FAA  
data, science, and risk analysis ~

**driving force: engine / verb**

**directing: animal / verb**

### **drive (drive somebody to do something)**

drove him to do

necessity and poverty ~ this (mercenary / revolutionary)

**relationship: force / verb**

## drive-by (conflict)

drive-by media

when social media becomes source material in ~

♦ Rush Limbaugh used this phrase, which compares mainstream media accounts to drive-by shootings, when talking about the "January 2019 Lincoln Memorial confrontation" (Wikipedia.)

♦ "I feel very misled, and it is shameful *The New York Times* would use my words to hurt my daughter." (The 78-year-old mother of Neera Tanden. She had thought the interview would result in an article that would be "a nice story about Neera." At least one columnist described it as a "blatant hit piece.")

♦ A hatchet job, a hit job / piece, a drive-by...

**conflict: crime / death & life / violence**

**accusation & criticism: crime / death & life / violence**

**punishment & recrimination: crime / death & life / violence**

## driven (adjective)

incredibly driven

she was ~ and never gave up

**character & personality: engine**

## drive on (resiliency)

drive on

~, soldier, drive on...

**resiliency: journeys & trips**

## drool (verb)

drooling over the possibility

networks have been ~ of landing an interview with...

makes venture capitalists drool

his pitch ~

**eagerness & reluctance: bodily reaction / food & drink / verb**

## drop (prices dropped, etc.)

dropped by (up to) 70%

tourist arrivals ~

**increase & decrease: direction / number / verb**

## drop (drop in sales, etc.)

drop in sales

the company is suffering from a ~

**increase & decrease: direction / number**

## drop (drop a case, etc.)

dropped (international) coverage

newspapers have ~

drop the idea

we must ~ the US is Johnny Appleseed spreading democracy

charges have been dropped

the ~

let the matter drop

maybe we should ~

♦ "I think it's wrong to pursue this, maybe we should let it drop." (A criminal investigation.)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: direction / verb**

## drop (product launch)

drop

the "~" is the release of a highly exclusive line

the ~ resulted in pandemonium outside stores (fashion)

dropped (this morning) for (a whopping) \$1, 018

the shoes ~ (endorsed by Lil Nas X)

drop culture

social media is central to ~

product drop

the ~ is a sales tactic

monthly drops

Burberry announced a series of ~ (24 hours to buy)

sudden (product) drops

~ generate more social media buzz

year of the drop

2017 was the ~ (limited release / time limit to buy)

lined up for the drop

a thousand people ~ (pop-up fashion display)

set to drop

*Bruised* is ~ on Netflix in November (the film)

**inauguration: flying & falling / mechanism**

## drop (a product, etc.)

dropping emails

Wikileaks was ~ (Hillary Clinton)

dropped this week

the trailer for one of the most anticipated films of the year ~

drops 'Late Night Talking' music video

Harry Styles ~ (releases, debuts)

set to drop

the evening before her album is ~

♦ "When we were promoting the show before it had aired, or dropped, or whatever they say at Netflix." (Christina Applegate, showing perhaps a little exasperation with "contempo-speak.")

**inauguration: mechanism / verb**

## drop (drop in the bucket)

drop in the bucket

in relationship to its annual revenue, it was a ~ (a fine)

the numbers are a ~ compared to the southern border

the league's own contribution was a ~ compared to...

**amount: water**

## drop out (verb)

dropped out of the race  
he ~ (a politician)

dropped out of the labor force  
discouraged job-seekers have ~

**starting, going, continuing & ending: direction / verb**  
**dismissal, removal & resignation: direction / verb**

## drought (in a drought)

in a sexual drought  
I've been ~ for a while

in the middle of a drought  
the team is ~ (losing)

♦ "I weep for my country. When you can plow, you can hope. Right now, there is no hope." (Mostafa Imam, on drought in Swaziland.)

♦ "In February, when the food ran out, Ezlina Chambukira started selling her precious possessions one by one. First, her goat. Then an old umbrella. Then two metal plates and a battered pail. When she had nothing left, she started praying for a miracle... It is harvest time, but crops are withered and many people are eating banana roots and pumpkin leaves." ("Meager Harvest in Africa Leave Millions at the Edge of Starvation," June 23, 2003, by Rachel L. Swarns.)

♦ "Who in the desert had never tasted drought? Who had not been driven into exile by famine? Such things were the inescapable fate of the desert—and all the songs of the desert were an expression of this grief, drought, and homelessness." (*Gold Dust* by the great Ibrahim al-Koni.)

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant / rain / weather & climate**

## drought (play-off drought, etc.)

drought of victories  
Clinton faces a painful ~ (Hillary in 2008 vs. Obama)

13-year (playoff) drought  
they have broken a ~ (NFL team)

goal drought  
by his standards, that was a ~ (3 games / Messi)  
there were goal floods and ~s (Qatar FIFA World Cup)

decade of (post-season) drought  
the team has endured a parching ~ (Phoenix Suns)

end a (44-year) trophy drought  
Spain had a chance to ~ (Euro 2008 / soccer)

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant / rain / weather & climate**

## drove (herd or flock)

out in droves  
tourists are ~ (summer)

fleeing in droves  
major advertisers have been ~ (from Twitter)

leaving in droves  
Italy's youth are ~

showed up in droves  
people ~ to donate blood (mass shooting)

turned to BBC in their droves  
people have ~ during the pandemic

turn out in droves  
Democrats predicted minority voters would ~

turned out in droves  
voters have ~

♦ In the 1800s up to 175,000 hogs passed through Asheville, western North Carolina, each fall on their way south to South Carolina from Tennessee. Drovers also drove great herds of turkeys, ducks, mules, horses, cows, flocks of sheep, etc. along the road. Inns and stands grew up along the route to accommodate both men and animals at night. Local people grew corn to feed the animals and established ferries and bridges. And towns grew up as people prospered. The film *The Journey of August King*, based on the book by John Ehle, gives a flavor of life in those times.

**amount / behavior: animal**

## drown (verb)

drown  
I feel like I'm treading water and will soon ~ (a teacher)

drowning in crime  
Detroit is ~

drowning in debt  
I'm ~ for a piece of paper I never received (college debt)

drowning in its own garbage  
Lebanon is ~

drowning in (kitchen) gizmos  
in an age when we are ~...

drowning in a sea  
I'm ~ of acronyms (nuclear weapons)  
if you're ~ of medical bills...

drowning in crime and desperation  
small towns were ~ (the opioid crisis)

drowning in bitterness and booze  
she is a former rocker who is ~ (a film)

♦ "Our hopes and dreams drown in their empty words and promises." (Greta Thunberg during a Youth4Climate event in Milan, Italy.)

♦ In 2009, over one hundred people died in flash floods in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, one of the driest countries on earth.

♦ In Saudi Arabia, in the interior of the Arabian Peninsula, people drown when flash floods fill wadis. They drown in flooded underpasses. They drown in water tanks on top of roofs. Babies can drown in pails. In addition, Saudi Arabia has 2,640 miles of coastline on the Red Sea and the Arabian Gulf. Saudi students studying abroad have drowned.

♦ "None of us could swim," Robinson said. "They were yelling 'help me, help me. Somebody please help me.' It was nothing I could do but watch them drown one by one." (Six Teens Drown in Louisiana River; 7th Rescued," by CBSNews, August 4, 2010.)

♦ "Turn Around, Don't Drown." (Slogan to discourage drivers from disregarding "Road Closed Due to Flooding" signs and trying to cross flooded bridges.)

♦ "Teach my children how to swim because they can find someone who will write for them any time but they cannot find anyone to swim for them at the moment of danger."

♦ "Teach your children swimming, archery and horse riding." (Hadith / Ibn Umar.)

**survival, persistence & endurance: verb / water**

## **drown out (verb)**

drowned out his (in-ring) interview  
boos ~ (a boxer who won a split decision)

**sound / superiority & inferiority: verb / water**

## **drowned out**

drowned out by the Internet drumbeat  
the explanation is sometimes ~

drowned out by the thunder  
informed voices were ~ of the partisan lynch mob

**sound / superiority & inferiority: water**

## **drum (beat the drum / bang the drum, etc.)**

banging the drum on this problem  
he has been ~ since...

beating the drum about this  
the Biden administration has been ~ (COVID masking)

beating the drum against big government  
she is ~ (a politician)

pounds the drum for the power of the people  
the film ~ to make things right (politics)

**message: military / sound / verb**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: military / sound / verb**

## **drumbeat (noun)**

drumbeat of accusations  
there is a ~ (against the Catholic Church / pedophilia)

drumbeat of criticism  
here in Washington we have just heard a ~ (Afghanistan)

drumbeat of news  
there has been a steady ~ about the dangerous chemical

drumbeat of war  
the ~ has grown louder in the past few days

drumbeats of war  
the ~ are filling our nation

drumbeat of (terror) warnings  
the recent ~...

drumbeat of "venture capital is dead"  
there has been a ~, and it's getting louder

drumbeat (of calls) for his resignation  
there has been a deafening ~ (a politician)

extremist drumbeat  
militants were encouraged by the ~ in Cairo

deafening drumbeat  
there has been a ~ of calls for his resignation (politician)

drumbeats (of war) are filling our nation  
the ~

drumbeat of war has grown louder  
the ~ in the past few days

Internet drumbeat  
the explanation is sometimes drowned out by the ~

drumbeat is intensifying  
the ~ to toughen up laws regarding sexual predators

♦ "The drumbeat of war is sounding loud and the rhetoric has gotten rather shrill." (Michael Carpenter, US Ambassador to the Organization for Security and Cooperation (OSCE) in Europe, about the Ukrainian crisis in January, 2022.)

♦ Ari Shapiro: "Well, do you hear the drums of war beating?" / Eleanor Beardsley: "You know what? I don't..." (Eleanor Beardsley reporting from Kharkiv / Kharkov, 25 miles from the Russian border. ("The view from border city Kharkiv, Ukraine, as Russian troops appear ready to invade," NPR, All Things Considered, Jan. 13, 2022.)

**message: military / sound**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: military / sound**

## **drummed out**

drummed out of the party  
he has been ~ (politics)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: military**

## **drummer (different drummer)**

different-drummer commitment  
he offers a ~ to civility (versus political bickering)

out-of-step, against-the-grain, different-drummer  
~ types

march to a different drummer  
his willingness to ~ is his biggest liability (politics)

marching to a different drummer  
they are often ~ (kids with ADHD)  
they are ~ and choosing colleges with different profiles

♦ "Kyler is his own individual. He's his own person, he beats to his own drum." (One NFL player about his quarterback.)

**unanimity & consensus: military / sound**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: military / sound**

## **drum up (verb)**

drum up (public) demand  
he is trying to ~ for his invention

drum up interest  
she was able to ~ on Facebook (for her company)

drum up publicity  
promoters are keen to ~ by any means (boxing)

drum up support  
we are trying to ~ for the project  
they are trying to ~ for the law  
candidates are actively campaigning there to ~ (election)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / creation & transformation:  
military / prep, adv, adj, particle / sound / verb**

## drunk (adjective)

drunk on power  
he is ~

**restraint & lack of restraint: alcohol**  
**control & lack of control: alcohol**  
**behavior / feeling, emotion & effect: alcohol**

## dry (come up dry)

come up dry on leads  
we have ~ (thefts of goats)

♦ This refers to a well that fails to produce water or oil.

**success & failure: mining / verb / water**  
**searching & discovery: mining / verb / water**

## dry run

dry run for the All-Star Game  
the stadium manager says the game will be a ~

dry run of the course  
participants registered for a ~ (race with obstacles)

made a dry run  
he ~ in a wind tunnel (parachutist)

arranged for a dry run  
he ~ to make sure everything worked (technology)

♦ There are quite a few theories for the origin of this relatively recently coined phrase. One idea is that it relates to drills by fire departments without water being pumped. It came to prominence in the military during World War II.

**readiness & preparedness: military**

## dry up (verb)

jobs dried up  
when the war ended, the ~

money dried up  
the ~

overtime has dried up  
~ (for immigrant workers)

work dried up  
other ~, and old friends stopped calling (disgraced)

**appearance & disappearance: water / verb**

## duck (avoid)

ducked out of the (post-race) interview  
he ~ (auto racing)

duck the (tough) issues  
we won't ~ (a politician)

ducked the question  
he ~ (State Department "official")

duck (the more challenging) questions  
he hoped the court would not ~

ducked and ran

when asked questions about trans people, she ~ (politics)

**avoidance & separation / confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: animal / bird / verb**

## duck (verb)

ducked into the office  
she ~ right away to see what was up

duck into a bathroom  
the young women ~ to change out of their jeans

**movement: animal / bird / verb**

## duck (ducks in a row)

getting their ducks in a row for a recession  
chief executives are ~

**behavior: animal / bird / position**

**unanimity & consensus: animal / bird / position**

## dud (noun)

dud  
the product was a ~ (marketing)

dud of a book  
this disappointing ~ starts with a good premise

**success & failure: weapon / explosion**

**failure, accident & impairment: weapon / explosion**

## duel (noun)

duels for the ball  
he was engaged in 20 ~ (Paul Pogba vs. Germany)

tense duel  
the two were locked in a ~ for days (Tour de France)

pair up for duels  
with the city's blessing, cars ~ (legal drag racing)

♦ "Griezmann has competed in the most duels (six) and won the most duels (four)." (Half-time analysis of France versus England at the FIFA Qatar World Cup.)

♦ Brigadier General Lucius M. Walker was shot and killed by Brigadier General John S. Marmaduke in a duel on September 7, 1863, as the Union forces were attacking Little Rock, Arkansas, during the U.S. Civil War. See Walker's Wikipedia entry.

♦ "Smollett states that the admiral [Knowles] himself did not escape without censure. Two of his captains were reprimanded; but Captain Holmes, who had displayed uncommon courage, was honourably acquitted. The admiral fought a bloodless duel with Captain Paulett, of the *Tilbury*; but Captain Innes and Clarke met by appointment in Hyde Park, with a case of pistols each. The former was mortally wounded, and died next morning; the latter was tried and condemned for murder, but received His Majesty's pardon." ("Tortuga, 1748" from *British Battles on Land and Sea* by James Grant.)

**competition / conflict: weapon**

## dueling (adjective)

dueling ad  
~s, each side accusing the other (politics)

dueling hashtags  
~ (#IStandWithJK Rowling vs #ICantStandJKRowling)

dueling protests  
we are expecting ~ today (pro- and anti-government)

**competition / conflict: weapon**

## dug in

dug in  
both sides are ~ and neither side will move (politics)

♦ "We will weed out the rebels, but they are dug in."

♦ "A-10 Warthogs destroyed 10 Iraqi T-55 tanks dug in a defensive posture."

**protection & lack of protection / resistance, opposition & defeat / survival, persistence & endurance: fortification / ground, terrain & land / military**

## dull (adjective)

grow dull  
his life reminds us that the cutting edge can ~ (Hefner)

**flaws & lack of flaws: blade / knife**

## dumb (technology)

dumb mines  
~ versus smart mines (self-destruct / self-deactivate)

from dumb to smart to brilliant (m)  
~ bombs (military)

**knowledge & intelligence: mechanism  
ability & lack of ability: mechanism / tools & technology**

## dump (verb)

dumped him as her lover and business partner  
she ~ in 2016

dumped the editor  
she ~ and replaced him with... (magazine)

dump her (3,928) shares  
he told her to ~ (of stock)

dumped her stock  
just before she ~ in December... (insider trading)

dump you  
she's going to ~ (get out of the relationship)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: pile / verb**

## dumped

dumped  
she worries about being ~ and getting a bad reputation

dumped Gottlieb for Brown  
five year later, he ~ (editor / editors in chief)

dumped by him  
you may get ~ later (relationship)

dumped by his girlfriend  
he was ~ of nine years...

get dumped

you may ~ by him later... (relationships)  
most men who ~ think their girlfriends...

**dismissal, removal & resignation: pile**

## Dunkirk (digital Dunkirk, etc.)

Dunkirk spirit  
Londoners displayed a ~ (1996 Docklands bombing)

digital Dunkirk  
this massive ~ trying to get everyone out (Afghanistan)

♦ The "digital Dunkirk" refers to the chaotic two weeks in August of 2021 when the US left Afghanistan. Many individuals, organizations, and particularly serving and former military men used social media to help Afghans get to evacuation points and then get through security perimeters and onto planes flying out. It's a fascinating analogy, and a sign of the times.

♦ Elderly Americans watching the evening news vividly remember the chaotic scenes as the U.S. evacuated its embassy in Saigon in 1975.

♦ The World War II Russian evacuation of the Crimea across the Kerch Strait, and, two years later, the German evacuation of Sevastopol to western parts of Ukraine, Romania, and Bulgaria, have both been referred to as "Dunkirk-like."

♦ The runway at Pitomnik saw chaotic scenes as the last flights out left Von Paulus' encircled and doomed Eighth Army to its fate.

♦ Read "On the Quai at Smyrna" by Ernest Hemingway.

**allusion / difficulty, easiness & effort / resistance,  
opposition & defeat / success & failure: military**

## dust (dust settles)

let the dust settle  
we will ~ and then make our decisions

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: ground, terrain & land**

## dust (collect dust)

collect dust  
the case was left to ~

**action, inaction & delay: ground, terrain & land / verb**

## dust (bite the dust)

bit the dust  
many of these mom-and-pop stores ~ (failed)

bites the (desert) dust  
English language program ~ (Vinnell Arabia)

bitten the dust  
another affair had ~ (two film stars)

destined to bite the dust  
the project seems ~ (military project)

♦ In old Western films, cowboys, Indians and soldiers were often shot off their horses and fell into the dust.

**failure, accident & impairment: death & life / film**

## dust (leave somebody in the dust)

left Microsoft in the dust  
the iPhone and Android ~ (phones)

**competition / superiority & inferiority: direction / horse / movement / sports & games**

## dust (fairy dust, etc.)

fairy dust

~ from the “Mom wand” makes life easy for them (kids)  
that something special, that star quality, that little bit of ~  
you can find ~ in every situation, no matter how difficult

star dust

can Hollywood ~ revive Wrexham (actors buy soccer club)

sprinkle (tech company) fairy dust

it’s a property company trying to ~ over itself

touched with fairy dust

everything he does is ~ (a musician)

♦ “You can never tell when the bad fairy might pay you a visit and sprinkle the f\*\*\*-you-up dust.” (A saying enjoyed by special-forces types.)

♦ “It’s not like you sprinkle blockchain dust over it and it’s O.K.” (Problems with cryptocurrencies.)

♦ “Graham Potter is now sprinkling his magic on this Brighton team and is getting the best out of every player including Neal Maupay.” (Liverpool supporter right here, 27 Sept 2021.)

**amelioration & renewal: magic**

## dustbin (noun)

dustbin of history

the Afghans will send the Americans to the ~ (Taliban)  
the P-word should be consigned to the ~ (Britain)

creative dustbin

it should be consigned to the ~ (“fridging” film trope)

consigned to history’s dustbin

his political theories have been ~

sweep conversion therapy into the dustbin

we are happy to ~ of history

**worth & lack of worth: waste**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: waste**

## dwarf (size)

dwarf chameleon

Madagascar has produced a group of ~s

dwarf pine

at high elevation, one finds many ~s

**size: person**

## dwarf (verb)

dwarfed all others

the Yankees' payroll ~ (baseball)

dwarfs any other (economic) relationship

the US / EU partnership ~

dwarfs spending

the ad expenditure ~ on other efforts (public health)

dwarfs (all other) threats

an Iranian bomb ~ to Israel

dwarf his other work

the study is likely to ~ in statistics

dwarfs previous ones

the current oil spill ~ (Gulf of Mexico)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: height / verb**

**superiority & inferiority: height / verb**

## dwel (location)

dwells in your hearts

I know the love of the constitution ~ (politics)

dwel in the past

don’t ~ (romance)

**location: house**

**place: house / death & life**

## dyed-in-the-wool

dyed-in-the-wool optimist

she’s a ~

**identity & nature: cloth**

**attachment / impression: cloth / color**

## dying (dying industry, etc.)

dying breed

he is the last of a ~ (race car driver)

moderates are a ~ (politics)

dying industry

nuclear energy may be a ~

**condition & status / decline / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence / starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life**

## dying (dying seconds, etc.)

dying seconds

they clinched the final in the ~ with a drop goal

**time: death & life**

## dynamite (Michael “Dynamite” Dokes, etc.)

“Dynamite” Dokes

Michael ~, former WBA heavyweight champion

‘Semtex’ Daley

Paul ~ retires in style with fierce knockout win (MMA)

“Kid Dynamite

~ Blows Up” (by David Remnick, July 6, 1997)

♦ “In Loving Memory of Michael M. Dokes “Dynamite” WBA Heavyweight Champion of the World 1982 First Round August 10 1958 Final Round August 11, 2012.” (The beautifully engraved headstone of the boxer.)

**epithet: explosion**

**force: epithet**

## dynamite (noun)

dynamite for the (party’s) base

what he said is ~ (a gaffe / faux-pas)

political dynamite

he was convinced he had ~ (a conspiracy theorist)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: explosion / military / sound / weapon**

**dynamite (a dynamite cast, etc.)**

dynamite cast

he brings out the best in a ~ (a film director)

**feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / military / sound / weapon**

**dynasty (sports dynasty, etc.)**

dynasty

it's history, we like ~s, to cheer for and against them (sports)

political dynasty

she was a descendant of one of the nation's oldest ~s (Kean)

football dynasty

Coach Bowden built a ~ (at Florida State University)

cheerleading dynasty

she leads a ~ (14 NCA National Championships)

fallen dynasty

he rescued a ~ (Larry Bird and the Boston Celtics)

built a dynasty

they had ~ that had won three Super Bowl championships

**power / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty**

## E

**eagle eye**

eagle eyes of (U.S. spy) satellites

the ~

**surveillance: animal / bird / eye**

**ear (Ear of the Wind, etc.)**

Ear of the Wind

the ~ is a natural arch in Monument Valley, Arizona

**proper name: ear**

**ear (have somebody's ear)**

has the ear of the president

he ~

have the ear of (many) political leaders

they ~ (activists)

has the president's ear

he ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: ear**

**ear (attention)**

sympathetic ear

he offers a ~ to kids (juvenile offenders)

lent an ear

Michael unselfishly ~ to friends in need

offers a (sympathetic) ear

he ~ to kids (juvenile offenders)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: ear / speech**

**ear (surveillance)**

ears

the walls have ~

eyes and ears

(see *eyes and ears*)

♦ **What you see here, what you do here, what you hear here, when you leave here, let it stay here.** (Los Alamos and the Manhattan Project.)

**surveillance: ear**

**ear (ear of corn, etc.)**

ears of corn

women roasted ~ (Kisumu)

sun's ears

polar explorers call the circles of prismatic colors the ~

**resemblance: ear**

**ear (fall on deaf ears)**

fall on deaf ears

calls to end the fighting that seem to ~ (Middle East)

sometimes the warnings ~

fell on deaf ears

his warnings ~ (Gerhart Riegner / Holocaust)

his call for lifting sanctions ~ (a politician)

complaint after complaint ~

police appeals for information ~ (murders of prostitutes)

his desperate appeal ~ (Haile Selassie / Italian invasion)

falling on deaf ears

the appeals are ~ (Russia)

**consciousness & awareness: ear**

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: ear**

**ear (turn a deaf ear)**

turned a deaf ear to that argument

Congress has ~

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: ear**

**ear (music to one's ears)**

music to Moscow's ears

this was ~ (Macron says NATO is brain dead)

**feeling, emotion & effect: ear / music**

## earful (amount)

getting an earful  
he has been ~

amount: ear / speech

## early (timeliness)

early in the investigation  
as of now it's ~

early in the (democratic presidential primary) process  
it's still very ~

timeliness & lack of timeliness: day

## earn (verb)

earned him the epithet  
his bouts with mental illness ~ "Mad King" (George III)

earned her pilot's license  
she ~ (Bessie Coleman)

earned a variety of nicknames  
the jail ~ over the years (Rikers Island)

earned (global) praise  
the public mental health model in Italy ~ (Trieste)

earned my respect  
he ~ by just being such a fair, wonderful person  
he also forever ~ by making it a point to...

earned his spurs  
he ~ on the battlefield (a combat veteran)

earned this  
I ~ (became an Eagle Scout)

♦ "Home of Emmett Till Earns Landmark Designation in Chicago" by Dustin Jones, History, NPR, January 28, 2021.

♦ "I know we work our butts of and desperately are trying to make the best records we can every time, and try to put the best shows on. That's all we have any control of. I think we've been lucky, too. But we've definitely—we've earned our stripes, I think. I don't know, we feel very satisfied and happy with finally getting a little bit of attention, because we were in the shadows for so long." ("The National: 'We've Earned Our Stripes,'" NPR, Music Interviews, All Things Considered, June 12, 2013. The caption of a photo of the five men is, "The National's new album is titled *Trouble Will Find Me*.")

♦ "You don't win medals or awards in the Military. You don't win the MOH you earn it by your actions. You don't win a Purple Heart. You earn it by being wounded." (An online commenter about a story told by President Joe Biden.)

♦ "Who 'wins' a Purple Heart? You're awarded the Purple Heart. That's the prize nobody wants to win." (An online commenter about a story told by President Joe Biden.)

♦ "Howe served in Europe as an Army artillery soldier during the Second World War, almost never speaking of the experience except sardonically. (His unflagging goal, he remarked was to avoid earning a Purple Heart.)..." ("Modern Lore: Oscar Howe at the National Museum of the American Indian" by Peter Schjeldahl, *The New Yorker*, July 11 & 18, 2022.)

♦ see also *privilege* (groups / noun)

achievement, recognition & praise: money / verb

## earth (to the ends of the earth, etc.)

ends of the earth  
he took the faith of his nation to the ~ (Livingstone)

scoured the Earth  
Bill Whitman ~ for rare fruit (collector, popularizer)

extent & scope / searching & discovery: earth & world  
**earth (close to the earth, etc.)**

much more close to the earth  
their concerns are much more mundane, ~ (voters)

♦ In *Metaphors We Live By*, Lakoff and Johnson mention a fascinating metaphor: *mundane reality is down*. The example they give is "down to earth." Language that might illustrate this metaphor, besides *earthiness*, could include *grassroots*, *a worm's eye view*, "she has *stars in her eyes*" versus the mature girl who has *both feet on the ground*, *journalists on the ground*, the teacher who spent 34 years in *the trenches*, actually teaching, the leader with a willingness to *dive into the weeds* to explore detailed elements, people from *all walks of life*, etc.

♦ "I dreamed a thousand new paths...I woke and walked my one."

♦ "Men trip not on mountains but on molehills."

♦ "Before dinner, let us explore the southern plains and climb the northern mountains. After dinner, there are snakes in the southern plains and tigers in the northern mountains." (Chinese.)

bases: earth & world

## earthiness (character)

earthiness  
her public persona belies her ~ (she swears, etc.)

character & personality: earth & world

## earthquake (effect)

earthquake  
his death was an ~ that shook the world (Osama)

cultural earthquake  
a massive ~ split the country wide open (US / 1960s)

political earthquake  
I think it's going to be a ~ (elections)

'political earthquake'  
~ in Ireland as nationalists win (a seismic change)

♦ People speak of social ferment in countries with a huge base of young people as "youthquakes."

♦ "This is seismic." (Mark Chapman, BBC Radio 5 Live presenter, on Saudi Arabia 2-Argentina 1 at the FIFA World Cup in Qatar. Mashallah! Another commentator said, "Saudi Arabi's victory was off the Richter scale.")

♦ "My question was surely just a spark but the response was an earthquake." (The remarkable Italian journalist Riccardo Ehrman, who will always be associated with the fall of the Berlin Wall.)

♦ "Just as behind the apparently fixed contours of a landscape lie great historic shifts and upheavals in the earth, so behind the seeming permanence of a social order lie the past struggles of classes and other groups negotiating for advantage." (*The Social Transformation of American Medicine* by Paul Starr.)

♦ "A sense of insecurity, as during an earthquake, pervaded the minds of men." (*Lord Jim* by Joseph Conrad.)

♦ "The sensation produced by an earthquake is never to be forgotten. We feel ourselves in the grasp of a power to which the wildest fury of the winds and waves are as nothing; yet the effect is more a thrill of awe

than the terror which the mere boisterous war of the elements produces. There is a mystery and an uncertainty as to the amount of danger we incur, which gives greater play to the imagination, and to the influences of hope and fear. These remarks apply only to a moderate earth-quake. A severe one is the most destructive and the most horrible catastrophe to which human beings can be exposed." (*The Malay Archipelago* by Alfred Russel Wallace.)

♦ "It's always hard to attribute a cause to an earthquake with absolute certainty." (Dr. Cliff Frohlich, Associate Director of the Texas Institute for Geophysics, The University of Texas at Austin.)

**equilibrium & stability: earthquake / ground, terrain & land amount & effect / disruption / effect / feeling, emotion & effect: earthquake / equilibrium & stability / ground, terrain & land**

## earthshaking (adjective)

earthshaking experiment

the ~ has rocked the scientific community

earth-shaking transformation

China's economy has experienced ~s in recent decades

♦ Often expressed as "seismic."

**amount & effect / equilibrium & stability / extent & scope:**

**earthquake / ground, terrain & land**

## earworm (noun)

earworm

this song has always been an ~ ("Red Beans and Rice")

**attachment: animal / ear**

## Easter egg

Easter eggs in music video

Taylor Swift reveals secret ~

easter eggs and jokes

there're ~ throughout (*The Every* / Dave Eggers)

secret Easter eggs

Taylor Swift reveals ~ in music video

full of easter eggs

Taylor Swift's "The Man" music video is chock ~

pregnant with Easter eggs

it's ~ (the book *D C-T!* by Avillez and Young)

allusions and Easter eggs

the series has included ~ from previous episodes (TV)

♦ "Good morning, I'm A Martinez. If you're a college student, reading your syllabus could be a good way to start off a semester. A University of Tennessee professor recently taught his students that blowing it off could cost you. His name is Kenyon Wilson, and just to see who was reading closely, he added an easter egg to the course outline. It said, "Free to the first who claims" with a locker number and combination. In it, a fifty dollar bill, no strings attached, but of course... nobody claimed it. It's Morning Edition." ("Tennessee professor hid a cash prize on campus. The clue was in the syllabus," NPR, Morning Edition, December 20, 2021.)

♦ "In Detroit you have WONDR and MOTWN, above St. Louis there are waypoints for ANNII and LENXX." (Steve Trimble of *Aviation Week*, talking about the names of aviation waypoints. From "Unusual Names Of Waypoints Used For Airplanes' Navigation," NPR, All Things Considered, May 26, 2020.)

♦ "Navigation waypoints on this highway in the sky will honor Helge, Mylius, Uroa, Per, Frithjof and Lasse (six of Amundsen's Greenland

dogs) and Jimmy Pigg, Snippets, Bones, Jehu, and Nobby (five of Scott's Manchurian and Siberian ponies.) ("Polar Sidekicks Earn a Place on the Map" by John Noble Wilford, *The New York Times*, September 30, 2010.)

♦ "James enjoyed hiding references to heroin use in his lyrics, he once told one of his dope dealers..." (James Taylor. From *Girls Like Us* by Sheila Weller.)

♦ "Occasionally one could test a plagiarist. I had to invent a tree, with name to match, for a man who at that time was rather riding in my pocket. In about eighteen months—the time it takes for a 'test' diamond thrown over wires into a field of 'blue' rock to turn up on the Kimberley sorting-tables—my tree appeared in his 'nature-studies'—name as spelt by me and virtues attributed. Since in our trade we be all felons, more or less, I repented when I had caught him, but not too much." (*Something of Myself* by Rudyard Kipling.)

♦ "The whores will be busy." (The first letter of each line of Oliver St. John Gogarty's patriotic poem, "Ode of Welcome," to the Irish soldiers returning home from the Boer War.)

**searching & discovery: hunting**

**concealment & lack of concealment: hunting**

## easy (sex)

easy

she's ~

♦ Mac: What is *easy*? / Valerie: This is *easy*. (Silly dialogue from the film *Earth Girls Are Easy* with Geena Davis.)

♦ "I was a bit of a slapper at Uni." (A UK woman.)

**sex: euphemism**

## easygoing (adjective)

easy-going attitude

Atlanta's ~ toward skin and vice

easygoing personality

he has one of those ~s

easygoing country boy

an ~ from Kentucky

good-natured and easygoing

elephants are ~ (according to keeper at zoo)

♦ "No camel route is long with good company." (A Turkish proverb.)

**character & personality: journeys & trips**

## eat (eat one's words, etc.)

eat those words

I'll make you ~ (competition)

eat your words

so called experts and pundits, ~ (Usyk beats Joshua)

♦ "In the course of my life I have often had to eat my words, and I must confess that I have always found it a wholesome diet." (Winston Churchill about his change in attitude towards Nehru, to one of complete approval.)

♦ "If it means swallowing some humble pie, and it means eating some of your words, I can't think of a more excellent diet." (Prime Minister David Cameron, on his coalition government formed with the Liberal Democrats.)

♦ "What was Neville saying about Messi not inspiring...? Suppose those words would be his supper tonight." (An online commenter about Argentina 2- Mexico 0. The FIFA World Cup in Qatar.)

**speech: consumption**

## eat (mental health)

ate away at me

it ~ (an unpleasant truth)

my anxiety ~, like ants consuming their prey, bit by bit

eats at me

something's missing here, and it ~ (patriotism / WWII)

eating away at your mental health

if social media is ~, please stop (advice to athletes)

eat away at you

secrets ~

eats away at me

that I will never face him in court ~ (sex abuse)

eaten away at me

it would have ~ (not confronting his brother)

eat away at America's sense of security

the sniper attacks ~ (D.C. area)

eat up your mind

meth will ~ (methamphetamine addiction)

eat you up

playing such a demanding role could ~ (Tina Turner)

eat him up

this will ~ bad (boxing champ loses in shock defeat)

eating him up

he kept quiet, but it was ~ (sexually assaulted)

eat me up

I knew the shame would ~ otherwise (without confessing)

eating me up

it was ~ (reveals hidden past to family, world)

eat you alive

that darkness will ~ (journalist investigates sex crimes)

eating my joy

the "Sunday scaries" are ~ (anxiety about work week)

eaten your soul

and then you are lost, he has ~ (accommodating a boss)

♦ "And you sit there [inwardly] eating yourself to death and crying yourself to death." (Sexually abused by a pastor.)

**mental health: animal / consumption**

**affliction / destruction / feeling, emotion & effect: animal / food & drink / predation / verb**

## eat (destroy)

ate up entire neighborhoods

rivers ~ (floods)

eat their own

see *eat one's own, etc.*)

eating away the banks

the current is ~ of the river

eat through the (plastic) sheeting

the chlorine will ~

eat into the flesh

necrotic ulcers are deep, open wounds that ~

eat up your mind

meth will ~ (methamphetamine addiction)

eat you alive

it's there to ~, no pity (Nazare / big-wave surfing)

**affliction / destruction: animal / food & drink / predation / verb**

## eat (endure)

eat only sorrow and misery

I ~ (a Kurdish expression)

eaten some heavy shots

Khan has already ~ (Khan vs. Brook / boxing)

eating them

Lewis is throwing right hands, and Tyson is ~

♦ "When my Dad decided the whole fatherhood thing was a buzzkill for his creativity, we had to take the shit sandwich we'd been served and make it edible. So I cooked..." (The film *Words On Bathroom Walls*.)

♦ "Just when you think you've got your ration of shit-happens someone heaps on another helping."

♦ James Mossman: I'm told that Tolstoy once said late in his life that life was a tough [?] of which one was obliged to eat slowly. Would you agree with him? / Vladimir Nabokov (laughing delightedly): "I've never heard that story, it's a very funny one. The old boy was sometimes rather [a word that sounds like *degustation*]. No, my own life is fresh bread with country butter and alpine honey." (Vladimir Nabokov, BBC Author Archive Collection, "James Mossman talks to Russian writer Vladimir Nabokov in this 1970 interview.")

♦ "We wouldn't be here at all if it wasn't for the artillery. The Germans would have eaten us up long ago." (*Life And Fate* by Vasily Grossman.)

♦ "Are there not other alternatives than sending our armies to chew barbed wire in Flanders?" (Winston Churchill, in a letter of advice to Prime Minister Herbert Henry Asquith. The alternative turned out to be Gallipoli.)

♦ "No, they will fight more actively with empty bellies, and, besides, it would be a bad omen. You remember what a dessert they got to their dinner at Falkirk." (The Duke of Cumberland on whether to allow his army its noontime meal prior to the Battle of Culloden. From *British Battles On Land and Sea* by James Grant. Culloden, 1746. "Such is the story of Culloden, happily the last battle fought on the soil of Great Britain.")

**consumption / experience: food & drink / verb**

## eat (eat one's own, etc.)

eat their own

"SWOs ~" is a common Navy refrain (jealousy)

liberals ~ over the most minor slights

♦ "They eat their own; they get eaten by their own; they cannibalize themselves, please don't stop; Woke cannibalism! Sweet!; democrat cannibalism is a beautiful thing to watch... (Snarky comments at Breitbart about infighting at *The Washington Post* that led to a suspension and a firing.)

♦ "The new age needed only the hide of the Revolution—and this was being played off people who were still alive. Those who then slipped into it spoke the language of the Revolution and mimicked its gestures, but their brains, lungs, livers and eyes were utterly different." (*Life And Fate* by Vasily Grossman, New York Review Books, translated by Robert Chandler.)

**behavior: animal / verb**

## eat (eat and breathe, etc.)

eat and breathe

these guys ~ cycling (Giro d'Italia)

♦ "Larry slept it, ate it, drank it, eat it, it was all basketball for him." (An admiring comment about the great Larry "The Hick from French Lick" Bird, about his work ethic.)

**absorption & immersion / commitment & determination / consumption / enthusiasm: breathing / food & drink / verb**

## eat (eat and sleep, etc.)

eating and sleeping

he has been ~ boxing, work, work, work (training)

**absorption & immersion / commitment & determination / consumption / enthusiasm: food & drink / sleep / verb**

## eaten alive (by debt, rage, etc.)

eaten up inside

whenever I thought about it, I found myself in a rage, ~

eaten alive by debt

I was ~

get eaten alive

don't ~ by debt (an advertisement)

**mental health: animal / consumption / predation**

**destruction: animal / food & drink / predation**

**feeling, emotion & effect: animal / food & drink / predation**

## Eaton (Eaton of Africa, etc.)

"Eaton of Africa"

the so-called ~ (Kamuzu Academy in Malawi)

**achievement, recognition & praise / military: epithet**

## eat up (verb)

ate it up

the crowd ~ (a campaign speech well received)

eat this stuff up

people who watch the History Channel and ~ (UFOs)

eating up (so much) bandwidth

the number of attacks is ~ that...

ate up comic books

I ~ as a kid

ate up every line

the crowd ~ (election rally)

eating up the mist

the sun was ~ (*Lord Jim*)

eat the sun

plants essentially ~ (photosynthesis)

ate up its own weight

the artillery ~ in shell in 3 or 4 minutes (Boer War)

ate up \$5 billion

the program ~

**consumption: food & drink / verb**

## eat up (destroy)

eaten us up long ago

the Germans would have ~

♦ "We wouldn't be here at all if it wasn't for the artillery. The Germans would have eaten us up long ago." (*Life And Fate* by Vasily Grossman.)

**destruction: food & drink / verb**

## ebb (decline)

ebbed away

for at least 9 days they lay in their tent, as their lives ~

ebb and flow

gang killings ~ but never stop (Los Angeles)

ebbs and flows

the number of cases ~ (West Nile virus in US)

fighting ebbed

the ~ Tuesday (Ubaydi)

**decline: sea / tide / verb**

## ebb (at a low ebb)

at a low ebb

the militant's fortunes in Iraq are ~

**decline: sea / tide**

## ebb (on the ebb)

on the ebb

his racing career is ~

**decline: sea / tide**

## ebb (movement)

ebb and flow of passengers

the ~ through the car doors and turnstiles (D.C. metro)

**movement: sea / tide**

## ebb (development)

ebb and flow of the war

the ~ (Angola)

**development: sea / tide**

## ecclesiastical (adjective)

ecclesiastical stature

the "Twining memo" gained ~ among ufologists

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## echo (verb / effect)

echo and echo and echo

war and trauma can just ~ (lack of closure)

echoes (now) through every talk show

the bitter debate that ~ and coffee shop

♦ Echo; resonate; reverberate; rhyme...

**repetition: sound / verb**

## echo (noun / effect)

echo of this vote

the ~ will be loud and long (anti-Hispanic vote)

misled by the echoes

we're ~ (of history)

**effect: sound**

## echo (repeat)

echo what

first, let me ~ the President said (speeches)

echoed Templeton

the State's Attorney Joe Hettel ~... (opinion)

echoes allegations

the report ~ that the company...

echoed the (the teacher's) statement

many school employees ~ that...

echoes the style

the painting closely ~ of his friend Henri Matisse

**repetition: sound / verb**

**transmission: sound / verb**

## echo (in an echo)

in an echo of (the president's) position

~, Michael Chukwu told BBC that....

**repetition: sound**

## echo chamber

echo chamber

it's an ~where lost souls talk up and amp up one another

echo chamber of social media

in the fact-challenged ~, beliefs and biases are confirmed

media echo chamber

their views are amplified by the ~ (stock analysts, etc.)

online political echo chambers

~ have exacerbated America's divisions

social media echo chamber

another example of the ~ that amplifies all offence

pushes people (deeper) into their own echo chambers

the amount of outrage on social media ~

leapt from echo chambers (of social media) to headlines

the movement ~ in the news (a conspiracy theory)

**repetition / transmission: sound**

## echoed

echoed by NASA

Boeing's conclusion was ~ in its mission reports

echoed by (many) Central Asians

her view is ~

echoed by (many) Americans

that sense of patriotic pride is ~

echoed by others

such criticisms have been ~ who...

echoed by (numerous) others

comments ~... (protestors)

echoed in academic circles

you raise a good point that has been ~

view is echoed

his ~ by many Central Asians

**repetition / transmission: sound**

## eclipse (verb)

eclipsed fishing as (the state's major) revenue source

mining long ago ~ (Nauru)

eclipse electric tanning beds

some predict sunless tanning booths could ~

eclipsing the feudal landowners

the middle class is finally ~

eclipses (all) others

in Havana, one feature ~ of the city (the Malecon)

eclipse all other European palaces

the Czar wanted to ~ (Peterhoff / Peter the Great)

eclipsed that of 1962

the 1970 quake ~ (Peru)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / decline / primacy,  
currency, decline & obsolescence / superiority & inferiority:  
astronomy / light & dark / moon / shadow / sun / verb**

## eclipse (noun)

eclipse of Cantonese

older people affected by the ~ in China and the world

beginning of his eclipse

it was the ~ (Napoleon)

driven the German shepherd into eclipse

overbreeding has ~ (the dog breed)

gone into total eclipse

for decades before his death he had ~ (Herman Melville)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / decline / primacy,  
currency, decline & obsolescence / superiority & inferiority:  
astronomy / light & dark / moon / shadow / sun**

## ecosystem (noun)

ecosystem of corruption

he exposed an ~ at the bank

ecosystem of (extremist) groups

the ~ in the region (Afghanistan, etc.)

ecosystem of hate  
far-right parties fan an ~ (Australia)

ecosystem of people  
there is an ~ who serve professional athletes

ecosystem of support  
designers rely on a complex ~ (garment district)

ecosystem of entrepreneurs, engineers, investors  
the ~ and other players is growing (NYC tech scene)

multibillion-dollar ecosystem  
there's a ~ of collecting this data (on kids)

business ecosystem  
smart executives cannot control but can influence the ~

disinformation ecosystem  
Facebook banned a significant chunk of the ~

Hollywood ecosystem  
major change within the ~ was on the horizon (2001)

Internet ecosystem  
this regulation will do damage to the ~

innovation ecosystem  
many factors created the ~ to nurture the Internet  
talent acquisition and furthering the ~ (cryptocurrency)

locker-room ecosystem  
how a player fits into a delicate ~ (NFL / personal conflicts)

media ecosystem  
a conservative ~ helps amplify those ideas (alt-right)

Y.A. ecosystem  
some readers don't care about the politics of the ~ (books)

closed ecosystem  
can the iPhone thrive in Apple's ~

self-correcting ecosystem  
the Internet is a ~ (controversy)

commercial ecosystem  
the garment district is a ~

financial ecosystem  
he benefited from the burgeoning ~ (NYC)

fragile and interconnected ecosystem  
this ~ (garment district)

global social-media ecosystem  
the alt-right has turbocharged this ~ of hatred

fit into the ecosystem  
help me understand how he ~ of protestors in Portland

♦ "Well, you know, this is so fascinating, first of all, the fact that you use that term, "Batchelor Nation." So what I take from that is it isn't just a show anymore, it's like a whole, what? ecosystem?" Who's in Batchelor Nation, is it like everybody who watches the show, who was a part of it, what does that mean?" (Michele Martin wants to know. From "Racism Controversy Rocks 'Bachelor' Nation, NPR, All Things Considered, Feb 20, 2021.)

**area / biodiversity, nature & life / environment: ground, terrain & land**

## Eden (noun)

garden of Eden  
*see Garden of Eden*

eagles' Eden  
this ~ (Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve / Alaska)

leads me through Eden  
Rob ~ (Dales Gorge in Western Australia)

**biodiversity, nature & life: Bible / place / religion**  
**environment / superlative: Bible / religion**  
**flaws & lack of flaws: Bible / religion**

## Edenic (adjective)

Edenic setting  
it was an ~ (nature)

♦ "It was hard to imagine a less Edenic setting for the wellspring of a great paradisiacal metropolis." (The headwaters of the Los Angeles River in Canoga Park behind the town's high school.)

**comparison & contrast: affix**  
**biodiversity, nature & life: Bible / place / religion**  
**environment / superlative: Bible / religion**  
**flaws & lack of flaws: Bible / religion**

## edge (over the edge)

over the edge  
in my opinion, this is ~ (a controversial song)

**behavior: boundary / ground, terrain & land / line / mountains & hills**

## edge (push something over the edge)

pushed some farmers over the edge  
drought has ~

push them over the edge  
just a tiny temperature rise can ~ (coral bleaching)

pushed the system over the edge  
the hiring freeze has ~ (corrections)

**destruction: ground, boundary / line / mountains & hills / terrain & land**

## edge (on edge)

on edge  
the city is ~ (a series of murders)  
everybody was ~ (serial bomber on the loose)

already on edge  
the news terrified women ~ (murders of lesbians)

**feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability**

## edge (on the edge of a cliff, etc.)

on the edge of (electoral) abyss  
his campaign teetered ~, but it is scrambling back

on the edge of the cliff  
we're ~, we don't have much time to back away (diplomacy)

on the edge of collapse  
the air travel network teeters ~ (Unfriendly Skies)

on the edge of extinction  
they're ~ (orangutans)

on the edge of a (nervous) breakdown  
I'm ~

lived on the edge  
he ~ (Timothy Treadwell)

teeters on the edge  
the air travel network ~ of collapse

♦ On the edge for you is the middle of the road for me." (Bumper sticker on snowboarder's car.)

**danger / fate, fortune & chance / proximity: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills**

### edge (at the edge)

at the (extreme) edge of complexity  
this is ~ (a brain operation)

at the edge of starvation  
meager harvests leave millions ~ (Africa)

**proximity: blade / knife**

### edge (lose one's edge)

losing his edge  
some observers think he may be ~ (chess grandmaster)

**ability & lack of ability / flaws & lack of flaws: blade / knife**

### edge (rough edges, etc.)

smooth (capitalism's) rough edges  
her policies aim to ~ (a progressive)

**flaws & lack of flaws: hardness & softness / manufacturing**

### edge (edge cases, etc.)

edge cases  
~ in grammar and syntax

edge habitats  
~ hover between domesticated and wild (zoonotic diseases)

edge and corner  
it doesn't take long to find ~ cases (grammar rules)

**division & connection: boundary / line**

### edict (noun)

edict from on high  
an ~ banned any mention of sex (Woman's Weekly)

his edicts  
~ and his "my way or the highway" (recall election)

**oppression: government / royalty**

### edifice (noun)

edifice of (city and state) finance  
much of the ~ is jury-rigged

edifice of the state  
the ~ is in danger of crumbling

"climate science" edifice  
the whole ~ is exposed and will collapse (opinion)

narrative's edifice  
the intelligent building of the ~ (book review)

imperial edifice  
the bureaucracy is an ~ built on feudal foundations

once-impregnable edifice  
the ~ of the regime's authority is starting to crumble

meticulously built edifice  
science is a ~

cracks in the edifice  
early ~ appeared in the 1990s (economy)

edifice could collapse  
and so the whole ~ (economy)

edifice would crumble  
the ~ if...

bring down the (whole) edifice  
any crack in the system would ~ (dictatorship)

tear down the edifice  
the right has used religion to ~ and secular morality

chipping away at the edifice  
lawyers are ~ of person responsibility (neuroscience)

**bases: house**

### Edison (Edison of the Internet, etc.)

Edison of the Internet  
Bill Joy is sometimes called the ~

**creation & transformation: epithet**

### edit (verb)

edit DNA  
they developed the tools to ~

edit any genome  
we can ~ (Crispr-Cas9)

**creation & transformation: verb / writing & spelling**

### edited (genes, etc.)

gene-edited  
he created the world's first ~ human babies

**creation & transformation: writing & spelling**

### editing (noun)

genome editing

the technology of ~ (Crispr-Cas9)

**creation & transformation: writing & spelling**

## effervescent (personality)

effervescent personality

her ~ has endeared her to fans (Emma Raducanu)

**character & personality: bubble / water**

## egg (put all one's eggs in a basket, etc.)

put a lot of eggs in this basket

the president has ~ (support of a country)

put all your eggs just in the DNA basket

you have to be careful not to ~ (murder investigation)

put all its eggs in one basket

North Korea ~ (keeping COVID out / no preparation)

putting all their eggs in one basket financially

they are ~ (new Navy destroyer)

♦ "I think the risk here is that we are putting all of our eggs in one basket, we're only focusing on boosting with vaccines, I think the issue is people are looking for a silver bullet, and, boosters are not a silver bullet to COVID." (Ominous reporting heard on NPR on September 6, 2022.)

♦ "Manchester City cannot put all their Champions League title hopes on Erling Haaland." (Soccer.)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: food & drink**

**commitment & determination: food & drink**

## egg (golden egg)

laid the golden egg

they will kill the golden goose that ~ (ESL soccer)

♦ "Perhaps, if he will husband his resources, and not kill, with overwork, the mental goose that has given us these golden eggs, he may one day rank among the brightest of our wits." (A favorable review of Mark Twain's first book, *The Jumping Frog and Other Stories*.)

**cost & benefit: allusion / animal / bird**

**worth & lack of worth: allusion / animal / bird**

## eggshell (noun)

eggshell of trust

it shatters the ~ (Pilots Union vs. Boeing)

**strength & weakness: animal / bird / materials & substances**

## eggshell (walking on eggshells)

walking on eggshells

for over 10 years, I spent every day ~ (domestic abuse)

I was ~ (interviewing Malala Yousafzai)

**feeling, emotion & effect: animal / bird / materials & substances**

## eight ball (behind the eight ball, etc.)

way behind the eight ball

we are ~ (Patty Murray about pandemic response)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: sports & games**

## Einstein (intelligence, or lack)

Einstein

you don't need to be ~ to know what that means (snark)

footballing Einstein

he has never been considered a ~ (a player-coach)

♦ "Yeah rest your main goal scorer in a game we need to win. Any other great ideas Einstein?" (A sarcastic commenter on a BBC HYS, about an upcoming match at the World Cup in Qatar.)

♦ "What did you think, super genius. We thought it would be funny." (Sarcasm from the silly film *I Love You, Beth Cooper* with Hayden "Hello" Panettiere.)

**knowledge & intelligence: allusion**

**language: sarcasm**

**comparison & contrast: negation**

## eject (verb)

eject the Iraqis out of Kuwait

our intention was to purely ~ and destroy... (Gulf War)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: throwing, putting & planting / verb**

## elastic (adjective)

elastic definition

this ~ (of harassment)

elastic term

the word is an ~ (for nomads and pastoralists)

**constraint & lack of constraint: materials & substances**

## elbow (force)

elbowed him out

the company ~

elbowed him aside

she ~ (politics)

elbowed aside its competitors

the company has ~

elbowed her way into the (heavily male) club

she ~ (a profession)

elbowed into the lineup

women have ~ on the North Shore (surfing)

**force: arm / verb**

## elbow (sharp elbows, etc.)

sharp elbows for President Trump

she had some ~ (political speech)

sharp-elbowed intervention

the book was a ~ in the debate between historians...

sharp elbows and a lot of self-regard

Gorsuch has somewhat ~ (the Supreme Court judge)

♦ "Thick-skinned, sharp-elbowed, ball-busting New Yorkers..." (With hearts of gold...)

**feeling, emotion & effect / character & personality: arm / gesture / sensation**

## elbow (Elbow Lake, etc.)

Elbow Lake

we visited ~ (Becker County)

Elbow Cay

we sailed to ~ (Bahamas)

Elbow Point

~ is a point in Quezon, Philippines

Devil's Elbow

the ~ trail parallels the river (Panthertown, NC)

♦ Elbow Pass contains Elbow Lake, which is the origin for the Elbow River, which flows to Calgary where it merges with the Bow River. (Alberta, Canada.)

**proper name: arm / shape**

**geography: arm / proper name / shape**

## elbow (the Elbow of the Andes, etc.)

“Elbow of the Andes”

Amboro National Park, at the ~ (Bolivia)

**epithet: arm**

**shape: epithet**

## elbow (shape)

elbows

~ can change the direction of piping

**shape: arm / direction**

## elbowed (elbowed out, etc.)

elbowed out of the ecosystem

single-property hosts are being ~ (Airbnb)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: arm**

## “El Chapo” (Asia’s El Chapo, etc.)

‘Asia’s El Chapo’

~ is set to be extradited to Australia (Tse Chi Lop)

~ extradited to Australia

♦ The drug lord Joaquin “El Chapo” Guzman is currently jailed at ADX Florence, “the Alcatraz of the Rockies.” El Chapo means “shorty.”

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## El Dorado

skier’s eldorado

the sastrugi ceased, it was a smooth sea of snow, a ~

new El Dorados

the traffickers that service them flock to the ~ (oil and gas workers)

African El Dorado

Timbuktu became this idea of an ~ (age of exploration)

dream of El Dorado

what local newspapers call “the ~” (jobs in Europe)

equivalent of “a new El Dorado”

the newspaper described the islands as the ~ (guano)

♦ “I suppose it is not very charitable of me, but I must say that to this day I feel a malicious pleasure at the many disappointments of those pertinacious searchers for El Dorado who climbed mountains, pushed through forests, swam rivers, floundered in bogs, without giving a single thought to the science of geography. / Not for them the serene joys of scientific research, but infinite toil, in hunger, thirst, sickness, battle; with broken heads, unseemly squabbles, and empty pockets in the end. I cannot help thinking it served them right. It is an ugly tale...” (“Geography and Some Explorers” by Joseph Conrad.)

♦ “Gaily bedight, / A gallant knight, / In sunshine and in shadow, / Had journeyed long, / Singing a song, / In search of Eldorado.” (“Eldorado” by Edgar Allan Poe.)

**fantasy & reality: allusion / history**

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: allusion / history**

**searching & discovery: allusion / history**

## electric (feeling)

electric

at the opening of the trial, the atmosphere was ~

electric performance

despite another ~ from Mia Hamm... (soccer)

electric quarterbacks

the game showcased a pair of ~ (NFL)

**feeling, emotion & effect: electricity**

## electricity (feeling)

electricity is

but the real ~ two iconic actresses on the same stage

‘electricity’ between two people

the ~, that special spark (lovers)

electricity in the room

tears, shouting, there was real ~ (politics)

♦ “No current passes between this Macbeth and Lady Macbeth.” (An unfavorable review of Joel Coen’s film.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: electricity**

## electrified

electrified by the rise

they were ~ of Trump

electrified and galvanised

the post ~ his supporters (President Trump)

**feeling, emotion & effect: electricity**

## electrify (verb)

electrified (many) people

she ~ (a politician at a convention)

electrified the region

Tunisia’s uprising ~ (2011)

electrified the movie world

he ~ with the *Sixth Sense* (movie director)

♦ “I wanted to be at my parents’ house when the electricity came. It was in 1940. We’d all go around flipping the switch, to make sure it hadn’t come on yet. When they finally came on the lights just barely glowed. I remember my mother smiling. When they came on full, tears started to

run down her cheeks." (A farm family that got electricity from the Rural Electrification Administration.)

♦ "I'll never forget how scared I was when Pa took me to the first [electrified and blinking] Christmas tree there in our little church. That tree just jumped at me as I went in, it was so bright and wonderful; the most beautiful thing I had ever seen in my life. When my name was called to come up for my gift it about scared me to death. Instead of going on up like the others had, I just clung to Pa's legs and wouldn't budge. Pa had to go up with me, holding on to my hand." (Alma Covel, a textile worker, interviewed in the 1930s about her childhood. From "How the Christmas Tree Got Its Lights," by Alexis Madrigal, *The Atlantic*, Dec. 24, 2010.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: electricity / verb**

## electrifying

electrifying

flamenco is ~

electrifying in victory

he was ~ (sports)

electrifying best

he was at his ~ (an athlete)

electrifying and polarizing

he has been both ~ (a union leader)

**feeling, emotion & effect: electricity**

## elegiac (adjective)

elegiac voice

the work has an ~ (*I'll Be Gone In The Dark*)

hauntingly elegiac

the chorus and the chords that made the song so ~

♦ *I'll Be Gone In The Dark* by Michelle McNamara is truly an elegy. For the victims. For the writer. For the pre-computer age when forensic science was in the Dark Ages. For policing before "Defund the police!" became a rallying cry. And for the one who was responsible.

♦ "Call me Shawn, call me Calvin, call me Bobby Lee / That bridge you crossed over is named after me..." (Western North Carolina State Troopers who died in the line of duty.)

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## elegy (noun)

elegy for those bygone days

the book is an ~

♦ "Some day, they're gonna write a blues for fighters. It'll just be for slow guitar, soft trumpet and a bell." (Sonny Liston. His biography, published in 1963, was titled *The Champ Nobody Wanted*.)

**speech: death & life**

## elephant (elephant in the room, etc.)

elephant in the pew

pornography is the ~ (Christians addicted to porn)

elephant in the room

one ~ no one wants to discuss is...

this is the ~ that nobody is talking about

the condition of these banks has been the ~ (future of EU)

that really is the ~ here... (context to political story)

there is always that ~, when you are different it is obvious

elephant in the room for all those meetings

the ~ was Russia (India-U.S.)

elephant in the room is to deal with his issue

the ~ of gender verification (trans in sports)

4ft 8in, 105lb elephant in the room

there's no point in talking around the ~ (Simone Biles / Olympics)

giant elephant (here) in this room

is there not just a ~, something we need to discuss...

real elephant in the room

the ~ here is that 60% are Black voters... (politics)

red elephant in the room

Lydia Ko names the ~ (menstruation / sports)

address the elephant in the room

let's ~ (sexual misconduct)

but before we do this, we need to ~ (murder case)

they did not ~, the filibuster... (politics)

see the elephant

nobody wants to ~

talk about the elephant in the room

are we ever going to ~

♦ "Well, I mean, the elephant in the room as well, also, is that, although... (An overstimulated BBC pundit makes an elephant disappear.)

♦ "So we're all just going to ignore the \$400B meme stock in the room? We literally had Congressional hearings over the \$30B runs of \$GME and \$AMC, but just [crickets] today." (A tweet from prominent short-seller Jim Chanos about the 21,000% rise in the price of AMTD Digital, a largely unknown Hong Kong-based fintech.)

♦ "There are elephants in rather a lot of rooms just now." (An online commenter about extreme weather, global climate change, etc.)

♦ "This year's Golden Globes MC Jerrod Carmichael wasted no time in addressing the elephant in the room." [Sound bite of Jerrod Carmichael addressing the audience: "I'm here because I'm Black" followed by laughter from the audience.] ("After 2 years of controversy, the Golden Globe Awards were back on TV," NPR, Morning Edition, Jan. 11, 2023.)

♦ "Nobody wants to address the elephant in the room but [a named NBA player] is FAT and out of shape." (An online commenter.)

**presence & absence / size: animal**

## elephant ("The Blind Men and the Elephant")

skin of the elephant

it's a little bit like touching the ~

♦ "It's a little bit like touching the skin of the elephant, and you can be accurate in the spot you touch, but you might be missing ninety-nine percent of the reality of the elephant." (Richard Haass, the head of the Council on Foreign Relations, chatting with NPR's Steve Inskeep about misinformation.)

♦ Many elderly people in the US read the beloved John Godfrey Saxe poem "The Blind Men and the Elephant" when they were children. The line I remember to this day is "...each was partly in the right, and all were in the wrong!"

♦ The Wikipedia entry is titled, "Blind men and an elephant." It links the poem to ontology.

**perception, perspective & point of view: allusion**

## elevate (verb)

elevate rap from a fad to an art form

he helped ~ (Tupac Shakur)

**achievement, recognition & praise: direction / height / verb**  
**elevated (level)**

elevated level  
~s of testosterone (sports)

elevated blood pressure  
a pregnant patient with abnormally ~

severe, high, elevated, guarded, low >  
(terror alert system)

**increase & decrease: direction / height**  
**elevation (noun)**

his elevation  
a press release announced ~ (publishing company)

**achievement, recognition & praise: direction / height**  
**elf (Elves Chamber, etc.)**

Elves Chamber  
the ~ contains calcite formations (Marvel Cave)

♦ The *curupira* is a mischievous red-haired elf who has feet that face backwards and takes delight in making tracks that lead travelers astray. (The Amazon.)

♦ "My philosophy is, you don't have to see everything you believe in because many of your greatest experiences happen with closed eyes." (A person from Iceland, about the existence of elves.)

♦ Residents of Hafnarfjörður sometimes dress up as elves. (Iceland.)

**proper name: creature**

**Ellis Island (Ellis Island of the West, etc.)**

Ellis Island of the black migration  
the Illinois Central station, the ~ to Chicago

Ellis Island of the Southwest  
El Paso is often referred to as the ~

Ellis Island of the West  
Angel Island was nicknamed the ~ (San Francisco Bay)

**comparison & contrast / migration: epithet**

**Elon Musk (epithet)**

Elon Musk, shooting-for-the-heavens  
this is a wholly ~ type thing (Andrei Doroshin)

Vietnamese Elon Musk  
maybe you could compare him to a ~ (Pham Nhat Vuong)

**creation & transformation: epithet**

**elusive (adjective)**

elusive  
the truth is ~ (crime)

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting**  
**subterfuge: hunting**

**Elvis (Afghanistan's Elvis, etc.)**

Elvis of (bad boy) chefs  
he was the ~ (Bourdain)

Afghanistan's Elvis  
they called him ~, he sang from the heart (Ahmed Zahir)

**achievement, recognition & praise: epithet**  
**emasculated (adjective)**

got emasculated by Tom Brady  
and once Bruce Arians ~, completely undercut...

♦ Atlanta mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms, in her press release announcing that she would not run for reelection as mayor, decried the possibility of Atlanta officials being "castrated on the evening news."

♦ "I circumvent the system. I *circumcise* the system." (The character Shaw from *South Side* on HBO Max.)

**attenuation: health & medicine**  
**force / strength & weakness: health & medicine**  
**emasculating (adjective)**

emasculating insult  
the term 'mama's boy' is widely viewed as an ~

♦ "Mama's boy" is a flex, not an insult." (According to Neda Ulaby, NPR Culture. Neda is a lesbian.)

**attenuation: health & medicine**  
**force / strength & weakness: health & medicine**  
**embark (embark on something)**

embark on new adventures  
it's time for me to ~ (she quits NPR)

embarks on a new chapter  
he ~ in life (David Greene leaves NPR)

embarked on a (bold) course  
he ~ intended to lead Pakistan... (Musharraf)

embarks on a (120-mile) journey  
in the winter the pronghorn antelope herd ~

embarked on a big night out  
they ~ (social)

embarked on a path  
China ~ of reform (economy)

embarked on his (morning) run  
he ~

embarked on a (hacking) spree  
he ~

embark on another  
it is better to finish one thing before you ~

♦ see also *set out (and set off)*

♦ "The inscrutable river coursed northward into the jungle, sixty-five feet wide, swift, deep, black, and silent. Goodbyes were exchanged. Roosevelt, Cherrie, and Dr. Cajazeira took their places in their canoe... (Setting off on the Duvida River in Brazil. From *Colonel Roosevelt* by Edmund Morris.)

♦ "Powell's men slid their four boats into the Green River on Monday, May 24, 1869... Powell's men...would not emerge from their own

unprecedented epic for ninety-eight days of nearly perpetual terror, hunger, cold, and wonder..." (*The Men Who United The States* by Simon Winchester.)

♦ "I received my instructions in the middle of March 1906, and on 17 May we left... It was a brilliant sunny day with a cloudless sky, although the air was heavy with moisture. Everybody was in the best of humour." (*Dersu Uzala* by V.K. Arseniev.)

♦ "Beginning is easy, continuing is hard." (A Japanese saying.)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: boat / journeys & trips / verb**

## embargo (noun)

"embargo"

the photo had an ~ or scheduled release time (publishing)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: government**

## embattled

embattled CEO

the company has replaced its ~

embattled (accounting) industry

the ~ (fraud)

embattled singer

the ~ was hounded by reporters (sex abuse)

**conflict: military**

## embed (verb)

embed DEI (more) intentionally

~ in TESOL activities (diversity, equity, and inclusion)

**attachment / identity & nature / impression / relationship: ground, terrain & land / verb**

## embedded

embedded in football

violence is ~

embedded in our lives

it's so ~ (screens, smartphones, computers, etc.)

embedded into (Colombian) culture

bullfights are ~

embedded reporter

he served as an ~ in Afghanistan

**attachment / identity & nature / impression / relationship: ground, terrain & land**

## emblem (emblem of freedom, etc.)

emblem of freedom

the bushranger became the ~ in a chained society (Oz)

**representation: sign, signal, symbol**

## emblematic (adjective)

emblematic of the city

my style was very ~ (Ray Mancini / Youngstown)

**representation: sign, signal, symbol**

## embrace (verb)

embracing who

he is ~ he is and taking control of his life

embraced the cause

he ~ (reparations for US slavery)

embrace democracy

if Palestinians ~, confront corruption and reject terror

embrace the future

a split over whether to preserve the past or ~ (Swazis)

we must ~ (trade and business issue)

embraced globalization

two nations that have ~ (Chile, Mexico)

embraced its image

the company has ~ (Starbucks)

embrace Soviet imports

the young began to ~, including vodka (Inuit)

embraced Islam

I recently ~ and this is my first Hajj

embraced it

every supervisor has ~ or paid lip service to it (change)

embrace inclusive language

~ and encourage others to do the same

embraced (for itself) the legacy

Gazprom has ~ of Peter the Great (skyscraper)

embrace reform

he urged Wall Street to ~ (Obama)

embrace risk

there is a subset of us who ~ (aviators / astronauts)

embracing the role

Alabama is ~ of the favorite (football)

he ~ of provocateur (a writer)

embracing (palliative care) specialists

more doctors are ~ as partners

embraced his (Internet) strategy

still, investors have not ~

embrace strength

Juju Chang, AANHPI women discuss how to ~

embrace (new) technology

schools are among the first to ~ (surveillance)

embrace (an uncomfortable) truth

we must ~ (US corrections)

embraces change and innovation

he ~ (a high-school principal)

embraces violence and sexuality

the show ~ (Harley Quinn)

embraced the blog world

some restaurants have ~ (instant marketing)

embrace the gift of science

we ~, which is a gift from God (Jews / reproduction)

embrace nor reject

he will neither ~ another quest for the presidency (Gore)

reluctance to embrace

America's ~ the metric system

came to embrace

I ~ multiple identities (a man from Lebanon)

♦ "No, we weren't [expecting his storm]. But he said [pointing her drink at her husband], you know what, let's just embrace it, and, um, everything will be fine." (A family from Tennessee, visiting New Orleans during tropical storm Claudette. The storm caused flooding and spawned several tornados. In Alabama, a fiery 18-vehicle crash killed 10 people, one adult and nine children.)

♦ "Embrace who you are." (A Pornhub video.)

♦ Step in / lean in and embrace it...

**acceptance & rejection / allegiance, support & betrayal / attachment / attraction & repulsion / commitment & determination / division & connection / welcome: arm / gesture / verb**

## embraced

embraced by Hollywood

he has been ~ (a writer)

embraced by the masses

that kind of message isn't going to be ~

embraced by physicians

until the 1960s, that approach was ~

embraced by (some) teenagers

surveillance is not only accepted but also ~

embraced by thrill seekers and martial-arts adepts

parkour has been ~

**acceptance & rejection / allegiance, support & betrayal / attachment / attraction & repulsion / division & connection: arm**

## embroider (verb)

embroiders the truth

he sometimes ~ (a politician)

**creation & transformation: cloth / verb**

## embryo (noun)

embryo settlements

England's ~ in North America (1600s)

embryo town

in a sketch, one sees the ~ of Hobart (1805)

**growth & development: life span / biology / birth**

## embryonic (adjective)

embryonic European Common Market

he refused to join the ~ (Churchill)

embryonic stage

I'm still a novice, in the ~ of my career (a boxer)

**growth & development: life span / biology / birth**

## emerge (verb)

emerging

a new world is ~ (nationalism)

emerged

a four-way race has ~ (election)

emerged that

it ~ she had...

new hope came this week when it ~ the U.S. offered...

emerged from the ashes

the League ~ of World War I

emerge from the (revolutionary) cauldron

many ~ to become conservatives

emerged from a turbulent childhood

he ~ emotionally brittle

emerge from the cocoon

he began to ~ of sorrow, rage and despair that had enveloped him

emerge from his brother's shadow

he was desperate to ~ (Mike Quarry)

emerged as a (top talent) incubator

the art gallery has ~ (Damascus)

emerged as a pathology

Nazism ~ of an inflation-wracked country

emerge in 2017

allegations against Weinstein began to ~

emerges early

empathy, the key emotion, ~

patterns emerge

~ (VICAP cold-cases investigations)

picture emerged

a different ~ of the risks...

portrait emerges

a Jekyll and Hyde ~ of SEAL accused of murder

**appearance & disappearance: plant / verb / water**

## emerging (adjective)

emerging artists

he had been in Singapore, to meet ~ (a curator)

Emerging Journalist

he was named "~ of the Year" (by a national association)

emerging technology

she is an expert in human behavior and ~

emerging writers

the magazine's greatest achievement was publishing ~

appearance & disappearance: plant / water

## emperor (Exmoor Emperor, etc.)

Exmoor Emperor

the giant red stag known as the ~

proper name: royalty

## emperor (power)

network and its emperor

the social ~, Mark Zuckerberg

power: history / person / government

## empire (enterprise)

empire in the Caribbean

he built a drug-trafficking ~

empire of Facebook and Twitter

the only empire of America is the ~ and social networks

family's (business) empire

his place in the ~

banana empire

the fourth biggest ~ in the world (Noboa / Ecuador)

business empire

his place in the family's ~

cocaine empire

he helped run a \$1 billion ~ (Colombia)

construction empire

his late father's ~

department store empire

Marshall Field's ~

sex abuse empire

cheerleading boss ran ~ before suicide (Scott Foster)

nationwide (freight-hauling) empire

Johnnie B. Hunt, who built a ~

gambling empire

police uncovered a ~ (video poker)

publishing empire

its vast ~

drug-trafficking empire

he built a ~ in the Caribbean

freight-hauling empire

Johnnie B. Hunt, who built a nationwide ~

criminal empire

he runs a ~ from his Italian restaurant in Queens

vast (publishing) empire

its ~

\$1 billion (cocaine) empire

he helped run a ~ (Colombia)

place in the (family's business) empire

his ~

built a (nationwide empire

Johnnie B. Hunt, who ~ (freight-hauling / trucks)

built a (drug-trafficking) empire

he ~ in the Caribbean

dismantled an empire

changes since Ferguson effectively ~ (Man U failures)

power: history

## empower (groups)

empower them to stand up for themselves

she can show other girls and women how to ~

empowered me to show my pregnant belly

she ~ (Amy Schumer about Bridget Everett)

empowered you as a woman

it just ~

empower Mexican Americans and other Latinos

~ to demand equal rights and recognition

empowers LGBTQ+ clients

'queer gym' ~, both physically and mentally

empower the (Deaf) community

she hopes her appearance can ~ (Raven Sutton)

empowered millions

she ~ (Shireen Abu Akleh / Palestinians, women, etc.)

celebrate, educate, and empower

we ~ African American/Diverse people (arts & counseling)

support, uplift, and empower

feel empowered, and ~ others as well (art)

♦ "[The ride] empowers warriors to find solace, healing, and strength through movement." (The website of the Wounded Warrior Project's Soldier Ride DC. See the Wikipedia entry "Wounded Warrior Project." Investigate charities carefully before donating.)

♦ "Our mission is to empower refugees through culinary education." (Chef Alexander Harris of Emma's Torch, in an advertisement for Amazon's virtual assistant Alexa.)

♦ "We empower those who act." (A print advertisement for CME showing women golfers.)

♦ "We empower those who act. Those who see the correlation between things above (a wave breaking) and things below the surface (a wave breaking seen from under the water). Those who navigate risk (Laird Hamilton is paddling out) with a heightened awareness of what's possible. Constant assessment, determine the best position, catch the perfect wave. (Laird surfing a wave.) CME Group. Where risk meets opportunity." (CME Group TV spot, 'Those Who Act' Featuring Laird Hamilton.)

inclusion & exclusion: affirmation / verb

## empowered (groups)

empowered to stay well and well informed

listen and become ~ (the podcast News Over Noise)

empowered by her deeds

we can all be ~ (Harriet Tubman)

empowered look

Janelle Monae's sheer dress over a bikini created an ~  
so empowered

I'm hoping when you hear it you feel ~ (Villano Antillano)  
feel 'empowered'

Taylor Swift helped her ~ to re-record album (Ashanti)  
Feel Empowered

"Student: Men Need To ~, Too" (Tell Me More, 2009)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## empowering (groups)

empowering about it  
there's something really ~ (pose of "Fearless Girl" statue)

empowering to me  
using my voice has been very ~ (an elite athlete)

inclusive and empowering  
make our language more ~ (no gender assumptions)

positive, safe and empowering  
our goal is to create a ~ space where... (Morphe cosmetics)

felt empowering  
but I did it, and it ~ (changed name after divorce)

♦ "Beyonce's illusion bodysuit by Loewe is nothing short of empowering."

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## empowerment (groups)

empowerment  
more ~, more representation (Beyond Inclusion)

Empowerment (Faculty) Award  
she won WWU's Womxn of Color ~ (Regina G. Barber)

empowerment club  
she was inspired to create an ~ (17-year-old schoolgirl)

"economic empowerment"  
~ has become the rallying cry

my own empowerment  
~, not power, but empowerment as a woman (Lady Gaga)

More than empowerment  
"~" (hype for Women's soccer)

anthem of (female and black) empowerment  
the video is an ~ (Beyonce's "Formation")

symbol of empowerment  
designers and celebrities present the body as a bold ~ (skin)

flip victimhood into empowerment  
the art exhibit is designed to ~

♦ "Empowerment" seems to mean anything from self-actualization, to "authority that is granted," to winning actual power.

♦ "I felt it was so important for someone like that to be given a voice and then to be shown that she is actually a superheroine..." (Actor Michelle Yeoh about her character in *Everything Everywhere All At Once*. From "Actor Michelle Yeoh wants to change the way we think of superheroes," NPR, Fresh Air, April 25, 2022.)

♦ "The Feminine as Armor... When I wear what I want, draping my body in a Valentino gown paired with V-logo combat boots, I am power-filled... I am a divine feminine rebel, ready for battle. Proceed with caution because this bitch is free." (A full page ad for Valentino in *The New Yorker Magazine*, April 26 & May 3, 2021. Words by Janet Mock.)

♦ "Young girls have more options now."

♦ "Why is resentment seen as empowerment?" (An online commenter.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## emptiness (depression)

emptiness  
something in me broke and I felt nothing except ~

**mental health: container**

**feeling, emotion & effect: container**

## empty (depression)

empty inside  
catching her killer won't change anything, I'm just ~

**mental health: container**

**feeling, emotion & effect: container**

## empty (empty words, etc.)

empty blockbusters  
all the ~ now filling TV screens these days

empty promise  
for laid-off workers, ~s of new jobs (US)  
she got so many powerful people to believe in an ~

empty threat  
such talk no longer passes as an ~ (school massacres)  
insiders worry they are not ~s (diplomacy)

empty words  
another meeting is over, and all that is left are ~ (U.N.)

vague or empty  
~ threats are worse than useless (school discipline)

♦ "Yeah, let's get real emotional and pass laws based on emotion rather than common sense. Trey Gowdy is an empty suit. He got rich in Congress while doing nothing." (Criticism of the politician at Breitbart.)

**speech / substance & lack of substance: air / atmosphere**

## empty-handed

empty-handed  
she departed ~  
people leave the video store ~  
Liverpool will finish this season ~ (Man City)

**attainment / possession: hand**

## encore (noun)

encore  
what would she do as an ~ (fashion designer)

encore career  
older workers embark on ~s  
many ~s build on work and life experiences

encore of a lifetime  
he was hoping for an ~ (Magic Johnson / 1992 Olympics)

enjoying an encore  
the U-2 spy plane is ~

bring them back for an encore  
we don't want to ~ (politicians)

♦ Nowadays, concertgoers may be offered a chance to choose the encore by text message, using their cellphones. Not everyone thinks this is a good idea.

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: theater  
encounter (difficulties, etc.)**

encounter bumps  
many families ~ in the road to toilet training

encounter the “honeymoon shocker”  
couples who ~ (a snoring spouse)

**fictive meeting & seeing: verb  
encounter (kill)**

catch (him) and encounter (him)  
we will ~ (police)

♦ “We will catch the rapist and murderer, and encounter him.”  
 (“Hyderabad rape suspect found dead: Is it murder or suicide?” by Geeta Pandey, BBC News, Delhi, Sept 18, 2021. This refers to extrajudicial murder by police who “encounter” a suspect.)

**death & life / oppression: euphemism / verb  
encouraging (adjective)**

certainly encouraging  
the data are ~

**fictive communication: speech**

**encrustation (affliction)**

encrustations of (unflattering and beatifying) hearsay  
trying to excavate Thoreau from beneath the ~

♦ see also *barnacle*

**affliction / attachment: animal / boat / burden / sea**

**encrusted**

myth-encrusted  
Scott, the ~ Englishman (Robert Falcon Scott)

myth-encrusted version  
that ~ of history (that newspaper brought down Nixon)

**attachment / configuration / cover: materials & substances**

**encyclopedia (amount)**

encyclopedia of sins  
Europe has blamed the Jews for an ~ (Jeffrey Goldberg)

**amount: books & reading**

**encyclopedia (knowledge)**

encyclopedia of knowledge  
he was remembered as the resident ~ (cooking school)

encyclopedia of (cheating) tips

he is an ~

veritable encyclopedia  
he is a ~ of musical knowledge (Vic Galloway)

walking encyclopedia  
he was a ~ of rhythms (a drummer)  
he is a ~ on the history of rock and roll

**knowledge & intelligence: books & reading  
encyclopedic (adjective)**

encyclopedic in breadth  
the book is ~

encyclopedic knowledge  
he had an ~ of theater songs (composer)  
she has an ~ of criminal law  
he had an ~ of Asian culture (Lockwood Kipling)

encyclopedic museum  
~s have huge, permanent collections

**comparison & contrast: affix**

**extent & scope / knowledge & intelligence: books & reading  
end (go off the deep end)**

go off the deep end  
she might ~ (sex)

went off the deep end  
she ~

**restraint & lack of restraint: verb / water**

**behavior: verb / water**

**end (deep end)**

deep end  
she was thrown in the ~

push us off the deep end  
they ~ (a non-academic Norwegian boarding school)

**absorption & immersion / involvement: depth / water**

**end (no end in sight, etc.)**

end is in sight  
luckily, the ~ (end to pandemic quarantine)

no end in sight  
there is ~

no ‘end’ in sight of NFL wokeness  
~ (End Racism message)

no end in sight for the (government) shutdown  
there is ~

**future / time: distance / eye / journeys & trips  
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion / starting, going,  
continuing & ending: distance / eye / journeys & trips**

**end (the end)**

the end of it  
but that was not ~ (a religious affair)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: orientation**

## **end (come to an end, etc.)**

came to an end

my career ~ for a while (drug problem)

come to an end

it's been a good run, but it's ~ (Blog of the Nation)

coming to an end

is the nightmare finally ~ (politics)

bring the drama to an end

~ (mine rescue)

**curtailment / starting, going, continuing & ending: movement**

## **ended (his life was ended, etc.)**

ended

he would have been somebody if his life wasn't ~

♦ "He would have been somebody if his life wasn't ended." (The young man was murdered.)

**death & life: euphemism**

## **endemic (adjective)**

endemic in the NFL

race is ~ (lawsuit)

endemic in the start-up world

NDA's are ~ (secrecy)

endemic (drug) violence and corruption

he condemned the country's ~

♦ "Interesting the use of the word 'endemic' in this article. There's still debate as to whether COVID can be eradicated. But apparently we are past the point where that might've been possible for these spying pixels. Marketing people and their nefarious techniques are, it seems, harder than a virus." (The online commenter "ubercurmudgeon" about a BBC article on spying pixels.)

♦ "In three states—Vermont, Maine and New Hampshire—case numbers increased so much that the CDC says babesiosis should be considered endemic."

**presence & absence: biology / ground, terrain & land**

## **endgame (noun)**

end game

what's the ~ (Operation Iraqi Freedom)

endgame

could he get to the Sudan in time to see the ~ (Mahdi)

endgame to our involvement

an ~ in Afghanistan

endgame (to our involvement) in Afghanistan

an ~

uncertain endgame

Iran is a factor in the ~ in Afghanistan (diplomacy)

**starting, going, continuing & ending / strategy: chess**

## **end run (noun)**

end round around the Vacancies Act

this seems to be an ~ (politics)

end run around the union

union leaders have denounced the plan as an ~

end run around the public's wishes

liberals are pursuing ~ (politics)

regulatory end run

a ~ around the FDA (Theranos)

try an end run

they plan to ~ to prove their theory (virology)

**avoidance & separation: football / movement / sports & games / walking, running & jumping**

## **enemy (conflict)**

enemy

I felt like time was my ~ (child stranger abduction)

the *Fitzgerald* was now at war, the ~ the sea (sinking)

Democrats welcome change, not as an ~ but as an ally

we must stand like in wartime, except now the ~ is a virus

nature is not an ~ to be conquered (Norwegian explorers)

uncertainty is the ~ (attempts to get hostage released)

enemies of action

politeness and diplomacy are often the ~

enemy of business

instability and uncertainty are the ~

enemy of the good

don't let the perfect be the ~

enemy of warmth

sweating is the ~ (the Arctic)

enemy number one

~ is the sun (skin cancer)

number one enemy

time is the ~ during active shooter response

hidden enemy

landmines, the ~

sworn enemy

Levi was a ~ of denial in all its forms (Primo Levi)

dangerous enemy

sweating is a ~ (Arctic clothing)

formidable enemy

time is always the most ~ in an epidemic

mortal enemy

unlawful command influence is the ~ of military justice

old enemy

influenza is an ~, one that comes every year

shifty enemy

we're dealing with a really ~ (Omicron virus strain)

strongest enemy

overconfidence was his ~ (Francois Botha vs. Tyson)

invisible, horrible enemy

defending our nation from this ~ (COVID-19)

invisible sneaky enemy

it's microscopic, fast and mysterious, an ~ (virus)

♦ "As I always say, don't let profound be the enemy of interesting." / "Hold on while I call the Nobel Prize Committee." (The last panel of a great Non Sequitur cartoon by Wiley Miller, June 20, 2021.)

♦ "The enemy stands 602 feet tall and weighs 15 million tons." (Shasta Dam versus the Winnemen Wintu group, which is opposed to making the dam higher.)

♦ "It's microscopic, fast and mysterious, an invisible sneaky enemy. (Saudi journalist Maha Akeel, writing about COVID-19.)

♦ "We are fighting malaria as we are fighting the Maoist rebels. The mosquitoes are deadlier than the Maoists since we are more vulnerable to their attacks. Mosquitoes are killing more security forces than the rebels." (Akhileshwar Pandey, president of the Jharkhand police association, on the deaths of more than 100 policemen and soldiers from cerebral malaria. The police and paramilitary forces are stationed in forest camps.)

♦ "The enemy of my enemy is my friend."

♦ "Keep your friends close, and your enemies closer."

♦ "An enemy will agree, but a friend will argue."

♦ "One hundred friends are too few; one enemy is too many."

♦ see also *friend* (noun)

**conflict: military / person**

**relationship: person**

**person: military**

## engine (engine room)

engine room of growth for the industry

streaming is the ~ (Spotify, etc. / music)

engine rooms of a government

he takes us into the ~ under attack by its own leaders

in their 'engine room'

they have race winners ~ (Team Ineos / Sky)

♦ "But the most extraordinary thing about Machinery Hall was the great motor that powered everything else. The Grand Central Engine, sometimes simply called the Centennial Steam Engine, was the largest engine in the world... Constructed by the brilliant American engineer George Corliss, it supplied free steam power to the more than eight thousand smaller machines on display throughout the hall. / Visitors from other countries were enchanted by the technological prowess marshaled in Machinery Hall...The *Times of London* gushed, 'The American invents as the Greek sculpted and the Italian painted: it is genius.'" (The 1876 Philadelphia World's Fair. From *In the Kingdom of Ice: The Grand and Terrible Polar Voyage of the USS Jeannette* by Hampton Sides.)

**driving force: engine**

## engine (person)

better engine

he's probably got a ~ because he's a smaller frame (boxer)

great engine

he was quick, he's got a ~, he could run all day

ridiculous engine

Del Boy's got this ~ now, he's fitter, slimmer, smarter

♦ "He was quick, he's got a great engine, he could run all day." (The young footballer Jamie Vardy.)

♦ He had a non-stop motor, no-quit attitude, and willingness to... (A football player.)

♦ "If Usyk keeps a high pace and makes Joshua miss with a lot of shots, that will work to Usyk's advantage as he has probably got a better engine." (Former world champion George Groves, about Oleksandr Usyk vs. Anthony Joshua.)

**driving force: engine**

## engine (driving force)

engine

he was the ~ that helped Pittsburgh's offense go (NFL)

engine of growth

Punjab is the ~ for Pakistan

engine of prosperity

Harlem could be an ~

engine of (upward) mobility

education was the most reliable ~ (blacks)

engine for prosperity

the US economy is a fantastic ~

economic engine

biotechnology could be the state's new ~

economic and industrial engine

Lombardy is Italy's ~

**driving force: engine**

## engineered

engineered by the ETA

the explosion was ~ (terrorism)

**creation & transformation: infrastructure**

## engineering (noun)

social engineering

Radio 2 became committed to ~ (BBC)

**creation & transformation: infrastructure**

## engraved (impression)

engraved in my heart

your faces are ~

**impression: mark / tools & technology**

## enmeshed

enmeshed in corruption

he is ~

**involvement: movement / rope**

**situation: rope**

## enomics (and nomics)

Cold-o-nomics

"~" by Stacey Vanek Smith, Cardiff Garcia

DACA-nomics

~ (NPR / Latino USA)

## Gastro-Nomics

"~: Hunting for A Good Meal..." (Selena Simmons-Duffin)

## Pandemoc-onomics

"~: Lessons From the Spanish Flu" (Planet Money)

## Truss-enomics

and now ~ lies in tatters (U.K.)

♦ "Roben Farzad host of Public Radio's 'Full Disclosure' joins *Here & Now's* Celeste Headlee to talk all things tip-onomics. This article was originally published on [WBUR.org](http://WBUR.org)..." ("Tip-flation sees some restaurants asking for 30% tips," NPR, *Here & Now*, August 23, 2022. When NPR gets onto a cliché, they use it to death.)

♦ See "Meanings of -nomics in English: From Nixonomics to coronanomics" by Gordana Lalic-Kristin (Gordana Lalić-Kristin), Nadezda Silaski (Nadežda Silažki), and Tatjana Durovic (Tatjana Đurović). Its subtitle is "How -nomics has extended its original meaning to additional senses." It's a perfect paper, available online.)

language: affix

## enormously (exciting, etc.)

enormously emotional

it was ~ (the ending of a great film)

enormously exciting

it was ~ because we were finding things... (fossils)

enormously worrying

it is ~ (nuclear powerplant in war zone)

enormously distressed

we are ~ by the news and our thoughts and prayers...

surprised me enormously

it ~

♦ see also *big* (*big love, etc.*), *great* (*great hatred, etc.*), *huge* (*huge gratitude, etc.*)

feeling, emotion & effect: size

## enrich (verb)

enrich education

different perspectives, stories, and experiences ~

increase & decrease / worth & lack of worth: money / verb

## enshrine (verb)

enshrines (beach) access for all

the act ~ (California)

enshrine (very particular) ideologies

rankings ~ (of colleges, etc.)

enshrines free speech

the US ~ in its constitution

reverence: religion / verb

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion / verb

## enshrined

enshrined in the Constitution

a common misperception is that this principle is ~

enshrined in the first amendment

the right to freedom of speech is ~ of the US constitution

enshrined in law

the right to maternity leave is now ~ (Switzerland)

enshrined in textbooks

false claims have been ~ (medicine)

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion

reverence: religion

## ensnare (verb)

ensnared a former ambassador

the expanding investigation has ~ (FARA violations)

ensnared dozens of executives

the scandal has ~

ensnared scores of investors

his scam lasted for years and ~

ensnared them

their own greed ~

involvement / situation: hunting / rope / verb

danger / pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / rope / verb

## ensnared

ensnared in the downturn

Seattle has been ~ (economy)

ensnared in the inquiry

he has been ~ (politics)

ensnared in a (public-relations) nightmare

he wound up ~

ensnared in legal proceedings

he spent a huge amount of time ~

ensnared in the scandal

he was ~ (a lobbyist)

ensnared in a love triangle

she was ~

ensnared by blood feuds

thousands of innocents have been ~ (Albania)

ensnared by a traffic jam

I was ~ on my way to work

ensnared by the investigation

he is the most prominent executive to be ~

ensnared by a (bizarre online extortion) plot

he was ~ (catfished)

became ensnared

he ~ in a tax inquiry

got ensnared

she ~ by fast food at the age of six (McDonald's)

found himself ensnared

he has ~ in allegations of corruption

involvement / situation: hunting / rope

pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / rope

## ensnarled (involvement)

ensnarled in the (developing racial) unrest  
Lutheran authorities worried Graetz might become ~

**involvement / situation: rope**

## entangled (involvement)

entangled in history  
to live in Moscow is to be ~

entangled in the probe  
another associate of the President has become ~

entangled in the Syrian War  
he became ~ (James Le Mesurier)

**involvement / situation: movement / rope**

## enthralled

enthralled by media coverage  
the public was ~ (a murder case and trial)

kept Mr Nikai enthralled  
it is China's economic power that has ~ (Japan)

**feeling, emotion & effect: magic**

## enthraling (adjective)

enthraling bout  
the ~ ended in a draw (boxing)

**feeling, emotion & effect: magic**

## entranced

entranced by one player  
lots of people are ~ in particular (Zion Williamson)

**feeling, emotion & effect: magic**

## entrancing (adjective)

entrancing  
it was ~ (a video of the Mongol Derby)

**feeling, emotion & effect: magic**

## entrenched

entrenched in Atlanta  
Mexican drug traffickers are firmly ~

entrenched in Uganda  
anti-gay feeling is ~

entrenched on opposite sides  
Democrats and Republicans are ~ of the issue (abortion)

entrenched attitudes  
~ still make it difficult to report rape (Mexico)

entrenched bureaucracy  
the VA is an ~

entrenched insider  
he is a Washington outsider facing down ~s

entrenched interests  
powerful ~ will thwart him

entrenched leader  
the protests have toppled ~s in Egypt and Tunisia

entrenched practice  
she is seeking asylum from Guinea's ~ of FGM

entrenched problems  
the next police superintendent will have to take on ~

entrenched or sedimented  
deeply ~ expectations of gendered existence (feminism)

culturally entrenched  
child-rearing traditions are ~ (diapers, etc.)

deeply entrenched  
lighting fireworks to celebrate is a ~ custom (Peru)

firmly entrenched  
Mexican drug traffickers are ~ in Atlanta  
the videos appear to be ~ in the blogosphere

well entrenched  
Wal-Mart's reputation is ~

even more entrenched  
denial is becoming ~ (in politics)

become (deeply) entrenched  
conspiracy thinking has ~ in American society

**protection & lack of protection / resistance, opposition & defeat / survival, persistence & endurance: fortification / ground, terrain & land / military**

## entwined

entwined in our lives  
our devices are so ~ (smart phones, screens, computers, etc.)

became entwined  
the moment when the lives of two strangers ~ (photo)

**involvement: cloth / rope**

**attachment / division & connection: cloth / rope**

**relationship: cloth / rope**

## envelope (push the envelope)

push the envelope  
trendsetters ~ (eco-friendly motels)  
entertainment continues to ~ (sex and kids)

pushed the envelope  
the company has always ~ (oil drilling)

pushing the envelope  
he was always ~, looking for a good time

pushing the envelope  
he was always ~, looking for a good time

pushes the envelope on safety  
the race often ~ (Giro d'Italia death in 2011)

push the envelope on what

they are trying to ~ is possible... (Google)

♦ This expression seems to have originated with test pilots and flying.

**restraint & lack of restraint: allusion / plane / verb**

**constraint & lack of constraint: allusion / plane / verb**

## **envision (envision the future, etc.)**

envisioned the end

it was not how he ~ of his character (TV show)

**consciousness & awareness: eye / verb**

**future / time: eye / verb**

## **envy (self-promotion envy, etc.)**

Christmas envy

a lot of us have ~ (comic Jack Black)

insurrectionist envy

democrats have “~” of the Capitol riot (Michael Moore)

lottery envy

~ in the 5 states... (Powerball)

Marvel envy

“~” and “shared universes” (the *Hollywood Reporter*)

self-promotion-envy

that can trigger a ~ spiral (someone’s Facebook page)

Tea Party envy

why liberals have ~ (NPR / politics)

*Spiritual Envy*

~: *An Agnostic’s Quest* (a book by Michael Krasny)

♦ “You’ll find yourself envy-surfing Zillow listings on your phone while you watch.” (Glen Weldon, NPR, Pop Culture Happy Hour, about *The Adam Project*.)

♦ “Powerball’s \$1.5 billion jackpot is driving lottery envy in the 5 states where people can’t buy tickets” by Kim Chandler, Mark Thiessen and The Associated Press, November 4, 2022.)

**mental health / wants, needs, hopes & goals: society**

## **epic (noun)**

epic

to a climber, “~” means “near total disaster”

epic battle

their ~s for championship crowns (sports)

hooked makos diving into boats during ~s with anglers

their ~ Saturday night (Micky Ward vs. Arturo Gatti)

epic bout

wondering if an ~ was in store (boxing)

epic breakout

Jimmy Fastenrath was at the Marines’ ~ from Chosin

(Korean War)

epic chronicle

Robert Caro’s ~ of the life and times of Lyndon Johnson

epic confrontation

the expedition was not supposed to be an ~ with death

Epic Conquest

“East of the Sun, the ~ and Tragic History of Siberia”

epic day

this was an ~ (satisfied motorcyclist)

tales of an ~ at Waimea Bay (surfing)

epic fail

her ~ is still a raw nerve among Democrats (Hillary)

epic failure

he stands at the precipice of ~ (politician)

epic game

its ~ against the Soviets (hockey)

Syracuse won an ~ (6 overtimes)

epic party

remembering swells and ~s (surfing milieu)

epic proportions

it was a catastrophe of ~ (1928 St. Francis Dam fail)

epic rivalry

Muhammad Ali’s ~ with Joe Frazier (boxers)

epic scale

the ~, and epic inefficiency, of its coal economy

both of them liked to do things on an ~ (government)

epic (playoff) series

O’Neal wouldn’t allow this ~ to end early (NBA)

epic terms

Mendes saw the material in larger, ~ (comic books)

epic (surf) wave

an ~ had formed over Brookmont Dam (kayaking)

Everest epic

accounts of the 1963 ~ resonated loud and long

gangster epic

this grandly stylized ~ (John Woo / A better Tomorrow)

**superlative: Iliad & Odyssey**

## **epicenter (noun)**

epicenter of that battle

Birmingham became the ~ (for civil rights)

epicenter of the disease

in Nigeria, the ~ in Africa (polio)

epicenter of the (new) disease

New York City, the ~ (AIDS)

epicenter of the epidemic

Gorakhpur, the ~ (Japanese encephalitis)

epicenter of youth culture

the ~ (Shimokitazawa in Tokyo)

riot’s epicenter

South-Central, the ~ (LA)

global epicenter

Vegas is boxing’s ~

♦ "I'm inside the corridors of the Papa Giovanni XXIII Hospital. And it was really the epicenter of the epicenter, absolutely overwhelmed in the first wave, the scenes that woke the West up to what was in store for them... The mental scars still run very deep... and will take a generation to fade." (BBC Correspondent Mark Lowen in Bergamo, Dec. 23, 2020.)

**location / place: earthquake**

**center & periphery: earthquake**

## epidemic (noun)

epidemic

amid that ~, one single infection was fateful (NotPetya)  
this is an ~ we can control (school shootings)

epidemic of crack

the neighborhood is recovering from an ~

epidemic of fear

an ~ has spread over about 130 villages (black magic)

epidemic of piracy

there has been an ~ off the coast of Somalia

epidemic of violence

an ~ which is rapidly spreading  
there's an ~ that is sickening the soul of this nation

epidemic proportions

underage drinking has reached ~

NFL's (domestic violence) epidemic

study and rectify the ~ (players beat their partners)

crack epidemic

the nineteen-eighties issued in the ~

cheating epidemic

some blame schools for the ~  
this ~ and the 'essay mills' who profit from it

hidden epidemic

sex trafficking is a ~ (US)

silent epidemic

the ~ of America's problem with guns (suicide)

stem the epidemic

we have done nothing to ~ of violence

verge on an epidemic

mental health problems that ~ (colleges)

♦ Epidemics follow war.

♦ Endemic, epidemic, pandemic...

♦ "Murderous epidemics were routine in the lightly sanitized, pre-antibiotic world."

♦ "No one knows how many thousands of Comanches died in the cholera epidemic of 1849."

♦ "Typhoid is epidemic along the entire Susquehanna Valley, lasting the year round. / Dr. Edson describes the streets as still reeking with filth, and says that disinfectants are still apparently unknown to the majority of the people there." ("The Plague At Plymouth," *The New York Times*, May 17, 1885.)

♦ "New York City had seen its share of epidemic disease. From the Dutch settlement forward, infectious outbreaks were a common part of daily life." (*Bellevue: Three Centuries of Medicine and Mayhem at America's Most Storied Hospital* by David Oshinsky.)

♦ "Most of the adult male leaders in Samoa died during the 1918 epidemic."

**affliction / amount & effect / extent & scope: health & medicine**

## epitaph (noun)

epitaph for his campaign

the ~ may be that... (losing politician)

**destruction: burial / death & life**

## equality (groups)

equality and freedom

ensuring America lives up to its foundational values of ~

Animal Equality

the animal rights group ~

his ~ colleagues in Germany, Italy, Mexico, Spain and...

gender equality

she has pushed for ~

marriage equality

we should reconsider ~ (gay marriage / SCOTUS)

justice and equality

she was a champion of ~ (RBG)

unity and equality

his message of ~ (Martin Luther King, Jr.)

visibility, representation and equality

thanks to increases in ~, more LGBTQ folks can come out

steps towards equality

we have made some toddler ~, and then we fall back

equality matters

~ (BBC)

made equality a diagnosis

it has ~ for America's ills (the Democratic Party)

prevent equality

the sports argument is the latest salvo to ~ (trans)

talk about equality

we're still in a place where we have to ~ (female sport)

♦ "The law, in its majestic equality, forbids rich and poor alike to sleep under bridges, to beg in the streets, and to steal their bread. This equality is one of the benefits of the Revolution." (Anatole France, *The Red Lily*.)

♦ "With protests unfolding almost daily throughout the country, one hopes this isn't just rinse and repeat—lament the dead, demand justice, another cop kills another unarmed Black person, and so on." ("Pharoah Monch, Styles P Call Fight For Equality 'Same S\*\*\*, Different Toilet'" by Marcus J. Moore, NPR Music, June 5, 2020.)

♦ "Freedom, equality, justice and the pursuit of happiness." (The U.S.)

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## equate (verb)

equates not getting the COVID shot to drunk driving

he ~ (a politician)

**comparison & contrast: number / verb**

## equation (noun)

changed the equation  
the added sanctions don't seem to have ~ (diplomacy)

**strategy: number**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: number**

## equilibrium (noun)

equilibrium between mankind and nature  
how to restore ~

emotional equilibrium  
trolls try to disrupt your ~ (Internet)

mental equilibrium  
she works hard to maintain her ~ (video celebrity)

equilibrium returns  
when you peel off from the herd, your ~ (a politician)

achieve equilibrium  
the goal is to ~ (diplomacy)

maintain some equilibrium  
the dramas teach you to think and ~ (gentle parenting)

reached an equilibrium  
eventually they ~ (dose and side effects)

regain emotional equilibrium  
songs about trying to ~

**equilibrium & stability: scale**

## equity (groups)

equity  
~ is the product of an invisible legal revolution

equity in the entertainment industry  
in a report on ~, McKinsey & Company notes that...

equity activists  
the Democratic Party and its ~

Equity Affairs  
the Office of ~ (Wake County public-school system)

equity issue  
shade is an ~ (Mayor Eric Garcetti of LA / trees)  
moving the SAT online is not going to eliminate ~s  
transgender health care is an ~, not a political one

equity-themed  
a session at an ~ teachers' conference

equity and inclusion  
the culture of ~ at Georgetown Law

heat equity  
~ reduces the inequitable distribution of risk  
~ is an environmental justice issue  
~ is the right to have thermally safe environments

Period Equity  
Rutgers University has a ~ Project (menstruators)

tree equity  
American Forests has championed “~”  
American Forests has piloted a ~ score (U.S. cities)

environmental equity  
climate justice and ~

racial equity  
everything has a ~ component to it (White House)  
a \$1B pilot project to build ~ in America's roads

thermal equity  
~ includes heat and cold (vs. heat equity)

broadband and digital equity  
the director of ~ (Baltimore)

diversity, equity, and inclusion  
embed ~ (DEI) intentionally in TESOL activities

♦ Equity is “removing the predictability of success or failures that currently correlates with any social or cultural factor.” (National Equity Project.)

♦ According to the American Forests' website, “But a map of tree cover in America's cities is too often a map of income and race. That's because, due to decades of redlining and other discriminatory policies, trees are often sparse in neighborhoods with more low-income families and people of color.”

♦ “I really think about “sleep equity” as an access issue. What we find in society is that caregiving roles or shift work—working when your body would rather be sleeping—disproportionately falls on people of color, Black people, other people of color.” (Lauren Whitehouse, an assistant professor of psychology and cognitive neuroscience at the University of Kentucky. From “More than a third of U.S. adults don't get enough sleep. Here's how to get the rest we need,” Sacha Pfeiffer, NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, Jan. 16, 2022.)

♦ Access (lack of access, etc.); disparity (racial disparities in education, etc.); disproportionate (number of African-Americans, etc.); disproportionately (burdening, affects women, etc.); gap (gap between whites and blacks); inequity; parity; rates (suffer from higher rates); systemic; systematic; underserved (underserved communities, historically underserved)... (Words and phrases that typically occur with equity...)

♦ “Equity is everywhere. The Biden White House even has something called the Office of Climate Change and Health Equity.” (“The Inequality of ‘Equity,’” by Christopher Caldwell, *National Review*, May 17, 2021.)

♦ “I care a lot about period poverty.” (Syria Chippalthurty, 17, from Houston. “Period poverty” refers to the lack of access to menstrual products and education.)

♦ “so there are more stories, validation about 43 year old women having consensual sex with 15 and 17 year old men—gender is the point—than 43 year old men having unconsensual sex with...anyone under the age of 18?” (An online commenter, about a woman who had sex with boys.)

♦ “The Nobels Overwhelmingly Go to Men—This Year's Prize For Medicine Was No Exception,” NPR, by Nell Greenfieldboyce and Madeline K. Sofia.)

♦ “Few Black men become school psychologists. Why that matters.” (NPR.)

♦ “Orchestras have traditionally been a pretty white space.” (Diversity, equity and inclusion / DEI.)

♦ “Anthony Tommasini, formerly the *New York Times*'s chief classical-music critic, has proposed that orchestras stop ‘blind auditions’. He hopes that making visible the race of musicians applying for jobs will increase the number of non-white performers, but this would mean, as he acknowledged, ending a practice that from the 1970s helped raise the number of women in orchestras.” (“Classical music: Airs and Graces,” *The Economist*, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022.)

♦ “Tennis being a predominantly white sport...” (Coco Gauff speaking about Serena Williams. Both are Black professional tennis players.)

♦ “We need [a woman in Formula 1], we need diversity. (Caitlyn Jenner.)

- ♦ “Why are there no openly gay male MMA fighters?” (BBC.)
- ♦ “Who is the outdoors for, who gets to enjoy these wild places.” (PBS / America Outdoors. This follows on tropes like “Birding while Black” and “there is a lack of representation of Black people in mountaineering and in high-altitude mountaineering,” etc.)
- ♦ “Lor Sabourin became the first non-binary climber to send 5.14 trad with *East Coast Fist Bump* in Sedona, Arizona.”
- ♦ “San Francisco’s Latinos disproportionately affected by monkeypox.” (NBC Latino.)
- ♦ “We have increasing social disparities.” (STDs / public health.)
- ♦ “If the girl pop stars like Britney and Christina, if they can be sexual and flaunt their sexuality around I don’t see why I can’t either.” (Singer Ari Gold, 2007.)
- ♦ “Initiatives to *reduce disadvantage* [italics mine] among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.”
- ♦ “[Francoise] Brouger says we will know we have equity ‘when we see mediocre women getting through the executive ranks, because I can tell you there are a ton of mediocre men.’” (“Pinterest paid its most senior woman \$22.5M for gender discrimination. There’s a lot more to the story” by Janice Min, *Time Magazine*, April 12 / April 19, 2021.)
- ♦ “I don’t want to hear one more peep out of them about diversity, equity, and inclusion. I don’t wanna see any more of our C-suite execs recommend books for women’s history month. There were tangible actions they could’ve taken and they chose to perform these values. No thank you.” (An underpaid employee with an Asian name who was repeatedly turned down for a raise. She finally applied for her job as a new hire at a higher salary, and her posts went viral.)
- ♦ “If we’re rolling our eyes at African-Americans, then we should be rolling our eyes at everyone else.” (Amani Nuru-Jeter.)
- ♦ “The myth that Black and brown are moving together in equity.” (Los Angeles politics.)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

**equivalent (noun)**

- equivalent of Area 51  
this could be China’s ~ (airfield in Lop Nur area)
- equivalent of “a new El Dorado”  
the newspaper described the islands as the ~ (guano)
- equivalent of “mechanical doping”  
the shoes are the ~ (Nike shoes at Tokyo Olympics)
- equivalent of a conscientious objector  
he views himself as the ~ (refuses to get vaccinated)
- equivalent of the full-court press  
a decoy deadline is the productivity ~ (deadlines)
- equivalent to a slap on the wrist  
this is the ~
- food equivalent  
it’s the ~ of the “Mona Lisa” (Jiro’s in Japan)
- mental health equivalent  
advocates envision 988 as the ~ to 911
- software equivalent  
it’s the ~ of cancer (code to unlock iPhone)
- Twitter equivalent  
Benet gave Justice the ~ of a fist-bump (bro-ing up)
- French equivalent  
she won a Cesar, the ~ of an Oscar (Kristen Stewart)

legal equivalent  
the case is the ~ to nails on a chalkboard (problems)

literary equivalent  
it is the ~ of potato chips (a VERY interesting book)

political equivalent  
this was the ~ of capital punishment (calls for resignation)  
it was the ~ of a food fight (presidential debate)

♦ “By using sports terms, one could say the atmosphere has been exposed to doping, which means we have begun observing extremes more often than before.” (Petteri Taalas, Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization.)

**comparison & contrast: number**

**era (time)**

era of judging  
the ~ 4-year-olds is over (educational testing)

vaccine era  
back in December and January in the beginning of the ~

waterbed era  
he was hired right in the beginning of the ~ (cold case)

four-belt era  
Scotland’s first undisputed world champion in the ~

bygone era  
in modern-day America, there is no such thing as a ~

golden era  
the ~ of whaling, from about 1820 to 1860  
the ~ of boxing was the 80s and 90s (20th century)

change of era  
it was a ~ in tennis (Federer beats Sampras in 2001)

end of an era  
is it the ~ for James (the great NBA player LeBron James)

♦ “This era is bereft of talent. Last good HW era finished at Holyfield & Lewis. It’s been crap ever since.” (A boxing fan.)

**time: history**

**erase (groups, etc.)**

erased women as public beings  
laws that ~ (Afghanistan)

erase our existence  
they are trying to ~ and make us invisible (LGBTQ)

erase the legacy  
they seek to ~ of discrimination and lived experiences

erase the past  
they are desperately trying to ~ and we won’t stand for it

erase his past  
he would like to ~ (a gang member)

erase us and our families  
they are trying to ~ (Don’t Say Gay Bill)

cancel or erases  
I want to assure people this in no way ~ history

dehumanise and erase

stories ~ the multiplicity of black people's existence

obscure or even erase

teaching online will ~ my presence (a black female)

♦ "There are so many anti-LGBTQ attacks going on around the country and a lot of them are really about trying to erase our existence and to make us invisible, and to make our young people invisible and our elders invisible." (Michael Adams, CEO of SAGE.)

♦ "They tried hard to erase me, I mean erase my name, erase my position, erase my songs, erase my face, erase the memory of me, but they couldn't." ("Iranian Singer Googoosh Raises Her Voice To Keep Her Nation's Culture Alive," NPR, All Things Considered, Sept 29, 2021.)

♦ "I felt like books were almost in some passive way, judging me for being who I was, simply by erasing me from the idea, like from the canon in and of itself, right? If I'm not shown or if I don't exist in a story, then that means that somebody doesn't find my life valuable enough to talk about, right? So why would I engage in something that's not engaging with me?" (Jason Reynolds, National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, an award which is presented bi-annually by the Library of Congress.)

♦ "Hey my sweet sister. Let's please not allow this business to erase our talent with giving grey areas and technicalities. Take a moment and know the history. DON'T BE A PART OF ERASING IT. I wish you the best. (Mo'Nique Worldwide responding to a tweet by Rebel Wilson.)

♦ "Petrovsky-Shtern told me, 'From a purely historical standpoint, there is no comparison' between the Holocaust and the Russian invasion of Ukraine... But, he added, 'from the point of view of rhetoric, the comparison makes sense. [Zelensky] is saying, They are coming to erase us.'" ("The Memorial: A Holocaust atrocity was about to be commemorated. Then came another war" by Masha Gessen, *The New Yorker*, April 18, 2022.)

## **inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence / verb erased (groups, etc.)**

erased

so much history about queer life has been ~ (POC)

erased from public discourse

this moment in history has been all but ~

erased from Kansas

we've been virtually ~ and are invisible (Kaw Nation)

erased from American teaching

knowing your history has essentially been ~...

erased and invisible

being ~ from conversations (non-binary gestation parent)

particularly erased

older women are ~ (TV & films / Geena Davis Institute)

lost or erased

the rediscovery of ~ black cemeteries raises many issues

♦ "We refuse to be invisible, we refuse to be erased. (A Pride parade.)

♦ We're not going anywhere; we're here to stay; we're in your face; we're present and not absent; you will not erase us...

♦ "Oftentimes we don't use the word *lost* or *abandoned*, we are really saying *erased*, physically erased from the landscape for other purposes." (Antoinette Jackson, Chair of the Anthropology Department at the University of South Florida, about a Black cemetery. From "Thank God you found me": Florida officials unearth a fourth forgotten Black cemetery," NPR, All Things Considered, Dec 20, 2021.)

♦ "Knowing your history has essentially been erased from American teaching, how do you preserve your history and culture?" (Sommer Hill interviews Devin Mellor, "Faces of NPR: Devin Mellor," Dec. 1, 2021.)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## **erasure (groups, etc.)**

*Erasure of Black Girls' Childhood*

*Girlhood Interrupted: The ~* (a book by Jamilia Blake)

erasure of my existence

I hear that call as a complete ~ (Dahlia Belle, Black trans)

society's erasure

Frustrated by ~, the Lesbian Avengers fought back (NPR)

self-erasure

~ and self-display (eating disorders)

black erasure

the term ~ is real and not an exaggeration (Questlove)

I want to make sure that ~ doesn't happen (Questlove)

black equestrian erasure

the history of ~

Black and LGBTQ erasure

students are resisting ~ in the whitest county in California

bi-erasure

there is a lot of bi-phobia and ~ that exists in society

cultural erasure

Bilozaze was as immersed as ever in that history of ~

art to help people survive genocide and ~ (native women)

all the racial implications inherent in ~ (music)

~, or broke conventions of genre, gender and identity...

mass detention, forced labor and ~

purposeful erasure

the data isn't there because they don't collect it, this is ~

♦ "We have 100+ statues and portraits in the Capitol. Almost all of them are of white men. The erasure of women & BIPOC from American history is a feature of white supremacy." (A tweet attributed to Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez by *The New York Post*.)

♦ "For many years, when our tribal leadership would go to them and push for resources and highlight this issue, they'd say, 'but where's your data?' But we know the data isn't there because they're not collecting it. This is purposeful erasure." (Abigail Echo-Hawk, director of the Urban Indian Health Institute.)

♦ "In the piece, Elizabeth's last name is spelled 'Keckley'...[b]ut the woman herself signed her name 'Keckly.' The erasure of her spelling in the pages of her own memoir may be an indication of how little control this formerly enslaved autobiographer had over her manuscript's publication..." ("What's In A Name?" by Jennifer Fleischner, *The New Yorker*, April 14-20, 2021.)

♦ "Think about what that means. They didn't even cast a Black gay actor, or a Black gay character. It's played by a straight (laughing) Italian American man. So just like process that... that erasure." ("Bonus: Remembering the iconic, complicated Andre Leon Talley," NPR, Code Switch, Jan. 23, 2022. The commentators are discussing the idea that Stanley Tucci's character in the 2006 film *The Devil Wears Prada* represents Andre Leon Talley.)

♦ "[W]e are spending a lot of time on erasure, and these are great conversations to have with children..." ("Born on the Water" puts the '1619 Project' into kids' hands," NPR, All Things Considered, February 17, 2022.)

♦ "I think it's really important to have that visible representation on a larger level. The world around you has been shaped by erasing trans people from history and from culture." (Nico Francis, they/them.)

♦ "The opposite of inclusion is erasure... Not everyone who is pregnant identifies as a woman." (NPR Public Editor Kelly McBride, about the use of "pregnant people" versus "pregnant women." FTM trans, and various binaries, for example, might get pregnant but not identify as a woman.)

♦ "to erase the erasure, to rewrite an almost-history of invisibility / But why stop there?" ("The Teacher" by Jacqueline Woodson, *Smithsonian*, December 2017.)

♦ "The history has been obfuscated and obliterated..." (An attempt to rename Chicago's oldest house from "the Henry B. Clarke House" to the "Louis Henry Ford House.")

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## erode (verb)

eroded

America's military superiority has ~ to a dangerous degree

erode ("traditional") beliefs

modernization need not ~ in the supernatural (sangomas)

erodes (social) cohesiveness

an epidemic ~

erode confidence

corrections and retractions ~ in science (journals)

eroded (public) confidence

the accident has ~ in aviation safety

eroded their (political, spiritual and cultural) power

British policies further ~ (Maasai)

erodes the (moral) underpinnings

capitalism ~ of society

erode (indigenous) Tibetan culture

critics fear the railroad will ~

threaten to erode

divisions ~ France's tradition of equality (Muslims)

confidence (in him) has eroded

public ~ markedly (leader of country)

credibility erodes

~ when attention to detail falters (NPR journalism)

grip (on this country) may be eroding

the king's ~

**decline: erosion / verb**

**failure, accident & impairment: erosion / verb**

## eroding

eroding (ring) skills

questions about his ~ (Mike Tyson, the boxer)

**decline: failure, accident & impairment / erosion**

## erosion (noun)

erosion of (intelligence) assets

citing the ~

erosion of confidence

the recrimination betrayed an ~ (Israeli raid)

erosion of (Aboriginal) culture

the historic ~

erosion of privacy

each new ~ (Internet)

erosion of profits

with the ~ (US sheep industry)

erosion of support

he faces an ~ (a politician)

erosion of (sexual) values

it's wrong to blame popular culture for the ~

erosion of viewership

broadcasters alarmed at the ~

erosion of (NASA's) technical skills

experts point to an ~

ratings erosion

the two TV game shows are facing serious ~

physical and cultural erosion

American Indians try to reverse decades of ~ (diet, etc.)

blame popular culture for the erosion

it's wrong to ~ of sexual values

**decline / failure, accident & impairment: erosion**

## error (unforced error)

unforced error and a self-inflicted wound

he described it as an ~ (politics)

**failure, accident & impairment: baseball / sports & games**

## ersatz (substitute)

ersatz past

nostalgia for an ~ that is largely an artifact of Hollywood

ersatz (vision) quest

they weren't on some ~ (nomads)

ersatz spiritual

an ~ that quotes a nonexistent Bible verse

suspected to be ersatz

sexuality that they ~

♦ This means *substitute* in German. It rose to prominence in World War I: ersatz coffee (from acorns), ersatz flour (made from potatoes), etc. Currently, it means "artificial imitation" or "fake" or "facsimile" or "not authentic."

♦ "Billie Holiday made a single, wry nod to gospel in 'God Bless the Child,' an ersatz spiritual that quotes a nonexistent Bible verse." ("Billie Full Of Grace" by Tracy Fessenden, NPR, August 20, 2019.)

♦ "The extremist group set up ersatz police forces and courts..." ("Islamic State Dumped At Least 6,000 Bodies In Mass Graves In Iraq, U.N. Says" by Bill Chappell, NPR, November 6, 2018.)

♦ 139 hits at NPR Search and counting... (Usages seem to be figurative.)

♦ Substitute coffee; fake aluminum; imitation rubber; paper bandages; wooden buttons; tobacco made of dried roots and dried potato peel; shoes soled with wood; meat substitutes... (Ersatz products in Germany during World War I. From "Mass Slaughter on a Personal Level," by Dwight Garner, NYT, November 10, 2011. The article is a review of *The Beauty and the Sorrow: An Intimate History of the First World War* by Peter Englund.)

♦ "[Our hosts] gave us some fat pork, corn bread, and a kind of coffee, made, I think, out of burned peas. But it was warm... Hunger made that breakfast the most delicious we had in six months." (*Memoirs of Chaplain Life* by W. Corby, about his service during the Civil War.)

**allusion: military**

**appearance & reality / identity & nature: materials & substances / military**

### **erupt (feeling)**

erupts in anger

just then he ~ and... (drunk)

erupted in celebration

the Fire Hall ~ (rescue of miners)

erupted in cheers

when he came across the finish line, we all ~

erupts into cheers

the crowd of soldiers ~ (Bagram)

erupted with joy

the Yankees' dugout ~ (sports)

cheers erupted

more ~ (rescue of coal miners)

panic erupted

the victims were trampled to death when ~ (Hajj)

**feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / verb / volcano**

### **erupt (verb)**

erupted in Kinshasa

fighting ~ (Congo)

erupted in Lagos

violence ~

erupted on message boards

squabbles ~ (online investments)

erupted during a (motorcycle) rally

a wild clash that ~

erupted in protest

Lebanon ~ when Hariri was murdered

erupt in violence

political races in the Niger Delta frequently ~

erupted in civil war

Libya has ~

erupted into violence

Haiti, which ~ three weeks ago

long-simmering ethnic tensions have ~

erupt (quickly) into (violent) free-for-alls

rallies can ~ (Kenya)

Egypt is erupting

~ (protests)

chaos erupted

~ in the diner (Seacrest Diner attack)

the ~ at a security checkpoint (at an airport)

conflicts erupt

when ~, MSF sends teams of surgeons...

controversy erupted

~ when a white fraternity performed a skit...

crisis erupts

the US will need to strike preemptively before a ~

fire erupted

more enemy ~ and he dove for cover behind a rock

hotspots erupt

coronavirus ~ across country

lawlessness erupts

when disasters occur, ~

protests erupted

~ (Korea)

riots erupted

the ~ after Japan scored (in Moscow / World Cup)

squabbles erupted

~ on online-investor message boards

trouble erupted

some minor ~

trouble will erupt

bikers have been wondering if ~ in Sturgis (rally)

violence erupted

last year ~ in France's small towns (Beurs / Rebeus)

gunfire erupts

~, and bodies sprawl everywhere

warfare erupted

gang ~ in Compton as the Bloods sought revenge...

fighting erupted

the ~ July 20 between... (rival political gangs)

~ in Kinshasa (Congo)

caused (racial) tensions to erupt

the altercation ~

♦ Sounds from the eruption of Krakatoa volcano in the Sunda Strait between Java and Sumatra in 1883 were heard up to 3,000 miles away, but not by everyone, due to peculiarities of sound waves and the atmosphere.

**initiation / occurrence: verb / volcano**

**amount & effect: verb / volcano**

### **eruption (noun)**

eruption of violence

the ~ has dashed hopes (Middle East)

eruption of (gun) violence

the ~ across the country, with kids caught in the crossfire

eruption of gunfire

he heard the ~ (combat)

**initiation / occurrence: volcano**

**amount & effect: volcano**

### **ery (badassery, etc.)**

assholery

prestige TV is prime territory for ~ (writers' rooms)

### badassery

despite such ~, she never really...  
overuse has leached *badass* of its ~  
she regarded her burns as the stigmata of ~ (Tamar Adler)  
the film features the ~ of Michelle Yeoh (*Everything...*)

### boogery

~, drama... (unpleasant things while hot-girl walking)

### bullshittery

do what you want but spare us the ~ (a Canadian / Loblaw)

### f\*\*\*ery

the ~ of society that results in school shootings

### girlbossery

The Wing, considered a hub of ~ (women-only social club)  
is all this anti-~ simply a new way to put women down

### radio-producery

and you approached this in a very ~ way (podcaster)

### screwery

that normal day-to-day for ~ (criticism of Big Pharma)

### spoillery

there is a plot turn too ~ to reveal

### TERFery

accusations of ~ are sufficient to intimidate many people

### whataboutery

there's a lot of ~... (raising a different issue)

### wokery

Beckham doesn't preach ~ (vs. Neville, Lineker)  
Bud Light fiasco should wake up corporations to drop all ~

### wordnerdery

she's celebrated for bringing ~ to the masses (a crossword constructor)

♦ "Strong Language, A swearsy blog about swearing."  
([stronglang.wordpress.com](http://stronglang.wordpress.com) has a very nice entry for f\*\*\*ery. The comments are particularly good, especially the one by a person who lived in Jamaica for many years.

♦ "We've Hit Peak Badass. It's Gotta Stop" by Jesse Sheidlower, *The Daily Beast*, Apr. 14, 2017.

### contempo-speak: affix

## escalate (verb)

escalated the situation

those cops ~ (an online commenter / a police OIS)

violence escalated

the ~ on Saturday (protests)

♦ This word comes from the escalator. As such, it is relatively recent.

### increase & decrease: movement / verb

starting, going, continuing & ending: movement / verb

## escape (mental health / verb)

escape

I daydream to ~

escapes from his anxiety

he ~ by performing (an actor)

struggled to escape

she ~ her mother's shadow

♦ "You can rent an underground cave to escape from election news." (In New Mexico.)

### avoidance & separation: mental health / verb

## escape (mental health / noun)

escape from all the chaos on land

surfing is an ~ (Bethany Hamilton)

his escape

books, movies and his car were ~ (Bret Easton Ellis)

soothing escape

the album is a ~ from the rush of everyday life

mental escape

when I need a ~ from a stressful situation, I fantasize...

running was his escape

~ from a home that was a prison (Frank Shorter)

offer an escape

books that ~ (during the pandemic)

♦ "Living a life of mental illness, they call it—I like to say mental superpowers—you know, basketball was always my escape." (Former NBA player Delonte West, bipolar disorder.)

♦ "I left Saint Louis. I descended the steps of this fire-escape for a last time and followed, from then on, in my father's footsteps, attempting to find in motion what was lost in space—I travelled around a great deal. The cities swept about me like dead leaves, leaves that were brightly coloured but torn away from the branches." (*The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams.)

♦ "Escapism is not escape."

### avoidance & separation: mental health

## ese (legalese, etc.)

bureaucrat-ese

this is kind of ~ big time (government guidelines)

crosswordese

the puzzle was a beauty, with a minimum of ~

diplomat-ese

translating 'unacceptable' from the ~

Educationese

"A Parent's Guide to ~" (*Psychology Today*)

legalese

these instructions from the judge, they're ~  
the language is ~ (equity activism)

medicalese

~ is entered at Merriam-Webster and Wiktionary  
what did my doctor just say, ~ translations

slopestyle-ese

the trick is a B-Spears, in ~ (snowboarding)

New York-ese

his characters speak fluent, mid-20th century ~

Senate-ese

the two old Senate hands sometimes slip into ~

wonk-ese

"we're de-risking" he says in perfect startup ~

♦ "Those instructions [from the judge], I'm a lawyer and I couldn't understand them... They've gotten to be too much. They're legalese." (Mark Richards, Kyle Rittenhouse's attorney, speaking to Ailsa Chang. From "Kyle Rittenhouse's defense attorney discusses the trial and acquittal," NPR, All Things Considered, Nov. 19, 2021.)

♦ "The assertions are strident, and the vocabulary is esoteric ('harm,' 'insurrection') as if it were translated from a foreign language. In a sense, it is. The language is legalese, and it is designed to build a foundation upon which a company can be held liable under civil-rights law in an American court. This activist tactic has been widely misunderstood." ("The Inequality of 'Equity,'" by Christopher Caldwell, *National Review*, May 17, 2021.)

♦ "Barney the Bear is a secure test item..." (An ESL supervisor, stressing the necessity of keeping the stuffed Teddy bear locked up before using it to test LEP first graders for the yearly high-stakes test. Teachers had complained that the bear frightened some children, and wondered if they might introduce the bear to the children prior to the test. No!)

♦ see also *boilerplate (noun)*, *buzzword (noun)*, *doublespeak (noun)*, *funny language*, *language (types)*, *lip service (pay lip service, etc.)*, *newspeak (noun)*, *speak (NASA-speak, etc.)*, *supersizing (linguistic supersizing)*, *talk (mediator talk, etc.)*, *word salad*

**speech: affix**

**language: speech**

**essence (noun)**

essence

his ~ rather than his show-biz surface...

essence of the (scientific) method

the ~ lies in the repeatable result

essence of motherhood

the ~ is to nurture, protect, love

essence of childhood

the ~, of course, is play (*Childhood* by Bill Cosby)

**bases: chemistry**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: chemistry**

**etch (verb)**

etched their mark

his companies ~ on city skylines (developer)

etched itself into my memory

the photo ~

etched him in my mind

that experience has forever ~

**impression: mark / tools & technology / verb**

**etched**

etched in their faces

I could see despair and suffering ~

etched in the (tribe's permanent) memory

the crime will remain ~ (murder of tribal cop)

etched in the (country's) memory

the murders are ~

etched in stone

reform is not yet ~

none of the rules are ~ (about health)

nothing is ever ~ (planning)

etched into the landscape

some journeys are ~ of our lives (Lake Ohrid)

etched on his face

he stood over him with concern ~ (boxing)

etched by the weather

her face is ~

**impression: mark / tools & technology**

**ether (into the ether)**

disappeared into the ether

any trace on social media has ~ (a company)

**appearance & disappearance: air / atmosphere / sky**

**eulogy (noun)**

eulogy

NPR's Rob Schmitz has this ~ (for Credit Suisse Bank)

eulogy for social studies

it is time to write the ~

written Leon Edwards' eulogy

the broadcasting team already had ~ (UFC 278)

**speech: death & life**

**eunuch (noun)**

moral eunuch

modern cities are run by ~s (weak on criminality)

**attenuation: health & medicine**

**force / strength & weakness: health & medicine**

**eureka (moment, etc.)**

eureka moment

but the ~ came when...

this was a ~, he realized what he needed to do...

Eureka moment

the Aha! instant in cognitive science, the ~

♦ This word is Greek and translates as, "I found it!" Its utterance is associated with the scholar Archimedes and hydrostatics. The word is the state motto of California and refers to the discovery of gold and the Californian Gold Rush.

♦ "And then came this crucial moment...a eureka moment, and the light went off in Semmelweis' head... This was the final bit of evidence that he needed... and it was at this point that everything came together...and all of the sudden it made perfect sense and he knew that he had the answer." (The great Ignaz Semmelweis autopsied his good friend Jacob Kolletschka and connected lack of hand hygiene with puerperal (childbed) fever. While today he is known as "the saviour of mothers," at the time his ideas were dismissed by the medical establishment. As John Snow's ideas had been dismissed, and Thomas Aitchison Latta's. From BBC, Sounds, Great Lives, "Ignaz Semmelweis.")

♦ "We were returning to the bungalow for tea and suddenly he shouted, 'That's it! It must be a sphere...large enough to hold two people... It will be made of steel lined with thick glass. It will contain a proper store of solidified air, concentrated food, water... One might go to the moon!" (*The First Men on the Moon* by H.G. Wells.)

comprehension & incomprehension: allusion / exclamation

## evangelical (adjective)

evangelical about camels

Lauren Brisbane is ~ and their milk (in Australia)

evangelical certainty

she speaks in staccato bursts of ~ (death penalty)

message: religion

## evangelist (person)

“evangelist of science”

he is a self-described ~

evangelist for veterans' care

he is the President's ~

evangelist for energy efficiency

he has been an ~ (Nobel Prize winner)

evangelist for the idea

I really became an ~ (E.O. Wilson / inclusive fitness)

developer evangelist

she is a ~ who teaches programming to girls

open-source evangelist

Bruce Perens, an ~ (computing)

Web evangelist

I come from print, I'm not much of a ~ (newspapers)

culinary evangelist

he is a ~ out for converts (chef)

enthusiasm / message: person / religion

person: religion

## evaporate (verb)

enthusiasm (seemed to have) evaporated

Scott's ~ (for skiing in Antarctica)

forces evaporated

despite their vows to fight to the death, their ~ (rebels)

revenue has ~

~ in the digital-music industry

common sense is evaporating

~ at an alarming rate

good will has evaporated

the ~ (government)

♦ “Common sense is evaporating from society at an alarming rate.” (An online comment to “NJ transgender woman transferred from women's only prison after impregnating 2 inmates, report says” by Stephen Sorace, Fox News, July 17, 2022.)

appearance & disappearance: water / verb

## eve (on the eve)

on the eve of destruction

we are ~

on the eve of 1914

periods that precede great upheavals such as Europe ~

♦ “Eve” relates to “evening.”

proximity / timeliness & lack of timeliness: day

## even (contempo-speak)

kind of even

we will be ~ more transparent (a young lady)

there are people that ~ resent the Olympics (rules)

it's ~ surprising to us (K-Pop blows up)

like even

they're there ~ in the parking lot (police at Rolling Loud)

sort of even

helping them ~ reframe and start to see...

contempo-speak: adverb

## even-handed (adjective)

even-handed policy

he's striven to maintain an ~

judgment: hand

## evening (decline)

evening of my life

if I can choose where to pass the ~, it will be Kyirong

in the evening of life

what am I called, ~ (an 81-year-old man)

time / decline: day

growth & development: day

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day

## evergreen (adjective)

Evergreen Athlete

Leilani Munter has won the BBC's ~ Award

evergreen debate

it's an ~ (when to put up Christmas lights)

evergreen efforts

his ~ have seen him score 500 club goals (“Ibra”)

evergreen forward

Zlatan Ibrahimovic and that other ~, Cristiano Ronaldo

evergreen gossip

he is still remembered by Brits with a taste for ~ as...

evergreen topic

articles on this ~ (Foreign Service reform)

evergreen quarterback

the ~ has already won six Super Bowls (Tom Brady)

evergreen question

the ~, “What does it all mean?” (pop culture)

how to limit and control the power of the State is the ~

death & life: color / tree

## everything (everything Taylor Swift, etc.)

everything Taylor Swift

“13: A Taylor Swift Fan Podcast” is a deep dive into ~

Everything West Texas

it’s ~ with Floyd Miller (a podcast)

everything Iron Maiden

“Bruce Dickinson talks ~, and a whole lot of other things”

**amount & effect: part of speech**

## evil (non-human)

evil disease

we will once and for all beat Covid 19, this ~ (politics)

**character & personality: religion**

## evil eye

parting evil eye

she gave me a ~

gave him the evil eye

I turned and ~ (“Don’t Call Me ‘Mamacita’”)

giving us the evil eye

sing off tune, and believe me, Ike was ~ (backup singer)

♦ “The [camel] opened his jaws as far as they would go, and froth, mucous and black bile spilled out. Ah, black bile—sign of the evil eye. The soothsayers all agreed on that. So, he had been envied for his [camel]. The evil eye had been behind everything that had happened. According to the teaching of the soothsayers, envy is stronger than poison. And the eye of the envier is deadlier than a poisoned arrow, the blow of a sword, or the thrust of a dagger. It’s deadlier than any weapon. So when did the envious thugs cast their eye on him?” (Ukhayyad realizes the source of his camel’s sickness. From *Gold Dust* by Ibrahim al-Koni.)

♦ “King Alfonso of Spain was reported to have the evil eye. In 1923 he paid an official visit to Italy. Several sailors of the fleet sent to greet him were washed overboard; there was an explosion in one of the submarines; an ancient cannon fired in the King’s honor blew up, killing its crew; and a naval officer with whom the King shook hands collapsed and died shortly afterward. / During the King’s tour of Lake Gleno a dam burst, drowning 50 people and making 500 homeless. / The Italian dictator Benito Mussolini, who was terrified of the evil eye, refused to meet Alfonso personally...” (Reader’s Digest “Strange Stories, Amazing Facts.”)

♦ “If looks could kill!”

**danger: eye**

**affliction: magic / religion**

**fate, fortune & chance: magic / religion**

## eviscerate (verb)

eviscerated the book

Latino writers have ~ (cultural appropriation)

eviscerated the prosecution’s case

she ~, point by point (a judge)

eviscerated world leaders

she ~ in a passionate speech (Greta Thunberg)

♦ “[I]nternet culture...jumps at the opportunity to eviscerate someone to varying degrees of deservedness.”

**accusation & criticism / destruction / speech: health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

## eviscerated

eviscerated by liberal judges and politicians  
the justice system has been ~

**accusation & criticism / destruction / speech: health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## evisceration (noun)

Anfield evisceration

this was an ~ (Real Madrid 5-2 Liverpool)

**destruction: health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## evolution (noun)

evolution from shock jock to political pundit

his ~ (Charlamagne tha God)

evolution of artificial intelligence

it was a landmark moment in the ~

**growth & development: biology**

## evolve (evolve the sport, etc.)

evolve the sport

we must ~ (a young boxing promoter)

**growth & development: biology / part of speech**

## exactly (contempo-speak)

exactly

what does that mean, ~

what, ~, does it mean for a...

what ~ does an editor do

she speaks out, but what ~ is she saying

so what ~ is...

what ~ is K2, the synthetic cannabinoid

what, ~ are U.S. interests in...

what is it ~

what is it for, ~

what ~ are they

but how ~...

where ~ is...

exactly how

we still don’t know ~ it works

exactly what

he might be ~ she needs

here’s ~ the administration is saying about...

exactly why

that’s ~...

exactly picky

Neanderthals weren’t ~ eaters

kind of exactly

that’s ~ what happened

so, TRANSCOM is ~ what it sounds like (NPR punditry)

he looks ~ like what you want an exec to look like

- ♦ "And that's kind of exactly the problem is once you make a black movie without thinking about..." (Shani Hilton. From "The Trouble With Assessing 'Black Films,'" NPR, All Things Considered, December 28, 2013.)
- ♦ "So is that kind of exactly the business you're talking about?" / " That is exactly it, and you've just really perfectly summed it up..." (wbur / 2014.)
- ♦ ARI SHAPIRO: OK...What exactly is TRANSCOM? / JENNA MCLAUGHLIN: So TRANSCOM is kind of exactly what it sounds like..." ("How an Illinois military base transports an unprecedented flow of weapon to Ukraine," NPR, All Things Considered, August 24, 2022.)
- ♦ "A Campus Dilemma: Sure, 'No' Means 'No,' But Exactly What Means 'Yes'?" by Tovia Smith, NPR, All Things Considered, June 13, 2014.

**contempo-speak: adverb**

## excavate (verb)

excavates her history

Chow ~ (*Seeing Ghosts: A Memoir*)

excavates the idea

Jon Savage ~ of the teenager (*Teenage: the Creation of Youth Culture*)

excavates the legacy

Kotlowitz ~ of racism and violence (*An American Summer*)

excavate some meaning from it

I began to interrogate my predicament and to try to ~

excavates racial inequality and anti-Blackness

the 1619 Project ~ (Nikole Hannah-Jones)

♦ "[Patricia] Fara has pulled off quite a feat of archival archaeology. Digging through the records of universities, scientific societies, industrial establishments, newspapers, and personal journals and correspondence, she excavates and pieces together the lives of some of the first women to embark on scientific studies and careers in the modern era." ("The Original Hidden Figures" by Elaine Weiss, *Foreign Affairs*, March/April 2019.)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / appearance & disappearance / concealment & lack of concealment / searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / mining / verb**

## excite (verb)

excited curiosity, speculation and fear

it ~ (the submarine from *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*)

**feeling, emotion & effect: verb  
creation & transformation: verb**

## exclamation point

put an exclamation point on that round

he ~ (strong finish to MMA match)

put a (major) exclamation mark on her career

she has ~ (Sawa Homare / football)

puts exclamation point on big day

Lilly King ~ for U.S. swimming

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: exclamation / letters & characters**

## excommunicated

excommunicated

one scientist had been ~, but the lesson was clear ("Oppie")

excommunicated from government circles

while Oppenheimer was ~, he became a symbol to liberals

excommunicated from the movement

he has been ~

excommunicated from the priesthood

he was ~ of economists

excommunicated by the Wyoming Republican Party

she has essentially been ~ (Liz Cheney)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## executed (animals, etc.)

executed at close range with a spear gun

Kostis was ~ (a Mediterranean monk seal)

♦ "Happy was born in 1971 and was kidnapped as an infant from a herd in Thailand." ("The Elephant In The Courtroom" by Lawrence Wright, *The New Yorker*, March 7, 2022.)

**hyperbole: death & life**

## exhale (verb)

exhale

that does not mean Florida can fully ~ (hurricane track)

exhaled

she broke up with her boyfriend, and her parents ~ (relief)

exhaling

today everybody is sorta ~ (crisis averted)

begin to exhale

if the troops return to the barracks, people will ~

**danger: bodily reaction / breathing / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / breathing / verb**

## exhausted (condition)

exhausted

our armed forces are ~

exhausted with its wars

the US is ~ in Iraq and Afghanistan

exhausted and broken

an ~ post-war Britain in 1948

**condition & status: health & medicine**

## exhausted (groups)

exhausted with the culture of country music

I was ~ not creating space for people who look like me

♦ (NPR's Michel Martin): Thank you so much for talking with us. I imagine this just has to be exhausting. (Aly Raisman): Thank you for having me on. You know, this is one of the moments where right now I'm definitely, I'm definitely feeling it, I'm definitely exhausted, but that's that's what surviving and healing looks like. You know, there are some moments where I feel okay and then other moments....."

♦ "I'm exhausted with these white folx..." (Kelisa Wing, DEI officer, the Department of Defense.)

♦ see weariness (groups)

## **inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

### **exhausting (groups)**

#### exhausting

all of the debate is “~” (a biracial athlete / how Black)  
it’s ~ (female coach fighting for equity with men)

#### exhausting and embarrassing

racism is ~ (microaggressions)

#### overwhelming and exhausting

it was way more ~ than anything I’ve experienced before

♦ “Fighting for LGBTQ rights and advocating for oneself can be exhausting.”

♦ “It’s exhausting and especially in England.” (English singer Sam Smith about abuse he has faced since coming out as variously gay / genderqueer / non-binary.)

♦ NPR’s Michel Martin: Thank you so much for talking with us. I imagine this just has to be exhausting. / Aly Raisman: Thank you for having me on. You know, this is one of the moments where right now I’m definitely, I’m definitely feeling it, I’m definitely exhausted, but that’s that’s what surviving and healing looks like. You know, there are some moments where I feel okay and then other moments.....”

♦ “I’m so exhausted at these while folx...” (With? Tired of?)

♦ see *weariness (groups)*

## **inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

### **exhausting (mental health)**

#### exhausting treadmill

it’s an ~ (trying to manage time to meet deadlines)

♦ “Why modern dating is exhausting. Can online dating burnout be stopped?” (BBC.)

#### mental health: health & medicine / sleep

#### feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / sleep

### **exhaustion (groups)**

#### feelings of exhaustion

people expressed ~ over having to...

♦ “Others joined in expressing feelings of exhaustion over having to call out such careless oversights, which are much more common in stories about people of color.” (“Ai Wong’s divorce news causes another case of #wrongasian” by Vanessa Romo, NPR, April 13, 2022.)

♦ see *weariness (groups)*

## **inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

### **exhaustion (other)**

#### moral exhaustion

beneath the pep talks is a rueful sense of ~

#### condition & status: health & medicine

### **exhume (verb)**

#### exhumes skeletons

Poland ~ in its Communist closet

♦ “Poland marks WWII-era massacre by Ukrainian nationalists,” *The Associated Press*, July 11, 2022.” (See Wikipedia article “Massacres of Poles in Volhynia and Eastern Galicia.”)

#### appearance & disappearance / concealment & lack of concealment / searching & discovery: burial / death & life / verb

## **exile (in exile)**

#### in exile

you’re in the inner circle, or you’re ~ (politics)  
he’s no longer ~, but... (access to President)

#### living in exile

they have been ~ (falsely accused by DA)

#### society: ground, terrain & land

#### dismissal, removal & resignation: society

#### acceptance & rejection: society

### **exile (noun)**

#### exile

its ~ from high-school curriculums is hard to explain (*The Red Badge of Courage* by Stephen Crane)

#### period of exile

the political party can look forward to a long ~

#### self-imposed footballing exile

his ~ (Zinedin Zidane)

#### exile has been ended

his international ~ by Didier Deschamps (Karim Benzema)

#### society: ground, terrain & land

#### dismissal, removal & resignation: society

#### acceptance & rejection: society

### **exiled**

#### exiled from wealth and social standing

in his eyes, the family had been ~ (poor)

#### society: ground, terrain & land

#### dismissal, removal & resignation: society

#### acceptance & rejection: society

### **exist (verb)**

#### exists in society

anti-Semitism still ~ (desecration of Jewish graves)

#### exist back then

body cameras didn’t ~ (policing)

#### exist in the world of tomorrow

fixed-wing aircraft will still ~ (military)

#### never existed

they want to go back to a romanticized past that ~

#### approach exists

no one-size-fits-all ~ (the COVID pandemic)

♦ “Under the earth’s crust there exists such an enormously great world, in absolute darkness, that we can with some justice speak of a new continent.” (Alfred Bogli.)

♦ Sorry, you’ve reached a page that doesn’t exist.” (The internet.)

#### presence & absence: death & life / verb

### **exist (groups)**

#### exist

to ~, to come out now, it is a sign I am resisting

it is good to show we ~ (trans)

♦ To exist, to come out now, it is a sign I am resisting." (Luca Kumahara, a FTM trans ping-pong player.)

♦ "Because BG represents, simply by existing, as a Black queer woman... This shows to the world..." (Chiney Ogwumike of the LA Sparks about the release of Brittney Griner from Russia in exchange for Viktor Bout.)

♦ "There's something about having a place on the spectrum and feeling othered by the world but still just being here, no matter what, that really just like over the years kinda strengthens your skin." ("Transgender and non-binary people are up to six times more likely to also have autism" by Lesley McClurg, NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, January 15, 2023.)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## existence (groups)

existence on this team

your ~ immensely adds to it (a Trans athlete)

black people's existence

stories dehumanise and erase the multiplicity of ~

trans existence

the possibility of a ~

eradication of our existence

the ~ (the Trans Radical Activist Network / TRAN)

erasure of my existence

I hear that call as a complete ~ (Dahlia Belle, Black trans)

erase our existence

they are trying to ~ and make us invisible (LGBTQ)

fight for its very existence

a community that is being forced to ~ (trans)

honors (queer people's) existence

Queer Gym ~

invisibilize and delegitimize our existence

society tries to ~ (Liniker Barros)

♦ "Rise up and defend us. Acknowledge us, oh God, before the whole world. Give us also the right our existence!" (*The Well of Loneliness* by Radclyffe Hall, 1928. Lesbianism wasn't in fact illegal at the time.)

♦ "If they want to identify a text that is at the start of the awareness in culture of the possibility of a trans existence, it's got to be *The Well of Loneliness*." (Professor Laura Doan.)

♦ "Choosing yourself, and acknowledging that you are worthy simply because you are breathing—that is a brave thing." ("A Letter to College Sports" by Cailin Bracken.)

♦ "Your existence on this team does nothing but immensely add to it with your team work and motivation. We got you!" (LA Sweat supports the transgender woman Tiffany Thomas.)

♦ "Ahead of Trans Day of Visibility, I rise in honor of a community that is being forced to fight for its very existence." (U.S. Representative for Massachusetts Katherine Clark, House Minority Whip.)

♦ "Respectability politics never actually liberated the oppressed. Whether you're a creative or an audience member, power can be had in reclaiming the stereotypes that challenge your very existence." (From "Queer villains, erotic noir, 90s pulp. 'Basic Instinct' and the backlash, rewind," NPR, Pop Culture happy Hour, Nov. 13, 2022.)

♦ "There are so many anti-LGBTQ attacks going on around the country and a lot of them are really about trying to erase our existence and to make us invisible, and to make our young people invisible and our elders invisible." (Michael Adams, CEO of SAGE.)

♦ "A trans woman wants to be recognized as a woman... Validation that they are a woman is tantamount to their existence." (An online commenter.)

♦ "You know, there's the phenomenon of walking while trans where specifically like Trans women of color while just existing oftentimes get the police called on them just for like being Trans."

♦ "We wanna focus on the joy, the stories, the culture, the celebration of us existing and being human. That's it." (Virginia teacher Deana Forbes about Black History Month in her African- American Studies class at Freedom High.)

♦ "Vengeance means fighting back with vehemence. We are fighting against false narratives, criminalization, and eradication of our existence." The Trans Radical Activist Network—TRAN—about the Trans Day of Vengeance Protest in Washington, D.C.)

♦ "Eradicate their existence; legislating hate; hate against children..." (State senator Michaela Kavanaugh of Nebraska, filibustering the LB574, "Let them grow" act. She has threatened to "burn the session to the ground.")

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## exit (and Brexit, etc.)

Brexit

~ was a divorce, which was nothing to celebrate

Megxit

yes, it's been almost three years since ~ (Meg and Harry)

♦ Wikipedia has an entry, "Megxit." So does Wiktionary (18 Dec 2022).

♦ At "Brexit," Wiktionary has a comprehensive list of "related terms," such as Bayxit, Calexit, etc. How does Wiktionary do it? Fantastic! (18 Dec 2022.)

♦ Microsoft Word underlines "Megxit" as an error and suggests "Meggitt (no reference information)," Megi (no reference information), and Exit (Departure, Door, Depart). (18 Dec 2022.)

♦ Merriam-Webster has no entry for "Brexit" or "Megxit" (As of 18 Dec 2022).

**language: affix**

## exit (noun)

exit

I'm not surprised by his ~ (resignation)

no possible clean exit

there was ~ (combat)

rush for the exits

the withdrawal is a hasty ~ (Afghanistan)

rush for the exits

US troops will not "~" (in Afghanistan)

rushing to the exit

the Biden administration is ~ (Afghanistan)

urging an exit

his generals and the prime minister were ~ (a leader)

**pursuit, capture & escape / situation: container coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: doors & thresholds / theater**

## exodus (noun)

exodus of civilians

he expects a further ~ (war)

exodus of staff members

the magazine has been bled by an ~

exodus of doctors, engineers, scientists

Venezuela suffers from an ~ and other professionals  
exodus of (top) executives and (anxious) advertisers  
he faces an ~

exodus (of women) from the (science) fields  
her paper examines the ~

immigrant exodus  
Italy fears an ~ on a biblical scale (from Libya)

management exodus  
the company has seen a ~

vacation exodus  
the ~ brought Beijing to a standstill (Autumn Festival)

annual exodus  
"mudik" is an ~ in Indonesia (visiting the countryside)

prompted a (small) exodus  
the score ~ towards the exits (sports)

led to a (huge) exodus  
Germanization of Metz ~ of the French

♦ Listen to "Exodus (Main Theme) YouTube from the 1960 film.  
Performed by the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

♦ see also *migration* (#TwitterMigration, etc.)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / migration:  
Bible / religion**

## **exorcise (verb)**

exorcise  
Baathism remains a ghost that Iraq can't ~

exorcise the demons  
we must ~ of the past... (history)

exorcised that ghost  
European leaders thought they had ~ (Berlusconi)

**amelioration & renewal / dismissal, removal & resignation  
/ reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: creature / religion  
/ verb**

## **expedition (fishing expedition)**

fishing expedition  
the government claimed the investigation was a ~ (politics)  
traffic stops that became ~s (police and Latinos)

fishing expedition for information  
it appears to be a ~, casting a very broad net

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / fish / hunting  
searching & discovery: animal / fish / hunting**

## **expense (at the expense)**

at the expense of Arabs  
Turkey's growing regional role will not be ~

at the expense of the animals  
owners cut costs and corners ~ (ranches)

at the expense of (naive) consumers

sophisticated consumers can profit ~  
at the expense of the family  
but all this success was ~... (working women)

at the expense of the poor  
privatization further enriches the rich ~

at the expense of his life  
his actions ~... (Medal of Honor)

at the expense of troop levels  
shifting troops to Baghdad will come ~ elsewhere

at Owner's Expense  
Violators will be Towed Away ~ (airport)

at your expense  
it will be ~

profit at the expense of naive consumers  
sophisticated consumers can ~

**cost & benefit: money**

## **experiment (noun)**

experiment  
the US is often referred to as an ~

thought experiment  
my book is a ~ (*Break it up*, about political succession)  
compromise is a noble ~ (gays / religion)

"Jurassic Park experiment"  
they condemned the plan as a public ~ (GM mosquitos)

\* "A fool, you know, is a man who never tried an experiment in his life."  
(Erasmus Darwin to Richard Lovell Edgeworth.)

**experimentation: chemistry**

## **expiration date**

*America's Expiration Date*  
~: *The Fall of Empires and Superpowers*

♦ "They are both well past their sell-by-dates." (A commenter about  
Ronaldo and Messi at the FIFA Qatar World Cup.)

♦ "he was a great player but now past his sell by date." (A soccer  
commenter.)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: food & drink**

## **explode (destroy / disrupt)**

exploded  
it's been a year since the economy ~

explode this notion  
I'm really trying to ~ of genre (Rachel Yoder)

**destruction: explosion**

## **explode (emotion)**

explodes  
she ~ (becomes angry)

made my mind (kind of) explode  
so what ~ when I first heard about this was... (surprise)

**feeling, emotion & effect / initiation: explosion / pressure / verb / weapon**

### **explode (initiation)**

explode into violence  
he let his anger ~

exploded in violence  
months of protests that ~ late Thursday

exploded with support  
the Internet ~ for Hanson

intifada exploded  
in 1987, when the first ~ through Gaza and...

situation exploded  
the whole ~ (divorce / violence)

violence could explode  
~ after the traditional mourning period (Caucasus)

starting to explode  
the whole punk-rock scene was just ~

**initiation: explosion / verb**

### **explode (increase)**

exploded  
for some reason it took off, it ~ (Plague of Justinian)

exploded in popularity  
rafting and camping ~ (below a dam)

exploded in the past decade  
wakeboarding has ~

exploded in the United States  
the sport has ~ (soccer)

exploded in the '90s  
Pokémon ~

exploded in the last few years  
the black market has ~ (for Venus flytraps)

enrollment has exploded  
UMUC's ~, from 21,100 to 30,700 this year

interest (in cookie decorating) has exploded  
~ in recent years

popularity exploded  
his ~

population has exploded  
the town's ~ in the last decade (increased)

population (of Niger) has exploded  
the ~ (increased dramatically)

use (of Ecstasy) is exploding  
the ~

Internet modeling has exploded  
~ in all forms (teen modeling)

caused the (mouse) population to explode  
the hunting of snakes has ~

**increase & decrease: number**

**growth & development / increase & decrease / initiation: explosion / verb**

### **explode (onto the scene, etc.)**

exploded onto the scene  
she ~ last year (a singer)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: explosion / sound / verb**

### **exploding (adjective)**

exploding population  
the world's ~  
ensuring flood control for South Florida's ~

**increase & decrease: explosion / number**

### **exploration (noun)**

exploration of her life  
it's an ~ (a film)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / searching & discovery: journeys & trips**

### **explore (analyze)**

explore your background  
before we get into the specifics, why don't we ~ (a trial)

explore this  
let's ~... (the topic of tariffs)

explores the lives  
his book ~ of Native Americans

explores the (counterintuitive) notion  
he ~ that... (decision-making)

explore the possibility  
~ of a negotiated settlement (Middle East)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: journeys & trips / verb**

### **explore (discover)**

explored (several) fantasies  
we ~ with each other (Internet)

explore my (secret) fantasies  
my website allows me to ~

explores matters  
the film ~ of love, sex, and commitment

exploring its options  
Twitter says it's ~ under Indian law

explore the Bard's life and work  
we will ~ (BBC program)

**searching & discovery: journeys & trips / verb**

## explorer (person)

explorer of the past

he was a pioneer ~ (Francesco Petrarca)

explorer of race, memory and discrimination

meet Jessie Yaros: an ~ (neurobiology and behavior)

Dora the Explorer

~ is one of the most recognized Latinx characters on TV

Internet Explorer

~ will die next year (the blue “e” icon)

new (space) explorers

robots, not humans, are the ~

explorer and enthusiast

remembering Anthony Bourdain, ~ (Linda Holmes)

♦ “What does Dora Explorer explore?” (Google search: People also ask...)

♦ “A US college outdoors club is being disbanded because its activities, which include hiking, running and backpacking, are deemed too risky.” (BBC, “US college says outdoors too risky for outdoors club,” April 25, 2018.)

♦ “*Columbusing* is a word that can be used to describe the reappropriation or perhaps misappropriation of African-American culture—for instance, various slang terms that get appropriated by a white mainstream audience. We see that happening quite a lot in language and culture, so this is a clever and rather sarcastic term for that phenomenon.” (Ben Zimmer, language columnist for *The Wall Street Journal*. From “Die-In, Vortex, Selfie Stick: What’s The Word Of 2014?” by NPR Staff, Pop Culture, December 28, 2014. The word refers to discovering something that is not new, and was “popularized in a College Humor video that came out this summer.” The article has a link to that YouTube humor video “Columbusing”: Discovering Things For White People.)

♦ “What are called UAVs or AUVs, autonomous vehicle systems. That’s what’s going to be the force multiplier, that’s what’s going to accelerate everything... I envy the generation in middle school right now. I’m gonna be eclipsed by some kid in eighth grade that’s going to have the technologies to do a thousand times more exploration than I have been able to do because of the advent of new technologies where they don’t have to physically do it...” (Robert “Bob” Ballard at TED.NPR.ORG.)

♦ “[Spallanzani] conceived himself the hero of a new epic exploration, he compared himself—in his writings even—to Columbus and Vespucci. He told of that mysterious world of microbes as a new universe, and thought of himself as a daring explorer making first groping expeditions along its boundaries only... His genius whispered to him that the fantastic creatures of this new world were of some sure but yet unknown importance to their big brothers, the human species...” (*Microbe Hunters* by Paul De Kruif.)

♦ Christopher Columbus; Vasco Nunez de Balboa; Abel Tasman; James Cook; Sir John Franklin; Mungo Park; Dr. Heinrich Barth; David Livingston... (Explorers mentioned by Joseph Conrad in his essay “Geography and Some Explorers.”)

♦ “An eight-year-old boy from the city of Astrakhan in southern Russia has won social media fame after setting off on an around-the-world trip. / The boy’s mother contacted the police after finding a note from her son saying he had left to ‘travel around the world’. / A few hours later, a search team found him walking down a street equipped with encyclopaedias, a toy, money from his piggy bank and a banana, the Russian Interior Ministry reported on its official website.” (BBC “Boy, 8, found after leaving home to ‘travel the world’” by Katherine Zeveleva, 3 April 2019.)

♦ A FUNNY CARTOON (that is not so funny, actually). In *The New Yorker* magazine (November 15, 2021), there is a cartoon. It shows a young boy in bed in a typically messy young boy’s room, with pictures of planets on the wall and a planetary globe on a bedside table. His mother is putting him to bed, and the young boy is saying, “I used to want to be an astronaut, but now I think I’d rather be a billionaire space tourist.”

searching & discovery: journeys & trips / person

## explosion (violence, etc.)

explosion of violence

both sides shared the blame for the ~

this ~ follows weeks of simmering tension (Jerusalem)

initiation: explosion

## explosion (sound)

explosion of gunfire

he heard the ~ (combat)

sound: explosion

## explosion (increase)

explosion of (arctic) flowers

May and June bring an ~

explosion of studies

we have seen an ~ examining violent video games

explosion in (graphics) technology

the ~

explosion in (cellphone) use

the ~ has had an impact on 911 operations

explosion of (international) trade and travel

the ~ that’s occurred

AIDS explosion

the potential for an ~ in the country (India)

crime explosion

the ~ (in Venezuela)

information explosion

there is a tremendous ~ today

potential for an (AIDS) explosion

the ~ in the country (India)

increase & decrease: number / explosion

## explosive (power)

explosive burst

you load the dart in the mouthpiece and exhale in an ~

power: explosion

## explosive (increase)

explosive growth

the ~ of the textile industry

the ~ in technology over the past few decades

keeping up with the ~ of scientific data (storage)

explosive rate

condo conversion sales have been increasing at an ~

increase & decrease: explosion

## explosive (violence, etc.)

explosive mix

put them together, and it was an ~ (government figures)

explosive situation

they discussed the ~ in the Palestinian territories

**initiation: explosion**

## **express (Biden express, etc.)**

Biden express

not that everyone has come on board the ~ (election)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: train**

## **express (Pineapple Express, etc.)**

Pineapple Express

the ~ is the source of moisture into southern California

the ~ is an atmospheric river (into southern California)

**force: epithet**

## **express (Tokyo Express, etc.)**

Tokyo Express

JFK lost PT-109 in an attack against the ~ (WW II)

the ~ brought Japanese troops and supplies to Guadalcanal

**military: epithet**

## **expressway (expressway to death, etc.)**

expressway to death

National highway 8 is known as the ~ (India)

**death & life: epithet**

## **extinct (adjective)**

almost extinct

moderate Republicans and conservative Democrats are ~

near-extinct

the old sound recordings turn ~ machines into music

totally extinct

ticket-splitting isn't ~ (voting during election)

going extinct

old-school conglomerates are ~ (General Electric, etc.)

went extinct

the lautenwerck almost ~ (the music instrument)

it's time that these events ~ (monkey rodeos / abuse)

♦ "A tiny pink peanut is not a white rhinoceros. Nor is it a green turtle or a Bengal tiger. But..." (The Lost Ancestral Peanut Of The South Is Revived" by Jill Neimark, NPR, The Salt, December 29, 2016.)

♦ "I think Jeramiah Lockwood is an arbitrator between the generation that is seeing cantorial music die in the congregation and the younger generation that's seeing the potential of cantorial music to be re-discovered." (Hankus Netsky, professor at the New England Conservatory of Music. From "A group of Orthodox Jews in Brooklyn is reviving the golden age of cantorial music," Morning Edition, August 3, 2022.)

♦ "This fabulous bird used to visit Michigan in numbers beyond belief... A newspaper reported in 1878 that from three to six tons of birds, plucked and packed in barrels of ice, were shipped south every day... It was a good business while it lasted.... [T]he last passenger pigeon in North America died in its cage in an Ohio zoo." (Waiting for the Morning Train: An American Boyhood by the great writer Bruce Catton.)

♦ The small corpses of Carolina parakeets were used whole by milliners to adorn women's hats. (Last known representative of its species died in February 1918.)

♦ Peoples; languages; customs; technologies; animals... (Things that can go extinct.)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: animal**

**past & present / time: animal**

## **extinguish (verb)**

extinguish (negative) behaviors

a discipline plan to ~ (school)

**destruction: fire / verb**

## **extinguished**

extinguished

it is a young life that has been ~ (Swedish rapper Einar)

**destruction: fire**

## **extracurricular**

extracurricular activities

prying into employees' harmless ~

extracurricular uses

~ of the office computer

**extent & scope: school & education**

## **extremely (contempo-speak)**

extremely not good

it's ~

extremely hyper-intelligent

Dede is this ~ person...

extremely overwhelming

it was ~, like...

extremely kind of

see *kind of (contempo-speak)*

extremely sort of

see *sort of (contempo-speak)*

like, extremely

I know that can be, ~ discouraging...

obviously extremely

it is ~ dispiriting...

it's ~ troubling...

and it was ~ painful...

he is careful, calculating, shrewd, ~ intelligent

very extremely

that would be like obviously ~ interesting (male academic)

he talks about Donald Trump in this ~ complimentary way

very, extremely

he grew up in "a ~ religious household" (trans male)

very very extremely

so his number of tables is ~ limited (restaurant)

it's a ~ stressful job (a prissy maître d')

♦ "Dede is this combination of an extremely like hyper-intelligent person (light upspeak) but also a hyper-empathetic person." (Filmmaker Berry Jenkins about film producer Dede Gardner.)

♦ *Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil and Vile*. (The 2019 film about the serial killer Ted Bundy, which actually focuses on his charisma and appeal to women.)

♦ "It's a name I'm very, very, extremely proud of." ("Mr. Hockey" Gordie Howe.)

**contempo-speak: adverb**

## eye (verb)

eyed me suspiciously  
he ~

**sight: eye / verb**

## eye (the Blue Eye of Siberia, etc.)

Blue Eye of Siberia  
Lake Baikal, known as the ~

**epithet: eye / color**

**geography: epithet**

## eye (the Eye of Kuruman, etc.)

Eye of Kuruman  
the ~ is a natural spring (Die Oog / S. Africa)

Eye of the Sun  
the ~ is a natural arch in Monument Valley, Arizona

Eye of Zastron  
The ~ is in the cliffs of Vulture Mountain (Aasvoelberg)

♦ The Eye (Die Oog) in Kuruman is the largest known natural spring in the southern hemisphere. And there is also an "Eye" in the town of Zastron, also in South Africa. In the latter case, the Eye is part of a rock formation and has an interesting creation story!

**proper name: eye / shape**

**geography: eye / shape**

## eye (resemblance)

eye  
I was here when the ~ came right over the island

eyes of the coconut  
pierce two ~ with a sharp object

eye of the storm  
the ~ passed over Portsmouth (hurricane)

hurricane's eye  
police rescued 5 families when the ~ passed over

needle's eye  
see *needle (eye of the needle, needle's eye)*

storm's eye  
Gulf Shores, where the ~ blew ashore (hurricane)

defined eye  
a minimal hurricane with 75 mph winds and a ~

♦ "I walk east, west, north and south / I have a tongue but I don't have a mouth. What am I?" (Answer: Boots. Boots also generally have eyelets.)

**resemblance / shape: eye**

## eye (side eye, stink eye, etc.)

get the stink-eye  
if you don't have a nice lawn, you ~ from your neighbor

give the stink eye to the man  
she turned to ~ (woman with crying baby)

give people the stink-eye  
I ~ if they're using their cellphone while driving

give us the side eye  
it's no mystery why our friends ~ (U.S. hypocrisy)

♦ "I learned the throwing of a proper stink-eye from my mother, thank you very much, and I would put my stink-eye up against anyone's." (NPR's Linda Holmes, Pop Culture Happy Hour.)

**judgment: eye / gesture**

## eye (believe one's eyes)

believe my eyes  
I couldn't ~

♦ A FUNNY CARTOON. A *New Yorker* cartoon shows a pirate ship at sea. A sailor, forced to walk the plank, is in the middle of an exuberant back flip. The pirate captain, who is wearing an eyepatch, is watching in astonishment on the deck. The caption of the cartoon is, "I can't believe my eye!"

**comprehension & incomprehension: eye**

## eye (poke someone in the eye, etc.)

poke the voters in the eye  
he continued to kind of ~ (politics)

stick a finger in Trump's eye  
she welcomed the opportunity to ~ (her vote for governor)

♦ You'll blink if I poke you in your damn eye!

**punishment & recrimination: eye / finger / sensation**

## eye (roll one's eyes)

roll her eyes  
no comment from her, but she did ~, clearly I was getting on her nerves...

shaking my head and rolling my eyes  
I'm just ~ (Boeing debacle of 2019-2020)  
the shooter is now the victim, ~

♦ "I completely respect him... I know he can be bit of a character... I've rolled me eyes a couple of times at things he done and said." (Ben Davison talking about the great boxer Dillian Whyte.)

♦ In academia, eye-rolling can be considered a sign of patriarchy and a micro-aggression.

♦ "When I conferred with Dr. X... I could almost hear his eyes roll over the phone."

♦ "Do you have sheet music on this stuff?" (YouTube, "Time of My life" (Final Dance))

♦ see also *eye-roll (dismissal)*

**comprehension & incomprehension: eye / gesture / verb**

## eye (met our eyes, etc.)

met our eyes  
an unusual sight ~ (on a wilderness trip)

**fictive meeting & seeing / sight: eye**

## **eye (more than meets the eye)**

meets the eye

there is more to him than ~

a closer look at the numbers finds less there than ~

**appearance & reality: eye**

## **eye (catch one's eyes)**

caught my eye

she ~ (attraction)

caught his eye

a large display of toothpaste ~ (in a store)

deviations from Islamic social norms also ~

caught Jean's eye

when I ~ again, I nodded towards...

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye**

## **eye (public eye)**

in the public eye

this will boost his image ~ (a fallen celebrity)

out of the public eye

he has created a new life ~...

came to the public eye

it never ~ (campus espionage)

remained in the public eye

Wilma Mankiller has ~ (Cherokee leader)

brought windsurfing into the public eye

he ~

fell out of the public eye

she ~ for a year but returned... (an influencer)

vanished from the public eye

he ~ for nearly six weeks before reappearing (Korea)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye**

## **eye (attention)**

eyes of the nation

the ~ are on Indianapolis today (a mass shooting)

Eye on America

features like ~ (network news)

eyes and ears

they were all ~ (Germans at a Oglala Sioux powwow)

it's a show for the ~ (gambling at casino)

all eyes

~ were on Kate (performance)

~ will be on Queen Elizabeth (her husband's funeral)

once again ~ are on the Dallas district attorney (crime)

wary eyes

her ~ took me in at a glance

prying eyes

she retreated there from ~

wandering eye

he was a lecher with a ~

wandering eyes

~ and other suspicious test activity (cheating)

keep an eye on

is there anything else to ~ (elections)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye**

## **eye (stars in one's eyes)**

stars in her eyes

she has ~ (not practical)

she had ~ and a sense of her own destiny (Theranos)

♦ "Fledgling actresses with stars in their eyes who will do anything..." (Hollywood.)

**character & personality: astronomy / earth & world / eye**

## **eye (open eyes, etc.)**

eyes wide open

we want him to make his own decision, ~

eye opening

it was very ~ for me (kids' comments)

with eyes (wide) open

the decision was made ~ (foreign policy)

go into this with our eyes open

it is critical that we ~ (elections)

keeps an (eagle) eye out for infractions

he ~

keep an eye out for you

I'll ~ (watch for your arrival)

keep my eyes open

I ~ (for opportunity)

keep your eyes open

~ (warning)

opened my eyes to the opportunities

the experience ~

opened my eyes to so much

it ~ (a new experience / job)

open your eyes to the reality

~ that there is big-town crime here (Taos)

roving eye

my husband has a ~

♦ "A stranger has big eyes but sees nothing." (An African proverb about traveling and travelers.)

**consciousness & awareness: eye**

## **eye (closed eyes, etc.)**

eyes closed

people didn't go into this with their ~ (Brexiters)

**consciousness & awareness: eye**

### eye (for the eyes)

feast for the eyes  
it was a ~

sight for sore eyes  
he was a ~

**appearance: eye**

### eye (eye candy)

eye candy  
many go to auto shows looking for ~

eye-candy for philistines  
the work is ~ (Koons' Bouquet of Tulips in Paris)

blond eye candy  
there's lots of ~ Down Under (Oz)

**appearance: eye**

### eye (on the eyes)

easy on the eyes  
he's quite good looking, ~ (Omar Kamal, Nablus)

hard on the eyes  
she's ~, shudders (discussion board snark)

**appearance: eye**

### eye (goal)

eye  
he had his ~ on the nomination (Ted Kennedy)

dollar signs in their eyes  
companies with ~

♦ "I think they had dollar signs in their eyes." (The great climber Tommy Caldwell talking about being taken hostage by members of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan while he and his group were climbing in Kyrgyzstan.)

♦ "Keep your eye on the prize, hold on." (A moving song from the Civil Rights era of the 1960s.)

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: eye**

### eye (turn a blind eye)

cast a blind eye on his conduct  
the university ~ (sexual misconduct)

turn a blind eye to his (intense) abuse  
the university could no longer ~ of one of its students

turned a blind eye to the concerns  
UKA whitewashed its review and ~ (sports doping)

turn a blind eye to the consequences  
loggers learn to ~ of clear-cutting

turn a blind eye to polygamy  
local officials ~ (southeastern Turkey)

turn a blind eye to the problem  
we cannot ~

turned a blind eye to terrorism  
they have ~

turn a blind eye to cruelty and crime  
the state should never ~ (honor killings, etc.)

turns a blind eye to predators and harassers  
this culture that ~ (entertainment)

bribed to turn a blind eye  
officials were ~

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: eye / verb**

### eye (bat an eye / eyelash)

bat an eye  
the students don't ~ at the sight of fast-food-delivery robots

bat an eyelash  
he didn't ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: eye / gesture / verb**

### eye (perception)

in the eyes of the US  
it has done a bit to improve its standing ~ (a country)

in the eyes of his competitors  
~, he is the best (mixed-martial arts)

in the eyes of the public  
Muhammed Ali is still the champion ~

in the eye of the beholder  
beauty is ~

with his geologist's eye  
~, he found a field nearby and found...

with a practiced eye  
he watches ~ (an anthropologist)

with fresh eyes  
people are looking at his issue ~ (foreign aid)

with new eyes  
a student may see home ~ (after studying abroad)

with a suspicious eye  
those who come to Jerusalem are watched ~

with suspicious eyes  
sportswomen are looked at ~ (homophobia)

to the (outside) eye  
the system appears medieval ~ (Afghanistan)

to a (trained) eye  
the data reveals a disturbing pattern ~

to the (untrained) eye  
it may look complicated ~ but...  
clues not apparent ~ (police)

to (Mexican) eyes  
 ~ the US has more than its share of everything...

to modern eyes  
 his racial ideas appear ~ as a blot on his record (Churchill)

eyes of an expert  
 what is most important is the experience of the ~

leaders' eyes  
 countries whose ~ are fixed on domestic voters (summit)

painter's eye  
 the workings of a ~

keen eye  
 a ~ is the result of training and practice (landmines)  
 recognizing traps demands intuition and a ~

watches with a practiced eye  
 he ~ (an anthropologist)

see home with new eyes  
 a student may ~ (after studying abroad)

looking at this issue with fresh eyes  
 people are ~ (foreign aid)

looked at with a suspicious eye  
 sportswomen are ~ (homophobia)

watched with a suspicious eye  
 those who come to Jerusalem are ~

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye**

**eye (an eye for an eye)**

eye for an eye-style  
 a crowd gathered to demand ~ justice (Pakistan)

stick a finger in Trump's eye  
 she welcomed the opportunity to ~ (her vote for governor)

**revenge: eye**

**eye (subterfuge)**

throw smoke and dust in the eyes  
 they are trying to ~ of the investigators (lawyers)

**subterfuge: eye**

**eye (surveillance)**

eyes  
 the special forces were the ~ that were out there (Gulf War)

eye in the sky  
 you can put an ~ (drone / UAVs)

eyes of Boston Harbor  
 we're asked to be the ~ (a Yacht club, terrorism)

eyes of (U.S. spy) satellites  
 the eagle ~

Dragon Eye  
 the portable ~ (an unmanned aerial vehicle / military)

robot eye  
 a ~ attached to the Internet, which visitors could control

robotic "eye"  
 a free-flying ~ that can circle the space station

sets of eyes  
 the robots could serve as extra ~ (PSA)

under the (watchful) eyes of their mothers  
 the cubs hunt ~

under the (watchful) eyes of (security) officers  
 he was constantly ~

have eyes on that money  
 we don't ~ (charitable contributions)

keep a (close) eye on her  
 we have to ~

keep a (close) eye on them  
 we ~ (detainees)

keep a (good) eye on her  
 I have to ~

keep a (watchful) eye on players  
 coaches must ~ (heat stroke in summer)

taken out his eyes  
 once we had ~... (Saddam's Air Force)

got out from under the father's (controlling) eye  
 when she ~

♦ Positive controls provide a means to put "eyes" on a target. (Military.)  
 ♦ "The Five Eyes" is the intelligence sharing partnership between Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the UK and the USA. (New Zealand.)

**surveillance: eye**

**eye (eyes and ears / surveillance)**

eyes and ears  
 the public is our ~ (police manhunt)

eyes and ears of the Americans  
 interpreters were the ~ (the Taliban)

"eyes and ears" of the commander  
 the Air Cavalry Team is the ~ (military)

eyes and ears of the (battalion) commander  
 we serve as the ~ (scout/snipers)

eyes and ears of the community  
 "Amber" alerts mobilized the ~ (child kidnappings)

eyes and ears of the outside world  
 African Union monitors serve as the sole ~ (Darfur)

ears and eyes in the sky  
 the NSA, Uncle Sam's ~

eyes and ears on the ground  
 he worked under cover as Al Jazeera's ~

keeping our eyes and ears open  
 we're definitely ~

♦ "Keep your head on a swivel." "If you see something, say something."  
(Situational awareness.)

**surveillance: eye**

## eye (eyes and ears / attention)

eyes and ears

they were all ~ (Germans at a Oglala Sioux powwow)

it's a show for the ~ (gambling at casino)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye**

## eye (see eye to eye, etc.)

see eye to eye with my (new) boss

I don't ~

see eye to eye

we will never ~

they don't always ~ (European leaders)

they might ~ (two leaders)

**unanimity & consensus: eye**

## eye (naked eye)

naked-eye observer

an inexperienced ~ (sky phenomena)

naked-eye light phenomena

~ in the sky

naked eye, binoculars or telescope

don't look at the sun with the ~

invisible to the naked eye

trace evidence looks at microscopic evidence ~

visible to the naked eye

the comet should be ~

**help & assistance: clothing & accessories**

## eyeball (up to one's eyeballs)

up to their eyeballs in (dangerous) chemicals

these fish are ~ (tomcods in New York and New Jersey)

**involvement: eye**

## eyeball (attention)

eyeball

"~s," or the number of people drawn to a Web site

bring more eyeballs to boxing

these YouTubers are really corny and stuff, but they ~

brought a ton of eyeballs to her sport

her sex appeal has ~ (Danica Patrick)

**person: sign, signal, symbol**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye / sign, signal, symbol**

## eyeball (eyeball-popping)

eyeball-popping conference

an ~ (politics)

♦ "This has been the most dizzying, jaw-dropping, eyeball-popping, head-spinning news conference I have ever attended. And I was at Bill Clinton's news conference in 1998 when he faced the press for the first time over his relationship with Monica Lewinsky." (John Sopel for the BBC, following a press conference with President Trump on Monday, April 13, 2020.)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye / gesture**

**feeling, emotion & effect: eye / gesture**

## eyeball (sight)

map, eyeball, and stars

troops were still navigating by ~ (pre-GPS)

**sight: eye**

## eyebrow (raise eyebrows, etc.)

raised eyebrows

it ~ last month when... (officer criticizes another officer)

his comments ~

a seaside town in Japan has ~ after it...

the report ~...

his decision ~

raises an eyebrow

the timing ~

raised no eyebrows

the marriage ~ (professor / student)

raised (so many) eyebrows

he ~ with his announcement

raising scientific eyebrows

that's one of the strange things that's ~

the other issue that is ~ is how the virus has mutated

raised some eyebrows in government

it was a decision that privately ~

instantly raised eyebrows

the timing of the murder ~

eyebrows lift

their ~, they can't quite hide their disapproval

eyebrows raised

there were some ~ when Bale was left out of the game

♦ "I was just really sort of eyebrow raised... (Disbelief. Heard on *Who? Weekly*.)

♦ "Everybody's eyebrows hit the ceiling." (Something Queen Elizabeth II said in private to a group of people.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: eye / gesture**

## eyebrow-raising (adjective)

eyebrow-raising claim

her ~ aroused skepticism in scientific circles

eyebrow-raising ideas

he voiced some ~ about women (upset)

eyebrow-raising tweet

President Trump issued an ~ Friday morning

eyebrow-raising words

Justice Scalia has used some ~ (argle-bargle, etc.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: eye / gesture**

## eyebrow-raising (noun)

a little bit of eyebrow-raising  
there's ~, how will you regulate this

some eyebrow-raising  
there is ~ to be had in the fine print (a report)

**feeling, emotion & effect: eye / gesture**

## eye-catching

eye-catching  
the figures were ~ (# of excess deaths / pandemic)

eye-catching glow  
she projected a happy, ~

eye-catching moves  
he's got ~ (a very good lacrosse player)

eye-catching (white) suit  
a curvy Southern belle in an ~

eye-catching win  
she had an ~ at Indian Wells (a tennis player)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye**

## eye-opener

eye-opener  
the visit was an ~  
it is an ~ in several ways ("Lan Yu," filmed in Beijing)

**consciousness & awareness: eye**

## eye-opening

eye-opening  
the new information was ~ (a murder investigation)

**consciousness & awareness: eye**

## eye-popping

eye-popping (stock) performance  
years of ~

eye-popping \$46 million  
he pulled in an ~ (campaign contributions)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / eye**

## eye-roll (dismissal)

biggest eye-roll  
that is the ~ I've ever seen you do

become an eye-roll  
the term has ~ (*woke*)

♦ see also *eye (roll one's eyes)*

**comprehension & incomprehension: eye / gesture**

## eyesore (noun)

eyesore

the tower is an ~ (on a mountain)  
the cell tower near Yellowstone's Old Faithful is an ~  
the armory is an ~ right now and needs a facelift

armory is an eyesore  
the ~ right now and needs a facelift

tower is an eyesore  
the ~ (on a mountain)

criticized as an eyesore  
the cell tower has been ~ (in Yellowstone)

**appearance: eye / health & medicine**

**flaws & lack of flaws: eye**

## F

### fabius (Fabius Maximus)

fabiused [our affairs] into a very disagreeable posture  
he has ~ (criticism of General George Washington)

♦ The name of the Roman general Fabius Maximus is a byword for caution and delay in warfare. He led Rome against Hannibal. The Fabian Society is named after this general. Fabians are socialists who advocate a gradual reform of capitalism, as opposed to Marxists, who would overthrow it. The Fabian Society was formed in England in 1884 and exists to this day.

♦ "*Columbusing* is a word that can be used to describe the reappropriation or perhaps misappropriation of African-American culture—for instance, various slang terms that get appropriated by a white mainstream audience. We see that happening quite a lot in language and culture, so this is a clever and rather sarcastic term for that phenomenon." (Ben Zimmer, language columnist for *The Wall Street Journal*. From "Die-In, Vortex, Selfie Stick: What's The Word Of 2014?" by NPR Staff, Pop Culture, December 28, 2014. The word refers to discovering something that is not new, and was "popularized in a College Humor video that came out this summer." The article has a link to that YouTube humor video "*Columbusing*: Discovering Things For White People.")

**allusion: military**

**action, inaction & delay: allusion / history / military / part of speech**

### fabric (fabric of society, etc.)

fabric of (accepted) conduct  
cheating is woven into the ~

fabric of democracy  
people living and working together is the ~

fabric of our nation  
their legacy is woven through the ~ today (gen WW I)

fabric of our society  
this division tears at the very ~ (elite vs. underclass)

city's fabric  
violence has become a part of the ~ (Baltimore / drugs)

cultural fabric  
rodeo is sewn deep into the ~ (the Great Plains)

social fabric  
the stress of collapsing economies can tear the ~ apart  
we have to consider the ~ of Lebanon (politics)

part of the fabric

I don't remember it being ~ (a sports tradition)

part of the (city's) fabric

violence has become a ~ (Baltimore / drugs)

fraying the fabric

logging and roads are ~ of nature

eat away at the fabric

these are things that ~ of our city (hate crime on gays)

tearing at the fabric

this is ~ of people's lives (oil spill)

threaded itself into the fabric

the gang has ~ of the village

woven into the fabric

cheating is ~ of accepted conduct

Arab Americans are deeply ~ of America

**bases / environment: cloth**

### **fabricate (verb)**

fabricated her story for money and fame

he claimed she ~ (sex-abuse trial)

fabricated his account

there was no reason to believe that he ~ (crime)

fabricate data

the fear that doctors who own company stock will ~

fabricated evidence

he ~ that he had cloned human cells (scientist)

fabricated the figures

many questioned whether the medical examiner had ~

fabricated (various) Black identities

she ~ (an academic)

fabricated and falsified

MIT said he ~ data in a scientific paper;

he ~ research findings (breast-cancer researcher)

♦ She fabricated various Black identities, including Black Caribbean, North African Blackness, US rooted Blackness, Caribbean rooted Bronx Blackness, *Boricua*... (An academic.)

**creation & transformation: manufacturing / verb**

### **fabricated**

fabricated data

a large study was based on ~ (published cancer study)

inaccurate, incomplete or fabricated

~ evidence

**creation & transformation: manufacturing**

### **fabrication (lying)**

fabrication

the quote was a ~

fabrication and plagiarism

he committed widespread ~ in news articles

**creation & transformation: manufacturing**

### **façade (noun)**

façade of (mutual) esteem

the two men masked their hostility by a ~

façade of normalcy

it was a total ~ (US intelligence fail in Afghanistan)

façade of respectability

he lifted the ~ to reveal the hypocrisy

cracks in Bierenbaum's façade

~ started to appear (surgeon convicted of murder)

maintained a façade of negotiation

the government began planning military action while it ~

peered behind the facade

the center's reputation had taken some hits from reporters who'd ~

**appearance & reality / concealment & lack of concealment / subterfuge / substance & lack of substance: infrastructure**

### **face (identity and nature)**

face of boxing

he changed the ~ (Muhammad Ali)

face of fashion

model diversity and the ever-changing ~

face of war

the true ~ in all its joylessness and hopelessness

changing face

the ~ of a rural Colorado community (immigration)

changing the face

they are ~ of competitive skateboarding (Sky, Bombette)

**identity & nature: face**

### **face (yellowface, etc.)**

blackface

"~, " when white actors portray Black characters (history)

the ugly history of ~ (NPR / Code Switch)

"US Soprano offended by ~ pulls out of Italy opera" (NYP)

brownface

"~" in US entertainment (Al Pacino as Tony Montana, etc.)

"~" is similar to the term "blackface"

*Jonah from Tonga* has sparked a discussion on "~"

Jewface

recent ~ controversies (Helen Mirren as Golda Meir, etc.)

the term ~ (when a Jew watches non-Jews play Jews)

redface

yellowface or brownface or blackface or ~...

white face

this is ~, why not cancelled (*White Chicks* film)

white-face

Blacks can use ~ and make fun of whites (*White Chicks*)

*Whiteface*

Jay Gatsby: *A Black Man in ~* (2017 / by Janet Savage)

yellowface

“~, when people attempt to look Asian  
the past and present of “~”

is there more ~, or are we just more aware of it  
in some respects ~ and blackface are the same (Erin Quill)

♦ Eye makeup that makes one look vaguely Asian; wearing kimonos or qipaos; mincing steps; tittering behind fans, excessive bowing; evil characterizations... (Yellowface.)

♦ “Why don’t Jews play Jews?”—David Baddiel on the row over Helen Mirren as Golda Meir” by David Baddiel, *The Guardian*, 12 Jan 2022.

♦ “On Earth Day, 1971, nonprofit organization Keep America Beautiful launched what the Ad Council would later call one of the ‘50 greatest commercials of all time.’ Dubbed ‘The Crying Indian,’ the one-minute PSA features a Native American man paddling down a junk-infested river, surrounded by smog, pollution, and trash; as he hauls his canoe onto the plastic-infested shore, a bag of rubbish is tossed from a car window, exploding at his feet. The camera then pans to the Indian’s cheerless face just as a single tear rolls down his cheek. / The ad, which sought to combat pollution, was widely successful...and helped reduce litter by 88% across 38 states... / But while Hollywood trumpeted Iron Eyes Cody as a ‘true Native American’ and profited from his ubiquitous image, the man himself harbored an unspoken secret: he was 100% Italian.” (“The True Story of ‘The Crying Indian’” by Zachary Crockett, *Priceonomics*, September 9, 2014. See the Wikipedia entry “Iron Eyes Cody.” Astonishingly, the Ad Council *still* features “The Crying Indian” PSA in its “Our History / The Classics” section, along with its War Bonds, Red Cross, Polio, the Peace Corps, and Crime Prevention campaigns.)

♦ “Where Caucasians seem to get bothered and confused by colorblind casting is they believe it means that they, Caucasians, now get to play any other race because the next Cinderella on Broadway is going to be African-American. / They feel it is a quid pro quo: you get to be in a show, then we get to play you in a show. *But that is not how it was ever supposed to work* [italics mine]. And it is a bastardization what is supposed to be happening.” (Erin Quill, who blogs about diversity in casting, about colorblind casting.)

♦ “The images last year from the Asian fraternity that dressed up in blackface for a party (and filmed it!) were so disappointing.” (Leilani Nishime. Shouldn’t have filmed it...)

♦ “But what if they made Black Chicks with Zack Efron and Seth Rogan. Would they need that comedy too, I wonder? (As opposed to the Wayans brothers hilarious film, *White Chicks*.)

♦ “White Chicks is hella FUNNY! Need part 2!!!” (An online commenter.)

♦ “The NAACP said that it was problematic... but, if you’re looking at the Zulu Club within the tradition of masquerading and masking, painting one’s face is a part of Carnival, or it’s a part of a masquerade, and the Zulus will say that they could not afford masks. It was cheaper and it was accessible for them to actually paint their faces black... I mean, it’s a caricature, it’s Mardi Gras, it’s like everything is exaggerated, if you look at even Mardi Gras Krewe that are traditionally white, they also have these caricatures of white people and European features, and so, it’s an exaggeration. And while it’s connected to minstrelsy historically, I think that it was more rooted in this idea of a masquerade, a mask. People are really dismissive [of outsiders protesting the Zulus’ black face], to be honest with you. I think that New Orleans understands New Orleans’ traditions. The city has been very insular, right? A lot of our traditions have just existed without the participation and the scrutiny of people outside of New Orleans, and so I think that for the average black person in New Orleans, including those members of my family, they just simply do not connect the Black Face in Zulu with minstrelsy or making a mockery of black people and most certainly are not looking at it as an offensive tradition.” (“In New Orleans, The Fight Over Blackface Renews Scrutiny Of A Mardi Gras Tradition,” NPR, All Things Considered, 3 March 2019. The Zulu Club was founded in 1909.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affix / possession**

**face (public face, etc.)**

face of climate denial

President Trump has become the ~ (Al Gore)

face of (sideline) protests

he became the ~ (NFL’s Kaepernick)

face of resistance

he was one ~ to the Nazis at Stalingrad (Vasily Zaitsev)

international face

he was the ~ of Iraq (Tariq Aziz)

public face

he is the ~ of the proposed community center

he has become the ~ of the hospital (chief of trauma)

Yamani became the ~ of the oil embargo (1973)

the Defense Secretary is the ~ of the Pentagon

**representation: face / picture / sign, signal, symbol**

**face (look something in the face)**

looked their tragic history in the face

the Americans had never ~

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: face / verb**

**face (in one’s face)**

in your face

some of these feminists can be really ~ (a Swiss woman)

racism can be covert and underhanded, versus ~

in each other’s face

the coaches want the players ~ (to call out mistakes)

in-your-face president

he is an ~

get in people’s faces

she was not afraid to ~ (a politician)

♦ “Why are we firing them, why are we blaming them, attacking and demonizing them, why are we in their face?” (The unvaccinated.)

♦ “We’re not going anywhere; we’re here to stay; we’re in your face; we’re present and not absent; you will not erase us... (Different groups.)

♦ “Running while brown. Skittish while Muslim.” (NPR. Code Switch. Race. In Your Face.)

♦ “He was the originator of getting in your face and talking trash.” (Orlando Woolridge about the great NBA star Larry Bird, a Hoosier from French Lick, Indiana.)

**conflict / resistance, opposition & defeat: face**

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: face**

**face (conflict)**

get in people’s faces

she was not afraid to ~ (a politician)

get out of my face

now ~ (leave / rude)

**conflict: face**

**face (fall on one’s face, etc.)**

fall on their faces

I hope the Browns continue to ~ (NFL snark)

**success & failure: face / position**

### face (face facts, etc.)

face your problems  
you have to ~ head on

face facts  
it's time to ~

face the facts  
she urged her youngest daughter to ~

faced the reality  
he finally ~ that the agency was bumbling (C.I.A.)

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: face / verb**

### face (brave face, etc.)

putting on a brave face  
his allies are ~ (politics)

put your best face forward  
sometimes you just have to ~

put a brave face on this awful situation  
they are trying to ~

**appearance & reality: face**

### face (egg on one's face, etc.)

have egg on their face  
Australia ~ (goalie blunder at Qatar World Cup)

**flaws & lack of flaws: face**

### face (face anger, etc.)

face anger  
leaders ~ across Nigeria

faces the ax  
the show still ~ (TV)

face (tight) budgets  
schools ~

face the challenge  
soldiers must ~ of combat with leadership, initiative, skill

faces a charge  
he ~ of theft by deception

facing charges  
they are ~ of murder and aggravated assault

faced collapse  
the company asked for government intervention as it ~

face danger  
once you ~ over and over you lose your fear

face death  
they still ~ by beheading (Saudi Arabia)

face my death

a nursing staff that will help me ~ (dying)

face discrimination  
their children ~ in Somali schools (Somali Bantus)  
many Israeli Arabs say they ~

face (widespread) discrimination  
laborers from rural areas ~ (in large cities)

faces a (potential rabies) epidemic  
the city ~

faces eviction  
the business ~ when its lease expires (nightclub)

faces a (terrible economic) inheritance  
the government ~ (Britain)

face (tough) penalties  
some young abusers do ~ (animal abuse)

face (strong family) pressure  
they ~ to be dutiful sons

faces a (rough) road  
President Obama ~ (politics)

faces (potential) sanctions  
Missouri ~ (sports)

faces (big) test  
US ~ in ambitious troop rotation

faced a (new) threat  
the Rangers ~ (mortars / Takur Ghar)

face forced marriages  
five girls ~ (Pakistan / result of vani tradition)

**fictive meeting & seeing: face / verb**

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: face / verb**

### face (in the face of)

in the face of adversity  
motivate soldiers to fight on ~  
the belief that men must be strong ~ (emotions)

in the face of authority  
the defiant gesture ~

in the face of change  
this marriage tradition is disappearing ~ (Yupiks)

in the face of danger  
we will not blink ~ (military)

in the face of (harrowing) danger  
his heroic actions ~ (military)

in the face of death  
all fear of embarrassment or failure fall way ~

in the face of failure  
the team has demonstrated resilience ~  
why do some persist ~ while others give up

in the face of their fury  
the ceasefire meant little ~

in the face of a (major) threat  
what would they do ~ (military)

in the face of (faculty) unrest  
~ (at a college)

blink in the face of danger  
we will not ~ (military)

wilt in the face of threats  
we will not ~

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: face**  
**resistance, opposition & defeat: face**  
**appearance & disappearance: face**

## face (fly in the face)

fly in the face of notions  
the 2000 census findings ~ of...

flies in the face of (social) convention  
his work ~ (an artist)

fly in the face of the facts  
his findings ~

fly in the face of power  
artistic works that ~ (an award)

fly in the face of conventional wisdom  
his findings ~ (scientist)

♦ Have you ever been "dive-bombed" by a bird protecting its nest or territory? Perhaps that is the basis for this expression.

**resistance, opposition & defeat: bird**

## face (blow up in one's face)

blow up in his face  
it could ~ (if he ignored the infraction)

blown up in our face  
this has ~ (supporting Somali warlords)

**reversal: explosion / verb**

## face (slap in the face, etc.)

slap in the face  
see *slap (slap in the face, etc.)*

spit in the face  
see *spit (spit in the face / noun)*

**insult: face**

## face (concept)

loss of face  
easing him out of power without a ~

save face  
dictators always need to ~ (repression)

private face  
he had a public face and a ~

public face  
I have taken a lot of trouble with my ~ (Noel Coward)

true face  
Iranians hide their ~ (speech)

national, ideological and political face  
so much ~ was involved (building a huge dam)

hide their (true) face  
Iranians ~ (speech)

♦ "The mind thinks something, the heart feels something else, the tongue says something else, and manners do something else. It doesn't mean people are lying. They are just dealing with you with a different character." (Muhammad Atrianfar, an Iranian newspaper publisher, on the complexities of communicating with his fellow Iranians.)

♦ "Honne or *tatmae*?" (A Japanese expression for the difference between one's public facade and one's real feelings.)

**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty / society: face**

## face (appearance)

baby face  
the lean build, ~, and curly brown hair  
a full beard to hide his ~

game face  
suit up and put on his ~ (NASCAR driver)  
she had on her ~ (a law-enforcement officer)

**appearance: face**

## face (smiley face)

smiley-face  
~ stickers

putting a happy face on everything  
he was still ~ (politics and the pandemic)

**representation: face / picture / sign, signal, symbol**

## face (red face, red-faced, etc.)

red-faced  
I am ~ (embarrassment)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / color / face**

## face (face-palm, face palm)

face-palm bad  
my idea is bad, like you know, ~

face-palm moment  
it was truly a ~ (politician unwittingly reads joke names)

♦ "My idea is bad, like you know, face-palm bad." (The successful (relatively) young creative holds her palm to her eyes, feigning embarrassment but smiling.)

♦ "Holy Facepalm" left a "What do you think?" comment about a picture of EmRata wearing a tiny giraffe-print string bikini. Cheeky!

♦ "Great face-palm from the CNN host as Lemon and Ramaswamy fight!" (An online commenter.)

♦ See the excellent Wikipedia entry, "Facepalm." It's a meme, an emoji, etc. Apparently, mandrills do it, too. Who knew?

**feeling, emotion & effect: face / gesture / hand**

## Facebook (the Facebook of knitting, etc.)

Facebook of knitting

Ravelry is often called “the ~” (millions of accounts)

**size: epithet**

## faceless (adjective)

faceless bureaucracy

try as he may, he cannot penetrate a ~

**identity & nature: face**

## facelift (noun)

undergo a (major) facelift

the museum will ~ (Guggenheim)

**amelioration & renewal: face**

## face-saving (concept)

British face-saving

this is just an exercise in ~

face-saving compromise

he has quietly argued for a ~ that would...

exercise in (British) face-saving

this is just an ~

**social interaction / society: face**

## face up (face up to something)

face up to the need

the government was forced to ~ for urban planning

face up to this problem

soccer must ~ and tackle it (fan racism)

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: direction / face / verb**

## facing (future-facing, etc.)

future-facing

Polachek has a ~ sonic playfulness (vs. retro style)

**future / time: direction / eye**

**perception, perspective & point of view: direction / eye**

## factory (creation)

factory of extreme weather

the supercell can be a ~

factories for (left-wing) political activism

California schools are ~

factory for the production

it operated as a ~ of knowledge (universities)

disease-factory

packing our kids into a ~ (schools / pandemic)

dream factory

Los Angeles, the ~ (1980s / drugs, films, clubs)

**creation & transformation: manufacturing**

## factory (glue factory)

sent to the glue factory

it's time for Maguire to be ~ (disgruntled football fan)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: animal / horse / manufacturing**

## fade (verb)

faded into irrelevance

the group has ~

fades into obscurity

he may not mind if his name ~...

faded into the past

episodes of violence which have long ~

fade into the background

many prefer to ~ (teen-model sites on Internet)

faded into (grim) determination

my earlier feeling of achievement ~ as we struggled...

fades out of boxing

my hope is that Tyson just ~ (the boxer)

faded after a few weeks

her latest book got lousy reviews and ~

fades over the course of a month

anxiety following a trauma that ~ or so isn't depression

faded from the scene

the anti-crime campaign ~ in most urban areas

faded from sight

the Rebel Flag ~ when the South was defeated...

fading fast

America's reputation is ~ (Iraq)

faded steadily

a trauma that ~ over the course of a month

applause faded

as the ~ and he approached the lectern...

enthusiasm faded

his initial ~ (an employee)

fame faded

the ~ (a writer)

hopes faded

~ for 102 miners trapped in a flooded coal mine

his ~ (Montagnard in Cambodian refugee camp)

impression (soon) fades

but our initial ~ as... (of a film character)

memories fade

~... (time)

~ and memories change (a defense lawyer)

memories (of Katrina) have faded

but ~... (New Orleans)

memory (of the Hayman fire) fades  
as ~ (wildfire)

stigma is fading  
the TV appearance of teen victims suggests the rape ~

threat (of war with Spain) faded  
as the ~

old ways have been fading  
the ~ (Inuit)

begins to fade  
if we offer hope, then the stigma ~ (HIV and retrovirals)

starting to fade  
old ways of life are ~ as the Arctic thaws

♦ "TO LET / CARRIAGES COUPES HANSOMS VICTORIAS LIGHT  
WAGONS / HORSES BOARD BY THE MONTH." (A fading "ghost sign"  
on an old brick wall in New York City.)

**appearance & disappearance / decline / primacy, currency,  
decline & obsolescence: light & dark / verb**

## fade away (verb)

faded away  
he disappeared into obscurity, he just ~ (a civic leader)

fade away quickly  
their recent memories ~ (the elderly)

memories fade away  
their recent ~ quickly (the elderly)

support fades away  
as his ~... (leader of a country)

burn out or fade away  
playboating didn't ~ (whitewater rodeos, etc.)

**appearance & disappearance / coming, arriving, staying,  
leaving & returning: light & dark / verb**

## fail (a big fail, etc.)

Amazon fail  
an ~ is a learning experience (restaurant delivery)

debate fail  
after his ~ last week... (a politician)

stunning fail  
it was a ~ (Boeing's software problems with Max plane)

big fail  
I think it's a ~ (an ad campaign)

♦ In the dictionary I use, the only use of *fail* as a noun is in the  
expression, "without fail."

**failure, accident & impairment: part of speech**

## faint-hearted (the faint-hearted)

faint hearted  
academia, like war, is not for the ~  
this is a tough business model, it's not for the ~ (a pub)  
filmmaking is not a world for the ~ (Scorsese)

faint-hearted  
politics is a hard business, it has never been for the ~

**heart: force  
eagerness & reluctance / courage & lack of courage /  
strength & weakness: heart**

## fairy (Fairy Bridge, etc.)

Fairy Bridge  
we floated under the ~ (a natural arch on Buliu River)

Fairy Castle  
~ is a pillar in Bryce Canyon, Utah

Fairy Dell  
~ is a valley in Nevada

Fairy Ladder Falls  
we visited ~ near Dix Mountain

Fairyland Canyon  
~ is a valley in Bryce Canyon

Palace of the Fairy Queen  
the ~ is a pillar in Bryce Canyon

\* "They resemble humans, but their mouths are wider and their legs are  
much longer than ours, with the feet facing backward. They have wings  
to fly through the air, and are clad in green robes." (Mashraf Khan, the  
royally appointed wizard of Hunza, speaking of the snow fairies that, in  
Hunza tradition, inhabit the surrounding mountains in northwest  
Pakistan. Mashraf says that they have a king and a queen, and the  
queen makes prophecies, such as 'A girl will die a month from now,  
falling into the river to the north.' Mashraf says he dances with the  
fairies. People watch him dancing, but the fairies are invisible.)

♦ The *curupira* is a mischievous red-haired elf who has feet that face  
backwards and takes delight in making tracks that lead travelers astray.  
(The Amazon.)

♦ "Over there, so Myra used to say, the Little People dwell in caves on  
the mountainsides and under the waterfalls. They are a tiny folk, hardly  
reaching to a man's knee, but well formed and featured, with long hair  
reaching nearly to the ground. / They are fond of music and of dancing.  
Sometimes, on a summer day, when all else was silent about the cab,  
we would hear a far-off mysterious throbbing somewhere in that glen,  
and Myra would say to me 'Listen: it is the Little People beating their  
drums!' / She said they were kind to mortals who think kindly of them; but  
they play tricks on busybodies and other folk that they do not like. If a  
man gets too curious and spies on the Little People when they are at  
their games, or tries to enter their caves without being invited, or pokes  
behind the small waterfalls with a stick, they will cast a spell upon him so  
that he loses his way in the woods and goes wandering about in a daze.  
/ When one finds anything pretty in the woods or among the rocks he  
must say 'Little People, I want to take this,' for it may belong to them, and  
if he does not ask permission they will stone him away from the place. /  
Myra used to hint to me that old Grandpa Dale brought most of his bright  
crystals and colored stones from over there; and so, she said, he must  
be a great friend of the Little People, or they would not let him find such  
things, or would make them dissolve and fade away before he could take  
them out of the glen." (*Smoky Mountain Magic* by Horace Kephart.)

♦ According to a legend attributed to the Cherokee Indians, the Tallulah  
Gorge in northern Georgia was inhabited by a race of "little people."

**proper name: creature**

## fairy tale (happy)

fairy tale ending  
this was not the ~ his glittering career deserved (soccer)

fairy tale ending for the club's greatest goal scorer  
there was no ~ (Manchester City bottles final)

fairy-tale romance  
they had a ~

fairy-tale wedding  
and after the ~ things did get bad

modern day football fairy tale  
it's a ~ (the Jamie Vardy story)

♦ "Not every story has a fairytale ending."

**resemblance: books & reading**

## **fairy tale (fantasy, delusion)**

fairytale economics  
he has accused his rivals of ~ (tax cuts)

fairytale land  
Mr. Binger must live in ~ to think that... (a prosecutor)

fairy-tale thinking  
it's hard to tell if this is ~ or an evil plot (gamification)

just a fairy tale  
at first the coronavirus was ~, a rumor in the camp...

Black fairytale  
he called it "the first ~" (1988 film *Coming to America*)

Hollywood fairy tale  
the ~ that representation equals change (inclusion)

**fantasy & reality: books & reading**

## **faith (noun)**

blind faith  
he had this ~ in me (defensive coach)

lose faith  
I began to ~ in him

**allegiance, support & betrayal: religion**

## **faithful (the faithful, etc.)**

the Laker faithful  
obviously ~ will give us a lot of energy (LeBron James)

the pickleball faithful  
the ~ have looked to the town for assistance (courts, etc.)

**enthusiasm: religion**

## **fall (noun)**

fall of the (police) state  
with the ~

fall of the Soviet Union  
in the chaotic period following the ~ (nuclear arms)

fall from grace  
it was a stunning ~ (Elizabeth Holmes)

stunning fall  
now to the ~ of a CEO

dramatic fall

it was a ~from grace (Hollywood mogul)

hard fall  
Indonesia's economy has taken a ~

imminent fall  
diplomats predicted Taylor's ~ (Liberia)

took a fall  
religious coexistence ~ under Gen. Zia ul-Huq

**decline: direction**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction**

## **fall (fall from power, etc.)**

fallen from favor  
she has ~ (a replaced Broadway director)

fell from power  
he ~

stand or fall  
the theory will ~ on the strength of that argument

stood or fell  
the government ~ by its alliance with...

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction**

## **fall (defeat)**

fell to the Incas  
the Chimu Kingdom ~ (Peru)

fall to the opposition  
eastern Libya was first to ~

fell in the first round  
4 giants ~ (World Cup soccer)

fell without a shot  
the rebel forces evaporated, and the city ~

city fell  
the rebels fled and the ~ without a shot

**resistance, opposition & defeat: direction / verb**

## **fall (fall ill, etc.)**

fall ill  
their duty status at the time they ~...  
those who do ~ become infectious days earlier (dengue)  
they began to ~ with mysterious symptoms

**decline: direction / health & medicine / verb**

## **fall (fall into a coma, etc.)**

fell into a (fatal) coma  
he ~ after drinking bourbon (fraternity member)

fell into a (deep) depression  
he ~, popping pain pills and swilling tequila

fall into a funk  
it's easy to ~ about Russia's future  
the jobless aren't the only people who can ~ over work

fell into a (deep) sleep  
he ~

fall into a dream state  
its victims ~ (tokoloshe)

**consciousness & awareness: direction / health & medicine  
/ verb**

### **fall (fall into a rage, etc.)**

fell into a depression  
she ~

fell into a (deep) depression  
he ~, popping pain pills and swilling tequila

fell into panic  
I ~ (a student)

fell into rages  
he ~ (after traumatic brain injury)

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / verb**

### **fall (on Friday, etc.)**

fell on a school night  
Halloween ~

**occurrence: direction  
time: height**

### **fall (night fell, etc.)**

dark had fallen  
full ~ by now

night had fallen  
~ by the time we set up camp

**occurrence: direction  
time: height**

### **fall (silence fell, etc.)**

fell into (an uncomfortable) silence  
they ~

silence fell  
a ~

**occurrence / sound: direction  
increase & decrease: sound**

### **fall (numbers)**

fell 50%  
attendance ~

fall to (abnormally low) levels  
causes the blood sugar to ~

fell to 165 pounds from 198  
his weight ~ (injured bedridden skier)

fell to 16 below zero  
temperatures ~

fell to single digits

his popularity ratings ~

fell to 190 million kilograms  
the country's tea exports ~ (India)

fell steadily  
AIDS cases ~ as new, more effective drugs took hold

attendance fell  
~ more than 50 percent (at a museum)

cases fell  
AIDS ~ as new, more effective drugs took hold

exports fell  
the country's tea ~ to 190 million kilograms (India)

population has fallen  
Malaysia's wild-tiger ~ from 3,000 to 500 (2008)

ratings fell  
his popularity ~ to single digits

temperatures fell  
~ to 16 below zero

weight fell  
his ~ to 165 pounds from 198 (bedridden injured skier)

ridership fell  
~ as tourism slumped (cabs)

viewership has been falling  
~ (the Olympics)

blood pressure falls  
~, the pulse is rapid and weak (shock)

death rates (per vehicle mile) have fallen

**decline: direction / verb  
increase & decrease: number**

### **fall (money)**

fell 6 percent  
revenues ~ (a company)

fell by 0.6%  
construction spending ~ in November (US)

income fell  
its ~ because of... (a company)  
prices have been falling  
disk ~ (computers / storage)

prices (subsequently) fell  
oil ~ as low as \$10 a barrel

revenues fell  
~ 6 percent (a company)

shares fall  
profits rise, but ~ at G.E.

stock fell  
the ~ even though the company...

spending fell

construction ~ by 0.6% in November (US)

continue falling

commission prices are likely to ~

**decline: direction / verb**

### fall (fall into place)

falling into place

all the pieces to this investigation are ~

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: puzzle**

### fall (fall short)

fall (far) short of acceptance

we'll see improvement, but it will ~

fall short of demand

the teacher supply will continue to ~

fell (7,000) short of its (recruiting) goal

the Navy ~

fell (far) short of the (UN) goals

the plan ~ for combating...

falls short of its hype

the city ~ (Seattle)

fell short of its promises

Facebook ~ to...

falls short of requirements

improvise where the logistics system ~ (war)

falls short of (professional) standards

a doctor can be admonished if he ~

fell short of its (enlistment) target

the Navy ~

fall short of torture

methods that ~, such as sleep deprivation

fell (far) short of meeting

it ~ the Congressional intent (government plan)

fell 7,000 short

the Navy ~ of its recruiting goal

**success & failure: direction / target**

**failure, accident & impairment: target**

### fall (fall on / upon)

fell upon hard times

she ~

fallen on hard times

the team has ~ (losing record)

**decline: direction**

### fall (an emotion can fall)

rose and fell

hope ~ as the hours passed (mine-rescue attempt)

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction**

### fall (fall in love)

fell in love with America

I ~ (an exchange student)

fall in love with the (area's) seascapes

artists ~ (northern Jutland)

fell in love with (tribal) carvings

Andre Breton ~ from Oceania (artist)

fell in love with the sport

like a lot of boys, he ~ straightaway (Ben Raemers)

fallen in love with climbing

he had ~ after taking a NOLS course

fell in love with cycling

she ~ while on a holiday in Turkey (an Iraqi female)

♦ "What can I say, I'm in love with birds." (A birder.)

♦ "To meet a walrus is to fall in love with a walrus." (A walrus researcher.)

♦ "I love maps, and when you get hooked, you get hooked." (W. Graham Arader III, a preeminent map dealer of old American maps.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction**

**enthusiasm: love, courtship & marriage**

### fall (weight)

weight (of the tragedy) fell

the full ~ over the neighborhood (AIDS)

burden falls

the ~ primarily on women (decisions)

**oppression: direction / weight**

### fall (fall into a category, etc.)

fall into (3) categories

pattern injuries ~ (ED)

falls into the (choking-agent) class

chlorine is a chemical that ~ (ED)

fall into (two) groups

field services ~—essential and nonessential (war)

fell into (two) groups

he believed people ~: prey and predator

falls into the (latter) group

don't worry if your child ~

**taxonomy & classification: direction**

### fall (fall into the hands, etc.)

fallen into the hands

regions that have ~ of the insurgents

fall into (enemy) hands

the material could ~ (military)

fell into (rebel) hands

the stronghold of Korhogo ~

falls into the (company's) lap  
consumer data ~

fall into the hands  
weapons that may ~ of terrorists (NBC, etc.)

fall into the (wrong) hands  
it could ~

fall into enemy hands  
he feared the machine gun could ~

fell into the wrong hands  
if the information ~

**possession: direction / hand / verb**

### **fall (fall into chaos, etc.)**

fall into an abyss  
women with eating disorders ~ and can't get out

fell into (bloody, lawless) chaos  
Afghanistan ~

fall into a (relentless) cycle  
sufferers ~ of compulsive scratching

fallen into disrepair  
the property had ~

fallen into disuse  
many fire lookout towers have ~

fall into the habit  
it is easy to ~ of using stereotypes to prejudge people

fell into the life  
their children ~ of American teenagers (Somalis)

fell into a pattern  
he ~ and was caught (criminal)

fall into prostitution  
homeless kids often ~ as a form of "survival sex"

fell into the trap  
the Marines ~ (ambush in Anbar Province)

fallen into a trap  
the Bush administration has ~ (by invading Iraq)

fell into drug abuse  
she ~, self-mutilation and promiscuity (teenager)

fell into a state of disrepair  
the terminal ~ (Grand Central Terminal)

easy to fall into  
it is ~ the habit of using stereotypes to prejudge people

**decline: direction / verb**

### **fall (devolve)**

falls to the sheriffs  
the ultimate responsibility for safety ~ (of jailed inmates)

responsibility (for safety) falls

the ultimate ~ to the sheriffs (of jailed inmates)

**responsibility: direction**

### **fall (fall off the radar screen, etc.)**

fell off the charts  
the song rose to number 3, then ~

fell off the radar screen  
both men ~ (terrorists)

**appearance & disappearance: direction / verb**

### **fall apart (emotionally)**

falls apart  
he ~ at the merest hint of frustration (toddler)

fell apart  
he ~ and turned to heroin (after being molested)  
I ~ and started using drugs

**feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism / verb**

### **fall apart (verb)**

fell apart  
my life ~ after I discovered...  
their relationship ~ (married couple)  
the case ~ (criminal trail)

fallen apart  
the case against him has ~

argument falls apart  
but then his ~

arrangement fell apart  
less than 2 years later, the ~

life fell apart  
my ~ after I discovered...

marriage fell apart  
she described how her perfect ~

plans can fall apart  
even the best of ~...

things fell apart  
that's what happened in Africa, ~ (aid projects)

**failure, accident & impairment: mechanism / verb**

### **fall behind (competition and progress)**

fall behind  
we want to keep up and not ~ (government official)  
the US could ~ China (digital currency)

“falling behind” in math and science  
the long-held anxiety that Americans are somehow ~

fallen behind at Fremont  
he had ~, not just in history but... (school)

fell behind by 3 years  
our program ~ (space)

doomed to fall behind  
they are ~ (certain categories of students)

keep up and not fall behind  
we want to ~ (government official)

**competition / growth & development / progress & lack of progress: direction / journeys & trips / movement / sports & games / verb / walking, running & jumping**

### fall down (verb)

fell down  
he ~ and now he's getting back up (redemption)

**behavior / success & failure: direction / verb failure, accident & impairment: verb / walking, running & jumping**

### fallen (dead)

fallen detective  
the NYPD paid tribute to its ~ (killed in line of duty)

**death & life: direction / euphemism**

### fallen (the fallen)

living and the fallen  
may God bless them, the ~ (speech to military)

**death & life: direction / euphemism**

### fall for (verb)

fell for it  
it was a scam, but more than 400 people ~

fell for opera  
a gramophone and Mozart, or how I ~

fell for each other  
in college, they instantly ~ (romance)

fall head over heels  
you will ~ for this book

stupidly fell for  
how we ~ for STEM (education)

♦ "Any woman who grew up during the late 1960s and '70s will fall head over heels for Sheila Weller's *Girls Like Us*." (*Ladies' Home Journal*)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: direction / verb**

### fall guy (noun)

fall guy  
he says he was forced to be the '~' (fired)

**punishment & recrimination / sacrifice: person**

### fall off (verb)

rates fall off  
~ rapidly after the peak (meteor shower)

**decline / increase & decrease: direction / verb**

### falloff (noun)

falloff in travel  
there has been a ~ to and from Bali (terrorism)

**decline / increase & decrease: direction**

### fallout (effect)

fallout of an (Iraqi) war  
they are worried about the ~ (Egyptians)

fallout from the allegations  
the firm faces continued ~ (fraud)

fallout from the incident  
the ~ was unexpected and severe

fallout from the resignation  
the newspaper is still coping with the ~ of...

political fallout  
he faces the potential for ~ (politics)

psychological fallout  
the ~ to those who served in Vietnam

mental-health fallout  
the ~ has yet to peak (Gulf of Mexico)

contain the fallout  
the US seeks to ~ from the murders of civilians

bracing for (more) fallout  
Washington is ~ from the scandal

♦ "Some seventy per cent of the fallout landed on Belarus and created an unprecedented public-health crisis." (*The Chernobyl disaster of 1996, Ukraine.*)

**affliction / effect / feeling, emotion & effect: atmosphere / nuclear energy**

### fallow (adjective)

fallow  
the economy is still ~ (lack of growth)

fallow period  
she was enduring a ~ and fighting irrelevance (comic)  
she endured ~s in her personal life (relationships)  
the following 7 years were a ~ (a bacteriologist)

fallow stretch  
Disney has seen a ~ at the box office (films)

fallow territory  
FIFA sees the US as ~ for soccer's growth

fallow time  
it was a ~, a frustrating time for him

more fallow  
the intervening years have been ~ (after Calzaghe / Wales)

lay fallow  
his analysis ~ for half a century (economics)

lying fallow  
the pier has been ~ for a long time (development)

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant**

## fall through (verb)

adoption fell through  
if the ~ and they often do...

deal fell through  
but the ~ because...

plans had fallen through  
~ (for a shared meal)

sale fell through  
the ~ (protests)

talks fall through  
should the trade ~

**success & failure: direction / verb**

**failure, accident & impairment: direction / verb**

## false flag (subterfuge)

false flag for the election  
is it a Likud ~ (a provocation)

“false-flag” attack  
the regime called it a ~ by the rebels against their own side

false flag operation  
a ~ is right out of their playbook (military tensions)  
the apparent attack could have been a ~ (Ukrainian claim)

♦ “Broken and squally weather rendered the attempt to land impracticable for a week; and in the meantime a French frigate, which, by capturing some British ships, had become acquainted with our private signals, and daringly accompanied the expedition as if she formed part of it, suddenly shot ahead of the fleet, and, hoisting the tricolour, ran safely into the harbour of Alexandria, with a reinforcement for General Menou.” (“Alexandria, 1801” from *British Battles on Land and Sea*.)

**subterfuge: flags & banners**

## falter (verb)

negotiations faltered  
he threatened China with new tariffs as ~

plans have faltered  
their ~

**failure, accident & impairment / starting, going, continuing & ending: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## family (group)

family  
policing is a ~ (Sgt Matt Ratana)

family of nations  
Russia had no place in the ~ (18th century)

rugby family  
our thoughts and those of the entire ~ are with the family

member of the (European) family  
do we want to remain a ~ or wander lost (EU)

drive Greece out of the family  
the EU is a heartless stepmother trying to ~

**relationship: family**

## family (gang / group)

Mafia family  
New York's biggest ~

**group, set & collection: family**

## family (plants)

onion family  
the ramp, a member of the ~

orchid family  
the ~ has more than 40,000 species

plant family  
120 ~s and 300 species (Botanical Gardens)

**taxonomy & classification: family**

## family (animals)

families of Arabian horses  
there are five great ~

dolphin family  
killer whales, or orcas, are the largest members of the ~

pinniped family  
monk seals are the oldest in the ~

equine family  
the donkey, mule, and zebra are all members of the ~

**taxonomy & classification: family**

## family (viruses)

family of coronaviruses  
a new strain from the ~ is to blame (SARS)

family of viruses  
it is a ~ that... (coronaviruses)  
dengue is from the same ~ that causes yellow fever

viral family  
monkeypox is a member of the same ~ as smallpox

**taxonomy & classification: family**

## family (products)

family of engines  
the JT8D-200 is from the same ~ used on midsize jets

notebook family  
the ~ that's won over 800 awards (computers)

combat vehicle family  
each member of the future ~

member of the (future vehicle) family  
each ~ (military)

**taxonomy & classification: family**

## family (languages)

linguistic family

40 ethnic groups belonging to 3 ~s (Africa)

**taxonomy & classification: family**

## family tree

family tree

the roots of his ~ lie in Ireland

**branching system: family / tree**

## famine (noun)

feast to famine

it was ~ in a couple of weeks (laid-off tech worker)

go from feast to famine

you ~, bologna to steak back to bologna (coal miner)

♦ The Great Irish Famine ("The Great Hunger, 1845-1852); The Russian famine of 1921-1922 (Volga and the Urals); the Ukraine famine of 1932-33; the Siege of Leningrad... (Starvation.)

♦ "His wife was called Itusarsuk. She loved children because once, during a hunger period, she had to kill four of her own to spare them from the death of starvation... / Itusarsuk was highly respected because of her deed. She had loved her children enough to kill them so as to free them from further sufferings." (*Book of the Eskimos* by Peter Freuchen.)

♦ "Who in the desert had never tasted drought? Who had not been driven into exile by famine? Such things were the inescapable fate of the desert—and all the songs of the desert were an expression of this grief, drought, and homelessness..." (From *Gold Dust* by Ibrahim al-Koni.)

♦ "Like most creatures of the Wild, the grey cub early experienced famine. There came a time when not only did the meat-supply cease, but the milk no longer came from his mother's breast. At first the cubs whimpered and cried, but for the most part they slept...reduced to a coma of hunger...while the life that was in them flickered and died down. When the grey cub came back to life...he found...only one sister remained to him. The rest were gone. [And] the food had come too late for her. She slept continuously, a tiny skeleton flung round with skin in which the flame flickered lower and lower and at last went out." (*White Fang* by Jack London.)

**consumption / sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food & drink**

## fan (verb)

fan the flames

this senator sought to further ~ of division

they just ~ to get clicks (the media online)

high winds helped ~

fanned the flames

he has ~ of the controversy

fanning the flames

he is ~ of hostility towards Muslims (a politician)

fanning civil war

Iran and Syria have been ~ in Iraq

ignite and fan

it's a way to ~ the flames of an epidemic (wildlife markets)

**increase & decrease / initiation: fire / verb**

## fan (shape)

alluvial fan

a vast ~ extends out into the Bay of Bengal

♦ "As the sky breaks open / Its fans around him and shimmers / And into its northern gates he rises / Snarling complete in the joy of a weasel / With an elk's horned heart in his stomach..." ("For the Last Wolverine" by James L. Dickey. The aurora resembles a fan both in shape and movement.)

**resemblance / shape: fan**

## fanatic (person)

fitness fanatic

he is a ~

health fanatic

he is a fitness trainer and a ~

jade fanatic

Hu Xianli, a self-professed ~ from Zhejiang Province

sports fanatic

she describes herself as a ~ (Miss USA)

camel racing fanatic

a ~ bought a racing camel for \$2.7 million (UAE)

self-professed (jade) fanatic

Hu Xianli, a ~ from Zhejiang Province

describes herself as a sports fanatic

she ~ (Miss USA)

♦ "My motto is, 'Be fit, not fanatic.'" (Exercise in moderation.)

♦ Reda The Elephant (Tunisia); Petit Bamba (Ivory Coast); Spike Lee (New York City)... (Internationally famous sports fans.)

♦ *Fan* is short for *fanatic*, which comes from the Latin *fanaticus*, "in or of the temple," from *fanum*, or temple, and took on the meaning "inspired by divinity." It began to be used in the US around 1900 by sportswriters writing about baseball enthusiasts, and the Hollywood movie industry would spin off *fan* magazines.

**enthusiasm: person / religion**

## fanaticism (enthusiasm)

sneakerhead fanaticism

it's a masterly satire of ~ ("The Day the Jordans Drop")

♦ "These were as brave men as ever walked the earth...destroyed, not conquered, by machinery." (Winston Churchill, about the Battle of Omdurman. From *Churchill: Walking With Destiny* by Andrew Roberts.)

**enthusiasm: religion**

## fanboy (person)

fanboy status

he's made no secret of his ~ (a judge for another / SCOTUS)

**enthusiasm: person / religion**

## fanfare (attention)

with much fanfare

her appointment was announced ~ (air force)

with little fanfare

the question was added to the forms ~ in 2008

with little (advanced) fanfare  
he visited smaller towns, ~ (a presidential candidate)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: music**

## fan out (verb)

fanned out from Moscow  
“politically literate” young Bolsheviks ~ to the rural areas

fanning out over the country  
census workers are ~ (India)

**movement: fan / shape**

**extent & scope: fan**

## fantasy (dream)

fantasy was that  
my ~ I could...

my fantasy  
you are the most beautiful woman in the world, you are ~  
that was ~ growing up (to be a chess grandmaster)

living my fantasy  
I guess I'm ~ (a music groupie)

♦ “Someday, we're gonna have us a little house and a couple acres, and a cow and a pig and chickens. And have rabbits. We're gonna have a big vegetable patch and we're gonna have a rabbit hutch. And down in the flat we'll have a little field of alfalfa. Yeah, you get to tend the rabbits. When it rains, in the winter, we'll just say hell with going to work, and we'll just build a fire in the stove, and we'll just sit there, and we'll listen to the rain.” (George speaking to Lennie. From the 1992 film *Of Mice and Men*, with Gary Sinise and John Malkovich, screenplay by Horton Foote, based on the novella by John Steinbeck.)

♦ “Wait till I get to California! I'm gonna reach up and pick me an orange whenever I want it! Or some grapes—now-now-now—there's something I ain't never had enough of. I'm gonna get me a whole big bunch of grapes off 'en the bush, and I'm gonna squash them all over my face and let the juice drain down off my chin. (Stuttering) M-M-M-Maybe I'll get me a whole washtub full of grapes and just sit in 'em and scrounge around in 'em until they're all gone. I sure would like that. Yes, sir, I sure would like that. Yeah.” (From the great 1940 John Ford film *The Grapes of Wrath*, based on the novel by John Steinbeck.)

♦ “In the Big Rock Candy Mountains, all the cops have wooden legs, and the bulldogs all have rubber teeth, and the hens lay soft-boiled eggs. The brakemen have to tip their hats, and the railroad bulls are blind. There are birds and bees and cigarette trees, and lemonade springs where the bluebird sings, Oh I'm bound to go where there ain't no snow, where the rain don't fall and the wind don't blow, in the Big Rock Candy Mountains.” (The hobo song written by Harry “Haywire Mac” McClintock. Heard in the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*)

♦ “If wishes were horses, beggars would ride!”

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: mental health**

## fantasy (fairy tale, etc.)

fantasy land  
it's ~, brother, enjoy it (Logan Paul vs. Mayweather)

feminist fantasy  
I fell headlong into the frantic ~

♦ “I fell headlong into the frantic feminist fantasy of *State of Terror*... The twist here is the gender of the action figure, who's barking commands and sweating her mascara off in the effort to save American democracy. Not only is she female, but she's a late middle-aged Secretary of State named Ellen Adams...” (Maureen Corrigan loves Hillary Clinton's book.)

**fantasy & reality / resemblance: books & reading**

## fantasy (delusion)

fantasy  
these charges are a ~ cooked up by the prosecutors

fantasy science  
the company was based on ~ (Theranos)

delusion, denial and fantasy  
they seek refuge in ~ (the Middle East)

**fantasy & reality: mental health**

## far (farther on / time)

200 years further on  
~ again, he enthuses about the Bauhaus (German history)

**past & present / time: distance**

## far (far from, etc.)

far from where  
we're still so ~ we need to be (testing for COVID)

far from the finish line  
deep into the rat race, ~ of retirement

far (away) from the next scandal  
he was never ~ (John McAfee)

far from over  
the criticism and handwringing is ~ (foreign-policy issue)  
the legal saga was ~

far from perfect  
she was ~ as the USA finished second (gymnastics)

♦ see also *way (a long way from, etc.)*

**proximity / time: distance**

## far (progress)

go far  
together we will ~

get this far  
I never thought I would ~ (immigrant success)

gone too far  
we've ~ to turn back now (politics)

not go far enough  
she said the law did ~ (Greta Thunberg)

gone (quite) a distance  
we have ~ in creating a better Afghanistan

how far he can go  
he's looking to see ~ (a politician)

♦ “There's no point coming this far, to only come this far.” (The #filterdrop campaign.)

♦ “So far, so good!” (Not too many problems.)

**attainment / progress & lack of progress: distance /  
journeys & trips / movement**

## far (too far)

bridge too far

see *bridge (a bridge too far, etc.)*

a bit too far

he takes his theory ~

way too far

this ideology has gone ~

going too far

revoke her license, but being sent to jail is ~ (a nurse)

gone too far

he conceded that he had ~ (behavior)

counterterrorism measures have ~

all this talk about rights has ~

went too far

he claims the officer ~

she ~ (bad behavior gets her in trouble)

OSHA stepped out of its lane, it ~ (a legal case)

pushed the limits too far

she has ~ (nudity)

pushed religion too far

the Islamists ~ (a Somali)

erred too far

we have ~ on the side of caution

swung too far

the pendulum has ~ and they want to push it back

♦ see also *ski (over one's skis)*

♦ "Critics of the Georgia elections law got far out over their skis." (Corporations sanctioned the state, and Major League baseball removed the All-Star Game from Atlanta. If you get too far out over your skis while skiing, you can crash.)

♦ "For some reason this type of phrase gets tossed around a lot at my company. They'll say, 'you don't want to get ahead of your skis' and I always have the urge to shout back 'actually I don't want my skis to get ahead of me!' Lol It's always distracting..." (MissySki, Apr 19, 2021, on "The Ski Diva forum titled "Can you really get "out over your skis"? by SallyCat, Apr 18, 2021.)

**behavior / restraint & lack of restraint: distance**

**failure, accident & impairment: distance**

## farce (noun)

farce

this was a ~, window dressing (Savoy plebiscite)

courtroom farce

the trial was less a drama than a ~

political farce

meanwhile, a ~ took place at Stormont

farce and tragedy

man walks a narrow line in nature between ~ (Antarctic)

become a farce

the law has ~ (anonymity destroyed by social media)

descended into a farce

the organizational plans have ~ (Olympic security)

follow tragedy with farce

this will undermine them, you will ~ (politics)

♦ When Marx wrote that history repeats itself, "the first time as tragedy, the second time as farce," he was specifically comparing Napoleon Bonaparte to his nephew, Napoleon III. Victor Hugo disparagingly referred to Napoleon III as Napoleon the Little. Winston Churchill had a somewhat more favorable view of Napoleon III: "For more than twenty years this amiable, dreamy figure was to play a striking and not always ineffective part upon the European scene."

**feeling, emotion & effect: theater**

## farewell (leaving)

farewell to comedy

it is her ~

fond farewell

*Belfast* is a ~ to Branagh's childhood (the film)

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: exclamation / speech**

## farewell (death)

bid farewell

friends, family ~ to Haskins (funeral)

**death & life: exclamation / speech**

## far-flung (adjective)

far-flung parts

you have been to so many ~ (a birder)

**extent & scope: distance / throwing, putting & planting**

## farm (computers)

bitcoin farms

Malaysia police crush ~ with steamroller

~ even sell unused power back to the grid (Texas)

content farm

Demand Media is a ~

~s employ freelance writers

~s supply articles based on search-engine queries

link farms

~ exist to try to game PageRank (Google)

troll farm

propagandists at a Russian ~ used social media to...

computer server farm

his Websites were connected to the same ~ in Russia

**computer / product: farming & agriculture**

## farm (enterprise)

body farm

the ~ has revolutionized forensic anthropology

cadaver dogs will train at the ~ (North Carolina)

octopus farm

"World's first proposals alarm scientists" (BBC)

oyster farm

Texas ~s collect their first harvest (2023)

tank farm

one of the facility's two ~s was destroyed (chemicals)  
lightning ignites Cuban oil ~

wave farm

the world's first ~ off Portugal (generating electricity)

wind farm

a 20-megawatt ~ with 13-16 windmills  
the ~ contains some 4,000 individual windmills (CA)

Wind Farm

the Gray County ~ in Kansas

wave energy farm

the US has awarded a permit to conduct testing for a ~

♦ see also *ranch* (*enterprise*)

**product: farming & agriculture**

## far-off (time)

far-off days

the ~ of the quill pen and the ink well

**past & present / time: distance**

## far-reaching

far-reaching

his predictions are ~ and broad

far-reaching changes

Congress is expected to make ~ in the law that...

far-reaching consequences

the finding could have ~ for how patients...

far-reaching importance

something of ~

far-reaching and broad

his predictions are ~

**extent & scope: arm / distance**

## farsighted (adjective)

heroic and farsighted

his dedication to space flight was ~ (Von Braun)

**consciousness & awareness / future / perception,**

**perspective & point of view: distance / eye**

## fashion (out of fashion)

fallen out of fashion

empathy has ~

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: clothing &**

**accessories**

## fashion (noun)

political and intellectual fashions

they have picked up the latest ~ (overseas Indians)

**appearance & reality: clothing & accessories**

**substance & lack of substance: clothing & accessories**

## fashion (verb)

fashioned a knife out of wood

researchers have ~ that's three times sharper than steel

**creation & transformation: hand**

## fat (chew the fat)

chewed the fat for about 15 minutes

we ~, then finally the General said... (getting serious)

**speech: food & drink**

## fat (adjective)

getting fat

the regime is ~ while the poor suffer

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: fatness & thinness**

## fatal (adjective)

fatal to an athlete's career

a doping ban can be ~

fatal contradictions

there were two ~ in the American project (Afghan war)

fatal mistake

he called it a "pretty ~" (election prospects)

♦ "She was probably a good nurse in many ways, but she made a fatal mistake. Literally." (A nurse who injected the wrong drug, which killed her elderly patient. The case was controversial because the nurse was criminally charged and convicted.)

**destruction: death & life / health & medicine**

## fatally (fatally wounded, etc.)

fatally wounded

the campaign is ~ (politics / election)

**destruction: death & life / health & medicine**

## fat cat

fat cat

plutocrats, ~s... (rich politicians)

fill the pockets of the fat cats

FIFA have sold football down the river to ~

**money: cat / fatness & thinness / sign, signal, symbol**

**person: animal / cat**

## father (verb)

father and god-father

he had been imported to ~ the bill (C.P. Ilbert)

**creation & transformation: family / verb**

## father (Father of Waters, etc.)

father of floods

the Yellow River was known as the "~"

Father of Waters

the ~ again goes unvexed to the sea (Mississippi River)

"Down the Yellowstone, the Milk, the White and Cheyenne; / The Cannonball, the Musselshell, the James and the Sioux; / Down the Judith, the Grand, the Osage and the Platte, / The Skunk, the Salt, the Black and Minnesota; / Down the Rock, the Illinois, and the Kankakee, / The Allegheny, the Monongahela, Kanawha, and Muskingum; / Down the Miami, the Wabash, the Licking and the Green, / The Cumberland, the Kentucky, and the Tennessee; / Down the Ouachita, the Wichita, the Red, and Yazoo. // Down the Missouri, three thousand miles from the Rockies; / Down the Ohio, a thousand miles from the Alleghenies; / Down the Arkansas, fifteen hundred miles from the Great Divide; / Down the Red, a thousand miles from Texas; / Down the great Valley, twenty-five hundred miles from Minnesota, / Carrying every rivulet and brook, creek and rill, / Carrying all the rivers that run down two-thirds the continent-- / The Mississippi runs to the Gulf." (Narration from *The River* by Pare Lorentz, 1938, a New Deal government-financed documentary.)

**epithet: family**

**geography: epithet**

**father (father of progress, etc.)**

father of progress

necessity is the mother of invention, discontent is the ~

♦ "One falsehood begets another and another in the line of succession, until the father of them all shall have colonized his whole progeny upon the congenial soil of this new Dark Continent." ("COLUMBUS" by Ambrose Bierce. First published in 1892.)

**relationship: family**

**father (father of India, etc.)**

*Pater Patriae*

Captain Arthur Phillip, the ~ of Australians

father of the nuclear age

Enrico Fermi, ~

fathers of Modern Anesthesia

the ~ (Crawford W. Long and William T.G. Morton)

father of landscape architecture

America's ~, Frederick Law Olmsted

father of Roman architecture

Marcus Vitruvius Pollio, considered by many to be the ~

Father of Bibliography

he earned his title as the ~ (Konrad Gesner)

Father of German Blitzkrieg

Heinz Guderian had a reputation as the ~

father of bluegrass

the legendary ~, Bill Monroe

father of the atomic bomb

the man known as the ~ (J. Robert Oppenheimer)

Father of the (Pakistani) bomb

Abdul Qadeer Khan, the ~ (nuclear)

father of American musical comedy

he is considered the ~ (George M. Cohan)

father of containerization

Malcolm P. McLean, the ~

father of CPR

Peter Safar, the "~-"

father of (English) Criticism

John Dryden is considered "the ~"

Father of democracy

President Lee Teng-hui, Taiwan's "~-"

father of the English dictionary

Samuel Johnson, the ~ (England)

father of science fiction

Jules Verne, conventionally considered the ~

fathers of flight

the Wright brothers are considered the ~

father of Genetics

the man known as "~-"

 (Gregor Mendel)

Father of Modern Chinese Geology

dignified by the title of the ~ (Li Siguang)

father of English grammar

Lindley Murray came to be known as the ~ (in the U.S.)

father of modern gynecology

James Marion Sims was known as the "~-"

 (fistula)

Father of Indian Industry

Jamshedji Tata is regarded as the legendary ~ (Parsee)

father of Impressionism

he is often called the ~ (Manet)

father of India

Mohandas K. Gandhi, the ~ (from Gujarat)

father of the Internet

Vint Cerf is often called "The ~"

fathers of (Angola's) independence

Holden Roberto, one of the ~

father of American copyright law

he became known as the ~ (Noah Webster)

father of American literature

William Faulkner called him "the ~"

 (Mark Twain)

father of tropical medicine

Patrick Manson, the ~

father of Australian medicine

the "~-"

 helped reform the system (William Redfern)

father of Modern Medicine

William Osler, "~-"

 (diagnostician / internal medicine)

father of microbiology

Antonie van Leeuwenhoek, the ~

"father of mindfulness"

Thich Nhat Hanh, Buddhist monk and ~

father of the (modern innocence) movement

he is considered the ~ (Jim McCloskey, Centurion)

Father of Country Music

Jimmie Rodgers is known as "the ~"

father of the (Bengali) nation

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman is often called the ~  
 father of neurosurgery  
 he was hailed as the ~ (Harvey Cushing, brain surgeon)

father of Pakistan  
 Mohammad Ali Jinnah, the ~

father of America's national parks  
 Teddy Roosevelt is considered the ~ (1906 Antiquities Act)

father of America's postwar containment police  
 George Kennan, the ~ against the Soviet Union

“father” of India's nuclear programme  
 the ~, Homi J Bhabha

father of Iran's nuclear program  
 Mohsen Fakhrazadeh, the ~

father of modern protozoology  
 I've seen him referred to as “the ~” (Fritz Schaudinn)

father of cognitive psychology  
 Ulric Neisser, considered the ~

father of skyscrapers  
 Louis Sullivan, known as the “~”

father of modern surgery  
 John Hunter, the ~

father of Russian field surgery  
 N.I. Pirogov, known as the ~...

father of the tank  
 it is plausible to describe him as the ~ (Winston Churchill)

father of tiramisu  
 Ado Campeol, dubbed “the ~” by Italian media, has died

father of modern Turkey  
 Mustapha Kemal “Ataturk,” the ~, was also a Macedonian

father of (modern) hot-air ballooning  
 he was the ~ (Ed Yost / propane)

father of modern figure skating  
 Jackson Haines, the ~ (born in 1840)

“father of trekking”  
 he is fondly remembered as the ~ in Nepal (Jimmy Roberts)

father of modern sledge travelling  
 Parry was indeed the ~ (Sir Edward Parry)

Internet ‘father’  
 ~ Vint Cerf on challenges ahead

grandfather  
 see *granddaddy (and grandfather)*

♦ Who teaches me for a day is my father for a lifetime.  
 ♦ Gandhi is often referred to as the Father of India. Gandhi himself referred to his mentor Dadabhai Naoroji as the Father of the Nation. Every father has a father!  
 ♦ “A brainchild like STEM has many fathers, and one who has credibly claimed paternity is Charles E. Vela...” (Education.)  
 ♦ see also *mother (mother of NPR, etc.)*

**creation & transformation: epithet / family**

**epithet / person: family**

## Father Time

Father Time

there is no stopping ~

father time

~ catches up with everyone (a boxer)

Father Time remains undefeated

Woods said previously that ~ (golfer Tiger Woods)

defied father time

Zlatan has ~ to continue to excel (Ibrahimovic)

outrun Father Time

it's impossible to ~ (boxing and age)

**time: epithet / family**

**epithet: family**

## fathom (verb)

fathom the magnitude

she didn't ~ of the problem (immigration)

difficult to fathom

his demeanor made the attack even more ~ (murderer)

hard to fathom

the military's longer game plan is ~ (coup in Myanmar)

**comprehension & incomprehension: depth / sea**

## fatigue (noun)

booster fatigue

everyone's tired of getting shots, we all have ~

COVID 19 fatigue

people have ~ (ending restrictions too early)

compassion fatigue

we are all vulnerable to ~

feedback fatigue

I am suffering from such a serious case of ~

franchise fatigue

after nine films, there is a danger of ~

front-runner fatigue

a kind of ~ sets in (the Oscars / *Saving Private Ryan*)

internet fatigue

I think we all get ~ (during the COVID lockdown)

negotiation fatigue

we have been warning about ~ for a long time (boxing)

Olympic fatigue

there's a lot of ~ (viewership down)

politics fatigue

~ is when you're sick of talking about politics

pop-up fatigue

~ may have contributed to the error (fatal medication error)  
the hidden dangers of EHR ~

superhero fatigue  
are you feeling ~ (Marvel's 32<sup>nd</sup> film)

tipping fatigue  
many complain of “~” (restaurants, etc.)

zoom fatigue  
many are suffering from ~ (pandemic)

fatigue set in  
zoom ~ months ago, but audio is stepping into the breach

♦ “I find it really annoying when they send me those emails, I never review anything... You just buy the smallest thing and you're asked to review it. You know, you buy a metre of string and you're asked to review it. I mean, it's ridiculous.” (BBC, Sounds, Business Daily, “Feedback Fatigue,” 25 Oct 2017.)

♦ “Question eight. ‘Was our delivery service awesome, just what the doctor ordered, or well and truly hit the spot.’ Well, there's no negative option! You see, this is what they do. By the time you've spent 25 minutes answering their short survey, they shut down all dissent in the hope that you'll just give up and that way they'll never receive any negative feedback!” (Ed Reardon's Week: Series 14: You're Cancelled, BBC, written by Andrew Nicolds and Christopher Douglas. It's hilarious!)

♦ “With the moral injury, that was going on with the officers, because of the scrutiny from the public, umm, uhh... I'm sure you've heard of the term compassion fatigue and secondary trauma, we felt it...” (Andy Carrier, clinical social worker, who counseled Uvalde school-shooting officers.)

**condition & status: health & medicine**

## faucet (noun)

faucet of sound  
there's no turning off the ~ in Louisiana

money faucet  
finally, the European Central Bank turned on the ~

turn on the faucet  
many wish to ~ and shower the country with easy loans

turned their faucets off  
they just all ~ at exactly the same time (ad firm loses clients)

opened that faucet wider  
the Federal Reserve has steadily ~, hoping to keep the money flowing

**control & lack of control: infrastructure / water**

**increase & decrease: infrastructure / water**

## fault (fault line)

fault line  
the ~s break people into two camps (computers)  
race is the ~

society's fault lines  
invasion and occupation expose a ~

Sunni-Shiite fault line  
the ~ originated in the deserts of Iraq in the 7th century

sectarian fault line  
Jurf as-Sakhr sits right on a ~ (Sunni / Shiite)

fault line has cracked wide open  
a long-standing ~ (in a royal family)

exposed (deep) fault lines  
the referendum has ~ in Latvia (with ethnic Russians)

exposed a (stark) fault line  
the Smollett case has ~ between Chicago, county and state

lays bare the fault lines  
the report ~ that divide this group (Amish)

♦ “The [Evan] Bayh defection coming on top of the stunning Democratic loss seen in Massachusetts reveals a threatening fault line running under the political scene. And we can expect further aftershocks...” (The great Daniel Schorr from “Bayh Exit Highlights Public Rejection Of Politics,” NPR, All Things Considered, Feb 18, 2010.)

♦ “Some psychological damage remained, however, not least a vulnerability that ran rough his personality like a geological fault, to be revealed at the next earthquake.”

**division & connection: earthquake / ground, terrain & land**

## Faust (noun)

second Faust  
Nansen, the tortured driven soul, a ~

♦ see also *Faustian* (adjective), *soul* (sell one's soul to the devil, etc.)

**allusion: books & reading**

**fate, fortune & chance: allusion / person / religion**

## Faustian (adjective)

Faustian  
we have this bargain, you can call it ~ if you want (tech)

Faustian bargain  
Obama made a ~ with the Republicans to...  
he accused them of striking a ~ to regulate...  
they entered into one ~ after another (Hollywood media)  
it was a ~ if there ever was one (Oppenheimer/ A-bomb)

Faustian capitalism  
the yachts tell a whole story about a ~

Faustian figure  
this ~ died in London (Hitler's architect Albert Speer)

♦ Selling one's soul to the devil for something; sacrificing spiritual values for power, knowledge, and material gain...

♦ Meeting the devil or his representative (Mephistopheles) at a crossroads and becoming a great musician has become a trope: such a meeting occurs in the great Coen brothers' film *O Brother, Where Art Thou*, and Robert Leroy Johnson means something special to Lee Child's hero Jack Reacher. See the excellent Wikipedia articles “Crossroads (folklore)” and “Deal with the Devil.”

♦ “The yachts tell a whole story about a Faustian capitalism—this idea that we're ready to sell democracy for short-term profit. They're registered offshore. They use every loophole that we've put in place for illicit money and tax havens. So they play a role in this battle, writ large, between autocracy and democracy.” (“The Floating World: Outrageously luxurious superyachts are attracting political scrutiny—and buyers in record numbers” by Evan Osnos, *The New Yorker*, July 25, 2022.)

♦ “And like Faust, Robert Oppenheimer tried to renegotiate the bargain—and was cut down for doing so. He had led the effort to unleash the power of the atom, but when he sought to warn his countrymen of its danger, to constrain America's reliance on nuclear weapons, the government questioned his loyalty and put him on trial.” (Like Galileo Galilei, like Captain Alfred Dreyfus. From *American Prometheus* by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin.)

♦ Michelangelo; Jimi Hendrix; Stevie Ray Vaughan; Erling Haaland...

♦ see also *Faust* (noun), *soul* (sell one's soul to the devil, etc.)

**allusion: books & reading**

**fate, fortune & chance: allusion / person / religion**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## favorite son

favorite son

he was welcomed to Ireland like a ~ (Obama)

Australia's favorite sons

the death of one of ~ has shocked the country

♦ "The death of one of Australia's favorite sons has shocked the country." (Shane Warne, the iconic sportsman and cricketeer. A consolation is that he died on holiday in a wonderful country.)

**person: family**

**achievement, recognition & praise / superlative / worth &**

**lack of worth: family / person**

## fealty (noun)

fealty

that ~, that blind loyalty... (to a politician)

fealty to the Constitution

Republicans took control of the House with a show of ~

fealty to Israel

she has criticized those who demand that she show ~

fealty to her mother

she was torn between her ~ and her thirst for freedom

ideological fealty

over-the-top institutional declarations of ~ (DEI / academia)

show of fealty

it was a ~ to the Constitution (a ceremony)

out of fealty to Day-Lewis

~, who is fiercely private, he would not elaborate...

flattery and fealty

he went through the requisite motions of ~ (politics)

show (true) fealty

her unwillingness to ~ to him was untenable (politics)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: history / Middle Ages /**

**royalty**

## fear (of criticism, etc.)

fear of abuse or discrimination

without ~ (gays)

♦ "The purpose of the Gay Football Supporters' Network (GFSN) was to give gay football fans a space to meet and discuss the game they loved without fear of abuse or discrimination.)

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## fearless (girls and women, etc.)

*Fearless*

~, Taylor Swift's second studio album (2008)

fearless with love and life

she is also ~ (Mia Farrow about Carly Simon)

fearless conversations

the ~ about race you've been waiting for (NPR)

~ about race (CODE SW!TCH® RACE. IN YOU FACE.)

"Fearless Girl!"

the ~ statue created by Kristen Visbal

fearless novel

*Quartet in Autumn*, a ~ (by Barbara Pym)

fearless and adept

the world knows her as a ~ interviewer

fearless, generous

those ~ souls (*The Miracle Season* / very young girls)

fearless, independent

our ~ journalism (*The Guardian*)

frank and fearless

comedienne Sommore is ~

fun fearless female

she won Cosmo's ~ award (Belle Gibson / Whole Pantry)

YOUNG AND FEARLESS

~ (a pink T-shirt worn by female of S. Asian heritage)

feel fearless

when you need to ~ this fall... (women's fashion)

♦ People have named their children after Sommore.

♦ "[Her book] was described as 'fearless' by British writer Zadie Smith." (New York writer Raven Leilani, winner of 2021 Dylan Thomas Prize.)

♦ "The real achievement of these years was 'Quartet in Autumn,' a fearless novel about the bleak aging of four office workers..." ("Reading The Leaves: What the novelist Barbara Pym knew about tea and sympathy" by Thomas Mallon, *The New Yorker*, June 6, 2022.)

♦ "The 1993 drama *Fearless*, for which she earned an Oscar nomination." (Rosie Perez.)

♦ "12 Fierce Accessories to get you through every occasion when you need to feel fearless this fall." (Glamour X, Nine West.)

♦ Forward. Jewish. Fearless. Since 1897. (*The Forward* digital magazine.)

♦ "More than 1.5 million people in 180 countries now fund our fearless, independent journalism. Will you support us?" (*The Guardian*.)

♦ "These girls aren't prey. These girls are already victorious." (The actor Michelle Williams about girls nowadays versus in the 1980s.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## fearlessly

fearlessly forward

he looks back—and ~... (a poet)

fearlessly paving

jazz is about ~ new ground for the future

fearlessly fought

he ~ those who were hurting the poor (Harry Reid)

boldly and fearlessly

the foundation strives to empower women to live ~

attacks the problem fearlessly

she ~ and with consummate art (writer Nella Larsen)

keep creating fearlessly

just ~ (Thundercat, real name Stephen Bruner)

♦ "Ensure carefully and dream fearlessly." (An advertisement for American Family Insurance.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## fearlessness (noun)

fearlessness of the female spirit

it's about the ~ (Fearless Girl statue by Kristen Visbal)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## feast (noun)

feast for the ears

our ringside commentary team is a ~

feast for the eyes

it was a ~

feast of great music and chat

they present a ~ (a radio show)

feast of arts and culture

he dives into the ~ on offer in North Yorkshire (BBC)

feast to famine

it was ~ in a couple of weeks (laid-off tech worker)

feast or famine

freelancing is ~ (lost job to pandemic)

visual and musical feast

it is a fast-paced ~ from start to finish (a stage show)

♦ Diamond Jim Brady was a notorious gourmand. See "Whether True or False, a Real Stretch," by David Kamp, NYT, December 30, 2008, which includes quotations about Brady from *America Eats Out* (1991) by John Mariani.

♦ "You know what's good? Instant mashed potatoes mixed with ramen noodles. Now, that's good." (A hiker at the "Fontana Hilton" trail hut on the Appalachian Trail. Hikers can eat only what they can carry.)

**consumption / superlative: food & drink**

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food & drink**

## feather (ruffle feathers)

ruffled some feathers

he ~ and bruised egos (a general)

ruffle feathers in history departments

she is the latest revisionist to ~

ruffled feathers in Washington

he ~ with his warnings (a diplomat)

♦ "This will ruffle some feathers. We need to know what is going on with the measurement. The fact that we have two other experiments that agree with each other and the Standard Model and strongly disagree with this experiment is worrying to me." (Professor Ben Allanach, a theoretical physicist at Cambridge University. From "Shock result in particle experiment could spark physics revolution" by Pallab Ghosh, BBC, April 7, 2022.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: animal / bird / verb**

**behavior / disruption: animal / bird / verb**

**character & personality: animal / bird / verb**

## febrile (adjective)

febrile atmosphere

he postponed the trial so it could take place in a less ~

the ~ of the city was... (siege of Constantinople)

reflecting the ~, some alleged that...

the ~ on social media...

febrile energy

the play has the ~ of the wilder parties of your youth

febrile (political) environment

in that ~ (Arab Spring)

febrile minds

in the ~ of anti-Semites, Jews were... (stereotypes)

febrile nationalism

Modi seeks to hold power in a climate of ~ (India)

**activity: health & medicine / temperature**

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / temperature**

## fed (supplied)

fed a (steady) diet

he was being ~ of far-right content and conspiracy theories

**directing / supplying: food & drink**

## fed up (adjective)

fed up

he got ~ and quit the team

~, his wife challenged him to...

people really felt ~ (government corruption)

fed up with being stereotyped

pensioners are ~ on TV as grumpy or sweet

fed up with being told

Pimblett ~ to get a haircut (the MMA star)

fed up with (growing) hordes

people are ~ of homeless people begging on their streets

fed up with incumbents

the electorate is ~ (elections)

fed up with the police

people are ~ (slow response times)

fed up with their (justice) system

polls show that Mexicans are ~

fed up with the (preferential) treatment

inmates are ~ she's been getting (a jailed celebrity)

fed up with the lack of progress

the commission, ~, gave both parties a year to accept

fed up with what's going on

people are ~ (protests)

fed up and (kind of) at the end of his rope

he was pretty much ~

**amount / consumption / feeling, emotion & effect /**

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food & drink / stomach**

## feed (fuel)

feeds a climate

reject language that ~ of hate (politics)

feeds the insurgency

government corruption ~

feed extremism

how poverty may ~ (Morocco)

feeds itself

the internet ~... (gossip, controversy, etc.)

feeds lawlessness and instability

Afghanistan's immense opium harvest ~

feeds fears, prejudices, and hate

the powerful ways modern media ~

♦ "The internet feeds itself. I don't need to contribute, I think it's significantly well-nourished." (Film director Alivia Wilde at the Venice Film Festival with her film, *Don't Worry Darling*.)

**increase & decrease: food & drink / verb**

**consumption: food & drink / verb**

**relationship / supplying: food & drink / verb**

## feed (direct)

feed intelligence to airlines

the US will now ~ (terrorist watch lists)

**directing / supplying: food & drink / verb**

## feed (supply)

fed Mayorga a (steady) diet

he ~ of left hooks and right hands (De La Hoya)

fed the Germans (fake) gossip

Elvira Chaudoir ~ (World War II)

feeds the (fast farm) empire

the canal ~ of the Imperial Valley

feeds the production

there's a whole supply chain that ~ of the plane

force-feed

see *force-feed* (and *force feed*)

**supplying: food & drink / verb**

**consumption: food & drink / verb**

## feed (satisfy)

feed the (public) appetite

the Y has increased the number of debates to ~

tap, feed and nurture

he wants to ~ this anger (politician appeals to base)

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: food & drink**

**consumption: food & drink**

## feed (feed on / off something)

fed on his antics

the tabloid media have ~ for years (a celebrity)

feed on fear

they ~ of immigrants (extremists)

feeds on itself

fear ~

feed on one another

these cycles of outrage ~ (social media)

feeds off such (public) anger

the group ~ (collateral damage)

feeds off ignorance

he's the type who ~ (a radio commentator)

feed off the misery

there are predators who ~ of the refugees

feed into and off of

they ~ of the anger of people (preachers)

**consumption / increase & decrease / supplying: food & drink**

## feed (feed into)

feed into a (broader public) discontent

concerns about unions ~ with powerful institutions

feeds into (the deepest) fears

his speech ~

feed into the Owyhee

these streams ~ (Idaho river)

feeds into stereotypes

his article ~ of American Muslims

feeds into the white manifest destiny thing

the propaganda story ~

feed into and off of

they ~ of the anger of people (preachers)

**branching system: river / verb**

## feed (drip feed)

drip feed of outrage

there's a constant ~ (social media)

**supplying: water**

## feed (video, etc.)

feeds off the Web

TVs can receive video ~

video feed

tap into the ~ between...(two cities)

TVs can receive ~s off the Web

live feed

monitored a ~ from their console video screens  
reporters in another room reported on the ~ (Oscars)

**transmission: tools & technology**

## feed (auto feed, etc.)

feed automatically  
remaining towels ~ for next use (from canister)

auto feed (m)  
~ function (paper shredder)

supplying: mechanism

## feedback (noun)

feedback  
the company takes ~ from them  
your ~ will help us  
~ makes clear the connection between...  
give your team members ~ they can act on

feedback on their strengths and weaknesses  
tests give them ~ (students)

feedback about their performance  
give corrective ~ (teachers)

feedback loop  
in the 70s, we saw this unfortunate ~ (wage-price inflation)  
complex ~s (AI / computers)  
the narrative was amplified in a ~ by the media (politics)

consumer feedback  
user-opinion sites offer ~

customer feedback  
text mining software to analyze ~

corrective feedback  
give ~ about their performance (teachers)

immediate feedback  
achievement is higher when kids receive ~ (school)

regular feedback  
~ is more desirable than sporadic feedback (schools)

sporadic feedback  
regular feedback is more desirable than ~ (schools)

give (corrective) feedback  
~ about their performance (teachers)

provides feedback  
the teacher ~ (during seatwork assignments)

judgment: mechanism

## feel (I feel you, etc.)

feel me  
I didn't expect anything, you ~ (RMR / "rumor")  
my style is no style, you ~ (Denzel Curry)

feel you  
I ~ (empathy, understanding)

♦ "Growing up, I was just an oddity no matter where I went, you feel me?"  
(Alabama Shakes frontwoman Brittany Howard.)

empathy & lack of empathy: sensation

## feeler (put out feelers, etc.)

put out feelers about him  
several clubs have ~ (an NFL player)

put out feelers on social media  
in June, the brothers ~ (for a climbing trip)

have all our feelers out  
we ~, and there's a lot of options

searching & discovery: animal / arm / insect / verb

## feeling (sinking feeling)

sinking feeling  
I had a ~ (on a date)

sinking feeling in the pit of my stomach  
I had a ~ (about to lose)

feeling, emotion & effect: direction

## feel like (and felt like, etc.)

feel like  
and I was kinda like, I ~... (The Gayly Prophet podcast)

feels like  
everybody kind of ~ now they can't...

felt like  
I ~ I kind of realized...

feel like maybe  
I do ~ having an openness and vulnerability...

kinda of felt like  
it ~, 'well...'  
this year we ~ we has some normalcy

kind of felt like  
I ~ I had this second coming out to myself  
that's what it ~...  
I've always ~ an outcast  
like it ~ a bad break up  
I ~ I was communicating more deeply  
because now I ~ a human

just kind of felt like  
and I ~, 'Oh, hi, Maranda!'  
I ~, you know, for several years, I...

really actually kind of felt like  
I ~ I was getting to know her... (character in book)

♦ "I felt like I kind of realized who I was by being with him—or like, I felt like I was allowed to be who I was, and I didn't feel like I needed to be anybody different." (A contemporary woman about her relationship with her husband.)

♦ "Are you sure?!"

contempo-speak: filler

## feet (think on one's feet)

think on their feet  
they must be able to ~ (Green Beret trainees)

haste / readiness & preparedness: foot

## feet (get back on one's feet, etc.)

back on its feet

I wanted to see it ~, get it up and running (a town)

landed on his feet

he ~ (fired, but found a better job)

land on my feet

my family calls me Kat because I always ~ (survivor)

get back on its feet

the department is beginning to ~ (university)

get back on their feet

people need help to ~

get back on your feet

this will help you ~ (medicine)

get back on our feet

after we ~, after the economy gets going again (pandemic)

got (back) on his feet

he finally ~ financially

**resiliency: direction / foot / standing, sitting & lying**

**amelioration & renewal: direction / foot / standing, sitting & lying**

## feet (drag one's feet)

dragging its feet

the Pentagon has been ~ (on legalizing gays in military)

dragging its feet on steroids

the players union must stop ~ (MLB)

dragged its feet on carrying out

Japan's Parliament has ~ laws...

**action, inaction, & delay: foot / movement / verb**

## feet (hold somebody's feet to the fire)

hold their feet to the fire

you've got to ~ (to get them to act)

hold the airline's feet to the fire

he vowed to ~ (a regulator)

**coercion & motivation: fire / verb / violence**

## feet (knock somebody off their feet)

knocked me off my feet

her response ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability / force / verb**

## feet (stand on one's own two feet)

stand on their own two feet

nobody knows when they will be able to ~ (Iraqi army)

**growth & development: life span / standing, sitting & lying**

## feet (get one's feet wet)

get her feet wet

it's a chance for her to ~

**absorption & immersion / experience: water**

## feet (feet first)

feet first

the soldiers came out of the hospital, ~ (yellow fever)

**death & life: euphemism**

## feet (lay blame at the feet, etc.)

at the feet of the president

Democrats have been laying the blame ~ (politics)

falls at the feet of the president

this ~ (responsibility)

lay every problem at the president's feet

she tries to ~

**responsibility: foot / proximity**

## feet (master / protégé)

sat at the feet of black stride piano players

George Gershwin ~

**knowledge & intelligence: foot / position**

## feet (wipe one's feet on somebody)

wipe their feet on Russia

without harsh steps, they might think they can ~

**admiration & contempt / insult / superiority & inferiority: foot / verb**

## feisty (adjective)

feisty (TV) debate

the candidates' divisions were laid bare in the ~

♦ A feist is a small hunting dog, used in the Southern Appalachians to hunt bear. They can range through the laurel and rhododendron more easily than larger dogs.

**character & personality: animal / dog**

## fell (verb)

felled many a great scientist

contamination has ~

fells Navy skipper

video scandal ~

**destruction: direction / verb**

## fence (division)

good fences

~ make good neighbors

♦ "Something there is that doesn't love a wall..." (The first line of "Mending Wall" by Robert Frost. Twice his neighbor says, "Good fences make good neighbors.")

**division & connection: fence**

## fence (mend fences)

mending fences

he is ~ (trying to re-establish broken trust)

mend fences with the Arab countries

he started to ~ (Abdullah of Jordan)

mend fences with Great Britain

the State Department is trying to ~

♦ This focuses only on repairing what is broken.

**amelioration & renewal: fence / verb**

## fence (on the fence, etc.)

on the fence

he is trying hard to stay ~ (between Russia, US)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: fence**

**position, policy & negotiation: fence**

## fence (straddle the fence)

straddling the (diplomatic) fence

the Yemeni leader is ~ (US vs. Iraq)

came off his fence

on 7 July, Bernadotte finally ~ and began marching

**allegiance, support & betrayal: fence / verb**

**position, policy & negotiation: fence / verb**

## fence (fence-straddling)

fence-straddling politician

he's just another ~

**allegiance, support & betrayal: fence**

**position, policy & negotiation: fence**

## feral (behavior)

feral

he's out on his own, he's ~, not under supervision (a child)

**behavior / identity & nature: animal**

## ferment (verb)

fermented in Cavani over time

the idea for these characters had ~ (*The Night Porter*)

**activity: alcohol / chemistry / verb**

## ferment (noun)

ferment and activity

there is a great deal of ~ in Iran

cultural ferment

it was a time of ~ (Russian poetry)

**activity: alcohol / chemistry**

## ferocious (groups)

ferocious achievements

~ for a woman at the time (a NYC gourmet, oenophile)

ferocious new album

Flotard has released a wonderfully ~

ferocious rapper

~ Megan Thee Stallion returns with a royal guest

ferocious new single

Juan Manuel Torreblanca's ~

ferocious performances

~ by conductor Andris Nelsons (Gewandhaus Orchestra)

prickly, ferocious

her ~ Sylvie is the secret to *Loki*'s success (Di Martino)

♦ "Alexia, a punky Tank Girl played by ferocious newcomer Agathe Rousselle... ("Titane: The most shocking film of 2021" by Nicholas Barber, BBC, 15th July 2021.)

♦ "Simply by envisioning teen girls as ferocious beasts, Cain finds a hundred ways to mock our culture's fear of powerful women." ("In Wildly Satirical 'Man-Eaters,' teen girls turn into ferocious panthers" by Etelka Lehoczky, NPR, March 6, 2019.)

♦ "As a teenager, I studied its lessons carefully and now, even as an emerging adult, I learn something new with every relisten: how to say no, when to push myself, when to hold back, be gentle, be ferocious, where I can hold space for grief and growth." ("Beyonce's '4' Taught Me How To Become And Embrace Being An Emotional Woman," NPR, Latesha Harris, June 24, 2021.)

♦ "I got the eye of the tiger, a fighter, dancing through the fire, 'cause I am a champion, and you're gonna hear me roar." (Lyrics of song "Roar" sung by Katy Perry.)

♦ "He found himself with a tiger by the tail." (Al Pacino with the actress Tuesday Weld.)

♦ "After ferocious fighting, Guderian was forced onto the defense." (During World War II, at Smolensk.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## ferocious (other)

ferocious battle

the ~ for Hue (Vietnam War)

ferocious criticism

those who broke ranks are facing ~ (impeachment vote)

ferocious cross-examinations

an aggressive trial lawyer with a flair for ~

ferocious fighting

~ is taking place in Lashkar Gah (Helmand province)

ferocious fires

~ burned through the Santa Monica Mountains

ferocious heat

~ continues to affect many parts of Europe

ferocious reputation

he is a local military commander with a ~ (Afghanistan)

ferocious (American) response

there is going to be a ~ (diplomacy)

ferocious (diplomatic) row

her detention led to a ~ between China and Canada

ferocious storm

they were caught in a ~ near the summit of Les Droites countries in the Caribbean that have to deal with ~s

ferocious (running) style

Barber's ~ made him a fan favorite (NFL)

ferocious wildfire

~ destroys 8,000 acres (California)

ferocious winds

~ have fueled the fire (California)

more ferocious

the media attacks were ~ than ever (on Labor Party)

♦ "The mother bear gets ferocious if another bear even wanders near her family." (Katmai National Park.)

**character & personality / destruction / force / strength & weakness: animal / predation / wolf**

**ferociously**

enforced ferociously

the regulations were ~

**destruction / force / strength & weakness: animal / predation / wolf**

**ferocity (groups)**

ferocity of physical desire

I miss the ~ (embracing menopause)

ferocity and joy

the group could have fed the Oscars a jolt of ~ (music)

ferocity, (that) spirit

she has that ~ (Lyla Kohistany)

punk ferocity

she combined ~ with advanced technique (jaimie branch)

Candy Ferocity

~ of *Pose* (FX TV series)

so much ferocity

there's ~, such commitment to the message (music)

blithe ferocity

he drops names with a kind of ~

with equal ferocity

she loves and hates him ~

agency, ferocity and encouragement

inspirational declarations of ~ (the TV series *Pose*)

♦ "[Angelica Ross'] breakthrough role came in 2018, as Candy Ferocity in Rya Murphy's FX drama series *Pose*." (Wikipedia.)

♦ "She's a maniac, maniac on the floor / And she's dancing like she's never danced before." (The film *Flashdance*, 1983.)

♦ "Her eyes are alight with ferocity, as she raps, dances, and sings..." (Lalisa Manobal, aka Blackpink's Lisa)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

**ferocity (other)**

ferocity of the ambush

commanders were stunned by the ~ (Afghanistan)

ferocity of the eruption

scientists were caught off guard by the ~

ferocity of weather

we don't normally get that sort of ~ (Storm Eunice / UK)

war's ferocity

the fate of one family illustrates Gaza ~ (2009)

with such ferocity

he threw punches ~ (Mike Tyson)

♦ "Tyson Fury now has an energy drink out called "Ferocity," there's a plug..." (5 Live Boxing with Steve Bunce.)

**destruction / force / strength & weakness: animal / predation / wolf**

**farrago (confused mixture)**

farrago of nonsense

he dismissed the row as a ~ (politics)

♦ In Latin, mixed fodder or a mixture.

♦ "Fish and milk and tamarind juice." (An Egyptian expression for an unappealing mess.)

♦ The rarely used *gallimaufry* has the same meaning. It is the Middle-French word for a meat stew, and it has the present-day meaning of a mix or jumble of things.

**mixture: food & drink**

**ferret out (verb)**

ferreted out the (hidden) information

they ~

ferret out (potential) bias and prejudice

procedures are inadequate to ~ (jury selection)

**searching & discovery: animal / verb**

**behavior: animal / verb**

**fertile (adjective)**

fertile in writers

Australia is ~ whose books faithfully mirror life

fertile field

Donald Trump was plowing a very ~ (Mara Liasson)

fertile ground

Russia is a ~ for spammers

fertile soil

that chaos was the ~ for a growing insurgency (Iraq)

**growth & development: farming & agriculture**

**fest (gabfest, etc.)**

bore fest

terrible woeful game, ~ (Barca 1-Real Madrid 0)

cry fest

Megan and Harry having a ~ and requiring an apology

fright-fest

the movie is a ~

this comic ~ (*Renfield* with Nicolas Cage)

## gabfest

marital squabbles, sibling ~s  
those boozy late-night ~s

## gripe fest

his e-mail is part thank-you, part ~ (Tyler Perry)

## interruption-fest

the ~ did not go unnoticed on Twitter (political debate)

## lie-fest

her Oprah ~... (disparagement of a celebrity)

## shoutfest

histrionic ~s like *Crossfire* (the TV show)

## snoozefest

Fury beat a very out-of-sorts Vladimir Klitschko in a ~

## subsidy-fest

an option would be to imitate America's ~ (*The Economist*)

## whine fest

Harry & Meghan is a 'disrespectful ~' (the docuseries)

## whinge fest

the interview was a ~ (British English)

## hug- and kissfests

the out-in-the open ~ (petting parties / 1920s)

♦ "They call it a festival, but all you do is sit in silence watching films?" (A very odd comment about the Berlinale Film Festival (Berlin International Film Festival). With upspeak.)

♦ Whinge feast? Is that like a table filled with platters of whinges? /// Sounds tasty! /// hot whinges with fries!! /// Pint of bitter to wash it down? /// With whinge sauce for dips and a "whine" aperitif.../// With sour grapes to finish /// chicken whinges with sour cream /// surfeit with crow... (Witty online responses to an online commenter who typed "whinge FEAST" when presumably he meant "whinge-FEST." In British English, "to whinge" means "to complain, to whine about," etc. In American English, the idea would be likely expressed as a "gripe fest." The original commenter was responding to the article, "Cristiano Ronaldo to leave Manchester United with immediate effect," BBC Sport, 22 Nov 2022.)

♦ "It was a trauma-pa-looza." (A disparaging online commenter about Prince Harry's online therapy session with Gabor Mate.)

♦ "In a tradition that goes back 110 years, members of the Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club, who are for the most part African-Americans, blackened their faces for their annual Mardi Gras parade. They also put on costumes featuring grass skirts, feathers, and bone necklaces..." ("In New Orleans, The Fight Over Blackface Renews Scrutiny Of A Mardi Gras Tradition," NPR, All Things Considered, 3 March 2019. The Zulu Club was founded in 1909.)

♦ "Tinku is a sublime, beautiful act. There's a predisposition in all of us to do Tinku. I believe that denying that impulse is harmful." (An Indian festival of street brawling and drinking in Bolivia.)

♦ "If you are born here it's in your heart, and I will do it for as long as my body allows it. It's not violent, but it is a way to release your own inner violence. You come out here and you get it all out, and for the next three months you're fine." (Mario Bianchi, on the Historic Carnival of Ivrea, during which thousands of citizens take over the town and hurl oranges at one another.)

♦ The Janadriyah festival promotes the culture and heritage of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It takes place outside of Riyadh over a period of two weeks, and it includes camel races, regional and international pavilions, artists, singers, poets, dancers, musicians, foreign dignitaries, and the bestowing of honors and prizes. If you can attend, do so. Ahlan Wasahlan!

**society: Middle Ages**

**language: affix**

## fester (verb)

### fester

better to correct now than to let the situation ~

### fester on the internet

hate and violence ~

### festering for years

these problems have been ~

### fester for so long

circumstances were allowed to ~ (*The New York Times*)

### fester online

hateful sites ~

### hatred festers

~ in the Middle East

### resentment festered

that ~ (mother / daughter)

### secrets fester

~ between Mick and Linda

**affliction / corruption / reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: starting, going, continuing & ending: health & medicine / verb**

## festering (adjective)

### festering dispute

he was murdered over a ~

### festering sore

the conflict has remained a ~ left untended (Middle East)

**affliction / corruption / reconciliation, resolution & conclusion / starting, going, continuing & ending: health & medicine**

## fetish (noun)

### fetish for manufacturing

they both share a ~ (politicians)

### have a fetish for big food

it's no secret Americans ~ (triple-decker cheeseburgers)

### makes a fetish of period detail

the show ~ (*Mad Men* / early 1960s)

### makes a fetish of transparency

the media ~

### turned him into a fetish

the Republicans have ~ (Ronald Reagan)

♦ "That's why I find the TikTok fascination with it—and there are these sort of videos that last after Henry for instance—and it's interesting that it has become this point of almost fetish." (English culture writer Alice Vincent about *The Secret History* by Donna Tartt.)

♦ "Every house is stuck inside and outside with idols and fetishes, interpreters of the Deity, each having its own jurisdiction over lightning, wind, and rain; some act as scarecrows; others teach magic, avert evils, preserve health and sight, protect cattle, and command fish in the sea or river. They are in all manner of shapes, strings of mucuna and poison-beans; carved images stuck over with feathers and tassels; padlocks with a cowrie or a mirror set in them; horns full of mysterious 'medicine';

iron-tipped poles; bones; birds' beaks and talons; skins of snakes and leopards, and so forth. We shall meet them again upon our travels." (*Two Trips to Gorilla Land and the Cataracts of the Congo* Vol. 2 by Richard F. Burton, 1876.)

♦ Fetish-bag; Fetish dolls; Fetish house; fetish medicines; Fetishman; Fetish Rock; fetish worshipers; fetishism; (a) fetish of (superior) power; (crucifixes mixed with) native fetishes; portable fetish; valuable fetish (a collector); idols and fetishes; invoking the Fetish (during war-time); (the natives) hold it "Fetish" (a pool in the bush); obtain a fetish (collector); (to) put in fetish (= to set aside)... (Collocations for "fetish" from *Two Trips to Gorilla Land and the Cataracts of the Congo* Vol. 2 by Richard F. Burton, 1876.)

**importance & significance: religion**

## fetishistic (adjective)

fetishistic interest

I've had this almost ~ in *The New Yorker* (Wes Anderson)

**importance & significance: religion**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## fetishistically

moves almost fetishistically

Burns' camera ~ over the manuscript page (Hemingway)

**importance & significance: religion**

## fetishization (noun)

fetishization of (street) art

there is an almost kind of ~ these days (Banksy, etc.)

fetishization of (Afro-Americans') hairstyles

white media's ~ trivializes Blacks

fetishization of mental illness

the weird ~ (girls "do" Tourette's syndrome on TikTok)

fetishization of (black) trauma

this ~ epitomizes an industry (entertainment)

fetishization of wealth

economic despair and the ~

rights fetishization

~ or rightsism (Jamal Greene / *How Rights Went Wrong*)

exotification and fetishization

the ~ of Asian women

hypersexualization and fetishization

the history of ~ of Asian women in the US

stereotypes and fetishization

the promotion of ~ ("copy-paste Latinas")

♦ *Loves You* by Sarah Gambito (January): Gambito invents a new form, the recipe-poem, as a means of exploring the fetishization of people of color. ("I Reject Walls": A 2019 Poetry Preview" by Craig Morgan Teicher, NPR, Books, January 21, 2019.)

♦ "We love to fetishize female pain." (Emily Ratajkowski. As examples she mentioned society's fascination with dead girls and serial killers, and she also mentioned Andrew Dominik's 2022 film *Blonde*.)

**inclusion & exclusion: objectification**

## fetishize (verb)

fetishized superior, elegant, covetable product design

both companies ~ (Polaroid, Apple)

fetishize (military) funerals

we ~ so we can continue to allow our kids to be killed

fetishize identity

wokeness tends to ~

fetishizes her own nudity

she ~ as she monetizes it (a model)

fetishize female pain

we love to ~ (Emily Ratajkowski)

fetishized their struggle

Latinx critics said she ~ (*American Dirt*)

fetishize the work

we ~ of great artists as somehow mythical (music)

fetishized peoples' skin color

Latinx critics said she even ~ (*American Dirt*)

fetishize women of color

songs that ~ (negative comment)

♦ 'fetishize' on her Word of the Day Calendar. Kudos to Ms. Ratajkowski for using it in multiple sentences. (Online snark from commenter "Derek.")

**importance & significance: religion / verb**

**inclusion & exclusion: objectification / verb**

## fetishized

fetishized

when inaccessible language is ~ (TESOL jargon)

identity is ~ (thin white girls love Lizzo)

the kind of male musculature the Nazis ~ (Superman)

Brazil has always been ~ (beaches, music, women)

fetishized for her throwback curves

she is ~ (vs. bony angularity of traditional models)

fetishized by white culture and white men

we are really ~ in particular (Margaret Cho)

fetishized in movies

firearms have been ~ like no other object (uh, cars?)

fetishized rock stars

~ like Bob Dylan (negative attitude)

fetishized, appropriated and vilified

how minority cultures are ~, often all at the same time

fetishized and stigmatized

Atlanta's most ~ commodity (trap music / Traplanta)

fetishized and vilified

the legacy of Black music being ~

racially fetishized

~ sex, child abuse and racist stereotypes (*A Strange Loop*)

eroticized, exoticized, fetishized

we are ~ ("Baddest Bitch in the Room" Sophia Chang)

glamorized, fetishized, or it was stigmatized

it was ~ (suicidal depression / negative attitude)

hyper-masculinized, fetishized, pitied or feared

we're ~ (black men, according to NPR's Sam Sanders)

hypersexualized and fetishized

Asian women have been ~ in American society

pathologized or fetishized

Rainbow Rowell's plus-sized romantic characters are not ~

**importance & significance: religion**

**inclusion & exclusion: objectification**

**fetter (noun)**

shake off the fetters

to ~ of tradition and radically remake...

♦ "The Frenchman came to remove our fetters but he took our boots, too." (Poland, 1812.)

**constraint & lack of constraint / functioning: chain / crime**

**/ leg / movement / walking, running & jumping**

**fettered**

fettered by calls and e-mails and errands

I like to not be ~

fettered in any way

do you think your colleagues are~ (cartoonists draw women)

mentally fettered

his subordinates were ~ (by Naval discipline / orders)

**constraint & lack of constraint / functioning: chain / crime**

**/ leg / movement / walking, running & jumping**

**feud (verb)**

feuded with the intelligence community

he ~ throughout his presidency (US President Trump)

**conflict / revenge: verb / violence**

**feud (noun)**

feuds

the music industry thrives on ~

feuds in the entertainment industry

there is considerable public appetite for stories of~

feud between (next-door) neighbors

a ~ led to a confrontation

family feud

a long and bitter ~ over the estate of Jimi Hendrix

this exposes a real ~, a generational divide (Democrats)

academic feud

this ~ began to poison the project (undersea mapping)

diplomatic feud

the ~ between Russia and the U.S.

medical feud

the bitter ~s that plagued doctors through the late 1800s

political feud

the ~ between London and Paris

public feud

sisters get embroiled in a ~

flare-up of their long-running feud

the latest ~ (2 NASCAR drivers)

♦ see also *vendetta* (noun)

♦ "A scientific gang fight; furor; fierce outcry; fierce criticism; objections; personal attacks; leading the charge against someone (and his theory); savage mockery; allegations of hubris; condemnation of a scholarly paper as dreck (trash, rubbish); bearing a grudge; resentment; tarring someone as being a charlatan; claims of distorting what others scientists are saying; claims of willful misrepresentation..." (A scientific dispute involving academics. From "E. O. Wilson's Theory of Everything" by Howard French, *The Atlantic Magazine*, November, 2011.)

♦ Bitter feuds; divisions; hatreds (sectarian and personal); sectarianism; a maelstrom of professional ill will (Philadelphia); animosity; denunciations; fraternal hatred; resentment; conspiracies; schisms; coups; ousting... (Doctors and medical schools in the 1800s. From *The Social Transformation of American Medicine* by Paul Starr.)

♦ "A Mahometan and a Jew might as well attempt to worship the Supreme Being in the same temple, and through the medium of the same ceremonies, as two physicians of opposite principles and practice, attempt to confer about the life of the same patient." (Benjamin Rush, about the medical feuds during the yellow fever epidemic in Philadelphia in 1793.)

♦ In the US, there has been a longtime feud between people on the East Coast and the West Coast as to which coast has the better sports teams and rappers. Meanwhile in Atlanta, Georgia, rappers think of themselves as being the "Third / Dirty Coast." With the rappers, this feud is not always good natured.

♦ Dante put Mosca dei Lamberti in hell as a sower of discord for the role he played in igniting the feud between the Amidei and Buondelmonti in Florence.

♦ The Howards and the Turners; the Hatfield and the McCoys; the Lincoln County Feud; the Frenches and Eversoles; the Martins and Tollivers; the Bakers and Howards... (Famous Appalachian family feuds.)

♦ The Sutton-Taylor feud was the longest and bloodiest in Texas. (According to the Texas State Historical Association Handbook of Texas, in an article written by C. L. Sonnichsen: "Persons who wished to live in the area had to take sides, there was constant pursuing and lying in wait...")

♦ "Don't get me wrong: I have nothing against the Campbells, but I would not stay a night in the company of one." (Said by a MacDonald recently, referring to a massacre of MacDonalds by Campbells after the Campbells had accepted the MacDonalds' hospitality. The murders took place in 1692.)

**conflict / revenge: violence**

**fever (fever tree, etc.)**

fever tree

yellow-tinged trunks of the ~ glow (Kruger Park)

**proper name: health & medicine**

**fever (behavior)**

fever pitch

all of these issues have reached a ~ (politics)

the steady buildup of hype has reached a ~

cabin fever

~ plagues Vermont all winter

people are getting ~

in the depths of a long winter, kids will develop ~

launch fever

one thing we have to guard against is ~

lottery fever

~ draws people from surrounding states (to buy tickets)

### partisan fever

Washington's well-known ~ (vs. decorum and discretion)

### spring fever

September is the evil twin of ~

### summit fever

they call it "~" (failure to summit not an option)  
~ can lead to disaster (Denali / Mt. McKinley)

### war fever

every few decades, the US catches a case of foreign "~"

### "go fever"

we do not want to get ~ (shuttle launches)

### patriotic fever

crowds energized with ~ (the Olympics)

### yellow fever

some men have ~ (lust for Oriental women)

♦ "A classic malaria attack has three stages. (1) Cold stage (chills): rising fever, patient feels cold, ashen color, temperature is increasing rapidly, patient seeks additional covering with blankets. (2) Hot stage: patient throws off all blankets, looks red and congestive, very warm, high temperature, splitting headache and severe neck pains. (3) Sweat stage: patient suddenly breaks out in perspiration, clothes and bed are wet with sweat, temperature falls off quickly, patient feels better, often gets appetite back and falls asleep. An attack lasts 10-12 hours."

### behavior: health & medicine

## fever (enthusiasm)

### Cristiano Ronaldo fever

it's fair to say ~ has hit Old Trafford (soccer)

### football fever

get ready for ~ (English Premier League start)

### Oshin fever

a kind of ~ raged worldwide (1980s Japanese TV series)

### soccer fever

Germany has *Fussballfiebers*—~ (2006 World Cup)

### Super Bowl fever

not everyone is caught up in ~

### vacation fever

with ~ reaching new highs... (post-COVID)

### World Cup fever

~ in Riyadh is palpable (Qatar FIFA World Cup)

### enthusiasm: health & medicine

## fevered (adjective)

### fevered speculation

details derived from rumor and ~ (mass murder)

### grew (even more) fevered

anticipation ~ as word spread that...

### activity: health & medicine / temperature

## feverish (adjective)

### feverish activity

it is now the scene of ~ (a disaster)

### feverish labor

the end result of years of ~ (the A-bomb)

### feverish talk

the ~ of an imminent attack has ebbed (military)

### activity: health & medicine / movement / temperature

## feverishly

### feverishly courting

she has been ~ black voters

### working feverishly

we are ~ (disaster relief)  
the US is ~ behind the scenes (diplomacy)

### worked feverishly

doctors ~ to save him

♦ "Hughes, Dr. E. W., b. 15 March 1819, d. at his post of duty, 31 Aug 1878." (A marker in what is referred to locally as "the Yellow Fever" cemetery in Granada, Mississippi, on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, east of the railroad tracks. The Yellow Fever epidemic of 1878 devastated New Orleans and Memphis, infecting at least 120,000 and killing between 13,000 and 20,000 people.)

### activity: health & medicine / movement / temperature

## fever pitch (noun)

### reached a fever pitch

speculation ~... (possible military action)

### activity: health & medicine / temperature

## few and far between

### few and far between

we are ~ (a Parsi)

### amount: distance

## fication (adulthood, etc.)

### adulthoodification

the ~ of Black girls

### exotification

the ~ and fetishization of Asian women

### gamification

see *gamification* (noun)

### gentrification

longstanding concerns about ~ in Boyle Heights

### hippie-ification

Dracula AD 1972's ~ of the Bram Stoker legend

### HR-ification

the ~ of language (therapy speak / like human resources dept.)

### memefication

the ~ of the force (the U.S. Space Force)

museification

the ~ of the Holocaust (*The New Yorker* / Masha Gessen)

objectification

she has ZERO right to complain about ~ (a TikToker)

*Oprahfication*

*Stories of Oprah: the ~ of American Culture* (book)

queerification

“folx” is the deliberate ~ of a word (queer v. non-queer)

yassification

~ makes a person’s face look “ideal” (FaceApp filter)

~ memes on Twitter

objectification and commodification

~ of Black Bodies (*Caul Baby* by Morgan Jerkins)

♦ Listen to “Young Black Girls Face ‘Adultification,’” at NPR, *Weekend Edition Sunday*, July 9, 2017. The spell checker for Microsoft Word underlines *Adultification* in red and suggests *Dulcification* (noun form of *dulcify*); Merriam-Webster does not recognize it as a word. Wikipedia has an entry titled “Adultification bias” with the proviso, “The examples and perspective in this article may not represent a worldwide view of the subject.”

♦ “It is the Schitt’s Creek-ification of comedy.” (Glen Weldon talking about the TV show *Loot*.)

♦ see also *ization* (*marginalization, etc.*)

**contempo-speak / inclusion & exclusion: affix**

**fiddle (second fiddle)**

plays second fiddle

when you worry about your family, the other stuff ~

play second fiddle to UFC

boxing had to ~

played second fiddle to the Ambassador’s Road

during this period the Burma Road ~ (China)

**importance & significance / priority / superiority &**

**inferiority: music / number / position**

**fiddle (while Rome burns, etc.)**

Nero Fiddles League

Roger Goodell, commissioner of the ~ (NFL snark)

♦ “Roger Goodell, commissioner of the Nero Fiddles League—does nothing.” (The great sports columnist Phil Mushnick about the NFL’s tolerance and encouragement of vulgar fans. The “Nero Fiddles League” refers to the NFL, which Goodell is in charge of.)

**action, inaction & delay: allusion / history**

**fiefdom (control)**

fiefdom of his ship

a captain was a monarch of the floating ~ (1777)

gangster fiefdoms

this new system of ~ (warlord rule in Afghanistan)

individual fiefdoms

Chicago’s 50 aldermen are mini-mayors of their ~

personal fiefdom

the Rainbow Coalition is his ~ (Jesse Jackson)

rival fiefdoms

the two groups were ~ (criminal investigation)

theoretical fiefdom

everybody wants to create their own little ~ (research)

one-man fiefdom

his department was a ~ that he defended from the outside

he ran a ~, he called the shots (Curtis Institute of Music)

runs his or her own fiefdom

the cabinet secretary generally ~ (without interference)

**control & lack of control: Middle Ages**

**area: ground, terrain & land / Middle Ages**

**field (verb)**

fielding calls

he had been ~ about the accident most of the night

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: sports & games / verb**

**field (fertile field, etc.)**

fertile field

Donald Trump was plowing a very ~ (Mara Liasson)

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant**

**field hand (person)**

field hands of academia

adjunct faculty are the ~

**dominance & submission / superiority & inferiority: farming & agriculture / person**

**fiend (behavior)**

fitness fiend

I’m a ~ (an NFL player)

text messaging fiend

California girl is ~ (14,528 in one month / 2009)

**behavior: creature / mental health**

**fierce (girls and women / groups, etc.)**

fierce accessories

13 ~ to get you through every occasion (fashion)

fierce advocate

she was a ~ for women’s athletics (a soccer player)

fierce (animal) advocate

Lindsey was a ~ and a talented actress

fierce Abigail Breslin

moving performances by Damen and a ~ (*Stillwater*)

fierce enthusiasm

she was known for her ~ for sci-fi and comics

Fierce Five

they were known as the ~ (2012 US Olympic gym team)

fierce honesty

her album gives musical form to ~ and emotional freedom

fierce (fashion) matriarch  
the story of a ~ (Ethel Kerr)

fierce performance  
Kathryn Hunter delivers a ~ (*The Tragedy of Macbeth*)

‘fierce poise’  
with ~, she poured beauty (artist Helen Frankenthaler)

fierce (political) views  
how she gained her ~ (Ani DiFranco)

fierce women  
we’re standing up for ~ (politics)

*Fierce Little Thing*  
~ is the story of a young girl

fierce and heartwarming  
she is a ~ hero (Afghan woman scores high on test)

First Lady of Fierce  
the ~ Michelle Obama (charge d’affaires Karen Decker)

famous, fierce and fashion forward  
RuPaul, ~

fast and fierce  
Flo-Jo was ~ (track outfits, fingernails, etc.)

tender but fierce  
she is a ~ writer (Margo Jefferson on Jordan Kisner)

vulnerable and fierce  
Plaza is both ~ (Aubrey Plaza / *Emily the Criminal*)

from classic to fierce  
~, there isn’t a red carpet look Taylor hasn’t tried

make herself look fierce  
she wanted to get some piercings to ~ (an 18-year-old queer Latinx mestiza)

♦ *I Am... Sasha Fierce*. (The 2008 studio album by Beyonce.)

♦ “She was a fierce, fierce woman who wanted him at all costs” (written in 2008) is the traditional construct: a determined, predatory woman who knows what she wants (a particular man) and will stop at nothing to get him. See *maneater* (*female*). The contemporary construct for a “fierce” woman or girl is quite different, of course.

♦ [high pitched whoop] / [girls whooping] / [girls squealing]... (Closed captionings.)

♦ LFG. (The “battle cry” of the US Women’s national soccer team.)

♦ “WeWork founder Adam Neumann and his woo-woo wife Rebekah...”

♦ “Mean-mugging” is a meme.

♦ “We’re standing up for fierce women who raised me to never back down from a tough fight.” (Politics.)

♦ “Now that’s what I call fierce! You’re a star.” (Michelle Obama in a tweet about Nia Dennis and her “the Culture” gymnastic routine.)

♦ “I imagine the term ‘fierce’ was coined after meeting him.” (Actor and supermodel Milla Jovovich on the death of Andre Leon Talley, fashion industry icon and author of *The Chiffon Trenches*.)

♦ “Renee Ballard, a fierce young detective fighting to prove herself.” (A blurb to promote a book.)

♦ “12 Fierce Accessories to get you through every occasion when you need to feel fearless this fall.” (*Glamour X, Nine West*.)

♦ “Chrissy Metz, 40, Shows Off Massive Weight Loss In Fierce New Photo.” (Promoted: Swift Verdict.)

♦ “Both of you are mighty, I gotta say, both of you, and you’re bringing it to us again, thank you so much... (Robin Roberts introducing a travelogue on Washington State featuring Becky Worley and Ginger Zee.)

♦ “Shy by Max Porter is a short fierce novel...” (NPR’s Scott Simon. The following text appears on the website: “Sign up for the NPR Books newsletter. Get NPR editors’ recommendations, author interviews, and more. Email address. SUBSCRIBE.”)

♦ “Melina, a scientist who may know a little something about how an army of young girls could be coerced into becoming assassins...” (Bob Mondello reviewing Marvel’s *Black Widow* for NPR.)

♦ “There was a poster for *One Million Years B.C.* where she was in a—guess you’d call it a fur bikini (light upspeak)—and she’s standing there looking fierce.” (NPR movie critic Bob Mondello, on the death of Raquel Welch.)

♦ “Sheryl Sandberg: The Word ‘Bossy’ Should Be Banned,” NPR, All Things Considered, March 9, 2014. / “Sheryl Sandberg and Anna Maria Chavez on ‘Bossy,’ the Other B-word, *The Wall Street Journal*, March 8, 2014.

♦ Girl-boss culture; girl boss culture; girlboss... (See the Wikipedia entry. Or “Is Being a ‘Girl Boss’ a Bad Thing? It’s Complicated” by Paige Skinner, *Los Angeles Magazine*, May 13, 2021.)

♦ “Girl boss culture, it’s hustle culture, it’s putting bright red lipstick on capitalism.”

♦ *Juche*. (The DPRK’s state ideology. The word could be translate as “taking charge” or “in command.”)

♦ “The main selling point will be ‘girl power.’” (Snark on an upcoming Angelina Jolie film.)

♦ “She is a passionate animal advocate and fierce in the fight against cancer.” (The *biography* of a meteorologist welcoming her to a different market.)

♦ The website *fiercehealthcare* (a dotcom) has sections for Fierce Pharma; Fierce Biotech; Fierce Healthcare; and Fierce Life Sciences Events. That’s fierce!

♦ “‘Snapped up this designer trench at Marshalls. Shoulda cost a lot more.’ Stay fierce. Fabulous Brands. Feel Good Prices.” (An advertisement for Marshalls with music by the Pom Poms: “Look at me, look at me, look at me...”)

♦ “Gatorade Fierce. Grape. Naturally Flavored with Other Natural Flavors. Bold and Intense. Water, sugar, dextrose, citric acid, natural flavor, sodium citrate, salt, monopotassium phosphate, modified food starch, glycerol ester of rosin, blue 1, red 40.”

♦ “When black ladies go bald they look ferce [*sic*], when white women do it we look like Kemo [*sic*] patients. (NoMoreFalseGods to Loves\_Trees.)

♦ “In the mellowing afterglow of victory, they don’t seem so fierce.” (Elected women.)

♦ “Death only comes once, I’m not afraid of them killing me.” (Photojournalist Roya Heydari, who fled Afghanistan and is currently in France.)

♦ “That fierce [Rosé] persona—it’s fun when that happens, when I can turn on this whole different character.” (Roseanne Chaeyoung Park, aka Blackpink’s Rosé.)

♦ STOP. SAYING. “FIERCE!” (SkepDoc, commenting on “The 33 Fiercest Moments From Beyonce’s Halftime Show” by Lauren Yapalater, BuzzFeed, Feb. 4, 2013.)

♦ “Young girls have more options now.”

♦ “What would happen if teenage girls had the ability to electrocute at their fingertips?” (Amazon Prime video series *The Power*.)

♦ “Only then was I able to attach the name to an actual body, but I was inwardly astonished. I had imagined that the students who had been so unwavering in the face of the authorities and had resisted a principal with strong backing would, of course, be bold and fierce. Yet she often smiled and her manner was gentle.” (“In Memory of Liu Hezhen” by Lu Xun.)

♦ “Gentlemen. I am 25 years old and I have killed 309 fascist occupants (invaders) by now. Don’t you think, gentlemen, that you have been hiding behind my back for too long?” (Lyudmila Pavlichenko. From

"Eleanor Roosevelt and the Soviet Sniper" by Gilbert King, *Smithsonian Magazine*, Feb 21, 2013.)

♦ Assault; attack; battle; charge; combat; counterattack; defense; engagement; fight; firefight... (Words modified by *fierce* in the Medal of Honor citations for the Vietnam War.)

♦ see also *badass (power)*, *beast (power)*, *fearless (girls and women, etc.)*, *ferocious (other)*, *fiercely (girls and women / groups, etc.)*, *girlboss (noun)*, *savage (adjective)*

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## fierce (other)

fierce

it's ~ our there (buying a home)  
competition for jobs is ~

fierce battles

waging ~ with unions and regulators

fierce (custody) battle

he was the object of a ~

fierce criticism

the coach backpedaled after ~ from Chinese fans...

fierce defender

it helps to have a wise friend and ~ like AARP (an ad)  
your wise friend and ~ (an advertisement for AARP)

fierce (price) wars

~ have reduced profits

fierce winds

~ downed the transmission line (Hurricane Ida)

fierce and noisy

Tunisians are locked in a ~ debate about Islam in politics

fierce and ugly

a ~ about in-person learning (during the pandemic)

pretty fierce

the environment of Jupiter is ~ (Margaret Kivelson)

so fierce

the frenzied rumors have become ~ that...  
she feels a stab of love ~ (mother for husband, kids)

competition (for clinical training slots) was fierce

~ (nursing bottlenecks)

turned fierce

that's when the weather ~ (climbing K2)

♦ "It's a jungle out there!"

**destruction / force / strength & weakness: animal / predation / wolf**

## fiercely (girls and women / groups, etc.)

fiercely expressive

even her silences are ~, she's flinty, tough, guarded (film)

fiercely independent

~, Poppy is hardworking, temperamental and stubborn...

fiercely real

her performance is ~ (the film *Men*)

fiercely resilient

as the emotional yet ~ Maren, Russel is the real star here

competed fiercely

I ~ and made it to the finale

♦ "On 'All Stars' season three of the series, I competed fiercely and made it to the finale." (The drag superstar Shangela, also known as D. J. Pierce. The "All Stars" season refers to "RuPaul's Drag Race" franchise.)

♦ "Hello there, I'm Jennifer and welcome to *Simply + Fiercely*... I'm passionate about helping other women just like me."

♦ "All who knew you, loved you fiercely." (An expression of grief on Facebook for a murdered young woman.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## fierceness (groups)

fierceness

you see a ~ that's coming from the girls...

fierceness of work, men and taking care of themselves

it gave a voice to women balancing the ~ (an album)

♦ "You see a fierceness that's coming from the girls that are coming up now, that's because we understand we ain't got nuttin to lose. I already done lost that job, I already done lost that job." (Angelica Ross, about Trans representation in media / entertainment. According to her Wikipedia entry, "Her breakthrough role came in 2018, as Candy Ferocity in Rya Murphy's FX drama series *Pose*.")

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## fiery (character)

fiery (clubhouse) leader

he is their ~ (an athlete)

fiery preacher

the ~ has died at 91

fiery temperament

the son inherited his father's ~

fiery and brash

she is ~

**character & personality: fire / temperature**

**initiation: fire / temperature**

## fiery (speech)

fiery

North Korean rhetoric is often ~ (anniversaries, etc.)

fiery debate

heated words were exchanged during the ~

fiery denunciations

the charges resulted in ~ of labor unions

**speech: fire / temperature**

**initiation: fire / temperature**

## fight (noun)

dog fight

see *dogfight (noun)*

food fight

see *fight (food fight)*

without a fight

Amazon is unlikely to give up ~ (v. Reliance in India)

allies in that fight

she didn't have a lot of ~ (trouble between 2 actors)

weapon in the (COVID) fight

it is the third ~ (third vaccine approved)

rearing for a fight

Dees is still ~ (head of Southern Poverty Law Center)

♦ "Hit 'em with a left, hit 'em with a right, it's a fight, it's a fight, it's a fight, fight, fight!" (Stirring music lyrics to a video of the great boxer Naseem Hamid.)

♦ "Hold tight are you ready for the fight of your life."

**conflict / resistance, opposition & defeat: military**

## fight (verb)

fighting to beat back

Yahoo and AOL are ~ spammers

fighting urban blight

the group ~ (buildings)

fight like hell

they're not taking the White House, we're going to ~

fighting for his life

he has been ~ (hospital seeks to unplug ventilator)

fight incessantly

people ~ online...

♦ "It's an uphill battle... We're gonna fight him in congress, we're gonna fight in the courts, and I believe that a large segment of the American public will fight the president on this." (Democratic representative Joaquin Castro of Texas, channeling his inner Winston Churchill.)

♦ "I want the Democrats to raise their hands if they have ever given a speech that says 'take...back,' 'fight for your country.' Who hasn't used the words *fight* figuratively, and are we going to put every politician in jail, are we going to impeach every politician who has used the words *fight* figuratively in a speech? Shame!" (Senator Rand Paul.)

♦ "These are the metaphorical rhetorical uses of the word *fight*. We all know that, right? Suddenly the word *fight* is off limits? Spare us the hypocrisy and false indignation. It's a term used over and over and over again by politicians on both sides of the aisle." (Michael Van Der Veen, defending President Trump at his second impeachment trial.)

**conflict: military / verb**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military / verb**

## fight (food fight)

food fights

you can't be proud when you have ~ breaking out in the White House (politics)

procedural food fight

the trial will kick off with a ~ (impeachment trial)

equivalent of a food fight

it was the political ~ (presidential debate)

**behavior / conflict: school & education**

## fighter (person)

real fighter

she's a ~, she has led the fight for the prisoners

street fighter

can hope and unity beat Trump, or do you have to be a ~  
some wonder if he is the ~ they want or need (candidate)

♦ "I understand the spirit of a fighter, I've also been a fighter my whole life, my whole career." (Halle Berry, promoting her film *Bruised*.)

♦ CEO Margaret Low of WBUR, in a staff memo announcing "a significant reorganization" to include layoffs, wrote that that it was necessary to be "in fighting shape to deliver on big ambitions."

♦ "I tried to keep his spirits up, saying that this was just Round One in a long-term fight. 'More like the end of round #3...and they are winning 6-10 every round,' he wrote." ("Coin Toss: A Welshman has lost the key for half a billion dollars' worth of bitcoin" by D.T. Max, *The New Yorker*, December 13, 2021.)

♦ "We still have our guard up, we're still in the ring fighting for safety, we just now have some space between us and the opponent." (Captain Dennis Tajer of the Allied Pilots Association, about 5G and its effect on aviation. From "An airplane pilot details the issue 5G could have on flights," NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, Jan 22 2022.)

♦ "Boxing is like life, really, but like accentuated, isn't it... It's bittersweet, it's horrible, it teaches you lessons, really brutal lessons, there's no protection inside or outside the ring, and I fell in love with it... (The young boxing promoter Ben Shalom speaking with Steve Bunce.)

♦ "Now, look you here, Huw, my son. You are growing to be a man. It is a man's place to take punishment and give back more than he takes if there is a head on him... A boy shall learn to fight, or let him put skirts about his knees." (*How Green Was My Valley* by Richard Llewellyn.)

♦ "Joe Frazier is my friend... If I had \$4 left in my wallet, two of those would go to Joe." (Larry Holmes, after a reporter asked him if he had paid for an operation that Joe Frazier needed but couldn't afford. Larry wouldn't admit to it, but he had.)

♦ "The best fight I've ever seen, praying that Mick Conlan is ok."

♦ "Some day, they're gonna write a blues for fighters. It'll just be for slow guitar, soft trumpet and a bell." (Sonny Liston. His biography, published in 1963, was titled *The Champ Nobody Wanted*.)

♦ "Man... knows how to fight and win." (A stirring speech in Olympia, Greece, prior to the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing. See YouTube #Beijing2022 Olympic Flame Lighting Ceremony! Beautiful and inspiring during the COVID period. Full credit to China.)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: boxing / person**  
**person: boxing**

## fig leaf

fig leaf to cover

democracy is only a ~ the powers of capital

fig leaf for its (geopolitical) ambitions

the US uses the UN as a ~

fig leaf for imperialism

democracy is a ~

fig leaf for (US) occupation

the Afghan elections are a ~

fig leaf for politicians

the reform bill is a ~ opposed to any serious action

fig leaf for (US) withdrawal

"Vietnamization" was a ~

fig leaf for profiteering

philanthropy is often a ~

very small fig leaf indeed

"communist influence" was now a ~ in the surveillance

under the fig leaf of comedy  
he hides his conservatism ~

♦ Clement XIII (1693-1769) covered the genitalia of the Vatican's nudes with fig leaves.

**concealment & lack of concealment / substance & lack of substance: clothing & accessories**

## figurehead (noun)

figureheads  
the old play-writing establishment and its ~

figurehead of the Somali community  
she became a ~ in Canada

saw Ancelotti as the figurehead  
Moshiri saw ~ who would fulfil his aspirations (Everton)

**driving force / representation: boat**

## filling (content)

filling  
the ~ is always a surprise (Twilight Zone episodes)

♦ "There was a signature tone to the stories, the same dark chocolate coating—but the filling was always a surprise." (Charlie Brooker, creator of Black Mirror, about the older Twilight Zone series.)

**content: food & drink**

## filter (verb)

filters the news  
the country ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation: air / hygiene / water**

## filth (insult)

trash, filth, and sleaze  
locals use words like ~ (an annual motorcycle rally)

♦ "Late Sunday, riot police sprayed putrid-smelling water to break up Palestinian protests." (AP, "Israeli troops kill Palestinian in West Bank clashes," Feb 13, 2022.)

**insult / violence / worth & lack of worth: hygiene**

## filthy (bad)

filthy habit  
smoking is a ~

**worth & lack of worth: hygiene**

## filthy (slang)

filthy  
that dunk was ~ (NBA)

♦ Amazing; awesome; cool; formidable; (very) good... (Generally used as a compliment.)

♦ Bad, badass, blow up, catch fire, chill, coup, crazy, crush, destroy, dope, dynamite, filthy, freakish (ability, etc.), gangster (original gangster / OG), kill, killer, killa, mean, monster, nasty, ridiculous; sick, slay, wicked... (Words that sound bad but can have positive connotations. English is crazy!)

**superlative: hygiene**

## filthy (filthy rich)

filthy lucre  
I am not immune to the lure of ~ (a writer)

filthy rich  
there's rich and then there's ~

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: hygiene**

## filthy (corruption)

filthy business  
greed has turned our health-care system into a ~

filthy mess  
we must clean up this ~ (Wall Street)

filthy politics  
we have seen eight years of ~

**corruption: hygiene**

## filthy (sex)

filthy joke  
he cracked ~s

filthy mind  
people who see sex in this have ~s  
old people have ~s, too

filthy piece of trash  
the book is a ~ ("Lolita" by VN)

called the play filthy  
Comstock ~ (*Mrs. Warren's Profession* by GBS)

**sex: hygiene**

## filthy (language)

too filthy  
the play was deemed ~ for theatres (Pinter's *Landscape*)

**speech: hygiene**

## finale (noun)

finale  
you've just seen the first act, the ~ is yet to come (trial)

**development: theater**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: theater**

## find (a date can find us, etc.)

finds us in Newman  
dawn the next day ~ (Western Australia)

found the travelers in Rome  
August 12 ~

**fictive meeting & seeing: verb**

## find (discover)

found that  
we ~ the language became more hostile (a study)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: hunting**  
**searching & discovery: hunting**

## **find (find oneself in a place, etc.)**

found myself doing something  
any time I ~ that didn't feel like the intended path...

found ourselves among other journalists  
we ~ and aid workers scrambling to escape

found ourselves trying  
we ~ to...

found ourselves cooped up  
we ~ for a while (pandemic)

find yourself in a situation  
you could ~ where you keep boosting... (vaccines)

♦ "Over the pass we dropped at once into a gulch. The place was extraordinarily broken. Deep scree, encumbered with boulders and trunks, streams and rocks, all thickly overgrown with a carpet of moss; the whole scene reminded me vividly of a picture of Walpurgis Night. It would be hard to imagine a wilder and more repellent scene than that grim gorge." (*Dersu the Trapper* by V. K. Arseniev.)

♦ "Midway in our life's journey, I went astray / from the straight road and woke to find myself / alone in a dark wood..." (*The Inferno*, translated by John Ciardi.)

**consciousness & awareness: journeys & trips / place**

## **find (hope, etc.)**

found Jesus in prison  
John Ellis Sparks ~ (Alabama murderer)

**searching & discovery: hunting**

## **fine-tune (verb)**

fine-tune a search  
you can ~ by using wildcards (computers)

fine-tune scripts  
she can ~

fine-tuned the work in progress  
together they ~

**amelioration & renewal: music / verb**

## **finger (shape)**

pokes its finger  
they met where the Gulf of Issus ~ into Asia Minor

**shape: finger**

## **finger (Finger Lakes, etc.)**

Finger Lakes  
the ~ produce an excellent Riesling (New York)

**proper name: finger**

## **finger (middle finger)**

"middle finger" to everyone  
the mass party was a ~ who had suffered (pandemic)

middle finger to social norms

he intended his haircut to be a ~ (the mullet hairstyle)

middle finger to the patriarchy  
the vengeance is not just personal, it's a ~ (women)

middle-finger salute  
Verstappen gave Hamilton a ~ (F1)  
Kyrie hit the shot and gave the ~ to the Celtics fans  
the new bicycle lanes are a big ~ to us residents...

one-finger salute  
LeBron James got a *double* ~ from a brazen child

one-fingered salute  
the youths' ~ to ideology (girls' dress / Iran)

gave fans a one-finger salute  
he ~

gives the middle finger  
she ~ to haters (a singer and her lyrics)

leaves behind a middle finger  
he's boarding a plane while he ~ to Cleveland (sports)

seen as a middle finger  
it was ~ to America (Muhammad Ali refuses induction)

threw out a one finger salute  
he ~

♦ see also *flip off (verb)*

♦ "Berlin's tourism authority has launched an ad campaign featuring an elderly woman giving the middle finger to people who refuse to wear masks... / But the campaign has proved controversial, with some in Germany calling it insulting." ("Coronavirus: Berlin ad sticks middle finger to mask rule breakers," BBC, October 14, 2020.)

♦ "We should note that you *did* give someone the middle finger as you were leaving this event, you say it was out of frustration and you regret it..." (An otherwise sympathetic NPR interview with a public-health official about a public meeting.)

♦ "Brooklyn Nets guard Kyrie Irving has been fined \$50,000 by the NBA for 'making obscene gestures on court...' in their opening play-off game." (He gave the middle finger to Boston Celtic fans. Nuff said.)

♦ "It was like a middle finger sticking out." (Outpost Restrepo, Korangal Valley, Afghanistan.)

**insult: finger / gesture**

## **finger (slip through one's fingers)**

slipped through his fingers  
the Super Bowl has ~ again (NFL's Aaron Rodgers)

slipped through their fingers  
he ~ (a criminal)

**attainment / possession / pursuit, capture & escape: finger / hand / verb**

## **finger (in the snap of a finger)**

went from 0 to 60 in the snap of a finger  
he ~ (car driver)

♦ "Everything happened just like that... (he snaps his fingers four times.) I was just shootin'." (Markeith Loyd, at his first trial in Florida, for murdering his pregnant girlfriend.)

**speed: finger / gesture / sound**

## finger (snap one's fingers, etc.)

snap their fingers

can they just ~ and make this happen (policy)

snap your fingers

if you could ~ and change one thing, what would it be

♦ "There will be no snap of the fingers to make the virus disappear." (It will become endemic, here to stay.)

**creation & transformation: finger / gesture / magic**

## finger (point a finger)

finger of blame

he points the ~ at his business partner (trial)

finger of guilt

pointed the ~ in this man's direction

accusing finger

it's easy to point an ~

the ~ has been pointed in every direction

pointing accusing fingers at white doctors

a lot of black people today are ~

pointing fingers at the company

people are ~

pointed the finger (of guilt) in this man's direction

circumstantial evidence also ~

point fingers and criticize

a lot of people want to ~ (disaster relief)

right to point fingers

the US has no ~

♦ "A lot of black people today are wringing their hands and pointing accusing fingers at white doctors from the public health service." (Janie Taylor, "Origins of the Infamous Tuskegee Syphilis Study," NPR, August 7, 1972. It's a seven-part series that was available in its entirety at NPR.)

**accusation & criticism: finger / gesture / verb**

## finger (lift a finger)

lift a finger for him

I wouldn't ~

**help & assistance: finger / hand / verb**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: finger / hand / verb**

## finger (put one's finger on something)

puts his finger on (one of the chief) difficulties

he ~ of the movement (can't define itself)

**location: finger / gesture / hand / map / verb**

## finger (cross one's fingers, etc.)

fingers crossed

~, we go to Sunday full of energy (Liverpool FC)

it's ~ that it continues... (noisy neighbors quiet down)

~, we'll be at base camp in about 3 days (Everest)

fingers crossed approach

many US companies resort to a ~ to cybersecurity

keeping my fingers crossed

I was ~ (mass shooting survivor)

♦ "It's coming home... Hopefully (Fingers crossed). Realistically... probably not... but hey after almost 18 months of misery let's all get behind them and enjoy it. You never know!" (A BBC HYS writer on the eve of England vs. Ukraine at Euro 2020.)

**fate, fortune & chance: finger / gesture / verb**

## finger-pointing

finger pointing

there was much ~

there is plenty of ~ going on (blame)

finger-pointing

~ began even before the fighting ended

finger-pointing among Democrats

her loss led to a round of ~ (election)

finger-pointing and accusations

a lot of ~ (NASA failure)

finger-pointing and (political) posturing

we must put behind us ~ and solve this problem

years of (squabbling and) finger-pointing

after ~ (UN conference)

hand-wringing and finger-pointing

the battle led to a lot of ~ in Washington (war)

squabbling and finger-pointing

after years of ~ (UN conference)

**accusation & criticism: finger / gesture**

## fingerprint (noun)

computer fingerprint

every visit leaves a ~

digital fingerprint

the program leaves none of the traditional ~s (malware)

genetic fingerprint

a person's nearly unique ~

Saudi fingerprints

~ are everywhere (politics)

unique (genetic) fingerprint

a person's nearly ~

**evidence: finger / mark**

## finger tip (at one's fingertips)

at his fingertips

he has helicopters and jets ~ (Vice President)

**proximity: finger / hand**

## finger tip (to one's fingertips)

to his fingertips

he was "The Baron" ~

**identity & nature: finger**

## finger-wagging

finger-wagging

this ~ sparked a reaction (mask-wearing)

**accusation & criticism: finger / gesture**

## finished (over)

finished

wasn't a great fight and AJ showed he's ~ (boxing)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: prep, adv, adj, particle**  
**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## fire (a question, etc.)

fire the same questions

they would ~ over and over again (police interrogation)

**speech: verb / weapon**

## fire (conflict)

racial fires

he is stoking the ~ (politician)

on fire

the Middle East is ~ (protests, regime change)

extinguish a fire

he was trying to ~ that would not die (civil rights)

lit the (prairie) fire

this became the spark that ~ (a political issue)

stoking the (racial) fires

he is ~ (politician)

**conflict: fire**

## fire (through the fire, etc.)

through the fire

Harris has been ~ and knows what it feels like  
no way, I've been ~ (politician about running again)

through the fire of (suicidal) depression

I have lived ~

pass through the fire

once children ~ of adolescence

♦ "I got the eye of the tiger, a fighter, dancing through the fire, 'cause I am a champion, and you're gonna hear me roar." (Lyrics of song "Roar" sung by Katy Perry.)

**character & personality / experience: fire**

## fire (substance)

fire

where there's smoke, there's ~

**evidence / substance & lack of substance: fire**

## fire (criticism)

heavy fire

he has been taking ~ from his rivals (Democratic politics)

incoming fire

he's going to take all this ~ (a politician)

took (incoming) fire

I ~ on social media for that...

**accusation & criticism: military / weapon**

**speech: weapon**

## fire (under fire)

under fire

his judgment has repeatedly come ~

he is ~ after an unconfirmed report surfaced...

she displayed coolness ~ (political debate performance)

under fire for not arresting

the FBI is coming ~

under fire for his policy

he has come ~ (visas)

under fire from (human rights) groups

Egypt recently came ~

come under fire

mink farms have ~ for skinning minks alive

his judgment has repeatedly ~ (a prosecutor)

**accusation & criticism: military / weapon**

**speech: weapon**

## fire (draw fire, etc.)

drawing fire

the plan is ~

face fire

he is going to ~ from his fellow candidates (debate)

**accusation & criticism: military / weapon**

**speech: military / weapon**

## fire (fire back)

firing back

Smollett is ~ and his legal team is digging in

fired back at her attackers

she ~

**accusation & criticism: military / weapon**

**speech: weapon / verb**

## fire (flash fire)

flash fire of hope

he ignited a ~ (Obama)

**amount & effect: fire**

## fire (hold somebody's feet to the fire)

*see feet (hold somebody's feet to the fire)*

## fire (on fire / feeling)

on fire

the team came out ~ (playing well)

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire / temperature**

## **fire (fire and desire, etc.)**

fire in my belly

I didn't have that ~ (to become president)

fire and desire

they have some young players with ~ (soccer)

competitive fires

he admitted his ~ had been banked (pro athlete)

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire**

**commitment & determination: fire**

## **fire (light a fire under somebody)**

light a fire under him

we need to ~ (motivation)

lit a fire under that boy's ass

whatever it was, something ~ (*Shawshank Redemption*)

**coercion & motivation: fire / verb / violence**

## **fire (fuel on the fire, etc.)**

fire of (toxic) political warfare

this will pour fuel on the ~

adding fuel to the fire

the US is adding ~ (by sending weapons to Ukraine)

pour fuel on the fire

this will ~ of toxic political warfare

poured gas on the fire

the president ~ with a provocative tweet (sports issue)

a tweet ~ when... (sports dispute)

throws gas on the fire

Palin ~ in Iowa (politics)

threw kerosene on an already blazing situation

his cheap shots ~

drain the fuel away

the military alone will not ~ from the jihadists

**increase & decrease: fire**

## **fire (play with fire)**

playing with fire

you better be careful, you're ~

I was ~, it was just a matter of time before I got caught

I hope they appreciate the degree to which they are ~ (diplomacy)

**fate, fortune & chance: fire / verb**

## **fire (catch fire)**

caught fire

none of these websites have taken off and ~

the youth movement ~ (US / counterculture)

his campaign ~ in the spring (politics)

his senate race ~ in 2018 (politics)

her campaign never ~ or even showed signs of a spark

catches fire

around 2015, suddenly the movement ~ (flat earthers)

interest (in Dante) caught fire

Harvard was where his ~ (the poet John Ciardi)

**initiation / starting, going, continuing & ending: fire**

## **fire (hang fire)**

hung fire

for almost two months, Scott's plans ~

hung fire for eight minutes

the way you ~ at the beginning (he delayed the start)

hung fire for a while

the case has ~ (Pakistan refuses to release diplomat)

hang fire until the 111th Congress convenes

both bills will likely ~ (a delay)

die, hang fire, or are lost

the bills ~ in limbo (in the US Senate)

**action, inaction & delay: verb / weapon**

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: verb / weapon**

## **firebomb (noun)**

rhetorical firebomb

this was a ~ that he deliberately detonated ("lynching")

**amount & effect: explosion / weapon**

**attention, scrutiny & promotions: explosion / weapon**

## **firebrand (person)**

firebrand Republican

the ~ from Florida...

liberal firebrand

~ Elizabeth Warren took center stage at the heated forum

he is not known as a ~ (a Democratic politician)

**character & personality: fire / person**

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire / person**

**person: fire / temperature**

## **fired up**

fired up

I'm ~ and ready to go to the finals (victor)

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire**

## **firefight (and fire fight)**

firefight

Joshua backed off, wary of a ~ (against Usyk / boxing)

firefight ensued

but Skeete was clearly dazed and a ~ (boxing match)

continue the firefight

Khan needs to take control rather than ~ (boxing)

**conflict: military**

## fire up (verb)

fire up the Democratic foot soldiers  
she wants to ~ (politics)

fire up the Democratic base  
he wants to ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire / verb**

**coercion & motivation: fire / verb**

## firestorm (noun)

firestorm of controversy  
the pandemic has created a ~ here (mandates, etc.)

firestorm of criticism  
the government is trying to respond to a ~  
he was fired after a ~ (a comic from SNL)

firestorm of envy  
it would create a ~ (a transfer)

firestorm over his allegations  
the ~ shows no sign of abating

media firestorm  
his threat to burn the holy book caused a ~

viral firestorm  
the wrongly edited footage set off a ~

political and public relations firestorm  
his firing ignited a ~ (free-speech issue)

at the center of a (political) firestorm  
the oil leak has put BP ~ (oil spill)

created a firestorm  
the book has ~

ignited a (national) firestorm  
he ~ with his blog post

set off a firestorm  
he ~ of opposition when he...

found himself in a firestorm  
he ~ after key investor withdrawals (hedge fund)

whipped the criticisms of the press into a firestorm  
this ~ (a public statement)

♦ "For the first time in my life I beheld a raging forest fire at close quarters, a fearful spectacle! Enormous cedars, gripped by the flame, were blazing like colossal torches. Beneath them, on the ground, was a sea of fire. Everything was burning, grass, fallen leaves, trunks, logs, stumps. We could hear living trees groan and burst from the heat. The yellow smoke rolled upwards in enormous billows. Waves of fire raced over the ground. Tongues of flame wound round the stumps and licked the red-hot rocks... I saw a wild boar make his way across the river, a big snake swim sinuously over, and a woodpecker flew from tree to tree like a mad thing, while a nutcracker never ceased its raucous chatter..."  
(*Dersu Uzala* by V.K. Arseniev.)

**amount & effect: fire**

## firing line (noun)

take him out of the firing line  
the best thing was ~ to clear his head (a soccer player)

♦ "The best thing was take him out of the firing line to clear his head. I am a firm believer where the mind goes, the rest will follow." (A comment about Erik ten Hag giving Jadon Sancho an extended break from Manchester United.)

see also *line of fire*

**danger: military / weapon**

## firing squad

literary firing squads  
and then come the ~ (Amos Oz on criticism)

**accusation & criticism / judgment: justice / military**

## firewall (computers)

firewall  
upgraded the ~ that was supposed to keep hackers out

firewall program  
you can download a good ~ (computer)

firewall software  
Windows XP includes basic ~ (Internet security)

firewall, network and browser (m)  
flaws in its ~ settings (Windows)

Great Firewall  
the ~ of China can censor the Internet

high-security firewall  
~s that protect secret data (computers)

**computer / protection & lack of protection: fire / wall**

## firewall (other)

firewall  
black voters are his "~" (they will vote for him)

firewall against Nancy Pelosi's agenda  
we are the ~ (Trump Republicans)

firewall hopes  
his ~ aren't unfounded (politician needs black vote)

firewall state  
his campaign needs a good result in his ~

build firewalls  
bankruptcy courts can ~ around a company's assets

**protection & lack of protection: fire / infrastructure / wall**

## fireworks (conflict)

fireworks  
this congressional hearing was notable for its ~

**conflict: explosion / sound / speech**

**speech: explosion / sound**

## firmament (noun)

public-health firmament  
nobody in the ~ was doing anything (early days of AIDS)

literary firmament  
he became a nova in Florence's ~ (Dante)

stars of the (democratic foreign-policy) firmament  
they are the ~

part of the (political) firmament  
he has just been ~ for so long (Joe Biden)

place in the (current Democratic) firmament  
he doesn't occupy the ~ that Schiff does

star in the (neoconservative) firmament  
Bloom had become a ~

star in the (Lincoln) firmament  
General Grant was a rising ~

firmament has changed  
the ~ rapidly (the PGA versus LIV Golf)

star has dimmed in the Hollywood firmament  
his ~ (bad behavior)

**environment: astronomy / sky**

### first (metaverse-first, etc.)

metaverse-first  
Facebook turned itself into a ~ firm (Meta)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: affix / number / position**

### fish (verb)

fishing for information  
she was ~

fishing for referrals  
he is always ~ (a businessman)

♦ When I saw "Magnet fishing got people hooked, but China and green tech are threatening its future" (by Fernando Alfonso III, NPR, National, August 11, 2022), I clicked on it because it was incomprehensible to me, except for the dumb pun. Fishing for magnets? The article explained everything. Magnet fishing became popular in the U.S. during the pandemic. People used magnets to fish iron objects from lakes, rivers, and oceans. The powerful magnets depend on the rare-earth metal neodymium, which is mostly mined in China. And the same metal is needed for the motors of electric vehicles. There! That's solved. Thanks, NPR!

**pursuit, capture & escape: fish / hunting / verb**

### fish (big fish)

big fish  
the arrest is big progress because he is a ~ (LRA leader)  
the first ~ to testify was Vincent "Fat Vinnie" Teresa

big fish in a small pond  
back home, I was a ~ (a model now in Miami)  
go find a place where you can be a ~ (resign)

get the big fish  
the only way you can ~ is through the little fish (crime)

♦ "Back home I was a big fish in a small pond, but in Miami I'm just a minnow surrounded by sharks." (A model.)

♦ "The [BBC], once a shark in the media pond, is now a mere sardine in a media ocean." (Clever writing from BBC Six O'Clock News, 26/05/2022.)

**importance & significance: animal / fish / size**  
**power / strength & weakness: animal / fish / size**

**size: animal / fish**

### fish (small fish)

small fish  
he was a ~ (an elderly Nazi)

**importance & significance: animal / fish / size**  
**power / strength & weakness: animal / fish / size**  
**size: animal / fish**

### fish (fish out of water)

fish out of water  
I was a ~ out there (rookie NASCAR driver)

**environment: fish**

### fish (different kettle of fish)

different kettle of fish  
we're a ~ (southeastern vs west Michiganders)  
Holmes was a ~, he didn't like people all that much...

**taxonomy & classification: animal / fish / food & drink**

### fishbowl (in a fishbowl)

living in a fishbowl  
she hated ~ (a celebrity)

works in a fishbowl  
everyone in media today ~ (criticism, etc.)

**environment: fish / water**

### fishbowl (other)

fishbowl  
his office was a ~

**environment: fish / water**

### fish-eye (fish-eye view, etc.)

fish-eye view  
a ~ from Spirit's navigation camera shows... (Mars)

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye / fish / position**

### fishing (Latino-fishing, etc.)

Asianfishing  
cultural mimicry like Blackfishing or ~ (Latino-fishing)

Blackfishing  
"From Blackface To ~" (NPR, Code Switch, 2019)

Latino-fishing  
~, pretending to be Latino (Manuela Lopez Restrepo)  
Rosalia is a key name in any discussion of ~ (Spanish star)

♦ See "How Latin identity became fodder for content" by Manuela Lopez Restrepo, NPR, Pop Culture, December 10, 2022. It explains a lot.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affix / possession**

### fishtail (verb)

fishtails  
the vehicle ~ under hard steering (rollover accidents)

**movement: animal / fish / verb**

## fishy (something smells fishy, etc.)

something fishy

cops were pretty sure that ~ was going on  
he noticed ~ (a scam)

smells fishy

something ~

smelled (very) fishy

the timing ~ (article causes stock to plunge)

noticed something fishy

he ~ (a scam)

♦ "There's something dead up the branch." (A Southern Appalachians expression. A branch is a watercourse like a creek or a stream.)

**evidence / suspicion: animal / fish / smell**

## fissure (noun)

deep fissure

the resignations revealed a ~ among Afghan leaders

**division & connection: ground, terrain & land**

## fist (armored fist, etc.)

armored fist

the ~ of the tank-heavy 1991 Persian Gulf War

**driving force / force: fist / military**

## fist (a boss with an iron fist, etc.)

ran the company with an iron fist

he ~

treated with an iron fist

some patients are ~ (mentally ill, etc.)

**character & personality / control & lack of control: fist**

## fist (a leader with an iron fist)

iron fist of a brutal dictator

my grandparents fled the ~

rules with an iron fist

he ~ (a dictator)

**force / oppression / violence: fist**

## fist (wave one's fist)

waving her gen X fist at millennials

maybe she is ~ to get off her lawn (Meghan Daum)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: fist / gesture**

## fist bump (noun)

equivalent of a fist-bump

Benet gave Justice the Twitter ~ (bro-ing up / support)

**achievement, recognition & praise: fist / gesture**

## fit (adjective)

fit to stand trial

a psychiatrist determined that she was ~

**ability & lack of ability / condition & status / flaws & lack of**

**flaws: health & medicine**

## fit in (verb)

fit in

he ~ well (a teammate)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: mechanism**

**society: center & periphery**

## fitness (ability)

fitness to practice

aging doctors' ~ has come under question

fitness for office

some question his ~

fitness of Thomas

the association split on the ~ for the Supreme Court

reproductive fitness

~ is a factor in evolution

spiritual fitness

the Army now assesses the ~ of troops (US)

spiritual-fitness

soldiers are suing to eliminate the ~ assessment (US)

**ability & lack of ability: health & medicine**

**flaws & lack of flaws: health & medicine**

## fix (verb)

fix it

the economy is broken, and Obama can't ~

fix relations

the US is trying to ~ (with Pakistan)

♦ FTFY = fixed that for you. Often used sarcastically.

**amelioration & renewal: mechanism / verb**

## fix (daily fix, etc.)

daily fix

news junkies can get a ~ (Web site)

weekly fix

it's Fight Talk, your ~ of boxing news (BBC boxing)

**enthusiasm: addiction**

## fizzle (and fizzle out)

fizzled out in the playoffs

the team ~

fizzle fast

most memes ~ (but not Florida Man)

investigation fizzled out

the police department's ~ (a murder)

♦ "How the economy went from sizzle to fizzle."

failure, accident & impairment / starting, going, continuing  
& ending: explosion / fire / verb

## flabby (adjective)

flabby reasoning  
but this is ~

ability & lack of ability / flaws & lack of flaws / size /  
strength & weakness / sufficiency, insufficiency & excess:  
fatness & thinness / health & medicine

## flag

red flag  
see *red flag* (warning)

white flag  
see *white flag* (surrender)

## flag (rally around the flag)

rally-round-the-flag  
sometimes there has been a ~ effect for a president

♦ "Yes we'll rally round the flag, boys, we'll rally once again / Shouting  
the battle cry of freedom / We will rally from the hillside, we'll gather from  
the plain / Shouting the battle cry of freedom!" (The "Battle Cry of  
Freedom," also known as "Rally 'Round the Flag.")

♦ "About ten thousand wounded soldiers were in the care of thirty or forty  
surgeons. Still, a fellow worker described Barton as a cheerful spirit,  
seeming to be everywhere in her blue dress and white apron. He  
remembered that she sometimes encouraged the men to join her in  
singing 'Rally Round the Flag, Boys.'" (*Clara Barton: Civil War Nurse* by  
Nancy Whitelaw. Historical American Biographies. Of course, "the Angel  
of the Battlefield" was not always cheerful in her life. But in the face of  
horror, she knew how to put on a brave face.)

allegiance, support & betrayal: flags & banners

## flag (false flag)

see *false flag* (subterfuge)

## flag (raise a flag, etc.)

raised the Beaujolais flag  
he ~ all over the world (Georges Dubouef)

representation: flags & banners / verb

attention, scrutiny & promotion: flags & banners / verb

## flag (plant one's flag)

plant my flag  
this is what should happen, this is where I ~, we must do this

planted his flag in that stretch of cyberspace  
he ~, declaring that... (defending his company)

planting their flag about what  
this is them ~ they're going to do now (celebrity couple)

♦ "It's disheartening to see him plant a flag on this hill." (A popular-culture  
critic criticizing a very great comedian for making comments referencing  
transgender people, and for refusing to back down and apologize for  
those comments.)

commitment & determination / possession / resistance,  
opposition & defeat: flags & banners / ground, terrain &  
land / military

## flag (flag of convenience)

flag of convenience  
race relations is the ~ under which it sailed (Broadway)

♦ "*Porgy and Bess* is a buncha good songs but has nothing to do with  
race relations, which is the flag of convenience under which it sailed."  
(The great playwright David Mamet, from "Why I Am No Longer a 'Brain  
Dead Liberal,'" *The Village Voice*, March 11, 2008.)

representation: boat / flags & banners

## flag-bearer

party's flag-bearer  
the decision shortened his run as his ~ (politics)

person / representation: flags & banners / military

## flagellation (noun)

self-flagellation  
~ versus self-congratulation (debate over US history)

punishment & recrimination: violence / whip

## flagpole (run something up the flagpole)

run it up the flagpole  
when you ~ for review...

running up the flag pole  
the administration is ~ the idea of a tax that... (just an idea)

experimentation: atmosphere / flags & banners  
attention, scrutiny & promotion: atmosphere / flags &  
banners

## flagship (superlative)

flagship campus  
the university of Illinois' ~ (at Urbana-Champaign)

flagship dealership  
Mercedes-Benz USA is building a ~ (330,000 sq/ft)

flagship fund  
investors are withdrawing from his ~

flagship imprint  
he will control the company's ~, Simon & Schuster

flagship (public) institution  
the university is a ~

flagship product  
the car competes with similar ~s

flagship restaurant  
he is moving his ~ to the Left Bank (Guy Savoy)

flagship shows  
CBS has announced major changes to its ~ (anchors, etc.)

flagship (E-commerce) site  
the company's ~

flagship (Orion) software  
SolarWinds has updated its ~

flagship store  
Ralph Lauren's new ~ on Madison Avenue  
Macy's ~ in Herald Square

flagship universities  
the drive for diversity at ~ (US)

flagship venture  
the probe is a ~ of the European Space Agency

♦ HMS *Victory* was Lord Nelson's flagship at the Battle of Trafalgar. J.M.W. Turner's great painting "The Fighting Temeraire" (1839) is an elegy for the great ships of the line. But they live on in the language.

**superlative: boat**

## flak (criticism)

flak from those  
journalists often take ~ they criticize

flak for the photo shoot  
yeah, I do catch ~, and I totally don't care

flak and responsibility  
I'm the manager and I'll take the ~ (Ole Solskjaer)

heavy flak  
she had taken ~ for suggesting... (an academic)

catches flak  
Obama ~ for remarks on working class

♦ Attack ads; battleground states; blood; political bombshells; crash and burn; campaigns; carnage; crosshair; drop dead; fire away; catch flak; gun ("they bring a knife, you bring a gun"), outgunned; kill (and killing); lock and load; marching orders; take no prisoners; shoot down; shot through; target; war rooms... ("How traumatic Events Change Our View of Language," Geoff Nunberg, NPR, Fresh Air, January 20, 2011. He talks about "de-natured metaphors" and dead metaphors.)

**accusation & criticism: military / weapon**

**speech: military / weapon**

## flame (life is a flame)

flame flickered (lower) and (at last) went out  
the ~ (death)

♦ "Like most creatures of the Wild, the grey cub early experienced famine. There came a time when not only did the meat-supply cease, but the milk no longer came from his mother's breast. At first the cubs whimpered and cried, but for the most part they slept...reduced to a coma of hunger...while the life that was in them flickered and died down. When the grey cub came back to life...he found...only one sister remained to him. The rest were gone. [And] the food had come too late for her. She slept continuously, a tiny skeleton flung round with skin in which the flame flickered lower and lower and at last went out." (*White Fang* by Jack London.)

**death & life / decline: fire**

## flame (moth to a flame, etc.)

see *moth* (a moth to a flame, etc.)

## flame (keeper of the flame, etc.)

keeper of the (poet's) flame  
Valerie Eliot, the ~... (T.S. Eliot)

**survival, persistence & endurance: fire**

## flame (in flames)

up in flames  
with yet another relationship ~, all bets are off (marriage)

shot down in flames  
its strategy has been ~ (a political party)

**destruction / failure, accident & impairment: fire**

## flame (conflict)

flames of division  
this senator sought to further fan the ~

flames of hostility  
he is fanning the ~ towards Muslims (a politician)

flames of intolerance  
extremists are stoking the ~

flames of revolt  
Libya is going up in the ~

flames (of strife) flickered out  
as the ~ in the US (the Civil War ends)

fanned the flames  
he has ~ of white supremacy in this nation (politics)

fanning the flames  
his policies are ~ (of Arab rage)  
he is ~ of hostility towards Muslims (a politician)

fuel the flames  
don't ~ (a controversy)

stoking the flames  
extremists are ~ of intolerance

**conflict: fire**

## flameout (noun)

complete flameout  
he had a ~

**failure, accident & impairment: engine / plane**  
**starting, going, continuing & ending: engine / plane**

## flame out (verb)

flame out  
it's a trend that's unlikely to ~ (vaping)

**failure, accident & impairment: engine / plane / verb**  
**starting, going, continuing & ending: engine / plane / verb**

## flank (side)

flanks of a mountain  
half a mile up on the ~, the Yangtze looked like...

**orientation: animal**

## flank (protection)

left flank of the culture wars

it has taken up the ~ (Southern Poverty Law Center)

♦ "When it comes to outflanking its adversaries in Asia, concedes a senior American official, 'America sucks.'" (*The Economist*.)

**orientation / protection & lack of protection: military**

## flare (noun)

send up a flare

if engineers spot a problem, they can more easily ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: fire / light & dark message / warning: fire / light & dark**

## flare (verb)

flares in the Delta

political violence regularly ~ (Nigeria / oil, etc.)

flared on (Russia's) border

fighting ~ with Georgia today...

flared for a third day

Christian-Muslim violence ~ in Kaduna

flared into violence

pent-up frustrations have ~ (Nigeria)

flared with a new ugliness

racial hatred has ~

flared sporadically

sectarian violence has ~ across the country (Nigeria)

conflicts will flare

generational ~ (baby boomers vs. Gen X, etc.)

fighting flared

~ on Russia's border with Georgia today...

issue has flared

the ~ in the wake of 2 incidents (fans invade field)

tempers flare

the appropriate response when ~ in business meetings

tempers flared

at airports, ~ (weather delays)

~ as the team wilted (sports)

tempers are flaring

~ over the oil spill

tensions (with Georgia) flared

the latest ~ on July 27 when...

uprising flared

an ~ after the cancellation of a general election (Algeria)

caused tempers to flares

police said the hot weather ~

♦ "Tempers were flared and strong words were exchanged between us." (An eggcorn? A faulty "writing" application?)

**initiation: fire / verb**

## flare up (verb)

flare up

a few years ago his asthma started to ~

battles have been flaring up

biker ~ around California and the West...

controversy flared up

since the ~ over the issue (eating dog meat)

unrest flared up

serious ~ following the killing of protestors

**initiation: fire**

## flare-up (noun)

flare-up

drawing lessons from the ~

Muslim prayers at the shrine passed without a ~

flare-up of their (long-running) feud

the latest ~ (2 NASCAR drivers)

border flareup

a war, a skirmish, a ~

current flareup

the ~

latest flare-up

the ~ of their long-running feud (2 NASCAR drivers)

war, skirmish, or a (border) flareup

a ~

**increase & decrease / initiation: fire**

## flash in the pan

flash in the pan

this is not a ~ (success of tennis player Emma Raducanu)

**failure, accident & impairment: weapon**

## flashpoint (noun)

flashpoint of the (civil-rights) era

Philadelphia, Mississippi was a ~ (murders)

flashpoint of resistance

Fallujah has been a ~ to occupation (Iraq)

flash point of (two) wars

Kashmir has been the ~

flashpoint in this debate

the ~ was...

flashpoint for (racial) antagonism

the book was a ~

flashpoint for violence

the area has become a ~ (in Jerusalem)

flashpoint issues

the ~ of our times (guns, abortion, religion)

political flashpoint

her murder has become a ~ (by illegal immigrant)

become a flash point

his suicide has ~ (teacher and education)

**initiation: fire**

## flatfooted (caught flatfooted)

caught the army flatfooted  
the insurgency ~ (Iraq)

caught flatfooted  
the Defense department can't be ~ (contingency plans)  
we were ~, we never saw it coming (Uber's success)

**readiness & preparedness: foot / standing, sitting & lying**

## flation (lunchflation, etc.)

greedflation  
why Canada grocers are accused of '~'

inflation  
see *inflation* (noun)

lunchflation  
'~' price rises hit hungry workers

stagflation  
the "stag" part of ~ is *stagnation*

tip-flation  
~ sees some restaurants asking for 30% tips

tipflation  
~, being asked to tip more...

**language: affix**

**increase & decrease: affix / air / atmosphere / balloon**

## flatline (verb)

flatlined with inert sexual chemistry  
the film ~ between... (a bad review)

caused her relationships to flatline  
fame ~

♦ "Arsenal: Freddie Ljungberg has flatlined and lifeless Gunners are heading south," by Phil McNulty, Chief football writer, 15 December 2019.)

**success & failure: death & life / verb**

## flatten (verb)

flatten you  
the fever, aches and chills can ~ fast (ad for flu medicine)

**destruction: ruins / verb**

## flattened (emotion)

flattened  
you will be ~ by the end of the movie, you'll be floored

**feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability / force**

## flavor (flavor of the month)

flavor-of-the-month (m)  
the requirements have a ~ feeling (demands on nurses)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: taste**

## flavor (regional flavor, etc.)

flavor of old Istanbul  
he highlights the rich ~ (novelist Jason Goodwin)

flavor of youth  
no other book better catches the ~ in wartime

local flavor  
crowds prefer musical theater with a ~ (Singapore)

regional flavor  
the race has a ~ now (running)

American flavor  
audiences are enjoying the festival's ~ (ballet in Cuba)

Southern flavor  
the one-man show is rich with ~

1970s flavor  
all the running added to the game's ~ (football)

♦ "Walrus flippers with sea cabbage. It's delicious food." (Ludmilla Ainana, a 66-year-old woman, reminiscing on the food she ate at coastal camps as a child.)

♦ "Squirrel soup with a lot of hot peppers is very popular." (Hmong maintain their hunting tradition in the US.)

♦ "Wasna, a patty Lakota elders used to fashion from the kidney fat and meat of bison mashed with chokeberries..."

♦ "You crave it." (A Native American on the delight of fry bread.)

♦ "When you eat them they squirm in your mouth and then you bite them." (Grubs from the Sago tree in Papua New Guinea.)

♦ "Australian Aborigines like witchetty grubs."

♦ "The staple food in this region is tsampa. This is how they prepare it..." (*Seven Years in Tibet* by Heinrich Harrer, from the chapter, "The Village of Happiness.")

**character & personality / identity & nature: taste**

## flawed (adjective)

flawed  
the studies turned out to be ~  
he was not a mean man but he was ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances**

## flawless (adjective)

flawless  
his performance was ~ (sports)

**flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances**

## fledgling (adjective)

fledgling democracy  
support for Nigeria's ~  
Iraq's ~ seems to be coming of age

fledgling firm  
most of these ~s will fail (dot-coms)

fledgling government  
foreign aid to help the ~ (Afghanistan)

fledgling (electronic publishing) market  
the ~

fledgling sport

if the ~ can take off (snowkiting)

fledgling space station

the three batteries were ferried to the ~

♦ Man: That's pretty good for a fledgling charity. / Woman: 'Fledgling'? I'm impressed. (Silly dialog from an episode of *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*.)

♦ "Television was a fledgling, barely out of the nest, when I began..." (The beloved actress and comedienne Betty White, "the First Lady of Television," known to many for the TV series *The Golden Girls*.)

**growth & development: animal / bird**

## flee (verb)

flee the heat and humidity

they ~ (Egyptians go to the coast)

**attraction & repulsion / avoidance & separation / movement: verb / walking, running & jumping**

## fleeced

getting fleeced

we are ~ (universities, by academic publishers)

**taking & removing: animal / sheep**

## fleet (amount)

fleet of ambulances

a ~ converged outside the school (a school shooting)

**amount / group, set & collection: boat / military / sea**

## flesh (inside)

fruit's flesh

the mango skin ripping away from the ~...

white flesh

foods with ~ include apples and pears

delicious, crisp, yellow flesh

Ashmead's Kernel has ~ (the apple)

♦ Foods with white flesh include apples, pears, bananas, cauliflowers, and cucumbers. Eating them may reduce the risk of a stroke.

**orientation: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

**resemblance: skin, muscle nerves & bone**

## flesh and blood

flesh and blood

when he discusses a film, it becomes ~

**substance & lack of substance: death & life / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## flesh out (verb)

flesh it out

this is a skeleton, you need to ~ (an essay)

**substance & lack of substance: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

## fleshed out

fleshed out by his experience

his approach is ~ of being in the White House

fleshed out in the House investigation

adding more detail to a narrative that has been ~ (politics)

fleshed out quickly

the program contains little of substance and must be ~

**substance & lack of substance: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## flex (bragging)

small flex

I predicted them to win, ~ ("you deserve the flex")

weird flex

squatting next to a bear you just murdered is such a ~

describes her album as a flex

she ~ (sole producer, plays many of the instruments)

deserve the flex

you ~ (said to a man crowing about a right prediction)

♦ Boasting, bragging, showing off, etc. This usage probably refers to bodybuilders and their poses. It seems analogous to the lexicalized "take a bow." Or actually bowing. Or pantomiming blowing smoke away from the barrel of a pistol. Or kissing the back of one's hand or one's fingertips to express admiration for oneself—the Bruno Mars' "Uptown Girls" "Gotta kiss myself, so pretty" flex. Or Naseem Hamed kissing his right bicep after a knockout. Or a soccer player kissing his bicep after a superb goal. In other words, the flex is a sign of extreme self-satisfaction, which narcissists feel all the time and the rest of us feel hardly ever.

♦ Sometimes Flexing and a "power move" are synonymous: "Fame is so powerful that renouncing it can seem like the supreme power move."

♦ "Mama's boy' is a flex, not an insult." (According to Neda Ulaby, NPR Culture. Neda is a lesbian.)

♦ A grinning Black Dad tugs at his too tight yellowish retro Tee shirt, which reads "Spring Break 93. He says, "Your father knows about saving. Everything I'm wearing, I've had since boot camp." A loud buzzer sounds for "wrong answer." The words appear on the screen, WEIRD FLEX. / The Black Dad's cute daughter says, "And I just saved on my car insurance for driving safe with USAA." An ecstatic voice sings. The words appear on the screen, GOOD FLEX. / The Black Dad shouts, "And it still fits! (It doesn't.) A voice says, "Weird flex. Good flex. Flex with our annual mileage discount. Insurance that flexes with you." (A silly online advertisement for USAA Auto Insurance ([usaa.com/autoflex](http://usaa.com/autoflex)). When a cliché is used by corporate advertisers like this, it means the cliché has been societally sanctioned, even if it is not in a dictionary. And it will be transmitted, and picked up.)

♦ "This is how we flex." (An advertisement For Samsung phone.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: gesture / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## flex (power, etc.)

flexes a lot of (political) influence

Boeing ~ in Washington, D.C.

flex its muscles

see *muscle (political muscle, etc.)*

**power: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

**force: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

## flexible (adjective)

flexible

natural gas is not as ~ a commodity as oil

flexible approach

a ~ allows mission crews to modify plans (military)

flexible (retirement) plan

a more ~...

flexible (work) schedule

everyone would like a ~, but...

flexible and convenient (m)

a ~ way to get your college degree

more flexible

people's moral codes are ~ than generally understood

fast and flexible

the air Volcano is ~ (military)

rigid versus a flexible

commanders must weigh the benefits of a ~ plan

♦ **A reed bends but does not break.**

**ability & lack of ability / constraint & lack of constraint:  
materials & substances / movement**

## flexible (character)

flexible

being ~ is an important survival skill (new economy)

flexible in their ability

some elderly are less ~ to change their attitudes

flexible leader

agility requires quick-minded, ~s (military)

quick-minded, flexible

agility requires ~ leaders (military)

**ability & lack of ability / character & personality / resiliency:  
materials & substances / movement**

## flimsy (adjective)

flimsy charges

prominent political leaders were jailed on ~

flimsy at best

the evidence is ~

**flaws & lack of flaws / strength & weakness / substance &  
lack of substance: materials & substances**

## flinch (verb)

flinch in our coverage

it was important not to ~ (AIDS)

flinched from responsibility

he never ~ (President bush on Donald Rumsfeld)

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things / courage & lack  
of courage: bodily reaction / verb**

## flip (verb)

flip the blame

they try to ~ (sex abuse)

flipping the script

older gymnasts are ~ (gymnasts are usually girls)

flipped seats

she is one of those Democrats who ~ in 2018

flip victimhood into empowerment

the art exhibit is designed to ~

**reversal: direction / movement / verb**

## flip-flop (verb)

flip-flopped on increasing

Biden ~ the refugee cap

**reversal: direction / movement / verb**

## flip-flopping (reversal)

reputation for flip-flopping

he has a ~ (a politician)

**reversal: direction**

## flip off (verb)

flipped off the camera with both hands

she ~ (a spoiled young internet influencer)

♦ **see also *finger* (middle finger)**

**insult: finger / gesture / verb**

## flipped

flipped

my life got ~, turned upside down

**disruption / reversal: direction**

## flirt (verb)

flirting with bankruptcy

we're ~

flirted with disaster

he ~

flirt with the freezing point

Chicago and Detroit will ~ (weather report)

**attraction & repulsion / fate, fortune & chance: love,  
courtship & marriage / verb**

## float (a plan, etc.)

floated bankruptcy

Musk has ~ as a possible option for Twitter

float (immigration reform) plan

Democrats ~

floated that possibility

officials ~ prompting angry denials (origin of virus)

**experimentation: atmosphere / balloon / verb**

## floated

floated

one of the ideas that is being ~ is...  
the idea was first ~ in 1898 (Indian cricket team)  
the idea has been ~ for 20 years (a US space force)

floated as a possible presidential contender  
she was ~ in 2016 (politics)

**experimentation: atmosphere / balloon**

## flock (verb)

flocked to Karbala for the climax  
Shia pilgrims ~ of Ashura

flocking to *The Guardian* for quality news  
millions are ~ every day

flock to Bahrain and Dubai to celebrate  
Saudis ~ the New Year

flocked to cooling centers  
New Yorkers ~ (heat wave)

flock to their summer homes  
out-of-towners ~ (New Hampshire)

flocked to Parker  
black teenagers from all over ~ (a Birmingham school)

flocked to the polls  
Southern Sudanese ~ (vote on succession)

flocking to the slopes  
people are ~ (French ski season reopens / pandemic)

flocked to cafes and places  
people have ~ with functioning Wi-Fi (nationwide outage)

1.5 million people flocked  
~ to watch the procession (Wellington's funeral / 1852)

**behavior: animal / bird / sheep / verb**

**movement: animal / bird / sheep / verb**

## flog (criticize)

flog CNN

Trump has a reason to ~ (CNN leaked interview questions)

♦ *The Fatal Shore: The epic of Australia's Founding* by Robert Hughes details the horrible practice of flogging. Men would be flogged to death, survivors might have the white bones of their shoulder blades in the back permanently exposed, and the flogger would work spattered with blood and bits of flesh. Two hundred strokes were common.

**punishment & recrimination: speech / verb / violence / whip**

## flood (amount / verb)

flooded the state with ads  
the union ~ (elections)

flood the market with (boring) options  
businesses that ~

flood all forms of the media with depictions  
they ~ of sex (ads)

flood the country with (good) governance  
the strategy is to ~ (USAID / Afghanistan)

flooded highways with (coal) trucks  
China's policy has ~ (electricity)

flooded the Nation Mall  
crowds ~ (rally)

flooding south  
guns are ~ (to Mexico, from the US)

flood the area  
as undocumented workers ~ (a town in Arkansas)

flooded (neighboring) states  
2 million Iraqis have ~ (Jordan, Egypt, etc.)

applications (for asylum) flooded in  
19,000 ~ (Zimbabweans in S. Africa)

**amount & effect: flood / river / verb / water**

## flood (move)

flooded onto the island  
as thousands of new workers ~ (Sakhalin)

flooded into (booming) Shenzhen  
millions of jobseekers ~ (China)

flooded into Uzbekistan  
70,000 ethnic Uzbeks have ~ (from Kyrgyzstan)

**movement: flood / river / verb / water**

## flood (flood of refugees, etc.)

flood of beggars  
at the end of each Hajj, Jeddah is invaded by a ~  
a ~ around mosques and markets asking for money

flood of calls  
I've had a ~ from people who say...

flood of (passenger) complaints  
a ~ (plane flights)

flood of (genetic) data  
aided by a ~

flood of emotions  
when I read the letter, a ~ came back to me

flood of (cheap) heroin  
Uzbek volunteers fight a ~

flood of (newly unleashed) hormones  
caught up in a ~ (middle schoolers)

flood of (Chinese) immigrants  
Tibetan exiles fear the rail line will unleash a ~

flood of (conflicting) information  
the public was being inundated by a ~ (epidemic in US)

flood of (new) inmates  
new prisons for the ~ (US)

flood of leads  
the media attention generated a ~ (criminals on loose)

flood of memories  
the trial has brought back a ~ (murder)  
a ~ burst through the psychological dam he had built

flood of misinformation  
social-media companies have little incentive to stop the ~

flood of (uniformed) officers  
a ~ washed over the thicket (body)

floods of refugees  
fighting has sent new ~ across the border

flood of (new accommodation) requests  
if there's a ~ (SAT)

flood of tourists  
controlling the ~ visiting Kartchner Caverns

flood of waste  
short-term projects to stem the ~ (Kabul)

goal floods  
there were ~ and goal droughts (FIFA World Cup / Qatar)

became a flood  
the trickle of surrendering soldiers ~

become a flood  
it's a constant trickle that threatens to ~ (email inbox)

inundated by a flood  
the public is being ~ of conflicting information

stem the flood  
projects to ~ of waste (Kabul slums)

unleash a flood  
Tibetan exiles fear the rail line will ~ of Chinese

♦ Last time we held the levy / But the Mississippi claimed her valley / She backed into Tennessee, and Arkansas, and Illinois, and Missouri / She spread her arms over thousands of acres of land / and she left farms ruined, stock drowned, houses torn loose / nineteen-three, nineteen-seven, nineteen-fifteen, nineteen-sixteen, nineteen twenty-two, nineteen twenty-seven, nineteen thirty-six, nineteen thirty-seven / We built a hundred cities and a thousand towns / But at what a cost. [Scenes of a dog marooned on a rooftop; inundated houses; aerial views of flooded countryside and of flooded cities] (Narration from *The River* by Pare Lorentz, 1938, a New Deal government-financed documentary.)

**amount & effect: flood / river / water**

## flooded

flooded with (e-mail) messages  
the company was ~

flooded with ads, calls and pamphlets  
voters were ~ (elections)

**amount & effect: flood / river / water**

## floodgate (open the floodgates / sluice gates)

opened the floodgates  
the court's ruling ~, raising questions about whether...

opened the sluice gates  
these events suddenly opened the ~, and the thing moved with a rush (government policy)

opened the floodgates to (million-dollar) contracts  
in the 1970's, Steinbrenner ~ (baseball)

open the floodgates to people  
this will ~ who want to beat the system

opened the floodgates to more upheaval  
the miners' action has ~

**amount & effect: dam / flood / river / water**  
**constraint & lack of constraint: dam / flood / river / water**  
**floodgate (other)**

floodgates of memory  
as he began to write, the ~ opened (Leigh Fermor)

floodgates of the past  
his dark moods open up the ~ (a boxer)

floodgates for misuse  
the ~ are wide open (euthanasia law)

emotional floodgates  
once he starts telling his story, the ~ open

floodgates opened  
I told him to use street language and the ~ (writing class)  
in his 60s the ~ with an outpouring of poems (Geoffrey Hill)

floodgates were flung (wide) open  
in 1985, the ~ when... (guided climbs up Mount Everest)

♦ Floodgates control the level and flow of water, particularly in dams. If the water level gets too high behind a dam, engineers will open the floodgates to lower the level of the reservoir. Floodgates can also keep tidal surges out.

**amount & effect: dam / flood / river / water**  
**constraint & lack of constraint: dam / flood / river / water**  
**floodtide (noun)**

floodtide of (school-age) children  
sub-Saharan Africa's 45 countries face a ~

floodtide of filth  
a ~ has engulfed the newsstands (pornography)

♦ At floodtide, the water is coming in towards the beach or coast.

**amount & effect: sea / tide / water**  
**force: sea / tide / water**

## floodwaters

stop the floodwaters  
we are trying to ~ (immigration)

**amount & effect: flood / river / water**

## floor (pelvic floor, etc.)

pelvic floor

her ~ was so weak that she peed all over the set (actor)

♦ Here's a wonderful riddle: What has bridges, canals, cavities, clefts, fissures, floors, isthmuses, lakes, mounds, orbits, pipes, pits, roofs, tubes, vestibules, and walls, but is not anything related to the earth or a building? A hint: the answer is closer than you think. Answer: the human body! This riddle makes us realize that the body has many parts resembling terrain features and infrastructure.

**orientation: direction / house**

## floor (low point)

ceiling and the floor

his numbers have been durable, the ~ (president's popularity)

**increase & decrease: direction / height / house**

## floor (dance floor)

literary dance floor

there's room on this ~ for everyone (website)

**acceptance & rejection: party**

## floored (emotion)

floored

you'll be flattened by the end of the movie, you'll be ~

floored when

I was ~ I heard the news

floored by this decision

many are ~ (released from prison on technicality)

**feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability / force**

## flop (verb)

movie flopped

the ~ miserably around the world

♦ "The movie flopped miserably around the world, save for France and Italy..."

**success & failure: leg / verb**

## flop (noun)

flop

the movie was a ~

**success & failure: leg**

## Florence (Florence on the Elbe, etc.)

Florence on the Elbe

nearby Dresden, then known as ~

Greek Florence

here for a fragile moment, Constantinople rebuilt itself in miniature as a ~ (Mystras, in the Peloponnese)

**knowledge & intelligence: epithet**

## Florence Nightingale (our Florence Nightingale, etc.)

our Florence Nightingale

~ is Sally Tompkins (the Confederacy)

♦ Florence Nightingale was known as "the Lady with the Lamp." She was not, in fact, a nurse. She was an administrator, logistician, statistician, advocate, reformer, founder, writer, etc.

**military: epithet**

## flotilla (flotilla of icebergs, etc.)

flotilla of icebergs

Spalte Glacier has become a ~ (breaks into pieces)

**amount / group, set & collection / resemblance: boat**

## flounder (verb)

floundering

his campaign has been ~ (election)

♦ *Flounder* may come from *founder*. The literal use of *flounder* means to struggle to move or to thrash about.

**failure, accident & impairment: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## flourish (verb)

flourish in the netherworld

these falsehoods ~ of internet pranksters and trolls

flourished from his first day

he ~ (in his new job)

black market flourished

wages plummeted, and the ~

**growth & development: plant / verb**

## flow (flow of the lesson, etc.)

flow of the lesson

disciplinary actions should not interrupt the ~ (ed)

even flow

establish an ~ of aircraft into maintenance... (military)

interrupt the flow

disciplinary actions should not ~ of the lesson (ed)

**movement: river / water**

## flow (go with the flow, etc.)

go with the flow

just ~ (don't get upset, anxious, worried, etc.)

**control & lack of control: mental health**

## flow (move)

flow across the (southwest) border

drugs ~ (from Mexico into US)

flow into theater

as corps forces ~ (military)

flow through Dubai  
 drugs from Afghanistan and Iran ~

flow from the RAS to the ...  
 supplies ~ (military)

flow around the obstruction  
 legitimate traffic could ~ (Internet)

flow south  
 the wealth from our land continues to ~ (Canadian Innuit)

flowing normally  
 traffic is ~

flow smoothly  
 the right aperitif will make your picnic ~...

money is flowing  
 military ~ to Boeing, Lockheed Martin and...

supplies flow  
 ~ from the RAS to the... (military)

kept flowing  
 with only a few exceptions, traffic ~ (protest)

started flowing  
 after the merge lane was lengthened, traffic ~ normally

keeps the (combat) information flowing  
 this ~ rapidly to... (military)

**movement: river / verb / water**

**flow (increase)**

ebb and flow  
 gang killings ~ but never stop (Los Angeles)

**increase & decrease: tide / verb / water**

**flow (noun)**

flow of arms  
 stop the ~ into Macedonia

flow of capital  
 the ~

flow of the crowd  
 the ~ pushed him down the stairs (nightclub crush)

flow of (illegal) drugs  
 the ~ into the US (from Mexico)

flow of goods  
 improve the ~ to its stores (a retail chain)

flow of information  
 control of the ~ (politics)  
 supports the free ~ (computers)  
 managing the ~ is another critical task (military)

flow of insurgents  
 shut down the ~ into Kashmir

flow of intelligence  
 try to improve how they manage the huge ~ (F.B.I.)

flow of materiel  
 intercept the ~ along Vietcong supply routes

flow of migrants  
 slowing the ~ (from Mexico to U.S.)  
 step up naval patrols to reduce the ~ (Italy and Libya)

flow of money  
 the ~ around the globe

flow of (government) money  
 the dwindling ~ (to hospitals)

flow of pilgrims  
 security forces tried to ensure a smooth ~ (Hajj)

flow of supplies  
 it is prudent to start the ~ now (military)

flow of traffic  
 police directed the ~ around the accident scene;  
 regulate the ~ on MSRs (MPs / military)

flow of (pedestrian) traffic  
 the ~ can be regulated

flow of (illegal Chinese) workers  
 a more recent ~ (into France)

flow of E-mail  
 today's high-volume ~

flow of natural gas  
 Russia failed to restore the ~ (to Georgia)  
 the disruption in the ~ from fields in Siberia

flow of paperwork  
 an endless ~

flow of drugs and alcohol  
 stemming the ~ into Saudi Arabia

flow of goods, services  
 the ~ and investment capital (globalization)

flow of patients and visitors  
 control the ~ so that... (ED post terror event)

flow (of traffic) on MSRs  
 regulate the ~ (MPs / military)

flow (of arms) into Macedonia  
 stop the ~

flow (of alcohol) into Saudi Arabia  
 the authorities want to stem the ~

flow (of money) around the globe  
 the ~

flow through Boston  
 the project will improve traffic ~

flow (of information) between ACTs and troops  
 the ~ (military)

Flow Control  
 nicknamed, in typical FAA-speak, "~" (planes aloft)

cash flow  
concern about the company's ~

cash-flow  
the ~ situation  
he may have ~ problems

information flow  
our economy is one that is increasingly based on ~

logistics flow  
Figure 5-4 shows the ARSOA ~ (military)

traffic flow  
solutions include rerouting ~

high-volume flow  
today's ~ of E-mail

dwindling flow  
the ~ of government money (to hospitals)

accelerated flow  
the ~ of information in combat (laptops, com, etc.)

endless flow  
an ~ of paperwork

free flow  
supports the ~ of information (computers)

paper flow  
the ~ between headquarters and the field

smooth flow  
security forces tried to ensure a ~ of pilgrims (Hajj)

control of the flow  
~ of information (politics)

tempo and flow  
the ~ of the game probably will come down to... (soccer)

trickle, flow, gush  
we had a theory called, "~" (to rescue hostages)

flow has slowed  
the ~ to a trickle (migrants)

cut off the flow  
efforts to ~ of diamonds through Taylor's network

facilitate the flow  
ways to ~ of passengers through security (airports)

manage the (huge) flow  
try to improve how they ~ of intelligence (F.B.I.)

reduce the flow  
step up naval patrols to ~ of migrants

regulate the flow  
~ on MSRs (MPs / military)

shut down the flow  
~ of insurgents into Kashmir

slow the flow  
the objective is to ~ of forces into the area of operations

slowed the flow  
controllers ~ of planes into O'Hare (labor dispute)

stanch the flow  
he asked the elders to help ~ (of Somalis to Lewiston)

stem the flow  
the authorities want to ~ of drugs into Saudi Arabia

flow of arms  
stop the ~ into Macedonia

**movement: river / water**

## flower (wilting flower, etc.)

wilting flower  
Joni's feistiness surfaced, she was not a ~

**person: plant**  
**character & personality / resiliency / strength & weakness:**  
**person / plant**

## flower (verb)

flowered intellectually  
Islam ~ (early centuries)

**growth & development: plant / verb**

## flowering

flowering of creativity  
this apparently abrupt ~ (European cave drawings)

**growth & development: plant**

## flowing

flowing (black) abaya  
she remained shrouded in a ~ (Doha)

flowing (white) beard  
a farmer in a ~ trotted by on a tiny donkey

**movement / resemblance: water**

## flu (enthusiasm)

Oxford flu  
interest in quantum computing has been called the ~

♦ "He played taps over the bodies of more than three hundred young men who died of the flu on a single troopship bound for France and were buried at sea." (Reported in the obituary of a World War I veteran in Andrews, North Carolina. Just months before the Armistice, the generals requested reinforcements and the President honored the request knowing that thousands of soldiers would die of the flu in the crowded ships and camps.)

**enthusiasm: health & medicine**

## fluctuate (verb)

morale fluctuated  
~ (during Mao's Long March)

♦ Up and down, side to side, like water or a wave.

**increase & decrease: number**

**movement: verb / water / wave**

**increase & decrease: movement / verb / water / wave**

## fluent (ability)

fluent in the language

Jake Paul was ~ of YouTube

fluent in the subject

she seemed not really very ~ (foreign policy)

fluent internet

she learned how to speak ~ (Meriem Derradji)

looked (much less) fluent

but the team ~ in the second half (Tottenham Hotspur)

♦ "The urban population, perhaps a quarter of the country, is energized by a contingent of sophisticated young people—fluent not just in Dari and Pashto but also in smartphones, the Internet, and travel to the West." ("Comment: What We Left Behind In Afghanistan" by Dexter Filkins, *The New Yorker*, August 22, 2021.)

**ability & lack of ability: speech**

## fluff (substance)

piece of FLUFF

what a ~ (a commenter about an article)

**substance & lack of substance: weight**

## fluid (adjective)

fluid situation

this is a ~ and bears very close watch (politics)

fluid and confusing

the situation on the ground is ~ (rebellion)

**control & lack of control / movement: water**

## fluid (gender fluid, etc.)

gender fluid

some think the Pharaoh might have been ~

gender-fluid

~ people

sexually fluid

I wanted all the characters to be just 100% ~ (an author)

bisexual, fluid

Blow sees his orientation as ~, but...

♦ "Blow now sees his orientation as bisexual, fluid, but with more of an attraction to women than men." ("After Childhood Abuse, 'Times' Columnist Says He Chose Life Over Vengeance," NPR, Fresh Air, Author Interviews, September 24, 2014. Terry Gross interviews *New York Times* columnist Charles Blow.)

♦ "I knew I wanted in my book for all the characters to be just 100% sexually fluid." (Olivie Blake about her book *The Atlas Six*.)

**inclusion & exclusion: society**

## fluidity (gender fluidity, etc.)

gender fluidity

ways to navigate ~

sexual fluidity

gender fluidity has roots in the notion of ~

social and sexual fluidity

themes of ~ (his gayness is a given)

**inclusion & exclusion: society**

## flurry (activity)

flurry of (diplomatic) activity

we've seen a ~

flurry of (law-enforcement) activity

there was a ~ from agencies all over (murder of girls)

flurry of trial balloons

his office floated a ~

flurries of requests

officials sent him ~ (a filmmaker)

flurry of social media posts and retweets

Trump responded with a ~

♦ This word is often used to describe snow and leaves in the wind.

**activity: flying & falling / rain / wind**

**amount & effect: flying & falling / rain / wind**

## flush (remove)

flush them out

security services launched an operation to ~ (criminals)

flushed (some of the organization's staff) from the city

the violence ~ (UN in Yemen)

**dismissal, removal & resignation / violence: hygiene / verb / water**

## flush (busted flush)

busted flush

the Prime Minister is now a ~ (U.K. politics)

**success & failure: cards / gambling**

## fly (on the fly)

adjust on the fly

they are used to having to ~ (wildfire fighters)

learn on the fly

he had to do it all by himself, ~ (programming website)

do it on the fly

I wasn't going to ~ with all that consequence (climbing)

crafted untried solutions on the fly

the FED, having to act with unimaginable speed, ~

figured it out on the fly

we kind of ~ (retired vets evacuate Afghans)

make (good) decisions on the fly

he can ~ (a football player)

get science on the fly

we are having to ~

♦ Birds can do astonishing things "on the fly." Not to mention their ability to fly in, among, and through the densest foliage.

**haste / readiness & preparedness: bird**

## fly (fly into a rage, etc.)

flew into a (jealous) rage  
he ~ (murderer)

flew into a (jealous) rage after finding  
he ~ a text message...

flew into a rage over her refusal  
he ~ to cooperate

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / flying & falling / verb**

## fly (activity)

flying off the rack  
fur is ~ worldwide (fashion industry)

fly off the shelves  
skin-whitening products ~ (Philippines)

flying off the shelves  
her tell-all book is ~  
toilet paper and milk were ~ (coronavirus panic)

flying off (store) shelves  
the new product is ~

flying all over campus  
rumors were ~ (students charged with rape)

flying around  
there are plenty of gruesome rumours ~

flew between them  
letters ~ (writer / publisher)

rumors flew  
~ (campus gossip about surveillance cameras)

rumors fly  
~ in small communities (Red Lake Reservation)

rumors were flying  
~ all over campus (students charged with rape)

**activity: animal / bird / flying & falling / verb**

**speed: animal / bird / flying & falling / verb**

## fly (constraint)

let his imagination fly  
he let his ~ (a poet)

**constraint & lack of constraint: bird / flying & falling / verb**

## fly (time flies)

time flies  
~ when you're having fun  
it's so crazy how ~, my boys are so tall now

**time: movement / speed**

## fly (fly on the wall)

flies on the wall  
thank you for letting us be ~ (a documentary maker)

fly-on-the-wall reporter  
he was a ~

**presence & absence / surveillance: animal / insect**

## fly (fly in the ointment)

fly in the ointment  
the ~ though is... (emergence of variants / vaccines)

**flaws & lack of flaws: animal / insect**

## focus (verb)

focusing on target genes  
he is ~ for schizophrenia

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye / verb**

## focus (noun)

focus of the day  
the ~ differs within the strands of Christianity (Epiphany)

political and policy focus  
Republicans should keep the ~ on promoting job creation

ongoing focus  
there is an ~ on these economic issues (White House)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye**

## fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.)

fodder for comedy  
his ridiculous ideas are ~

fodder for content  
"How Latin identity became ~" (NPR, of course)

fodder for debate  
his legal woes are more than ~ (politics)

fodder for some (lively) discussions  
she was perfect ~ in the newspapers (a celebrity)

fodder for (cruel) mockery  
her life became ~ (#FreeBritney)

fodder for clicks, likes, and views  
these images became ~ (GIF reactions / digital blackface)

campaign fodder  
his gaffe has given Democrats ~

meme fodder  
her dress was easy ~ that the Internet ate up

tabloid fodder  
his five marriages provided endless ~  
the story is overblown sensational ~ (celebrity gossip)

political fodder  
that term has become ~ (concentration camp)  
his struggles became ~ when his dad ran for president

used as fodder  
the academic paper was ~ for conspiracy theorists

consumption: animal / farming & agriculture / plant  
content: animal / farming & agriculture / plant  
gossip: animal / farming & agriculture / plant

## **fog (fog of war, etc.)**

fog of battle  
in the ~ initial reports are often confusing

fog (and friction) of war  
in the midst of the ~

fog and friction  
soldiers must show initiative in the ~ of battle

fog and a friction  
there is a ~ to war (civilian deaths)

casualties of the fog of war  
innocents are sometimes the ~

attributed the tragedy to the fog of war  
an official ~ (lost convoy)

♦ The term, "fog of war," was coined in the era of black-powder rifles.

♦ "An entertaining and timely look that gives readers the tools to cut through the ideological fog obscuring the dangers of the Big Data revolution." (*In These Times* review of *Weapons Of Math Destruction* by Cathy O'Neil.)

consciousness & awareness: fog / military / weather & climate

## **fog (mental fog, etc.)**

fog of pain  
he listened, in a ~

fog lifts  
as soon as you make the mental shift, the ~ (probability)

brain fog  
fatigue, ~, shortness of breath (lingering COVID)

"cognitive fog"  
symptoms include ~ (mysterious "Havana Syndrome")

put me in a fog  
the medications ~

♦ Wikipedia redirects queries for "brain fog" to "Clouding of consciousness."

consciousness & awareness: fog / weather & climate

## **foggy (adjective)**

recollection is foggy  
my ~ (testimony at trial)

consciousness & awareness: fog / weather & climate

## **fold (verb)**

fold its case  
the House is not going to ~ (against Trump)

administration has folded  
the ~

resistance, opposition & defeat: cards / verb

starting, going, continuing & ending: cards / verb  
curtailment / dismissal, removal & resignation: cards / verb

## **fold (to / into the fold)**

brought him back into the fold  
Damenech ~ (soccer player on national team)

brought Egypt back to the (Arab) fold  
he ~ (Mubarak)

drew many into the (gang's) fold  
money and power ~ (prison)

acceptance & rejection / society: sheep

## **folded in (and folded into)**

folded into the (Q) theories  
vaccine rhetoric starts to get ~ (Momfluencers)

attachment / relationship: cooking  
configuration / identity & nature: cooking

## **fold in (verb)**

fold in the voices  
we will absolutely ~ of our critics (Time's Up)

attachment / relationship: cooking / verb  
configuration / identity & nature: cooking / verb  
mixture: cooking / verb

## **follow (result, sequence)**

followed  
where he went, violence and death ~ (Q. Soleimani)

follows weeks  
the explosion of violence ~ of simmering tensions

relationship: direction / movement / verb

## **follow (it follows that, etc.)**

follows that growth must be a good sign  
and so it ~ (economics)

follows that the sight of it frightens many  
and so it ~ (blood)

follows that we have to bear them  
if school shootings continue, it ~ (no solutions)

analysis, interpretation & explanation / development /  
relationship: direction / movement / verb

## **follow (at a later time)**

followed the horse  
the car ~

sequence / time: direction / movement / position / verb

## **follow (the facts, etc.)**

follow the facts  
we will ~ and go where they take us

follow the science

“~” has been a refrain from Democrats (pandemic)  
will the diplomats ~ on climate change (COP26)  
we are urging them to ~ (environmental activists)

♦ “I guess the ‘follow the science’ party needs to learn about science.”  
(An online comment to “NJ transgender woman transferred from  
women’s only prison after impregnating 2 inmates, report says” by  
Stephen Sorace, Fox News, July 17, 2022.)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: direction / verb**

## follow (afflict)

follow me for life  
the Internet was full of trash that threatened to ~

following him since 2007  
this scandal has been ~ (Sarkozy)

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb**

**affliction: hunting / verb**

## follow (follow a feeling or emotion)

follow my instincts  
I can’t do anything if I don’t ~ (Saudi intellectual)

followed a (gut) instinct  
I ~ and chose to run the rapid (kayaker)

followed his passion  
he ~ (a windsurfer)

follow your passion  
that’s part of the spirit of mountaineering, to ~

followed my curiosity and intuition  
I ~ (the young Steve Jobs / Apple)

♦ “I should have followed my instincts, not my generals!” (President  
Trump, about the “endless war” in Afghanistan.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## follow (a path, route, road, etc.)

follow in Qeis’s path  
he vowed he will ~ (suicide bomber)

follow its (relentless) course  
if we sit back and let the epidemic ~...

follow the direction  
the investigation will ~ the evidence leads...

follow his lead  
in a note, he urged his supporters to ~ (suicide bomber)

followed his (father’s) path  
he eventually ~ (seminarian)

follow their (mothers’) paths  
often, young prostitutes ~ into the sex trade

follow in his (murderous) footsteps  
he is determined his son will not ~

follow in the footsteps  
Aborigines must ~ of their ancestors

**direction: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## follow (argument)

follow you  
I don’t ~

♦ see also go (argument)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / comprehension & incomprehension: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## follow (a road can follow, etc.)

follows the shore  
a road ~ of the lake

**fictive motion: verb**

## follower (social media, etc.)

6 million followers  
she has over ~ (an online influencer)

my followers  
~ want me to...

♦ “My followers want me to do videos of him.” (The great MLB player  
Keith Hernandez, referring to his great silver gatto Hadji. As Hernandez  
himself said, “I never expected Hadji to become more famous than  
myself.”)

♦ see also fanatic (person)

**enthusiasm: person**

**person: journeys & trips**

## following (sequence)

following items  
click on the ~ on the View menu (computers)

following reasons  
he has been compared to Obama for the ~ (Sagbo)

**sequence: movement**

## following (at a later time)

following days  
in the ~ the soldiers rested from battle

**sequence / time: direction / movement / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## follow-through (investigation, etc.)

follow-through  
now we’re seeing some ~ (investigation)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: movement / sports & games**

## FOMO (fear of missing out)

FOMO factor  
the controversy raised its ~ (opening box office / film)

getting FOMO about it  
I was ~...

♦ “When I was talking to our team about this, I suddenly started to think  
about the pressure I feel under to not miss out, a kind of digital FOMO.”  
(Nihal Arthanayake, presenter of “Information overload: Are we  
drowning in content?” for the BBC.)

- ♦ "Consider it a kind of bizarro FOMO but for cultural life." (Nicholas Quah about his need for speed-reading.)
- ♦ "I was getting FOMO about it, and I didn't want to have FOMO at my own wedding." ("Emily Harrington and Adrian Ballinger have an epic adventure wedding" by Alexandra Svokos, GMA, January 5, 2022.)
- ♦ "As much as you try, you can't fully ignore it. As long as you see it, you are going to internalize it. So I don't read my Instagram comments anymore..." (Freeskier Eileen Gu, about mental health and social media.)
- ♦ "No Mo' FOMO: don't miss the top new stories on Catapult." (An advertisement.)

**mental health: health & medicine**

## food (food for thought)

food for thought  
what you said is ~

**consumption: food & drink**

**content / substance & lack of substance: food & drink**

## food (meat)

food for every dude at 130  
you're going to be ~ (a losing boxer)

**consumption: animal / meat / military / predation**

## food chain

food chain  
he is working his way up the ~

higher up the food chain  
you need to ask somebody ~ (Hollywood)

at the top of the chain  
the wolf is at the ~ and it's very important (Iberian wolf)

at the (very) top of the food chain  
women ~ at the studios (executives)

working his way up the food chain  
he is ~ starting with small fry (a prosecutor)

**hierarchy: animal / predation**

## fool's errand

fool's errand  
it's really been a ~ to try and predict when, if, or how...

- ♦ Hazing inexperienced sailors by sending them on a fool's errand is a hallowed maritime tradition.

**worth & lack of worth: allusion**

## fool's gold

fool's gold  
a degree nowadays is ~ (no job, debt)

mining for a fool's gold  
let's not revert to ~ (a poor solution to a problem)

paying (high) prices for fool's gold  
we are ~ (involvement in overseas war)

chasing fool's gold  
the state is ~ legalizing (gambling vs. social costs)

- ♦ "He's fools' gold, far more trouble than he's worth. (A controversial NBA player.)

**searching & discovery / success & failure / worth & lack of worth: ground, terrain & land / mining**

**appearance & reality: ground, terrain & land / mining**

## foot (on the right foot / on the wrong foot)

on the right foot  
start the new year ~

on the wrong foot  
their relationship began ~  
we started the season ~ (sports)

got off on the wrong foot  
I think he ~, but... (politics)  
yes, Romney "~" in Britain (*Wall Street Journal*)

started off on the wrong foot  
he ~ by trying to...

**starting, going, continuing & ending: foot / walking, running & jumping**

**flaws & lack of flaws: foot / walking, running & jumping**

## foot (on the back foot / on the front foot)

on the front foot  
many people were ~ ready to criticize

on the back foot militarily  
the Mau Mau were now ~

on the back foot from the moment  
the Lakers were ~ Anthony Davis hobbled off... (NBA)

caught on the back foot  
police admit they have been ~ by the protests

placed on the back foot  
he hates being ~ and having to defend himself publicly

- ♦ "The [Republican] campaign would much rather be talking about the gaffes that Joe Biden made. But instead they're on their back fence... pardon me, their back foot here! I spoke to..." (NPR, All Things Considered.)

**readiness & preparedness: foot / standing, sitting & lying**

## foot (back foot / front foot)

get off the back foot  
we have to ~, we have to lead on this issue (Beto O'Rourke)

**readiness & preparedness: foot / standing, sitting & lying**

## foot (one foot / the other foot)

one foot (firmly) planted in the commercial world  
their strategy is to have ~ and the other in the defense business (Boeing)

**division & connection: foot / leg / line / standing, sitting & lying**

## foot (put a foot forward)

put America's best foot forward  
an opportunity for us to ~ forward (Olympics)

put her best foot forward  
she was determined to ~

**representation: foot**

## foot (put one's foot down)

put his foot down  
he ~ about another interview (said "No")

**resistance, opposition & defeat: foot / verb**

## foot (under the foot)

under the foot of white men  
we both live ~ (a gay man about cisgender women)

**oppression: foot**

## foot (foot in the door)

get his foot in the door  
he lied on his resume to ~

**access & lack of access: doors & thresholds / foot**

## foot (foot in both worlds, etc.)

foot in both worlds  
people with a ~ (Chinese students in US)

**division & connection: foot / leg / line / standing, sitting & lying**

## foot (shoot oneself in the foot)

see *shoot* (*shoot oneself in the foot*)

## foot (orientation)

foot of the bed  
his pillow had slipped off the ~  
she'd curl up at the ~ and fall asleep (a cat)

foot of the gallows  
the condemned recited the Psalm 51 at the ~ (Tyburn)

foot of the glacier  
the dogs were supposed to turn back at the ~  
ponies could only be taken to the ~  
their bodies were found at the ~ (years later)

foot of the memorial  
citizens leave objects at the ~ (Vietnam War Memorial)

foot of the stage  
they pushed their way to the ~ (crowd stampede)

foot of the stairs  
he stood at the ~ and looked up...

foot of the tree  
a small shrine at the ~ is filled with offerings (Japan)

at the foot of the Himalayas

hills, deep valleys and fast-flowing rivers ~

at the foot of the Ko'olau Mountains  
he grew up in Waimanalo, ~ (Cyril Pahinui)

at the foot of the Statue of Liberty  
the Immigration and Nationality Act was signed ~ (1965)

at the foot of the Washington Monument  
the demonstrators rallied ~ (Washington, D.C.)

**orientation: direction / foot**

## football (conflict)

political football  
the Anthem protests became a ~ (NFL)  
AstraZeneca has become a ~ in a European blame game

cultural, political footballs  
this has become one of those ~ (culture war kerfuffle)

playing (political) football  
they are ~ with women's health (politics)

**competition: football / sports & games**

**conflict: football / sports & games**

## football (spike the football)

spike the football  
we don't want to ~ too early (public health emergency)

spike the football on the five-yard-line  
the president has been very careful not to ~

♦ "I think he'll get it done. I think the president has been very careful not to you know spike the football on the five-yard line, and not declare victory before he has it in hand." (Getting a paid-family-leave bill through Congress.)

**success & failure: football / sports & games**

## foot-dragging

foot-dragging by (school) officials  
so why the ~ (reform)

bureaucratic foot-dragging  
the test has been bogged down by squabbles and ~

**action, inaction & delay / eagerness & reluctance: foot / walking, running & jumping**

## foothold (noun)

foothold  
US forces established a ~ in...

foothold in the Caribbean  
eliminate lymphatic filariasis from its last ~

Arctic foothold  
the eight countries with ~s

dangerous foothold  
a subpopulation can offer the virus a ~ (Covid, etc.)

last foothold  
eliminate malaria and lymphatic filariasis from their ~

gains a foothold  
stop coronavirus before it ~

give socialism a foothold  
~, and nothing can arrest the slide to perdition

**presence & absence: foot / mountains & hills**  
**survival, persistence & endurance: foot / mountains & hills**

### footing (position)

emergency footing  
all parts of the UK are on ~ (pandemic)

war footing  
land forces could shift to a ~ on short notice

put the nation on a war footing  
President Kennedy ~ (Cuban Crisis)

**position, policy & negotiation: foot / standing, sitting & lying**  
**footing (solid footing, etc.)**

on solid (financial) footing  
he has never been able to put the review ~

**bases: foot / ground, terrain & land / walking, running & jumping**

### footing (find one's footing, etc.)

find their footing  
politicians struggled to ~ in the new political landscape

found its footing  
her campaign stumbled out of the gate but has since ~

find her footing  
she struggled to ~ as a newly separated woman

regain our footing  
we are struggling to ~ (a political party)

regained his footing  
since then, Biden has ~ (elections)

**bases / equilibrium & stability: foot / ground, terrain & land**  
**/ walking, running & jumping**

### footnote (noun)

fleeting, feel-good footnotes  
they could turn out to be ~ to the pandemic ("freedges")

made a footnote  
they have largely been ~ (hip hop group the Sequence)

separate the footnotes from the milestones  
it can be hard to ~ (journalism)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: letters & characters**

### footprint (noun)

footprint  
Hezbollah has its ~ everywhere here (Tyre)  
our ~, the influence of the US in the world, will diminish

"footprint" of a credit card

the camera has the ~, weighing just 5.6 ounces

"footprint" of oil infrastructure  
limiting the ~ (Arctic oil)

footprint on the environment  
we might lighten our collective ~

footprint overseas  
he wants to shrink the military and reduce its ~

footprint or signature  
they don't have a ~ (terrorists)

city footprint  
this will affect the entire ~ (urban-renewal project)

consumption footprint  
the enormous ~ of someone living in the state right now

noise "footprint"  
they should have a smaller ~ than... (airplanes)

terrain footprint  
the Stinger missile has a small ~

online footprint  
his other ~ includes a site... (Web sites)

combat service support (CSS) footprint  
the Stinger has a small ~

digital footprint  
investigators are examining the case's "~"  
the ~ led cops to the suspect's house (cell-phone towers)

industrial footprint  
concerns about the ~ (drilling in Arctic)

large footprint  
the ~ created when the minefield is fired (war)  
due to the ~ when the minefield is fired...

larger "footprint"  
a tire with a ~ on the road has more rolling resistance

light footprint  
the coalition has limited its ambitions and kept a ~

military footprint  
we must reduce our ~ in Iraq (a politician)

small footprint  
the Stinger missile has a ~

expanding its footprint  
it is ~ in several parts of Africa (a terror group)

reduce our (military) footprint  
we must ~ in Iraq (a politician)

shrink its footprint  
as the US military begins to ~ in Afghanistan

**presence & absence: foot / ground, terrain & land**

### foot soldier (duty)

foot soldiers for Martin Luther King

he was one of those ~ (Reverend James Orange)

foot soldiers in a (vast right-wing) conspiracy  
they were recast as ~ (government lawyers / prosecutors)

movement's foot soldiers  
the ~ are less inhibited (alt-right)

Democratic foot soldiers  
fire up the ~ (for a coming election)

movement foot soldier  
at other moments, she sounded like any ~ (activist)

♦ "That declaration of war makes Liz Chaney a key general in a rear-guard action against the former president. The problem for her is that there are few if any foot soldiers ready to follow her lead." (BBC, Six O'clock News, 12/05/21.)

**work & duty: military / person**

**hierarchy / person: military**

### footstep (in the footsteps)

in the footsteps of their ancestors  
Aborigines must follow ~

in his father's footsteps  
he was going to follow in his ~

in their parents' footsteps  
too young to be thinking about following ~

in his murderous footsteps  
he is determined his son will not follow ~

follow in the footsteps  
Aborigines must ~ of their ancestors

follow in his (murderous) footsteps  
he is determined his son will not ~

**direction: foot / journeys & trips / movement**

### footstep (retrace one's footsteps)

retraced my footsteps in Haiti  
one year after the earthquake, I ~ (journalist)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: foot / movement / verb**

### footstep (conceal one's footsteps, etc.)

digital footsteps  
TOR drags branches behind your ~

**pursuit, capture & escape / subterfuge: hunting  
concealment & lack of concealment: hunting**

### footwork (noun)

clever footwork  
some companies are getting by with some ~ (pandemic)

**ability & lack of ability: movement**

### for (support)

for you  
I am ~

**allegiance, support & betrayal: prep, adv, adj, particle**

### force (show of force)

political show of force  
a campaign kick-off is a ~

**conflict / force / power: military**

### force-feed (and force feed)

force-feeds diversity and the woke messaging  
Hollywood ~ (*The Rings of Power*)

**supplying: food & drink / verb**

**consumption: food & drink / verb**

### fore (come to the fore, etc.)

come to the fore  
issues of race have ~ (2020 presidential election)

bringing those voices to the fore  
so it's ~ (diversity & inclusion / Archibald Prize)

brought to the fore  
it has ~ some ethnic tensions (Elían Gonzales case)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / importance & significance  
/ priority / superiority & inferiority: center & periphery /  
direction / position**

### forefather (noun)

land of our forefathers  
this is the ~

pilgrim forefathers  
our ~

inherited from its forefathers  
many issues Haiti grapples with today were ~

passed down by forefathers  
the crunk-rap tradition ~ like Three 6 Mafia...

**past & present / sequence / time: direction / position /  
prep, adv, adj, particle**

### forefront (center)

to the forefront of the (death-penalty) debate  
he has been catapulted ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / importance & significance  
/ priority / superiority & inferiority: center & periphery /  
direction / position**

### foreground (noun)

move to the foreground  
as the midterm elections ~ (news cycle)

moved into the foreground  
money has ~ (doctor-patient relationship)

pull nuclear energy into the foreground  
we need to ~

pushed the instrument into the foreground  
he has ~ (African musician)

**center & periphery: direction / picture / position**  
**appearance & disappearance / attention, scrutiny & promotion / importance & significance / perception, perspective & point of view: center & periphery / picture / position**

## foreground (verb)

foregrounded his virtues  
he has lied about his crimes and ~ (a flawed individual)

foregrounds warfare  
Colley ~ (*The Gun, the Ship, and the Pen* / constitutions)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: picture**  
**appearance & disappearance: picture**  
**perception, perspective & point of view: picture**

## forenoon (at an earlier time)

in the forenoon  
~, we built igloos

on the forenoon  
~ of the second day... (*Kidnapped* by R.L. Stevenson)

♦ This means before noon, in the morning. Earlier times are before (in front of) later times. So this seems to be the time queue.

**sequence / time: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## forerunner (noun)

forerunner of music videos  
“illustrated songs” were a ~ (vaudeville circa 1900)

forerunner of topical, stand-up comedy  
Mort Sahl was a ~

forerunner to the final solution  
this was seen as a ~ (Kristallnacht / Germany)

forgotten forerunners  
chapters are dedicated to ~ (re-memorizing)

**future / past & present / sequence / time: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## foresight (noun)

foresight  
his ~ was miraculous (a prediction)

♦ In this use, it seems that the future is ahead, and approaching. Contrast with *forefather*.

**time: direction / eye / prep, adv, adj, particle**  
**future: direction / eye / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## forest (a forest of cranes, etc.)

forest of (empty) bottles  
a ~ spread across the tables...

forest of cranes  
I saw a ~ and, beyond them, skyscrapers

forest of stalactites  
a hanging ~ (Kartchner Caverns)

kelp forests  
the ~ off of California  
the Great Southern Reef and its ~ (Australia)  
the underwater ~ off the southwest tip of Cape Town

stalagmite forest  
she threads her way through a ~ (underwater cave)

**amount / group, set & collection / resemblance: forest**  
**forever (forever chemicals, etc.)**

“forever” chemicals  
the discovery of so-called ~ in the soil (agriculture)

‘forever chemicals’  
detecting ~ like PFAS is costly and difficult

forever hero  
remembering and honoring our ~ Police Officer Fitzgerald

forever home  
the statue’s ~ will be the Coachella Valley  
he now gets to say in his ~ (an adopted giant swamp rat)

forever love  
you’re my ~

forever prisoner  
the ~ (Abu Zubaydah)

forever wars  
tired of ~, the U.S. weighs options if Russia invades...  
Biden pledged to end the ~  
Trump promised to end the “~”

♦ “Foreign policy is domestic policy... We’ve got to turn the page on the forever wars.” (Jake Sullivan, Biden’s national security adviser.)

♦ Alex Gibney’s new documentary about Abu Zubaydah is named *The Forever Prisoner*. (HBO Max.)

♦ “Remembering and honoring our forever hero, Police Officer Fitzgerald.” (A tweet by the Temple University Police about a murdered officer.)

♦ PS Resorts, a hospitality organization, has decided “Forever Marilyn’s” forever home will be the Coachella Valley.” (“Giant Marilyn Monroe Statue Returns to Palm Springs, But Its Backside Faces Backlash” by Matt Guilhem, NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, May 16, 2021.)

♦ “You’re my forever love.” (“It Wasn’t Friendship At First Sight. 35 Years On, They Found a ‘Forever Love,’” by Jey Born, NPR, Morning Edition, May 14, 2021.)

♦ “He now gets to stay in his forever home.” (A rescued giant swamp rat that was the focus of a legal battle between a Louisiana family and wildlife officials. The coypu, also known as a nutria, got to stay with the family.)

**survival, persistence & endurance: part of speech**

## forge (verb)

forge an agreement  
we will do our very best to ~ (politics)

forged checks  
she graduated to cocaine and ~ to support her habit

forge compromise  
how hard it will be for him to ~ (a diplomat)

forged (new American) heroes  
each test has ~ (natural disasters, mass shootings, etc.)

**creation & transformation: manufacturing / verb**

## forged

forged from (nearly) a decade  
doctrines ~ of fighting in both wars

forged in her own adversity  
she was ~ (overcame a rare medical condition)

forged in the furnace  
he is ~ of Parris Island and San Diego (a marine)

forged document  
the terrorist groups have coordinated in acquiring ~s

forged notes  
~ and other bogus documents

forged (immunization) records  
many legal visitors carry ~ (Hajj / Saudi)

forged (immigration) stamp  
falsified passports and ~s (Singapore)

forged passports  
foreign nationals entering the US with ~

forged transcripts and (recommendation) letters  
~ (college)

**creation & transformation: manufacturing**

## forge on (resiliency)

forges on in the shadow of tragedy  
the community ~ (Uvalde, Texas)

**resiliency: movement / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## fork (a trail can fork, etc.)

forked  
the trail ~, one branch following the stream, the other...

**fictive motion: shape / verb**

## fork (the Forks of the Ohio, etc.)

Forks of the Ohio  
the ~, where the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers join

**epithet / branching system: shape**

**geography: epithet**

## fork (a fork in the road, etc.)

at a fork in his career  
he's ~

**alternatives & choices / direction: journeys & trips**

## fork over (verb)

forked over three hundred million dollars  
the Saudis reluctantly ~

forked over billions of dollars  
American taxpayers had ~ in economic aid (to Greece)

**possession: food & drink / verb**

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: food & drink / verb**

## formula (script)

formula to satisfy  
officials are seeking a ~ both sides (diplomacy)

formula for creating  
he has to learn the American ~ (politics)

formula for maintaining  
there is no neat ~ this balance (secrecy / press)

magic formula  
there is no ~, but try... (predicting NCAA winner);  
we don't have a ~ for predicting wildfires

simple formula  
her long, ludicrous career has followed a ~ (feminist)

standard formula  
the ~ of a romantic comedy

followed a (simple) formula  
he long, ludicrous career has followed a ~ (feminist)

seeking a formula  
negotiators were ~ to keep the talks going (diplomacy)

**script: number**

## fort (hold down the fort)

hold down the fort  
~ until reinforcements can be hired, trained (a company)

**protection & lack of protection: fortification / military**

## fortress (noun)

fortress  
terror concerns have turned public buildings into ~s

fortress mentality  
a ~ that protects the home folks while... (public health)

neighborhood fortress  
it is a ~ (a high school in South-Central LA)

**protection & lack of protection: fortification / military**

## fortuneteller (person)

fortuneteller  
are these things probable, I don't know, I'm not a ~  
stock analysts are modern-day ~s looking into crystal balls  
the latest pronouncement from the ~s (stock analysts)

modern-day fortune tellers  
they are ~ promising riches (stock analysts, etc.)

♦ In Canto XX of *The Inferno*, the fortune tellers and diviners have their heads screwed on backwards, so that as they walk forward they can only see backwards, and their tears run down their buttocks. About Amphiaraus, Virgil tells Dante: "In life he wished to see too far before him, / and now he must crab backwards round this track." (From the great translation of *The Inferno* by John Ciardi.)

**message: person / magic**

**person: magic**

**future / time: person / magic**

## **forum (public forum, etc.)**

Ski Diva forum

MissySki on the ~

*English Teaching Forum*

the ~ magazine

in the (public) forum

those with agendas or axes to grind ~

♦ "Unfortunately with these public squares, these forums where people can speak, you're going to get riffraff." (The owner of a Web-hosting service, about hosting a controversial website.)

**society: infrastructure / sign, signal, symbol / speech**

## **forward**

look forward to

see *look forward to (verb)*

## **forward (every year forward, etc.)**

forward

going ~, who can predict what will happen (boxing)

every year forward

we will probably see this ~

from this day forward

~, you will be known as Muhammad Ali

jumps (backward and) forward

she ~ in time to illuminate... (a historian)

look forward

New Year's day is a time to ~ and backward

move forward

as we ~, we will see... (politics)

♦ In Canto X of *The Inferno*, Dante is curious as to why the heretics can foresee the future, but know nothing of the present, for example, if somebody is currently dead or alive. Farinata Degli Uberti, the great Tuscan war chief, explains: "We see asquint, like those whose twisted sight / can make out only the far-off... / When things draw near, or happen, we perceive / nothing of them..." (From the great translation of *The Inferno* by John Ciardi.)

**future / time: direction / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## **forward (move forward, go forward, etc.)**

go forward

drilling projects continue to ~

this will not help us as we ~

moved us forward

inventions that ~

move forward

we just want to ~, and hopefully change will come

moving forward

we are ~ in a cautious way (diplomacy)

things aren't ~, we're stuck (refugees)

things are ~ and they're moving quickly (many projects)

we are ~ with solutions on many issues (politics)

move forward with her life

she wants to ~ (abuse victim)

find a way forward

unless the Paris meeting can ~, Iran...

hopefully, negotiators can pick up the pieces and ~

**progress & lack of progress: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## **forward (bring something forward, etc.)**

bring that (important) narrative forward

how can they ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## **forward (come forward)**

see *come forward (verb)*

## **forward (future forward, etc.)**

forward-looking

see *forward-looking*

forward-thinking

Judy is such a ~, independent spirited young girl

fashion forward

RuPaul, famous, fierce and ~

fashion-forward

~ men, take note (tiny pants)

future-forward

their music is a ~ experiment

technology-forward

the company has taken a ~ approach

♦ "I'm pretty tech forward, but most of the crypto stuff sounds pretty nuts to me."

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: position / affix**

## **forward-looking**

forward-looking approach

a ~ to marketing

♦ see also *facing (future-facing, etc.)*

**future / time: direction / eye**

**perception, perspective & point of view: direction / eye**

## **forwardness (noun)**

female forwardness

her appealing expression of ~ (music)

sex-forwardness

the sly acknowledgment of her ~ (song lyric)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: direction**

## fossil (noun)

fossil

my computer is a ~ (very old)

living fossils

sturgeon are ~ (Wisconsin)

Lake Ohrid is known for its species of ~

archaic or a fossil

some modern stylists have called it ~ (*beho(ove)*)

make fossils of their practitioners

famous styles often ~ (NOT Joan Didion)

viewed as troglodytes

debating literary lions now ~

♦ "On the white sand of the bottom / Lay the monster Mishe-Nahma, / Lay the sturgeon, King of Fishes; / Through his gills he breathed the water, / With his fins he fanned and winnowed, / With his tail he swept the sand-floor. // There he lay in all his armor..." ("The Song of Hiawatha" by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: animal**

**past & present / time: animal**

## fossilize (verb)

fossilises

an organisation that does not change ~

**past & present / time: animal / verb**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: animal / verb**

## fossilized

fossilized bureaucrat

a ~, a cog in the machinery for decades...

fossilized method

low voter participation indicates a ~ of outreach (Latinos)

fossilized understanding

she is an out-of-touch relic with a ~ of race and gender

calcified and fossilized

everyone is so partisan, our political views have become ~

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: animal**

**past & present / time: animal**

## foundation (noun)

foundation of identity

in Egypt, nationalism and Arabism once were the ~

foundation in (native-language) literacy

a solid ~

foundation of (modern) research

being able to replicate results is the ~ (medicine)

foundation for success

brand loyalty is the ~ (business)

education is the ~ (life)

foundation narrative

the ~s of particular Native Nations (US)

foundation story

the Long March became a ~ for Communist China

solid foundation

a ~ in native-language literacy

foundation (of the lithium-ion battery) was laid

the ~ during the oil crisis of the 1970s

foundations (of the postwar order) are cracking

the ~ in Europe (economies)

build a foundation

we help people ~ for the rest of their lives (ad for school)

built a foundation

we've ~ of distrust (Iran / US)

lay a foundation

you ~ for a sense of community

laid a foundation

we ~ to talk about those issues (diplomacy)

rests upon a foundation

our global role ~ of unmatched military power (US)

♦ "And so rock bottom became the solid foundation on which I rebuilt my life." (The remarkable J.K. Rowling in her remarkable speech at Harvard University.)

**bases: house**

## foundational (adjective)

foundational in teaching and learning

collocation is ~ language

foundational for American democracy

liberal arts education is ~

foundational to the narrative

education is ~ of social mobility in this country

foundational to a free society

privacy, including privacy online, is ~

foundational element

a ~ of US society is that we are a cultural melting pot

foundational myths

as the US awakens from one of its ~ (that it is classless)

foundational narrative

their work threatens the ~ of Polish Society (Holocaust)

foundational question

"what is school for?" is the kind of ~ that arises when...

foundational values

ensuring America lives up to its ~ of equality and freedom

foundational part of himself

Shakespeare is a ~ as an actor (Denzel Washington)

**bases: house**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## founder (verb)

foundered

the TV channel quickly ~  
two previous tried have ~ in the courts  
the plan ~ with depressed stock prices  
the company ~ during the economic downturn  
Spain's economy has ~

foundering on the shoals

he finds himself ~ of issues around race (a politician)

♦ *Flounder* may come from this word. The literal use of *founder* was often used for horses and is still used for boats.

**destruction: boat / horse / sea / verb**

**failure, accident & impairment: boat / horse / sea / verb**

## fountain (resemblance)

fountains of (bright red) lava  
~ and towering clouds of ash

**resemblance: fountain / water**

## fountain (source)

fountain of Islam

they come and drink from the ~ (mosque)

**source: fountain / water**

## fountainhead

fountainhead of freedom

England was a ~ (Enlightenment)

fountainhead of (chamber) music

the festival was a ~ in America

fountainhead of ideas and discovery

the university has historically been a ~

fountainhead of ideals and law

Lincoln saw the Declaration of Independence as the ~

poetic fountainhead

Shakespeare was a ~

**source: fountain / river / water**

## Fountain of Youth

looking for the fountain of youth

women and men are ~ (cosmetics, surgery, etc.)

♦ There is no real proof that Ponce de Leon sought the Fountain of Youth in America.

♦ "We have grown up in a society that has always pursued the Holy Grail, the fountain of youth." (Madeline Di Nonno, president of the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media, about ageism, particularly towards older female actors.)

**amelioration & renewal: allusion / death & life / fountain / water**

## fox (subterfuge)

fox

the ~ is in the henhouse, and we invited it in

put the fox in charge of the henhouse

the FAA ~ (safety of Boeing planes)

♦ "They're going to burn the forest to kill the fox." (An Iraqi, speaking of US invasion to rid Iraq of Saddam.)

**behavior / subterfuge: animal / fox**

## foxhole (military)

dig foxholes

we used our entrenching tools to ~

♦ "There are no atheists in foxholes." (Father Cummings, Bataan.)

♦ "I always wondered who invented the absurd lie that proclaimed there were 'no atheists in foxholes.' Where else could atheism better thrive than in the killing fields where homicide was honored? In the Third General Hospital at Aix, the poker game was as religious as things got." (The wonderful Tony Hillerman, from *Seldom Disappointed*.)

**military: animal / fox / hole / place**

## foxhole (Keynesians in a foxhole, etc.)

in a foxhole

we're all Keynesians ~ (gov't intervention in crises)

in the foxhole

~, when you're in those battles... (an NBA player)

♦ "During a time of a serious epidemic, religiosity rises. People become more religious. And that actually is generally reversed, when the epidemic goes away. You know, they say there are no atheists in foxholes, well, we're under a barrage right now, so you know people get religious, but then afterwards, you know, their religiosity sort of returns to baseline..." (Nicholas Christakis, "Denial And Lies Are 'Almost An Intrinsic Part Of An Epidemic,' Doctor Says," NPR, Fresh Air, October 29, 2020.)

**protection & lack of protection: animal / fox / hole / military**

## fracture (failure)

fracture in politics between elites and nationalists

there is a ~ (European Union)

**failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances**

## fractured (separated)

fractured

the cartels are ~ and fighting over territory (Mexico)

fractured mess

the Democratic party is a ~ that can't get anything done

**division & connection: materials & substances**

## fragile (groups)

fragile male

~ (an online commenter's taunt)

♦ In MENS football it is, and always will be MAN of match. What is the beeb come to? / Fragile male / Cheers cis male / Just trying to imagine having such a tenuous grasp of your own masculinity that 'player of the match' makes you feel undermined. / Player of the match, really? Was the previous term that problematic?... (Commenters on a BBC HYS. Some, or all, for that matter, might be simply trolls.)

**inclusion & exclusion: objectification**

## fragile (weak)

fragile

the ceasefire is ~ (Israel / Gaza)

fragile economy

Bosnia's ~ was hit hard by the global financial crisis

fragile and weak

the caretaker government is ~

**strength & weakness: materials & substances**

## fragile (feelings)

fragile ones

enact measures to protect athletes, especially the ~

emotionally fragile

he was an ~ young man (suicide)

**feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances**

**mental health: materials & substances**

## fragility (white fragility, etc.)

fragility of Black masculinity

the ~, and the threat that queerness poses (rap music)

*White Fragility*

Robin DiAngelo's book ~ (2018)

racism, antiracism and white fragility

people are scooping up books about ~

exhibit "fragility"

white people become defensive and ~ when challenged

♦ "Maybe nothing is more clearly defined by rap than the fragility of Black masculinity, and the perceived threat to masculinity that queerness poses." (Rodney Carmichael. From "Thugs don't dance": iLoveMakonnen and Drake tested rap's norms of masculinity, but only one passed," NPR, Louder Than A Riot Season Two, May 4, 2023.)

♦ "Linguist John McWhorter Says 'White Fragility' Is Condescending Toward Black People," NPR, Morning Edition, July 20, 2020.

**inclusion & exclusion: objectification**

## fragility (feelings)

fundamental fragility

accept and be honest about our ~ (Simon Reeve)

♦ "We're confronted by so many images of perfection now, and I think, as much as we can, it's a good thing for us to accept and be honest about our fundamental fragility." (Simon Reeve, traveler. He is talking about failings and insecurities.)

**mental health: materials & substances**

**feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances**

## frame (noun)

'-phobia' frame

antagonizing your ideological opponent is built into the ~

♦ "Antagonizing your ideological opponent is built into the '-phobia' frame, and activists have sparred over whether that catalyzes progress or impedes it." ("How '-Phobic' Became a Weapon in the Identity Wars" by Amanda Hess, *The New York Times Magazine*, Jan. 26, 2016. It's a brilliant article.)

**characterization: infrastructure / picture**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: infrastructure / picture**

## frame (characterize)

frame what happened to young players

leaders are trying to ~ (football tragedy)

frame the story as a religious issue

they ~ between locals and outsiders

framed it as a character study

she has ~ as opposed to an attack (*Nomadland*)

frames Aboriginal identity in a narrative

the "deficit narrative" ~ of negativity

framing the story

Bayless is taking issue with the way Smith is ~ (sports)

♦ "As a metaphor, that framing is already mainstream." (Immigration as an "invasion" of the U.S.)

**characterization: infrastructure / picture / verb**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: infrastructure / picture / verb**

## frame (in the frame / involvement)

in the frame already

he was born in Innsbruck, so he was ~ (why Buhl became a climber)

**involvement: picture**

## framed (characterized)

framed

once a story has been ~, it's hard to change the narrative

framed as allyship

objection to Di Martino was ~ with trans people (*Loki*)

framed as racism

criticism is ~ or bullying

**characterization: picture**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: infrastructure / picture**

## franchise (noun)

regional franchises

Al-Qaeda still has its ~

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: government**

## Franken (Frankenfoods, etc.)

Frankenbird

a bizarre ~ known as the turducken

Frankencar

people admire the parked ~ (Simone Gierzt's Truckla)

Frankenfood

~ has been included in the Oxford dictionary (2000)

Frankenstorm

weather forecasts deliver threats of ~s (hyperbole)

frankenbiting

~ stitches images and audio together (editing, etc.)

**affliction:** affix / allusion / creature  
**creation & transformation:** affix / allusion / creature  
**language:** affix

## Frankenstein (Frankenstein Cliff, etc.)

Frankenstein  
~ was tough (named rapid / kayaking)

Frankenstein Cliff  
excellent views along ~ (near a waterfall)

Son of Frankenstein  
we got to ~ (named rapid / kayaking)

**proper name:** allusion / creature  
**geography:** allusion / creature / proper name

## Frankenstein (product)

"Frankenstein" foods  
concerns about the safety of the so-called ~

Frankenstein hybrid  
2 coronavirus variants can give birth to a ~ (NPR)

Frankenstein machine  
this ~ was called a "six-blade" (stacked)

"Frankenstein" vehicles  
the limo crash raises safety questions about ~

Frankenstein's monster  
Ducournau has sewn together a ~ from disparate ideas  
the song is a ~ of pop genres ("Can I Get It?")

♦ "When two coronavirus variants meet inside one person, a Frankenstein hybrid can be born." (NPR Morning Edition, Michaeleen Doucleff, March 23, 2022. With a graphic that is perhaps meant to be the Bride of Frankenstein by Francesco Zorzi.)

**allusion:** books & reading  
**affliction / creation & transformation / product:** allusion / creature

## Frankenstein (a monster)

Frankenstein experiment  
a ~ gone wrong

higher education's Frankenstein  
the NCAA has become ~, terrifying its overseers

create a Frankenstein  
it gets out of hand, they ~ (extrajudicial killings)

♦ "And now it's grown so much, how do you control it? BA [Bruce Arians] thought they could control it. Even Tom [Brady] thought he could control it until, guess what, it got so big, even he couldn't control Frankenstein. And then Frankenstein started consuming. Mike Tomlin can't control it, Jon Gruden... even Coach Belichick... This is who AB [Antonio Brown] is." (Shannon Sharpe talking with Skip Bayless about the great NFL player Antonio Brown on "Undisputed.")

♦ The oppression of Frankenstein's monster in the sentimental film versions seems irrational and cruel. Less so if you read Mary Shelley's harrowing and creepy novel!

**affliction:** allusion / creature

**allusion:** books & reading

## Frankenstein (as verb)

Frankenstein them back together  
you could ~ if you had the right parts (blown up MRAPS)

Frankenstein's various takes together  
he ~ to get a flawless rendition (music producer)

Frankensteining alternatives  
he has been ~ (Michael McAlpine / body parts)

♦ "Michael McAlpine has been Frankensteining alternatives." ("It's Alive! 3D-Printing Body Parts" by Rebecca Heilweil, *Wired*, December 2018.)

♦ "When American public schools macramé'd together the words *language*, *arts*, and *English*, starting in the 1970s, they created a tangle: ELA."

**creation & transformation:** part of speech / verb

## fraternity (noun)

fraternity of test pilots  
death wasn't unusual within our ~

small fraternity  
the Las Vegas boxing community is a ~

member of the fraternity  
I'm proud to be a ~ (a retired boxer)

♦ "He said his past put him in a horrible fraternity." (The rapper Mystikal.)

**society:** school & education

**group, set & collection:** school & education

## fray (verb)

fray the fabric  
logging and roads ~ of nature

frayed (US-China) ties  
many issues have ~

badly frayed  
the incident ~ inter-Korean relations

bond frayed  
their ~ almost to the breaking break

coalition frayed  
the ~

consensus is fraying  
the political ~

fibers (within the tendons) fray  
the ~ (tendinopathies)

nerves are fraying  
~ as the lockdown continues (coronavirus)

relationship frayed  
the ~ over the past year (diplomacy)

began to fray  
relations between the countries ~ in November

beginning to fray  
tolerance is ~

**failure, accident & impairment:** cloth / verb

**flaws & lack of flaws: cloth / verb**

## fray (above the fray)

above the fray

he is trying to stay ~ (a politician)

**conflict: military**

**behavior: direction**

## fray (conflict)

2020 fray

he is joining the ~ (running for president)

**conflict: military**

## frayed (degraded)

frayed by his rejection

their longtime alliance has been ~ of the bill

frayed by scandals

taxpayer confidence has been ~

frayed relations

Obama has worked hard to repair his ~ with...

he wants to rebuild ~ with neighbor Argentina

frayed (political) system

the two leaders promised to reform the country's ~

frayed ties

Obama is trying to smooth ~ with business leaders

badly frayed (m)

he sought to mend ~ relations between the two countries

seriously frayed

the social safety net is ~

grow (yet more) frayed

an already strained social compact will ~

**failure, accident & impairment: cloth**

**flaws & lack of flaws: cloth**

## frayed (emotions)

frayed nerves

he experienced ~ and growing exhaustion

he tried to smooth the ~

he wasn't the only person with ~ (war)

become frayed

nerves can ~ in the blasting Antarctic winds

**feeling, emotion & effect: rope**

## freaking

see *frickin'* (*fricking, freaking, friggin'*, etc.)

## freak show (noun)

leave behind the freak show

the party must return to its center and ~ (politics)

♦ "The 1870s and 1880s were the height of the controversial but enormously popular 'side shows' in America. Hucksters like P.T. Barnum attracted huge throngs by booking fire-eaters, sword swallowers, and

'freaks' with assorted medical abnormalities, some bogus, others disturbingly real. There were the 'Wild Men of Borneo' (actually two mentally disabled dwarfs from Ohio), 'Jo-Jo the Dog-Faced Boy' (suffering from hypertrichosis, a profusion of body hair), 'General Tom Thumb' (the world's smallest human), eight-foot giants, bearded ladies, Siamese twins, and people with humongous body tumors attached to their back, face, and scrotum..." (*Bellevue: Three Centuries of Medicine and Mayhem at America's Most Storied Hospital* by David Oshinsky.)

**performance / resemblance: circus**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: circus**

## free fall (in free fall)

in free fall

his life was ~

house prices continue to be ~ nationwide

the economy is ~, economic meltdown (Zimbabwe)

in free fall at colleges around the country

enrollment in the humanities is ~ (2023)

in a (moral) freefall

we are ~ (culture wars)

♦ "Today, the roller coaster is in free fall." (Enrollment in the humanities—English and History—versus enrollment in science and engineering, which is shooting up.)

♦ "Every form of institutional trust is in free fall." (In government, higher education, big business, tech firms, media, the entertainment industry, unions, etc.)

**increase & decrease: direction / number**

**decline: direction / flying & falling**

## free fall (other)

free fall in (air) travel

the ~ post-9/11 (due to fears of terrorism)

company's (financial) free fall

the ~ (into bankruptcy)

stock-market free fall

the ~ was harrowing to watch

financial free fall

the company's ~ (into bankruptcy)

mental freefall

he went into a ~ (murderer)

moral free fall

we are in a ~ (culture wars)

**decline: direction / flying & falling**

## free-for-all (control)

free-for-all

space is a ~ right now (space pollution)

free-for-all of people

it is a ~ suggesting that...

free-for-all on what

it's a bit of a ~ the government can do (facial recognition)

**behavior / control & lack of control: sports & games**

## freeze (verb)

freeze assets  
~ of terrorists

frozen its (nuclear) tests  
North Korea has ~

**activity: snow & ice / verb**

## freeze (computers, etc.)

computer freezes  
if your ~...

**functioning: snow & ice / verb**

## freeze (position of body)

hold the freeze  
patrol members ~ until signaled to do something else

**movement: snow & ice**

## freeze (activity)

freeze on (U.S.) aid  
if that's the case, should there be a ~ (politics)

freeze on (high-level) contacts  
the European Union recently ended its ~ with Iran

freeze on (all state) hiring  
it would put a ~

price freeze  
a ~ until 2002 (public utilities)

hiring freeze  
a ~ is often a last-ditch effort to reduce staff...

60-day freeze  
he asked for a ~ (on aid to Russia / politician)

put a freeze on (all state) hiring  
it would ~

freeze began to thaw when...  
the ~

**activity: snow & ice**

## freeze out (verb)

frozen Tomaz out of funding  
the Alpine Association had ~ (climber)

**acceptance & rejection: snow & ice / society / temperature / verb**

## freighted

freighted with (historical and cultural) baggage  
the N-word is ~ (racial epithets)

**history: burden / journeys & trips / weight**

**oppression: burden / journeys & trips / weight**

**speech: burden / journeys & trips / weight**

## freight train (force)

unstoppable freight trains  
hurricanes are the ~ of weather (wind and water)

**force: train**

## frenzied (adjective)

frenzied rumors  
the ~ have become so fierce that...

**activity / behavior: health & medicine / mental health**

## frenzy (feeding frenzy)

media feeding frenzy  
it was a ~

social media feeding frenzy  
the information generated a ~

**activity / behavior: animal / predation**

## frenzy (other)

media frenzy  
such was the ~ around the trial (national attention)

center of a (media) frenzy  
he is now the ~ (accusations of sex abuse)

whipped the snow into a frenzy  
the winds ~ (ground blizzard)

working themselves into a frenzy  
the fans are ~ (World Cup)

**activity / behavior: health & medicine / mental health**

## fresh (fresh evidence, etc.)

fresh approach  
we need a ~ to this problem

fresh attempt  
the time seemed ripe for a ~ (scientific ballooning)

fresh blood  
the king might reshuffle his cabinet to inject ~

fresh burst  
the crisis signaled a ~ of negotiating

fresh concerns  
the floods have sparked ~ over... (N. Korea)

fresh effort  
a ~ is underway to refloat the ship

fresh evidence  
they said there was ~ available (politics)

fresh (scientific) evidence  
~ is turning this case on its head

fresh outsider perspective  
a ~ on US politics (*The Guardian*)

fresh start

the group helps the homeless and others get a ~ in life

fresh search warrants

armed with ~ police arrived...

**amelioration & renewal: food & drink**

## freshman (adjective)

freshman Democrat

the 29-year-old ~

**experience: school & education**

## Freud (sex)

Freud of the botanical world

Linnaeus was the ~ (all about sex)

**comparison & contrast / sex: epithet**

## frickin' (fricking, freaking, friggin', etc.)

Robert Frickin' Redford

he was portrayed by ~

two thousand fricking twenty-two

so they have these big smokestacks, and it's ~

freaking adult

not one ~ did anything to protect her (upset godmother)

frigging legend

he's F. Murray Abraham, he's a ~... (a Hollywood type)

frickin' wind

I cussed that ~ for 50 years (a North Dakota farmer)

frickin' kidding

are you ~ me (said to Jeremy Sides / Exploring with Nug)

frickin' shooting

they are ~ people with paintballs (a riot)

effing do it

we should just ~

friggin' generous

wow, that was so ~, unbelievable... shit! (Amanda)

freaking scary

~, but I'm going to do it...

ever freakin' made

I'd love to help you make more money than you have ~

♦ Type "frickin" in search at NPR, and you will get 1,412 results and counting. Glen Weldon of Pop Culture Happy Hour uses it a lot, just as he seems to enjoy using words ending in a long e, like "poopy" and "thingy."

♦ "So you're in school. Be in school. Get your frickin' education. Barack and I, all through this presidency, through the lies and the stuff they said about us, all we could do was wake up every day and do our jobs. Let our jobs and our lives speak for itself." (The former first lady Michele Obama counseling a Native American student who felt uneasy being in school with students wearing Trump hats. From "'Becoming' Offers A Revealing But Selective View Of Michelle Obama," NPR, Morning Edition, May 6, 2020. Eric Deggans.)

♦ "We got screwed, there was not a freakin thing we could do about it." (A *political* advertisement, the U.S., 2022.)

♦ "The first person I dated after my divorce seemed like a great guy. And then I found out he was a freaking Democrat!" (Angela Hammtreee. From "Politics increasingly a deal-breaker on US dating scene" by Jason Armesto, BBC News, Washington, Nov. 2022. Jason is a journalist in Brooklyn, and has 346 followers on LinkedIn.)

♦ fekin; f\*\*\*\*\*; effin'; effing; forkin... (Same thing.)

♦ "Tom Brady isn't sure what he's going 'to f-king do' yet with NFL future." (*New York Post*.)

♦ "Get bent! 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment allows me to say what I want. GFY" (An online commenter about something or other.)

**contempo-speak: filler**

## friction (conflict)

friction

get along enough to avoid ~ in the office

the ~ of 37,000 US troops (anti-Americanism in Korea)

in one step to reduce ~... (US forces)

friction between cyclists and motorists

~ who have to share the road

friction between the LAPD and the residents

decades of ~ (LA)

friction between pedestrians and motorists

the road network has created ~

frictions between their camps

~ of advisors and loyalists (politicians)

friction between you

there was obviously a lot of ~ (antagonism)

avoid friction

get along enough to ~ in the office

**conflict: physics**

## friction (impedance)

friction

government rules are only one kind of ~ to free markets

does e-commerce reduce ~, add convenience and...

trade friction

~ is channeled into the WTO's dispute settlement process

points of friction

troops would pull back from ~

fog and a friction

there is a ~ to war (civilian deaths)

remove all the friction

digitization cannot ~ from a customer's life (FinTech)

♦ Friction, it turns out, is the parent of the profit margin. The more you move toward a perfect market mechanism the fewer opportunities there are for anyone to make money." (E-commerce.)

**obstacles & impedance: physics**

## frictionless

frictionless travel

the airlines' attempts to create ~

**obstacles & impedance: physics**

## friend (noun)

### friend

technology is not our ~ today (glitches during trial / judge)  
social media was not our ~ on that day (school swatting)  
we will be your ~, not your slave (PM Imran Khan to US)  
the WHO, CDC and FDA are not your ~s (online commenter)  
time might not be their ~ (war in Ukraine)  
complexity simply isn't your ~ when...

### best friend

why the A-10 Warthog is a ground soldier's ~  
I grew up an only child, so my ~s were books (Lucy Yu)

### no friends left

the NCAA has ~ (on the left or on the right)

### friends and allies

Kosovo needs more ~

### becomes a friend

ultimately, in cold case murders, time ~ (new technology)

### made friends with it

it's part of me, I have ~ (Billie Eilish about Tourette's)

- ◆ "Friends are thieves of time."
- ◆ "When a friend asks, there is no tomorrow."
- ◆ "A friend to everybody is a friend to nobody."
- ◆ "A stone from the hand of a friend is an apple." (Morocco.)
- ◆ "Friends are better than money." (That is because if you need money, you can ask your friend.)
- ◆ "Lend your money, lose your friend."
- ◆ "A friend in need is a friend indeed." (This means that in bad times most of your friends will abandon you, but a true friend will stick with you and help you. But a *real* friend will die for you.)
- ◆ "We have no friends but the mountains." (Kurdish.)
- ◆ "With friends like you, who needs enemies!"
- ◆ see also *enemy* (*conflict*)

### help & assistance / relationship: person

## friendly (adjective)

### friendly to life

salt in very high concentrations is not very ~ (Mars)

### friendly atmosphere

the ~ that originally drew foreigners to Wisconsin

### friendly face

fraud often hides behind a ~

### friendly fire

they were killed by ~ (soldiers)

### friendly ground

don't assume Ireland will be ~ for the pope (sex abuse)

### friendly microbes

there are things called ~ (digestion, etc.)

### friendly neighbors

Azerbaijan and Armenia are not ~

### "friendly skies"

the ~ have become unfriendly (air travel)

### friendly and enemy

~ thermal and optical signatures (military)

### help & assistance: person

## friendly (queer-friendly, etc.)

### animal-friendly

shelters, doggy day cares and other ~ places

### bike-friendly

places with ~ infrastructure

### bird-friendly

~ chocolate harvesting practices such as agroforestry

### child-friendly

promoting witchcraft in a ~ format (Harry Potter)

### coal-friendly

~ Kentucky must embrace renewables

### climate-friendly

~ farming is just being aware of the soil

### dementia-friendly

Bruges is the most ~ city in the world (Belgium)  
in the UK, a number of towns and cities have become ~  
Fareham has the country's first ~ high street

### Dementia Friendly

San Antonio has earned the designation "~ City"

### dog-friendly

track down ~ cafes and hotels (a Web site)  
pet-friendly bars can now serve ~ beer

### eco-friendly

trendsetters are visiting ~ resorts  
aquamation is an ~ alternative to traditional cremation

### female friendly

lack of ~ farm tools may pose safety hazard

### Gay-Friendly

"Chicago Proposes ~ High School" (NPR / Corley / 2008)

### gay-friendly

Fort Lauderdale faces threat to ~ ranking (2007)  
~ TV through the years (2005)  
five gay, or ~ characters (2021)  
Beirut has ~ bars and drag shows (Lebanon)

### gun-friendly

in ~ Montana

### kid-friendly

~ shows for desperate parents (Linda Holmes)  
a ~ name, like "Shake out the yuck" (mental health)

### migrant friendly

Mexico City falls short of its ~ hype

### pedestrian-friendly

some ~ street chances may stay after the pandemic ends

pet-friendly

~ bars can now serve dog-friendly beer  
a ~ hurricane shelter in Sarasota County, Florida

queer-friendly

a ~ punk scene that loved to dance (Big Freedia)  
New Orleans Bounce, a ~ hip-hop variant  
she reads her son ~ books  
LGBTQ travelers promoted the island as ~ (Bali)  
Chelsea was a ~ place in the 1960s and 70s (rent boys)

far-right-friendly

the ~ social-media platform Parler...

environmentally friendly

ensure that products are more ~ (fashion industry)  
encourage more ~ travel (carpooling, public transport)

♦ "The undercover FBI agent posed as a 'taboo-friendly' 30-year-old man." (University of the Pacific professor Rod Githens arrested in a pedophile sting.)

♦ see also *welcoming (and unwelcoming / groups)*

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection / affix**

**frigid (adjective)**

frigid reception

the idea had met a ~ from France and Britain

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature**

**fringe (configuration)**

fringe of islets

the lagoon, with its distant ~

broad fringe

a ~ of sea ice builds each austral winter

**configuration: cloth**

**fringe (edge)**

fringe of the storm

wind and rain from the ~ lashed the state

fringes of the solar system

unmanned vehicles are zipping to the ~

desert's (southern) fringe

the ~

southern fringe

the desert's ~

eastern fringes

this country on the ~ of Europe (Ukraine)

southern and eastern fringe

the arc of deforestation along the ~ of the Amazon

outer fringes

icy rocks found on the ~ of the solar system

**center & periphery: cloth**

**fringe (on the fringe)**

on the political fringe

both groups arose ~ (Occupiers, Tea Party)

operate on the fringes

the gangs ~ (versus established gangs)

**center & periphery: cloth / direction / society**

**society: center & periphery / cloth / direction**

**fringe (versus mainstream)**

fringe Berlin

the restaurant is ~ at its best

fringe books

we are seeing fewer ~ and new authors (publishing)

fringe cult

he joined a ~

fringe dwellers

every society has its ~

fringe idea

animal liberation is no longer the ~ it once was

fringe minority

the so-called "~" is actually the government (Elon Musk)

fringe territory

their most recent article veered into ~ (UFOs / NYT)

criminal fringe

the "one percenters" are the ~ of the biker world

lunatic fringe

the group is part of the ~

militant fringe

Turkey has been at war with the ~ of the Kurds

radical fringes

he is a figure on the most ~ of the movement

violent fringe

they are members of a nationalist, sometimes ~

from the fringes into the mainstream

social media can push conspiracies ~

**society: center & periphery / cloth / direction**

**center & periphery: cloth / direction / society**

**fringed**

fringed by (mountain) peaks

the Salar de Uyuni is ~ (salt flat in Bolivia)

fringed with coral reefs

Kenya's southeast coastline is ~

palm-fringed

a beautiful, ~ beach...

**configuration: cloth**

**fringe (frog in boiling water)**

frog in the boiling water

ignoring the need to fix entitlement programs is the ~

- ♦ This fable illustrates the danger of changes that occur slowly.
- ♦ "In this series, you're gonna hear people who 20 years ago sensed we were in a pot of water slowly reaching a boiling point and chose to take things further..." (The podcast *Burn Wild*, BBC Sounds, about the eco-terrorist movement.)
- ♦ "Are we frogs? Are we being boiled and don't know it yet?" (A Californian, discouraged by fires, drought, and record temperatures.)

**consciousness & awareness / environment / situation:  
allusion / animal / frog / heating water / temperature /  
water**

## front (get in front of an announcement, etc.)

get in front of it  
we'll announce it later today, I don't want to ~

got out in front of Obama  
Biden ~ on gay marriage

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: position / prep, adv, adj,  
particle**

## front (in front / competition)

get in front of it  
the nationwide quarantine is an effort to ~ (coronavirus)

**competition: direction / position / sports & games / verb /  
walking, running & jumping**

## front (the future is in front of us)

in front of her  
she had her whole life ~ (committed a murder)

**future: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle  
time: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## front (in front / proximity)

in front of me  
I was so blinded by love that I didn't see the problem ~

in front of us  
the answer is ~  
we have these issues ~

**proximity: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## front (conflict)

front in the (overall) struggle  
his indictment could be a new ~ to get at what happened

legislative front  
do you think something will get done on the ~ (politics)

new front  
a ~ in the president's battle with congress is emerging  
fake 1-star reviews are the ~ of review manipulation

two-front  
he's fighting a ~ campaign (Bernie Sanders)

on all fronts  
the oil spill is being attacked ~

on several fronts  
our efforts are advancing ~ (oil-spill cleanup)

on that front  
how are you doing ~ (protective supplies / COVID)

♦ "All quiet on the Tom Brady front." (*New York Post* gossip. This echoes the title of Erich Maria Remarque's famous novel, *All Quiet On The Western Front*.)

**conflict: military**

## front (front and center)

front and center  
the wave of sex-abuse scandals will be ~ conference)

front and center on his mind  
clearly this topic is ~

**center & periphery: position  
attention, scrutiny & promotion / importance & significance  
/ priority / superiority & inferiority: center & periphery /  
direction / position**

## frontier (noun)

frontier of crime  
Silk Road was the new ~, a digital-era Wild West (drugs)

frontier between barbarism and civilization  
this is a humanity problem on a modern-day ~ (a war)

final frontier  
direct flights represented the ~ (Australia to London)

latest frontier  
Oklahoma is the ~ in the marijuana gold rush

next frontier  
deep fake videos are the ~ in fake news  
the Metaverse is the ~ (according to Mark Zuckerberg)

push the frontiers  
the US has always wanted to ~ (physics, etc.)

**searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land**

## front line (on the front line)

on the front lines  
state and local law enforcement ~  
the dedicated people ~ (social services)  
she tells what it's really like ~ (nurse in pandemic)  
in the fight against smoking, New Zealand has always been  
~

on the front lines of this battle  
he is ~ (agency fighting spam phone calls)

on the front lines of this disease  
health care workers ~ (COVID-19)

on the front lines of movements  
Black feminist leaders ~ today

on the front line of (interpersonal) violence  
doctors are ~ (EM)

on the front lines of the drug crisis

they have been working ~

♦ "They get awfully sick at the big-print headlines in some of the papers—"The Hill 60 Thrill!" 'Thrill, indeed! There's nothing thrilling about ploughing over parapets into a machinegun, with high explosives bursting round you,—it's merely beastly,' said a boy this evening, who is all over shrapnel splinters. / Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 9 A.M. [1915]—This is Der Tag. Could anybody go to bed and undress? / I have been cutting dressings all night. One of the most stabbing things in this war is seeing the lines of empty motor ambulances going up to bring down the wrecks who at this moment are sound and fit, and all absolutely ready to be turned into wrecks." (*Diary of a Nursing Sister on the Western Front: 1914-1915* by Kate (Katherine) Evelyn Luard.)

**conflict / experience / place: military**

## front line (other)

front line

in battles of identity, language often becomes the ~

frontline

the CDC is the ~ in any public health emergency

front lines of COVID-19

medical students are rushed to ~

front line of the (culture) war

the judiciary committee is the ~ (U.S. politics)

frontline in the fight

this is the ~ against a deadly global trade (poaching)

front-line caregivers

nurses are the ~

become the front line

in the battle to contain the contagion, these labs have ~

♦ There were great husky men crying with the pain of gaping wounds and dreadfully swollen, discolored trench feet, who sank down exhausted the moment they stopped. There were strings of from eight to twenty blind boys filing up the road, clinging tightly and pitifully to each other's hands, and led by some bedraggled limping youngster who could still see... I wonder if I'll ever be able to look at marching men anywhere again without seeing those blinded boys, with five and six wound stripes on their sleeves, struggling painfully along the road." (*Sister: The War Diary of a Nurse* by Helen Dore Boylston.)

**conflict / place: military**

## front-runner (noun)

front-runner

he is the ~

the ~ Barak Obama (politics)

front-runner in the race

he has cemented his position as ~ (politics)

front-runners for the job

there are two ~

front-runner for a (future Supreme Court) nomination

he is a ~

front-runners and underdogs

~ loved him (a race-car driver)

**competition: person / sports & games / walking, running & jumping**

## frostily

replied frostily

Cynthia ~, "It's disgusting"

**feeling, emotion & effect: snow & ice / temperature**

## frosty (adjective)

frosty

US relations with Cambodia have long been ~

frosty handshake

they shared a ~ after their match (two tennis rivals)

frosty relationship

he has a ~ with Netanyahu (diplomacy)

♦ "Already frosty relations between the US and Russia *soured* [italics mine] even further." (Check the thesaurus for "feeling, emotion & effect" and "snow & ice," and "temperature," and you might decide that "Already frosty relations between the US and Russia have become frigid" is better. But then, you can point out people's mixed metaphors, or you can have friends.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: snow & ice / temperature**

## frothy (substance)

frothy page-turner

the ~, the one book everybody is reading...

**substance & lack of substance: water**

## frown (verb)

frown on those things

we ~

frowned upon homosexuality

he came from a religious background that ~

**judgment / sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: face / gesture / sign, signal, symbol / verb**

## frowned upon

frowned upon by some

skateboarding is still ~

**judgment / sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: face / gesture / sign, signal, symbol**

## frozen (movement)

frozen to the spot

we were all ~

**movement: snow & ice**

## frozen (emotion)

frozen with fear

well, I was terrified, I was ~ (in an acting class)

frozen with fear and grief

I knew if I watched it I would be ~ (a video)

**feeling, emotion & effect: movement / snow & ice / temperature / water**

## frozen (development)

frozen in time

the Framers did not expect the Constitution to be ~

frozen conflict

~s don't remain frozen forever (Nagorno-Karabakh, etc.)

**development: snow & ice**

## frozen (frozen in time)

frozen in time

Vietnam's Ha Giang Province remains ~

Trans-Dniester is a place ~ (Transnistria / Tiraspol)

it was a unique environment, sort of ~ (military reservation)

♦ What things are frozen in time? Countries like North Korea and Bhutan and Transnistria seem like such places. Certainly places like Australia when Cook visited or New Guinea when the first whites arrived in the highlands in the 1930s must have seem frozen in time, and other remote places, such as northern Burma.

♦ Cataclysms can lock places in time, like Pompeii and Herculaneum by the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius, and Chernobyl in the Ukraine by the failure of a nuclear reactor.

♦ Fossils are frozen in time, whether in stone or in amber, in peat or in permafrost, in a glacier or in the long-vanished sediment of an ancient river or sea.

♦ Demilitarized zones, like the one between North and South Korea, or between Ethiopia and Eritrea, can be frozen in time, often to the advantage of the wildlife.

♦ In the U.S., military reservations, some taken over in the First World War, have been frozen in time. The small communities that existed on them were simply left to decay in place.

♦ The Great Smoky National Park has been frozen in time since its creation. The small communities were left to decay, so that only the foundations of buildings remain. Its old-time cemeteries, however, like the Proctor Cemetery, are still kept up or "V-upped" by descendants annually on Decoration Day.

♦ Areas flooded by dams are frozen in time. This is the case with Lake Fontana in North Carolina, where drowned bridges, trees, and even buildings may reappear when water levels drop.

♦ All places "frozen in time" are inherently interesting to people, because they make us think of the past, our own mortality, and eternity.

♦ see also *time capsule* (noun)

**past & present / time: snow & ice**

## frozen (activity)

frozen funds

is it time to release the ~ (sanctions)

**activity: snow & ice / temperature**

## frozen out (excluded)

frozen out of discussions

they have been ~ about how the law will work (veterans)

**acceptance & rejection: snow & ice / society / temperature**

## fruit (product)

fruits of the field

the first ~ have been mundane (nanotechnology)

fruits of my labor

she carefully examined the ~ (a woodcarver)

fruits of that work

you are now seeing the ~ (war planning)

bore fruit

their protests ~ only after...

♦ "We took this tree with a lot of ripe fruit on it and shook it hard and out came radar and atomic bombs." (J. Robert Oppenheimer speaking to a Senate committee in late 1945.)

♦ "Southern trees bear a strange fruit / Blood on the leaves and blood at the root / Black bodies swinging in the Southern breeze / Strange fruit hanging from the poplar trees" ("Strange Fruit" lyrics sung by Billy Holiday.)

♦ You don't harvest grapes from planting thorns. (An Arab proverb.)

**product / worth & lack of worth: farming & agriculture / fruits & vegetables / plant**

## fruit (low-hanging fruit)

low-hanging fruit

for people who want to consume less plastic, straws are ~

vacant lot greening is a piece of ~ (simple, low cost)

the expulsion of intelligence officers is ~ (symbolic only)

pick some ~ that can be accomplished (in tax reform)

he explores deeper cuts and textures, rather than ~ (music)

these are the easiest targets, the ~ (the poor / payday lenders)

low-hanging fruit of international health

cataract surgery is the ~ (just \$75 per patient)

pick that low-hanging fruit clean

they ~ (film about old women reentering the dating scene)

go-to, reflexive, low-hanging-fruit

~ complaints (about American Vandal season two)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: fruits & vegetables / tree**

## fruitful (adjective)

fruitful approach

I decided that wasn't a ~ for me

fruitful avenue

this might be a ~ for further research

fruitful discourse

there hasn't been much ~ lately (politics)

fruitful place

this is a ~ to do business (a city)

fruitful relationship

they had a long and ~ (two companies)

artistically fruitful

their relationship was ~

less fruitful

subsequent efforts were ~

more fruitful

I think it would be ~ if we...

long, fruitful

in the course of a ~ career, he... (a poet)

prove fruitful

negotiations could ~ if...

♦ The Smucker's Company has a very cute full-page ad on the back of the January 21, 2019 *Christian Science Monitor Weekly*. It shows 12 bottles of their iconic jams and jellies in three rows with the dates of their introduction below them, and the title reads, "Fruitful Since 1897." The pun incorporates the figurative and the literal. A classic and classy ad from an American icon!

**worth & lack of worth: farming & agriculture / fruits & vegetables / plant**

### fruition (noun)

came to fruition  
the plan never ~

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / fruits & vegetables / plant**

### fruitless (adjective)

largely fruitless exercise  
comparing these rates is a ~

♦ "Is it fruitless to even try?"

**worth & lack of worth: farming & agriculture / fruits & vegetables / plant**

### fry (small fry)

small fry  
he is working his way up the food chain, starting with ~ (prosecutor)

small fry team  
he grew up with Adams and played on the same ~ (football)

**growth & development / size: animal / fish**  
**importance & significance / power / strength & weakness: animal / fish / size**

### frying pan (jump from the frying pan into the fire)

jumps from the frying pan into the fire  
like one who ~

**fate, fortune & chance / situation: cooking / fire**

### fuel (verb)

fuel (Internet) abuse  
depression, obsessive-compulsive disorders can ~

fuels conflict  
Captagon ~, for fighters it banishes fear

fueled (much of the ) corruption  
his bribes ~ in the state

fuel the (ongoing) debate  
the results are likely to ~ over how... (cancer)

fueled the debate  
those differences in point of view ~ (Confederate flag)

fueling U.S Israel-Gaza debate  
how social media is ~

fuels the diaspora  
poverty ~ of Malians

fuel the flames  
don't ~ (a controversy)

fueled (public) interest  
journalism ~ (an Arctic rescue)

fueled an (overblown political) narrative  
poor photo selection ~ (#defundNPR)

fueled the notion  
the photo ~ that NPR is trying to tilt the narrative

fuel this pandemic  
infections among the unvaccinated continue to ~

fueled a (growing) panic  
Tuesday's developments ~ in Japan (nuclear catastrophe)

fueling his (inner) rage  
a cause that is ~ (environment)

fueled in him a sense of self-importance  
the militia ~

**increase & decrease / initiation: fire / verb**

### fuel (pour fuel on something, etc.)

adding fuel to the fire  
the US is adding ~ (by sending weapons to Ukraine)

adds fuel to every fire  
he ~ (politics)

adds (fresh) fuel to a (longstanding) controversy  
his role in the new ad ~

pour fuel on the fire  
this will ~ of toxic political warfare

pour fuel on the flames  
the documents are likely to ~ of a strained relationship

**increase & decrease / initiation: fire / verb**

### fuel (noun)

fuel  
the taunts were the ~...

hurricane fuel  
water above 79 degrees is ~ (Gulf of Mexico)

any more fuel  
she would not give the issue ~ ("no comment")

**increase & decrease / initiation: fire**

### fueled

fueled by the Chinese  
the jade boom has been ~

fueled by local issues  
the conflict is ~ (IS in Mozambique)

fueled by a movie

the fury is ~ (anti-US protests by Muslims)

fueled by the occupation

anti-American sentiment ~ of Iraq

fueled by (Internet) pornography

soldiers who come home with sexual addictions ~

alcohol-fueled

an epic, ~ party...

he died at an ~ party (fraternity)

rum-fueled

the ~ party culminates Fat Tuesday (Trinidad)

whiskey-fueled

a ~ high

ignited and fueled

opposition was ~ by the church (innovation)

stoked, fueled, and manipulated

hatred can be ~ (Bosnia)

**increase & decrease / initiation: fire**

## Fuji (Mount Fuji of the US, etc.)

Mount Fuji of the United States

Mount St. Helens, known as the ~ (for its beauty)

**comparison & contrast / geography: epithet**

## fulcrum (noun)

fulcrum moment

the Capture of Istanbul was a ~ in the Middle Ages

court's fulcrum

he was the ~, able to cast the decisive vote

♦ Turning point, year zero, etc.

**development: direction / mechanism**

**importance & significance: mechanism**

## full (adjective)

full of choppers

a sky ~ and a jungle full of danger (Vietnam War)

full of danger

a sky full of choppers and a jungle ~ (Vietnam War)

full life

she led a ~

full story

I am sure we have not heard the ~ (MSM)

**amount / extent & scope: container / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## full (full Sarah Brightman, etc.)

full Dracula

the Marvelverse has Leto going ~

full James Bond

in Chapter 4 John Wick goes ~ (travel, guns, etc.)

full Sarah Brightman

Polachek still occasionally goes ~ (virtuosic vocals)

full QAnon

her turn to ~ has come at a cost (media star)

♦ "Normal time is done. If England are going to save themselves they are going to need to go all Dutch on us." (A BBC commentator about England-France. The reference is to Holland-Argentina, which had been played the day before.)

♦ see also *peak (peak sexy, etc.)*

**amount & effect: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## full-bore (and full bore)

coming in full bore

it was an all call, SWAT, FBI, everyone ~ (mass shooting)

**extent & scope: weapon**

## full-court (full-court press, etc.)

full-court press in Washington

there was a ~ (foreign lobbying campaign)

full-court press from our department

there is a ~ (search for missing child)

full-court press to capture him

there was a ~, once they knew his identity (a bomber)

full-court press (by the administration) to contain

it has been a ~ the company (tariff dispute with China)

full-court response

this is the time for a ~ (US monkeypox emergency)

equivalent of the full-court press

a decoy deadline is the productivity ~ (deadlines)

**difficulty, easiness & effort / commitment & determination:**

**basketball / sports & games**

## full-fledged (adjective)

full-fledged atrocity

a ~ would be difficult to ignore

full-fledged (academic) discipline

it is not yet a ~ with departments of its own (services science)

full-fledged gangsters

ties to ~

full-fledged member

China will become a ~ (WTO)

the first steps in becoming a ~ of the Hells Angels

full-fledged stroke

people who have had ~s

full-fledged bantamweight

moving up to ~

full-fledged drug dealer

a ~

full-fledged comeback

a ~

**growth & development: animal / bird**

## fullness (groups)

in his fullness

MLK ~ is still too much for them (Karen Attiah)

in their fullness

our stories are misrepresented or not represented ~ (Blacks)

♦ "I think it had a lot to do with me being a Black woman, period. And having seen how historically, you know, if our stories, you know, have been presented to the world, oftentimes they're misrepresented or their not represented in their fullness or there's just like a sliver of us being presented." (Katori Hall speaking about the great American-born Tina Turner, birth name Anna Mae Bullock, a Swiss citizen since 2013.)

♦ "I think the superpower of a Black Woman is to occupy the space in the fullness of who she is." (The actress Aisha Hinds.)

♦ "This piece of public art, unveiled Friday, immediately garnered mixed reactions. In a long Twitter thread, *Washington Post* columnist Karen Attiah criticized the monument, saying that the artist 'reduced' the Kings to 'body parts,' adding: 'For such a large statue, dismembering MLK and Coretta Scott King is...a choice. A deliberate one.' Attiah continued: 'Boston's Embrace statue perfectly represents how White America loves to butcher MLK. Cherry-picking quotes about love and violence. While ignoring his radicalism, anti-capitalism, his fierce critiques of white moderates. MLK in his fullness—is still too much for them.'" (From "New MLK statue in Boston is greeted with a mix of open arms, consternation and laughs" by Anastasia Tsioulcas, NPR, Culture, January 17, 2023.)

♦ "I became arrogant. I became too demanding. I became full of myself."

**inclusion & exclusion: objectification**

## full on (adjective)

full-on character

he is a ~ (the boxer Sunny Edwards)

full-on engagement

it was just ~ (a blind rock climber)

full-on migraine

what we've got coming this weekend is a ~ (winter storm)

full-on (international espionage) operation

he mounted a ~ against the reporter

full-on moral panic

"stranger danger" bloomed into a ~ (the US in the 1980s)

full on, scary, hard

that was ~ (the Bottleneck on K2)

straight-up, full-on

~ sex talk (Argentinian TV)

**extent & scope / functioning: mechanism**

**commitment & determination: mechanism**

**amount & effect: mechanism**

## full on (personality)

so full-on

he was ~, performative and calculating (personality)

**character & personality: mechanism**

## full out (adjective)

full out

it's gonna be ~, it's called "No Limit" (a Vegas show)

**extent & scope / functioning: mechanism**

**commitment & determination: mechanism**

**amount & effect: mechanism**

## full stop

full stop

this is right-wing terrorism, ~

these companies know everything we do ~ (tech)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: letters & characters**

## full-throated (adjective)

full-throated defense

his speech was a ~ of his actions (military withdrawal)

**amount & effect / attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound**

## fulminate (speech)

press fulminated

the Western ~ (against use of force in China)

♦ This relates to striking and lightning.

**speech: force / lightning / verb**

## fumble (verb)

fumbled this moment

Boeing has ~ (failed to ground its plane after crashes)

fumbled the disaster response

the government ~

**failure, accident & impairment: ball / hand / football /**

**sports & games / verb**

## fumble (noun)

diplomatic fumble

it was his latest ~

♦ Touch Down / Field Goal / First Down / Fumble ("What's your take on this story?" The rating system for *New York Post* sports stories.)

**failure, accident & impairment / success & failure: ball /**

**football / hand / sports & games**

## fumbled

fumbled attempt

a ~ to reform small business taxes

**failure, accident & impairment: ball / football / hand /**

**sports & games**

## fume (verb)

fuming about the (split-decision) verdict

he is still ~ that went against Pacquiao (boxing)

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire / verb**

## funeral (one's funeral)

funeral

go ahead and do it, it's your ~

**destruction: burial / death & life**

**fate, fortune & chance: burial / death & life**

### **funereal (adjective)**

funereal

the mood was ~

funereal black

they are clad in stark ~ (a music video)

funereal gloom

an atmosphere of ~

funereal silence

events will take place in ~ (pandemic / no fans watching)

mournful, funereal, keening

the music is ~ (for a film)

**feeling, emotion & effect: burial / death & life**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

### **funnel (a road can funnel through, etc.)**

funneled through the Monastir Gap

the road ~ (Via Egnatia)

**fictive motion: shape / verb**

### **funnel (direct)**

funneled arms to the mujahedeem

the CIA and Saudi Arabia both ~

funnel (tax) dollars to the poor

he wants to ~ (a president)

funneled money to charities

he ~ with terrorist ties

funnels the wildlife to the overpass

three miles of fencing ~ (Utah animal crossing)

**directing: verb / water**

### **funnel (shape)**

funnel cloud

heavy rains, hail, reports of ~s

the tornado's distinguishing feature is a ~

tornado funnel

~s in Oklahoma

**shape: water**

### **funneled (directed)**

funneled (primarily) to corporations and the wealthy

the 2017 tax cuts, ~... (politics)

funneled into the (digital) currencies

how much money is being ~ (cryptocurrencies)

funneled into four other organizations

the money was ~ (a charity scam)

funneled into a fenced pen

the cattle were then ~ (an auction)

funneled through the (little-known) nonprofit

private money ~ (political donations)

**directing: water**

### **funny (as noun)**

legacy of funny

they've had a ~ (the comedy show SNL)

**feeling, emotion & effect: part of speech**

### **funny language**

it *is* February

~ (it's cold and snowy)

I am what I am

~, God help me, a 77-year-old white man, but...

~, love me or hate me, I'm gonna be Stephen A. Smith

I am who I am

~, I am not changing

~, I can't pretend... (a celebrity)

I was being me

~ (strange behavior)

that's that

Usyk did his job, and ~ (he won the match)

I believe in belief

see, I believe in hope, ~ (the "Ted Lasso" effect)

Hellas of Hellas

the ~ as Athens had lately been anointed (Plato's time)

epicenter of the epicenter

the hospital was the ~ (Queens, NYC / COVID)

"It is What it Is"

his latest album ~, was released... (Thundercat)

it is what it is

I take precautions, but hey, ~ (delivery worker / pandemic)

~, this has happened, and... (cancer diagnosis)

~, but I'm not concerned about it (athlete / lack of rest)

it kind of stinks seeing baseball change, but ~

I grew up on the internet, which is kind of trash, but ~

my wife and I have gotten multiple death threats, ~

~, it's just boxing (no excuses for knock-out loss)

I saw stuff, it happens, who's perfect, it's cool, it ~ (sex)

~, we don't know what it means, where it leads to...

it is what it is, get over it and move on

~ (Confederate monuments)

it is what it is, so they spend the night together

you know how this happens, ~ (infidelity)

it is what it was

~ and it's my mistake and I paid for it (Jeremy Renner)

this is what it is

so I guess ~, huh (music to be murdered by)

it was something that was

~, I had no control over (violent confrontation)

it is how it is  
but ~ (a soccer issue)

that is how it is  
~, the reality that many of you are facing, this is the world

we feel how we feel  
but ~ (feelings of fatigue at home / pandemic)

they are what they are  
both these women will get out worse, ~ (from prison)

democracy is democracy  
look, ~ (a young Palestinian craving change)

oppression is oppression  
~ across the world (Black Lives Matter and Hamas)

sports are sports  
~, politics is politics, they shouldn't be mixed (Olympics)

golf is golf  
~ (response to criticisms of LIV golf)

“Love is Love”  
~ (the “Freedom to Marry” Campaign)

rape is rape  
this was not transactional, ~  
it shouldn't even be an apology, ~

rules are the rules  
the ~, you gotta...

the situation is the situation  
~, everyone is frustrated but we are bound by the rule

trash is trash  
she'll be back in the system, ~ (prison)

the rule is the rule  
~ (NFL's overtime rule / sudden death)

man's a man  
a ~, after all (sex)

trans women are trans women  
what is it about ~ that is offensive...

trans women are women  
~ (the male-to-female transgender swimmer Lia Thomas)

bad guys are bad guys  
~, the Army is the Army, orders are orders...

a win's a win  
we played poorly but ~ (soccer)

good is good  
~, with a brush or a needle (artist Sophie Taeuber-Arp)

disgusting is disgusting  
I'm not excusing his comments, ~, you can't tolerate that

today's world is today's world  
~ and everything is out there in public (twitterstorm)

a stupid radio promotion is just a stupid radio promotion  
sometimes a ~ (Chicago's Disco Demolition Night)

a cigar is just a cigar  
sometimes a ~ (no need for Freudian analysis)

June isn't really June  
~ anymore (James Qillaq, Inuit hunter, Arctic warming)

2022 isn't 2021  
~ (vaccinations and the pandemic)

'sport' is not sport  
today's professional ~

a terabyte isn't what it used to be  
~ (greater storage nowadays)

there's no there there  
(see *there (there is no there there, etc.)*)

wildlife in Yellowstone are, indeed, wild  
~ (woman convicted of bothering bear with cubs)

I'd call the police, but they are the police  
“~,” he chuckled, but it was forced...

we are where we are  
until we do that, ~ (stopping ransomware attacks)  
~ (Mary Louise Kelly of NPR about Afghan situation)

where I am where I am  
so much peace knowing where I am supposed to be, ~

the gas is where it is  
~ (natural gas, Russia, Europe, and the US)

liberals are going to be liberals  
what a shocker, ~ (discussion board snark)

the problem with football is football  
~ (NPR's Scott Simon)

we shall see what we shall see  
~ (the great Spike Lee)

what you saw, you saw  
~ (a bystander video)

what will be will be  
you have to learn to let go, it's gone, and ~

the best way to regulate behavior  
~ is to regulate behavior

Chisora can break your heart  
~ before he breaks your heart (“Del Boy” / the boxer)

he is who he is  
on the other hand, ~

that's just Joe being Joe  
~ (character and personality)

Julie, being Julie  
~, was defending a teammate (got in trouble for it)

brands being brands  
such examples seem trivial, harmless---

you be you  
everyone is saying “~” and “you do you” (a woman)

the Knicks, being the Knicks  
 ~, won the game, then lost the series (sorry, Spike)

Cleveland, continuing to Cleveland  
 ~ (NFL snark / usage as verb to mean “fail”)

and then he does what he does  
 ~ on Sunday (commits a bad act)

stupid actor says something stupid  
 headline: “~” (a sarcastic comment)

McArthur was, well, McArthur  
 but ~, a problematic personality... (WWII)  
 they can’t change it, ~ (physical evidence / trial)

it means what it means  
 ~ (the word “coachable”)

it means we country, but we ain’t *country*  
 ~ (the Dirty South)

there is jargon, and then there is jargon  
 ~ (academic writing)

he did what he did  
 it was my dad’s decision, ~ (his father was arrested)  
 and then ~ (boxer pushes another at press conference)

he did what he does  
 he ~, which is to score goals (a hockey player)

yelled what he yelled  
 he went back to his seat and ~ (a celebrity)

we can only do what we can do  
 ~ (limitations, constraints)

China can do this now because it can  
 ~ (flexing military might)

he had to do what he had to do  
 Usyk did his job, ~ (beat Anthony Joshua)  
 ~ (Andre Leon Talley / racism)

you gotta do what you gotta do  
 ~ (no choice)

Joshua has got to do what he has got to do  
 ~ (boxing)

I’m going to do what I’m going to do  
 I thought about it, ~ (Mills Lane stops Tyson-Holyfield II)

crazy will do what crazy does  
 ~ (a woman)

I don’t know what I don’t know  
 ~ but what I *do* know is that... (female speaker)

we don’t know what we don’t know  
 I realize ~

you don’t know what you don’t know  
 ~ (facts about a crime)

I do and I don’t  
 ~, maybe I know a little, maybe not anything...

we get what we get  
 ~ (NASA buys off-the-shelf cameras for *Perseverance*)

you get what you get  
 ~ (an idiot provokes Mike Tyson on a plane)

I’ve said what I’ve said  
 ~ about Number 10 and the events of 12 months ago

I can never say never  
 ~ (a writer, about writing another novel, vs. TV or film)

the investigation will take us where it takes us  
 ~ (cops)

come away from it with what they will  
 people will ~ (war films)

nothing is over until it’s over  
 ~ (voting and an election)

it’s gonna be what it’s gonna be  
 we should all just go home, ~ (*Foxfire*)

whatever is in store for us is in store  
 ~, if we’re going to be cool again that’s what it’ll be

the results are gonna be the results  
 ~ (if we don’t love harder / gun violence in Baltimore)

we don’t know what we don’t know  
 ~, that’s what the investigation is all about (cops)

if she never works again, she never works again  
 ~ (the pop star Britney Spears)

if it’s your day, it’s your day  
 ~ (death while climbing)

if I get knocked out I get knocked out  
 ~ (the great boxer Dillian Whyte, all in)

nothing will change if nothing changes  
 ~ (speaking up / not being afraid)

I am the age I am  
 ~ (an older writer)

those who were alive were still alive  
 the battle had only just begun, ~ (Stalingrad)

the men still alive were still alive  
 they had withstood the assault, ~ (Stalingrad)

history is told by the winners—except when it’s not  
 ~ (review of the film *The Last Duel*)

the story is the headline...or often isn’t  
 welcome to ABC where ~ (criticism)

it was an unremarkable day, until it...wasn’t  
 ~ (Dateline NBC)

it’s meaningless, until it’s not  
 ~ (Dateline NBC)

it was a good time until it wasn’t  
 ~ (her childhood / Dateline NBC)

a very good bank until it wasn't  
SVB was ~ (failed 2023)

it's all good until it isn't  
~ (a drowning on the Nantahala River)

he was just a good guy with a gun...until he wasn't  
~ (comment by gun-control advocate about mass shooter)

he was alive until he wasn't  
~ (2021 trial)

it is fine, until it isn't  
~ (climate change)

character is invisible until it's not  
~ (joined the marines after 9/11)

it was an arrangement that worked until it didn't  
~ (an open relationship)

you loved being a college professor, until you didn't  
~ (an NPR interviewer)

her bosses had her back until they didn't  
she says ~ (a Levi's executive)

Rick *never* left the mountains, except when he did  
~ (flew from Idaho to New York City)

you can choose to go there, or not  
~ (randonauting)

find food where it isn't  
I'll show you where to ~ (scrounging during war)

feel safe until they don't  
I think all children ~, you know? (Timothy Ware-Hill)

look the same, until they don't  
~ (corrosive change in the U.S.)

"When is a Mastodon Not?"  
see *not* (*when is a Mastodon not*)

it is and it's not  
~ (NPR reporting)

I am sick and tired of being sick and tired  
~ (DC police chief about a spate of gun violence)

burned out on burnout  
even Freudenberger said he was ~ (he coined the term)

she should have been here too except she wasn't  
~ (murdered Lauren McCluskey / University of Utah)

enough is enough  
~, today you will hear the truth from me...

there's a difference between knowing, and knowing  
~, you know, umm, so... (L.L. McKinney)

you know when you know  
there is this sense, ~ (who you like / subjectivity)

just because you're on your own on the internet  
~ doesn't mean you're on your own (spying pixels)

the way to shore up American democracy  
~ is to shore up American democracy, that is, to...

when big dog does what big dogs do  
~ (poop)

loved the things she loved  
she just ~ (an enthusiast)

this year started the way it has started  
~ and it has affect me... (Novak Djokovic)

really, really real  
these forest fires are ~

best of the best  
a group of cocky "~" pilots... (*Top Gun: Maverick*)

hoax hoax  
the unfounded Russian Investigation is a "~" (anti-Trump)

war war  
a Cold War, a trade war, or a ~...

same old same old  
he was a bit more aggressive this time but the ~ (boxer)

♦ Democrats, and Michele Obama, used the phrase, "It is what it is," to taunt, mock, and criticize President Trump at their national convention in 2019. Trump had used the phrase when talking about coronavirus.

♦ "We definitely had a hurricane hit us last night." (The mayor of Lake Charles, being interviewed on ABC about a hurricane that had hit his town the previous night.)

♦ "It does certainly look like a big windstorm came through here." (An NPR report on Hurricane Ida.)

♦ "What can Joe Biden do, given that American politics are what American politics are." (Steve Inskeep, NPR.)

♦ "Like our school, like the ceilings, like they're gone." (Like a high-school girl, like being interviewed, like right after a tornado.)

♦ "The coronavirus is something that is there."

♦ "The Omicron virus is REEEE-ly, REEEE-ly contagious." (Selena Simmons-Duffin of NPR. Type in "really, really" in the search box at NPR and you get 6,574 hits and counting.)

♦ "The game ended in a sidelines-clearing brawl, because of course it did." (College football game in US.)

♦ "How much quieter it would be online if it weren't so loud."

♦ "I'm good, thanks." (= No.)

♦ "I don't think there's any way to go right to the Supreme Court with something like this, and what the this is has not been made clear." (A political pundit on NPR.)

♦ "Usyk did his job, he had to do what he had to do, and that's that, and Joshua has got to do what he has got to do." ("Tyson Fury 'absolutely wounded' by Anthony Joshua's loss to Oleksandr Usyk," BBC, Sept. 30 2021.)

♦ "I would liken us a little bit to a bit of a wounded lion, if you like." (Sally Munday, the chief executive of the funding agency UK Sport.)

♦ "Barney the Bear is a secure test item." (An ESL supervisor.)

♦ "She is one of the most strongest, most delicate people I've ever met." (Will Smith's Academy Awards speech, broadcast to millions.)

♦ "Iowa is in a different place." (Abortion.)

♦ "Space is hard." (The Virgin Orbit mission dubbed "Start Me Up" fails from Cornwall.)

♦ "It's basically impossible to find a queer competent therapist in Missouri."

♦ "Spectators have blocked streets as cars do doughnuts." (Fort Worth, Texas.)

- ♦ "She has already appointed a homelessness czar." (The mayor of Los Angeles. There's an image! Is it Dicken's Fagin from *Oliver Twist*?)
- ♦ "The OG Yield Curve Whisperer." (A triumph of trendy headline creation that somehow manages to combine OG (original gangster) and "whisperer." From the "folks" at NPR, of course.)
- ♦ Sara Reardon, known as "the Vagina Whisperer..."
- ♦ "The world knows Khan's chin is not there." (Boxing.)
- ♦ "Unicorns are ubiquitous in Scotland." (The symbol.)
- ♦ "President Lyndon B. Johnson was a huge Alamo-head." (History buff.)
- ♦ "Both of her parents passed away just as she started blowing up." (Megan Thee Stallion.)
- ♦ "Fusetti is known as the midwife of clowns." (The theater artist and teacher Giovanni Fusetti, in Padua, Italy.)
- ♦ *Time* is the new *Onion* (The two magazines.)
- ♦ "When were Pitt and De Ramon first papped together? / "They have been papped together on quite a few occasions..." (Two celebrities. From "paparazzo / paparazzi.")
- ♦ "I think the dance between those two things will always be a thing." (Tiana Kaye Blair, an artist-in-residence at the Dallas Theater Center.)
- ♦ "Sorry, you've reached a page that doesn't exist." (Internet.)
- ♦ "This account doesn't exist. Try searching for another."
- ♦ "This message was deleted." (Internet.)
- ♦ "You have to own your body." (Model Natalie Mariduena.)
- ♦ "A trans person pursuing phalloplasty has to wade into complicated waters." / "No two phalloplasty journeys are the same." (Jamie Lauren Keiles.)
- ♦ "I never say never."
- ♦ "Bobo got throated." (Surfing.)
- ♦ "Nicole is thrashing the Bahamas." (The named hurricane.)
- ♦ "Soldiers who die are taken to a holding area, where they are made to do manual labor to underscore the point that dying is never fun." (Military-training language.)
- ♦ "And *Alfie* died in France, it was the only place in the world where it died." (Michael Caine speaking about the 1966 film.)
- ♦ "The Dead Sea is Dying."
- ♦ Estheticians knead, wax, pluck, rub, and paint people.
- ♦ "He had devoured *Dracula* by the age of five."
- ♦ "Hard-nosed Berliners and queer refugees..."
- ♦ see also *teacher* (*teacher's teacher*, etc.)
- ♦ see also *new* (*orange is the new black*, etc.)
- ♦ see also *no* (*no Jack Kennedy*, etc.)
- ♦ see also *boilerplate* (noun), *buzzword* (noun), *doublespeak* (noun), *ese* (*legalese*, etc.), *language* (types), *lip service* (*pay lip service*, etc.), *newspeak* (noun), *speak* (*NASA-speak*, etc.), *supersizing* (*linguistic supersizing*), *talk* (*mediator talk*, etc.), *word salad*

language: funny language

## furnace (Furnace Creek, etc.)

Furnace Creek

a temperature of 54.4C was recorded in ~ Death Valley

proper name: fire / temperature

## furnace (noun)

furnace of an atmosphere

who can survive in this ~ (important soccer game)

China's four "furnaces"

Chongqing is one of ~ (hot and humid in summer)

forged in the furnace

he is ~ of Parris Island and San Diego (a marine)

thrown into a furnace

I was ~

environment: fire / temperature

## furnish (give)

furnished them with all the information

the report ~

giving, receiving, bringing & returning: verb

## furniture (contents)

furniture of the novel

you've got none of the usual ~ (films vs. novels)

mental furniture

art was so much a part of his ~ that...

his ~ is ordinary, much of it from U.S. pop culture...

♦ In the newspaper business, "furniture" refers to the various elements on a print or web page that accompany the article and its photos, such as the headline, picture captions, the explanatory text below a headline, the dateline, pull quotes, crossheads, and the lead or lede.

♦ "Because this was China, it was wartime, and everyone sent off to live in [Chungking] had been forewarned that a stiff upper lip was a sine qua non, stoicism was part of the furniture, and fatalism went with the territory." (*The Man Who Loved China* by Simon Winchester.)

content / presence & absence: house

## further (further along, etc.)

further along than us

they are ~ (Italian soccer team)

competition: distance

## fury (creature)

keep his furies at bay

he works hard to ~ (troubled ex-boxer)

♦ The furies are part of Greek mythology.

affliction: allusion / creature / religion

## fuse (noun)

fuse of (voter) anger

his COVID restrictions lit a ~ (recall election)

short fuse

our society has a ~, just waiting for a spark

that ~ got him in trouble (troubled Iraq veteran)

even in the best of times, John had a ~ (a businessman)

fuse was (now successfully) lit

the ~, and the British media...

lit the fuse

that was the match that ~ (precipitating cause)

that really ~, and the collapse began (tainted election)

initiation: explosion / weapon

character & personality: explosion / weapon

## **fusillade (noun)**

fusillade against an “Obama judge”  
Trump’s latest ~

**accusation & criticism: military / weapon**  
**speech: weapon**

## **future (the future)**

the future of the Internet  
is Web3 ~ or just a buzzword

the future (combat vehicle) family  
each member of ~

embrace the future  
a split over whether to preserve the past or ~ (Swazis)  
we must ~ (trade and business issue)

saw the future  
he ~ and he set out to build it (Jeff Bezos, Amazon)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**

## **future (of the future)**

currency of the future  
he has bolstered Bitcoin’s image as the “~” (Nayib Bukele)

wave of the future  
online banking is the ~

♦ see also *new (orange is the new black, etc.), next (next Steve Jobs, etc.)*

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**

## **future (the future can bring something)**

bring  
nobody knows what the future will ~  
we don’t know what the future may ~

brings  
you don’t know what tomorrow ~

**future: giving, receiving, bringing & returning / verb**  
**time: giving, receiving, bringing & returning / verb**

## **future (in the future)**

in the future  
I might go there ~ (visit a place)

in your future  
if climbing Mount Everest is ~, please contact our office

**future / time: container**

## **future (in the distant future)**

in the distant future  
the movie is set ~

in the not-too-distant future  
the series is coming to Netflix ~

in the not too distant future  
we hope to improve this feature ~

set in a not-too-distant future  
it’s a show ~ (space tourism)

**future / time: distance**

## **future (where the future lies, etc.)**

future lay  
he saw where the ~ and learned how to fly (Amundsen)

♦ “We’re moving toward a time when COVID won’t disrupt our daily lives, where COVID won’t be a constant crisis.” (White House Covid Advisor Jeff Zients.)

**future / time: place**

## **fuzzy (adjective)**

fuzzy  
the boundary lines on the continuum can often be ~

fuzzy semantics  
~ looks at fuzzy concepts and fuzzy language

fuzzy term  
it’s a bit of a ~ (“hybrid warfare”)

anodyne and fuzzy  
the language of these bills is ~ (culture wars)

**division & connection: boundary / sensation**  
**certainty & uncertainty: boundary / sensation**  
**speech: boundary / sensation**

# **G**

## **gadfly (person)**

diplomatic gadfly  
he is a kind of ~ (a Lebanese businessman and advisor)

political gadfly  
he is a ~ and host of his own internet radio show  
she was a ~ who took on the powerful politicians (Ivins)

hippie and gadfly  
he was the resident ~

♦ *Gadflies might be any one of several large flies, including horseflies.*

**person: animal / insect**  
**affliction: animal / horse / insect / person**  
**character & personality: animal / horse / insect / person**  
**gag (gag order, etc.)**

gag order  
the judge has issued a ~  
the judge put him under a ~

**constraint & lack of constraint: speech**

## **gaggle (press gaggle, etc.)**

gaggle of protesters  
a ~ have gathered outside the court (Vancouver)

did a gaggle  
the president ~ from the North Lawn

♦ This refers to a press conference by the president or press secretary that is impromptu, informal, unscripted and unfettered. An actual gaggle refers to a flock, especially of geese, and especially on the ground.

**activity / behavior: animal / bird**

**resemblance / group, set & collection: animal / bird**

## Galapagos (Galapagos of Europe, etc.)

Galapagos of Europe

Lake Ohrid, the ‘~’ (endemic species / living fossils)

Galapagos of the North

the Pribilofs are known as the ~

Galapagos of the Far North

Wrangel Island just might be the ~

“Galapagos of the Indian Ocean”

its biodiversity has earned it the nickname ~ (Socotra)

Galapagos of the Orient

the islands’ nickname of “the ~” (Bonin Islands)

Galápagos of Russia

Unesco’s citation refers to Lake Baikal as the “~”

Galapagos of North America

the Channel Islands are sometimes referred to as the ~ (California)

Galapagos of the Poles

South Georgia Island is often referred to as “The ~”

American Galápagos

the ~ (Hawaiian Islands Marine National Park)

Canadian Galápagos

islands referred to as the “~” (Haida Gwaii)

**biodiversity, nature & life: epithet / island / place**

## galaxy (noun)

galaxy of actors

his films drew performances from a ~ (director)

galaxy of (Western) media figures

he introduced her to a ~ (Charlie Rose, etc.)

**group, set & collection: astronomy / star**

## gale (strong wind)

political gales

the PM is confronted by ~ and economic ones

♦ “The Prime Minister is confronted by political gales and economic ones that appear to quicken by the week... As I say, it’s politically and economically gusty.” (BBC Six O’Clock News, 09/06/2022.)

**amount & effect: air / atmosphere / storm / wind**

**activity: air / atmosphere / storm / wind**

## Galen (Galen of Islam, etc.)

“Galen of Islam”

Muslim physicians bestowed the title ~ on Avicenna

**comparison & contrast / history: epithet**

## gall (verb)

galls his critics

what ~ is...

truly galls

what ~ them is...

♦ “They knocked out a number of interlocking machine-gun nests that had been galling them for hours...” (Combat.)

♦ Both trees and humans can develop galls. A gall in a human is a raised boil.

**affliction: health & medicine / sensation / verb**

## gallery (play to the gallery)

plays to the gallery

the representation of emotion ~ (humiliation, anguish, etc.)

obviously playing to the gallery

he was ~ (a presidential press conference)

**performance: theater**

## gallery (cheering gallery)

cheering gallery

Obama still has his ~

**achievement, recognition & praise: theater**

## Gallipoli (a Gallipoli of an interview, etc.)

Gallipoli of an interview

I knew this would be a ~

♦ “I knew that this would be a Gallipoli of an interview, and that Mattis would be playing the role of the Ottoman gunners. But I had to try.” (“The Man Who Couldn’t Take It Anymore” by Jeffrey Goldberg, *The Atlantic Monthly*, October 2019.)

♦ “It is one of the many ironies of Gallipoli that, after the chaos and confusion that had blighted the whole operation from the beginning, the final evacuations were models of superb organisation and planning... [Gallipoli] was a brilliant concept which should—and could—have succeeded... With Constantinople occupied, it is doubtful whether the Russians would ever have signed a separate peace—and the Russian Revolution might never have occurred... Had the campaign succeeded—as it so very nearly did—the Great War would probably have ended three years earlier, and a million lives would have been saved.” (*The Middle Sea: A History Of The Mediterranean* by the wonderful historian John Julius Norwich.)

♦ No battle is free of mistakes.

**allusion / difficulty, easiness & effort / resistance, opposition & defeat / success & failure: military**

## gallop (verb)

gallop together

fiddle and banjo ~ at a break-neck pace

**speed: animal / horse / movement / verb / walking,**

**running & jumping**

**movement: animal / horse / speed / verb / walking,**

**running & jumping**

## gallop (haste)

gallop through a thousand years

Rady, in his ~ of Habsburg rule (a historian)

statistical gallop

the census shows the ~ of Christianity across Nepal

**haste: animal / horse / movement / walking, running & jumping**

## gallop (sound)

murmurs, rubs, and gallops

note the presence of ~ (lung sounds)

**sound: animal / horse**

## galloping (speed)

galloping pneumonia

~ is an aggressive infection, abrupt and overwhelming  
walking pneumonia versus ~

galloping or surging (m)

so-called ~ glaciers can travel 250 feet per day

♦ "Humphrey, the whole national health service is an advanced case of galloping bureaucracy." / "Certainly not. Not galloping. A gentle canter at most." (The TV series *Yes Minister*, "The Compassionate Society.")

**speed: animal / horse / walking, running & jumping**

## galvanize (verb)

galvanized people to take up

the movies ~ the cause (wrongful convictions)

**feeling, emotion & effect: electricity / verb**

**initiation: electricity / verb**

## gambit (noun)

gambit

asylum has become a ~, they all have a script

unwise and diversionary gambit

this is an ~ (diplomatic move)

series of gambits

an escalating ~ by rival powers in the Gulf

**strategy: chess / sports & games**

## gamble (verb)

gambled everything on getting

he ~ his dictionary published

**fate, fortune & chance / strategy: gambling / sports & games / verb**

## gamble (noun)

gamble

we were in Tonga on a ~... (windsurfers)

gamble on agriculture

Saudi Arabia's ~ has sucked precious aquifers dry

Saudi Arabia's gamble

~ on agriculture has sucked precious aquifers dry

political gamble

he represents a ~ (choice of vice president)

daring gamble

he called the initiative "a ~" to make... (space flight)

technological gamble

the plan relies on 4 highly speculative ~ (restore Everglades)

gamble paid off

the ~

took the gamble

he ~ (migrant / Senegal to Canary Islands)

**fate, fortune & chance: gambling / sports & games**

**strategy: gambling / sports & games**

## game (game the system, etc.)

game PageRank

link farms exist to try to ~ (Google)

game the (asylum) process

they ~ (skip out on court dates)

gaming the system

parents are ~ to advantage their children (admissions)

game or spam

people trying to ~ the system (credibility metrics)

**subterfuge: sports & games**

## game (in / into the game)

in the game

we will continue to be ~ (US surveillance)

back in the game

we are ~

get (back) into the (dating) game

ways to ~ (self-help)

**involvement: sports & games**

## game (late in the game)

late in the game

it's pretty ~ to be...

its kind of ~ to be talking about this

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: sports & games**

## game (get one's head into the game)

get your head into the game

hey, ~... (coach to player)

get my head (back) into the game

he reminded me to ~ (Afghan combat)

**consciousness & awareness: sports & games**

## game (at the top of one's game)

at the top of his game

he is ~

he was ~ when he was shot and killed (a comic)

**functioning: sports & games**

## game (throw somebody off their game)

throw guests off their game

he and his co-hosts like to ~ (The Breakfast Club)

**disruption: sports & games**

## game (game-changer)

game-changer

a free Iraq is going to be a ~, an agent of change

tissue can grow in 3 dimensions, which is a ~ (in space)

game changer

it could be a ~ (a drug treatment)

game changer for our profession

this is a ~

geopolitical game-changer

nuclear weapons are a ~

**development / disruption / importance & significance:  
sports & games**

## game (game face)

game face

she had on her ~ (a law-enforcement officer)

**appearance: face / sports & games**

**commitment & determination: face / sports & games**

## game (chess game)

chess game

it really is a ~ (trying to catch terrorist)

let's look ahead, the way you have to in a ~ (Brexit)

it's a ~, and we have to look several moves ahead (Brexit)

political chess game

the politicians play ~s (at expense of laborers)

they use human beings as pawns in a ~ (hostages)

psychological chess games

winning ~s (interrogations of terrorist suspects)

**strategy: chess / sports & games**

## game (guessing game)

guessing game

how the weather will affect operations comes down to a ~

comes down to a guessing game

how the weather will affect operations ~

**certainty & uncertainty: sports & games**

**fate, fortune & chance: sports & games**

## game (waiting game)

see *waiting game*

## game (numbers game)

numbers game

CIA case officers admit to a ~

dating is entirely a ~

the business plan was just a ~

job hunting is a ~ (developing contacts, etc.)

the ~ continued (changing numbers, recalculating)

play the numbers game

smugglers ~, the law of averages

**strategy: number / sports & games**

## game (blame game)

blame game

what he did is what matters, not the ~ (trial)

**accusation & criticism / judgment: sports & games**

## game (rhetorical game, etc.)

rhetorical games

I'm not going to evade the question and play ~

~ are compulsory in official parlance (foreign policy)

**speech: sports & games**

## game (game of hide and seek)

game of hide-and-seek

a very serious ~ (Palestinian student-terrorist)

**pursuit, capture & escape: sports & games**

## game (game of chicken)

geopolitical game of chicken

it's a ~

♦ "You can think of the US-Russia confrontation as a geopolitical game of chicken." (Steve Inskeep, NPR, about Ukraine.)

♦ "So, you are wanting to play chicken? I have never yielded. Never!...(Nervously) Ah, so, you are not a coward. Very brave." (Silly dialogue from the 1985 movie *King Solomon's Mines*, involving a game of chicken and two antique planes.)

♦ "The hard part of playing chicken is knowing when to flinch."

**conflict / courage & lack of courage / dominance & submission / resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / bird / sports & games**

## game (game of cat and mouse)

game of cat and mouse

informers engage in a constant ~ with the authorities

college officials find themselves in a new ~ (cheating)

this protracted ~ has frustrated Israel's military (M. Deif)

cat-and-mouse game

the ~ with the virus writers will continue forever

the ~ Iraq played with U.N. inspectors

the ~ with the virus writers (computing)

it's a ~ (campaigning for an election)

it's a classic ~ (terrorists trying to evade capture)

enjoying their game of cat and mouse

they were ~ (Iraqi terrorists in a BMW)

♦ "When the tiny mouse outsmarts the wicked cat, the chairman smirks with pleasure." (*Arafat: In the Eyes of the Beholder* by Janet Wallach and John Wallach.)

**competition / pursuit, capture & escape: animal / cat / hunting / sports & games**

## **game (various other games)**

game of (high-altitude) climbing  
the high-stakes ~

game of measure and countermeasure  
EFPs are the latest twist in a lethal ~

waiting game  
see *waiting game*

Great Game  
Azerbaijan was a pawn in the ~ for territory and power

lethal game  
EFPs are the latest twist in a ~

five-star-review game  
we're crushing it in the ~ (a hair product)

rules in this game  
there are no set ~ (starting an Internet business)

rules of the game  
our understanding of the ~ (diplomacy)  
this time we will change the ~ (Israel bombs Hezbollah)

play the game  
mistakes are the price you pay to ~ (NYC publishing)

stay on top of my game  
I have to ~...

keep the game interesting  
to ~, the plays will be performed in repertory

♦ "Craig Kelly was a hero to all of us, but his death seems to be just a part of the game." (Reaction of a snowboarder to Craig Kelly's death in an avalanche.)

## **work & duty: sports & games**

## **game (project, scheme, plan)**

game of 'gotcha'  
they were playing a ~ rather than trying to help

games of dominance and submission  
~ (relationships)

game of wink and nod  
he is playing a risky ~

childish game  
he was playing a ~

head games  
victimized by others' or your own ~

cutthroat game  
he wasn't there to play the ~ (Survivor)

dangerous game  
speaking truth to power is a ~  
she is playing a very ~ when she suggests... (politics)

long game

their ~ is to be the last candidate standing

silly game  
stop playing your ~s

just a game  
they know I won't shoot them, now it's ~ (Israeli sniper)

playing a game  
she's ~ that could blow up in her face

play games  
we don't ~, we don't bullshit (windsurfer Poles)

## **subterfuge: sports & games**

## **performance / strategy: sports & games**

## **game (social interaction / life)**

game of life  
the ~

game of wink and nod  
he is playing a risky ~

dating game  
the ~ isn't as fun as it used to be (famous actor)

mating games  
social skills that underlie more serious ~ in years to come

competitive game  
for young women in Beirut, dressing fashionably is a ~

part of the game  
it's all just ~ (job interviewing)

stages of the (dating) game  
in the early ~

rules of the (dating) game  
trying to figure out the ~

♦ "School...is a game, it's just not a terribly well-designed game. Right, there are levels, there are C, there are B, there's A, there are statuses, I mean, what is valedictorian, but a status? If we called valedictorian a you know 'White Knight Paladin level 20,' I think people would probably work a lot harder. Uh, so so so school is a game..." ("The game layer on top of the world," Seth Priebatsch, TEDxBoston 2010.)

♦ Fake it until you make it; hyping a product to get funding and VC; boundless optimism; evangelizing; overstating forecasts; overpromising; vaporware; the hockey-stick forecast; revising numbers upward; secrecy; NDAs; you either build it or you buy it... (The Silicon Valley startup game.)

♦ "They were dealt some cards they can't play to this day. Fortunately, I was dealt cards and somehow managed to play the right hand." (Olympic champion speaking of his heroin-addict mother and step-father.)

♦ "I had no clue what the rules were, what the game even was—or that there was even a game." (The computer scientist Richard Wallace, who suffers from bipolar disease.)

♦ "The world increasingly feels like a game we can't stop playing." (*You've Been Played* by Adrian Hon.)

♦ "What good is sitting alone in your room / Come hear the music play / Life is a cabaret, old chum / life is a cabaret." (The musical *Cabaret*.)

♦ "It is not a Nintendo Game, it is a tough battlefield where people are risking their lives..." (General Norman Schwarzkopf Jr briefing the press in 1991.)

## **behavior / social interaction: sports & games**

## **death & life: sports & games**

## game (situation)

game changed  
then, suddenly, the whole ~ (riot that turns deadly)

**situation: sports & games**

## gamed (manipulated)

gamed  
any credibility metric is going to be ~ (academia)

♦ like *played (manipulated)*

**behavior / subterfuge: sports & games**

## game of thrones

very game of thrones  
it's all very ~ (the history of Val d'Aran)

♦ "Somebody called it the 'Red Wedding.'" (ABC News president Kim Godwin, firings, and an alleged "culture of fear" and "score-settling.")

**allusion / strategy: film**

## game plan

game plan  
she reminded them of the ~

Clinton's game plan  
~ is taking shape

his game plan  
~ went out the window (a boxer)

military's (longer) game plan  
the ~ is hard to fathom (coup in Myanmar)

had a (pretty good) game plan  
we ~ but the problem was... (police)

**script / strategy: sports & games**

## gamification (noun)

gamification  
the word "~" is a curious one... (Tom Chatfield)  
~ offers only a simulacrum of choice  
~ is championed by authors, consultants, startup gurus...  
~ is thoughtless at best and diabolical at worst  
~ is simply behaviorism (stimuli and responses)

"gamification" of modern life  
*You've Been Played* is about the ~ (Adrian Hon)

Gamification in ESL  
~ (TESOL Arabia 2023)

♦ "The word 'gamification' is a curious one. Superficially, its meaning is clear enough. To gamify something is to make it like a game, usually by wrapping game-like elements around it: points, missions, in-game rewards; a profile, avatar or fantastical environment. By doing this, the thinking goes, the activity in question is made more engaging and enjoyable. Everyone is a winner! Yet the very essence of a game is that it's voluntarily undertaken, and that it confers satisfaction through a mixture of luck, skill and meaningful choice. None of these things are much in evidence in the context of an Amazon warehouse, no matter how many virtual dragon races take place within it." ("Why your life could be part of someone else's game" by Tom Chatfield, BBC, 21 September 2022. Every word used metaphorically will have similarities and differences to the literal word. Chatfield points out quite rightly that this

usage is more like a euphemism for an oppressive regime or organization.)

**behavior / society / subterfuge: sports & games**

## Gandhi (Gandhi of the Balkans, etc.)

Gandhi of the Balkans  
he was known as the ~ (Ibrahim Rugova)

**military: epithet**

## Gandhian (adjective)

Gandhian engineering  
India is promoting ~ (low cost)  
~ challenges convention (cars)

Gandhian tactics  
he advocates the use of ~ against Israel

**conflict: allusion**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## gap (noun)

budget gap  
we need to close the ~

falls into a gap  
he ~ between disciplines

**division & connection: ground, terrain & land**

## gap (the Monastir Gap, etc.)

The Gap  
~ and the wreck of the *Dunbar* (Sydney)

Cumberland Gap  
the ~, the first great gateway to the west (US)

Darien Gap  
migrants risk their lives to cross the ~

Mohawk Gap  
the ~, with the Adirondacks north and Catskills south...

Monastir Gap  
the ~, a north-south opening in the mountains

♦ "At Cumberland Gap, the first great gateway to the west, follow the buffalo, the Native American, the longhunter, the pioneer... all traveled this route through the mountains into the wilderness of Kentucky." (The National Park Service about the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. See the Wikipedia entry for "Longhunter." Merriam-Webster recognizes the phrase as *long hunter*.)

♦ "It might fairly be claimed that New York City owes its very existence as a world-class city to the presence and human exploitation of the Hudson-Mohawk Gap." (*The Men Who United The States* by Simon Winchester.)

♦ Atoah Gap; Axe Gap; Bearpen Gap; Bee Gap; Beech Gap; Bellcollar Gap; Big Fat Gap; Black Gum Gap; Cable Gap; Calpen Gap; Cherry Log Gap; Chestnut Log Gap; Deep Gap; Flint Gap; Green Gap; Hard Slate Gap; Haw Gap; I U Gap; Locust Licklog Gap; Lucy Gap; Obadiah Gap; Plankroad Gap; Saddle Tree Gap; Santeetlah Gap; Snowbird Gap; Stecoah Gap; Stratton Gap; Tatham Gap; Walnut Hollow Gap; Wildcat Gap; Yellow Creek Gap; Yellowhammer Gap...(Beloved places in Graham County, western North Carolina.)

**proper name: shape**

**geography: proper name / shape**

## garbage (data)

garbage in, garbage out  
~ (GIGO)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: waste**

## garbage (garbage fire / dumpster fire)

dumpster fire  
the ~ my brain was slowly becoming (schizophrenia)

dumpster fire for so many people  
the comments section is a ~ (Facebook)

garbage fire  
the daily ~ of our social-media accounts (Twitter, etc.)

tire fire  
what a ~ from Zucker downward (a scandal at CNN)

♦ "To call this season a dumpster fire would be an insult.....to dumpster fires." (NFL Las Vegas Raiders snark.)

♦ "NFL overtime rules are so trash. Which is honestly an insult to trash." (NBC Philadelphia Sports reporter Taryn Hatcher.)

**worth & lack of worth: waste**

## garbage (waste)

garbage compromise  
this is a ~ (politics)

anti-Semitic garbage  
they need to get the ~ out of their textbooks

bunch of garbage  
everybody thinks we're enemies, that's a ~

piece of garbage  
why feed, clothe and house this ~ (give him death penalty)

stuffed with garbage  
your heads are ~ from books (versus experience / war)

♦ "Yes [we are writing more than ever] because the internet makes it so easy, and that's why you get so much garbage." ("Harold Evans Makes Himself Clear," NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, May 13, 2017.)

**insult / worth & lack of worth: waste**

## garden (the Garden of France, etc.)

Garden of France  
the Loire Valley is known as "the ~"

**farming & agriculture: epithet**

## garden (resemblance)

coral garden  
fragile ~s were discovered at depths of about 1,000 feet

rock garden  
technical paddling through ~s (kayaking)

sculpture garden  
plans for a ~ to honor American heroes

**group, set & collection / resemblance: plant**

## garden (Cactus Garden, etc.)

Cactus Garden  
cavers called the new find the ~ (stalagmites)

**proper name: plant**

## Garden of Eden

Garden of Eden  
when I first visited Borneo in the 60s, it was a ~

♦ The Mormon Bible locates the Garden of Eden near Independence, Missouri.

**biodiversity, nature & life: Bible / place / religion**

**environment / superlative: Bible / religion**

**flaws & lack of flaws: Bible / religion**

## gargantuan (size)

gargantuan (distribution) centers  
server farms, ~, tens of thousands of trucks... (Amazon)

gargantuan characters  
they were both ~ (in the Scottish climbing community)

gargantuan (financial technology) company  
Ant Group, the ~ founded by Jack Ma

gargantuan crane  
a ~ plucks a rust-colored container from a cargo ship

gargantuan (sextuple-platinum breakout) single  
Jack Harlow's ~ ("WHATS POPPIN")

♦ Gargantua, a kindly giant in French folklore, was the giant prince with a huge appetite and loud voice in Rabelais's 16-century satiric novel.

♦ "That morning, Paul's fellow lumberjacks were astonished to see him eat only a smallish breakfast of a dainty dozen eggs, a simple side of ham, a poor pound of bacon, a finicky foot of bear sausage, a small skillet of hash browns, a tiny trough of grits, but ten or so breakfast Burraidos, barely a half barrel of gravy poured over his biscuits, a paltry fifty or so cartwheel-size apple granola pancakes, and a tiny tub of bread pudding topped with a piddling pond of warm cream and hardly a half-acre of wild huckleberries. / 'Why, for God's sake! What has happened to your appetite, Paul!' his fellow-lumberjacks cried out in consternation and concern. 'Is the grub no good? Shall we run off the cooks, and kidnap a new bunch? Are you feeling poorly?' / 'By God! My appetite seems to have deserted me,' Paul said grimly. 'No doubt during the night. But it can't have got far, and I'll track it down and get it back or my name's not Paul Bunyan!'" ("When Paul Bunyan Lost His Appetite But Recovered It" by Samuel Langhorne Clemmons.)

**size: allusion**

**allusion: books & reading**

**amount: size**

## gas (step on the gas / step off the gas)

stepped off the gas  
perhaps fatigued, he ~ and allowed Pulev to... (boxing)

take our foot off the gas  
now is not the time to ~ (social distancing / pandemic)  
if we ~ and stop all this work... (vaccines for COVID)

took his foot off the gas  
today he ~ (president decides to delay plan)

took its foot off the gas  
with a 30-point lead, the team ~

put her foot down  
she drove to the edge and then ~ (Ducournau / *Titane*)

had your foot on the gas  
you've ~ for two years now (public lectures)

kept his foot on the gas  
the Compton emcee and singer-songwriter has ~

stepped on the gas  
they have ~ (election manipulation)  
UConn ~, ending Syracuse's glimmer of hope (sports)

♦ see also *pedal* (*pedal to the metal*)

♦ "It's all gas and no brake." (Because of the pandemic, there was only a short period of time between the just-finished football season and the new football season.)

♦ "Ducournau has driven to the boundaries of conventional cinema—and then put her foot down." ("*Titane*: The most shocking film of 2021" by Nicolas Barber, BBC, 15th July 2021.)

♦ "Our brain knows we shouldn't stomp on the gas, but our foot does it anyway."

♦ "He's a Ferrari without brakes." (Said about a troubled Indiana University basketball player, who was arrested for speeding through the center of Bloomington.)

♦ "Maybe Joshua is getting advice from his corner to step on the gas and get this job done." (BBC commentator Carl Froch on Jermaine Franklin v. Anthony Joshua.)

**commitment & determination: engine / mechanism**

## gas (run out of gas)

ran out of gas  
he ~ (a losing boxer)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: engine / verb**

**failure, accident & impairment: engine / verb**

## gas (substance)

gas machine  
he's known as a ~ (a politician)

**substance & lack of substance: air / atmosphere**

## gas (pour gas on something, etc.)

pouring gasoline on the flames  
he didn't start the fire, but he is guilty of ~ (anti-vaxxer)

**increase & decrease / initiation: fire / verb**

## gasket (blow a gasket, etc.)

blew a gasket  
I asked a guy at the post office to wear a mask and he ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: engine / explosion / mechanism / pressure**

## gaslight (verb)

gaslighted its own employees  
the company has ~ (union organizers lose vote)

gaslighted her  
her husband ~ for years

gaslight society

Weinstein is trying to ~ again (sex predation)

gaslight you  
when confronted, his standard reflex is to try and ~

gaslight us into thinking  
she did ~ she was a woman of color (Jessica Krug)

gaslight, gatekeep, girlboss  
~ (the malign girlboss ethos)

medically gaslight  
you can no longer body shame or ~ us (Olympic swimmer)

♦ *Gas Light* was a 1938 English play by Patrick Hamilton. It is about an abusive and criminal husband who tries to convince his wife that she is crazy. The word has come to mean a certain sort of psychological manipulation. It can appear in a series like, "gaslighting, lying, and manipulation."

♦ "Every step I've taken has gaslighted those whom I love... I am not a culture vulture. I am a culture leech. You should absolutely cancel me, and I absolutely cancel myself." (Rachel Dolezal, an academic who claimed "identities of color," including Black Caribbean, North African Blackness, US rooted Blackness, Caribbean rooted Bronx Blackness, *Boricua*...)

♦ "He was sharing a hotel room [in Fort Worth] with his father-in-law Yellow Bear. Before retiring, Yellow Bear 'blew out' the gaslight before going to bed, a mistake that Indians often made. Before the night was over, he was dead of asphyxiation, and Quanah, who remained unconscious for two days, barely survived." (Circa 1900. From *Empire of the Summer Moon: Quanah Parker and the Rise and Fall of the Comanches* by S.C. Gwynne.)

**speech: allusion / film / verb**

**subterfuge: allusion / film / verb**

**contempo-speak: language**

## gaslighting (noun)

gaslighting narrative  
I don't like it when a ~ is given to me (online commenter)

gaslighting, lying, and manipulation  
she described his ~ in the workplace as cruel

gaslighting, manipulative, and cruel  
it was ~ (Megan Rapinoe)

discriminatory gaslighting  
~ (Christy Pichichero)

abuse and gaslighting  
I didn't understand his psychological ~

♦ Christy Pichichero, speaking on NPR about "discriminatory gaslighting," confessed, "That word (gaslighting) has been a bit trendy, in the last couple of years," to which Lulu Garcia-Navarro immediately responded, "It certainly has!" ("Imposter Syndrome, Or Something Else? Historian Talks 'Discriminatory Gaslighting,'" at NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, May 9, 2021.)

♦ "There was some weird gaslighting shit that went on where people equated freedom and saying the word "freedom" to like right-wing bigotry and hate is so strange." (Joe Rogan about vaccines and the pandemic.)

♦ Incredibly, the Merriam-Webster word of the year (WOTY) for 2022 was *gaslighting*. That word was "uber-trendy" at least 10 years ago, and thankfully it seems to be used less and less nowadays, and hopefully it is on its way out. Merriam-Webster's word of the year for 2022 *should* have been "mental health." (See the entry for "mental health" in this dictionary.)

♦ "Gaslighting" is on the Lake Superior State University 2023 Banished Words List—words banished for "misuse, overuse, and uselessness."

**speech: allusion / film**

**subterfuge: allusion / film**  
**contempo-speak: language**

## gaslit (and gaslighted)

gaslit by the medical community  
we are being ~ every day (Long Covid)

gaslit by her husband and fertility doctor  
she suspects that she is being ~ (*False Positive* film)

gaslit and bullied  
this felt like I was being ~ (Britney Spears)

blackmailed and (totally) gaslit  
female athletes are emotionally ~ (trans athletes)

feeling gaslit  
she was ~ even before she started (at Pinterest)

♦ "Female athletes are emotionally blackmailed and totally gaslit into silence." (The female swimmer Riley Gaines about trans women swimmers like Lia Thomas.)

**speech: allusion / film**  
**subterfuge: allusion / film**

## gasp (very "gasp," etc.)

very 'Gasp!  
the coverage has been ~ Censorship'

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / breathing / exclamation**

## gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.)

dying gasp  
this is not really a revival, as much as a ~

last gasp  
that fuss he made at the Capitol was a ~

last gasp of an era  
the ~ when tech didn't rule our lives (a film)

♦ "This is not really a revival, as much as a dying gasp." (A contemporary recording of "Golden-age" cantorial music.)

**decline / destruction / resistance, opposition & defeat / starting, going, continuing & ending: bodily reaction / breathing / death & life / sound**

## gate (Gates of Hell, etc.)

known as the Gates of Hell  
the Darvaza gas crater, ~ (Turkmenistan / Karakum)

**access & lack of access / portal: epithet**

## gate (Iron Gate, etc.)

Bab al-Mandab  
the ~, the "Gate of Tears" (Red Sea)

Gates of Samburu  
the ~ is a pass in the Rift Valley of Kenya

Hells Gate  
the Fraser River narrows at ~ (in British Columbia)

Hell's Gate  
~, the second big rapid (Lower Meadow River)  
the Nahanni bends through a constriction called the ~

Hell's Gates  
the sandbar at the mouth of ~ was silting up

Cilician Gates  
from Tarsus the route fed through the narrow ~

Dzungarian Gate  
the ~ is a pass between Xinjiang and Kazakhstan  
the route dipped through the ~ (Altai and Tien Shan)

Moravian Gate  
the ~ linked southern Europe and the Baltic Sea (a pass)

Golden Gate  
the ~ Bridge crosses the harbor

Iron Gate  
the ~ is a gorge on the Danube River

♦ The Golden Gate is the *strait* that connects San Francisco Bay to the Pacific Ocean. Hence the name of the famous and iconic bridge.

**proper name / geography: gate**

## gate (obstacle)

gates  
the ~ are closed, there is no way out of here (Gulf War)

gate to this little police-state  
Sydney Harbor was the ~ and it had to be kept locked

♦ If you open a gate, always remember to close that gate. (Rural wisdom.)

**obstacles & impedance: gate**

## gate (society)

gate of no return  
it was a ~ (Jiayuguan / exiled)

gate into Europe  
Melilla became a ~, just like the Balkans

outside the gates  
Turkey is still ~ (admittance to European Union)

♦ "The westernmost entrance of the fort, the most distant from the Chinese center, is known as the Gate of Sorrows, and through it were sent all those doomed to be exiled. For those dispatched through it by imperial edict, it was a gate of no return, and it was popularly known simply as 'China's mouth.'" (*The Man Who Loved China* by Simon Winchester. Jiayuguan fort.)

**society / access & lack of access: gate**

**obstacles & impedance / division & connection: gate**

## gate (portal)

gates of death  
the ~ are without number (versus the gate of birth)

♦ "There is but one way to enter life, but the gates of death are without number."

**portal: gate**

## gate (out of the gate)

out-of-the-gate smash  
the song was an ~

first out of the gate  
CNN was ~ with its story about...

right out of the gate  
he encountered problems ~

slow out of the gate  
he was ~, taking a month to get a campaign ad on TV

straight out of the gate  
he attacked Mr Trudeau ~ (election debate)

charged out of the gate  
they ~ with their hit song... (musicians perform)

stumbled out of the gate  
her campaign ~ (a politician)

♦ "Senator Klobuchar is out of the gate at 1pm." (Senate hearings.)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: gate / horse / sports & games**

## gate (beat at the gate, etc.)

gates of Beijing  
Omicron is beating at the ~

**protection & lack of protection: gate**

## gatecrasher (person)

gatecrasher  
the ~ was arrested (party)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: gate person: gate**

## gatekeeper (person)

gatekeeper  
editors say they are ~s, not detectives (academic fraud)

gatekeepers of the Tony Awards  
just 30 theater professionals are the ~ (nominators)

gatekeepers of (TV) comedy  
the ~ make up a small clique (bookers like Eddie Brill)

gatekeeper of (public) conversation  
Twitter has become this ~ (India, Turkey, etc.)

gatekeepers of (literary) culture  
book publishers have long seen themselves as the ~

gatekeepers of the (global) Internet  
the ~ should treat all users equally (congestion)

gatekeeper to (the nation's) colleges  
the SAT as a major ~ and universities... (scoring errors)

gatekeeper for information  
we do not want to act as a ~ (Swisscom official)

gatekeeper role

they can play a ~ (building landlords vs. cable providers)

grammatical gatekeepers  
copy editors are the ~ of the media world (Wikipedia)

objective gatekeepers  
clinical researchers should function as ~, but...

political gatekeeper  
Facebook refuses to be a ~ (untrue stories)

cultural and political gatekeepers  
the digerati effort to dethrone ~ (Web)

monopoly gatekeeper  
Google is the ~ to the Internet

assistant and gatekeeper  
she serves as his ~ (his wife)

hit makers, gatekeepers and fact checkers  
career prospects for ~ may be in doubt (Internet)

bypass the gatekeepers  
the internet allowed people to ~ who controlled music

dethrone (cultural) gatekeepers  
the digerati effort to ~ (Web)

dethrone (political) gatekeepers  
the digerati effort to ~ (Web)

challenges gatekeepers  
anything that ~ is a good thing (e-publishing)

seen themselves as the gatekeepers  
book publishers have long ~ of literary culture

serves as a gatekeeper  
he ~ for those how want to meet her (a diplomat)

**access & lack of access / control & lack of control / sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: doors & thresholds / gate / person / society person: doors & thresholds / gate / society gateway (gateway to India, etc.)**

gateway to the Caucasus  
the Germans captured Rostov-on-Don, the ~ (WW II)

gateway to the Crimea  
the Perekop Isthmus, the ~

gateway to Europe  
the Iberian Peninsula was an ideal ~ (drugs / Portugal)

gateway to Everest  
Tibet's second city, Shigatse, famously known as the ~

gateway to India  
the main ~ has always been the northwest mountain passes

gateway to Japan  
Kyushu was the ~ (closest island to Asian continent)

gateway to Makkah  
Jeddah, the ~, Islam's holiest city

gateway to the Sahara  
in Tamanrasset, ~ (Algeria / Tuaregs)

gateway to the (legendary) Spice Islands  
the Sunda Strait, the ~ (the Moluccas)

gateway to the (Annapurna) Circuit  
Pokhara is known as a ~

gateway to the heartland  
the Mohawk Trail was the ~ of North America

gateway to the reef  
Cairns is a ~ (the Great Barrier Reef / Australia)

gateway to the (Everest) region  
the town of Lukla, the ~

gateway to the West  
the Mohawk River, the ~

gateway to the world  
Turku was once Finland's trading ~

gateway to the July 1st glacier and to the Gobi Desert  
Jiuquan is a ~ (Gansu Province, China)

gateway between Pakistan and Afghanistan  
the Khyber Pass, the ancient ~

gateway of the Danube delta  
Tulcea, the ~ (Romania)

gateway for drugs  
in 1977, Florida was the ~ into the United States

gateway for drug smugglers  
Baluchistan has been a major ~ from...

gateway for drug traffickers  
southeastern Iran is a major ~ from...

cocaine gateway  
how Antwerp became the ~ to Europe

mountain gateway  
finally the ~ opened, and the plain lay spread out below

ancient gateway  
the Khyber Pass, the ~

major gateway  
SE Iran is a ~ for drug traffickers from...

southern gateway  
Maun serves as the ~ to the delta (Okavango / Botswana)

**access & lack of access / route: gate**  
**geography: gate**  
**gateway (portal)**

gateways to prehistory  
trash heaps might be ~ (archaeology)

gateway into dream life  
a direct ~

gateway drug

some believe marijuana is a ~

"gateway theory"  
the ~ that pot can lead to harder drugs

guard the gateway  
teacher certification programs ~ to public-school teaching

**portal: gate**  
**gauge (noun)**

gauge of malnutrition  
the percent of kids under 5 who are underweight is a ~

critical gauge  
it is a ~ of malnutrition (underweight kids under 5)

good gauge  
a ~ of a business's health is the backlog of orders

**measurement: tools & technology**  
**gauntlet (lay down a gauntlet, etc.)**

gauntlet of (very misogynistic) questioning  
they had to undergo this ~ (Britney, Lindsay, etc.)

laid down the gauntlet to Republicans  
Obama has ~ by asking Congress to...

run a gauntlet of home supporters  
Brighton players had to ~ (at Crystal Palace)

thrown the gauntlet down to City  
Jurgen Klopp's side have ~ (soccer)

♦ A gauntlet was a glove worn with Medieval armor to protect the hand.

**conflict: Middle Ages / verb**  
**gaze (male gaze, white gaze, etc.)**

gaze of 21st-century fame  
the 24/7 ~ (murders of young rappers)

female gaze  
"In 'Women Painting Women,' the ~ is front and center"  
the '~' is an analogue of the 'male gaze'

male gaze  
for centuries, artists' ~ saw women as objects of desire  
a male dominated industry and its ~ (1990s Hollywood)

supervisory gaze  
the ~ interrupts... (Anna Shechtman, "Black-And-White")

white gaze  
representation does not take into account constantly the ~

*White Gaze*  
*Surviving the ~* (memoir by Rebecca Carroll)

white-male gaze  
the so-called ~ is everywhere and nowhere in her novel

catering to the male gaze  
the outfits have come under fire for ~ (Hooters)

pandering to the white gaze

wanting to look white, ~ (“Black Ivy” fashion)

based off of the male gaze

our understanding of our own sexuality is completely ~

under the (watchful) eye of the male gaze

those ~ feel objectified or shamed if...

defies the male gaze

women are making art that ~

push back against the male gaze

women in hip-hop ~ (the way men think they should be)

see themselves through this male gaze

women are starting to ~ (TV and Hollywood rape)

look at violence against women through a female gaze

we should ~ (TV and Hollywood)

♦ Straight men look at and judge women and others. They criticize women and others who do not conform to their notion of what they should be or how they should act. Women feel objectified by this attention, and shamed if they don't "give men what they want to see." Women and others are increasingly and unapologetically acting and making art in ways that defy this "male gaze."

♦ "Marilyn was objectified, scrutinized and judged—mostly by male writers, biographers and historians..." ('Reframed' revisits Marilyn Monroe's life and legacy, from an all-women point of view" by David Bianculli, Jan 14, 2022.)

♦ "Daniels sees the world through the kind of white gaze that Hall, for one, questions and dismantles." ('Hide And Seek: Acting Black and white onscreen' by Hilton Als, *The New Yorker*, March 1, 2021.)

♦ "It is really important to remember that we have very limited representation and presence isn't the same thing as representation centered around the Black American person the Black American community and it does not take into account constantly the white gaze." (Bethany C. Morrow, author of *So Many Beginnings: A Little Women Remix*, speaking with Lulu Garcia-Navarro on NPR.)

♦ "'The 'female gaze,' a term often invoked by and about Sciamma, is an analogue of the 'male gaze,' popularized in the nineteen-seventies to describe the implied perspective of Hollywood movies—the way they encouraged a viewer to see women as desirable objects... For Sciamma, the female gaze operates on a cinematographic level..." ('Now You See Me: Celine Sciamma's feminist quest for a new grammar of cinema' by Elif Batuman, *The New Yorker*, February 7, 2022.)

♦ "For Anders, although his newly brown skin is a constant physical reminder that he's no longer who he used to be, the greatest change may be in his psyche. He's now acutely aware of otherness and being observed, how he moves in the world and how he takes up space. When he returns to work...he's both drawn to and repulsed by the only other dark-skinned employee, who, unlike him, has always known what it's like to be treated as both invisible and hypervisible." (Cady Lang's *Time* review of *The Last White Man* by Mohsin Hamid, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Exit West*. This paragraph deftly weaves together several tropes relating to inclusion and exclusion.)

♦ "In 'Women Painting Women,' the female gaze is front and center," Susan Stamberg, NPR, May 12, 2022.

♦ "Connie Converse is a person with a life ripe for the writer's gaze." (Worthy to be written about.)

♦ "In a piece for *Vogue Scandinavia*, Swedish Eurovision winner Loreen made the case for the naked dress as a way to push back against the male gaze."

♦ "How Olivia Dunne turned the male gaze into a gymnastic empire" by Lauren Mechling, *The Guardian*, Feb 28, 2023.)

**inclusion & exclusion: objectification**

**gear (high gear, low gear, etc.)**

other gears

if he needs it, he's got ~ to move up to (a tennis player)

in full gear

the community will move to get the relief effort ~

get the (relief) effort in full gear

the community will move to ~

shifted into high gear

conservative talk-show hosts ~

stuck in low gear

Farias outworked her as Ryan seemed ~ (boxing)

♦ "China has only one gear, and it's forward." (Change, development, progress, etc.)

♦ "And yet, [Villa] were over-run as the City machine suddenly hit top gear, roared forward thunderously by fans whose mood had changed from despair to expectation." (Manchester City scores three goals in final minutes to win EPL on final day.)

♦ "And the pressure that Beterbiev puts you under... He's got you in fifth gear when you only want to be in second at this point, he's got you in fifth early, you know..." (Cut man Russ Amber about his fighter Beterbiev versus Yarde. The fight started fast, never flagged, and ended decisively.)

♦ "They moved from second to third gear and I now feel, at full time, there is an extra two gears they could have gone to but they didn't." (Izzy Christiansen, commenting about Manchester United's 3-0 win against Leicester.)

♦ "AJ is still stuck in third gear and he doesn't want to get out of it. I don't know why." (BBC commentator Carl Froch at the Jermaine Franklin versus Anthony Joshua fight.)

**functioning: engine / mechanism**

**gear (kick into gear, etc.)**

kick into gear

that's when you see him ~ (boxer gets ready for bout)

the investigation was about to ~ (of a serial rapist)

kicked into gear

the worm only ~ when... (cyberwarfare)

moved into (high) gear

American-led efforts to save the talks ~ (Mideast)

shifted into high gear

conservative talk-show hosts ~

**activity / initiation: engine / mechanism**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: engine / mechanism**

**gear (throw sand in the gears, etc.)**

throw sand in the gears

this bill will ~ of commerce

they can ~ (Iraqi spies)

throwing sand in the gears

Trump appointees are ~ (hobble, dismantle, cripple)

**disruption: engine / mechanism / verb**

**gear (switch gears, shift gears, etc.)**

shifting gears

he isn't pulling up stakes, just ~ (Conan O'Brien)

shifted gears to a different investigative strategy

we have ~ (Delphi Indiana murders)

switch gears

how hard it is to ~ for many adjuncts  
I'm going to ~ here... (change the subject)

**reversal: engine / mechanism / verb**

## gear up (verb)

gears up for 2012  
as the White House ~ (election)

gearing up for a battle  
Republicans are ~ (politics)

gearing up for the future  
we're ~ (companies exploiting the Arctic)

**increase & decrease: engine / mechanism / verb**  
**difficulty, easiness & effort: engine / mechanism / verb**

## geddon (chipageddon, etc.)

Armageddon  
see *Armageddon*

Avoggedon  
~ strikes Philadelphia (free avocados)

car-mageddon  
oblivious to the screeching ~ around her (film *Day Shift*)

Chipageddon  
the shortage of semiconductors is nothing less than a ~

NPRmageddon  
Patrick Jarenwattananon @ ~

phosphogeddon  
scientists warn of '~' as critical fertiliser shortages loom

poolmageddon  
I call it ~, it's a chlorine crisis...

♦ "I call it poolmageddon. It's a chlorine crisis" (Rudy Stankowitz, columnist for PoolPro Magazine, about a shortage of chlorine. From "A Chlorine Shortage Could Spoil Pool Season This Summer," NPR Weekend Edition Sunday, May 9, 2021.)

♦ An online BBC article about a shortage of semiconductors entitle "How will 'chipageddon' affect you" prompted Timbob to snark, "Surely 'Chipocalypse' would have been better than 'Chipageddon.'"

♦ Listen to "Avoggedon strikes Philadelphia: one nonprofit gives away thousands of avocados" by Sam Yellowhorse Kesler, Sarah Handel, Ailsa Chang, and Sacha Pfeiffer, NPR, Strange News, All Things Considered, October 20, 2022. With NPR's trademark combination of names, dialects, ethnicities, eating, cute writing ("those pitted wonders"), expert commentating, and a viral meme. Two minutes, 29 seconds.)

♦ Patrick Jarenwattananon@NPRmageddon. (From the "folx" who gave us "Avoggedon.")

**language: affix**

**affliction / destruction: affix / allusion / Bible**

## gem (noun)

gem of a book  
he has written a ~

gem in the Middle East  
Oman is a ~

gems inside British boxing  
we've got some ~ (Costello & Bunce)

whitewater gem  
this spectacular ~ (Tallulah Gorge / kayaking)

hidden gem  
the road reveals many ~s (N7 in France)

architectural gem  
the Al-Bayt stadium is an ~ (Qatar FIFA World Cup)

**superlative: materials & substances / mining**  
**worth & lack of worth: materials & substances / mining**

## gender (groups)

gender-affirming  
a trans child seeking ~ care  
the bill bans youth from receiving ~ health care (Utah)

gender nonconforming  
transgender, non-binary, and ~ people

gender confusion  
she was accused of bringing ~ into the class (to kids)

gender discrimination  
many men in South Korea claim to be victims of ~

gender dynamics  
writer says ~ are shaping the war in Ukraine (NPR)  
the shifting ~ of superhero adaptations (female heroes)

gender dysphoria  
a psychiatrist told her she had ~ (a MTF / m2f trans)

gender equality  
the fight for ~ at MIT

gender expectations  
people who don't conform to traditional ~

gender exploration  
~ is an ongoing journey for Schevers (can't make up mind)

gender expression  
we take into account the person's current ~ (prisons)  
your ~ should make you feel at home in your body  
your ~: clothes, hair, accessories, etc.

gender identity  
trans people put in prisons that don't align with their ~  
surgery to affirm her ~ (MTF / m2f trans)  
Tumblr has generated hundreds of ~s  
the shooter's ~ remains unclear (NPR / Audrey "Aiden" Hale)  
trans athletes who want to join teams that align with their ~

Gender Identity  
"When Students Change ~ and Parents Don't Know" (NYT)

gender journey  
they have shared their ~ on social media (Emma Corrin)

gender nonconformity  
opponents of ~

gender norms  
Trans people or anyone who doesn't conform to ~  
dressing in a way that doesn't conform to ~ (Drag)

genderqueer  
the voices and presence of ~ folks

Gender Therapy  
“The Battle Over ~” (Emily Bazelon / NYT)

gender transition  
her personality blossomed during her ~ (Amber McLaughlin)

gender-critical  
discriminated against due to her ~ beliefs (Maya Forstater)

gender critical  
~ views are protected as a belief (U.K.)

gender-diverse  
~ kids are at high risk for mental-health issues (+50%)

gender expansive  
Black women and Black ~ folks

gender-expansive  
there’s a community of women and ~ folks who love you...

gender fluid  
one of the federal government’s first openly “~” employees

gender neutral  
names that are ~ (Max, etc.)  
she called for ~ awards (Best Artist, etc.)

gender-neutral  
~ language like “pregnant people”  
the ~ word “Latinx” is banned in state documents (Arkansas)  
women dominated the ~ acting categories (independent films)  
the ~ terms “Latinx” and “Filipinx”

gender and power  
the film deconstructs ~ (Showtime’s *George & Tammy*)

affirmed gender  
trans women who have transitioned to their ~ (MTF trans)

God and gender  
the pastor’s sex change has raised broader questions about ~

match their gender  
they seek to get moved to prisons that ~ (MTF trans)

transitioned from one gender to another  
celebrities who have ~ (ABC)

- ♦ “Everybody wants to be a Gay icon now. Well, I don’t.” (Natalie Wynn at *ContraPoints*.)
- ♦ “Emily Bazelon’s article ‘The Battle Over Gender Therapy’ uncritically used the term ‘patient zero’ to refer to a trans child seeking gender-affirming care, a phrase that vilifies transness as a disease to be feared.” (“For the attention of Philip B. Corbett, associate managing editor for standards at *The New York Times*.”)
- ♦ “Impregnable people.” (“Not every woman can get pregnant. Pregnant children are not women. Trans men and non-binary people get pregnant.” Charlotte Shane defending her use of the term—as opposed to “women” or “women and trans men” in the letters section of *Harper’s Magazine*, founded in 1850 / Vol. 345, No. 2071, December 2022.)
- ♦ “Medical treatments involving children that shift—which is to say affirm—their gender.” (“The New York Times’ coverage of transgender

people sparks newsroom divide,” NPR, *All Things Considered*, Feb. 25, 2023.)

- ♦ “Transgender and non-binary people are up to six times more likely to also have autism” by Lesley McClurg, NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, January 15, 2023.
- ♦ “Activists seek to erode the legal definition of sex and replace it with gender.”
- ♦ “this is a perfect example of the zeitgeist of cognitive dissonance permeating our devolving society.” (An online commenter about “NJ transgender woman transferred from women’s only prison after impregnating 2 inmates, report says” by Stephen Sorace, Fox News, July 17, 2022.)
- ♦ “While the word *folks* is already gender-neutral, the term ‘folk’ is used to specifically display inclusion of gender-queer, transgender and agender folks.” (“What It Means To Include ‘X’ In Words Such As Womxn, Folx, and Latinx” by Gabrielle Smith, SHAPE, December 17, 2020.)
- ♦ “Just remember. Trans means “not.” (An online commenter.)
- ♦ 16,497 comments...and counting. (“A Biden administration official is on leave after they were charged with stealing a Vera Bradley suitcase worth over \$2,000 from a Minnesota airport” by Natalie Musmeci, Yahoo, November 29, 2022. The story is about one of the federal government’s first openly “gender fluid” employees.)
- ♦ “Dear Abby: My brother is divorcing his husband and it’s awkward.”
- ♦ “Warning: this video can literally change your gender, viewer discretion is advised.” (Pornhub.)
- ♦ It is a shibboleth that girls will read adventure books featuring a male hero, but boys will not read books featuring a female hero.
- ♦ Entire books have been written in the gender neutral unnamed “you.”
- ♦ “Would I know them [an actor], Tony says. / I think so, you say. / Tony only blinks back at you. / So, they say, is that what you were crying about. / Yeah. / Been there, your driver [Tony] adds... / The two of you lean over your noodles.” (“Arrivals” by Bryan Washington, *The New Yorker*, July 11 & 18, 2022.)
- ♦ “If they don’t have something lined up by Feb. 6, Tu faces having to leave the country.” (NPR. “They” and Tu are one and the same person.)
- ♦ On December 25, 2009, the great jazz pianist Marian Petrescu (a Romanian male) appeared on Marian McPartland’s Piano Jazz radio program. Marian McPartland is female.
- ♦ In the US, gender neutral names are proliferating to the point where foreigners who follow US news can’t help but notice and are commenting about it. They find the names odd.
- ♦ “Kim Kardashian West and Kanye West have named their new-born daughter, delivered by surrogate on Monday, Chicago West...” / West was raised in the US city Chicago... / [Kim Kardashian’s] daughter North is now four years old and her son Saint is two.”
- ♦ The author Curtis Sittenfeld, at the Wikipedia entry for Curtis Sittenfeld, turns out to be Elizabeth Curtis Sittenfeld. Her Wikipedia entry does not explain why she goes by the name of Curtis, but she is a superb writer, nonetheless.
- ♦ Kimberly McCoy is a woman. Professionally she goes by the name Berly McCoy. (NPR, an Assistant Producer. Her pronouns are she / her.)
- ♦ Alex (Alexandra); Ali; Andee; Bobbie / Bobbi / Bobby (short for Barbara); Billie; Braden; Casey; Chandler; Charly / Charlie; Chase; Dana; Dylan; Jay; Jesse / Jessie; Jody; Jordan / Jordin; Kelly; Max (short for Maxine) (short for Maxima); Mickey / Micki; Riley; Riki; Sam (short for Samantha); Sidney; Toby... (Often a woman nowadays.)
- ♦ “Kim O’Grady, an experienced management consultant in Perth, Australia, couldn’t figure out why his resume was generating no job leads for more than four months, said Susanna Kim in *ABCNews.com*. He finally realized that companies were turning him down because his gender-neutral first name led them to assume he was a woman. ‘I pictured all the managers I had over the years and, forming an amalgam of them in my mind, I read through the document as I imagined they would have,’ he wrote on his blog. The truth became immediately apparent. ‘It was like being hit on the head with a big sheet of unbreakable glass ceiling,’ he said. After putting ‘Mr.’ before his name on his resume, he quickly landed a job. ‘The sad reality is this shows we all know how real and invasive sexism is,’ O’Grady wrote this week.” (“A name exposed a familiar truth,” *The Week Magazine*.)

♦ Joyce Kilmer, the author of the poem "Trees," was a man, not a woman. During World War I, he was deployed to France with the "Fighting 69<sup>th</sup>" and killed in action. The Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest in western North Carolina is the largest tract of old-growth forest east of the Mississippi—minus the Chestnut trees, of course, destroyed by a blight. Also, many of the great stands of Hemlocks have been destroyed by the wooly adelgid. (Joyce is ordinarily a female name nowadays. Joyce Kilmer was born in New Jersey.)

♦ "Doris Miller earned the Navy Cross for his actions during the Japanese attack on Hawaii's Pearl Harbor in 1941. / He was named Doris, as his mother had thought she was having a girl, but often went by the nickname 'Dorie'." ("Doris Miller: US Navy aircraft carrier to honour black sailor," BBC, 19 January 2020. Dorie was on the *West Virginia* during the attack on Pearl, and he was killed when a Jap sub sank the aircraft carrier he was serving on, the *Liscombe Bay*, at the Battle of Makin in November 1943.)

♦ Ashley Williams is a man. He is a Black or mixed man, of Jamaican descent through his father. His mother is Welsh. He was born in England, but qualified to play for the Welsh national soccer team through his maternal grandfather. Alex (Alexandra) Scott, on the other hand, is a female English sports presenter, pundit, and former pro soccer player. Her mother is British and her father Jamaican.)

♦ "Listen hockey doesn't give a flying F about pronouns... It's physical." (A commenter about an odd case that created a minor online controversy. A very large trans female knocked a much smaller trans male down. The latter slid head first into the boards and was concussed. This happened at "the Team Trans Draft Tournament" in Middleton, Wisconsin.)

♦ "She felt a gay biographer might colonize Chatwin into the gay world." (Bruce Chatwin's widow.)

♦ "Wasn't 'Reality Winner' a man in real life?" (A online commenter about Sydney Sweeney's role in Tina Satter's film *Reality Winner*. It is possible he is confusing Reality Winner with Chelsea Manning. Or maybe he is just trolling.)

♦ "A lot of readers, both trans and cis, really want you to say, in the first sentence of the story, 'As a trans person...' But by saying as a *trans person*, it cedes ground to the idea that I need disclaimers about my point of view. There's a little bit of sick and twisted pleasure I get from saying, 'I'm not going to do that...' / That said, there are certain claims that I can make as a trans writer..." ("Jamie Lauren Keiles Follows the Surgical and Philosophical Journey of Phalloplasty" by Celia Ford, July 26, 2022.)

♦ "XXXXXXX Trans XXXXXX." (Sexualized abuse directed towards J.K. Rowling. From the podcast "The Witch Trials of J.K. Rowling." Too vile to record.)

♦ A FUNNY STORY. A young man out on the town looking to pick up a pretty girl found himself in a jazz club, even though he knew absolutely nothing about jazz and didn't really even like it. He finally found a pretty girl to chat up, and at a certain point in their conversation—which seemed to be going *very* well, from his point of view—the pretty young woman said, "Do you like Billie Holliday?" To which the young man enthused, "I love him!" (Wrong answer!)

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## gendered (groups)

gendered

the term "rent boys" is ~ (Chelsea, London)

gendered existence

deeply sedimented expectations of ~ (feminism)

gendered language

~ (like "pregnant women")

gendered nature

there was an increasingly ~ to the online conflict

gendered norms

~ still shape the workplace

gendered power

the everyday negotiations of ~ in relationships

gendered stereotypes

~ of what makes a good leader (the male style)

gendered violence

~ courses through "The Dominant Animal" (K. Scanlan)

deeply gendered

headlines reveal ~ and damaging stereotypes

heavily gendered

~ experiences...

misgendered

see *misgendered (groups)*

superstitious, uncivilized, gendered, and racialized

the ~ Other

♦ "We should keep gendered language to reflect heavily gendered experiences." (NPR's Office of the Public Editor, explaining why it is still possible to use "pregnant women" instead of "pregnant people.")

♦ The "gendered nature to the debate" could just as easily be expressed as "the battle of the sexes," a phrase which, while old-fashioned, is perfectly comprehensible in every culture and every time period around the globe. *One Thousand and One Nights (Alf Laylah wa-Laylah)* has several of these "Battle of the sexes" stories. The translation by Sir Richard Burton is wonderful, his footnotes are even better.

♦ see also the red-text quotations at the bottom of the entry to *marriage (relationship)*

**inclusion & exclusion: society**

## gene (in one's genes)

in his genes

laziness is not ~

it was ~, in his blood... (Calvin Klein sketches as a kid)

in their genes

the English will always have an excuse its ~ (soccer)

♦ "Gratitude for being spared two world wars is, says Markus Haefliger, politics correspondent with the Tagesanzeiger newspaper, 'almost in our genes...that makes neutrality so important for Swiss people.'" ("Ukraine war sees Swiss challenge their age-old neutrality" by Imogen Foulkes, BBC News, Geneva.)

♦ "It's sort of in our genetic makeup if you're from Pueblo." (In Colorado. The Arkansas River flood of 1921.)

**identity & nature: biology**

## gene (other)

"acting gene"

his father told the BBC that his son had inherited the ~

entrepreneurial genes

she didn't just inherit ~, but medical ones, too (family)

**identity & nature: biology**

## generation (products, etc.)

fourth generation

the Max was to be the ~ of the 737 family (Boeing)

**taxonomy & classification: family**

## Geneva Convention (cyber, etc.)

cyber Geneva Convention

we need to develop a kind of ~ if you will... (hacking)

digital Geneva Convention

some are calling for a ~ (cyberwarfare)

♦ "We need to develop a kind of cyber Geneva Convention if you will that establishes norms and standards worldwide and if a country or a group violates those norms, then you have worldwide sanctions, worldwide response." (Senator Angus King of Maine.)

**allusion: military**

**constraint & lack of constraint: crime / history / military / justice**

## genie (initiation)

genie

the ~ is out of the bottle (cloning)

can the ~ every be put back in the bottle (flat-earth belief)

once that ~ is out of the bottle, it's hard to put it back

atomic genie

he campaigned to push the ~ back into the bottle

micro-entertainment genie

you can never put the ~ back in the bottle (TikTok)

genie (of racial hatred) has been unleashed

the ~ (Ivory Coast)

put the genie back in the bottle

you can't ~

I don't see how they can ~ (kid's programming and ads)

put the anti-vaccine genie back in the bottle

there is not easy way to ~ (COVID / 2021)

stuff the genie back into the bottle

it's too late to ~

♦ "As director of the Institute of Advanced Study at Princeton and as chief scientific advisor of the new Atomic Energy Commission, Oppenheimer campaigned to push the atomic genie, if not back into the bottle, at least into international control." (*American Prometheus* by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin.)

♦ The TV series *I Dream of Jeannie* (1965-1970), starring Barbara Eden as the genie, caused many a boy's wet dream, and was possibly the greatest recruiting advertisement ever for the military and the Air Force.

**affliction / concealment & lack of concealment / initiation / pursuit, capture & escape: container / creature**

## genie (knowledge)

lighting-design genie

again he has shown himself to be a ~

**person: creature / magic**

**ability & lack of ability / knowledge & intelligence: creature / magic / person**

## general (General Winter, etc.)

General Frost

~ was a character in a British cartoon (1812 Moscow)

"General Winter"

he found himself up against ~ (Napoleon)

♦ Weather helped cause the famine (drought), and weather helped delay the relief (thaw), and a return to cold weather helped the relief. (The Great Famine of 1921-22 in Russia. From "America's Gift to Famine Stricken Russia," PBS, American Experience. American A.R.A. relief to Russia.)

♦ "No Finnish unit, however small, went into battle without sufficient artificial warm for every man. Frontline dugouts were equipped with small, efficient stoves that burned with a hot, steady flame and gave off the merest whisper of smoke. Just behind the front lines the Finns lived and worked in shellproof dugouts roofed over with layers of logs and earth and completely camouflaged. Inside these dugouts the walls were lined with furs and skins. Men could rest in snug comfort when they returned from patrol duty or a period of combat. When a Finnish soldier was wounded, he was usually back in the comfort of a warm aid-station bunker within the hour... / For many of the encircled Soviet troops, just staying alive, for one more hour or one more day, was an ordeal comparable to combat. Freezing, hungry, crusted with their own filth... for them the central forest was truly a snow-white hell... In the forest the Russian soldiers had to face what they called *Belaya Smert*: the White Death. It came silently, when men became so numb with cold and fatigue that they just lay down in the snow and went to sleep, or it came violently, in the form of a sniper round fired from an invisible Finn hundreds of meters away... Aside from the field kitchens, the invaders' only source of warmth was campfires... [When a Russian soldier was wounded he] knew only an intensification of misery, cold, and pain." (*Frozen Hell: The Russo-Finnish Winter War of 1939-40* by William R. Trotter.)

♦ "Under ordinary wintertime conditions, by late February, the ice over the gulf would have become too unstable and too dotted with thin spots, to support heavy vehicle traffic. But this year, it remained frozen as solid as ever, capable of bearing the weight of trucks, light tanks, and up-to-medium-caliber field artillery. 'General Winter' had turned traitor." (The Gulf of Viipuri. From *Frozen Hell: The Russo-Finnish Winter War of 1939-40* by William R. Trotter. This was to the Russian's advantage.)

**military: epithet**

## general (Bobby Knight, "The General," etc.)

"The General"

Coach Bobby Knight, or ~ as Hoosiers fondly remember him

**control & lack of control: epithet**

**epithet: military**

## general (floor general, etc.)

floor general

he is their ~ (Draymond Green / NBA)

**character & personality: military**

**control & lack of control: military**

## genocidal (adjective)

genocidal rhetoric

the overtly ~ ("transgenderism must be eradicated")

**destruction / oppression: history / violence**

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## genocide (groups)

genocide of our people

residential schools were the ~ (First Nations People)

trans genocide

stop ~ (trans day of vengeance protest)

"cultural genocide"

monks were immolating themselves, a ~

the policy aimed at ~ (residential schools / Canada)

*extinction* and *genocide*

he uses words like ~ (Roger Hallam of XR)

amount to genocide

Russia's attacks on energy infrastructure ~

amounts to genocide

violence against indigenous women and girls ~

called a "genocide"

violence against indigenous women was ~ (Canada / 2019)

constitutes a genocide

the mass internment, forced labor, sterilization ~

labelled the Holodomor famine a genocide

Pope Francis ~

♦ "It's very important. What we say here is important. Trying to deny what is going on is not going to be tolerated by me. We are witnessing a genocide." (Machaela Cavanaugh of the Nebraska State Legislature, fighting a bill that would ban gender-affirming therapies for children.)

♦ "we want more than visibility / trans day of vengeance / stop trans genocide... (A digital flyer on Twitter for a protest at the Supreme Court in Washington, D.C.)

♦ "Christian bigots like you *genociding* [sic, italics mine] us." (One line from a vile transgender tweet.)

♦ "She Fled Rwanda To Survive—But Does Not Like The words 'Refugee' Or 'Genocide,'" NPR, Goats and Soda, April 19, 2019.

♦ "A circle is closing. For the first time in 20 or 30 years, the Jewish congregations commemorate Kristallnacht for themselves... It's a change that indicates that specific period of coming to terms with the criminal deeds of a forerunner government in Germany is itself becoming history. It will not be forgotten, but it is not anymore an issue of major emotional importance for the population." (Cilly Kugelmann, deputy director of the Jewish Museum in Berlin, on the celebration of the fall of the Berlin Wall and the remembrance of Kristallnacht, both of which occurred on November 9. From "Recalling History on a Day of Light and Darkness," by Michael Slackman, *The New York Times*, November 9, 2010.)

♦ "For several days now Sofya [Osipovna Levinton] hadn't wanted to sleep. She sat there, wide awake, in the stinking darkness... As she listened to people's cries and mutterings, she realized that their heads were filled with painfully vivid images that no words could ever convey... 'Golda! Golda! cried a man's voice, racked with sobs. // Rozenberg the accountant was still counting as he helped dig the pit for himself and the other *brenners*... And then suddenly, while he was dreaming, his tears had come gushing out, burning him, breaking through the crust that had formed over his brain and his heart. 'Golda! Golda!' he cried out." // [Sofya Osipovna Levinton's] eyes—which had read Homer, *Izvestia*, *Huckleberry Finn* and Mayne Reid, that had looked at good people and bad people, that had seen the geese in the green meadows of Kursk, the stars above the observatory at Pulkovo, the glitter of surgical steel, the *Mona Lisa* in the Louvre, tomatoes and turnips in the bins at market, the blue water of Issyk-Kul—her eyes were no longer of any use to her... She was still breathing, but breathing was hard work..." (*Life And Fate* by Vasily Grossman, translated by Robert Chandler, New York Review Books. Part 1, Chapter 43 and 44 and Part 2, Chapter 48.)

♦ Many older people are uncomfortable hearing this word in any context other than the Jewish Holocaust of World War II.

**destruction / oppression: history / violence**

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

**George Floyd (as verb)**

George Floyd me

they're trying to ~

♦ "Please, please, please, please, please. They're trying to George Floyd me." (Keenan Anderson, quoted in "A cousin of a prominent Black Lives Matter founder died after being tased by police" by Emily Olsen, NPR, January 14, 2023.)

**inclusion & exclusion: part of speech**

**germinate (verb)**

gestated and (finally) germinated

it was something that ~ into this thread I explored in my novel

**creation & transformation: birth / plant / verb**

**growth & development: birth / plant / verb**

**Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.)**

Gestapo of Patterson

the police were the ~ (BBC's *The Hurricane Tapes*)

**oppression: allusion / epithet / history / violence**

**gestate (verb)**

gestated and (finally) germinated

it was something that ~ into this thread I explored in my novel

**creation & transformation: birth / verb**

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: birth / verb**

**growth & development: birth / verb**

**gestation (film, etc.)**

seven-year gestation

the film had a ~

**creation & transformation / growth & development /**

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: birth**

**gesture (groups)**

'Gesture' politics

she labeled our anti-racism message as ~ (taking a knee)

♦ "The politics are mostly gestural; leftism as fashionable posturing; sanctimony literature; self-promotion and the airing of performatively righteous opinion..." (Criticism of a writer.)

♦ "I don't believe in gestures, I believe in substance, I believe in doing things that make a practical difference." (Prime Minister Boris Johnson, asked if he would "take the knee.")

♦ see also *performative (groups)*

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

**get (a big get, etc.)**

big get

a ~ for an aspiring songwriter (a record contract)

biggest interview "get"

this might be the ~ of the year for TV news

excellent get

he could be an ~ if Houston makes him available via trade

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: part of speech**

**get (understand)**

gets how

he really ~ Twitter works (Elon Musk)

get it

I ~

I don't ~

I didn't ~

I understand, actually, I actually ~, I get it, umm, but...  
so, I ~, one hundred percent...

gets it

this guy ~ (understands)

here's a guy who ~ (cleric who fights sex abuse)

get the skepticism

I totally ~

totally get

they felt betrayed, which I ~

**comprehension & incomprehension: giving, receiving,  
bringing & returning / verb**

### **get (get somewhere)**

get there

how did Apple ~ (a trillion dollars)

we're never going to ~ if... (politics)

get here

how did we ~ (explain how we arrived at such a situation)

what has been going on, how did we ~

how did we ~ (Qatar: Saudi embargo 'to be lifted')

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / attainment /  
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning /  
development: journeys & trips / verb**

### **get (not get anywhere, get nowhere)**

get anywhere

without defeating corruption, we won't ~ (government)

through force, we won't ~

getting anywhere

we're not ~, three years is too long (Delphi IN murders)

gotten nowhere

they have tried asking for records but have ~ (politics)

gotten nowhere or grown worse

some countries have ~ (hunger levels)

**development / progress & lack of progress: movement**

### **get across (verb)**

get across

key elements that the politician wants to ~

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: giving, receiving,  
bringing & returning / verb**

**fictive transportation: verb**

### **get along (verb)**

get along

to ~, you've got to go along (it's the way of the world)

you want to ~ to go along in D.C. (lobbyists / regulators)

**social interaction: direction / movement / verb**

### **getaway (noun)**

weekend getaway

dream vacations and ~s

a romantic ~ as a Valentine's Day present

romantic getaway

last summer, for a ~, we...;

romantic (weekend) getaway

a ~ as a Valentine's Day present

vacation getaway

this ~ won't cost you an arm and leg

**pursuit, capture & escape: place**

### **get away (get away with something)**

get away with stuff

he could ~ (Bill Cosby)

would have gotten away with it

if he had done it elsewhere, he ~ (a murder)

♦ "How long do you honestly believe that people in power like you will get away with it? How long do you think you can continue to ignore the climate crisis...without being held accountable? You get away with it now, but sooner or later people are going to realize what you have been doing all this time. That's inevitable." (Greta Thunberg.)

**guilt / responsibility: justice**

**pursuit, capture & escape: justice**

### **get away (escape)**

got away

that 2008 season is the one that ~ (team lost)

the books that ~ (under the radar, underappreciated, etc.)

total failure, the mountain that ~ (expedition failed)

♦ "Fishing lore is full of tales about 'the one that got away,' and fishermen have been known to exaggerate the size of their catch." (Tove Danovich.)

**failure, accident & impairment: fish / verb**

**pursuit, capture & escape: fish / verb**

### **get by (verb)**

get by

people are just trying to ~

**survival, persistence & endurance: journeys & trips / verb**

### **get in / get into (involvement)**

got into movies

little by little, I ~ (an actor)

get into the specifics

I'm not going to ~ on the investigation

get into that

a lot of no comments, a lot of we're not going to ~

the police chief said he did not want to ~ (an argument)

got into trouble

he ~ at university

**involvement: container / direction / verb**

## get on with (get on with something)

get on with it  
okay, let's ~ (sports during pandemic)

got on with it  
the Queen has always just ~ (death of husband)

**reconciliation, resolution, & conclusion / resiliency / starting, going, continuing & ending / survival, persistence & endurance: journeys & trips / verb**

## get out (and get out of)

get out  
I wanted to ~ but I didn't know how (gang)

get out of your comfort zone  
~, we have to challenge ourselves (Simon Reeve)

get you out  
you do bad things, and I got to ~ (*Of Mice and Men*)

**pursuit, capture & escape / situation: container**

## get out (get out from under)

get out from under her (crushing debt) burden  
she couldn't ~

get out from under the cloud  
he couldn't ~ of suspicion

got out from under the father's (controlling) eye  
when she ~...

get out from under its debt  
the city is trying to ~ (Detroit)

get out from under (US) sanctions  
Iran wants to ~

**oppression: burden / verb / weight  
amelioration & renewal: burden / verb / weight**

## get over (overcome)

get over the sense of failure  
I know I will ~

mentally get over  
once you can ~ I'm going to be cold... (skiing)

♦ "Let it go, get it over with, and put it behind us..." (Former Solicitor General Ted Olsen, on allowing KSM—the mastermind of 9/11, on which almost 3,000 people died—to plead guilty in exchange for life in prison with parole.)

**resiliency / reconciliation, resolution & conclusion / survival, persistence & endurance: journeys & trips / verb**

## get over oneself

get over yourself  
~, like you have insight into... (sarcasm)

**accusation & criticism: verb**

## get through (endure, etc.)

get through (almost) anything  
with the right outlook, you can ~ (life)

get through the episode  
I somehow managed to ~

got through the interview  
I somehow ~ (for a job)

get through it  
I think she'll ~, she's a very strong personality (athlete)

get through that (transition) period  
help the economy ~ (Russia)

get through the (degree) program  
working while they try to ~

get through this  
the Lord will give us the strength to ~

get through this somehow  
we'll ~

get you through rough times  
develop better coping skills to ~

time to get through (all) this  
it takes ~, just be patient...

strength to get through this  
the Lord will give us the ~

way to get through it  
if you want to find a ~ all, maybe...

♦ "How do I get through one night without you..." (LeAnn Rimes.)

♦ see also *been through (endure)*, *go through (endure, etc.)*

**obstacles & impedance / reconciliation, resolution & conclusion / resiliency / survival, persistence & endurance: journeys & trips / verb**

## ghost (verb)

ghosting you  
he's ~ (her boyfriend disappears without contact)

ghosts boyfriends  
she ~ because she doesn't want to offend

ghosted me  
she ~ and I was left in the dark (as to why)

ghosted him  
American had ~ (victim of #MeToo movement)

♦ In terms of dating, this refers to a boyfriend or girlfriend cutting off a relationship with no explanation, not face to face or even on social media. Further contact might only be related to "orbiting" on social media.

♦ "Bah! Humbug! My signal is totally ghosting me." (An actor portraying Ebenezer Scrooge in a cute Christmas season advertisement for the corporate behemoth Verizon. "'Tis the season to switch to Verizon." You always know the word is a played cliché when it is picked up by the corporations.)

**appearance & disappearance: creature / verb**

## ghost (memory)

### ghost

the ~s were brought to life (bones of slave laborers)  
they want to keep his ~ alive (Osama bin Laden)

### “ghosts” of Ms Clinton’s campaign

the article questioned whether the ~ would haunt Ms Warren

### ghosts of Vietnam

an attempt to bury the ~ (embedded reporters / Iraq)

### ghosts of history

a debate about how to confront the ~ (Germany / 70s)

### confront the ghosts

a debate about how to ~ of history (Germany, 70s)

### exorcised that ghost

European leaders thought they had ~ (Berlusconi)

♦ “She walked out that side door at about 0100 hours, got into one of the Humvees, and drove off to confront the ghosts of the past.” / “And the ghosts won.” (*The General’s Daughter* by Nelson DeMille.)

### affliction: creature

## ghost (bury the ghost)

### bury the ghosts

an attempt to ~ of Vietnam

### exorcised that ghost

European leaders thought they had ~ (Berlusconi)

### summon her ghost and exorcise her

the desire to ~ forever (a writer)

### amelioration & renewal / reconciliation, resolution &

### conclusion: burial / creature / verb

## ghost (unregistered, etc.)

### ghost children

North Korean ~ in China can't go to school (illegal)

### ghost detainees

the CIA held ~ at various sites (unregistered)

### “ghost gun”

an unregistered, untraceable ~ (assembled from parts)

### ghost guns

~ can be built with pieces bought online  
one-third of all firearms seized are ~ (California)  
so-called “~” with no registration number  
so-called “~” can be made at home

### "ghost" ship

~s have been previously hijacked (piracy)  
~s are a real threat to the security (world's waterways)  
the two pirate vessels returned to a large ~ (Somalia)

### sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: creature

### society: creature

## ghost (abandoned, etc.)

### ghost gear

marine life is killed by “~” (lost and abandoned nets)

### ghost homes

*akiya*, or ~, dot the landscape (vacant homes in Japan)

### ghost nets

when these nets get lost at sea, they become ~ (trawlers)

### ghost planes

airliners are flying empty ~ to keep their flight slots

### “ghost” cargo ship

a ~ has washed up off the coast of Ireland (abandoned)

### ghost villages

~ proliferated up in the hills (North Greece, abandoned)  
families have moved away, leaving “~” (Setomaa area)

### appearance & disappearance: creature

## ghost (ghost signs, etc.)

### ghost face

the child noticed a ~ on the floor (Bélmez Faces)

### "ghost signs"

the city does not preserve ~ (on old brick walls)

### primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: creature

## ghost (fantasy and delusion)

### ghost airplanes

stray missiles, ~ (Egyptian scenarios for Flight 990)

### “ghost soldiers”

corrupt officials invented ~ to pocket their wages  
generals and officials pocketed the wages of ~

### fantasy & reality: creature

## ghosted

### ghosted by the actor for a potential role

she claims she was ~ in the film (a lawsuit)

♦ “Girl, you’re being ghosted? I’m being zombied. It’s like ghosting, but he comes back from the dead after a couple of months and hits you up.” (Singer-songwriter Mariel Darling on TikTok to her 255,900 followers.)

### appearance & disappearance: creature

## ghost town

### ghost town

two years later, the city is a ~ (after earthquake)  
one year on, L'Aquila is still a ~ (after earthquake)

### virtual ghost town

the bombardments have left Aleppo a ~

### turn into ghost towns

communities will ~

### activity / presence & absence: creature

## ghostwriter (noun)

### ghostwriter

he has worked as an unofficial ~

**concealment & lack of concealment: creature**  
**subterfuge: creature**

## **giant (Giants Causeway, etc.)**

Giants Causeway  
the ~ is a cape in Northern Ireland

Giant's Chair  
the ~ (Gygrestolen), is a mountain in Svalbard

♦ The Giants Causeway is a Unesco World Heritage site.

**proper name: creature / size**

## **giant (sleeping giant)**

sleeping giant  
the Latino vote has always been seen as a ~ (politics)  
this is a ~ (projected water shortage in US)  
they have awakened a ~ (sports team)

sleeping giant of the (Texas) Hispanic vote  
the so-called ~ is about to wake up

♦ "Having grown up here [in California], I truly believe that Cal (the University of California, Berkeley) is a sleeping giant in terms of men's basketball. This is a sleeping giant. This is a program that can be a nationally ranked program year in and year out. That's what I'm excited about." (Coach Mark Madsen, about his new job at Cal. Cal has a 3-29 record a 38-87 record with the coach Madsen replaced, 6 consecutive losing seasons, and a 16-game losing streak. A quick turnaround is quite possible, however, due to the transfer portal, exploitation of NIL, and relaxing academic standards: as Madsen has said, "I don't want a player to be penalized because maybe his high school doesn't offer enough AP courses." Only in America!)

**consciousness & awareness: creature / size / sleep**  
**power: creature / size / sleep**

## **giant (gentle giant)**

gentle giant  
he was a ~, much loved (rugby player dies)  
Lewis was a "~-~" with a "million dollar" smile (a cop)

**character & personality: creature / size**

## **giant (size)**

giant  
some venerable ~s grew as high as 120 feet (trees)

"giant of Africa"  
instability in the ~ is cause for concern (Nigeria)

Giants of Asia  
these two ~ (China and India)

giant in the field  
the late Amos Tversky, a ~ of coincidence theory

beverage giant  
the Atlanta-based ~ (Coca-Cola)

game giant  
the established ~s Sony and Nintendo

Wall Street giant  
~ Lehman Brothers

telecom giant

the ~ WorldCom

comic-book giant  
a ~ (character from a comic)

San Francisco Giants  
the ~ beat the Arizona Diamondbacks 3-2 (MLB)

Duiwelskloof Giant  
the ~ has a pub inside it (a South African baobab tree)

Sagole giant  
the ~ sprawls over a half-an-acre (a baobab)

fast-food giant  
aggressive trademark protection by the ~ (McDonald's)

long-distance giant  
~ AT&T

mobile-phone giant  
~ Vodafone

natural gas giant  
Gazprom, the ~ (Russia)

software giant  
the ~ Microsoft

online auction giant  
the ~, eBay

banking giant  
the ~ Wachovia

retailing giant  
such ~s as Old Navy, Staples, Barnes & Noble

Spanish giants  
Liverpool failed to score against the ~ (Real Madrid)

complacent giant  
aggressive upstarts catch ~ unawares (Japan)

4 giants  
~ fell in the first round (World Cup soccer)

20,000-foot giant  
Pumori and McKinley, among other ~s

catch (complacent) giant unawares  
aggressive upstarts ~ (Japan vs. Detroit)

grow into a giant  
a hailstone can ~ (size of a grapefruit)

**size: creature**

## **giant (achievement)**

giant of his field  
he was considered the ~ (literary critic)

giant of foreign policy  
he was a true ~

giant in the law  
she was a ~, a champion of justice and equality (RBG)

giant figure

he was a ~ in American theater (August Wilson)

romantic giants  
in an age of ~ he was a titan (Johann von Goethe)

shoulder of giants  
I've always felt I'm standing on the ~ here (windsurfer)

**achievement, recognition & praise: creature / size**  
**importance & significance: creature / size**

**Gibraltar**  
see *Rock of Gibraltar*

**gift (gift for languages, etc.)**

gift  
they either have that ~ or they don't (acting)

gift for analogy  
her ~ (Cathy O'Neil / *Weapons Of Math Destruction*)

gift for knowing  
he has a ~ what people want (games developer)

gift for friendship  
Wharton had a great ~

gift for languages  
having an unusual ~ (explorer Sven Hedin)

gift for metaphor  
a poet's ~

gift for theater  
his ~ and his populist policies (a politician)

poet's gift  
a ~ for metaphor

athletic gifts  
the ~, but behind them was an angry teenager

rare gift  
he had a really ~ (the actor Michael K. Williams)

honing her (observational) gifts  
she has been ~ for 50 years (the artist Catherine Murphy)

**ability & lack of ability: gift**

**gift (benefit)**

gift  
thank you GOD for blessing us with this ~  
are you raising your children bilingual, what a ~ that is  
it's my ~, and my curse (an athlete about his personality)

gift to the (Iraqi) people  
the suicide bombing was a ~

gift to Trump and the far right  
"cancel culture" is a ~ (a leftist / politics)

Gift of Life  
the ~ brings children to the US for surgery

gift of life  
organ donors make the ~ possible

gift of literacy  
give the ~ and change a life forever (literacy)

gift of science  
we embrace the ~, which is a gift from God (Jews)

gift from God  
she is a ~ (woman who helps the poor)  
the gift of science, which is a ~ (Jews / reproduction)

gift from the 20th century to the 21st  
a ~ (eradication of polio)

gift and a curse  
having a good platoon, it's both a ~ (combat medic)

God's gift  
camels, known by some as *Ata Allah*, or ~

Australia's gift  
~ to the world (fresh, fun and enthusiastic girls)

precious gift  
she was a ~ (mother talking about murdered daughter)

what a gift  
are you raising your children bilingual, ~ that is

accept our lot as a gift  
but should we ~ (vs. genetic and self-engineering)

**cost & benefit / worth & lack of worth: gift**

**gift (as verb)**

gifted Cameroon a goal  
her sloppy pass back almost ~ (World Cup soccer)

gifted me with their support  
I'd like to thank everybody who has ~

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: gift / part of speech / verb**

**gifted**

gifted children  
the parents of ~  
a program that serves ~

gifted (young) violinist  
a ~

gifted, high-functioning  
~ individuals

most gifted  
only the ~ math wizards understand it (Poincare)

naturally gifted  
naturally gifted athletes

technically gifted  
he is a ~ boxer

wonderfully gifted  
he is a ~ footballer (Ronaldo)

**ability & lack of ability: gift**

## **gilded (Gilded Age)**

Gilded Age of rock journalism  
the sixties were the ~ (excess)

new Gilded Age

Wu has criticized the concentration of power as a ~

♦ Salisbury: Therefore, to be possess'd with double pomp, / To guard a title that was rich before, / To gild refined gold, to paint the lily, / To throw a perfume on the violet, / To smooth the ice, or add another hue / Unto the rainbow, or with taper-light / To seek the beauteous eye of heaven to garnish, / Is wasteful and ridiculous excess. (Shakespeare's *The Life and Death of King John*, Act, Scene 2.)

♦ The title of Twain and Warner's book, *The Gilded Age: A Tale of Today*, which gave the US historical period its name, refers to the age's excess, but also focuses on the problems most people faced in a time after the Civil War that was supposed to be a Golden Age.

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: history**

**growth & development / money: history**

**time: history**

## **gilded (other)**

gilded with heroic gesture

tragedy had to be ~ (L.E. G. Oates in Antarctica)

Gilded Age

the ~ was characterized by great income inequality

gilded cage

the 4 Russian princesses lived in a ~ (isolated in a palace)

♦ "They were spackling a turd with gold paint." (An upset Greg Gutfeld on Fox News, speaking about the Democrat impeachment engrossment ceremony.)

♦ The verb *gild* can mean to make something appear bright and attractive, and it can also mean to make something seem more valuable or attractive than it really is.

**appearance & reality / substance & lack of substance:**

**materials & substances**

**subterfuge: materials & substances**

## **girdled**

girdled with reefs

harborless, cliff-bound and ~ (Norfolk Island)

**configuration: clothing & accessories / shape**

## **girl (golden girl)**

golden girl of Silicon Valley

she was the ~ (Elizabeth Holmes)

golden girl of the music industry

Whitney Houston was the ~

Country Music's new 'Golden' Girl

Kacey Musgraves, ~ (breakout success)

**person: society**

**achievement, recognition & praise: person**

**attraction & repulsion / character & personality: person**

## **girl (big girl)**

big-girl major

I need to have a ~, I'll become a scientist...

put your big-girl pants on

you need to ~ and deal with it

♦ "You need to put your big-girl pants on and deal with it, pull them up and get out there and show them what you got..."

**growth & development: life span**

**character & personality: person**

## **girl (mean girl)**

spirit of mean girls

channeling the ~ everywhere...

♦ "Channeling the spirit of mean girls everywhere, GQ magazine writer Gabriella Paiella wrote on Twitter, ..."

**behavior / character & personality: person**

## **girlboss (and girl boss)**

girlboss

a '~' focuses on self-empowerment at others' expense

'girl boss' ideal

the 'strong black woman' trope and the ~

'girlboss' mentality

the second series of *Industry* critiques the ~ (HBO)

Girlboss Has Left the Building

"The ~" (by Amanda Mull, *Atlantic Magazine*, 2020)

gaslight, gatekeep, girlboss

~ (the malign girlboss ethos)

♦ "You need to put your big-girl pants on and deal with it, pull them up and get out there and show them what you got..."

♦ In 2014, "Girlboss" was a positive, aspirational term, but nowadays it is often satirized, particularly on TV and in films.

♦ "Chelsea and Hillary Clinton's 'Gutsy' Is a Toothless Girlboss Vanity Project" by Laura Bradley, *The Daily Beast*, Sept 9, 2022. (The Apple TV offering: "Breezy and anodyne.")

♦ Girl-boss culture; girl boss culture; girlboss... (See the Wikipedia entry. Or "Is Being a 'Girl Boss' a Bad Thing? It's Complicated" by Paige Skinner, *Los Angeles Magazine*, May 13, 2021.)

♦ "Girl boss culture, it's hustle culture, it's putting bright red lipstick on capitalism."

♦ "Sheryl Sandberg: The Word 'Bossy' Should Be Banned," NPR, All Things Considered, March 9, 2014. / "Sheryl Sandberg and Anna Maria Chavez on 'Bossy,' the Other B-word," *The Wall Street Journal*, March 8, 2014.

♦ "Arguably, the Soft Black Girl phenomenon is a backlash against the persistent 'strong black woman' trope in our culture, which, alongside the 'girl boss' ideal, can feel like a burden, continuously demanding our energy, whether at work or in relationships with others. The 'Soft Life' offers us an alternative." ("Soft Girl": The radical trend millennials love" by Evie Muir, BBC, 4<sup>th</sup> December 2022. A wonderful article that explains a lot.)

♦ see also *fierce* (*girls and women / groups, etc.*)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## **give (give a wink, etc.)**

gave me a wave

he ~

gave the middle finger salute to the Celtic fans

Kyrie hit the shot and ~ (NBA)

**transmission: gesture / verb**

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: gesture / verb**

## give (give a start, etc.)

gives people hope  
she ~ (Lizzo)

gave me a start  
it ~

gave me the creeps  
she ~

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: verb**

**transmission: verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: giving, receiving, bringing & returning / verb**

## give (give an impression, etc.)

gave a good account  
he ~ (contest)

gave a good impression  
he ~

**transmission: verb**

## give-and-take

give and take  
such ~ is uncommon  
there has been a lot of ~ (coach / player)

give and take of ideas  
the ~ in class discussion (vs. Internet)

give-and-take relationship  
our ~s

marital give-and-take  
in this parable of ~, the last word is hers to give

**position, policy & negotiation: direction / giving, receiving, bringing & returning**

**social interaction: direction / giving, receiving, bringing & returning**

## give in (verb)

give in  
I will never ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military / verb**

## give up (stop trying)

gave up  
she ~ (started drinking, etc.)

give up without a fight  
Amazon is unlikely to ~ (v. Reliance in India)

give up or waver  
are we going to ~ when things get tough (a protest)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military / verb**

## give way (and give way to)

given way to (palpable) anxiety  
his relaxed demeanor had ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military / verb**

## glacial (adjective)

glacial pace  
benefits and appeals are decided at a ~ (Veterans Affairs)

pace (of medical research) is glacial  
the ~

♦ "You could say that progress on an international climate change agreement has been glacial, except that glaciers have been melting faster." ("Hope is Not a Strategy" by Michael Brune, executive director of the Sierra Club, *Sierra* magazine, July / August, 2015. Some glaciers have been referred to as galloping or surging and can travel 250 feet per day.)

♦ "Today, the fastest withdrawing glaciers in Antarctica are seen to retreat by up to 30m a day." ("Climate change: Norwegian seafloor holds clue to Antarctic melting" by Jonathan Amos, BBC, April 5, 2023.)

♦ The Swiss have taken to covering sections of the Rhone Glacier with tarps in the summer to slow melting.

♦ "Germany's five alpine glaciers could disappear within 50 years."

**speed: glacier**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## gladiator (noun)

gladiators  
football players are ~, baseball players are gentlemen

gladiator personalities  
sports superstars generally have ~

♦ "It's obvious you're just a couch potato footballer and never been involved in any competitive sport. The modern footballers are our gladiators of the past. People like you could never hope to understand this." (Comment on BBC HYS about a football match in which one player headbutted another and was sent off.)

♦ "And Mike Tyson, traditionally no robe, no socks, he says it makes him feel like a warrior, makes him feel like a gladiator." (The excited broadcaster as Mike Tyson enters the ring for his fight against Mitch "Blood" Green.)

**person: military**

**character & personality: history / military / person**

## glare (attention)

glare of publicity  
he now wishes to be away from the ~ (scandal)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: light & dark**

## glass jaw

glass jaw  
they are trying to protect his ~ (a politician)

**strength & weakness: boxing**

## glean (verb)

glean clues from mammoth hair  
scientists ~

glean information from him

authorities hoped to ~ (spy)

♦ "You can really be surprised what you can wean from analytics." (The great MLB player Keith Hernandez. *Glean?* Never mind. To paraphrase the title of your 2018 book, "You're Keith Hernandez." America loves baseball and its baseball heroes.)

♦ The Wikipedia entry for "Gleaning" is very interesting, and it shows a very affecting photo, "Impoverished Germans gleaning in 1956."

**searching & discovery: farming & agriculture / verb**

## **gleaned**

gleaned from the records

there's a lot to be ~ (church sex abuse)

**searching & discovery: farming & agriculture**

## **glimmer (glimmer of hope, etc.)**

glimmer of hope

there might be a small ~ for the family (missing son)

glimmers of hope

five ~ to beat the coronavirus blues (BBC)

glimmer of progress

it looked like there was a ~ but that did not last long

**evidence: atmosphere / light & dark**

**amount: atmosphere / light & dark**

## **glittering (adjective)**

glittering career

he celebrated another landmark in his ~

he has won everything in a ~ (Nadal)

**superlative: light & dark**

## **gloom (noun)**

light in (United's gloom)

Anthony's superb strike was a minor shaft of ~ (soccer)

tension and gloom

people resumed their lives in an atmosphere of ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark**

**oppression: light & dark**

## **gloomy (adjective)**

gloomy assessment

in this ~ of American nursing... (a book)

gloomy picture

he presented quite a ~ of the region

gloomy crossroads

he'd reached a ~ in his life

**feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark**

**oppression: light & dark**

## **gloss (appearance)**

gloss of contemporary self-consciousness

it's a Victorian novel with a ~

gentlemanly gloss

many male Nashville stars have taken a more ~

♦ This kind of gloss may be deceptively attractive or superficial.

**appearance / appearance & reality / concealment & lack of concealment / subterfuge: light & dark / materials & substances**

## **gloss (add gloss, etc.)**

added the gloss

Kiltie, Kabamba and Johnson ~ (each scored a goal)

added gloss to a (hard-fought) success

an extra-time goal ~ (soccer)

added gloss to the win

their goals ~ (rugby)

added the gloss with a fine, chipped finish

Long ~ (soccer)

**superlative: light & dark**

## **gloss over (verb)**

gloss over how difficult

he doesn't want to ~ it was (leaving a hate group)

gloss over any (difficult) issues

Mom wants to ~

gloss over the killings

school history books ~ (Indonesia in 1965)

gloss over addiction and overdose

she refused to ~ in her daughter's obituary

**concealment & lack of concealment / confronting, dealing with & ignoring things / subterfuge: light & dark / verb**

## **glove (the gloves are off)**

gloves are off

the ~ (jungle justice / no Nigerian election meddling)

gloves are (really) off

it appears that the ~ now (*Harry & Meghan* docuseries)

gloves are (well and truly) off

the ~ (tough G-20 negotiations)

the gloves are coming off

~ and the new US policy...

**restraint & lack of restraint: boxing**

**behavior / conflict: boxing**

## **glove (hang up the gloves)**

hang up the gloves

every good fighter knows when to ~ (politician Orrin Hatch)

any party that can't turn that into a gain should ~ (N. Pelosi)

♦ "It's time to hang up the gloves." (A commentator about the indomitable boxer Derek "Del Boy / War" Chisora after his third loss to Tyson Fury. Total respect.)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: boxing**

## glowing (adjective)

glowing recommendation

he earned an internship because of a ~

glowing reputation

Vada has earned a ~ in the sport (anti-doping)

glowing things

he did not say ~ about her (an out-of-favor ambassador)

**superlative: light & dark**

## glue (noun)

glue

she is the ~ binding the family together (daughter)

their affection is the ~ that holds them together

he is the ~ that holds the company together (an executive)

oil could be the ~ that keeps the two sides civil (Sudan)

fear is the ~ that holds together their regime (repression)

almond butter is the ~ that holds the ingredients together

he is the ~ that holds it together (a soccer player)

glue of civilization

queues are the ~ (society, egalitarianism, fairness, etc.)

glue of politics

fear was now the ~ (repressive regimes)

binding glue

nationalism was the ~ that replaced religion and dynasty

ideological glue

the Brotherhood has a common ~ other parties lack

social glue

her coach called her the ~ that held the players together

religion provides ~ to bond groups

**attachment: materials & substances**

## glued

glued to his ear

he had a cellphone ~ (art-auction bidder)

glued to the floor

she sat silently, her eyes ~

glued to their phones

parents, some sobbing, others ~... (school shooting)

glued to their radios

soap operas keep millions of Ethiopians ~

glued to the road

all-wheel drive keeps you ~ (cars)

glued to their screens

young people are ~ all day (computers)

glued to their smartphones

students walk past, eyes ~ (any campus)

glued to the television

during the World Cup she was ~

glued to the TV

on Sundays, my husband is ~ (sports)

**attachment: materials & substances**

## glut (noun)

supply glut

a ~ of lobsters

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food & drink**

## glutton (person)

glutton for punishment

I should have quit my job years ago, but I guess I'm a ~

glutton for food, sex and praise

he is a ~

video glutton

I am a ~ (stop me before I rent again)

**person: food & drink**

**consumption / enthusiasm: food & drink / person**

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food & drink / person**

## gluttonous (adjective)

gluttonous appetite

he responded with a ~ for work (given responsibility)

**consumption: food & drink / person**

**enthusiasm: food & drink**

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food & drink / person**

## gnaw (verb)

gnawed at him

it ~ (what to do about a problem)

a secret worry ~ (a researcher and his results)

the letter ~ (a journalist gets a tip)

his desperation to be vindicated ~ (Churchill)

gnawing away at him

it was guilt ~

**affliction: animal / sensation / teeth / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: animal / sensation / teeth / verb**

## gnawing (gnawing doubt, etc.)

gnawing anxiety

the ~ that he could win again (a politician)

gnawing doubt

I had a ~ about my choice of a profession

gnawing hunger

they had a ~ for a better life (Ellis Island immigrants)

gnawing fear and uncertainty

a ~ (living in era of terrorism)

**feeling, emotion & effect: animal / sensation / teeth**

**affliction: animal / sensation / teeth**

## go (go wrong, etc.)

go bad

when things ~, they go really bad

going badly

the project is ~

go wrong

where did I ~

so much must go right, so much can ~ (making movies)

went wrong

what ~

they blame Democrats for everything that ~

went (so) wrong

a routine call that ~ so quickly (two cops murdered)

gone from bad to worse

things have ~ (surprising news)

♦ Managers are only responsible when things go well, not when things go wrong.

**failure, accident & impairment: movement**

**development: movement**

## go (go right, etc.)

go a little better

things began to ~ after that

go right

so much must ~, so much can go wrong (making movies)

going great

things are ~ (a relationship)

going well

when things are ~ at home

gone smoothly

but the hangings have not always ~... (Iraq)

went smoothly

elections ~ and without violence (Ghana)

went well

his adventure with Honnold that week ~ (climbers)

**failure, accident & impairment: movement**

**development: movement**

## go (not go anywhere, go nowhere)

go anywhere

that's not going to ~ (a political strategy)

going nowhere

the project is ~ (a pipeline)

**development / progress & lack of progress: movement**

## go (not go anywhere, etc.)

not going anywhere

I'm a believer in print, print is ~ (*The New York Times*)

LIV is here and it is ~ (golf)

♦ "Covid is, without a doubt, here to stay. (It will go from a pandemic to being endemic.)"

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / survival, persistence & endurance: movement / verb**

## go (develop)

go either way

at this point it could ~ (a criminal trial)

going to go

we know how the vote is ~

how this pandemic goes

the next months are pivotal in terms of ~

how it goes

they want the same thing, but ~ is not the same (plot)

where the puck is going

if you can see ~, as we use in the hockey metaphor

**development: direction / movement / verb**

## go (where are we going, etc.)

where things are going

it's hard to know ~ (in the future)

where things go from here

~ is quite honestly up in the air

where are we going

what's next for the Brexit process, ~

where do we go now

~ (Guns N' Roses)

where do we go from here

~ (troubled relationship)

where does the program go from here

~ (sports)

where does he go from here

but ~ (boxer after unexpected loss)

where we are and where we're going

the general will address ~ (Afghan evacuation / bombing)

♦ Where are we now, where are things going?

**development / future / time: journeys & trips / movement**

## go (go places, etc.)

go places

they are going to ~ (the Azzurri soccer team)

going places

"Women who are ~ start at Hollins" (Virginia university)

under twenty and ~ (brother and sister classical musicians)

I need to keep track of this guy, he's ~ (soldier KIA)

♦ "Going Places" is our new weekly travel segment..."

♦ see also *far* (progress)

**progress & lack of progress: movement**

## go (have a go at something)

had a go at it  
practically everyone ~ (writing mystery novels)

**attempt: movement**

## go (a road can go, etc.)

goes from Canada to Mexico  
the mountain range ~

♦ "It *began* at the Forum in Rome; it *coursed* through a virtual tunnel, formed by villa walls on either side; it *left* the great outer wall through the Porta Appia; it *headed* southeast along the line of the peninsula; it *passed* the Alban Hills; it *spanned* the gorge of Aricia; it *pushed across* the Pontine Marshes; it *reached* the Sea at Tarracina (Terracina); it *followed* a stunning cliffside cut facing the sea; it *headed* inland again; it *reached* the shore once more at Formiae (Formia); it *followed* the coast to Sinuessa; it *cut inland* and *headed* further east; it *passed through* Capua and Beneventum (Benevento); it *climbed* onto the rocky Apennine Plateau; it *reached* the Ionian Sea at Tarentum (Taranto), on the instep of the boot; it *cut through* the heel to Brundisium (Brindisi), the main port to the East, on the Adriatic; and *carried on* to Otranto, a secondary port... But the Via Appia was only one-half of Rome's Great East Road... (Adapted from *To the Ends of the Earth: The Great Travel and Trade Routes of Human History* by Irene M. Franck and David M. Brownstone.)

**fictive motion: verb / walking, running & jumping**

## go (a distance to go, etc.)

how far he can go  
see *far* (*progress*)

far to go  
the field has come a long way but still has ~ (AI)

further to go  
we have come a long way, but we have much ~

go far  
see *far* (*progress*)

gone (quite) a distance  
see *far* (*progress*)

a little way to go  
we still have a ~ (restoring electricity after hurricane)

a long way to go  
we've got ~, but we've had some success  
Afghanistan has ~ in its pursuit of peace  
this is a step in the right direction, but there is still ~  
we still have ~ (putting out a wildfire in California)

**progress & lack of progress: distance / journeys & trips / movement**

## go (let something go)

let it go  
he rolled his eyes and told me to ~ (book idea)

let go of that  
I want to ~ (a boxer speaking of a defeat)

♦ "Let it go, get it over with, and put it behind us..." (Former Solicitor General Ted Olsen, on allowing KSM—the mastermind of 9/11, on which almost 3,000 people died—to plead guilty in exchange for life in prison with parole.)

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: hand / verb**

**possession / resiliency: hand / verb**  
**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: hand / verb**

## go (behavior)

going berserk  
this crowd is ~ (an exciting boxing match)

went too far  
she ~ (bad behavior gets her in trouble)

went overboard  
she ~ (bad behavior gets her in trouble)

go over the line  
anything goes as long as you don't ~ (Las Vegas)

went off the deep end  
she ~

anything goes  
~ as long as you don't go over the line (Las Vegas)

willing to go  
how far are you ~ to get these people (cops)

**behavior: direction / distance / movement / verb**

## go (direction)

go  
Obama is taking this country where it should never ~

going forward  
turning back was not an option, ~ was a minefield

went round and round  
we ~ (in an argument)

gone either way  
it could have ~ (the decision in a close boxing match)

go this route  
I'm surprised more people don't ~ (reject fame)

**direction: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## go (argument)

goes to a difficult issue  
your question ~

goes to the heart  
this argument ~ of the issue

♦ see also *follow* (*argument*)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / comprehension & incomprehension: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## go (go from zero to one hundred, etc.)

went from zero to one hundred  
when my friend approached her, she ~, cussing...

went from zero to 100 really fast  
we ~ (the popularity of the Netflix hit *Cheer*)

went from zero to 60  
we went from ~ in the first two months (a relationship)

♦ “Our life was running at 150,000 miles an hour.” (The husband about his marriage to a pop celebrity, which ended badly. The inflated number is a typical example of linguistic supersizing.)

♦ “It’s been six years of trying times—so strange when one day you’re Cinderella, so to speak, and then in 0.6 seconds, you’re Quasimodo.” (The actor Johnny Depp, about how people’s attitudes towards him have changed.)

**feeling, emotion & effect / speed: engine**

## go (the time has gone, etc.)

time has gone

we worry about where the ~, how much of it we have left

been and gone

irrelevant club whose time has ~ (Manchester United)

come and go

see *come and go* (time)

**time: direction / movement / verb**

**past & present: direction / movement / verb**

## go (a month to go, etc.)

months to go

there’s still a couple of ~ (in the season)

**future / time: distance / movement**

## go (go long)

gone long

critics have ~ trying to explain the show’s success

**fate, fortune & chance: football / sports & games**

## go (raring to go, etc.)

rarin’ to go

I take a shot of Old Crow at night and wake up ~

raring to get out there

he is ~ and campaign (a politician)

raring to start

Trump’s attorneys are ~ their counter-arguments (trial)

hopeful, energized and rarin’ to go

they’re ~ (activists)

**eagerness & reluctance: horse**

## goad (verb)

goad him into launching

Trump appeared to ~ a presidential bid

goaded one another

both fighters viciously ~ in the runup to the fight (boxers)

**coercion & motivation / directing / oppression: animal / speech / verb / violence**

## go after (attack)

going after the senator with reference

the President is ~ to Native Americans

went after his critics

he ~ (Turkish President)

going after the school

he was ~ (a 15-year-old school shooter)

**accusation & criticism: hunting / verb**

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb**

**speech: hunting / verb**

## go-ahead

go-ahead from Turkey

uncertainty over a ~ (military operation)

go-ahead for the flight

the ~ came through

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: movement / part of speech**

## goal (own goal)

embarrassing own goal

this is an ~ for the president’s allies

major own goal

claiming he was on “urgent transfer business” was a ~

**failure, accident & impairment: sports & games**

## goal line (across the goal line)

get this across the goal line

she needs her party’s support to ~ (Brexit)

**success & failure: football / sports & games**

## go along (verb)

go along

to get along, you’ve got to ~ (it’s the way of the world)

you want to get along to ~ in D.C. (lobbyists / regulators)

I didn’t make the custom, I just ~ (segregation)

go along with Israel

he will probably ~ (foreign policy)

go along with it

but he was willing to ~ (a politician)

went along with their leader

they ~ (politics)

go along with what’s fair and what’s just

we’re asking you to ~

♦ In a discussion about politics, the following words and phrases were used: stand up to; challenge; take him on; bring him down; go along; and wait it out.

♦ “‘What do you boys want!’ he asked us. And we said, ‘We simply want to be served.’ ‘Well, I can’t serve you here, I can’t!’ We said, ‘Can’t or won’t? What is the problem?’ ‘Well, we just don’t serve black people at this counter.’ ‘Well, why not! Do you condone this custom, of discrimination?’ ‘Well, I didn’t make the custom. You know, I just abide by it. I just go along.’ ‘Well, we’re asking you to go along with what’s fair and what’s just...’” (BBC, Sounds, Witness History, “The Greensboro lunch counter sit-in.”)

**social interaction: direction / movement / verb**

## goalpost (target)

### goalpost

that ~ seemed to fade out of sight (a deadline)

### constantly changing goalposts

the ~ will be a challenge (government requirements)

### move the goalposts

they shouldn't ~ and change things in the middle of game

### moved the goalposts

every time Obama met their demands, they ~ (politics)

### moving the goalposts

the government keeps ~ (reporting requirements)

♦ (A) "Did I do that right?" (B) "Correct. Yes." (C) "Yes." (A) "All right. Through the uprights. Thank you very much. Okay, so then the question is why..." (A radio science show with three people.)

♦ Touch Down / Field Goal / First Down / Fumble ("What's your take on this story?" The rating system for *New York Post* sports stories.)

♦ "They [the goalposts] have not so much moved as been ripped out and carried off to another playing field. It is just not acceptable behavior. We were told..." (Backbencher Sir Charles Walker, unhappy that the government was tightening, not loosening, Coronavirus restrictions for summer 2021, in spite of worldwide vaccination programs. He was worried about the effect on the travel industry.)

**success & failure: football / sports & games / target**

**target: football / sports & games**

## go around (verb)

### go around congress

the president will try to ~ to get what he wants

**avoidance & separation: movement / verb / walking,**

**running & jumping**

## GOAT (greatest of all time)

### GOAT of his sport

Slater is considered the ~ (Kelly Slater / surfing)

### peddling AJ as a GOAT

the BBC has been ~ for years as part of their agenda

♦ bye brat. You were a GOAT but your head is now far too big. (Online criticism of a great soccer player.)

**superlative: animal**

## go away (verb)

### go away

there were some problems that didn't ~ (physics)

the racist abuse did not ~

this is not going to ~ (a boxing controversy)

### going away

the reasons for migration are not ~

I'm right here, in the middle of everything, and I'm not ~

porn isn't ~, acknowledge it (Kate Lonsdorf)

### Going Away

"Why Nationalism Works And Why It Isn't ~" (Wimmer)

### went away

the coal and manufacturing jobs ~ (a region)

the reducing machines just ~ (jiggling devices, etc.)

### go away (anytime) soon

the controversy over VAR is not going to ~ (sports)

### go away as quickly as possible

Republicans want this to ~ (impeachment trial)

### go away and be forgotten

if we didn't do this it would just ~ (ice harvesting)

**appearance & disappearance: movement / verb**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: movement / verb**

## go back (verb / time)

### go back in time

walking backwards encouraged their mind to ~

we will ~to learn about... (prosecuting a cold case)

I would like to ~

### go (too far) back in time

I don't want to ~, but... (exposition)

### going back in time

you feel like you're ~ (a visit to Wrangel Island)

### go (all the way) back to the 1960s

his alleged attacks ~ (sexual assaults)

### go back to a romanticized past

they want to ~ that never existed

### go back (more than 100 years) to an epic tale

we ~ of survival (Shackleton's Trans-Antarctic expedition)

♦ "Five Ways you could become a memory champion" by Claudia Hammond, BBC, 29 March 2019, mentions an interesting experiment at the University of Roehampton that links the past (and memory) to actual physical backward movement.

♦ "Do you remember...when Gas was 29 cents a gallon? WE ARE OFFERING YOU A CHANCE TO GO BACK IN TIME AND PURCHASE TWO GRAVE SPACES FOR ONLY \$600. / Forest lawn memorial Park.

**past & present / time: direction / movement / place / verb**

## go back (and get back)

### go back

let's ~ to where it all began (a podcast)

### get back to basics

AJ needs to ~ (Anthony Joshua, the boxer)

### get back to (fiscal) health

we need to ~

### get back to journalism

CNN needs to ~

### get back to a place

we need to ~ where individuals can feel free

♦ see also *return (and return to)*

**situation: direction / movement / verb**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: direction / movement / verb**

## **gobble up (verb)**

gobble up (as much) raw data  
the NSA wanted to ~ as it could (Edward Snowden)

gobbled up land  
developers ~ (housing and golf courses)

gobbled up the market  
rivals have ~

gobbling up properties  
real estate developers have been ~

**consumption: food & drink / verb**

## **go big (verb)**

go big  
keep the case local, or ~ (murder of child)  
they decided to ~ (police / murder of child)  
the intent is to ~ and do it now (a Biden bill)

go big on a national response  
we need to ~ (coronavirus pandemic)

go big, or go home  
~ (a championship soccer game)

go big or go home  
~ (defend yourself against criticism)  
~ (The filmmaker James Cameron about *Avatar* sequel)

go big or go small  
yet the Kremlin still had to decide whether to ~ (military)

♦ "We pressed the big button with rescue helicopters, rescue dogs, the Red Cross, the civil defense, fire, health and police." (A Norwegian, speaking about eight homes that were swept into the sea by a mudslide. Miraculously nobody was at home.)

♦ Anne Hathaway: "I'm a sort of all-or-nothing girl." / David Letterman: "Go big or go home." (*The David Letterman show.*)

**extent & scope: size / verb**

**commitment & determination: size / verb**

## **go for it (and go for broke, etc.)**

go for broke  
expect the athletes to ~ (Olympics)

go-for-broke  
doing ~ art  
a skier with a ~ style  
a ~ cancer treatment

go for it  
let's ~ (win versus tie / sports)  
Pulev will ~, he will have a go (box aggressively)

go-for-it  
you need a ~ attitude (ski competition)  
he had a ~ mentality (skateboarder)

go for the victory  
he decided to ~ (versus tie / coach)

go hard and go early  
the New Zealand response to the pandemic was "~"

♦ "He had a go-for-it mentality—"Make it, or take me to the hospital." (A skateboarder.)

♦ "I just did it, and just kind of went as big as I could, and threw it all at the wall knowing the only mistake we could make was not going far enough. And so we both just went for it... I had turned it up to eleven and then realized I had to go even higher..." (Elisabeth Moss on performing in *Her Smell.*)

**attempt: direction / movement / verb**

**commitment & determination: direction / movement / verb**

## **go by (an hour can go by, etc.)**

goes by  
time ~, no time to cry (Joe Cocker)

gone by  
which events will still matter after months or years ~

went by  
an hour ~  
the years ~

**time: movement / verb**

## **god (play god, etc.)**

god complex  
the sniper had a ~ (DC sniper)  
there's a little bit of the ~ (CIA does what it wants)

god game  
a ~ called Black and White (computers)  
~, like the SimCity series and Dungeon Keeper

god-game (m)  
he invented the ~ genre in 1987 with Populous

God gamers  
~ escape the real world (computer games)

"hacking god"  
he described himself as a ~ (imprisoned swatter)

play god  
she tried to ~, and now she is in trouble

♦ "Look on the Tarot card. It says, 'Call me God.' Do not release to the press." (A phone call to police by the D.C. sniper.)

**control & lack of control: religion**

## **god (mountain gods, etc.)**

baseball gods  
the ~ are making us pay a little bit (hard-won victory)

football gods  
the ~ weren't going to let Auburn lose last night  
I chalked it up to the ~ testing me a little bit personally

golf gods  
the ~ have turned against him (a famous golfer)

mountain gods  
sometimes the ~ say, "Not today" (climbing)  
Concordia is the throne room of the ~ (Pakistan / Rowell)

poker gods  
he felt cursed by the ~

## river gods

the ~ are hungry (a rafter)

the ~ were with me (a relieved kayaker)

## sea-gods

and since the ~ had ordained that he should soon become my shipmate... (*Moby-Dick*)

## soccer gods

the ~ at times are fair (two judging errors cancel out)

## weather gods

the ~ had shown an uncanny sense of occasion

the swell was an unexpected gift from the ~ (*Jaws*)

the ~ had finally delivered (Eddie Aikau competition)

## political gods

someone has to be sacrificed to the ~ for the greater good

## golfing gods

the ~ hear that (a golfer's boast that could jinx him)

## racing Gods

the ~ have shined down upon Red Bull (Verstappen)

## gift (we have) from the (football) gods

what a ~ today (two excellent NFL playoff games)

## cursed by the (poker) gods

he felt ~

♦ "On the top, on the right-hand side of the trail, stood a small joss-house, built of logs. Within was a crude carving illustrating Chinese gods, and in front of it two wooden boxes with the stamps of paper candles. On the other side were a few leaves of tobacco and a couple of pieces of sugar, sacrifices to the God of Forests." (*Dersu Uzala* by V.K. Arseniev.)

## fate, fortune & chance: religion

## god (importance)

### God

Oates was a soldier, his ~ was duty

in the industry, he was a ~ (charismatic salesman)

### god on campus

Len Bias was a ~ (University of Maryland)

### "Guitar God"

he is remembered as a ~ (Eddie Van Halen)

### guitar god

by then his reputation as a ~ was firmly enshrined

the astonishing techniques that made Eddie Van Halen a ~

the late ~ Eddie Van Halen

### gun god

human sacrifices on this altar of the ~ (2nd amendment)

### Punt God

the Buffalo Bills drafted the "~" Matt Araiza (NFL)

### scientific god

he as idolized as a ~ through Europe (physicist Niels Bohr)

♦ "Bohr was God and Oppie was his prophet." (Oppie was J. Robert Oppenheimer, the "father of the atomic bomb." At Berkeley.)

## importance & significance: religion

## goddess

### goddess

she is a ~

### pop goddess

a ~, Carly had been in love so many times...

## superlative: religion

## godfather (verb)

### father and god-father

he had been imported to ~ the bill (C.P. Ilbert)

## help & assistance: family / verb

## godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.)

### Godfather of Clouds

some call him, with good reason, the ~ (Luke Howard)

### godfather of modern comedy

Richard Pryor, universally considered the ~

### godfather of Marvel Comics

Lee is considered the ~ (Stan Lee, died age 95)

### Godfather of ecstasy

he became known as the ~ (Alexander Shulgin)

### Godfather of Freeskiing

the ~, Mike Douglas (New Canadian Air Force)

### godfather of (molecular) gastronomy

Ferran Adria, the Spanish chef who is considered the ~

### "godfather of grime"

the rapper Wiley, known as the ~ ("Boasty," etc.)

### 'godfather' of artificial intelligence

the ~ regrets his work (Geoffrey Hinton)

### "Godfather of Metal"

he has earned the informal title ~ (Ozzy Osbourne)

### godfather of (modern) mindfulness

the man now considered the ~ (Jon Kabat-Zinn)

### Godfather of the New Right

they call him the ~ (Richard Viguerie)

### godfather of black postmodernism

Ishmael Reed is the ~ (Henry Louis Gates, Jr.)

### Godfather of snowboarding

Jake Burton Carpenter, known as the ~, has died...

### Godfather of Soul

the governor proclaimed him the ~ (the great James Brown)

### Godfather of (modern) surfing

Hawaii and Duke Kahanamoku, the ~

### godfather of kayak surfing

Randy Phillips, the ~

### godfather of global warming

he is sometimes called "~" (James Hansen of NASA)

Godfather of electronic voice phenomenon  
the ~ Konstantin Raudive

Godfather of reality TV  
Jerry Springer, the ~, has died... (BBC)

comic godfather  
Richard Pryor, the ~

♦ "Alex Jones is sort of the Godfather of the current American conspiracy theory movement." (Will Sommer speaking with Fresh Air's Terry Gross.)

♦ "It's called the Jerry Springer effect. He opened the door for the idea of reality programming...for the Real Housewives and the Kardashians. He was the father of all of that." (Journalist and psychologist Cooper Lawrence.)

♦ see also *godmother* (*Godmother of Title IX, etc.*)

**epithet / person / relationship: family**  
**help & assistance: epithet / family**

## godforsaken

godforsaken battlefields  
months or even years on ~ (Korea)

godforsaken hellhole  
a ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: religion**

## godmother (Godmother of Title IX, etc.)

'Godmother of Funk'  
~ Betty Davis dies aged 77

godmother of German punk  
these days Nina Hagen is considered the ~

Godmother of Title IX  
Bernice Sandler, '~'

godmother of Freak / Outsider Folk  
Josephine Foster, the ~ (Ann Powers / NPR)

♦ "Astronomical foremothers. At the Harvard College Observatory, women studied and curated over 130 years of the night sky, all preserved on glass plate photographs." (Harvard.edu.)

♦ see also *godfather* (*Godfather of Soul, etc.*)

**epithet / person / relationship: family**  
**help & assistance: family / person**

## godmother (fairy godmother)

activist fairy godmother  
an ~, wise, a benevolent matriarch (Color Me Country)

**help & assistance: creature / family / person**

## go down (happen)

went down  
what more can you tell us about what ~  
what we know what ~, what happened... (school shooting)

♦ It is common to translate contempo-speak: "So, what went down, what happened...?"

**occurrence: direction / verb**

## go down (digestion)

gone down well  
his comments haven't ~ with many in India

go down (pretty) smoothly  
he's able to make these questionable ideas ~ (the comic David Chappelle)

**consumption: food & drink / verb**

**acceptance & rejection: food & drink / verb**

## go down (decrease)

gone down by two-thirds  
my income has ~

**increase & decrease: number**

**decline / increase & decrease: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## godsend (noun)

godsend  
OnlyFans was a ~, now it's kind of a nightmare (porn)

godsend to the library  
he was been a ~ (John Heubusch, Reagan Library)

**help & assistance: religion**

## God's-eye

God's-eye (crane) shots  
swooping, ~ (a film)

**perception, perspective & point of view: religion / eye**

## Godzilla (force)

Godzilla of news subscriptions  
*The New York Times* has become the modern ~ (paywalls)

♦ A FUNNY ADVERTISEMENT. The 1993 Nike advertisement "Godzilla vs Charles Barkley" is wonderful. In it, Barkley dunks on Godzilla, sending Godzilla reeling into a skyscraper, which crumbles to the ground. Afterwards, we see the backs of Barkley and Godzilla as they walk down a street. Barkley's left arm is consolingly draped over Godzilla's shoulder, and Barkley is saying, "Have you ever thought about wearing shoes?" In another version, the line goes, "The Lakers are looking for a big man."

♦ "We did all sorts of studies and finally accepted the fact that every once in a while Godzilla arrives and fills the channel up to the edge with water. We just did the research and stuck to the facts, and the facts were that communities along the river were suffering, they needed parks and open space and they also need to be protected from floods." Tensho Takemori, working with Frank Gehry to find ways to revitalize the Los Angeles River. Quoted in "Remaking The River That Remade L.A." by Michael Kimmelman, *The New York Times Magazine*, November 13, 2022. In the first paragraph of that article, Kimmelman mentions an incredible fact: At Long Beach, the 1938 flood exceeded the flow of the Mississippi at St. Louis! Eighty-seven people died. That was truly a "Godzilla."

♦ see also *zilla* (*bridezilla, etc.*)

**force: creature / film**

**size: creature**

## gold (black gold, etc.)

black gold  
~, or petroleum (oil)

Arabia's other ~, Khawlani coffee beans (dried black)  
the "~" epithet has been given to both coal and coffee

#### blue gold

bulk water shipments could be ~ (to arid countries)  
investors have called the metal "~" (cobalt)

#### gray gold

lead was called ~ (1820s / northwestern Illinois)

#### green gold

all this ~ (avocados / NPR, of course)

#### white gold

~, they sometimes called it (guano in the 19th century)  
whalers boil the ~ in giant containers (whale blubber)  
cotton, also known as "~" (India)  
these hair extensions are often referred to as "~" (Ukraine)  
camel milk, Kenya's new '~'  
lithium is now being called "~" (high demand / batteries)  
Spain's '~' super-drink (Horchata)

♦ "This is that ice cold, the Michelle Pfeiffer, that white gold, them good girls..." (Mark Ronson, Bruno Mars, and "Uptown Funk.")

**epithet: color / materials & substances**

**worth & lack of worth: epithet / materials & substances / mining**

### gold (worth)

#### gold

speech is silver, silence is ~

#### worth its weight in gold

it's ~

#### gone from gold to tarnished brass

its reputation has ~ (the CDC)

#### turned into (movie, TV and theater) gold

his books have been ~ (Roald Dahl)

♦ "They arrive with gold and depart with pepper." (An amazed Tamil trader. From *At Home: A Short History of Private Life* by Bill Bryson.)

♦ Gold makes the belagaana crazy. (A Navajo in a Tony Hillerman novel.)

♦ "It is a well-known fact that gold blinds all and corrupts even the best of people." (*Gold Dust* by Ibrahim al-Koni.)

♦ "With money you are a dragon; with no money, a worm."

♦ "With gold I can buy things; with thinking I can understand things." (A Turkish proverb.)

♦ "The shroud has no pockets." (Turkish.)

♦ "A miser does not own money; money owns the miser." (Said in Saudi Arabia.)

♦ "Better poor with honor than rich with shame." (A point of pride in Kosovo.)

♦ "Friends are better than money." (If you need money, you can borrow it from your friends.)

**worth & lack of worth: mining**

### gold (strike gold)

#### struck gold

he finally ~ (won an award)

#### struck (comic) gold

they knew they had ~ (idea for film)

**success & failure: mining**

**searching & discovery: mining**

### gold digger (person)

#### gold digger

a ~ is someone who marries for money, not for love  
she was a small-town girl, a Playboy pinup, and ~

**character & personality: mining / person**

**person: mining / money**

### gold-digging

#### gold-digging

prenuptial agreements protect wealthy from ~ spouses

**behavior: mining**

### golden (golden opportunity, etc.)

#### golden opportunity

that was a ~ for him (overthrown pass by QB / football)  
did we miss a ~  
his media posts destroyed a ~ (admission to Harvard)

**superlative: materials & substances / mining**

### golden age (and golden era)

#### "golden age" of peace

they look on his reign as a ~ (Afghanistan)

#### golden age of quiz shows

the ~ of the 1950s

#### golden age of the detective story

the period has been called the ~ (between world wars)

#### golden era

the ~ of whaling, from about 1820 to 1860  
the ~ of boxing was the 80s and 90s

#### sport's Golden Era

the 1970s, the ~ (US boxing)

**growth & development / superlative: history**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: history**

### golden boy

#### golden boy

he was a ~ from the get-go (Justice John Roberts)

#### golden boy of this (island) nation

he was once the ~ (Malta's prime minister resigns)

#### golden boy quarterback

~ faces uncertain future (in NFL draft)

#### England's golden boy

Rooney was ~ (2004 Euros)

#### PSG's (attacking) golden boys

~ Mbappe and Neymar

#### Hollywood golden boy

at the time, he was riding high as a ~

#### Democratic golden boy

the ~'s career could be about to end (Gavin Newsom)

liberal golden boy

he became a ~ during his Senate bid (Beto O'Rourke)

brings down (Rhode Island) 'golden boy'

college cheating scandal ~ (tennis coach took bribes)

♦ "Why does the BBC continue to push Joshua as their number 1 golden boy when it's clear he's finished at the top?" (An online commenter about the boxer.)

♦ see also *boy (blue-eyed boy), girl (golden girl), guy (good guy, etc.), man (big man, little man, etc.), Mister (and Mr., Missus, Mrs.)*

**person: society**

**achievement, recognition & praise: person**

**attraction & repulsion / character & personality: person**

## golden rule

golden rule

the ~ in meatpacking plants is "the line never stops"

**message: religion**

## golden hour

golden hour

a clock starts ticking on what is called the ~ the "~", when life can hang in the balance

"Golden Hour" of injury

if treatment is available within the first ~

♦ "Detectives call this stage of an investigation the gold hour, when memories are fresh and evidence is easier to find." (A missing child.)

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: hour**

## Goldilocks (Goldilocks zone, etc.)

Goldilocks approach

many people believe in a ~ to stress (not too much)

Goldilocks candidate

Klobuchar is "the ~" (Democrat contestant)

Goldilocks civilization

it's a good example of what I call a ~ (Harappans / climate)

Goldilocks economy

we are in the middle of a ~ (just right)

Goldilocks place

trying to find the sweet spot, the ~ is important (medicine)

Goldilocks principle

finding the middle way forward is called the "~"

Goldilocks zone

planets in the "~" (not too hot or cold for liquid water)

\* In the fairy tale "Goldilocks and the Three Bears," Goldilocks was a horrid willful privileged naughty little girl who could not control herself, and the bears were Mama, Papa, and Baby Bear. Goldilocks broke into the bears' house. She ate the porridge that was just right, sat on the chair that was just right, and slept on the bed that was just right. When the bears returned, she fled.

♦ "You talked about people that you rejected as either too white or too Asian and these are your words here, 'As if we were playing a game of Goldilocks and we were the only ones who were "just right."' ("Biting the Hand": Korean American author calls for weaponizing invisibility," NPR, Morning Edition, April 19, 2023.)

\* In *Krakatoa*, the great writer Simon Winchester points out that volcanic eruptions are often associated with death and disaster and yet in fact they are one of a number of reasons why the Earth is "just right" for life. The earth is just the right distance from the sun, allowing for water in liquid form. Its size is just right, too, with just the right gravitational pull to maintain an atmosphere. It has just the right number of volcanoes of the right size to create and recycle elements essential "to the making and maintenance of organic life." Finally, the volcanic eruptions are often the result of the movement of great plates, which can't exist on planets that are too hot or too cold.

**flaws & lack of flaws: allusion**

**allusion: books & reading**

## gold mine

gold mine of data

a ~ about enemy plans

gold mine of (genealogical) data

a ~ for family researchers (census)

gold mine of documentation

the prison is a possible ~ (Iraq / US POW)

gold mine of information

he is a ~

the Web is a ~

gold mine of research

it was a ~ (Lyme disease hotspot)

gold mine (of data) for researchers

the census is a ~ (genealogy)

goldmine for (Chinese wood) traders

the vast forests of Eastern Siberia are a ~

fossil goldmine

the limestone caves contain a "~" of species

potential gold mine

college graduates are ~s for retailers

♦ "What happens when the mine closes?" (Question relating to the degradation of the environment by gold mining, and the way gold companies walk away from the cleanup.)

**source / worth & lack of worth: mining**

## gold rush

gold rush of the "unicorn" boom

the ~ (Silicon Valley startups)

gold-rush frenzy

the bold promises and ~ of Silicon Valley

gold-rush morality

he grew increasingly dismayed by his industry's ~ (solar)

dot-com gold rush

Wall Street's ~

natural-gas gold rush

the country is at the heart of Colorado's ~

Internet gold rush

start-ups and the ~

marijuana gold rush

Oklahoma is the latest frontier in the ~

latter-day gold rush  
a ~ is on (Arctic oil and gas)

“green gold rush”  
Oklahoma is in the midst of a ~ (legal marijuana)  
the dark side of America’s ~ (marijuana)

new gold rush  
we are experiencing a ~ (renewable energy / California)

gold rush, or a curse  
it’s a ~ for Oklahoma, I don’t know which (legal marijuana)

gold rush has attracted  
the ~ a cartoonish array (cryptocurrencies)

♦ “In 1849 the harbor of San Francisco was speckled with idle ships from which the crews had deserted in a body to go to the gold fields... The price for washing clothes was so high that the more well-to-do among the miners, gamblers and merchants sent bundles of laundry work to the Hawaiian Islands, which meant that they had to wait three months before they got back their shirts and socks... With great flourishes the newspapers announced the arrival of each fresh batch of prostitutes, describing their charms...” (From *A New American History* by W. E. Woodward.)

**activity / amount & effect / cost & benefit / worth & lack of worth: history / mining / money**

## gold standard (noun)

“gold standard” of safety  
approved by the FDA, which he called the ~ (vaccines)

gold standard in doing voter research  
the cellphone number is the ~

gold standard for pot  
it was soon the worldwide ~ (Colombian in the 1980s)

seen as the gold standard  
PCR tests are ~ (COVID)

**superlative: mining / money**

## Golgotha (Golgotha of Norilisk, etc.)

Golgotha of Norilisk  
the hill is referred to as the ~

Albanian Golgotha  
the Great Retreat (Serbian) is also known as the ~ (WWI)

♦ Or Calvary, where Jesus was crucified.

**death & life: epithet / religion**  
**epithet: religion**

## Goliath (Bible)

Goliath  
~ is Hillerich & Bradsby (holds 70% of pro bat market)

a billion-dollar goliath  
he has conquered ~ (the tech industry)

people versus Goliath  
the ~, that’s what this is (day traders vs Wall Street)

♦ “Roe v. Wade has been our Goliath. So now we’ve slain Goliath, presumably.... there are still a lot of Philistines.” (Should Roe v. Wade be struck down by the Supreme Court, the abortion issue will be left to each state.)

**strength & weakness: allusion / Bible / religion**  
**size: allusion / Bible / religion**

## gone (absent)

gone  
you have a house, and then it is ~

gone forever  
his reputation is ~

**possession: movement / prep, adv, adj, particle**  
**presence & absence / survival, persistence & endurance: movement / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## gone (those days are gone, etc.)

gone  
those days are ~  
the Ceausescus and Idi Amins and Saddams are ~

long gone  
the days when global decisions were dictated by a small group are ~ (Chinese criticism of Group of Seven)

♦ “Well now, Gruden is gone.” (Fired.)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle**

**past & present / time: direction / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## gone (dead)

gone  
if she gets sick she’s gonna be ~ (an old woman)  
he was ~, we did CPR, we got him back (soccer player)  
someone tried to resuscitate the baby, but the baby was ~

**death & life: euphemism / movement / presence & absence**

## good (good crazy, etc.)

good busy  
I’ve been busy, but ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: part of speech**

## good (as noun)

feed good  
feed hope, feed love, ~ (rescuing food for NYC / donate)

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: part of speech**

## goodbye (say goodbye, etc.)

say goodbye to Oakland Arena  
Golden State Warriors ~ (basketball)

says goodbye to lectures  
Vermont medical school ~

said goodbye to Radio 2  
Steve Wright ~ last year (retired)

say Sayonara to your skinny jeans  
is it time to finally ~ (fashion)

bidding goodbye to polio  
Nigeria is on the verge of ~ (2015)

*Kissed Dating Goodbye*  
I ~ (evangelical purity movement book)

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: exclamation / speech / verb**

## Good Earth (Pearl Buck)

*Good Earth* country  
the Red Basin is ~ (China)

**allusion: books & reading**

## good-hearted

good-hearted  
a nice kid, polite and ~

**character & personality: heart**

## goods (damaged goods)

damaged goods  
I was ~, I wore that badge very early on in my life

**character & personality / flaws & lack of flaws / worth & lack of worth: person**

## go off (verb)

goes off  
when the president ~ on one of these tweet storms...

**feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / verb**

**initiation: explosion / verb**

## go on (what's going on, etc.)

going on with Boeing  
what's ~ (explain situation / news radio)

going on with the suffix  
what's ~ -ment (a linguist)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / occurrence: movement / verb**

## go on (persist)

go on  
when you feel you can't ~, I'll come and hold you  
life and the economy must ~ (coronavirus pandemic)

goes on  
and so it's over, and yet it ~ (congressional hearing)

heart does go on  
near, far, wherever you are, I believe that the ~ (*Titanic*)

life goes on  
Ob-La-Di, Ob-La-Da, ~ (the Beatles)

**resiliency / starting, going, continuing & ending / survival, persistence & endurance: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## goose (golden goose)

Warren's golden goose  
Fury is ~ (the boxer and promoter)

killing the golden goose  
they are risking ~ that laid the golden egg (ESL soccer)

♦ "Perhaps, if he will husband his resources, and not kill, with overwork, the mental goose that has given us these golden eggs, he may one day rank among the brightest of our wits." (A favorable review of Mark Twain's first book, *The Jumping Frog and Other Stories*.)

**cost & benefit: allusion / animal / bird**

**worth & lack of worth: allusion / animal / bird**

## goosebumps

gives you goosebumps  
it's the kind of video that ~ (housefire)

♦ In Western North Carolina many refer to these as chill bumps.

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction**

## Gordian knot

Gordian knot of international affairs  
trying to unravel that ~

Gordian knot of race  
the ~ continues to choke large portions of our country

diplomacy's Gordian knot  
how to untie ~ (Israeli-Palestinian issue)

untie this Gordian knot  
let the British people choose how to ~ in a referendum  
(Brexit)

♦ An oracle prophesized that whoever untied the intricate knot on the chariot of King Gordius would rule Asia. Alexander the Great simply slashed it apart with his sword. Cutting the Gordian knot means settling a complex problem with bold, decisive action.

**complexity: allusion / rope**

**action, inaction & delay: allusion / history / rope**

## gored

getting gored  
the unicorns are ~ as investors rebel

**destruction: animal**

## gorge (gorge on)

gorge on graft  
many members of the ruling party ~ (corruption)

gorge themselves on the tabloids  
the British ~ (scandals, etc.)

gorging on the latest crime thriller  
sexual violence can be gripping stuff when you are ~

**consumption / sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food & drink / verb**

## gorilla (800-pound gorilla)

800-pound gorilla

China is the ~ yet it is not in the negotiations  
race has always been the ~ in this case

800-pound gorilla of search engine optimization  
and then there is the ~ (SEO / writing headlines)

600-pound gorilla  
he's probably the ~ (NPR's Mara Liasson about Trump)

9,000 pound gorilla  
we as a society refuse to address the ~ in the room (guns)

♦ A lawyer said, "We refuse as a society to address the 9,000-pound gorilla in the room." I supposed the next gorilla will be nine million tons. This is a good example of linguistic supersizing.

♦ "So I would say the takeaway from the recent Republican primaries is that Trump is no longer the 800-pound gorilla in the room, he's probably the 600-pound gorilla." (Elite punditry / snark from Mara Liasson, a national political correspondent for NPR.)

♦ "Whale" as an epithet for an establishment figure is not used nowadays; the modern term might be "old white men." But in the *New York Magazine*, a writer recently referred to two competing Hollywood and Broadway producers as "silverbacks." A silverback is a mature male mountain gorilla.

♦ A FUNNY CARTOON. In *The New Yorker Magazine* of 2 / 14 / 2011, there is a cartoon by Mick Stevens. It shows the back of an 800-pound gorilla, who is being interviewed for a job by a petite human personnel officer. She is saying to him, "We already have an eight-hundred-pound gorilla."

**presence & absence / size: animal**

### **gospel (preach the gospel, etc.)**

preached the gospel of (environmental) activism  
he ~

preaching a gospel (of rebirth) to everyone  
he is ~ (Detroit mayor)

preached the gospel that free trade  
they ~ was a rising tide that would lift all boats

**message: Bible / religion**

### **go through (endure, etc.)**

go through  
separation is a developmental stage that nearly all kids ~  
I don't want them to ~ what I went through (breast cancer)

went through a (tough) breakup  
he ~ with his girlfriend

going through a divorce  
she was ~

went through much (diplomatic) haggling  
the resolution ~ (U.N.)

going through some trials  
please keep praying for me, as I am ~

go through this whole thing  
you ~ called life (a person feeling his mortality)

go through this again  
I'm sorry you have to ~

going through withdrawal  
sports fans are ~ (sports stop during pandemic)

♦ see also *get through (endure, etc.)*, *been through (endure, etc.)*

**survival, persistence & endurance: journeys & trips /  
movement / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**  
**experience: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

### **go up (increase)**

go up  
the number would ~ (coronavirus cases)

gone up by two-thirds  
my income has ~

**increase & decrease: direction / number / prep, adv, adj,  
particle / verb**

### **grab (verb)**

grabbed headlines  
the *Titanic* ~ as the most glamorous luxury liner

grab you  
boxing will ~ and hold you tight (Deontay Wilder)

grabbed it with both hands  
we gave him the opportunity and he ~ (Jamie Vardy)

**possession / taking & removing: hand / verb**  
**fictive possession: hand / verb**

### **grab (land grab, etc.)**

cash grab  
a very rushed and lazy sort of ~ (*adulthood*, etc.)  
I think it's a ~ (attorney of athlete charged with rape)

land grab  
countries are involved in an Arctic ~

power grab  
many lawmakers called it a ~ (president's action)

**possession: hand / part of speech**

### **grab (up for grabs)**

up for grabs  
five belts were ~ (an important boxing match)  
my word this is ~ suddenly (exciting boxing match)

**certainty & uncertainty: prep, adv, adj, particle**  
**certainty & uncertainty / possession: hand**

### **grabbing (attention-grabbing)**

attention-grabbing advertisement  
~s aimed at the superstitious (muti)

attention-grabbing antics  
his ~ are grist for the tabloid mill

attention-grabbing flourish  
he finished with an ~

attention-grabbing royal  
she is an ~

attention-grabbing blaze orange

marking high-voltage parts with ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: hand**

**fictive possession: hand**

## **grace (grace period)**

grace period

they were given a ~ to... (new ordinance)

elimination of the grace period

the ~ (student loans)

**time: religion**

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: religion**

## **grace (fall from grace)**

fall from grace

it was a stunning ~ (Elizabeth Holmes)

fell from grace

the democracy icon who ~ (Aung San Suu Kyi)

**decline: direction**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction**

## **graced**

graced with the talents

the NFL had been ~ of many undrafted players

**cost & benefit: religion**

## **grade (failing grade)**

failing grade

the media deserves a big fat ~ (President Trump)

deserves a failing grade

strategy in Afghanistan ~

gave the nation's infrastructure a failing grade

a civil-engineering group ~

**judgment: school & education**

**success & failure: school & education**

## **graduate (verb)**

graduated to crack cocaine

she ~ and forged checks to support her habit

graduated from alcohol to drugs

he ~

**growth & development: school & education / verb**

## **grail (holy grail)**

Holy Grail

for collectors, this map is the ~ (1734 Murillo Velarde)  
a vaccine is often seen as the ~ that will end the pandemic

Holy Grail of economics

pinning down the sources of economic growth is the ~

Holy Grail of exploration

it was the ~ at that time (the source of the Nile)

Holy Grail of investors

the ~ (stock-picking system that beats market)

holy grails of (tropical) medicine

a malaria vaccine is one of the ~

Holy Grail of (HIV) research

a cure remains the ~

“holy grail” of shipwrecks

the famed galleon is often called the ~ (*San Jose*)

holy grail of can you find the very first galaxy

there is kind of this ~ of the very first stars (space telescope)

Holy Grail for advertisers

word-of-mouth marketing is the ~ (social media)

holy grail for collectors

the edition is considered the ~ (a book)

holy grail for any professor

tenure is the ~

holy grail for (flu) researchers

a universal flu vaccine is the ~

industry's "holy grail"

oral insulin is the pharmaceutical ~

retailer's holy grail

new parents are a ~ (new shopping habits)

I found the holy grail

~ (Garrett McNamara and wave off Nazare, Portugal)

♦ “The ability to perform so many tests on just a drop or two of blood was something of a Holy Grail in the field of microfluidics. Thousands of researchers around the world in universities and industry had been pursuing this goal for more than two decades, ever since the Swiss scientist Andreas Manz had shown that microfabrication techniques developed by the computer chip industry could be repurposed to make small channels that moved tiny volumes of fluids.” (*Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup* by John Carreyrou.)

♦ “We have grown up in a society that has always pursued the Holy Grail, the fountain of youth.” (Madeline Di Nonno, president of the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media, about ageism, particularly towards older female actors.)

♦ “The transhumanist holy grail is artificial general intelligence.”

♦ This refers to a cup or plate used by Christ at the Last Supper.

♦ A FUNNY CARTOON. Two medieval knights in armor are crossing a bridge, each one on horseback. The one knight is saying to the other, “Wait, the Grail is a cup? We’re looking for a cup?” (*The New Yorker*, October 11, 2021.)

**searching & discovery / wants, needs, hopes & goals:**

**allusion / Bible / epithet / Middle Ages / religion**

## **grain (grain of truth)**

grain of truth to reports

there is a ~ of what happened

grain of truth in a lie

there is often a ~

♦ A grain of wheat? A grain of sand? Whatever, certainly a small amount.

**amount: size**

## grain (against the grain)

against the grain

she has always won by going ~ (country music)

against-the-grain affinity

her ~ for formal wear (fashion)

“Against The Grain” column

his “~” is sarcastic and comic

against the grain of its time

it’s an album that goes sharply ~

against the grain of what

music that went ~ rock was becoming (music)

cut against the grain

it ~ of the typical 80s high-school fare (a film)

I stand for a lot of issues that ~ (Dr. Cornel West)

went against the grain

her book has two case studies that ~

so I really consciously ~ with this record (k.d. lang)

**unanimity & consensus: tree**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: tree**

## grammar (language)

nobody are asking

~ why...

what is antisemitism

it’s an arms race to define ~

what are we able to do

I am not sure ~

what can we do

we gotta figure out ~ to reduce the car-jackings...

who are the people

they also want to know ~ that are injured or dead

who you can see his name

Trammel Crow, ~ across Dallas (whose name you can see)

time where

we’re moving to a ~ COVID won’t be a constant crisis

amount of people

I am shocked, especially when I saw the ~ that were dead

amount of laws

I don’t have enough fingers to count the ~ he was breaking

her cousin that

~ attends the university (AAVE)

liking

I’m reeeally not ~ the medical field (don’t like?)

loving

everyone is ~ the video (on TikTok) (loves?)

hung himself

hours later, he ~ (*New York Post* link / should be *hanged*)

forecasted

more rain is ~ for California (NPR)

lied down

as he sat and ~ on the ground (ABC)

helped changed

but the reaction ~ the outcome (*New York Post*)

there is

sure hope ~ some major changes down the road

~ cameras everywhere...

there was

~ some levee failures inland... (report on NPR)

more harder

his task got all the ~ after...

look badly

this will make the FCC ~ (female pundit on NPR)

♦ “There’s a lot of morons.”

♦ “This espionage charges are ridiculous.” (White House spokesperson Karine Jean-Pierre.)

♦ “I mean about 9,000 people were just hung, or executed, shot...” (Heard on NPR’s Weekend Edition Saturday.)

♦ The grammar of embedded questions has changed. The following is quite fascinating: “He’s always crying. He needs to remember who is his coach is?” A more typical example follows: “It’s an arms race to define what is antisemitism.” Luckily, academic analysis exists. See “Inversion in embedded questions,” Yale Grammatical Diversity Project English in North America, at [ygdp.yale.edu/phenomena/inversion-embedded-questions](http://ygdp.yale.edu/phenomena/inversion-embedded-questions).

♦ See also Award Abstract # 1423872. “The Microsyntax of Pronouns in North American English.” A four-year Federal grant for \$285,951.00.

♦ The “time when” and “place where” distinction no longer seems to apply.

♦ “Want” and “like” are not ordinarily used in the continuous.

♦ The principal parts of verbs have been defenestrated.

♦ “Are you his teacher or wot? I would of thought (sic) that the grammar police had better things to do.” (An online commenter on a BBC HYS about a soccer match. The target of his comment had criticised a poster’s use of “would of” versus “would have.”)

♦ This sort of language has many possible explanations.

**language: grammar**

## granary (Granary of Mexico, etc.)

grain bowl

Punjab is India’s “~”

granary of the Mediterranean

Greater Greece was a main ~ (*Magna Graecia*)

Granary of Mexico

the Bajío, the traditional ~ (corn, beans, wheat)

granaries of the American Revolution

the Mohawk Valley was once one of the ~

♦ This is similar to *breadbasket*.

**wheat: epithet / sign, signal, symbol**

**farming & agriculture: epithet / sign, signal, symbol**

## Grand Canyon (Grand Canyon of the South, etc.)

Grand Canyon of the East  
the Tallulah Gorge, the ~ (northern Georgia)

Grand Canyon of the Stikine River  
British Columbia's ~

Grand Canyon of Switzerland  
the ~ (Vorderrhein River / Eurotrek Sammy Wimmer)

“Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone”  
Thomas Moran's immense oil painting, the ~

Swiss Grand Canyon  
the Rhine gorge, the ~ (between Reichenau and Illanz)

tout the Breaks as the “Grand Canyon of the South”  
local signs ~ (Breaks Interstate Park, U.S.)

♦ “Throng of tourists came to see the men and their iron leviathans at work. They held their children up to see and hear the dynamite blasts. They came day by day to watch the limestone walls appear, running straight and true for miles, and to see great new canyons form in front of them, like one of the huge chasms out west that excited travelers were reporting having seen. This was becoming Chicago's Grand Canyon, and it was made by man. (The Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal. From *The Men Who United The States* by Simon Winchester.)

♦ “When someone under the ice shines a flashlight, you see the flashlight in his hand and the spot where the light hits something, but you don't physically see the beam. There's nothing in the water to backscatter light. It's like you put a layer of ice seven feet thick across the top of the Grand Canyon and stepped through it. That's how you feel under Antarctic ice. As if you were hanging in space.” (An ice diver.)

♦ If you are interested in kayaking, see the Wikipedia entry for “Grand Canyon of the Stikine.” A whole book might be written comparing it to the Rhondu Gorge of the Indus in Northern Pakistan.

♦ The “Swiss Grand Canyon” is on the Vorderrhein.

♦ “You may have heard of tightrope walking, but have you heard of a slackline? Well, here it is, it's pretty much what you would expect, a rope that's not tight, but slack. Unsurprisingly, this is American Dean Potter. He is crossing this canyon in central China. It is 1,800 meters above sea level and you may have noticed he does not have a safety line.” (“US slackline walker Dean Potter crosses China canyon,” BBC video, 23 April 2012. Potter walked 40 meters across the Enshi Grand Canyon in China's Hubei Province on a slackline in just over two minutes. Slacklining is much more difficult than tightrope walking. See the Wikipedia article “Enshi Grand Canyon.” Another spectacular Chinese canyon has a Wikipedia entry, “Yarlung Tsangpo Grand Canyon.”)

♦ See *Grand Canyon Colossal Mirror: The Term “Grand Canyon” as used in Geographical Nomenclature, Analogy, Metaphor, and Neology with an Appendix on Colorado River Nomenclature, compiled by Earle E. Spamer*. It is an absolutely original, remarkable, free-to-all Raven's Perch Digital Production, 2022.)

♦ “1869. “Powell's men slid their four boats into the Green River on Monday, May 24, 1869... and would not emerge from their own unprecedented epic for ninety-eight days of nearly perpetual terror, hunger, cold, and wonder.” (*The Men Who United The States* by Simon Winchester. Powell was one-armed. He had lost his arm at the Battle of Shiloh, but that did not stop him from serving in battles right to the end of the Civil War.)

♦ “And five years after leaving the waters [the Colorado River] behind, in 1876, John Wesley Powell first wrote out the name Grand Canyon. He appears to have concluded that Big Canyon simply didn't do justice to the almighty crevasse he had seen and journeyed through, so he replaced it with a pair of words soon to be on every American's lips and not much later on the lips of most sentient English-speaking beings on the planet, as one of the great natural wonders of the world.” (*The Men Who United The States* by Simon Winchester.)

comparison & contrast / geography: epithet

## granddaddy (and grandfather)

granddaddy of (American) caves  
this is the ~ (Mammoth Cave)

‘granddaddy’ of the cumulus family  
cumulonimbus is the ~ (massive cloud formation)

granddaddy of (adventure) races  
Raid Gauloises, the ~

granddaddy of all rehabs  
Hazelden, the ~ (Center City, Minnesota)

granddaddy of all motorcycle clubs  
the Hells Angels: the ~

grandfather of Manhattan's bridges  
that ~ (the Brooklyn Bridge)

♦ “He was a grandfather of electronic pop music.” (Composer Ryuichi Sakamoto. Note the use of the *indefinite* article.)

superlative: family

## grande dame (old)

grande dame of crypto-currency  
the ~ (Bitcoin)

grande dame of (America's) public hospitals  
Bellevue Hospital, the ~ (David Oshinsky)

grande dame in podcast years  
it is a ~ (debuted in 2016)

growth & development: life span / person

## grand slam

grand slam  
I think it's been a ~ (successful heart treatment)

success & failure: baseball / sports & games

## grandstanding (noun)

grandstanding  
his request is just ~ (for an exhumation)  
this is nothing to do with protecting rights but ~

performance: theater

## granite (noun)

granite chin  
a southpaw endowed with a ~ (boxer Gervonta Davis)  
he is easy to hit but has a ~ (the boxer Joe Joyce)

♦ “He's all business. Listens well; doesn't talk much...the granite of old New England was in his foundations...” (The librarian Everett Robbins Perry. Quoted in *The Library Book* by the wonderful writer Susan Orlean.)

strength & weakness: materials & substances

## granular (adjective)

granular (real time) data  
Amazon used very ~ about listings and sales

granular detail

the book lays out in ~ how voter suppression...  
~ down to a GPS coordinate (public health)

granular (policy) issues

his willingness to dive deep into ~ (Pete Buttigieg)

granular level

she learned about cops at a ~ (became a reserve cop)

granular picture

the documents paint a ~ of the strain on hospitals  
(COVID-19)

granular (day-to-day) stuff

big-picture strategic stuff vs. the ~ (marketing job)

granular enough

the FCC data isn't ~

accurate or granular

automated systems are not always as ~ (YouTube)

better and more granular

~ data about vaccine distribution by age, race, etc.

local, "granular"

a cessation of hostilities at the ~ level (CAR)

get more granular

respondents have the option to ~ (census form)

**perception, perspective & point of view: size**

**grapevine (through / over the grapevine)**

through the grapevine

I heard ~ that...

over the (international surfer's) grapevine

word traveled quickly ~ (big waves!)

through the (college) grapevine

word got back to him ~

heard through the grapevine

I ~ that...

♦ *Viva voce* is Medieval Latin for "with a living mouth." If you hear something *viva voce* it means somebody told you. It has come to mean "word of mouth."

♦ Hawaii has the "coconut wireless" or the Coconut Wire. The Philippines have the Bamboo Telegraph. Ghanaians can hear things via "the talking drum." From time immemorial, as Ibrahim al-Koni tells us, the desert winds have brought rumors and reports to the Sahrawis: "I heard it on the wind." Americans can "hear it through the grapevine," or hear a report or account through the rumor mill. Italians say "*per sentito dire*" which basically means, "heard it said," and they hear gossip "*voci di corridoio*" which means "hall voice" or "voices in the hall." These systems operate by word-of-mouth, and, nowadays, the Internet.

♦ "From time immemorial, it has been said that desert winds carry with them all kinds of rumor and report—especially stories of scandal and outrage." (*Gold Dust* by Ibrahim al-Koni.)

♦ "They've got a gallows-bad reputation, but, you know what a place the beach is for talking." / "The beach, if you don't know is the name of the gossip mill of white derelicts and rough customers that hang around your South Sea island ports. You'll find captains and traders too fond of their grog and properly down on their luck. I'll admit, I was fond of the gin myself back then..." (*The Beach of Falesa* by Robert Louis Stevenson.)

♦ "You may take it for a fact that anything of this kind is not only noticed and discussed by a man's own race but by some hundred and fifty natives as well... [T]he news flew, in the usual mysterious fashion, from mouth to mouth, till Bisesa's duenna heard of it and told Bisesa." (The affecting and horrible story "Beyond the Pale" by Rudyard Kipling.)

♦ "You're sure you've took no 'arm?" cried Mrs. Cloke, who had heard the news by farm-telegraphy, which is older but swifter than Marconi's. / 'No. I'm perfectly well,' Sophie protested." ("An Habitation Enforced" by Rudyard Kipling.)

♦ "But I ain't one to gossip, so you ain't heard that from me." (Kim Wayans as the character Benita Buttrel from the 1990s "In Living Color" TV Series. Hilarious!)

♦ "Word around the campfire for me was...that there was at least speculation, maybe informed speculation, that..." (A sports analyst.)

♦ "The talk around town was that Pacino..." (Film celebrity gossip.)

♦ "When a professional golfer wants to pass along a rumor, he'll tell you that he heard it 'on the range'... The range, the one location where everyone in the sport gathers, is also golf's back room. Pre-round chat may concern course conditions, or who is sleeping with whose wife. Recently, the range has been preoccupied by one topic..." ("Sand Trap: Saudi money and Donald Trump roil 'the gentleman's game'" by Zach Helfand, *The New Yorker*, October 24, 2022.)

♦ "[The internet] is the modern world's equivalent of those bars in Donegal where rumors about the case used to circulate." (*No Body Recovered*, BBC Sounds, Episode 6. A missing child.)

♦ "Washington is a small town." (Washington, D.C. and the federal government, politics, etc.)

♦ "Gossip is a fearful thing"—this phrase was found in the note left by the film star Ruan Langyu after she took her own life." ("On 'Gossip Is a Fearful Thing' by Lu Xun, from *Jottings under Lamplight*, edited by Eileen J. Cheng and Kirk A. Denton.)

♦ He who gossips to you will gossip about you!

**gossip: plant**

**grapple (verb)**

grappling with their aftermath

the US is still ~ (9/11 attacks)

grapples with (deepening) recession

the city ~

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: sports & games / verb / wrestling**

**grasp (comprehend)**

grasped (that)

Dallaire quickly ~... (Rwanda genocide)

grasp the concept

it is so easy to ~, but... (a puzzle)

grasped the fact

within a few months he had ~ that... (a toddler)

grasp the idea

they can't yet ~ that... (toddlers)

grasp the importance

most toddlers don't yet ~ of...

grasp the news

his brother said the family was still trying to ~

grasped the significance

minutes later, he ~ of that moment...

grasp the potential and risks

they have been among the first to ~...

grasped early

he and other technophiles ~ how important...

difficult (for people) to grasp

it's ~ (a physics concept)

difficult to grasp

it is very ~ our situation...

quickly grasped

I ~ what he was trying to do and...

**comprehension & incomprehension: hand / verb**

**grasp (in one's grasp)**

in our grasp

what was once ~ is now beyond our reach

in their grasp

Wolves looked to have victory ~ but...

within their grasp

with the title ~, Boston seized it (NBA 1984)

**attainment / possession: hand**

**grasp (out of one's grasp)**

out of his grasp

but success was ~

**attainment / possession: hand**

**grasp (attainment)**

grasp of (spoken) English

he had a limited ~ (foreign teaching assistant)

**attainment: hand**

**grasp (possession)**

grasp of reality

my husband's tenuous ~ slipped away (brain injury)

firm grasp

infantry leaders must have a ~ of how to motivate...

escape its grasp

he was born into poverty and determined to ~

snatched from their grasp

victory was ~ (athletes)

**possession: hand**

**grassroots (grassroots level, etc.)**

grassroots army

his war chest and ~ make him an unstoppable juggernaut

grass-roots democracy

the kind of ~ the Founding Fathers envisioned

grassroots efforts

~ by citizens' groups

grass roots level

go back home to the ~

grassroots organizations

astroturfers present themselves as ~

**bases: ground, terrain & land**

**perception, perspective & point of view: ground, terrain & land / height / position**

**grate (verb)**

grates on people

it's something that just ~ (government helps banks)

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / verb**

**grave (symbol)**

cradle-to-grave work force

the ~ work force

from the cradle to the grave

she gave advice on problems people face ~

**death & life: sign, signal, symbol**

**grave (end point)**

hastened the schools to their graves

Flexner ~ and deprived them of mourners (his report)

passed into the grave

what was born from Wounded Knee, and what ~

**starting, going, continuing & ending: burial / death & life**

**grave (place)**

grave

wreckage proved the Indian Ocean was its ~ (MH370)

watery grave

when the sub is raised from its ~

**place: burial / death & life**

**grave (dig one's grave)**

dug their own grave

they ~ (a basketball team that failed)

**destruction: burial / death & life / verb**

**fate, fortune & chance: burial / death & life / verb**

**graveyard (people)**

graveyard of the Pacific

the region is known as the ~ for its winter storms

Graveyard of the Pacific

the mouth of the Columbia Rivers is known as "the ~"

graveyard of the German paratroopers

Crete was "the ~" (a Pyrrhic victory / W.W. II)

graveyard for the Americans

Falluja will be a ~ (Iraq)

graveyard spiral

pilots call this the ~ (flying)

mariners' graveyard

Cape Horn is a ~

known as the graveyard of the Turks

Yemen is ~ (*maqbarat al-Atrak*)

♦ "The Mediterranean has been described as the biggest cemetery in the world." (Migrants.)

♦ see also *cemetery (people)*

**death & life: burial / epithet**

## graveyard (things)

graveyard of (rocket and satellite) debris

the region is a ~ (the South Pacific)

graveyard of empires

Afghanistan is known as the ~

graveyard of ships

the reef is a veritable ~

graveyard for (Antarctica's greatest) icebergs

South Georgia is something of a ~

graveyard for (communist) statues

Budapest's ~ (Memento Park)

bell cemeteries

collection points, known as *Glockenfriedhofe*, or ~

car graveyard

the ~ is below Lookout Park (St. Joseph, Michigan)

ship graveyard

this ~ is the final destination for luxury liners (Turkey)

digital graveyard

BuzzFeed News joins sites like Gawker in the ~

veritable graveyard

the reef is a ~ of ships

watery graveyard

Truk Lagoon is a ~ for hundreds of ships

♦ Between 1939 and 1945, 175,000 bells across Europe were taken by Nazi Germany. They were transported to collection points, known as *Glockenfriedhofe*, or bell cemeteries, the biggest of them in Hamburg. ("The seizing of Europe's bells" by Stephen J. Thorne, in *Legion: Canada's Military History Magazine*, November 21, 2018.)

♦ Cars, crushed flat and stacked on one another, were used to shore up sections of the riverbank. They can be seen to this day. (On the Tuckaseegee River upstream of Bryson City, North Carolina. And unusual kind of "auto graveyard.")

♦ "Lying on the beach beyond the glacier was wreckage that told of many ill-fated ships. We noticed stanchions of teakwood, liberally carved, that must have come from ships of the older type; iron-bound timbers with the iron almost rusted through; battered barrels and all the usual debris of the ocean. We had difficulties and anxieties of our own, but as we passed that graveyard of the sea we thought of the many tragedies written in the wave-worn fragments of lost vessels. We did not pause, and soon we were ascending a snow-slope heading due east on the last lap of our long trail." (*South!: The Story of Shackleton's Last Expedition, 1914-1917* by Ernest Shackleton.)

♦ see also *cemetery (things)*

**place: burial / death & life / epithet**

## graveyard (of diplomacy, etc.)

graveyard of bilingual education

if sense prevails, Massachusetts will be seen as the ~

graveyard of (international) diplomacy

Iran has been the ~

graveyard of (US-led) peace initiatives

it is the ~ (Israelis / Palestinians)

♦ "It's a graveyard where all good things go to die." (Said of the U.S. Senate.)

**destruction: burial / death & life**

## graveyard (whistle past the graveyard)

whistle past the dump

Adam Silver continues to ~ (the NBA Commissioner)

whistling-past-the-graveyard exercise

this is a ~ because... (politics)

whistling past the graveyard

are these people ~, maybe (no concern about... / politics)

Schumer could be ~ in claiming... (politics)

♦ The great old-style sports writer Phil Mushnick wrote that the NBA Commissioner Adam Silver was "whistling past the dump" by ignoring the thuggish behavior of NBA athletes. In the same article, he wrote, "Don't rain on his charade." At one time, sportswriters were real writers and masters of the language. This is no longer the case. The internet, which has ruined so many industries with its proud "disruption," has spelled the end of journalism in general and the golden era of sports writers in particular. Nowadays, much sports talk simply relates to sports betting, which seems to have been de-regulated, like drugs. The current zeitgeist seems to be just about money, fame, and diversity. The simple query, "How old is Phil Mushnick?" reveals nothing, nor does his Wikipedia entry, which has problems, answer that basic question. Odd indeed.)

**consciousness & awareness: burial**

## gravitate (verb)

gravitated to John Roberts

Kavanaugh ~ (two Supreme Court justices)

gravitated to him

the press ~ (a politician)

gravitate (more) towards digital

younger audiences ~ than listening on the car radio

**attraction & repulsion: astronomy / verb**

## gravitational (adjective)

gravitational pull

the ~ towards attrition (vs. relational maneuver / warfare)

**attraction & repulsion: astronomy**

## gravity (substance)

gravity of the situation

realizing the ~, he jumped on the grenade

enormous gravity

a crisis of ~ has arisen

understood the gravity

if clients truly ~ of the risks (climbing Everest)

**substance & lack of substance: atmosphere / weight**  
**importance & significance: weight**

## gravy (noun)

mop up the last bit of the gravy  
they tried to ~ (profiteers)

**cost & benefit: food & drink**

## gravy train

gravy train  
more people want to get on the ~ than stop it (doctors)

gravy train has come to a halt  
probably the therapist realizes the ~ (fees)

riding the (FIFA, Infantino) gravy train  
he's a hypocrite who's ~ (Gary Lineker in Qatar)

upset the gravy train  
he didn't want to ~ he was on with Weinstein (a film director)

**cost & benefit: food & drink / train**

## gray (gray area)

gray area around Canelo Alvarez  
so it's a very ~ (doping with clenbuterol)

legal and ethical gray area  
a ~ (using drugs for interrogations)

in a gray area  
the Web site operates ~ of Russian law (spam)

**certainty & uncertainty: color**

## great (great hatred, etc.)

great hatred  
there is ~ towards Americans

♦ see also *big (big love, etc.), enormously (exciting, etc.), huge (huge gratitude, etc.)*

**feeling, emotion & effect: size**

## great (the Great Resignation, etc.)

Great Flood  
California's ~ of 1862

“Great Mining Migration”  
the ~ may lead to serious repercussions (bitcoin)

‘Great Resignation’  
economists have dubbed it the ~ (workplace / pandemic)  
~ reaches White House with staff turnover

great unwinding  
this is the ~ (Martin Pichinson / startups / 2020)

**importance & significance: epithet**

**epithet: size**

## Great Gatsby

Korea's Great Gatsby

he is known as ~ for his lavish lifestyle (Big Bang's Seungri)

**money: allusion / epithet**

**allusion: books & reading**

## Great Wall of China

“Great Wall of Lagos”  
the ~ reinforces and protects the coast (Nigeria)

**protection & lack of protection: allusion / history**

## green (green list, etc.)

green-list  
people can travel freely to ~ (COVID pandemic)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: color / sign, signal, symbol**

## green (green with envy)

green with envy  
I was ~

♦ *Green With Envy: Why Keeping Up With the Joneses is Keeping Us in Debt.* (The title of a book.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: color**

## green (experience)

green hand  
Melville shipped as a ~ on the *Acushnet* (age 21)

greenhorn  
see *greenhorn (person)*

greenest medical student  
the ~ is able to...

pretty green  
I was 25 when I went into that job, ~ (forensic psychologist)

junior and green  
Tylor was too ~ to understand what...

♦ “Green as we were, we said okay...”

**experience: color**

## green (environment)

green economy  
Indonesia seeks to achieve a ~ (Joko Widodo)

Green Energy  
“Drax: The ~ Scandal Exposed” (BBC)

green gentrification  
Frogtown is Exhibit A for ~ (Los Angeles / LA River)

green infrastructure  
definitions, goals and forms of ‘~’

green (stormwater) infrastructure  
~ can reduce both heat and flooding

green justice  
policy and planning tools for urban ~

“green” masses  
~ dedicated to our responsibility (in a Franciscan parish)

green minerals  
mining for so-called ~ can be very destructive (lithium)

“green” (marketing) ploy  
the “7<sup>th</sup>-generation principle” is overused as a ~

green revolution  
neocolonialism dressed up as a ~ (lithium mining)

green roof  
the Chicago City Hall has a ~ (vegetation)

green space  
increase ~ within urban areas where possible (heat equity)

greenspace  
it is a vital ~ for all New Yorkers (Central Park)

Green Sport  
the BBC’s ~ Awards (awareness of environmental issues)

green steel  
a market for expensive “~”  
investments in ~  
there is a demand for ~ (HYBRIT process)

green tsunami  
voters turned out for her in a “~” (Marina Silva / Brazil)

green walls  
~, also known as living walls or vertical gardens...

greenways  
parks, open spaces, and connections such as trails or ~

green roofs and walls  
~ can help cool both the insides and outsides of buildings

♦ “Going green is all the rage now.” (Environmental activism by celebrities, corporations, etc.)

♦ “The so-called Big Greens, like the Sierra Club and the Nature Conservancy...”

♦ “How green laws stop green projects,” NPR, The Indicator From Planet Money, April 6, 2022.

♦ “I’m a romantic. I loved the old harbor with its working tugs, its decaying piers and vague sense of ruin. It was just so beautiful. The new version with all its parks is generic and sanitized—a ‘noose of green.’ It’s as if someone had an idea of how a waterfront should look and came up with a cookie-cutter plan for the whole city.” (Ben Gibberd, author of *New York Waters: Profiles from the Edge*. Quoted in “Wet and Wild” by Tony Perrottet, photographs by Gina LeVay, *Smithsonian*, May 2017.)

♦ “The global energy transition is set to trigger a 40-fold increase in lithium demand between now and 2040, per the International Energy Agency, and mining companies are competing to secure supplies. Many fear local communities in the Argentina Puna, home to some 50,000 people, will meet the same fate as those in Chile: seeing their resources pillaged and lands destroyed to serve richer countries—neocolonialism dressed up as a green revolution.” (“Lithium Mining’s Next Frontier” by Ciara Nugent, *Antofagasta De La Sierra*, Argentina, *TIME*, August 8/August 15, 2022.)

♦ See also *greenwashing* (noun)

**biodiversity, nature & life: color**

## greenhorn (person)

greenhorn

the conditions turn veterans into ~s (flying in Alaska)

♦ William Safire examined this word, and dictionary entries for words, in “On Language: Greenhorn” in *The New York Times*, June 23, 1991.

**experience: animal / color / horn / person**

**person: animal / color**

## green light (noun)

green light  
a judge has given the ~ to...

green light to proceed  
I was given a ~

cultural green light  
we give a ~ to drinking (alcohol / US)

gave me the green light  
she ~ to do the project

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: color / sign, signal, symbol**

## green light (verb)

green-lighted the deal  
he heads one of the agencies that ~ (government)

green-light a film  
the one person who can ~

green-lit the story  
the *New Yorker* stood up to the threats and ~

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: color / sign, signal, symbol / verb**

## green-lighted (and green-lit)

green-lit and budgeted  
the security revamp was ~, but... (Maersk IT failure)

got green-lighted  
his show ~ as a two-hour pilot (TV)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: color / sign, signal, symbol**

## green shoots

green shoots  
there are, however, ~ (political science)

♦ Signs of progress. The phrase has been used in the context of the economy, political science, sports, and the pandemic. It has a short Wikipedia entry. Not entered in Merriam-Webster. Entered in the Cambridge Dictionary. The term is hardly original: see *shoot* (plant).

♦ “Had there been any so-called green shoots or positives from the game...” (Test cricket.)

**growth & development: farming & agriculture**

## greenwash (noun)

“greenwash” (ad) campaigns  
~ make their clothes appear sustainable (fashion)

**subterfuge: color / hygiene**

**inclusion & exclusion: subterfuge**

## greenwashing (noun)

greenwashing

it's “~,” minor cosmetic measures (aviation industry)  
~, exaggerated sales pitches and bogus claims (UN's PRI)

greenwashing, spin, and (outright) lying  
~ (the aviation industry and the environment)

accused of greenwashing  
companies ~ (misleading environmental claims)

engaged in “greenwashing”  
a former manager claimed DWS had ~

♦ “It's one thing to support a company to, hopefully, transition to alternative energy sources and making sure they operate safely. It's another thing to actually be supporting new oil and gas projects... [Talk about cutting greenhouse gas emissions] is probably happening in the PR team and the marketing and branding team, but it's not happening in the operational division as far as I can see.” (Caroline Dennett, from “Contractor quitting puts Shell in spotlight over climate” by Frank Jordans, AP, May 23, 2022.)

♦ “Deutsche Bank subsidiary DWS says its chief executive is resigning after authorities raided its offices as part of a probe into claims that the company exaggerated the sustainable credentials of some of the financial products.” (AP, June 01, 2022.)

**subterfuge: color / hygiene**

**inclusion & exclusion: subterfuge**

## greet (verb)

greeted the death with relief and elation  
Iraqis ~

greeted the announcement  
applause ~

greet customers  
the dazzlingly lit shop ~ with gunmetal gray shelves

greet me  
first to ~ was the smell of hamburgers frying...

greeted them  
the squalid labor camps that ~ (Black Okies in California)

**fictive meeting & seeing / welcome: speech / verb**  
**perception, perspective & point of view: speech / verb**

## greeted

greeted by an alarming sight  
as I prepared to rappel over the lip, I was ~

**perception, perspective & point of view: speech**  
**fictive meeting & seeing: speech**

## gremlin (noun)

gremlin  
~s love to destroy machinery  
a ~ lives inside and makes the camera go all kooky  
a ~ is an elusive and mischievous flaw (computing)

gremlin in the (track) computers  
a ~ crippled on-track betting

gremlin in the software

there appears to be a ~

gremlin in the system  
there appears to be a ~

common gremlin  
radio-wave interference is a ~ (cellphone buzz)

**affliction: creature**

## grenade (person)

hand grenade  
he is a ~ with a loose pin  
he's a ~ who is going to blow everyone up (a lawyer)

**character & personality / person: explosion**

## grenade (disruption)

hand grenade of a story  
a woman with a ~ came forward (murder investigation)

Mind Grenades  
~ (Contents, Wired Magazine)

socialism grenade  
when the pin is pulled and the ~ is lobbed (culture wars)

financial grenade  
men in suits concoct ~s with acronyms like C.D.O.

political grenade  
nominating Biden will be a ~ that explodes

thrown a grenade into the heavyweight landscape  
Andy Ruiz Jr has just ~ (beat Anthony Joshua)

**disruption: explosion / military**

## gridlock (noun)

create gridlock  
people in the ER for days ~ for new patients

♦ This term relates to vehicles caught in a traffic jam.

♦ “More than 10,000 vehicles are stuck in a 120 km (75-mile) traffic jam on China's Beijing to Tibet motorway. The gridlocked section of road is in the north-eastern region of Inner Mongolia. The majority of the vehicles stuck in the jam are coal trucks heading for the capital. A 100 km traffic jam that had lasted nine days on the same motorway was cleared just over a week ago. The authorities say roadworks are to blame for the latest gridlock. The motorway is among China's busiest, as Beijing's population of more than 20 million requires massive quantities of goods.” (“Thousands of vehicles stuck in 120 km China traffic jam,” BBC, 2 September 2010.)

**obstacles & impedance: journeys & trips**

## gridlocked

gridlocked  
climate policy is ~, with no chance of a breakthrough

**obstacles & impedance: journeys & trips**

## grill (verb)

grill him on arrangements  
she began to ~ for the party

grilled (oil industry) executives

members of a House subcommittee ~ (oil spill)

grills passengers

Israel uses in-flight guards and ~ (terrorism)

**accusation & criticism / coercion & motivation / speech:  
cooking / fire / verb**

## grilled

grilled by both sides

witnesses were ~ (sports doping)

**coercion & motivation / speech: cooking / fire  
accusation & criticism: cooking / fire**

## Grim Reaper (death)

Grim Reaper

the ~, the symbol of death...

**death & life: farming & agriculture / sign, signal, symbol**

## grind (daily grind, etc.)

grind of the workplace

a week's break from the ~

daily grind

I'm sick of the ~

stealing time away from the ~ (to go climbing)

**work & duty: mechanism**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: mechanism**

## grind away (verb)

grind away

just put your head down and ~

♦ "Get up, get up, you lazy lout / Get into your working clothes! / Toil and  
slave the livelong day / With a grindstone to your nose."

**difficulty, easiness & effort: mechanism / verb**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism / verb**

## grind down (verb)

grinds down opponents with ground strokes

he ~ (tennis)

grinding him down

the amount of homework was ~ (high school)

**destruction: direction / mechanism / verb**

## grinder (meat grinder)

see *meat grinder*

## grinding (grinding poverty, etc.)

grinding deflation

Spain faces years of ~

grinding poverty

the region suffers from ~

grinding (Big East) season

it's hard to stay fresh during a ~ (sports)

grinding (82-game) season

it's a ~ (NBA)

grinding ugliness

he experienced the ~ of racism at his high school

grinding war

the ~ in the Donbas

long, grinding

we need to end this ~ war

♦ Pinching poverty, grinding labor...

**feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: mechanism**

## grind on (verb)

grinds on

as the revolt ~ (Syria)

on the ground, the fighting ~ (warfare)

grinding on for 8 years

the war has been ~ (Eastern Ukraine)

investigations grind on

~ (politics)

war (on terror) grinds on

the ~

**starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism / verb**

## grind out (verb)

grind out the classics

some musicians are content to ~ (versus new work)

**creation & transformation: manufacturing / tools &  
technology / verb**

## grip (verb)

grip him

the work began to ~ (Dante's *Divine Comedy*)

**control & lack of control: hand / verb**

**fictive possession / possession: hand / verb**

## grip (in the grip)

in the storm's grip

all Eastern Province cities were ~ (rain, wind, dust)

in the grip of a (slow-burning) rebellion

the nation is ~ against the regime

**control & lack of control: hand**

**fictive possession / possession: hand**

## grip (come to grips)

come to grips with the new reality

unions are trying to ~

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: hand / verb**

## grip (control)

grip of terror

Saddam Hussein's ~ is being loosened (war in Iraq)

**grip on Iraq**

Hussein's three-decade-long ~

**grip on Nasiriyah**

US forces tightened their ~ (Operation Iraqi Freedom)

**grip on this country**

the king's ~ may be eroding

**grip on power**

his ~ is still firm

his ~ is slipping

until recently, his ~ had been near absolute (a governor)

**government's grip**

a sign that the ~ was loosening

**king's grip**

the ~ on this country may be eroding

**rebels' grip**

the ~ is being loosened (Iraq)

**viselike grip**

she has a ~ on power

**three-decade-long grip**

Hussein's ~ on Iraq

**iron grip**

the coup leaders are keeping an ~ on the country

**grip (on this country) may be eroding**

the king's ~

**grip (on the company) had been pried loose**

her ~ finger by finger

**grip (on the area) waxed and waned**

their ~

**loosened their grip**

tradition, ideology, and religion have ~ in the West

**retain its grip**

the professional military caste will ~ (conscription)

**tightened their grip**

US forces ~ on Nasiriyah (Operation Iraqi Freedom)

**control & lack of control: hand**

**oppression / possession: hand**

**gripped**

**gripped by uncertainty**

she was ~

**totally gripped**

I was not merely interested, but ~ (*Lord of the Flies*)

♦ "As I read on, I found that, reluctantly, I was becoming not merely interested, but totally gripped... (Charles Monteith at Faber and Faber, reading a manuscript from the "slush pile." An anonymous reader known only as "Polly Perkins" had rejected it as rubbish, dull and pointless. It would be published as *Lord of the Flies*.)

**feeling, emotion & effect / possession: hand**

**fictive possession: hand**

**gripping (adjective)**

**gripping account**

his book is a ~ of high-stakes investigative reporting

**utterly gripping**

~ (*People* magazine about *I'll Be Gone In The Dark*)

**feeling, emotion & effect / possession: hand**

**fictive possession: hand**

**grist (grist for the mill, etc.)**

**grist for actors**

it has become ~ eager to cast doubt on elections

**grist for their mill**

he has given Democrats a whole lot of ~ (hearings)

**grist for their (propaganda) mill**

the leaks will be more ~

**grist for historians' mills**

this trip would provide the ~ for centuries to come (Galileo)

**grist for the tabloid mill**

his attention-grabbing antics are ~

**grist to the mill**

this is ~ of those who dislike the pope (sex abuse)

**sensational grist**

the news was ~ for conspiracy theorists and the far right

**provided the grist**

the report ~ for a lot of conspiracy theories

♦ Grist is grain that is ground to make flour.

♦ "This is a ship of war, and I will grind whatever grist the mill requires in order to fulfill my duty." (Capt. Jack Aubrey, played by Russell Crowe, in the film *Master and Commander*.)

**content: farming & agriculture / plant / wheat**

**gossip: farming & agriculture / plant / wheat**

**grit (political grit, etc.)**

**political grit**

candidates will need ~ to defeat the incumbent president

**softness and grit**

Yola combines ~ (Americana music)

♦ "Grit has been on NPR several times recently, not to mention front and center on the national education agenda. / The term expresses the idea that a crucial component of success is people's ability to pick a goal and stick with it. That's the main thrust of research by Angela Duckworth at the University of Pennsylvania..." ("MacArthur 'Genius' Angela Duckworth Responds To A New Critique Of Grit" by Anya Kamenetz, NPR, All Things Considered, May 25, 2016. "Well so it's just one paper, uhh, but it is a meta-analysis.")

♦ "Identifying and Building Grit in Language Learners" by Kelly Keegan, *English Teaching Forum* 2017, Volume 55, Number 3.

♦ "The Finns would win or lose on the basis of their conventional, professional, military skills, the fiber of their discipline, the worthiness of their commanders—and above all else, on the depth and stubbornness of their *sisu*. That bristling little world was once the most famous Finnish idiom ever to become part of the outside world's vocabulary. It can be translated as 'guts' or 'spunk' or 'grit' or 'balls,' or as a combination of all those words together. The word in Finnish has nuances that resist easy

translation... / "No battle of the Winter War captured the public's imagination like the Battle of Suomussalmi. The campaign continues to be taught at military academies as a 'classic,' an example of what motivated, well-led troops can do, with innovative tactics, against even a much larger adversary." (*Frozen Hell: The Russo-Finnish Winter War of 1939-40* by William R. Trotter.)

♦ "Grit of Women" by Jack London is one of the greatest love stories ever written.

**commitment & determination / survival, persistence & endurance: materials & substances**

## groan (amount)

groaned with more food  
the table ~ than we could possibly eat

groaning with stuff  
all these shelves that are ~ (runaway consumerism)

groaned with scrolls, archives, records and registers  
the shelves ~ (East India House in London)

groaning under a mountain  
Europe is ~ of debt

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

**amount: weight**

## groom (prepare)

groomed him to do all this  
they make me like I ~ (father of mass shooter)

groomed victims for his own sexual gratification  
he ~ (a famous singer)

**readiness & preparedness: animal / horse / verb**

## ground (area)

fertile ground for spammers and hackers  
Russia is a ~

**area: ground, terrain & land**

## ground (feeding ground)

feeding ground for the music industry  
YouTube is a ~ (sign up popular talent)

feeding ground for TV and dire poverty  
its marshes were a ~ (the Maremma / Tuscany)

**consumption: animal / predation**

## ground (fertile ground)

fertile ground for spammers  
Russia is a ~ and hackers

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / ground, terrain & land / plant**

## ground (moral high ground, etc.)

moral high ground  
if the US is to keep the ~, we need to...  
there is no longer any ~ left to stand on (diplomacy)  
the ~ can be lonely terrain

♦ "We look for songs that mean something. Higher ground. You know, everybody know where the higher ground is. It sure ain't here on earth. It's above us. So we all want to go to the higher ground." (Clarence Fountain of the Blind Boys of Alabama.)

**character & personality / behavior: direction**

## ground (break ground)

break new ground  
we are trying to ~ in this area (public diplomacy)

**importance & significance / starting, going, continuing & ending: farming & agriculture / ground, terrain & land / infrastructure**

## ground (get off the ground)

got off the ground  
the project died before it ~  
the task force never ~

**growth & development: flying & falling / ground, terrain & land / plane / verb**

## ground (give ground)

give-no-ground  
the ~ defensiveness... (academia)

gave no ground  
he showed no fear and ~ (Pfc. Jesse Buryj / Iraq)

gave (significant) ground  
Trump ~ (a treaty)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / ground, terrain & land / verb**

## ground (gain ground)

gained ground  
a number of states ~ in math (educational testing)

gaining ground  
the sport is ~ (public in-door ax-throwing)  
the campaign to free them was ~ (Cardiff Three)

gained ground against government forces  
the rebels ~

gaining ground across France  
the coronavirus is ~

gaining ground over death and fear  
life is cautiously ~ (Algeria)

**progress & lack of progress: ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## ground (lose ground, etc.)

losing ground  
climate science is ~ with the public  
the left is ~ in America (the culture wars)

lost ground  
a hope that a secular Algeria is gaining ~

reclaimed ground

he ~ for the theater most thought had been abandoned

**progress & lack of progress: ground, terrain & land /  
journeys & trips / movement / verb**

### **ground (hold / stand one's ground)**

hold his ground

he elected to ~ to protect his fallen comrade

holding her ground

she is ~ and not giving in

stand our ground

we must ~ on education and health care (budget cuts)

standing their ground

other schools are ~ (mask requirements / pandemic)

stood her ground

she ~ and didn't let the defense undercut her (trial)

stood their ground

the mayor and the police chief both ~ (criticism)

the enemy fighters ~

**dominance & submission / resistance, opposition & defeat:  
animal / ground, terrain & land / verb**

### **ground (cover ground)**

covered a lot of ground

his speech ~

covers a lot of (historical) ground

the movie ~, from...

covers (some of) the same ground

Betts ~ as Nasaw, but his focus is... (2 authors)

**extent & scope / searching & discovery: ground, terrain &  
land / journeys & trips / verb**

### **ground (prepare the ground)**

prepare the ground for a (crucial) referendum

the elections will ~ (Sudan)

preparing the ground for it

he's ~ (emergency declaration)

**bases: ground, terrain & land / verb**

**readiness & preparedness: ground, terrain & land / verb**

### **ground (hit the ground running)**

hit the ground running

we ~ and within 36 hours we... (police)

**readiness & preparedness: verb / walking, running &  
jumping**

### **ground (both feet on the ground)**

have both feet on the ground

she does appear to ~ (a mature girl)

**character & personality: ground, terrain & land**

### **ground (shaky ground, etc.)**

shaky ground

their relationship is on ~

the franchise is on ~ (troubled NBA team)

unplowed ground

when we got onto ~ (interview)

ground is shifting

the ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: ground, terrain & land  
equilibrium & stability: ground, terrain & land  
ground (firm ground, etc.)**

comfortable ground

steer the conversation to more ~

friendly ground

don't assume Ireland will be ~ for the pope (sex abuse)

safer ground

then they'd be on ~ (by following procedure)

firm ground

the show is still struggling to find ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: ground, terrain & land  
equilibrium & stability: ground, terrain & land  
ground (on the ground, etc.)**

ground conditions

~ matter (resources for hospitals, etc. / pandemic)

on the ground

he is ~ covering the protests (a foreign correspondent)

the Red Cross and other organizations are ~ (disaster)

life ~ goes on, people maintain their daily lives

the president asked for an assessment of the situation ~

from the ground

journalists report the truth ~

**presence & absence: ground, terrain & land**

**perception, perspective & point of view: ground, terrain &  
land / height**

### **ground (go to ground)**

gone to ground

Bolton has ~, refusing interviews (politics)

went to ground for a few months

he ~ but then resurfaced (wanted by Hague)

**appearance & disappearance / concealment & lack of  
concealment / protection & lack of protection / pursuit,  
capture & escape: animal / fox / ground, terrain & land /  
hole / hunting / verb**

### **ground (common ground)**

common ground (people share) is shrinking

the ~ (journalism and the media)

find common ground  
they want to bridge the divide and ~ (gun control / suicide)

seek common ground  
I call upon all of us to ~

reach common ground with Iran  
the US has been unable to ~

concede common ground to his adversaries  
he will not ~

**division & connection: ground, terrain & land**

## ground (middle ground)

middle ground  
there's no ~ with him  
people either support or condemn, there's no ~  
finding ~ is still elusive (compromise)  
the ~ is the place where most of us live (gun control)

**division & connection: ground, terrain & land**

## groundbreaking

groundbreaking leader  
Wilma Mankiller was a ~ (Cherokee)

groundbreaking research  
she has done ~

groundbreaking story  
the results of this ~

groundbreaking (gene-therapy) studies  
the magazine has published many ~

**importance & significance: farming & agriculture / ground, terrain & land**

## grounded

grounded in science and truth  
information ~, analysis rooted in integrity (*The Guardian*)

grounded personality  
his ~ is appreciated by all (boxing champ Josh Taylor)

**bases / character & personality: ground, terrain & land**

## Groundhog Day (film)

Groundhog Day  
we've been here before with Jose, it's all very ~ (Spurs)

groundhog day cycle  
they hope to end the ~ (EMTS take care of mentally ill)

Groundhog Day experience  
she spoke of being stuck in a ~ (pandemic / mental health)

“Groundhog Day” replay  
we'd do it again in a ~ (firebomb civilians / World War II)

judicial Groundhog Day  
it was a ~ (a third retrial)

turned into Groundhog Day

Brexit Day has ~ (yet another delay)

♦ “In describing their lived experiences during the pandemic, several participants specifically referenced the movie Groundhog Day remarking that they felt as though they were stuck in some sort of repeating existence.”

**allusion: film & TV**

**fantasy & reality: allusion / day / film**

**repetition: allusion / day / film**

## ground rule

ground rules  
the new post-Cold War ~  
new ~ might help

♦ A ground rule modifies a rule to a particular place, pitch or field.

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: sports & games**

## groundswell (noun)

groundswell of cases  
a ~ like hers rippled through Hollywood (McToo)

groundswell of hostility  
there has been a ~ toward outsiders (migrants)

groundswell of support  
there is not yet a ~ for sweeping change

groundswell moment  
we're at that ~ (rising demand for antibiotic-free meat)

♦ A groundswell refers to a swell at sea.

**amount & effect: sea / wave**

## groundwork (noun)

groundwork  
laying the ~ for a ceasefire in the Middle East

groundwork for a ceasefire  
laying the ~ in the Middle East

groundwork for his own undoing  
he had laid the ~

decades of groundwork  
~ typically precede any real advances (psychiatry)

laid the groundwork  
he had ~ for his own undoing

**bases: ground, terrain & land**

## ground zero

ground zero for one of history's greatest tank battles  
Hushniya was ~ (the Golan / 1973)

ground zero in the New Economy  
Austin is ~

ground zero of the (anti-vaccine) movement  
California is ~

ground zero for climate change  
Miami is ~

ground zero for (race-based) street gangs  
California is ~

ground zero for sea-level rise  
Miami is ~

snowboarding's ground zero  
Lake Tahoe is ~

♦ Related phrases are "patient zero" and also "year zero," as in the following: "Fourteen eighty-five is taken by historians to be one of the great 'year zeros' of history." (Along with such dates as 1066 and 1789.)

**location / place: nuclear energy**

**effect: explosion / nuclear energy**

**importance & significance: nuclear energy**

**groupthink (and herdthink, etc.)**

Democratthink  
per ~ everything is racist when it needs to be...

doublethink  
see *doublethink* (noun)

herdthink  
diversity, equity and inclusion is simply academic ~

right-think  
the same prevailing ~ (DEI)

blind spots and groupthink  
the media bubble caused ~ (politics)

♦ "It's not enough to say we don't support racism. You have to actually actively fight racism to get the work done." (Ashland, Oregon mayor Julie Akins.)

♦ "It is not enough to indicate that you are not racist, instead you must demonstrate that you are anti-racist." (Sophomore volleyball player Rachel Richardson, Duke University.)

♦ "Racism is a societal problem, and it is no longer good enough to simply be non-racist, Scottish sport must now be actively anti-racist." (Steward Harris, chief executive of Sportscotland.)

♦ "I think he'll have plenty of like behind-the-scene support but, yeah, it'll be hard to support him in public." (An ex-NFL player who criticized a female "analyst" and "rising star" at ESPN.)

**unanimity & consensus: animal**

**grow (increase)**

grew (more than) 700 percent  
the number of women in prisons and jails ~

**increase & decrease: number / plant / verb**

**grow (develop)**

grow in their careers  
medical professionals like him, who are looking to ~

grew in confidence  
Yarde ~ especially in the second round (boxing)

grew very fast  
the company ~ (fashion)

**growth & development: life span / farming & agriculture / plant**

**grow (grow the economy, etc.)**

grown its (podcasting) arm  
NPR has ~ in recent years to reach a younger audience

grow its arsenal  
how did Hamas ~ to strike Israel

grow our audience  
we must ~ and cultivate their financial support (WBUR)

grow the family business  
he saw the opportunity to ~

grow our economy  
we need to ~

growing progress  
see how farmers are ~ in Tanzania (ad for Corteva Agri)

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / part of speech / plant / verb**

**growing (increasing)**

growing criticism  
his policy is the subject of ~

**increase & decrease: plant**

**growing pains**

growing pains  
a TV show can have ~, too

normal growing pains  
these are ~ for a new-film operation

overcame (most of) its growing pains  
it ~ pretty quickly (a TV series)

**growth & development: life span**

**growl (verb)**

growling at each other  
ten minutes later, you're both ~

**conflict / speech: animal / sound / verb**

**speech: animal / dog / sound / verb**

**sound: animal / verb**

**grownup (person)**

grownup in the room  
he positioned himself as the ~, the worldly chaperon

grownup at Facebook  
for 14 years, Sheryl Sandberg has been the ~

**experience: baby / life span / person**

**growth & development: life span**

**person: baby**

**growth (cancerous, etc.)**

cancerous growth  
he refers to the other country as a ~

**affliction: health & medicine**

**growth & development: health & medicine**

## **grow up (grow up together, etc.)**

grew up together

census-taking and a science of statistics ~

**growth & development: life span / verb**

**relationship: death & life / verb**

## **grow up (grow up! etc.)**

grow up

~, it's not all about you (a soccer player)

as a nation, we need to ~, accept this reality (COVID)

Oh grow up

~, TMZ is the problem for...

urged Mr. Grainger to grow up

the Tory mayor of Birmingham ~ (called city a "dump")

♦ "Grow up. Now do us a favour and disappear." (A boxing fan about Anthony Joshua's bizarre antics following Joshua's second loss to Oleksandr Usyk.)

♦ "Oh grow up! TMZ is the problem for calling the sister. A joke is a joke, and it was a funny one." (A comment relating to criticism of the comedian Chris Rock.)

**growth & development: life span / verb**

**experience / insult: life span / verb**

## **grub (person)**

cowardly grubs

he referred to the online trolls as ~

**person: animal / insect**

**character & personality / insult: animal / insect / person**

## **gruel (thin gruel, etc.)**

thin gruel indeed

*Being the Ricardos* does seem like ~ (vs. other biographies)

**substance & lack of substance: food & drink**

## **grumble (noun)**

grumbles and cross-talk

the statement elicited ~ in the chamber (England)

Draw Grumbles

Spain's Civil Servants ~, And Envy...

elicited grumbles

the statement ~ and cross-talk in the chamber (England)

♦ "I think you might start *seeing* some grumbles on Capitol Hill that this is not the way it's supposed to be done." (An ABC reporter.)

♦ "I'm starting to *notice* some real grumbling." (Lockdowns.)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: sound**

**speech: sound**

## **guard (off guard)**

caught the US off guard

Iran's response ~

caught off guard

he is ~ (a diplomat / surprising information)

residents said they were ~ (by a tornado)

caught off guard by the ferocity

scientists were ~ of the eruption

caught off-guard (last year) by a (flu vaccine) shortage

many in the US were ~

caught me off guard

he ~

caught (even) meteorologists off guard

the storm ~

totally caught off guard

Jeanette was ~

**readiness & preparedness: military**

**protection & lack of protection: military**

## **guard (on guard)**

on guard for any signs

we are ~ of infection (doctor)

**readiness & preparedness: military**

**protection & lack of protection: military**

## **guard (changing of the guard)**

changing of the guard

I'm glad to see a ~ (liberal attitudes in sports)

changing of the guard on Court Philippe-Chatrier

it felt like a ~ (French open 2021)

changing of the guard with younger Americans

we are seeing a ~ (their attitude towards taxes)

♦ "The changing of the guard is something that happens. I respect that... My turn to wear the cape has passed." (The British actor Henry Cavill announces on Instagram that he will not return as Superman.)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: military**

**dismissal, removal & resignation: military**

## **guard (lower one's guard, drop one's guard, etc.)**

dropping our guard

I think we are ~ too soon (COVID)

let our guard down

Dr. Fauci warned it's too early to ~ (pandemic)

lowered their guard

they thought they were in private and ~ (naked photos)

**readiness & preparedness: boxing / military / verb**

**protection & lack of protection: boxing / military / verb**

## **guard (keep one's guard up)**

keeps her guard up

she ~

**readiness & preparedness: boxing / military / verb**

**protection & lack of protection: boxing / military / verb**

## guard (old guard)

see *old guard*

## guardian (protection)

guardian of a (150 year) legacy  
the Mariinsky Theater is a ~ (ballet and opera)

guardian of his reputation  
she became the ~ after his death (writer)

**protection & lack of protection: military / person**

## guardrail (behavior)

guard rails  
what are the ~ to make sure that technology does no harm  
Facebook can have harms without adequate ~ in place  
moderating individuals provide some equilibrium, some ~  
this has been done, so the ~ are there (25th amendment)  
what kind of ~ have they mounted to make sure...

guardrails  
~ to prevent all forms of trafficking (Facebook)

guardrails (at home) to prevent that  
there were ~ (bad behavior by a child)

guard rails of our democracy  
they have been ignoring the ~ (ethics in government)

guardrail against the (US-Russia nuclear) rivalry  
the treaty is a ~ (INF nuclear treaty)

guardrails within that media ecosystem  
there are no more ~ (conspiracy theories, misinformation)

guardrails around the personal data  
TikTok has put ~ belonging to American users (Oracle)

no guardrails  
there are ~, anyone can try to create a new reality (media)

fewer guardrails  
Democrats will have even ~ against their party's radical  
lurch

few or no guardrails  
there are ~ to stop it (disinformation on social media)

emergency guardrails  
these ~, these break-the-glass measures... (Facebook)

human rights guardrails  
we must put ~ on the use of AI (and algorithms, etc.)

legal guardrails  
establish ~ to prevent misuse (generative AI)

guardrail has come down  
the ~ (end of INF nuclear treaty between Russia and US)

guardrails are gone  
he is in hot water because the ~, he was relying on...

designing those guardrails  
who should be ~ for society (OpenAI's GPT-4)

establish "guardrails"  
~ that might prevent an accident from... (diplomacy)

have some guardrails up  
presidents would ~ to avoid the appearance of impropriety

have some guardrails in place  
we, as a board, didn't ~ (Time's Up)

put in a bunch of guardrails  
we ~ to make it less likely (another financial collapse)

put up guardrails  
~ to prevent abuse (AI)

swerve around (time-honored investigative) guardrails  
senior officials appeared to ~ (the politicization of the FBI)

♦ "A backstop; a guardrail; trying to keep the President from going outside the bounds; minimize the damage..." ("John Bolton's Place in Ukraine Policy" by Mara Liasson, NPR, Morning Edition, October 25, 2019.)

♦ "Make sure competition doesn't veer into unintended military conflict; establish commonsense guardrails; establish some rules of the road..." (Commentary about summit between President Biden and Xi Jinping.)

♦ "These emergency guardrails, these break-the-glass measures, are blunt instruments." (Facebook and its attempts to control fake news, hate speech, election interference, etc. can also hurt free speech.)

**behavior / constraint & lack of constraint / protection & lack of protection: boundary / infrastructure**

## guinea pig

guinea pig  
I can understand why I was used as a ~ (hospital)  
we are being used as ~s (new rules in soccer)  
he used his own sons as "~s" (sports doping)

pharmaceutical guinea pigs  
they feel like ~, put on one antidepressant after another

treated as guinea pigs  
Africans should not be ~ (vaccinations)

♦ "Be my guinea pig, and I'll give you a free tattoo." (Is that a good idea?)

♦ "I convinced my sister to be the guinea pig." (For a Brazilian bikini wax.)

♦ "I'm not going to be someone's guinea pig, we don't know what'll happen to me if I take that stuff." (The film *Words On Bathroom Walls*.)

**experimentation: animal**

## guide (verb)

guided him into the gang  
he ~

guides him  
Islam ~

**directing / direction: journeys & trips / verb**

## guide (person)

guide  
our ~ knows China very well indeed (Reith lecture)

Therapy guide  
Heather is also a Certified Nature and Forest ~...

spiritual guide  
the cult became her ~

♦ "And I, sick with alarm at his new pallor, / cried out, "How can I go this way when you / who are my strength in doubt turn pale with terror?" / And he: "The pain of these below us here, / drains the color from my face for pity, / and leaves this pallor you mistake for fear. / Now let us go, for a long road awaits us." (*The Inferno*, translated by John Ciardi.)

♦ Jon Krakauer's book, *Into Thin Air*, confronts us with an important question: "What do you do when your guide dies?"

**directing / direction: journeys & trips / person**  
**person: direction / journeys & trips**  
**relationship: direction / journeys & trips**  
**guide (nonperson)**

used the stars as guides  
they ~

**direction: journeys & trips**

**gulf (division)**

gulf  
psychologically the ~ is even wider (Mitrovica, Kosovo)

gulf of difference  
human groups often regard each other across the ~

gulf of mistrust  
there was a ~ (newspaper and government)

gulf of misunderstanding  
the ~ is only growing (Saudi-US post-9/11)

gulf between the haves and the have-nots  
the ~

gulf between leaders and people  
antiwar marches reveal ~

gulf between rich and poor  
the widening ~

gulf between the two  
there's a huge ~ (kinds of companies)

gulf between the two departments  
the ~ (police helicopters, firefighters)

gulf in class  
the game exposed the ~ between these two clubs (soccer)

gulf in their worldviews  
the ~ appears unbridgeable (two academics)

widening gulf  
the ~ between rich and poor

cultural and linguistic gulf  
a ~ has widened between Yoji and his parents (raised in US)

gulf has widened  
a cultural and linguistic ~ between Yoji and his parents

bridge the (cultural, linguistic and political) gulfs  
telemedicine can ~

symbolizes a (wider, more basic) gulf

the Moei River ~ between Burma and Thailand

**division & connection: sea**

**gum up (verb)**

gum up the system  
his purpose was to ~ (politics)

**functioning: mechanism / verb**

**failure, accident & impairment: mechanism / verb**  
**disruption: mechanism / verb**

**gumbo (mixture)**

gumbo of (certain) characters  
thrown in is a kind of ~ (*The French Dispatch* / real people)

gumbo of traditions  
the music of New Orleans is a ~

artistic and musical gumbo  
few have concocted such a wild ~ (Van Dyke Parks)

♦ "You know, you put 'em all together, and it's like a gumbo, you put everything in the pot, and, in the moment, you just fly, ya know, after you make your 100th vat of gumbo, you get a feel fur [for] where to place these things, and it's not really contrived, it just is a spirit in a moment that you follow..." ("Fresh Air" Favorites: Bandleader Jon Batiste, January 1, 2020. He grew up in Louisiana, near Kenner, internalizing the Bambara rhythm.)

**identity & nature / mixture: food & drink**

**gun (verb)**

gunning for him  
Oppenheimer was now certain that Strauss was ~

gunning for me  
why are you ~ (dispute)

gunning for a mistrial  
the defense is ~

**target: verb / weapon**

**gun (big gun)**

see *big gun* (*and heavy gun*)

**gun (jump the gun)**

jump the gun  
don't ~  
so he sits on his ideas, he doesn't want to ~ (Darwin)

**eagerness & reluctance: sports & games / verb**

**action, inaction & delay: sports & games / verb**

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: sports & games / verb**

**gun (hold a gun to one's head, etc.)**

with a gun to their head  
the Iranians would never negotiate ~

with a gun to her head  
famously stubborn, she is unlikely to co-operate ~ (Aung San Suu Kyi / 2021)

holding a gun to the head

the US is ~ of Canada (tariff negotiations)

hold a gun to her head

I didn't ~, it was consensual (sex abuse)

put a gun to your head

they ~ (drug treatment for doctors)

**coercion & motivation: weapon / verb**

## gun (under the gun)

under the gun

the deadline puts us ~

**oppression / fate, fortune & chance: weapon**

## gun (criticism)

turn their guns on Bill Barr

I think it laughable to see Democrats ~ (politics)

**accusation & criticism: weapon**

## gun (with guns blazing)

guns a' blazing

he came out ~ right from the start of the round (boxer)

with (all) guns blazing

the White House will go into that process ~ (impeachment)

coming with guns blazing

I'm not ~, looking for a fight (a tennis reformer)

**accusation & criticism: weapon**

## gun (stick to one's guns)

sticking to his guns

he is ~, continuing to deny the allegations against him

stuck to their guns

he and his directors ~ (resisted a takeover)

stuck to her guns artistically

Joni is someone who's ~ (the singer Joni Mitchell)

♦ "He stuck with his guns," he said, with his characteristic mild mangling of cliché. ("Who Will Fight With Me?" by Rivka Galchen, *The New Yorker*, October 3, 2022.)

**commitment & determination: weapon**

## gun (hired gun)

hired gun

we are ~s (Scott Sanders / voices for political attack ads)

hired-gun

before 1968, ~consultants were rare (politics)

financial hired gun

he has worked as a ~ (hedge funds, etc.)

works as a hired gun

he ~ to defeat school bond referendums

♦ "I used to be a warrant officer in the British SAS and now I'm a soldier of fortune. I'm a hired gun, a mercenary if you like, and I'm the man who was trying keep the other four guys in the car alive on the drive from Jordan to Baghdad..." (*Highway To Hell: Dispatches From A Mercenary In Iraq* by John Geddes.)

**conflict / help & assistance: person / weapon**

**person: money**

## gung ho (and gung-ho)

gung-ho

sales were "~" in February but... (sales 'softened')

it was a great place to work, everybody was ~

not everyone is as ~, though, about the need...

I tend to be the kind of person that is ~ (gets involved)

Gung Ho On Health Care Overhaul

"Pelosi And Reid Exit White House ~" (NPR)

gung-ho about going

everybody's so ~ to college... (there are alternatives)

"gung-ho attitude

he backed away from the ~ they had embraced...

gung-ho group

a ~ of space enthusiasts has started the process of...

gung-ho spirit

its ~ is infectious (a graphic novel)

less gung-ho

teachers were a bit ~...

way gung-ho

and I was ~, it was too much...

♦ "By the mid-eighteen-forties, American farmers, too, had become gung ho for guano." ("Elemental Need: Phosphorus helped saved our way of life—and now threatens to end it" by Elizabeth Kolbert, *The New Yorker*, March 6, 2023. "Gung ho" is very much a Chinese word relating to World War II (first entry 1941), so of course American farmers weren't "gung ho" for guano. The word might have been put in quotation marks, but it wasn't. On the other hand, the essay is breezy: Elizabeth refers to guano as "yellowish clay," "bird shit," and simply "shit." Presentism?)

♦ See "The Long, Strange Journey Of 'Gung-Ho,'" by Jess Kung, NPR, Code Switch, October 18, 2019. If you type in "Carlson's Raiders" at Wikipedia, you will be redirected to "Evans Carlson." In that entry, Wikipedia says, "Carlson popularized the phrase *gung-ho*." Few men like him exist today! What will we do if we need them?

**commitment & determination / enthusiasm: military**

## gun-shy (adjective)

gun shy

some have described him as "~" (a boxer after K.O.)

he didn't fight like a champion and looked ~ (a boxer)

gun-shy about getting married again

he may have felt a little ~

gun-shy fighter

he was too negative, he seemed like a ~ (boxing)

**eagerness & reluctance: weapon**

## guru (person)

adventure guru

the magnum opus of ~ Ray Jardine

computer guru

the N.S.A.'s alienation from the ~s

mind guru

he's labelled as a ~ (boxing trainer Joby Clayton)

motivational guru

he is not a traditional lacquer-haired ~

style guru

Cosmo's ~ Elaine Farley

software guru

a popular ~ named Tim O'Reilly

relationship and self-esteem guru

~ Phil McGraw

**message: person / religion**

**knowledge & intelligence: person / religion**

**person: religion**

## **gush (verb)**

gushed about her (Sophia Loren) looks

*People* magazine ~

gush about how

we're going to ~ much we appreciate you (podcast)

gushed about parenthood

he ~

gushed about him

she ~ (praise)

gushed over her longtime pal

DeGeneres has openly ~ (Stephen 'tWitch' Boss)

♦ "So welcome! Uhh, as you all probably know this is the virtual launch of Jas' *We Deserve Monuments* which I'm going to gush about in a minute..." (Oblong Online: Jas Hammonds, *We Deserve Monuments*, with Mckisha Telfer.)

♦ "And I think this really is like a, a sort of blueprint for how it can be both sexy and spur of the moment but also every step of the way there are plans, in part because, like you said, Mandalit, she's a planner, and that is her thing..." ("Emma Thompson finds herself, and pleasure, in 'Good Luck To You, Leo Grande,'" NPR, Pop Culture Happy Hour, June 16, 2022.)

♦ "Without being too TMI, I can really relate to..." (Blah blah blah...)

♦ "NPR newscasters and reporters have gotten completely casual and unprofessional, so much so that I fully expect one to respond to another in quick staccato with the new affirmative phrase: "Yeah yeah, yeah yeah yeah!" (One of 2,371 comments to an article at *The Washington Post* titled, "NPR is losing some of its Black and Latino hosts. Colleagues see a larger crisis," by Paul Farhi and Elahe Izadi, Jan. 5, 2022.)

♦ "Kamala Harris mocked for gushing over a 'yellow school bus.'"

**amount & effect / speech: verb / water**

## **gush (noun)**

trickle, flow, gush

we had a theory called, "~" (rescuing hostages)

**amount & effect / movement: water**

## **gut (destroy)**

gutted a (historic) building

the huge fire that ~

gutted the kitchen

a fire has ~ of a wooden clubhouse at a holiday park

gut the presidency

the generals tried to ~ (Egypt)

gut the program

the Republicans are trying to ~

gut that protection

the proposed rule would ~

gutted the (California) regulation

the Supreme Court ~ (declared it unconstitutional)

**destruction: blade / hunting / knife / stomach / verb**

## **gut (feeling)**

gut feel

he has a ~ for what the voter thinks (politics)

gut feeling

I went with my ~

he was seized by a ~ of lurking danger

range estimation by "~" is subject to error

you may have some ~s that could be terribly wrong

gut instinct

I would never again go against my ~s (climber)

her ~ told her that he was lying

trust your ~s

I followed a ~ and chose to run the rapid (kayaker)

gut feelings and emotions

neural systems tap into ~

gut feelings and intuitions

people are often influenced by ~

"cop's gut"

when a ~ tells him to stop someone

gut told me

my ~ that she was lying

does everything from his gut

Biden ~ (not disciplined / doesn't follow script)

knew in her gut

she ~ that her son was dead too

**feeling, emotion & effect / judgment: stomach**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: stomach**

**knowledge & intelligence: stomach**

## **Gutenberg**

Gutenberg of the blind

Braille was the ~ (Louis Braille)

**creation & transformation: epithet**

## **gut out (verb)**

gutted it out

he ~ (Tyson Fury beats Wallin in ring)

**courage & lack of courage: stomach / verb**

**commitment & determination: stomach / verb**

**survival, persistence & endurance: stomach / verb**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: stomach / verb**

## **guts (insides)**

guts

someone had tended to its ~, if not its skin (an old rifle)  
the ~ no one wants to see, think about (Web hosts)

**orientation / bases: stomach**

## **guts (courage)**

guts

such bravery, such ~ (the Scottish boxer Luke Campbell)

guts, passion and heart

he plays with ~, he's all in (NFL player)

bottle and guts

fair play to Chisora who is showing plenty of ~ (boxer)

have the guts

do you ~ to rescind the law (politics)

showed (lots of) guts

he ~ and plenty of skill too (a boxer)

took (a lot of) guts

it ~ to do what he did

♦ "The Finns would win or lose on the basis of their conventional, professional, military skills, the fiber of their discipline, the worthiness of their commanders—and above all else, on the depth and stubbornness of their *sisu*. That bristling little world was once the most famous Finnish idiom ever to become part of the outside world's vocabulary. It can be translated as 'guts' or 'spunk' or 'grit' or 'balls,' or as a combination of all those words together. The word in Finnish has nuances that resist easy translation." (*Frozen Hell: The Russo-Finnish Winter War of 1939-40* by William R. Trotter.)

♦ No guts, no glory!

**courage & lack of courage: stomach**

**commitment & determination: stomach**

## **gutted (destroyed)**

gutted by fire

body discovered in house ~

gutted by the fire

the landmark building was ~ within a matter of hours

gutted (by legislators) and abandoned

the proposal was ~

**destruction: blade / knife / hunting / stomach**

## **gutted (feeling)**

gutted

I'm ~, it's a tough one to swallow (Conor McGregor loss)

gutted for you

I am so ~ and your family (terminal diagnosis)

gutted for the players

I'm ~ (coach on tough soccer loss)

gutted with the way

we're ~ things have gone (tough soccer loss)

gutted when

she said she was ~ she heard the news

gutted and heartbroken

I'm ~ (missed penalty)

drained, run down, (mentally) low, gutted

I felt ~ (promoter after an upset boxing loss)

**feeling, emotion & effect: blade / hunting / knife / skin, muscle, nerves & bone / stomach**

## **gutter (in the gutter / decline)**

in the gutter

morale is ~

employment gutter

they are left in an "~" due to linguistic impoverishment

**decline: direction / infrastructure**

## **gutter (in the gutter / behavior)**

get (down) in the gutter

I refuse to ~ with him

**behavior: direction / height / infrastructure**

## **gutter (out of the gutter)**

get your mind out of the gutter

you need to ~ (preoccupation with sex)

**behavior: direction / infrastructure**

## **gutter (end up in the gutter)**

end up in the gutter

if you don't do well in school, you'll ~

**decline: direction / infrastructure**

## **gutter (gutter politics, etc.)**

employment gutter

they are left in an "~" due to linguistic impoverishment

gutter politics

this is ~ of the lowest sort

this is the dirtiest ~ that I've ever seen (a politician)

**behavior / decline: direction / infrastructure**

## **gut-wrenching (adjective)**

gut wrenching

one scene after another is ~ (a film)

gut-wrenching memoirs

incredible personal testimony, ~ (the Blitz)

gut-wrenching testimony

he heard ~ of bullying and heartbreaking stories

gut-wrenching visit

Kerry made a ~ to Hiroshima

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / stomach**

## **guy (nonhuman)**

guy

we're seeing these ~s all over the place (carpet vipers)  
call this ~ Typhoon Seven (*Hunt for Red October*)

bad guys  
for years they've been the ~ in movies like *Jaws* (sharks)

big guy  
he's a ~, for sure... (a large Colorado bear)

fun guys  
~ known as chanterelles (a coveted wild mushroom)

little guys  
all these ~ grow here so well (cherries in Michigan)

♦ "Her 'little guy' is the majestic chow mix, Blaze." (A dog.)

♦ "The guys at the invasion front up in the tropics are moving often kilometres in a single night..." (Professor Rick Shine of the University of Sydney about the "warty amphibian," cane toads.)

♦ "Unfortunately for these young guys, they're too sick and too young for us to release them (back into the wild)." (Doctor Alex Herman, Vice President of Veterinary Services at the Oakland Zoo, about two of her institution's orphaned female mountain lion cubs.)

♦ "Sure, we see lots of these guys on the edge of the sun, and we see them do their [unintelligible] circular dance, but this guy [unintelligible] lifted off and went around." (A Scottish scientist.)

**person: object**

## guy (the guy)

the guy  
he was ~ then (Len Bias / University of Maryland)  
I'm ~ who beat the guy (political chest-thumping)

♦ "And so I think he likes to kinda thump his chest about that a bit... When people are looking at turning the page and moving on, the new candidate, the new future, somebody younger, brighter, shinier, it allows him to say, 'Yeah, I'm the guy that beat the guy,' which is a pretty big claim." (David Urban, former Trump campaign consultant, speaking about Joe Biden on NPR.)

**importance & significance: person**

## guy (good guy, etc.)

guy's guy  
his dad was a ~ (snakeskin boots, Harley, muscle truck)

my guy  
I loved Allen Iverson, he was ~ (the NBA player)

bad guy  
~s are bad guys, the Army is the Army, orders are orders  
it doesn't mean the ~s have changed their tune (Baghdad)  
you never know who's a good guy or a ~  
our job is about killing ~s (US in Afghanistan)  
he is a ~, too conciliatory to hetero sensibilities (gay author)  
he's a people pleaser, so I have to be the ~ (management)

big (tough) guy  
he talks like a ~, then does nothing (a politician)

dream guy  
new dating services guarantee a ~

fall guy  
see *fall guy* (noun)

good guy  
the ~s are gonna win

you never know who's a ~ or a bad guy  
he was just a ~ with a gun...until he wasn't

great guy  
I was on a blind date with this ~

hard guy  
he's a tough guy, he's a ~ (boxer Chris van Heerden)

little guy  
he isn't afraid to stand up for the ~

New Guy  
the Hanoi Hilton included Heartbreak Hotel and ~ Village

new guy  
~s make dumb-ass mistakes (combat)

Nice Guy  
Parker is the 'Mr ~' of boxing (lacks nasty streak)

regular guy  
he was a ~ who liked to watch sports, chase girls, party...

right guy  
Urban Meyer might not be the ~ for the team (a coach)  
but the ~ gets the win in this fight (Usyk vs. Joshua II)

*Straight Guy*  
Bravo's *Queer Eye For The ~*

tough guy  
he's a ~, he's a hard guy (boxer Chris van Heerden)

tough-guy  
he hides behind a ~ posture

Tuff Guy  
Talks like Big ~, then does zero ~! (a politician)

white guy  
letting ~s or non-Indians in ruins the ceremony  
presidential politics with just two ~s

type-A-my-way-or-the-highway guy  
he was a ~

angry "get off my lawn" guy  
he comes across as ~ (a blowhard)

breed of guys  
old, tough guys, they were just a different ~ (Italians)

kind of guy  
he's known as a hard-charging, take-no-prisoners ~  
Max is a no-quarter ~ and Lewis... (F1 racing)  
he's a go-out-on-his-shield ~ (the boxer Deontay Wilder)

♦ "I don't think we'll ever be able to do presidential politics with just two white guys ever again." (Breezy political punditry by Ali Vitali (female) on NPR.)

♦ "The only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun."

♦ The bad guys; bad actors; bad elements; bad hombres... (Descriptions used by the US president, military, State Department, and members of Congress.)

♦ "We have some bad hombres here and we're gonna get them out."

♦ "He's a very dangerous hombre with big, big power." (The boxer Tyson Fury about Deontay Wilder.)

- ♦ He's just an average Joe. / "Joe plumber"...
- ♦ "The working-class Joe identity is important for Biden politically."
- ♦ "I know America loves its bad guys. But I'm a great guy. I just won a Super Bowl. I'm an American hero." (The NFL player Antonio Brown, on being cut from his team.)
- ♦ "He's a nice fella... A guy don't need no sense to be a nice fella." (*Of Mice and Men*.)
- ♦ "Nobody is acting out of anger. He's the bad guy, we're the good guy. It's just the way it is." (Special Forces operative in Afghanistan, after the completion of a successful mission that ended with all the Afghan enemy dead.)
- ♦ "Sure, I know the type, he don't rile easily, but when he blows, look out." (YouTube, "Gomer Pyle Learns a Bully")
- ♦ see also *boy, man (big man, little man, etc.), Mister (and Mr., Missus, Mrs.)*

**character & personality: film / person**

**characterization: person**

## **gymnastic (adjective)**

gymnastic voice

her rich, ~ is center stage (Sabina Sciubba)

**ability & lack of ability: movement / sports & games**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: movement / sports & games**

## **gymnastics (effort)**

"gymnastics" of the tongue and throat

the vocal ~ (speech)

genetic gymnastics

these ~ are a big part of why... (the polio virus)

linguistic gymnastics

he performed ~ on the issue in testimony (Bill Clinton)

logistical gymnastics

getting surgery patients to the ship required some ~

mathematical gymnastics

her plan is ~ (politics / paying for healthcare)

mental gymnastics

Democrats do this ~ nearly every election cycle

you don't have to do any ~ to imagine that if...

what ~ we have to do for this craziness (preferred pronouns)

verbal gymnastics

local media use ~ to avoid placing responsibility (police)

vocal gymnastics

I would try to imitate her ~ (Celia Cruz)

her guitar playing and ~ are an unstoppable force

**difficulty, easiness & effort: sports & games**

**ability & lack of ability: movement / sports & games**

# H

## **habit (enthusiasm)**

kayaking habit

he works mainly to support his ~

support his (kayaking) habit

he works mainly to ~

**enthusiasm: addiction**

## **hack (hack something / endurance)**

hack the pace

Isaac wasn't sure he could ~ (child actor)

**survival, persistence & endurance: verb**

## **hack (break into)**

hack the NSA

he managed to ~

**protection & lack of protection: blade / verb**

**computer: blade / verb**

## **hack (fix)**

hack

tech can optimize, or "~", any aspect of our lives

**amelioration & renewal: blade / verb**

**computer: blade / verb**

## **hack (a fix)**

hacks for coping

~ with extreme heat (heat waves, warming climate)

hacks and tips

interesting beauty ~ found on TikTok

life hacks

your web site for ~

the book repackages Stoicism as a series of ~

tiny hack

one ~ for better hips

ultimate summer beach hacks

Mom of 4 shares her ~

tips and hacks

turkey ~ on TikTok (Butterball / Thanksgiving)

~ to make life better (NPR)

♦ Lifehacker offers "tips and tricks for getting more done in less time." (A website.)

♦ "Mom of 4 shares her ultimate summer beach hacks ahead of Memorial Day weekend." (ABC "News.")

**amelioration & renewal: blade**

**help & assistance: blade**

**computer: blade**

## **hacking (fixing)**

body hacking

his ~ did him in (pills, powders, liquids)

**amelioration & renewal: blade**

**help & assistance: blade**

## **hackles (raise hackles)**

raise some hackles

this will ~

raised hackles in Switzerland  
the proposals have ~ (EU restrictions on firearms)

♦ Piloerection is a sign of emotional arousal. In chimpanzees, it will cause the hair on their shoulders to stick straight up. At the same time, chimpanzees might hoot and throw pebbles.

**feeling, emotion & effect: animal / dog / hair / verb**

**conflict: animal / dog / hair / verb**

## haggle (verb)

haggle over forming  
political factions continue to ~ the new government

**position, policy & negotiation: money / verb**

## haggling

diplomatic haggling  
the resolution went through much ~ (U.N.)

**position, policy & negotiation: money**

## hagiographic (superlative)

hagiographic movie  
Hollywood made a ~ about Young (Mormon leader)

**behavior / reverence / superlative: religion**

## hail (in a hail)

in a hail of (police) bullets  
they died ~

in the (initial) hail of fire  
~, 2 soldiers were wounded

**amount & effect: snow & ice / storm**

## hail (noun)

hail of criticism  
the ruling drew a ~ from the legal community

hail of gunfire  
the Humvee desperately tried to escape the ~

hails of (machine-gun) fire  
the Allied troops who braved ~ on Normandy's beaches

♦ "Wholesale devastation of many cereal and fruit crops; apples split in two with 'one half left hanging on the tree'; long pieces of bark stripped off fruit trees; trees 'absolutely barked'; hedges 'completely peeled'; trees left leafless and stripped of bark; fields of cereal crops completely threshed; 50,000 panes of glass broken in Chipping Norton; leaden window framework battered in; slate roofs and chimney pots destroyed; the piles of hail contacting warmer ground created a mist or steam; continuous thunder and vivid lightning; roads knee-deep in hailstones; flooding ..." (The Great Hailstorm of 9 August, 1843, in Great Britain. Information from "Severe Hailstorms in the United Kingdom and Ireland: A Climatological Survey with Recent and Historical Case Studies" by Jonathan D.C. Webb and Derek M. Elsom.)

**amount & effect: snow & ice / storm**

## hailed

hailed as a liberal hero  
Humphrey was ~ (politics)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound**

## Hail Mary

Hail Mary pass  
legal cliffhangers include a ~ in 2009 (Death Row)

Hail Mary (legal) strategy  
the legal team went for a sort of ~

♦ "In all of its sense, it was just a Hail Mary, I didn't see Abby... It was just insane." (Megan Rapinoe about her 2011 World Cup cross to Abby Wambach against Brazil.)

**fate, fortune & chance: football / religion / sports & games**

## hair (resemblance)

leaf hair  
~s can help identify different kinds of oaks

root hairs  
~ (oak tree)

**resemblance: hair**

## hair (hair on fire)

have their hair on fire  
centrist Democrats ~ over Sanders (too radical)

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire / hair / sensation**

## hairpin (shape)

hairpin turns  
fans lined the ~ (Tour de France)

**shape: direction / hair**

## hair-raising

hair-raising glimpse  
a ~

hair-raising trip  
a ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: hair**

## hair trigger

hair-trigger situation  
he feared a ~ (miscalculation, pre-emptive strike, etc.)

hair-trigger temper  
he had a ~  
he developed a ~ (steroid abuser)  
he was an imperious boss with a ~

**initiation: weapon**

## hair's breadth (come within a hair's breadth, etc.)

within a hair's-breadth  
she was ~ of losing her place in the tournament (sports)

came within a hair's breadth of dying  
she ~ at his hands (grievous bodily harm)

**comparison & contrast / proximity: breadth / hair**

## half-baked (adjective)

half-baked idea

this ~ will pose a threat to Democrats (politics)

**flaws & lack of flaws: cooking**

## half-hearted

halfhearted

I made a ~ effort to learn French

**commitment & determination: heart**

## hall (halls of academe, etc.)

halls of academe

plagiarism can result in banishment from the ~

**power: infrastructure / sign, signal, symbol**

## hallmark

hallmarks of al-Qaida

officials said the attacks bore the ~

hallmark of the administration

arrogance has been the ~ (Bush)

hallmarks of a bygone era

quaint ~

hallmark of great leaders

Amundsen had the personal magnetism that is the ~

hallmarks of a contract killing

his murder had none of the ~

hallmarks of eating disorders

one of the ~ is denial (lying about eating habits)

bore the hallmarks

officials said the attacks ~ of al-Qaida

bore (all) the (al Qaeda) hallmarks

the operation ~ of careful planning

carried all the hallmarks

it ~ of the other rapes, the same warning... (a new rape)

♦ Hallmarks were marks on precious metals like silver and gold used to indicate purity.

**evidence: mark**

## hall of fame (and hall of shame, etc.)

shame Hall of Fame

if you do want to get into the ~... (politics)

♦ "If you do want to get into the shame Hall of Fame, you have to do a lot more than you had to do even ten years ago." (Former Democratic congressman Anthony Weiner about Representative George Santos. From "When politicians have no shame, the old rules don't apply," NPR, Morning Edition, Feb. 15, 2023.)

♦ The International Boxing HOF; Football HOF; Basketball HOF; Baseball HOF; Rock & Roll HOF; Country Music HOF; The Blues HOF; The Funk Music HOF (Dayton, Ohio, "the funkier place on Earth"); Radio HOF; Toy HOF; The World Video Game HOF; Mascot HOF (opened in Whiting, Indiana in 2018); Songwriters HOF; The National Inventors HOF; the U.S. Chess HOF; National Teachers HOF (Emporia, Kansas—Who knew?)... (Various actual HOFs, in order of significance.)

♦ "JACKSON, Miss.—A legendary rodeo clown who spent decades performing has died after the final performance of the 55th Annual Dixie National Rodeo and Livestock Show in Mississippi. / Lecile Harris, 83, died in his sleep after the show Wednesday night in Jackson, news outlets reported citing a release from the Mississippi Fair Commission. / Born in Lake Cormorant, Mississippi, Harris...was inducted into the Mississippi Rodeo Hall of Fame, the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame and won the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association award for Clown of the Year five times... / Harris started out as a bullrider but switched to comedy after being injured at age 52, WANT-TV reported. He was also a drummer in the Memphis area during the 1950s and 60s, and played football at the University of Tennessee-Martin." ("Legendary rodeo clown Lecile Harris dead at 83," the Associated Press, Feb 14, 2020.)

**achievement, recognition & praise / superlative: place**

## hallowed (adjective)

hallowed ground

this memorial wall is ~ for the CIA (137 stars)

Lambeau Field is ~ (fans of the Green Bay Packers)

hallowed Boston Latin School

few seats come open in a given year at the ~

hallowed spot

to me it was a ~ (island associated with James Cook)

hallowed (maritime) tradition

hazing inexperienced sailors with a fool's errand is a ~

hallowed (boxing) venue

Madison Square Garden is a ~

♦ Just as a clear sun sank ahead of my ship I took a bearing of a little island..., an insignificant crumb of dark earth, lonely... But to me it was a hallowed spot, for I knew that the *Endeavour* had been hove to off it in the year 1762 for her captain, whose name was James Cook, to go ashore for half an hour. ("Geography and Some Explorers" by Joseph Conrad.)

**importance & significance / reverence: religion**

## halo (noun)

Obama halo

8 years of working with Obama gave him the ~ (Biden)

health halo

"natural" and "organic" create a "~" (ads / NAS cigarettes)

bestow a halo

the US news media was eager to ~ (on Amanda Knox)

taken off his halo

a little of the shine had now been ~ (a politician)

**behavior / reverence / superlative: religion / sign, signal, symbol**

## halt (grind to a halt, etc.)

came to a screeching halt

his wild success ~

the sports world ~ (coronavirus epidemic)

grind to a halt

England's workplaces were set to ~ (football fever)

innovation could gradually ~ (low returns on capital)

without the parts, factories would soon ~

grinds to a halt

a surface transportation system that ~

ground to a halt

traffic on the expressway ~

France ~ (May 1968)

his career ~ soon after (architect)

screached to a halt

his career ~

shuddering to a halt

wide swaths of the economy are ~ (virus pandemic)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism / movement / verb**

**failure, accident & impairment: mechanism / movement / verb**

## hamburger (Hamburger Hill, etc.)

Hamburger Hill

Hill 937 got its nickname, ~ (Vietnam War)

♦ "This is a ship of war, and I will grind whatever grist the mill requires in order to fulfill my duty." (Capt. Jack Aubrey, played by Russell Crowe, in the film *Master and Commander*.)

**military: consumption / epithet / meat**

**death & life: consumption / epithet / meat**

## ham-handed

vague and ham-handed

the legislation is ~

**oppression: size / hand**

## Hamlet (Hamlet on the Hudson, etc.)

Hamlet on the Hudson

sometimes labeled ~, Mario Cuomo...

♦ Mario Cuomo, governor of New York, was labeled the Hamlet on the Hudson. He got much attention as he debated the pros and cons of running for president.

**allusion: books & reading**

**character & personality: allusion / books & reading**

## hammer (Thor's Hammer, etc.)

Thor's Hammer

~ is an unusual rock formation in Bryce Canyon

**proper name: hammer / religion**

**geography: proper name / religion**

## hammer (blizzards hammered the Karakoram, etc.)

hammer the Deep South

three killed as severe weather, tornadoes ~

hammered the Karakoram

severe blizzards ~ (Gasherbrum IV)

hammers the Philippines

super typhoon Mangkhut ~

**storm: force**

## hammer (criticize)

hammered the White House team

she ~ (in her memoir / politics)

**accusation & criticism: force / hammer / speech / verb**

## hammer (hammer of the law, etc.)

hammer of the law

the ~ has to come down on misconduct (social media)

the ~ falls down harder on leftist demonstrators

combined arms hammer

the ~ that is about to strike him (Saddam)

emotional hammer

pandemic's ~ hits hard (depression, etc.)

legal hammer

the group is bringing a ~ on the right (SPLC)

hammer (of the law) falls (down) harder

this perception that the ~ on leftist demonstrators

brings the hammer down

corporate America ~ (against conservatives)

bringing a (legal) hammer down

the group is ~ on the right (Southern Poverty Law Center)

**force: hammer / tools & technology**

## hammered out

hammered out in negotiations

important deals are ~ (W.T.O.)

hammered out between opponents and supporters

in a compromise ~

**creation & transformation: hammer / manufacturing**

## hammer out (verb)

hammered out a compromise

opponents and supporters ~ (state song)

hammered out the trick

after some trial and error they ~ (kayakers)

**creation & transformation: hammer / manufacturing / verb**

## hamstrung

hamstrung

the administration is ~

♦ "Every horror that could make war hideous attended this retreat; distress, conflagration, death in all modes... And the spirit of cruelty smote even the brute creation, for the French general, to lessen incumbrances, ordered beasts of burden to be destroyed, and the inhuman fellow charged with the execution hamstrung 500 asses, and left them to starve. They were found so by the British; and the mute, sad, deep expression of grief and pain visible in the poor creatures' looks excited a strange fury in the soldiers—no quarter would have been given at that time..." (Napier on combat against the French in 1811 on the Iberian Peninsula. Quoted in *British Battles on Land and Sea*.)

**constraint & lack of constraint / functioning: animal / health & medicine / leg / movement / walking, running & jumping**

## hand (at hand)

at hand

success is ~  
perhaps a cure is ~

close at hand

they believe the end of the world is ~

**proximity: hand**

## hand (in hand)

well in hand

she has her diabetes ~  
they had things ~ (law enforcement / a school shooting)

**control & lack of control: hand**

## hand (on hand)

on hand

thousands of police and security forces are ~ (festival)

on hand for the ceremony

bishops, archbishops and the papal nuncio were ~

on hand to help

she was ~ with translations for the doctor

**presence & absence: hand**

## hand (at the hands)

at his hands

many people suffered ~ (a deposed ruler)

at the hands of a mob

it was the eighth killing ~ this year (Peru)

at the hands of an intimate

victims of violence ~

at the hands of an (Illinois) mob

he died ~ (Joseph Smith)

at the hands of police officers

he sought death ~ (suicide by cop)

at the hands of police officers

his plan was to die in a fire or ~

at the hands of slave owners

the abuse his ancestors suffered ~

at the hands of a spouse, lover or relative

a woman's risk of death ~

death at the hands of the Americans

a martyr's ~

harm at the hands of other students

protect students from ~ (gays)

violence at the hands of his father

protect a four-year-old boy from ~

violence at the hands of an intimate  
victims of ~

violence at the hands of a partner  
patients who are victims of ~

death at the hands of a spouse, lover or relative  
a woman's risk of ~

death at the hands of police officers  
he sought ~

die at the hands of police officers  
his plan was to ~ (suicide by cop)

die at the hands of the IRA  
innocent people will ~

died at the hands of an (Illinois) mob  
he ~ (Joseph Smith)

suffer at the hands of other students  
many ~ (transgressors)

suffer at the hands of (unscrupulous) employers  
these immigrants ~

**involvement / responsibility: hand**

## hand (dealt a hand)

hand

these things come along, that's the ~ you drew (illness)

dealt a difficult hand  
they have been ~

♦ "We play with the cards we're dealt."

**fate, fortune & chance: cards**

## hand (control)

in the hands of the Justice Department  
the case is already ~

in the hands of (a few large) companies  
the industry is now consolidated

in the hands of the people  
the power was not ~

in the hands of one person  
the power was ~

in small-town hands  
a small-town paper ~

in (very) capable hands  
the department is ~ (police)

in good hands  
the health of publishing is ~ (readers)

in great hands  
I knew she was ~ (assisted climber on Mt. Everest)

in private hands

the restaurants are ~  
in the right hands  
~, that stage has enormous possibilities (a theater)  
steady hand  
he is supposed to be a ~, he's a veteran (attorney general)  
rests in the hands  
power and wealth ~ of a small elite  
leave it in the judges' hands  
he didn't ~ (boxer knocks out opponent)

**control & lack of control: hand**

### hand (raise one's hand)

raised its hand right away  
Kosovo ~ (to accept Afghan refugees)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: gesture / hand / verb**

### hand (possession)

in the hands of the enemy  
she didn't want to be left ~ (POW)  
how to escape if you are ~  
in the hands of US forces and their allies  
in 2 months Afghanistan was ~

in enemy hands  
the ridgetop was still ~ (Afghanistan)

in Palestinian hands  
that would leave the hilltop ~

in Kurdish hands  
Kirkuk, home of ethnic Turks known as Turkomen, is ~

in loving hands  
she left the restaurant ~ (died)

changed hands  
the town has ~ in the past month (rebels vs. government)

leave the hilltop in Palestinian hands  
that would ~

left in the hands  
she didn't want to be ~ of the enemy (POW)

fall into the hands  
weapons that may ~ of terrorists (NBC, etc.)

fallen into the hands  
regions that have ~ of the insurgents

fall into enemy hands  
he feared the machine gun could ~  
we don't want the information to ~

fell into rebel hands  
the stronghold of Korhogo ~

fall into the (wrong) hands  
it could ~

fell into the wrong hands

if the information ~  
if Pakistan's nuclear weapons ~

get the (lost) items into the right hands  
Y staffers try to ~

get their hands on booze  
minors using online ordering to ~

get their hands on (classified) information  
lawyers can't ~

leave Saudi hands  
nor did the whole \$55 billion ~

get weapons out of the hands  
trying to ~ of local warlords (Afghanistan)

make their way into the hands  
treated, the beaver skins ~ of fashion designers

push (Pakistani) society into the hands  
~ of the militants

**possession: hand**

### hand (bite the hand that feeds one)

bit the hand that feeds him  
he ~ (boxer withdraws without a good reason)

bit the hand that fed him  
he ~ (a troubled NFL athlete running out of chances)

♦ "One of our obligations is to bit back, to bite the hand that feeds us in order to speak up for justice or social justice." Julia Lee, author of *Biting the Hand: Growing up Asian in Black and White America.*

♦ "Not only did they throw you a life preserver, they drove the boat and picked you up!" (Shannon Sharpe, speaking to Skip Bayless about Antonio Brown, on the sports show "Skip and Shannon: Undisputed." "They" refer to Tom Brady, Bruce Arians, and the Miami Dolphins football team, who hired Antonio Brown after he had been cut from 3 teams. Brown ended up walking off the field in the middle of a game.)

♦ I place a date in your lips, and you spit the pit in my face! (Ingratitude.)

♦ "Invite a beggar into your house and he will put his feet up on your table!"

**help & assistance: hand**

### hand (tie one's hands, etc.)

tie our hands  
this will ~ (a trade union)

ties judges' hands  
the bill ~ (vis-à-vis non-dangerous mentally ill)

Biden's hands were tied  
~ when he came into office

their hands were tied  
there was no loss of expertise but their ~ (security)

the company's hands would be tied  
the ~ if... (a court ruling)

free hand  
gave him a ~ to go after terrorists

**constraint & lack of constraint: hand / rope / verb**

## hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.)

hand

our ~s are clean (allegations of abuse)

my ~s are clean (I'm not guilty)

dirty hands

only ~ can get the job done (counterterrorism)

**guilt / involvement / responsibility: hand / hygiene**

## hand (bloody hands, etc.)

blood on (his) hands

he has ~ (terrorist financier)

he has ~ (a politician)

blood on (their) hands

we say they have ~ (companies that used slaves)

bloody hands

once again the ~ of terror have struck

has bloody hands

he ~ (a politician)

**guilt / involvement / responsibility: blood / hand**

## hand (upper hand)

upper hand

crews are finally getting the ~ on the wildfire

protestors are starting to gain the ~ (France)

Republicans have the ~ inside the legislative arena

it was Peru who had the ~ after the break (soccer)

**dominance & submission: direction / hand**

**control & lack of control: direction / hand**

## hand (iron hand, etc.)

iron hand

the country needs an ~ to lead it

with an iron hand

I will deal with terrorism ~ (a leader)

with an authoritarian hand

President Lansana Conté has ruled Guinea ~

with a firm hand

the police will act ~ to avoid any violence (protests)

with a heavy hand

he would run the settlement ~ but by the book

with a strong hand

he ruled Chile ~ (a dictator)

ruled (Guinea) with an authoritarian hand

President Lansana Conté has ~ since 1984

**oppression: hand / materials & substances**

## hand (dead hand)

dead hand

culture isn't a ~ blocking all progress (values can shift)

dead hand of the 18th century

you can't freeze the Constitution with the “~”

dead hand of the past

military law subjects leaders to the ~ (adultery)

dead hand of the class system

there is some snobbery too, the ~ (the Gary Lineker affair)

dead hand (of Summers) has been lifted

now that the ~ (U.S. economic policy)

**control & lack of control: death & life / hand**

## hand (strengthen one's hand)

strengthen our hand

this will ~ (politics)

strengthened our hand

Boies and King made two admissions that ~ (lawyers)

**power: cards / verb**

## hand (rub one's hands)

rubbing their hands together over the opportunity

they are ~ presented by the vaccine (criminal gangs)

**eagerness & reluctance: gesture / hand**

## hand (fate)

in the hands of God

whatever happens, we are ~ (Muslim)

in the hands of their deity

the Samburu believe their fate lies ~, Nkai

in the hands of the jury

the case is ~

his fate is ~

in God's hands

I've put the whole thing ~ (woman with brain tumor)

it is all ~ now (fate of a very sick person)

out of our hands

it's all ~ now (fate)

put the whole thing in God's hands

I've ~ (woman with brain tumor)

**fate, fortune & chance: hand**

## hand (have one's hands full)

have their hands full

they are going to ~ (sports team facing game)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: hand**

## hand (help)

hand

his ~ is extended to all factions (a politician)

hand of welcome

extending the ~ to... (a biker convention)

helping hand  
she often lends a ~

Helping Hand  
~ Program (to pay electric bills)

pair of hands  
Mom asked if they could use an extra ~ (volunteer)

extended a hand  
the Web-hosting company ~ and brought Parler back online

lend a hand  
can I ~ (help)

join hands  
people are willing to work together and ~ to solve the problem

use a hand  
I could ~ (I need help)

**help & assistance: hand**

### **hand (get out of hand)**

get out of hand  
in the event that hostilities ~

got out of hand  
it ~ (a fight)

gotten out of hand  
British worry that drinking has ~ (lager louts)

getting out of hand  
this is ~ (proliferation of blogs, etc.)

let her problems get out of hand  
she ~ (at school)

argument got out of hand  
an ~, and soon Vicente lay dead...

celebrations got out of hand  
fan ~ after several college football games...

hostilities get out of hand  
in the event that ~...

matters got out of hand  
then ~, a knife appeared, and Igor wound up...

drinking has gotten out of hand  
British worry that ~ (lager louts)

**restraint & lack of restraint: hand / verb**

**control & lack of control: hand / verb**

### **hand (take matters into one's hands)**

taken matters into their own hand  
citizens have ~ (New Orleans recovery)

taking matters into their own hands  
people are ~ (oil spill)

took matters into our own hands  
and so we ~

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: hand / verb**

### **hand (on the one / other hand)**

on one hand  
~, he wanted to help Kevin...

on the other hand  
~, anthropological writings have suggested...  
~, the reverse is true for...  
~, there are just as many people who...  
the bathrooms, ~, have made no progress (Russian trains)

**comparison & contrast: hand**

**alternatives & choices: hand**

### **hand (hot hand)**

with the hot hand  
finding the teammate ~ (basketball)

**success & failure: cards / temperature**

### **hand (sit on one's hands)**

sat on their hands  
they ~ on the sidelines (politicians)

sit on their hands  
they're going to ~ and not show up and vote  
they will have to ~ until...

sit (back) on our hands  
what are we supposed to do, ~ when we see...

**action, inaction & delay / confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: hand / movement / standing, sitting & lying / verb**

### **hand (try one's hand)**

tried his hand at bricklaying  
he ~

**attempt: hand / verb**

### **hand (throw up one's hands)**

throw up their hands  
faced with a crisis, leaders simply ~ (fail to act)

threw up his hands at the subpoenas  
he ~ (an overreaching request for information)

throw up our hands and walk away  
we can't just ~

**action, inaction & delay: gesture / hand / verb**

### **hand (wring one's hands)**

wringing their hands and pointing accusing fingers  
a lot of black people today are ~ at white doctors

♦ "A lot of black people today are wringing their hands and pointing accusing fingers at white doctors from the public health service." (Janie Taylor, "Origins of the Infamous Tuskegee Syphilis Study," NPR, August 7, 1972. It's a seven-part series that was once available in its entirety at NPR.)

♦ see also *handwringing* (noun)

feeling, emotion & effect: gesture / hand / verb

## hand (the right hand vs. the left hand)

right hand

the ~ didn't know what the left hand was doing

♦ "The right hand didn't know what the left hand was doing." (Janet Reno, on FBI counterterrorism prior to 9/11.)

consciousness & awareness: hand

## hand (work)

experienced hands

the tension has alarmed ~ on both sides (diplomats)

green hand

Melville shipped as a ~ on the *Acushnet* (age 21)

head, heart, hands and health

youngsters pledge their ~—hence, 4-H

♦ see also *old hand* (experience)

experience / work & duty: hand

## hand (worker)

short of hands

we're ~ (not enough guards)

work & duty: hand / person / sign, signal, symbol

person: sign, signal, symbol

## hand (old hand)

see *old hand* (experience)

## hand (all hands on deck)

all hands on deck

it was ~ (response to measles epidemic)

it was ~ (law enforcement responds to serial bomber)

these efforts will be ~ (Missing & Murdered Unit)

all hands (are needed) on deck

~ to protect the public from coronavirus

all-hands-on-deck effort

this is absolutely an ~ (US evacuates from Afghanistan)

“all hands on deck” moment

there has to be an ~ from the international community

all-hands-on-deck operation

it's essentially an ~, we are laser-focused (police manhunt)

all-hands-on-deck search

an ~ for him has spread to multiple states (criminal)

“all hands on deck” situation

it's kinda like an ~ (yet another leak of classified documents)

work & duty: boat / hand / person

difficulty, easiness & effort: boat / hand / person

commitment & determination: boat / hand / person

survival, persistence & endurance: boat / hand / person

## hand (force someone's hand)

force his hand

they will try to ~ by holding that over his head

coercion & motivation: hand / verb

strategy: hand / verb

## hand (overplay one's hand)

overplayed his hand

then Kerr ~ (Clark Kerr vs. Maria Savio)

overplayed that hand

he knew he had ~

overplayed their hand

they ~ (Google versus the EU)

failure, accident & impairment / position, policy &

negotiation / restraint & lack of restraint: cards / verb

## hand (play into one's hands)

played (right) into Oleksandr's hands

he ~ (Anthony Joshua / boxing)

social interaction: hand / verb

## hand (one hand washes the other)

one hand washes the other

a favor, a quid pro quo, ~

social interaction: hand / verb

## hand (wash one's hands of something)

washing my hands of this

I'm ~, I did all I could...

wash his hands of the whole affair

he was by now disgusted, and wanted to ~ (expedition)

wash his hand of controversial calls

he won't be able to ~ (Zuckerberg / Facebook / Trump)

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things / starting, going,

continuing & ending: hand / hygiene / verb

## hand (hands off)

Hands Off Mueller

a crowd gathered for a “~” protest (politics)

protection & lack of protection: hand

## handbook (script)

practical, step-by-step handbook

there's a ~ (for mass shootings / UnitedOnGuns)

script: books & reading

## handcuff (verb)

handcuffed themselves with turnovers

the Irish ~ (football)

constraint & lack of constraint: crime / hand / verb

## handcuffed

handcuffed by government  
business should not be ~

handcuffed by his history  
he seems ~ of not...

handcuffed by (Isner's) big serve  
he was ~ (tennis)

handcuffed to my desk  
I'm ~ most of the day (work)

feel handcuffed  
they ~ by the rules (military)

**constraint & lack of constraint: crime / hand**

## hand down / out (punishment, etc.)

handed down a (5-year) prison term to a man  
a judge ~ convicted of...

♦ In American trials, the judge is almost always front and center on a raised dais.

**judgment / punishment & recrimination: direction / hand / justice / verb**

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: direction / hand / justice / verb**

## handed (given)

handed to you  
respect is not something ~ (leadership role)

handed a (one-year) suspension  
he was ~ for his third violation (NFL)

handed a victory  
the extremists will have been ~ (failure of peace talks)

handed (its first major) setback  
the terrorist group was ~ when...

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: hand**

## handed down / out (punishment, etc.)

handed down for murder  
beheading is routinely ~ (Saudi Arabia)

handed out in Asia  
the harsh penalties ~ for trafficking don't deter

**punishment & recrimination: hand / justice**

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: hand / justice**

**judgment: hand / justice**

## handed down (by ancestors, etc.)

handed down by your ancestors  
an heirloom ~ for generations

handed down by generations  
a story ~ of Blackfeet

♦ see also *down (down through the centuries, etc.)*

**transmission: direction / hand**

**past & present / time: direction / height / history / mountains & hills / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## handed over (possession)

handed over to the authorities  
she was captured and ~

handed over to the Native Americans  
the bones should be ~

immediately handed over  
Russia demanded that the fighters be ~

**possession: hand / prep, adv, adj, particle**

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: hand / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## handful (amount)

handful of areas  
only a ~ remain outside of the U.N. control

handful of cities  
a ~ have outlawed the sport (cockfighting)

handful of items  
they could only salvage a ~ (eruption)

handful of olives  
trees hold little more than a ~ (drought and freeze)

handful of (American) soldiers  
a ~ jumped off the planes (Ivory Coast)

handful of studies  
bolstered by a ~

handful of (no-frills) airlines  
one of a ~

**amount: hand**

## handicapped

handicapped by glare, mirages, and haze  
the defenders are ~ (desert warfare)

**ability & lack of ability / condition & status / constraint & lack of constraint / functioning: health & medicine / movement**

## hand in hand (go hand in hand, etc.)

go hand in hand with fortitude  
hardship and suffering ~ and courage

goes hand in hand with (military) might  
information warfare ~

go hand in hand  
in Africa, where oil and corruption often ~  
energy conservation and saving money ~  
ethics and booze rarely ~ (selling alcohol)  
reform and repression ~  
rioting and looting often ~

gone hand in hand  
for centuries, the words "Vatican" and "intrigue" have ~

went hand in hand  
paperwork and legwork ~ (a job)  
fear and filth ~ (E.B. Sledge in combat on Okinawa)

worked hand in hand  
corrupt doctors and rogue pharmacists ~ (to push opioids)

**division & connection / relationship: hand**

## handle (get a handle on something)

get a handle on the problem  
they tried to ~, but...

get a handle on this problem  
how can we ~ (crime)

**control & lack of control: hand / verb**

## handle (deal with)

handle it on a case-by-case basis  
airlines ~, without a blanket policy

handle whatever  
she can ~ the future brings

handle (such) cases  
it had specialists to ~ (a hospital)

handle the deluge  
companies couldn't ~ of holiday orders

handle disaster  
flaws in the nation's plans to ~ (New Orleans hurricane)

handle it  
let the cops ~...

handle the load  
the system can barely ~ (airline travel)

handled (most of) the negotiations  
he ~ with the Americans (an Iraqi)

handle pain  
a person may ~ well one time and poorly the next time

handle stage fright  
performers have various ways to ~

**control & lack of control: hand / verb**

**action, inaction & delay: hand / verb**

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: hand / verb**

## handle (shape)

Big Dipper's handle  
the ~

curved handle  
the Big Dipper's ~

**shape: hand**

## handled

handled with (great) care  
it is a delicate matter that must be ~

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: hand**

**control & lack of control: hand**

**action, inaction & delay: hand**

## handling

handling of complaints  
they are critical of police ~

handling of the epidemic  
questions about the ~

handling of the investigation  
the Navy's ~

Navy's handling  
the ~ of the investigation

police handling  
critical of ~ of complaints

questions about the handling  
~ of the epidemic

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: hand**

**control & lack of control: hand**

## handmaiden (help)

handmaiden of the sailor  
it is no wonder that astronomy became the ~ (navigation)

handmaiden of Saudi victory  
Israel was the unlikely ~ (Yemen in 1967)

handmaiden to the Russian revolution  
Imperial Germany served as a ~ (gave passage to Lenin)

**person: hand / royalty**

**help & assistance / relationship: hand / person / royalty**

## hand-me-down

hand-me-downs  
they got ~ from the previous year

hand-me-down Chevy Blazer  
a ~

**possession / transmission: hand**

## handout (noun)

handout  
it's a hand up, not a ~ (charitable group)

handouts from friends and family  
he survives on ~

government handout  
~s promote discontent and a sense of helplessness

small handout  
surviving on ~s

looking for handouts  
old friends came ~ (pro athlete)

**help & assistance: hand / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## hand over (verb)

hand over the task (of patrolling) to the Marines  
the Army will ~

handed over control (of the plane) to Zurich  
Munich controllers ~

handed over control to the mayor  
the State Legislature has ~ (school system)

handed the documents over to the Justice Department  
we voluntarily ~

handed over the documents  
we ~ (government official)

**possession: hand / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**  
**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: hand / prep, adv,**  
**adj, particle / verb**

## handover (noun)

handover of power  
standing in the way of a peaceful ~

hand-over ceremony  
Macao's ~

minefield handover  
~ is an extremely important task

peaceful handover  
standing in the way of a ~ of power

**possession: hand / prep, adv, adj, particle**  
**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: hand / prep, adv,**  
**adj, particle**

## hands down (certainty)

hands down  
it is one of the best restaurants in the world ~

hands-down favorite  
the ~

♦ This relates to horse racing, jockeys and reins. It means, "without question."

**certainty & uncertainty: horse**

## hands down (easily)

hands down  
Green Destiny wins ~ (a computer)

hands-down  
the Europeans would have won ~

won hands-down  
he ~

♦ This relates to horse racing, jockeys and reins. It means, "without much effort."

**difficulty, easiness & effort: horse**

## handshake (noun)

electronic "handshake"

MH 370's final ~ along an arc (southern Indian Ocean)

**division & connection: hand**

## hands-off

hands off  
though loving, their parenting was ~

hands-off approach  
continued to take a ~  
those with a more ~  
government should maintain a ~ to the economy  
a ~ towards the tribal areas (Pervez Musharraf)

hands-off policy  
at times a ~ can be justified (diplomacy)

**avoidance & separation / control & lack of control: hand /**  
**prep, adv, adj, particle**

## hands-on

hands-on approach  
a ~

hands-on individual  
he is a ~ (controlling micromanager)

hands-on organizer  
she is a ~

**avoidance & separation / control & lack of control: hand /**  
**prep, adv, adj, particle**

## hand-to-mouth (live hand to mouth, etc.)

hand-to-mouth basis  
he had been living on a ~

**survival, persistence & endurance: food & drink**

## handwringer (person)

handwringer  
the ~s who said, "It's not going to work!" (war)

handwringer and a worrier  
anybody who knows me knows I am a ~

hand wringers, worriers and whiners  
~ (foreign policy)

**character & personality: gesture / hand / person**

## handwringing (noun)

handwringing from Democrats  
there has been a lot of ~ (but no action)

hand-wringing and finger-pointing  
the battle led to a lot of ~ in Washington (war)

hand-wringing and the talking  
the ~ has done nothing (school shootings in the U.S.)

adult handwringing  
the inevitable ~ (about the younger generation)

ethical handwringing

the rise of AI programs has triggered a tidal wave of ~ (GPT)

criticism and handwringing  
the ~ is far from over (foreign-policy issue)

moody judys, sobbing and hand wringing  
lot of ~ tonight (BBC HYS about Everton FC)

♦ "Wringing our hands and quoting facts is not a corrective response." (A letter to the *Audubon* magazine, praising the group for its "Guide to Climate Action.")

♦ "Teenage angst and apathy are not some novel social development. Every generation has its own version of hormonal uprising—and yes, the inevitable adult handwringing that goes with it." (Kirsten Fleming, *New York Post*.)

♦ "And when a relative novice gets put into a coma or worse, the hand wringing will start." (An online commenter on the Tommy Fury-Jake Paul boxing match.)

♦ "I felt no remorse or guilt that I had bombed the city." (Charles W. Sweeney, pilot of plane that dropped an atomic bomb on Nagasaki in World War II.)

♦ "I don't feel any guilt or blame about it. I think my view really is if we hadn't done it someone else would have. And it would be with us in any case." (Lilli S. Hornig, who worked on the Manhattan Project. From "The Bomb," PBS, 2015.)

♦ Edward G. Uhl helped invent the bazooka in 1942. It was devastatingly effective against German tanks, able to penetrate more than 4 inches of a tank's armor plate. General Eisenhower hailed the bazooka as one of the four "tools of victory" that won World War II. The others were the jeep, the C-47 Skytrain, and the atomic bomb.)

♦ "Afterwards, the President [President Truman] was heard to mutter, 'Blood on his hands, dammit, he hasn't half as much blood on his hands as I have. You just don't go around bellyaching about it.' He later told Dean Acheson, 'I don't want to see that son-of-a-bitch in this office ever again.' Even in May 1946, the encounter was still vivid in his mind, he wrote Acheson and described Oppenheimer as a 'cry-baby scientist' who had come to 'my office some five or six months ago and spent most of his time wringing his hands and telling me they had blood on them because of the discovery of atomic energy.'" (*American Prometheus: The Triumph And Tragedy Of J. Robert Oppenheimer* by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin.)

♦ "In 1945, news reached the camps that the US now possessed the atomic bomb. According to Solzhenitsyn, this unexpected development gave hope to many prisoners, who began to pray for atomic war." ("On The Prison Highway, The gulag's silent remains," by Ian Frazier, *The New Yorker*, August 30, 2010.)

♦ "The wailing over Hiroshima finds no echo in Japan." (Isidor I. Rabi, in an article in the *Atlantic Monthly*, criticizing *Military and Political Consequences of Atomic Energy* by Patrick M. S. Blackett.)

♦ see also *hand* (*wring one's hands*)

**feeling, emotion & effect: hand**

**action, inaction & delay: hand**  
**eagerness & reluctance: hand**

## handwriting (handwriting on the wall)

handwriting  
the ~ is on the wall

handwriting on this Congressional Wall  
social studies advocates can hardly miss the ~

saw the handwriting on the wall  
these were smart men, they ~ (Native American chiefs)

♦ "These were smart men, they saw the handwriting on the wall." (Native American chiefs. Many Native Americans sent their children off to boarding schools, like the Carlisle Indian Industrial School, in the hope they would have a good future.)

**future / time: religion / writing & spelling**

**fate, fortune & chance: Bible / religion / writing & spelling**

## hang (hang somebody out to dry)

hanging him out to dry  
Boeing is ~ to deflect blame from others in the company

♦ The meaning is abandonment, and the salient point is that laundry on a clotheslines is *outside* and *exposed*. Of course, nobody *actually* abandons their laundry.

**allegiance, support & betrayal: atmosphere / clothing & accessories / verb**

## hanging (hanging offense)

hanging offense  
his mistakes did not constitute a ~

**judgment: justice / violence**  
**punishment & recrimination: justice / violence**

## hang in there

hang in there  
some will be less charmed, but ~ (a book review)

♦ "We need to hang in there just a bit longer, we're going to get through this, we're going to get this behind us." (Dr. Anthony Fauci, encouraging people to continue wearing masks and socially distancing.)

**resiliency / survival, persistence & endurance: hand / verb**

## hang on (verb)

hang on in office  
Churchill continued to ~

♦ It looks like we're in for a wild ride, so hang on. (A Wall Street bear market.)

**resiliency / survival, persistence & endurance: hand / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## hang on to (verb)

hang on to their senate seat  
democrats are trying to ~

**possession: hand / verb**

## hangover (relic)

hangover from evolution  
shoulder, hip and knee pain might be a ~

hangover from its (mining) past  
Johannesburg's mine dumps are a ~

political hangovers  
there are still ~ from the past (Northern Ireland)

**survival, persistence & endurance: height**  
**past & present / time: height**

## hangover (alcohol)

hangover from the last defeat  
I still have a bit of a ~ (an upset soccer manager)

COVID hangover  
Britain is still struggling from the ~ and...

\$1 billion hangover

Vancouver faces a ~ from its Olympic party

debt hangover

Britons face ~ from festive spending (credit cards)

long economic hangover

along with the ~... (2008 financial crisis)

feeling the hangover

the bubble has burst, and now we're ~ (economy)

have a (big) hangover

we will ~ (disappointment over Euro 2020 loss)

left us with a hangover

the real estate binge has ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: alcohol**

## Hannibal (American Hannibal, etc.)

“American Hannibal”

the sheer audacity won Arnold the title of the ~ (Quebec)

♦ According to historian John Julius Norwich, Hannibal led 37 elephants over the Alps, and Norwich notes that the Carthaginians must have had some secret way with elephants, as African elephants are generally considered to be untamable, unlike their Indian counterparts.

♦ David's painting, “Napoleon Crossing the Alps,” shows a rock with Hannibal's name inscribed on it.

♦ Hannibal is also associated with his great military victory over the Romans at the Battle of Cannae, a double envelopment that is still taught at military schools. However, he failed to follow up on his victory, which has become at least one definition of a “Hannibalic victory.”

♦ Hannibal learned of the defeat of his brother's relief force when the Romans delivered his brother's head to his camp. Carthage, of course, would end up being razed to the ground.

♦ The military man praised as the “American Hannibal” for his heroism at Quebec, on Lake Champlain, in the Mohawk River valley, and particularly at the Battle of Saratoga, was none other than Benedict Arnold, who, as the supervisor of West Point, schemed to deliver that stronghold on the Hudson to the British. Unlike other notorious traitors, he lived out his days in relative peace and prosperity, in Canada, and then London, where he died.

♦ see also *fabius* (*Fabius Maximus*)

**comparison & contrast / military: epithet**

## happy (as noun)

“feed your happy”

~ (Hardee's Monster Angus Thickburger advertisement)

find your happy

~, become a member of the Beer Now Family

♦ “[You are] idiotic beyond all lexicographic parameters. (Chuckling.) Your impertinent assumption that I've ‘found my happy’ by becoming a member of the ‘Beer Now Family...’” (The BBC. Ed Reardon's Week. Series 14. You're cancelled. Hilarious.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: part of speech**

## happy (not happy)

not happy

our community's ~ (Uvalde school massacre activist)

♦ “I don't feel happy and I know that our community's not happy, and I know the parents aren't happy. So, you know...” (An activist.)

**language: judgment**

## harbinger (noun)

harbingers of these equity debates

the feminist campaigns were ~

♦ As Wilfred Funk writes about this word in his fascinating *Word Origins And Their Romantic Stories*, this is “formerly a war word.” As he explains, “One of the earliest forms of harbinger was *heriberga*, an Old High German word formed of *heri*, “army,” and *-berga*, “shelter”; that is, ‘a shelter for the army.’”

♦ “The robin is a harbinger of spring.”

**sequence: military**

## harbor (verb)

harbors (Colombian) rebels

Venezuela ~

**protection & lack of protection: boat / sea / verb**

## harbor (safe harbor)

safe harbor for those

her workshops and retreats offer a ~ who are...

♦ “Hate can be given no safe harbor in America.” (President Biden.)

**protection & lack of protection: boat / sea**

## hard (space is hard)

space is hard

yes, ~, but we are only just getting started...

we need partners because ~ (Gen. John W. Raymond)

~, we were reminded of that yesterday (NPR's Eyder Peralta)

the CEO of Virgin Galactic said, “~” (fatality)

♦ “Yes, space is hard, but we are only just getting started.” (Melissa Thorpe, head of Spaceport Cornwall, after the failure of the Virgin Orbit mission, dubbed “Start Me Up” after the Mick Jagger song. The mission resulted in the loss of nine satellites. More like, “I Can't Get No Satisfaction.”)

♦ “We choose to go to the Moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard...” (President John Kennedy, in a speech at Rice University in Houston, Texas, on September 12, 1962. See the Wikipedia entry for “We choose to go to the Moon.”)

♦ This usage is very interesting. It is very hard to say if people who use it or hear it are aware of the attribution.

**difficulty, easiness & effort: allusion**

## hard (character)

hard kids

the ~ put a needle in their trousers...

hard man

see *hard man* (*character*)

♦ “It was abominable. I was lucky. I wasn't affected by it. The hard kids put a needle in their trousers so that when the priest went to touch them they got a nasty shock.” (*Peter O'Toole: The Definitive Biography* by Robert Sellers.)

**character & personality: hardness & softness / materials & substances**

## hard (love hard, go hard, etc.)

hard enough

have I loved him ~, have I hugged him and told him...

go hard

hey bitch, do you really, really really wanna ~ (song)  
I ~, take what's mine, I'm a star (Beyonce, "Formation")  
~ at everything you do (part of epitaph on gravestone)

goes (pretty) hard

it ~ ("Machine Gun Kelly X Cordae—Doja Freestyle")

grifted me hard

this guy ~ (a restaurant check)

loved anything as hard

I have never ~ and as fast as those dogs (a musher)

love Finch harder

she had a plan, to ~ in the weeks leading up to...

love our neighbors harder

we have work to do to ~ (gun violence / Baltimore)

slayed (so) hard

Beyonce ~ in her cowboy bikini look

stood up hard

groups haven't ~ enough for minors (pro-abortion)

triggers me so hard

them being teachers ~ (commenter at Libs of TikTok)

♦ "I just love how we celebrate out here, really love our team and we go hard." (A young lady about the Kansas City Chiefs.)

♦ "Do you like my sweater? I fw it hard" (= I like it a lot).

♦ "I have never loved anything as hard and as fast as I loved those dogs, as I loved dogsledding itself." (The remarkable Blair Braverman about her passion, from "Don't get dragged! Iditarod musher shares tales from the trail," NPR, Fresh Air, Nov. 16, 2021.)

♦ "All who knew you, loved you fiercely." (An expression of grief on Facebook for a murdered young woman.)

♦ This unusual use of the adverb may have been popularized through Black music: "(Hey bitch) Do you really, really really wanna go hard? Go in the crib, steal your stepfather's credit card..." (Kreayshawn.)

♦ Listen to DJ Khaled "Go Hard" featuring Kanye West & T-Pain.

♦ "Can't believe I seened u die today bro... I know what u want me to do and that's go hard for Mama Daddy Our Brothers Naychur and Whiteboy." (Lil Gotit on the death of his brother Lil Keed, a protege of Young Thug.)

♦ "For me, it's a catalyst to go harder. It's a catalyst for the next door that I walk into to create a space where we can combine this scholarship and this culture to have more Black girls dominating these academic spaces." (Emani Stanton, 17. At *People*, "Black Female Duo Wins Harvard Debate Competition" by Rachel DeSantis, July 21, 2021.)

♦ "Beyonce slayed so hard in her cowboy bikini look for the Renaissance tour announcement."

♦ "The uniforms that go as hard as *they* do..." (An advertisement for Carhart Company Gear showing oilfield roughnecks, etc.)

♦ A variation of "love hard" might be "love big," as in the following testament to a child killed in a school shooting: "We're gonna love big, like she did." Another example, about a teen who was murdered: "He loved big, he was an exceptional boy."

♦ Conventional verb collocations would be "try hard," "work hard," "study hard," "fight hard," etc.

♦ compare with *big* (*big love*, etc.)

language: adverb

**hard (feelings, etc.)**

hard feelings

there shouldn't be any ~

feeling, emotion & effect: hardness & softness / materials & substances

**hard (hard "no," etc.)**

hard "maybe"

that sounds like a ~ (irony)

"hard no"

the player said it was a ~ (refuses to visit White House)

hard 'no'

for 6 months it was a ~ (no visitors to hospital / COVID)

hard no's

and then what are my ~ (sex and consent)

"hard no" and a "soft no"

there is a difference between a ~

♦ "I will say that we would be in a bad spot if we just said hard no, we can't change at all. I mean, so where can we find some common ground?" (Nancy Barnes, NPR's senior vice president for news, on the issue of journalists who wish to demonstrate for a cause. From "New NPR Ethics Policy: It's OK For Journalists To Demonstrate (Sometimes)" by Kelly McBride, NPR, July 29, 2021.)

♦ "I'm good, thanks" = no.

♦ In the old days, "no" meant no. No longer!

commitment & determination: hardness & softness / materials & substances / speech

**hardball (noun)**

corporate hardball

they are playing ~

play hardball

~, she deserves it (Depp vs. Heard legal case)

playing hardball

the MLB is ~ with Georgia (sports and politics)  
they have met their match, the WTA is ~ with them

position, policy & negotiation: baseball / sports & games

**hard-charging (adjective)**

hard-charging general

the ~ Jim "Mad Dog" Mattis loved his troops

hard-charging maverick

he was a ~ who shook up football (a coach)

character & personality / force: horse

**harden (increase)**

hardened opinion against North Korea

the maritime clash has ~ (Japan)

hardened its policy against the Roma

the government has ~ (France)

hardened his grip

he has ~ on power (leader)

hardened its position

Iran has ~

hardened its rhetoric  
the government has ~ about the danger

**increase & decrease: hardness & softness / verb**

## harden (feelings)

harden them  
some parents bully their kids to ~

attitudes have hardened  
~ on both sides after the death of..

**feeling, emotion & effect: hardness & softness / verb**

## harden (protect)

harden schools  
ways to ~ (school shootings)

**protection & lack of protection: fortification / hardness & softness / verb**

## hardened (battle-hardened, etc.)

hardened criminal  
an official report described him as a ~

jail-hardened  
he was a ~ felon (teen rapist)

well trained and battle-hardened  
the fighters are ~

**experience / strength & weakness: hardness & softness / materials & substances**

## hardened (other)

hardened to the plight  
he has become ~ of the poor

**feeling, emotion & effect: hardness & softness**

## hardheaded (and hard-headed)

hardheaded administrator  
she was a ~

**character & personality: hardness & softness / head**

## hardhearted (and hard-hearted)

hard-hearted  
hard-edged, hard-headed, ~ education methodologists

**character & personality: heart**  
**heart: hardness & softness**

## hard man (character)

hard man  
he is a ~  
the legendary “~” (Scotland)  
he lives up to the ~ image

hard men  
all the ~ want to try it (a tough new climbing route)

hard men of the IRA

the ~ (Irish Republican Army)

fearless hard men  
their brands as ~ (two sponsored rock climbers)

one of the hard men  
Pevenage was ~ (Rudy Pevenage, the Belgian cyclist)

hardest of (IRA) hardmen  
he was the ~ (Bobby Storey)

♦ “In the beginning of October, General Burgoyne, in the uncertainty of his situation, deemed it expedient to lessen the daily rations of the troops, a measure to which they submitted with cheerfulness...” (*British Battles On Land And Sea* by James Grant. “Saratoga, 1777.”)

**character & personality: hardness & softness / materials & substances**

## hard-nosed (adjective)

hard-nosed attorney  
he was a very ~

hard-nosed defender  
he's a ~ (soccer)

hard-nosed and tough  
Curtis LeMay was ~ (WWII)

old-school, hard-nosed  
Barber was an ~ football player who ran with a will...

**character & personality: hardness & softness / nose**

## hard-pressed (adjective)

hard-pressed  
to say the least we were ~ (no money)

**difficulty, easiness & effort / oppression: pressure**

## harm (groups / noun)

harm  
hold them accountable for the ~ they inflict (SMVLC)

harm to our entire community  
the removal of the flags caused ~ (BLM / Pride)

harm-reduction  
outside the ~ van (services drug addicts)

harm or offense  
avoid language that perpetuates ~ (inclusive language)

irreparable harm  
they have suffered ~ (a lawsuit following school shooting)

real harm  
microaggressions cause ~

caused harm  
Girl Guides said the old name ~ (“Brownies” / 7-year-olds)

causes (serious real-life) harm  
lack of diversity in AI ~ for people of color

cause or constitute harm  
does hate speech ~

♦ The use of the word “harm” often suggests, threatens, or lays the basis for a legal case.

♦ “The assertions are strident, and the vocabulary is esoteric (‘harm,’ ‘insurrection’) as if it were translated from a foreign language. In a sense, it is. The language is legalese, and it is designed to build a foundation upon which a company can be held liable under civil-rights law in an American court. This activist tactic has been widely misunderstood... The word ‘safe’ is carefully chosen. It gestures at certain specific kinds of negligence for which a university could pay dearly in a court of law.” (“The Inequality of ‘Equity,’” by Christopher Caldwell, *National Review*, May 17, 2021.)

♦ “Family sues Meta alleging teen daughter suffered harm due to Instagram addiction” by Katie Kindelan, *GMA*, June 9, 2022.)

♦ Commonplace usages of this word might be, “No harm, no foul,” “What’s the harm of me staying out late on a Friday?” “Smoking can harm your health,” etc.

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## **harm (groups / verb)**

harm LGBTQ children  
the “Don’t Say Gay” bill will ~

harms mental health  
the Chiefs’ imagery ~ (the NFL team / a Native activist)

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine / verb**

## **harmed (groups)**

felt harmed  
she ~, and she wanted to tell someone (sex)

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## **harmful (groups)**

harmful word  
Lizzo removed the ~ from her new song “GRRRRLS”

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## **harness (verb)**

harness social media to stoke  
they ~ their base (young female politicians)

harness technology to enhance  
~ productivity

harness his ability  
the club should be able to ~ (a young soccer player)

harness that word-of-mouth  
we ~ (social-media advertising)

**control & lack of control: animal / horse / verb**

## **harness (in harness)**

in harness at army headquarters  
he remained hard at work, ~ (General U.S. Grant)

♦ “He stayed in the traces for two years.” (A job / position.)

**work & duty: animal / horse**

## **harmony (in harmony)**

in harmony  
all the factions are ~

in harmony with nature  
we need to live ~

in harmony with the ocean  
for centuries the islanders lived ~

live in harmony  
Muslims, Christians and Jews ~

worked in harmony  
we ~ for four months

**unanimity & consensus: music**

## **harrowing (adjective)**

harrowing to watch  
it was ~ (stock-market free fall)

harrowing danger  
his heroic actions in the face of ~ (military)

harrowing plunge  
a day after a ~ in the stock market

harrowing scenes  
some of the ~ are hard to watch (film about earthquake)

harrowing tales  
survivors told ~ (plane crash)

♦ A harrow is an agricultural device used to chop up clods of dirt. In the 1949 film *Border Incident* starring Ricardo Montalban and George Murphy, the character played by George Murphy, Jack Beames, meets his fate under a harrow. His end is, literally and figuratively, harrowing.

♦ Dante, in the *Inferno*, refers to the harrowing of hell by Christ. This usage of the word is based on the Old English word for “to harry or despoil.”

**feeling, emotion & effect: farming & agriculture**

## **Harvard (epithet)**

Harvard of American evangelism  
Graham graduated from Wheaton College in Illinois, the ~

Harvard of the hedge funds  
I was proud to go to D. E. Shaw, known as the ~

Harvard of the Midwest  
Truman State University is sometimes called the ~  
Tony Romo called Eastern Illinois University the ~  
he referred to Washington University as the “~”

Harvard of the South  
Vanderbilt University is known as the ~ (Nashville, TN)

China’s Harvard  
Harbin was ~ (high-containment laboratory / viruses)

♦ “Now whether you like the nickname or not, the ‘Harvard of the Midwest’ label has stuck with Wash. U. since it first grew beyond a regional university. But like any nickname, the ‘Harvard of the Midwest’ label has probably been used before by other schools. So the only question to ask now is how many other schools refer to themselves as the ‘Harvard of the Midwest.’ The answer? Dozens.” (“So which school is the real ‘Harvard of the Midwest?’” by Nathan Everly, *Student Life* (the independent newspaper of Washington University in St. Louis since eighteen seventy-eight), December 6, 2006. )

♦ “The ‘Harvard of the Midwest’ editorial in The Daily Eastern News on Sept. 7 was the best editorial the paper has had in quite some time. / The editorial strongly rebuked Eastern’s administration for proclaiming on

its Web site that the university has been called 'The Harvard of the Midwest.' / As the editorial indicated, the statement is absurd and ridiculous. The editorial was headlined: 'The Harvard of untrue boasts.' ("The truth behind 'The Harvard of the Midwest'" by Allan H. Keith, *The Daily Eastern News*, September 12, 2005. The newspaper's motto is, 'Tell The Truth And Don't Be Afraid.')

♦ Google "Harvard of the Midwest" and in the "People also search for" box you will find links to harvard of the plains; harvard of the south; harvard of the west; and harvard of canada.

♦ "AAI is the Harvard of climbing schools." (A small advertisement in *Outside Magazine* for the American Alpine Institute. 100% carbon neural.)

♦ "They hate, we ball... This is what you want... That's the way we roll." (Harvard Housing Day 2023, Currier House, Currier vs the World, YouTube. "A Team of superheroes are making the future bright.")

♦ "A whale-ship was my Yale College and my Harvard." (*Moby Dick* by Herman Melville.)

**achievement, recognition & praise / knowledge & intelligence / superlative: epithet**

## harvest (war's chief harvest, etc.)

war's (chief) harvest  
misery is ~

**military / product: farming & agriculture**

## harvest (harvest data, etc.)

harvested the data  
the company ~ of 90 million unsuspecting Facebook users

harvest text and speech  
computer scientists ~ from the Web (machine translation)

**computer: farming & agriculture / verb**

## harvest (verb)

harvesting useful data  
land networks were ~ (weather)

harvest grapes  
you don't ~ from planting thorns

harvested deer, moose  
my family has always ~ (Lake Superior Chippewa)

♦ You don't harvest grapes from planting thorns. (An Arab proverb.)

**product: farming & agriculture / verb**

## harvested

harvested in a decent and humane manner  
it's important that whales are ~

harvested tendon  
the ~ looks like a piece of dental floss (from hamstring)

ice was harvested  
~ from lakes and rivers and stored (in the old days)

organs were harvested  
his ~ for donation (high-school athlete)

**product: farming & agriculture**

## Harvey Weinstein (epithet)

Harvey Weinstein of the fashion industry

the man some call the ~ (Gerald Marie)

**character & personality / comparison & contrast: epithet**

## hash out (verb)

hash out (emerging) clues  
they met to ~ (scientists / pandemic)

hash out a compromise  
diplomats are trying to ~

♦ "If you like laws and sausages, you should never watch either one being made."

♦ "We'll figure out what the sausage looks like when it comes out of the machine." (White House press secretary Jen Psaki about a hugely expensive bill.)

♦ "While the judicial sausage-making may be more discreet on today's Court..." (Dealmaking, alliances, rivalries, leaks, etc. on the Supreme Court.)

**creation & transformation: food & drink / verb**

## hat (role)

sceptic's hat  
I'm going to keep my ~ on here... (Mary Louise Kelly)

grammar hat  
with my strict ~ on, I have to say that's called the irrealis

NPR hat  
I'll speak personally now as opposed to wearing my ~

three hats  
you really have ~ right now (jobs and positions)

institutional hats  
he has acquired so many ~ he is now irreplaceable

in-charge hat versus the submissive-woman hat  
the ~

donning his detective hat  
after ~, he began to sense the harpsichord was a fake

wears three very important hats  
he ~ (cabinet secretary, etc.)

wear several hats  
I, like other writers, ~ (travel writer, foreign analyst, etc.)

wear so many hats  
I ~, from adviser to counsellor to mother (a cheer coach)

put her amateur detective hat on  
she ~ and called Jamie (NBC Dateline)

take off your editor hat  
can I ask you to ~ for a moment and talk as a student

♦ "You need to put your big-girl pants on and deal with it, pull them up and get out there and show them what you got..."

♦ "It's time to take your engineer's hat off and put a managerial hat on." (A boss with "go fever" just prior to the Space Shuttle *Challenger* Disaster.)

**representation: clothing & accessories / hat**

**role: clothing & accessories / hat / sign, signal, symbol**

## hat (old hat)

old hat

sundials are ~

battles over party nominees are ~

GMOs are ~, synthetically modified food the new frontier

old masters are ~ (art reproductions no longer popular)

old hat for you

is winning the Kentucky Derby ~

'old hat' Glastonbury festival

he is not keen to play the ~ (Charlie Watts)

**experience: clothing & accessories / hat**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: clothing & accessories / hat**

## hat (take off one's hat to somebody, etc.)

hats off

congrats to both and what a fight, ~ (Khan vs. Brook)

hats off to the governments

~ that acted responsibly (Maha Akeel)

hats off to Usyk

~, what a performance (victory against Anthony Joshua)

hat tip

big ~ again to the group, so proud of it (a tweet)

hats off and congratulations

~ to Hamilton for writing history today (F1 victory)

take my hat off to you guys

I ~ (admiration and respect)

♦ a well put together comment not akin to the HYS forums! tip of the hat sir (One commenter to another about a soccer match.)

**achievement, recognition & praise: gesture / hat / verb**

## hat (hold on to your hat)

hold on to your hat

~, for the first time ever...

♦ This means a big surprise and may relate to a rollercoaster.

**feeling, emotion & effect: gesture / hat / verb / wind**

## hat (hang one's hat on something)

hang their hat on him

promoters were reluctant to ~ as a main event (a boxer)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: hat**

## hatch (verb)

hatched the murders

she ~ with two men she'd been sleeping with

hatched a (clever) scheme

he ~

**initiation: bird / verb**

## hatch (escape hatch)

tried-and-tested escape hatch

he has his ~ (just asking a question, not accusing)

**pursuit, capture & escape: mechanism**

## hatch (batten down the hatches)

see *batten* (*batten down*)

## hatched

plan was hatched

a ~...

**initiation: bird**

## hatchet (bury the hatchet)

bury the hatchet

let's ~

they were unable to ~ and move forward (two teammates)

♦ "In 1989, at a United Press International dinner in Los Angeles at which they both were guests, Stone and Bregman—still not speaking after five years—sat at opposite ends of the room. After the meal Bregman felt a hand squeeze his shoulder and turned to see Stone standing there. 'Hello, Marty,' he said. The hatchet was buried over dinner a few nights later." (Produce Marty Bregman and screenwriter and director Oliver Stone. From Al Pacino: A Life On The Wire by Andrew Yule.)

♦ "There was a good deal of bitterness among the Indians, for whom war was not the casual affair it was for the white man; they pointed out to Johnson that once they took up the hatchet it was not easily buried." (*The Mohawk* by Codman Hislop. His wonderful book is about the New York river.)

♦ "Hatchets that have been buried can be dug up." (*The Balkans in the 1990s*.)

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: blade / military / verb / weapon**

## hatchet job (noun)

hatchet job on him

the *New York Times* did a complete ~

political hatchet job

the "investigation" was a ~ by a rival

♦ A hatchet job, a hit job / piece, a drive-by...

**accusation & criticism / conflict / punishment & recrimination: blade / crime / violence / weapon**

## hatchet man (person)

hatchet man

he dispatched him as his ~

your ~ has done a real number on me

Sunny took on the role of ~ and spawned a culture of fear

**person: ax / blade / weapon**

**coercion & motivation: blade / history / person / violence / weapon**

## hate on (something)

hate on the Golden Globes

much as some like to ~ (Eric Deggans)

hate on all this life  
let them ~ (Beyonce / 'Bama' Blackness)

hate on another man  
the world is too big to ~ (Dwight Howard / NBA)

hate on one another  
we shouldn't ~ (Shemekia Copeland)

hating on philosophy  
why are physicists ~

♦ "And people hate on everything that's life." (A white rapper whom everyone hates on for being a white rapper.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## haul (long haul)

long haul  
it's a ~, son, it's a 15-rounder... (timeline for pandemic)

for the long haul  
I think we're in it ~ (an intractable bear problem)

**time: burden / distance / movement / weight**

## haul (verb)

hauled him (off) to jail  
a sheriff's deputy ~

hauled him to the station  
the police ~ (Mexico)

haul tourists  
bus-sized Tundra buggies ~ (Churchill / polar bears)

**transportation: animal / verb**

## hauled in (verb)

hauled in for questioning  
he was ~ by the Mabatheth (Saudi Arabia)

**transportation: animal**

## hauled off (verb)

hauled off (again) to prison  
he was ~

hauled off from her reception to jail  
the "Bridezilla" was ~

hauled off in handcuffs  
she was ~ (a "Bridezilla," from her wedding reception)

**transportation: animal**

## haunt (verb)

haunt me to this day  
those images ~... (soldier back from Iraq)

haunted this city for (four) decades  
closing the door on a crime that has ~

haunt a community for generations  
some murder cases ~

haunted me for a decade  
the things I saw have ~ (Rwanda genocide)

haunt us forever  
the horror of the final days will ~ (family of hostage)

haunt me the rest of my life  
it will ~ (comment by murderer)

haunt the Ethiopians  
such tactics may come back to ~ (torture / rebels)

haunt New York  
the mystery of what really happened continues to ~

haunts the country  
El Salvador's bitter civil war still ~

haunted detectives  
Ms. Beal's murder had long ~ on the case (finally solved)

haunt him  
the day will ~ (Tour de France crash)

haunted him  
during these years, Annapurna always ~ (3 attempts)

haunts every (kayak) instructor  
this is the type of accident that ~

haunted his life  
he recounted the racism that ~

haunted me  
these simple words ~

haunting scientists  
these problems had been ~ for years (vaccine)

still haunts  
the unsolved case ~ him (a detective)

case (still) haunts him  
the unsolved ~ (a detective)

images haunt me  
those ~ to this day (soldier back from Iraq)

came back to haunt  
his past ~ him (Mike Richards / Jeopardy show)

come back to haunt  
gossip can ~ you  
what you do on the computer can ~ (queries)

continues to haunt  
the mystery of what really happened ~ New York

♦ "Be careful about sharing intimate gossip in a party situation—you may find it comes back to haunt you..."

**affliction / feeling, emotion & effect: creature / verb  
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: creature / verb**

## haunted

haunted to me  
this campus is ~ (Dartmouth student / 4 deaths)

haunted by that day

she has spent her life ~

haunted by a death

he is ~ he was unable to prevent

haunted by demons

he was a deeply troubled man, ~ (Timothy Treadwell)

haunted by (perceived) failures

he was ~ (a suicide)

haunted by nightmares

she is ~ (veteran of war in Iraq)

haunted by evil spirits

the Udehé say places like that are ~ (forest)

became haunted

Father Desbois ~ by the history of the Nazis in Ukraine

remain haunted

city residents ~ by the murders

**affliction / feeling, emotion & effect: creature**

## haunting (adjective)

haunting images

the ~ of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks

~ of starvation (Africa)

haunting memory

the Irish have ~s of the famine

the ~s returned (of a murder)

haunting premonition

she awoke with a ~ (mother of soldier who died)

haunting story

the most ~ in the annals of exploration

most haunting

it is one of the ~ stories in the annals of exploration

familiar and haunting

those ~ notes (24 notes of Taps at funeral)

painful and haunting

the most ~ story involves SuAnne Big Crow

**feeling, emotion & effect: creature**

## have (you have, etc.)

have an event like this

anytime you ~...

have these armchair explorers

so, back in England, you ~

♦ An alternative to the "There is / was / were" we are all used to teaching in our classrooms.

**presence & absence: verb**

## haven (safety)

haven for young people and their families

the school is a ~ (a violent Yorkshire community)

germ haven

airplane toilets have a reputation for being a ~

surveillance safe haven

Email providers 'seen as ~' (Germany)

safe haven

at the nadir of the financial crisis, gold was a ~

my bedroom is my ~

safe haven for hate

he charged Facebook for providing a ~

safe haven for priests

the archdiocese provided ~ accused of sex abuse

see gold as safe haven

investors ~

♦ A haven was a harbor.

**protection & lack of protection: boat / place / sea**

## haves (and have-nots, etc.)

haves and have-nots

the deep divide between the ~

♦ "Even among the truly rich, there is a gap between the haves and the have-yachts." ("The Floating World" by Evan Osnos, *The New Yorker*, July 25, 2022.)

♦ "[S]ports highest paid full-time phony, Roger Goodell, the man who reminds us that there are haves and have-yachts." (The great sportswriter Phil Mushnick.)

**society: money / person**

**money / superiority & inferiority: part of speech**

## Hawaii (China's Hawaii, etc.)

China's Hawaii

Sanya, known as "Hainan Island"

**comparison & contrast / geography: epithet**

## hawk (person)

Israeli hawks

many ~ were against the attack (1981)

**person: animal / bird**

**military: sign, signal, symbol**

**character & personality / violence: animal / bird / person / predation**

## hawkish (adjective)

hawkish stance

his ~ on Iran (an Israeli)

**character & personality / violence: animal / bird / predation**

## hay (make hay, etc.)

political hay

politicians make ~ out of it (pandemic)

make hay from the shooter's political affiliation

idiots try to ~ (a mass shooting)

made (political) hay out of it

everybody ~, used it for their own purposes (terror event)

**content: farming & agriculture / plant**

## haywire (go haywire, etc.)

go haywire

when things start to ~

gone haywire

the curriculum has ~ (Critical Race Theory / CRT)

**decline: farming & agriculture / verb**

**failure, accident & impairment: farming & agriculture / verb**

## haze (perception)

alcoholic haze

he spent much of the next four decades in an ~

**perception, perspective & point of view: light & dark**

**consciousness & awareness: light & dark**

## head (head into the future, etc.)

head into November

as we ~, crunch time (college football)

head into summer

as we ~, don't forget... (pandemic)

head into this labor-day weekend

as we ~

headed

there is so much fear about where we are ~ (Covid)

heading into the winter

now we are ~ (pandemic)

**future / time: direction / movement / verb**

## head (orientation)

head of the bed

the ~ (versus the foot of the bed)

headwater

the Yangtze has three ~ streams

**orientation: direction / head**

## head (development)

heading

no one knows where the region is ~

where is the crisis ~ (racist abuse in soccer)

headed

we don't know where this fight is ~ (politics)

**direction: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

**development: direction / movement / verb**

## head (reason)

head

people reason mostly from their hearts, not their ~s

calmer heads

~ have typically prevailed in our history (politics)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: head**

## head (intelligence)

head for planning

they all said that Mrs. Enderby had the best ~

wiser heads

~ among the Taliban may well argue for...

**knowledge & intelligence: head / sign, signal, symbol**

## head (head of the school, etc.)

head of the school

he's the ~

♦ The fish rots from the head. (Organizations.)

**hierarchy: head**

## head (go over one's head / hierarchy)

go over their heads

he tried to ~ (to their supervisor)

**hierarchy: direction / head / position / verb**

## head (go over one's head / comprehension)

went over my head

what he said just ~ (not understood)

**comprehension & incomprehension: head / verb**

## head (get in over one's head, etc.)

over-your-head

thrown into the ~ waters, he was floundering (combat)

got in over their heads

they ~ (crime)

**involvement / situation / survival, persistence &**

**endurance: depth / head / verb / water**

## head (butt heads)

butted heads

the mayor and the union have ~ ever since he took office

we ~... (conflict)

**conflict: animal / head / horn / verb**

## head (scratch one's head)

scratching its head

Congress is ~ (over confusing remarks by President)

scratching our heads

a lot of us are ~, with so many of these questions (a crime)

scratching their heads

scientists are ~ as to how...

scientists are ~ to understand why...

♦ Who actually does this?

**comprehension & incomprehension: gesture / head / verb**

## head (shake one's head)

shake our heads at the folly  
we like to ~ of those who...

shaking my head and rolling my eyes  
I'm just ~ (Boeing debacle of 2019-2020)  
the shooter is now the victim, I am ~

leave you shaking your head  
the details of this scandal just ~ (college admissions)

♦ "All these previous issues and incidents, yet she still held a nursing license and a driver's license, smh." (A comment about "Nicole Linton Was Involuntarily Committed Multiple Times Before LA Crash, Attorneys Said" by Kui Mwai, Yahoo news, August 16, 2022.)

**comprehension & incomprehension: gesture / head / verb**

## head (clear head)

clear head  
~s are needed (vs. sleep deprivation)

**consciousness & awareness: head**

## head (keep / lose one's head)

keep your head  
~ and don't go crazy

lose his head  
in the closing laps he seemed to ~ (F1 racecar driver)

**control & lack of control: head / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: head / verb**

## head (head and shoulders above)

head and shoulders  
~, he is above everybody else (a skier)

head and shoulders above anyone else  
he is ~ in his ability to lead (a politician)

head and shoulders above most of his colleagues  
he is ~ (a politician)

head and shoulders above most of his peers  
for that, he is ~ (a musician)

stand head and shoulders  
the two ~ above the rest (baseball players)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: height**  
**superiority & inferiority: height**

## head (heads will roll, etc.)

head  
his ~ is under the guillotine every season (a coach)

heads rolled  
~, careers were ruined (the Tailhook scandal)

heads will roll  
~ if...

calls for his head

there have been ~ (a government official)

**destruction / dismissal, removal & resignation / fate,**  
**fortune & chance / punishment & recrimination: ax / blade**  
**/ head / neck / violence**

## head (have one's head handed to oneself, etc.)

handing them their head  
I'm boxing these guys, and I'm ~ (young Bobby Czyz)

got my head handed to me  
I ~ at that meeting (politician and angry constituents)

**punishment & recrimination: ax / blade / head / neck /**  
**violence**

## head (put a head on a wall)

put my client's head on his wall  
he made it his personal goal to ~ (Kyle Rittenhouse case)

**punishment & recrimination / pursuit, capture & escape:**  
**head / hunting**

## head (head on a stake, etc.)

head on a stake in the middle of the town  
there is a ~ (Uber's Travis Kalanick / bad behavior)

♦ "While [Micajah] Harpe was still conscious, Moses Stegall slowly cut off the outlaw's head. Later, the head was spiked on a pole...at a crossroads...that is still known as "Harpe's Head" or "Harpe's Head Road...in Webster County, Kentucky. / In January 1804, Wiley Harpe [was] executed by hanging. [His head was] cut off and placed high on [a stake] along the Natchez Trace as a warning to other outlaws." (The Wikipedia entry for "Harpe brothers." Bad, bad boys they were, no doubt.)

**punishment & recrimination / pursuit, capture & escape:**  
**head / hunting**

## head (keep one's head down)

keep their heads down  
it might be better for them to ~

kept their heads down  
they see themselves as stoics who've ~ (politics)

kept her head down  
for her first two terms, she ~, forgoing media appearances

♦ "A protruding nail will be hammered down." (Japan.)

**protection & lack of protection: gesture / head / military /**  
**verb**

## head (come down on one's head, etc.)

come down on his head  
a lot of opprobrium has ~ (whistle-blower)

brought down on his head an avalanche  
the book has ~ of publicity

brought her family's condemnation down on her head  
her marriage ~

brought the establishment down on her head

her early success ~ (a poet)

brought disaster down on her head

her meddling appears to have ~

**amount & effect / failure, accident & impairment: head**

## head (turn heads)

turned heads

her good looks and confidence ~

turned heads in the ballroom and the bar

personalities at the hotel who ~ (Raffles in Singapore)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: gesture / head**

**feeling, emotion & effect: gesture / head**

## head (hold something over one's head)

hold over his head

we needed to have something to ~ (child murder case)

holding that over his head

they will try to force his hand by ~

**coercion & motivation: head / verb**

**fate, fortune & chance: head / verb**

## head (rear its head, etc.)

reared its head

the Ebola virus has ~ again

♦ Ordinarily only something negative raises its head: anti-Semitism, the Ebola virus, tyranny, etc.

**appearance & disappearance: head / verb**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: head / verb**

## head (turn something on its head, etc.)

flip the investigation on its head

a tragic turn of events would ~ (DC sniper)

turn the paradigm on its head

the plan will ~ (homelessness)

turned the race on its head

the late downpour ~ (F1 / changed everything)

**disruption: direction / equilibrium & stability / head / verb**

## head (get one's head around something, etc.)

get our arms around it

it's important to try and ~ and figure out... (a report)

get their heads around

that's very difficult for people to ~ (murder trial)

get my head around it

I still can't ~

get your head around

there are a lot of twists and turns to ~ (Jesse Smollett case)

get my head around what

I can't seem to ~ she just said

try to get their hands around this

they try to ~ by taking a fresh look at the data (NPR)

wrap our minds around what

it was hard to ~ had happened

♦ "I ask for some privacy at this time to grieve and to wrap my head around this turn of events."

♦ NPR has given us "get one's *hands* around something," seemingly on the analogy of a part of the body, or perhaps to "freshen up" a cliché! What's next?

**comprehension & incomprehension: head / verb**

## head (come to a head)

came to a head

it all ~ in December of 1989 (ACT UP / Catholic Church)

the animosity that surfaced had now ~

♦ This might relate to a pimple or boil and basically means *crisis*.

**development: health & medicine**

## head (keep one's head up)

keep your head up

things are tough, but you've got to ~

keep your heads up

I spoke to some players and said ~ (after huge loss)

**resiliency: direction / gesture / head / height / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / gesture / head / height / verb**

## head (hold one's head high)

hold his head high

he can ~ (a losing boxer who did well)

holding our heads high

we are ~, marching forward... (union loses vote)

head held high

I leave with my ~ (cricket player retires)

**resiliency: direction / gesture / head / height / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / gesture / head / height / verb**

## head (hang one's head)

hang his head in shame

the video umpire should ~ (a hockey game)

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / gesture / head / height / verb**

## head (pat on the head)

pat on the head

I looked at that as a ~

**achievement, recognition & praise: dog / gesture / head**

## head (Deadhead, etc.)

Alamo-head

President Lyndon B. Johnson was a huge ~

## Chile Head

Cherries for ~s (spicy cherries in a hot cold-fruit salad)

## Deadhead

Bill Walton, ~... (the great NBA basketball player)

## petrolheads

Leilani Munter and ~ (motorsports)

## puzzlehead

~s love the American Crossword Puzzle Tournament  
a puzzle-within-a-puzzle, for the diehard ~s (D C-T!)

## sneakerhead

it's a masterly satire of ~ fanaticism (HBO's *South Side*)  
sneaker enthusiasts, otherwise known as ~s  
for ~s, there is a style for every taste and identity

♦ "Chicago sneakerhead store closes after being robbed a 5th time in 2 years," NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, April 9, 2022.

♦ *Bunheads* by Misty Copeland, illustrated by Setor Fiadzibey, G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers.

♦ The Deadheads had managed to turn the North Carolinian stadium parking lot into a very good replica of a Central Asian or North African bazaar / medina / Souq / casbah / caravanserai. Every half hour or so, in the full-on grip of mystical possession, a Deadhead with flying dreads would race up the glaciis surrounding the bowl like a forlorn hope, scale the palisade at the top like a Barbary ape, and be arrested by an oppression of waiting uniformed centurions. Meanwhile the crowd in the parking lot cheered and celebrated with much music, dancing, pipe smoking, and cookie and brownie nibbling. I can't say I didn't participate... (Phil Lesh and Friends.)

♦ A FUNNY JOKE. Question: What did the Deadhead say when the drugs wore off? Answer: This music *sucks!*

**enthusiasm: affix / person**

## headache (noun)

### headache

the decision is one in a series of ~s for... (a company)

### headache for the administration

this will be a ~ (oil spill)

### headaches (continued to mount) for the (German) Pope

the ~ (Pope Benedict)

### foreign-policy headache

Israeli-Palestinian conflict gives Biden a ~

### transportation headache

the daily ~s faced by many

### biggest headache

one of our ~s is simply counting the fish (scientist)

### diplomatic headache

she poses a ~ for Britain (a UAE princess)

### new headaches

the new system created ~ (Iowa caucus)

### caused headaches

his mercurial personality ~ (an employee)

### cause headaches for the organisers

the weather has continued to ~ (Tokyo Olympics)

**affliction: health & medicine**

## headed

### headed

futurists are asking questions about where we're ~ (tech)

### headed for a train wreck

we are ~ (a politician about budget proposal)

### headed in the wrong direction

Washington is ~ (politics)

**direction: journeys & trips**

**future: direction / movement**

## headhunter

### headhunter

he was recruited by a management ~

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting**

## headlong

### headlong retreat

the Americans are in ~

**haste: horse**

## head-on

### confront these things head-on

we must ~

♦ "Should we avoid the controversy or should we dive right into it? I say of course we dive right into it, we confront this thing head on." (Adrian Lamo and "Informants: villains or heroes?")

**conflict: animal / crashes & collisions / head / horn  
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: animal /  
crashes & collisions / head / horn**

## head-scratching

### head-scratching comments

he has made some ~

**comprehension & incomprehension: gesture / head**

## headspace (frame of mind)

### right headspace

what was the process like for you to get into the ~ (writing)

♦ Old: in the right frame of mind... / New: in the right headspace...

**feeling, emotion & effect / mental health: head**

## head-spinning

### head-spinning

the explanations have been ~

### head spinning week

it's been a ~ in Australian politics

♦ "Once again, a tweet sends the head spinning."

♦ "This has been the most dizzying, jaw-dropping, eyeball-popping, head-spinning news conference I have ever attended. And I was at Bill Clinton's news conference in 1998 when he faced the press for the first time over his relationship with Monica Lewinsky." (John Sopel for the BBC, following a press conference with President Trump on Monday, April 13, 2020.)

feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability / head

## head start

head start on the assignment

I want to get a ~

timeliness & lack of timeliness: head / horse / journeys & trips / movement

## heads-up (warning)

heads-up

you should have given us a ~ (warning)

warning: direction / head

## head-to-head

head-to-head confrontation

~ versus guerrilla war (US in Iraq)

head-to-head match

China beats Russia in ~ (chess)

Nadal leads their ~s by 14-7 (tennis)

went head to head with the conservatives

the liberals ~ over the issue

went head to head over the issue

they ~ of...

take on Romney head-to-head

Santorum will ~ (nomination process)

conflict: animal / crashes & collisions / head / horn

## headway (noun)

making any headway

we're not ~ at all (poor economy)

progress & lack of progress: boat / journeys & trips / movement

## headwind (noun)

headwind on the economy

this is the biggest ~ (poor housing market / Obama)

headwind to rebuilding

communication missteps have created a massive ~ trust

political headwinds

Democrats know the ~ are not in their favor (elections)

social and economic headwinds

shielding the town from the larger ~ buffeting small towns

overcome these headwinds

he should be able to ~ (Tim Cook of Apple)

♦ "While the global headwinds are strong, the U.K.'s engines are stronger." (Prime Minister Boris Johnson, during a speech in Blackpool.)

force: atmosphere / boat / plane / wind

obstacles & impedance / progress & lack of progress:

atmosphere / boat / plane / wind

## heal (verb)

heal itself

remove dams and let nature ~

heal all those problems

Prince Salman is the doctor to ~ in Saudi Arabia

healed the rift

the years have not ~ between Shipa and her family

heal (old racial) wounds

help ~

heal (old) wounds

the project will ~ (slavery)

heal the wounds

a ceremony of reconciliation meant to ~ left by the War

heal these wounds

a lifetime's not going to ~ (parents / school shooting)

heal the housing market

we need to write down mortgages to ~

heal and renew

the water has power to ~ (Medicine Lake)

never healed

the rift between his mother and father ~ (divorced)

time to heal

it's going to take ~ (emotionally)

♦ "A knife wound heals; a wound caused by words does not." (A Turkish proverb.)

mental health: health & medicine

amelioration & renewal / reconciliation, resolution & conclusion / starting, going, continuing & ending: health & medicine / verb

## healing (noun)

healing

~ through writing (*I'm Glad My Mom Died*)

*Healing Power*

*The ~ of Storytelling* (Brewster / Zimmerman)

healing process

he hopes renaming the buildings is part of the ~

confronting trauma is part of the ~ (an artist)

language is part of the ~ (local languages)

I wanted to document the ~

this is a step forward in the ~ (\$600 million)

liberated healing

peer support for ~ (Project LETS)

sexual healing

and when I get that feeling, I want ~ (Marvin Gaye song)

step toward healing

an apology might be the first ~ (Native boarding schools)

solace, healing, and strength

the ride empowers warriors to find ~ through movement

◆ NPR's Michel Martin: Thank you so much for talking with us. I imagine this just has to be exhausting. / Aly Raisman: Thank you for having me on. You know, this is one of the moments where right now I'm definitely, I'm definitely feeling it, I'm definitely exhausted, but that's that's what surviving and healing looks like. You know, there are some moments where I feel okay and then other moments....."

◆ "We're giving our staff some time to process what has happened, but also give them some time to start the grieving process and healing process. (Courtney Jolly, director of public relations and marketing for the Naples Zoo. From "An endangered tiger was shot dead by police in a Florida zoo after attacking a man" by Tien Le, NPR, Animals, December 30, 2021.)

◆ "While we are extremely embarrassed of the alleged actions of some of our Department's senior commanders, we look forward to the healing process that can begin to take place now that this has been heard in open court." A St. Louis County Police Union statement. From "Missouri Cop Who Says He Was Told 'Tone Down Your Gayness' Wins Discrimination Case" by Rachel Treisman, an intern on NPR's Nation Desk, October 30, 2019.)

◆ "Carly star Jennette McCurdy opens up on healing from writing her new memoir, *I'm Glad My Mom Died*."

◆ "How about, instead of being more angry, try being less angry? Healing is a choice." (Kk. The question mark is a good indicator of the online commenter's age, sex and mentality.)

◆ "I came out of treatment and began working on this album shortly after, and I was very angry, umm, I had some healing to do, but I got out a lot of that anger in my music... you see me going from angry to then like owning my power and my sexuality and then like happier love songs." (Demi Lovato about her new album, *Holy F\*\*\**.)

◆ "[The ride] empowers warriors to find solace, healing, and strength through movement." (The website of the Wounded Warrior Project's Soldier Ride DC. See the Wikipedia entry "Wounded Warrior Project." Always investigate charities carefully before donating. Check their endowment. If it's hundreds of millions, do they really need your hard-earned dollars?)

◆ "Failure To Save A Child In Wartime Inspires Wound-Healing Tech" by Jon Hamilton, NPR, Morning Edition, April 2, 2018.

**mental health: health & medicine**

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

**amelioration & renewal / reconciliation, resolution & conclusion / starting, going, continuing & ending: health & medicine**

**health (in good health / in bad health)**

in good health

everybody is hoping the lander is ~ (India space mission)  
engineers report Perseverance to be ~ (on Mars)

**condition & status: health & medicine**

**health (condition)**

health of the (global) economy

what his trade policies could do to the ~ (G7)

health of the planet

what his stance on climate change could mean to the ~

health of publishing

the ~ is in good hands (readers)

health of a (free) society

good journalism is essential to the ~

health and wellness

those pumps were so critical to the ~ of the experiment

industry's health

absorption, an indicator of the ~ (apartment market)

financial health

women's ~ is at a five-year low (economy)

intellectual health

the ~ of publishing is in good hands (readers)

economic and cultural health

problems that threaten the ~ (reindeer people)

threaten the environmental health

problems that ~ (reindeer people)

get back to (fiscal) health

we need to ~

◆ "Ten Hag still has many ills to cure but he is at least prescribing the sort of medication that is returning Manchester United to something like their former health." (Phil McNulty, Chief football writer for the BBC. Five of the words in that single sentence relate to health.)

**condition & status: health & medicine**

**healthy (condition)**

healthy

10 percent thought conditions were ~ (economy)

corporate profits are ~

the spacecraft is ~ and we're excited (New Horizons)

healthy economy

his government's failure to build a ~

healthy (space) exploration

I think it's all ~ (privatization)

remains healthy

NASA will extend the mission if the hardware ~ (Mars)

**condition & status: health & medicine**

**healthy (strength)**

healthy fear

a ~ is the best defense (of scorpions / desert warfare)

healthy skepticism

in science, a ~ is a professional necessity

**strength & weakness: health & medicine**

**heap (verb)**

heap abuse (even) on the home team

Philly fans ~

heaped contempt on her (hated) rival

she ~ (a politician)

heaped invective upon whites

the hate group ~ they saw (at the National Mall)

heaped praise on him and his work

officials have ~ (police commander)

**amount & effect: pile / verb**

**throwing, putting & planting: pile / verb**

**heaped**

heaped on him

honors and diplomatic missions were ~ (Wellington)

heaped on the protagonist  
the preposterous excess of humiliation and suffering ~

**amount & effect: pile**

**throwing, putting & planting: pile**

## heart (allegiance)

way to (anyone's) heart  
the quickest ~ is with an MCL gift card (ad)

after my own heart  
he's a man ~

captured the hearts  
he has ~ and minds of Americans (Olympic athlete)

captured my heart  
the first time I saw him, he ~ (an orphan)

give my heart  
I'm going to be very cautious who I ~ to

invest my heart in someone  
I can't ~ who might not stick around

win the hearts  
we can ~ and minds of people (AID official)

won our hearts  
he has ~ (Oleksandr Usyk becomes champion)

pledge their head, heart, hands and health  
youngsters ~—hence, 4-H— to such goals as... (4-H)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: heart**

## heart (hearts and minds)

see *hearts and minds*

## heart (heart and soul)

see *heart and soul*

## heart (basis)

heart of cycling  
France, the ~ (Tour de France, etc.)

heart of courtesy  
the ~ is respect for persons

heart of the (US) economy  
small businesses have become the beating ~

heart of the fair  
the ~ is the 4-H livestock show (US)

heart of jazz  
improvisation is the ~

heart and soul  
(see *heart and soul*)

envy at its heart  
much anti-Americanism has ~

at the heart of the argument  
~ is the claim that...

at the heart of the debate  
~ lies the question...

at the heart of the matter  
Kandahar is again ~ (war)

lies at the heart  
a failure of political will ~ of the problem (polio)

get to the heart  
we need to ~ of the matter

goes to the heart  
this argument ~ of the issue

**bases: heart**

## heart (young at heart, etc.)

at heart  
~ he's an optimist

Bedouin at heart  
Sheikh Zayed remained a ~ (Abu Dhabi / UAE)

fashion girl at heart  
I'm a ~ (model Natalie Mariduena)

young at heart  
she remains ~

wild at heart  
the play is a hymn to the ~

**character & personality: heart**

**identity & nature: heart**

## heart (identity)

in your heart  
if you're born here it's ~ (a festival in Ivrea, Italy)

♦ Home is where the heart is!

**identity & nature: heart**

## heart (commitment)

heart  
she said her ~ was now set on revenge (a Palestinian)

heart of a champion  
she has the ~ (coach speaking of child gymnast)

heart of a (true) champion  
he showed the ~ (boxer / title bout)

heart of a (true) warrior  
battered and bloodied, but showing the ~ (boxing)

heart and intuition  
have the courage to follow your ~ (Steve Jobs)

heart and soul  
see *heart and soul*

heart and stomach  
his ~ for boxing are no longer there

fighting heart

the American soldier still has the ~ and will to win

**fighter's heart**  
he showed a true ~ (boxing)

**lion's heart**  
I have a ~ (winning boxer after hard match)

**a lot of heart**  
anybody else would have quit, he's got ~ (a boxer)

**no heart**  
he had ~ (fighter who quit)

**so much heart**  
the cut was serious but he warriored on, ~ (Tyson Fury)

**with heart**  
they are playing with passion, ~, they can do it (World Cup)

**guts, passion and heart**  
he plays with ~, he's all in (NFL player)

**heart is set on revenge**  
her ~

**heart had gone out of the game**  
I think me ~ (a Yorkshire boxer)

**follow your heart**  
~ and dare to take risks

**showed (real) heart**  
he ~ (a boxer)

**fought his heart out**  
he ~ every fight (the great Arturo Gatti)

**sang her heart out**  
she ~

**fight with their hearts**  
they ~ more than their heads... (two boxers)

**fights with his heart on his sleeve**  
he always ~ (boxer Johnnie Tapia)

**leave your heart on the floor**  
~ (a basketball player, exhorting his teammates)

**left his heart in the ring**  
he ~ every time he fought (the great "Thunder" Gatti)

**put her heart into it**  
she really ~ (an art project)

**poured our hearts into the movement**  
for over 20 years we've ~ (social justice)

**played with (unquestioned) heart**  
he ~ and leadership (dead quarterback)

**fights with (a lot of) heart**  
he ~ and determination

**took the (hate) message to heart**  
they ~ (Hispanic gang vs. blacks)

**commitment & determination: heart**

## heart (beating heart)

**beating heart of this book**  
the three protagonists are the ~ (Boer War)

**beating heart of her work**  
nature as a springboard to the sacred is the ~ (a poet)

**bases: heart**

## heart (eagerness and reluctance)

**for the faint of heart**  
it's not ~ (a horror film)  
combat is not ~

**lost heart**  
many people have ~ (problems, obstacles)  
♦ see also heart (commitment)

**eagerness & reluctance: heart**

## heart (half-hearted, etc.)

**with all her heart**  
she loved him ~

**halfhearted**  
I made a ~ effort to learn French

**half-hearted performances**  
boxers content to turn in uninspiring, ~

**amount: heart**

## heart (container)

**in Russian hearts**  
it occupies a special place ~ (the film *Irony of Fate*)

**in our hearts**  
he's ~, and we're in his (friend of missing boy)

**in your heart**  
if you're born here it's ~ (Battle of Oranges, Ivrea, Italy)

**in the heart of another**  
who really knows what lies ~

**goodness in their hearts**  
the justness of their cause, the ~ (military)

**hatred in the hearts**  
this statement fuels the ~ of all the Arabs

**hole in my heart**  
it left a huge ~ (loss of a baby)

**joy in their hearts**  
they watched with ~ (Manger Square / Bethlehem)

**heart had closed up**  
after his beloved married another man, Bulu's ~

**hearts are filled with joy**  
our ~ that she is safe (missing woman found)

**hearts are opening up**  
~ through volunteering, donating, and sharing

fills my heart with joy and laughter  
she ~

find room in my heart  
I tried to ~ for him, but I couldn't

hold her in our hearts  
we're going to ~ (Lori Piestewa)

instill fear into people's hearts  
the main purpose is to ~ (government vs. a province)

lies in the heart  
who really know what ~ of another

poured his heart (and soul) into the game  
he ~ (Larry Bird / basketball)

put fear in your heart  
my granddaddy said don't ever let no one ~ (authority)

put (some) hate in your heart  
~ (Dhahran Scud kills 28 / Highway of Death)

♦ "The Hopi believe that when they die, they bring snow and moisture back to the people. So the snow is fitting." (Vanessa Charles, commenting on the death of Lori Piestewa, killed in action in Iraq, and a rare April snowfall.)

**heart: container**

## heart (empathy)

heart of flint  
she was an elderly female with a ~

hearts of stone  
those State Department bureaucrats have ~

heart goes out to him  
your ~ (drowned child)

hearts go out to the families  
our ~ (mass shooting)

hearts go out to him  
our ~ and all the other healthcare workers (pandemic)

marshmallow heart  
she has a tough exterior, but she's got a ~

kind heart  
she has a ~

open heart  
she has the most ~ (open to all)

bless your heart  
well, ~

have a heart  
please, ~

show some heart  
why can't you ~

touch (American) hearts  
suffering Afghan children ~

♦ "They wouldn't give a crippled crab a crutch if they owned a lumber yard." (John Artis on the Patterson, New Jersey police and the justice system in the 1960s and 70s.)

**empathy & lack of empathy: heart**

## heart (a broken heart, etc.)

broken heart  
you can overcome a ~

broke my heart  
it ~ to see...

breaks my heart  
it ~ to see these kids (politician / injured soldiers)

unbreak my heart  
~, say you love me again (Toni Braxton)

**heart: functioning / mechanism**

**feeling, emotion & effect: functioning / heart / mechanism**

## heart (center)

in the heart of North-West Frontier Province  
Buner (boo-NAIR) lies ~ (Pakistan)

in the heart of peanut country  
Albany lies ~ (Georgia)

in the heart of the (fall foliage) season  
we are ~

heart of the city  
just north of the ~  
the Pul-i-Imam Bukhri bridge leading into the ~

heart of (California's wine) country  
the ~ (earthquake)

heart of the desert  
invaders were never able to penetrate the ~ (Saudi)

heart of the forest  
the Cuiabá-Santarém road, which slices through the ~

heart of Tanzania  
the Wagogo Plains, the wild ~

commercial heart  
Casablanca, a port city and the ~ of Morocco

industrial heart  
Manchester, the ~ of the British Empire

lies in the heart  
Buner (boo-NAIR) ~ of North-West Frontier Province

sits in the heart  
Albany ~ of peanut country (Georgia)

penetrate the heart  
invaders were never able to ~ of the desert (Saudi)

heart, the mecca  
the Strip was the ~, where you went (Summer of Love)

**center & periphery: heart**

## heart (goal)

heart was (now) set on revenge  
she said her ~ (Middle East)

set his heart on St. Joseph's Academy  
he ~ (desired to attend it)

follow his heart  
he decided to ~ (accept a job in different city)

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: heart**

## heart (heart of stone, etc.)

heart of flint  
she was an elderly female with a ~

heart of gold  
he had a ~ (tribute for soldier killed in combat)

Hearts of Oak  
the British have ~

hearts of stone  
those State Department bureaucrats have ~

marshmallow heart  
she has a tough exterior, but she's got a ~

**heart: materials & substances**

## heart (heart sank)

heart sank  
my ~... (news of murder of boy)

heart (just) sank  
when I heard those words, my ~ (loss of brother)

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / heart**

**heart: direction**

## heart (heavy heart)

heavy heart  
we definitely have some ~s here (athlete injured)

with a heavy heart  
~, he headed down the mountain  
it is ~ that I...

with heavy hearts  
we left ~ and broken spirits

with the heaviest of hearts  
it is ~ that I have to tell you of the passing of our friend...

with a particularly heavy heart  
he has concluded, ~, that... (commissioner of enquiry)

left with heavy hearts  
we ~ and broken spirits

**feeling, emotion & effect: heart / weight**

**heart: weight**

## heart (change of heart)

change of heart  
industry must undergo a ~ (exploitation vs. conservation)  
he went public with his ~ in an opinion piece (politics)  
a ~ is a good legal strategy (terrorist cooperates)  
change of government, ~ (diplomacy)

belated change of heart  
well, why the ~

undergo a change of heart  
industry must ~ (exploitation vs. conservation)

**reversal: heart**

**allegiance, support & betrayal: heart**

## heart (shape)

heart, round or oval  
whether you have a ~ face

shape of a heart  
it was cut into the ~ (a yearbook)

drawing of a heart  
a red-ink ~ in the palm of her left hand

♦ He was wearing a T-shirt that read, "I heart Kosova."

♦ The heart symbol only vaguely resembles the actual shape of a heart.

**shape: heart**

## heart (sincerity)

with all her heart  
she believed in his innocence ~ (wife of serial killer)

with all my heart  
I honestly believe ~ that...

believe in you with all my heart  
I ~

from the bottom of my heart  
I'd like to tell you ~ how sorry I am...  
thank you ~

his heart was in the right place  
he made mistakes, but ~

his heart is (always) in the right place  
~ (Sean Penn)

come from my heart  
these words ~

speaking from my heart  
I am ~ when I say... (sincerity)

wears his heart on his sleeve  
he ~ when it comes to his dad (Ray Mancini / boxer)

wearing their hearts on their sleeves  
he'd sing about people showing their emotions, ~

♦ "Do you want me to speak my heart?" (A Tigrayan woman speaking in English and being interviewed by the BBC.)

♦ "He'd pour his whole heart and his emotion into those songs... He'd sing about people crying, showing their emotions, you know, wearing

their hearts on their sleeves." (Tim Marlow talking about the great singer Marvin Gaye on BBC's Great Lives.)

**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: heart**

## heart (by heart)

play by heart

it is a fixed rule that instrumentalists shall ~ (concerts)

know symphonies by heart

conductors ~

know them by heart

we've heard those slogans for so many years that we ~

learned it by heart

he ~ (a long poem)

recite the Qur'an by heart

he can ~

**heart: memorization**

## heart (knife in the heart, etc.)

knife in the heart

the date Feb. 6, 1958, is still a ~ (Man. U fan)

knife to the heart

it's a shocking ~ (loss of Tangier Island to erosion)

rip your heart out

the new study will just ~ (coronavirus deaths)

**destruction: blade / death & life / knife / heart**

**feeling, emotion & effect: blade / death & life / heart / knife**

## heart (stake through the heart, etc.)

put a stake through the heart of Row

there is a majority on the court willing to ~ (SCOTUS)

put a stake through the heart of these theories

you might think that would ~, but no (conspiracy theory)

put a stake through their hearts

we definitely ~ (Operation Anaconda, Shah-i-Kot)

driving a wooden stake into the heart

he thought he was ~ of the civil-rights movement (Bull Connor in Birmingham, Alabama)

♦ "This will hopefully drive a final stake through the heart of these China Initiative cases..." (Attorney Peter Zeidenberg, after a federal judge threw out three of four convictions against his client. The DOJ program, begun in 2018, was ended in early 2022.)

♦ see also *Dracula* (noun), *vampire* (noun)

**destruction: allusion / creature / death & life / heart**

## heart (miscellaneous)

heart

if it's wrong, then my ~ won't let me be right (love)

makes my heart sing

this kind of football ~ (Sawa Homare and team)

**feeling, emotion & effect: heart**

## heartache (noun)

heartaches and misery

all the ~ it causes (alcoholism)

deaths and resentments and heartaches

all the ~

sorrows and heartaches

all the ~ of this life

~ versus joy and fulfillment (religion)

**feeling, emotion & effect: heart / sensation**

## heart and soul

hearts and souls

their ~ are in it (NASA scientists)

heart and soul of the dancing grannies

she was considered the ~ (killed in Waukesha parade)

heart and soul of a newspaper

the journalists are the ~ (*Asheville Citizen-Times*)

heart and soul of our team

he was the ~ (mountaineering)

lost its heart and soul

racing has ~ (death of popular driver)

poured his heart and soul into the game

he ~ (Larry Bird / basketball)

**bases / identity & nature: heart / religion**

**commitment & determination: heart / religion**

## heartbeat (in a heartbeat)

in a heartbeat

if he could undo his actions he would ~

change in a heartbeat

the weather can ~ (Kauai)

leave in a heartbeat

the US is unreliable, it could up and ~ (diplomacy)

**speed: heart**

## heartbeat (noun)

heartbeat of the cave

the ~ (dripping water)

**heart: functioning / sound**

## heartbreak (Heartbreak Hotel, etc.)

Heartbreak Hill

~, the steep half-mile at mile 20 (Boston Marathon)

Heartbreak Hotel

the Hanoi Hilton included ~ and New Guy Village

Heartbreak Ridge

the Battle of ~ (Korean War, 1951)

Misery, Agony, and Heartbreak

the three hills at Fort Knox, ~ (recruit training)

**military: epithet**

## heartbreak (noun)

heartbreak of (constant medical) crises  
the ~ and setbacks

died of heartbreak  
I think he ~...

**feeling, emotion & effect: functioning / heart**  
**heart: functioning / mechanism**

## heartbreaking (adjective)

heartbreaking cry for help  
his suicide attempt was a ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: functioning / heart**  
**heart: functioning / mechanism**

## heartbroken (adjective)

heartbroken  
he was ~

heartbroken city  
Liverpool is a ~ (Hillsborough tragedy)

**feeling, emotion & effect: functioning / heart**  
**heart: functioning / mechanism**

## heartfelt (adjective)

heartfelt commitment  
a ~ to democratic values

heartfelt prayers  
with ~, the families of the trapped miners waited...

heartfelt sorrow  
we want to express our ~ (murder of young woman)

heartfelt views  
her ~ got her in trouble with the authorities

**feeling, emotion & effect: heart / sensation**  
**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: heart / sensation**

## heartland (noun)

in the heartland  
two American kids growing up ~ ("Jack and Diane")

heartland of China  
Xi'an, in the antique ~, watered by the Yellow River

Amhara-speaking heartland  
Gondar, in the ~ (Ethiopia)

Christian heartland  
the ~ north of Beirut (Lebanon)

Yoruba heartland  
Nigeria with its ~, Ibo strongholds and Hausa north

industrial heartland  
in China's ~

spiritual heartland

the province is the Taliban's ~ (Helmand)

**center & periphery: heart**

**identity & nature / place: heart**

## heartless

heartless so-and-so  
he's a cool, ~ who...

**empathy & lack of empathy: heart**

## hearts and minds

people's hearts and minds  
politics is about persuasion, about winning ~ (Ted Cruz)

battle for hearts and minds  
he is losing the ~ at Stamford Bridge (a soccer coach)

captured the hearts and minds  
he has ~ of Americans (Olympic athlete)

win the hearts and minds  
we can ~ of people (AID official)

wins hearts and minds  
sometimes the edit ~ at the expense of the truth

♦ "Politics is story-telling, and politics hopefully is about persuasion, about winning people's hearts and minds." (Senator Ted Cruz.)

♦ "Techniques to encourage loyalty down the years haven't always been entirely compliant with the outlook of a modern human-resources department. The former labour cabinet minister Jack Straw recalled in his memoirs being grabbed by the 'the goolies' by his whip, a method that led to teary-eyed agreement within moments. More enlightened recent times mean such tales of robust or physical twisting of arms, or indeed anything else, are less frequent..." (Political correspondent Chris Mason, BBC Sounds, Six O'Clock News, "Senior Conservative alleges MPs 'intimidated' by Government whips," 20/01/2022. Clever writing!)

♦ "General McChrystal and every expert that talks about counterinsurgency...we pretty clearly understand now that the key to winning any fight like this is to control the population, not control them, but... I don't want to use 'win hearts and minds' but that's basically it, you know, to get the people on your side and let them understand that you're here for them." (A silly naive Marine captain in Marjah in 2010.)

♦ "Get them by their balls and their hearts and minds will follow." (A saying popular among combat soldiers during the Vietnam War who were cynical about US government campaigns to "win the hearts and minds" of the Vietnamese people.)

♦ "We'll take their hearts and we'll take their minds." (Outpost Restrepo, Korangal Valley, Afghanistan.)

♦ "You can't change hearts and minds through legislation." (Gay, trans rights, etc.)

♦ "Gratitude is not a relevant concept in international relations and never has been."

**allegiance, support & betrayal: heart**

## heartsick

heartsick about it  
we're ~ (brother of soldier facing tough tour in Iraq)

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / heart**

**heart: health & medicine**

## heart-stopping

heart-stopping beauty  
her ~ (a ballerina)

heart-stopping moment  
it was a ~ (near-accident)

**feeling, emotion & effect: heart**  
**starting, going, continuing & ending: heart**

## heartthrob

heartthrob  
the ~ Leonardo DiCaprio

**feeling, emotion & effect: heart / sensation**

## heart-to-heart

heart-to-heart with her  
it's been a while since I have had a ~ (dad / daughter)

heart-to-heart conversation  
we had an open, ~ about sex

**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: heart**

## heartwarming (adjective)

heartwarming  
what's ~ about them is...

**feeling, emotion & effect: heart / temperature**

**heart: temperature**

## heartwood

heartwood  
the outer, lighter sap wood vs. central, darker ~  
bark, sap wood and ~ (trees)

**center & periphery: heart**

## heart-wrenching

heart-wrenching  
it's ~ (comment on murder of family)

heart-wrenching picture  
the ~s (Haiti earthquake)

**feeling, emotion & effect: heart / sensation**

## heat (in the heat of passion, etc.)

in the heat of the moment  
he said some things he wished he hadn't ~  
I made my decision ~ (regret)

in the heat of passion  
threats are often thrown out ~  
manslaughter is the killing of another ~  
~, man loses his better judgment

acted in the heat of passion  
her lawyer contended that she ~

kills in the heat of passion  
the defendant is held less responsible if he ~

committed in the heat of passion  
prosecutors believe the crime was ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature**

## heat (pressure)

catching (so much) heat  
we were ~ (cops on a stalled serial-rapist case)

feeling the heat  
they are ~ (competition)

keep the heat on Venezuela  
the administration is trying to ~

**pressure: temperature**

## heat (turn up the heat, etc.)

turned up the heat  
then he really ~ by starting a Web site accusing...

turning up the heat on BP  
the president is ~

turning the heat up on its (long-time NATO) ally  
the U.S. is ~

turned up the heat to scalding  
President Trump ~ this week... (on immigration debate)

**coercion & motivation: temperature**

## heat (criticism)

a lot of heat  
Biden has gotten ~ recently about his record on race

take heat  
he'll ~ for this

**accusation & criticism: temperature**

**punishment & recrimination: temperature**

## heated (emotion)

heated argument  
the ~s in their bar  
I got into a ~ with him

heated (phone) conversation  
engaged in a ~

heated debate  
the ~ revealed deep political divisions (politics)

heated disagreements  
there have been ~ over troop levels (war)

heated discussion  
propelled scientists into a ~  
a ~ about the study results

heated dispute  
~s over strategy and tactics are inevitable (officer corps)

heated exchange  
they got into a ~ (a protester and a local)

heated response  
their story drew a ~

heated rhetoric

~ is unlikely to disappear from politics

heated (business) rivalry

in a ~, you must still consider ethics

heated falling out

a ~ between the mayor, police chief

heated and emotional

after years of ~ debate, the university banned...

get heated

when it comes to gun laws, things can sometimes ~

got heated

he went to confront her, and things ~

grow heated

arguments ~ (local government)

grew (more) heated

the detective ~ as he spoke

remains heated

the debate ~ (educational issue)

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature**

**heatedly**

debated heatedly

Rwanda policy was ~ by US officials

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature**

**heat up (verb)**

heating up

competition is ~

heated up to a full boil

his messages to her ~ in 2014 (an online stalker)

**activity: temperature / verb**

**increase & decrease: temperature / verb**

**heaven (move heaven and earth)**

move heaven and earth to make certain that...

I instructed my team to ~ (coronavirus response)

moved heaven and earth to provide

we have ~ security (Olympics)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: religion**

**commitment & determination: religion**

**heaven (environment, food, etc.)**

heaven

two weeks of sun, sand, and surf, it was ~

in the early 1970s, it was ~ (Iran)

heaven on a plate

it is ~ (Kethel's fried chicken / Hotel Rahmaniya)

in heaven

Spielberg was ~ (filming *West Side Story* in New York)

I was ~, standing right in front of the stage...

with Pro-Tools, Garage Band, I was ~ (a songwriter)

♦ "After the turmoil [of W.W.II], it looked like heaven." (Military doctor who saw Andrews, western North Carolina and on the spur of the moment decided to settle there. He spent the rest of his life living among and doctoring to the mountain people.)

♦ In cat heaven it rains cream and all the dogs are in zoos.

**environment / superlative: religion**

**flaws & lack of flaws: religion**

**heavy (tank-heavy, etc.)**

CGI-heavy

studios produce an increasing number of ~ movies

fish-heavy

their ~ diet (bald eagles)

run-heavy

Alabama took a ~ approach (a football game)

top-heavy

a ~ senior officer corps (military)

**amount: affix / weight**

**heavy (amount)**

heavy blow

the offensive has dealt a ~ to Hamas (in Gaza)

heavy favorite

she is the ~ (Tokyo Olympics)

heavy fire

he has been taking ~ from his rivals (politics)

heavy (rocket and mortar) fire

A Company came under ~

heavy price

fame came with a ~

he was overconfident throughout and paid a ~ (soccer)

they will pay a ~ for these actions (politics)

heavy rains

~, hail, reports of funnel clouds

heavy security

~ didn't dampen the enthusiasm of fans (Olympics)

heavy toll

rebel resistance was taking a ~

the US raid, while brief, inflicted a ~

heavy (Internet) user

she had been a ~ (murdered)

run-heavy

Alabama took a ~ approach (a football game)

top-heavy

a ~ senior officer corps (military)

**amount: weight**

**heavy (emotion)**

heavy

things are getting a little ~, let's lighten things up

feeling, emotion & effect: weight

## heavy (heavy heart, etc.)

heavy hearts

we left with ~ and broken spirits

feeling, emotion & effect: weight

heart: weight

## heavy (serious)

heavy

I think it's pretty ~, man... (potential repercussions)

♦ "If everything comes out he'll be lucky if he coaches in the NBA to be honest wit' chew." / "Oh, you think it's that bad." / "I think it's pretty heavy, man... Some stuff you can't do, you know what I mean, 'cause some stuff you *can* do, so... Not judging..." (Sports talk about the latest sex scandal in the NBA.)

contempo-speak: language

## heavy (substance)

heavy ideas

to get a young audience to engage with such ~...

importance & significance: weight

substance & lack of substance: weight

## heavy (oppression)

heavy

the burdens of leadership are ~

heavy burden

he carries a ~ of responsibility (ruler)

the ~ of this mammoth job (Man U manager)

heavy charges

these are ~

heavy price

fame came with a ~

heavy responsibility

I feel a ~ for these police failures (official)

oppression: burden / weight

affliction: burden / weight

## heavy-handed

heavy-handed

I think the punishment was ~

heavy-handed response

the ~ of the government has invited criticism (to protests)

heavy-handed and unnecessary

the decision was ~ (a sports kerfuffle)

oppression: hand / weight

## heavy-hearted (adjective)

heavy-hearted

she seemed ~

feeling, emotion & effect: heart / weight

heart: weight

## heavyweight (noun)

heavyweights of the industry

the meeting was attended by global ~ (mining)

EU heavyweights

Switzerland is next to ~ France and Germany

turn uncompetitive Americans into heavyweights

STEM was a magic word that would ~ (education)

substance & lack of substance: boxing / weight

power: boxing / weight

## hector (verb)

hectors her children not to divulge

she ~ personal information online

♦ From the Trojan hero, transformed to mean *braggart* or *bully*. As Wilfred Funk, Litt.D., says in his fine book, *Word Origins and Their Romantic Stories*, "It is unexplainable why this distinguished name should have contributed such an unpleasant word to our language."

♦ "[H]e is the prince of the city, on whose shoulders its defense depends ('Hector' means something like 'the one who holds things together'), the dutiful son of the aged king and queen, Priam and Hecuba, the responsible older brother to numerous siblings whom he must often whip into shape (not least the playboy Paris, whose adultery with another man's wife set the war in motion), and, above all, the husband of a beautiful young wife, Andromache, and the father of an enchanting child, Astyanax." ("JFK, Tragedy, Myth" by the wonderful classicist Daniel Mendelsohn.)

♦ Many historical personages—such as Hector, Machiavelli, Charles A. Lindbergh, and Joe McCarthy—have been mischaracterized in the language.

affliction / coercion & motivation: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey / verb

## hedgehog (protection)

hedgehog concept

the ~ had succeed at the Battle of Na San

hedgehog defense

they cannot be reinforced, so they must mount a ~

Czech hedgehogs

~ symbolized "defense at all costs" in the Soviet Union  
the beaches of Normandy were spiked with ~

♦ "The fox knows many tricks, the hedgehog, one good one." (Archilochus.)

♦ A hedgehog defense involves an isolated stronghold or strongpoint which can be surrounded yet still survive, in modern times, by aerial resupply. The strongpoints are capable of all-around (perimeter) defense. The Battle of Khe Sanh (1968) was such a defense. Hedgehogs or strongpoints can be bypassed but will slow an attacker down and expose the enemy's rear to attack. Problems include the fact that strongpoints can simply be bypassed (as happened to the French at the start of World War II) or that the enemy can prevent aerial resupply, as happened to the 6th Army under Paulus at Stalingrad in 1943 and the French at Dien Bien Phu in 1954. In Vietnam, the hedgehog concept had worked at the Battle of Na San but proved to be a decisive catastrophe for the French at Dien Bien Phu in 1954. Many wondered if the Battle of Khe Sanh in 1968 would be a Dien Bien Phu for the US, but the U.S. Marines somehow managed to hang on.

protection & lack of protection: animal / military

## heel (under the heel)

under the heel of (Saddam's brutal) regime  
after decades ~ (Basra)

**oppression: foot / heel**

## heel (on the heels)

on the heels of (another) security breach  
the report came ~

on the heels of the (debt-ceiling) debate  
his came ~

on the heels of discovery  
mapmaking follows ~

came on the heels  
the report ~ of another security breach

come on the heels  
the protests ~ of the events elsewhere in the region

**sequence: heel**

## heel (on one's heels)

on its heels  
the government is ~ (losing against rebels)

put the defense on its heels  
they ~ (football)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: direction / heel**

## heel (dig in one's heels)

digging in their heels  
but four members of the board are ~ (culture wars)

dug in their heels  
they have ~ and refuse to bend (negotiations)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: foot / heel / verb**

**eagerness & reluctance: foot / heel / verb**

## heel (nip at somebody's heels)

nipping at his heels  
24 rivals are ~ from every direction (politics)  
he is leading the pack but ~ is Pete Buttigieg (election)

**competition: animal / dog / predation / verb / wolf**

## heffalump (creature)

EU heffalump  
the ~ has been taken behind the barn by the vet (Brexit)

♦ The Heffalump was a creature in A.A. Milne's *Winnie-the-Pooh and The House at Pooh Corner*. It occurs only in the imagination of Piglet and Pooh.

**fantasy & reality: allusion / creature**

## heft (noun)

emotional heft  
he depicted the struggles of black emotions with ~

record industry heft  
she has used her ~ to secure royalties... (Taylor Swift)

**substance & lack of substance: weight**

## hejira (and hejira)

hejira across the Himalayas to Tibet  
he made that amazing ~ (the wonderful Heinrich Harrer)

hejira to the Schoharie  
Weiser, prime mover in the ~ (Mohawk River valley)

**pursuit, capture & escape: journeys & trips / religion**

**migration: allusion / journeys & trips / religion**

## height (at the height)

at the height of his glory  
the waters of the Nieman River reflected Napoleon ~

at the height of its popularity  
he stopped drawing the strip ~ (a cartoonist)

at the height of his powers  
*On the Waterfront*, 1954, he was 30, ~ (Marlon Brando)

**achievement, recognition & praise / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / ground, terrain & land / height**

## heighten (verb)

heightened fears  
the report ~ of a second recession

heightens worries  
the killing ~ over the fate of Afghan journalists

**increase & decrease: direction / height / verb**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: direction / height / verb**

## heights (to new heights, etc.)

heights of government  
he never scaled the ~ (MP Sir David Amess)

heights of performance  
it isn't likely to motivate employees to new ~

heights of stardom  
she has ascended to the ~ (film actor)

new heights  
it isn't likely to motivate employees to ~ of performance

ascended to the heights  
she has ~ of stardom (film actor)

scaled the heights  
he never ~ of government (MP Sir David Amess)

take their rivalry to new heights  
they ~ (promotion for wrestling match)

taking flying to new heights  
the new Boeing Dreamliner is ~

motivate employees to new heights

it isn't likely to ~ of performance

reclaim the heights

they have managed to ~ (tennis sisters)

**achievement, recognition & praise / primacy, currency,  
decline & obsolescence: direction / ground, terrain & land /  
height**

## heir (noun)

heirs to a great (and ancient) civilization

the Egyptian people are ~

political heirs

they are the ~ of the segregationist South

product and an heir

Napoleon was both a ~ to the French Revolution

**transmission: family / history / money**

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: family / history /  
money**

## heir apparent

heir apparent

Kamala Harris is the obvious ~ (to President Biden)

heir-apparent

he and his ~ are dead (Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi)

heir apparent to al Qaeda

he was the ~ (Hamza bin Laden)

heir apparent of the (white nationalist) movement

he was once the ~ (Derek Black)

Logan's heir apparent

the role of Kendall Roy, ~ (*Succession*)

no clear heir apparent

Nancy Pelosi has ~ (Democratic leader of the House)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty**

## heirloom (noun)

heirloom grains

flour milled from ~ grown in Illinois (bagels)

**transmission: family / history / money**

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: family / history /  
money**

## heist (noun)

heist

snatching a draw would have been a ~ (soccer)

**taking & removing: crime**

## helicopter (helicopter mom, etc.)

helicopter mom

~, people called her (connection to adult daughter)

helicopter parent

she was accused of being a ~ (with 21-year-old daughter)

♦ "There are helicopter parents, and then there are tennis parents..."

**character & personality / behavior / surveillance: plane**

## helicopter (verb)

tendency to helicopter

she had a ~ (with her adult daughter)

**behavior / surveillance: plane / verb**

## hell (macro)

hell of war

in the ~, how does a chaplain hold on to faith

Hell's jaws

the killings began, as ~ opened... (ethnic cleansing)

Green Hell

travelers christened it the "~" (Mato Grosso)

scene from hell

he saw a number of bodies in a "~" (friendly fire)

escaped from a living hell

he ~ (POW)

♦ I know I'm going to heaven 'cause I've spent my time in hell. (A veteran.)

♦ War is hell. (General William Sherman.)

**environment / situation: religion**

## hell (micro)

hell

I've been through ~

hell of the pandemic

after the ~, football heaven... (Euro 2020 final)

hell of a forced marriage

his bid to rescue his love from the ~ (Pakistani)

hell on earth

he transformed the job into a ~ (a bad supervisor)

hell on heels

she was ~ (a troubled young socialite)

hell for pedophiles

prison can be a living ~

"hell highway"

killed returning to the reservation on the ~ (Arizona)

Hell week

~, trying to survive, the pressure to quit (SEAL training)

highway to hell

see *highway (highway to hell)*

living hell

working there was a ~

sheer hell

this autumn is going to be ~ for him

divorce from hell

Alec Baldwin is living through the ~

slicks and (rhododendron) hells  
laurel ~ (Appalachia)

make their wife's life a living hell  
men who ~ (dowry scam)

put you through hell  
win, lose or draw, Holyfield will ~ (the great boxer)

scare the hell out of you  
it will ~

**environment / situation: religion**  
**survival, persistence & endurance: religion**

## hell (hell to pay, etc.)

hell to pay  
later, they have ~ (people who cheat on their spouses)

hell is going to break loose  
all ~ tomorrow (civil strife)

**judgment / punishment & recrimination: money / religion**

## hell (hell hath no fury)

hell hath no fury  
~ like a weak man ignored (slut-shaming by ex-husbands)  
~ like an IT guy scorned (disgruntled employee)  
~ like a screenwriter's scorn (*Tales From the Script*)  
~ like a woman fed up with a man's idiocy  
~ like a Minnesotan scorned (Red Lake County)  
~ like a recording artist scorned (self-releases for free)

**feeling, emotion & effect / judgment / punishment & recrimination: religion**

## hell (Hell's Gate, etc.)

Hell's Gate  
~, the second big rapid (kayaking)  
the Nahanni bends through a constriction called the ~  
the explorers named the crack ~ (Kenya national park)

Hell's Gates  
the sandbar at the mouth of ~ was silting up

Hell's Backbone  
she drove down a road called ~ (southern Utah)

Hell's Kitchen  
~, known for the Irish, actors, firefighters... (Manhattan)  
CTR's ~ lithium and power project (Salton Sea, CA)

Hell Night  
~ at the Citadel (Military School)

**proper name: religion**

## hell (raise hell)

raising hell  
she was ~ there, too (TV star fights with cast mates)

**behavior: religion / verb**

## hell (go to hell)

go to hell  
the politicians should all ~

**insult: religion**

## hell (judgment)

going to hell for this one  
somebody's ~ (responsibility for building collapse)

**judgment religion**

## hellbent

hellbent on destroying  
we are ~ the environment (Wajahat Malik, Indus River)

hellbent on rushing  
he is ~ the trial through (impeachment)

hell-bent on taking down  
some saw him as a sanctimonious partisan ~ the Clintons

**commitment & determination: religion**

## hellfire (Hellfire missile, etc.)

Hellfire missile  
a ~ fired from a Reaper drone killed...

Hellfire (air-to-ground) missile  
a ~ launched from the Predator

**proper name: fire / religion**

## hellhole

hell-hole  
the state prison is a ~

world's hellholes  
humanitarian personnel in the ~

godforsaken hellhole  
a ~

**environment: hole / religion**

## hellish (adjective)

hellish days  
those ~ of stock car racing's infancy

hellish dust devils  
they had to contend with heat and ~

hellish situation  
they found themselves caught in a ~ (mass shooting)

**feeling, emotion & effect: religion**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## hell-raiser (person)

hell-raiser  
he admits he was a ~ as a young man

Hellraiser Ball

violence erupted at the motorcycle and tattoo expo, the ~

### Hellraisers Ball

the melee at the ~ resulted in one death

from hell-raiser to born-again Christian

his conversion ~

**behavior: person / religion**

**person: religion**

### hell-raising

hell-raising drinkers

~ and womanizers

**behavior: religion**

### helm (at the helm)

at the helm

they have won with him ~ (a coach)

we need a tough person ~ (Turkey)

the church needed someone else ~ to stop the rot (a Pope)

the sport grew with Carpenter ~ (snowboarding)

at the helm of the (world's most valuable) company

Tim Cook's first decade ~ was a success (Apple)

at the helm of an organization

she is leaving after a 2-year tenure ~ beset by controversy

**control & lack of control: boat / direction**

### helm (verb)

helm an MCU film

she is the youngest ever to ~ (director)

**control & lack of control: boat / direction / verb**

### helm (noun)

took the helm

he ~ of the war this week

took the helm from Steve Jobs

when Tim Cook ~ (Apple)

**control & lack of control: boat / direction**

### helmet (pith helmet)

pith helmet

there is a bit of the ~ in Wrong herself (a historian)

**history: sign, signal, symbol**

**character & personality: hat / history / sign, signal, / symbol**

### helmsman (the Great Helmsman, etc.)

Great Helmsman

Mao was known as the ~

great helmsman

he was our ~ (David Ben-Gurion)

**control & lack of control: boat / epithet**

**epithet: boat**

### help (keep from, avoid)

couldn't help myself

I ate the whole thing, I ~

**restraint & lack of restraint: verb**

### helping (amount)

helping of praise

there are two reasons to give the show another ~ (TV)

served up another helping

she ~ of her trademark word salad (U.S. Vice President)

**amount: food & drink**

### hemorrhage (verb)

hemorrhaging hosts

NPR is ~ from marginalized backgrounds

hemorrhaged (star) journalists

in the last two years, *The New York Times* has ~

hemorrhaging money

they were losing money, they were ~

**leaking: blood / health & medicine / verb**

**condition & status: blood / health & medicine / verb**

### hemorrhage (noun)

hemorrhage of personnel

the Pentagon is trying to stop the ~ (soldiers)

♦ "President Obama is sending an additional 17,000 American troops to Afghanistan, as part of his effort to try to put a tourniquet on the hemorrhaging war effort there."

♦ "Another spectacularly bad idea, and another cut to the already bleeding-out cinema experience." (A Brad Bird tweet about Netflix's new variable playback feature.)

**leaking: blood / health & medicine**

**condition & status: blood / health & medicine**

### herald (verb)

heralded the end

the uprising ~ of the regime

herald a new era

Republicans hope to ~ of limited government

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: royalty / verb**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: royalty / verb**

### herald (noun)

heralds of winter

snowflakes are ~

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: royalty**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: royalty / verb**

### herculean (adjective)

herculean effort

we are involved in a ~

the ~ behind the 1969 moon landing

just getting condo owners to vote can be a ~

“Herculean effort”

the UK had made a ~ to deliver PPE (pandemic)

herculean task

squeezing the evidence into a 90-page document was a ~

**difficulty, easiness & effort: allusion**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## herd (verb)

herded five victims into one cooler

they ~ and killed them (Brown's Chicken & Pasta)

herded them into (army) buses

soldiers ~ (Palestinian suspects)

**directing: animal / cows & cattle / verb**

**control & lack of control: animal / cows & cattle / verb**

## herd (ride herd)

ride herd on them

we need to ~

**directing: animal / verb**

**control & lack of control: animal / verb**

**coercion & motivation: animal / verb**

## herd (herd immunity, etc.)

herd immunity

high vaccination rates can ensure ~

**group, set & collection: animal**

## herd (herd mentality, etc.)

herd animals

people are ~ (they take cues from others)

a core idea behind our research is that people are ~

herd belief

this ridiculous ~...

herd madness

it's a story of greed, deceit and ~ (OneCoin)

herd mentality

~ leads to panic buying (COVID-19 panic)

it is a clear example of ~ (panic buying of toilet paper)

human herd

one must follow one's conscience and not the ~

one of the herd

but the difference was that I'm not ~ (John Geddes)

follow the herd

traders who just ~ and join the party late will lose money

♦ “It's like in the wildlife documentaries, where a herd of water buffalo will bunch up at the edge of a river they are collectively considering crossing. They'll wait for a few brave ones to jump in and make it across before doing so themselves.” (Will Felps, a management professor at the University of New South Wales in Sydney. From “Turnover contagion: The domino effect of one resignation” by Christine Ro, BBC, 16 September 2021.)

♦ “Moore, 68, told *The Guardian* that his purpose, in effect, is to puncture herd-thinking.” (Michael Moore, the documentary filmmaker. A Michigander.)

♦ “Then one evening in mid-November, the herd decided Twitter was about to collapse...” (*The Economist*, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022.)

♦ “Mary Harrington is a contributing editor at UnHerd.”

**behavior / society / uniformity & consensus: animal**

## herded

herded into a bus

he was handcuffed to other prisoners and ~

**coercion & motivation / directing: animal**

## here (out here)

out here

you got so many kids ~ acting crazy (gangs)

~, people will smile to your face and stab you in the back

♦ “I may not win, but I can't be thrown / Out here on my own.” (Irene Cara, “Out Here On My Own,” from the film *Fame*.)

**environment: ground, terrain & land**

## here (situation)

here

if they hadn't let it escalate, we wouldn't be ~

and ~ we are (said in a bitter tone / situation)

**development / situation: place**

## here (we have been here before)

been here before

when we look at the past, we see we've ~ (pandemic)

every oil-addicted town has ~ (bust after boom)

**past & present / time: place**

**time: journeys & trips / place**

## here (go from here, etc.)

from here on out

what should we do now ~

go from here

where things ~ is quite honestly up in the air

but where does he ~ (boxer after unexpected loss)

where do we ~ (troubled relationship)

where does the program ~ (sports)

**development: movement / place**

**past & present / time: movement / place**

## here (the present)

here

the future is ~ now (wildfires caused by global warming)

the moment you have been waiting for is ~

how did we get ~ (=how did that happen)

already here

tomorrow is ~

here and now

does it apply to the ~, or is it aspirational (diplomacy)

got here

gas hits \$5 a gallon, here's how it ~ and what's ahead

♦ "It seemed like science fiction just 20 years ago. Well, we are there. We're looking at it right now." (Mike Pondsmit.)

♦ "The fire impressed upon me that the future had crashed right through into our present. Climate change and its consequences were truly here now in the most shocking and vivid and graphic and painful way." (Jack Eagan, Australian, about the bushfires of 2019-2020, called Australia's "black summer.")

♦ The fuzzy boundary between time and place (or space) is encapsulated in the irreversible binomial, "the here and now."

**past & present / time: place**

## here (not here, etc.)

not here anymore

the normality is ~ (Uvalde school shooting)

**presence & absence: place**

## here (here to stay / groups)

here to stay

his brand of populist conservatism is ~

we have a long-term vision and we're ~ (LIV Golf)

we are ~ (Latino / Hispanic community / elections)

♦ "Critics say they're not going away." (Controversy around LIV golf.)

♦ "Stand with us or against us, because we ain't going nowhere." (Protestor at a public city-council meeting.)

♦ We're not going anywhere; we're here to stay; we're in your face; we're present and not absent; you will not erase us...

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## here (here to stay, etc.)

here to stay

Covid is, without a doubt, ~ (will become endemic)

so social networking, I think, is ~ (2009)

**survival, persistence & endurance: movement / place**

**presence & absence: movement / place**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning; movement / place**

## hereafter (from now onwards)

hereafter and forever

for ~...

**time: place / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

**future: place / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## heresy (noun)

heresies against Tea Party orthodoxy

I'd committed various ~ (a Republican politician)

risk of heresy

at the ~, I'd suggest that...

bordered on heresy

even asking the question ~ a year ago (COVID)

committing heresy

a law professor who lectures is ~ (vs. Socratic method)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## heretic (person)

heretic on the left

Orwell exposed the lie and that made him a ~

attacks of the heretics

he defended Establishment wisdom against the ~

treats him as a heretic

the party now ~ (politics)

**person: religion**

**acceptance & rejection: person / religion**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: person / religion**

## heretical (adjective)

heretical

at the time, the idea was ~ we were afraid to consider it

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## hermit (person)

hermit

is chronic bad breath turning you into a ~

modern-day hermits

in Japan half a million people live as ~ (*hikikomori*)

♦ Greta Garbo was once described as a "hermit about town."

♦ "The columnist Earl Wilson dubbed Al Pacino "the male Greta Garbo."

♦ "A *hermit* should really live in the desert, for the word *hermit* is from the Greek *eremites*, which means 'man of the desert.'" (*Word Origins And Their Romantic Stories* by Wilfred Funk, Litt.D.)

**isolation & remoteness / society: person**

**social interaction: person**

**avoidance & separation: person**

**person: acceptance & rejection / society**

## hermit (the Hermit Kingdom, etc.)

hermit kingdom

Bhutan, once known as the ~ of the Himalayas

♦ Korea is often referred to as the Hermit Kingdom. But it has also been referred to as The Land of the Morning Calm.

**isolation & remoteness: epithet**

## hero (character)

hero to Kyrie Irving's villain

Jayson Tatum is ~ (NBA playoffs)

heroes or villains

in times of crisis, New Yorkers appoint ~

♦ "What a final, what a game. This has been an incredible watch. Now to see who will become a World Cup final hero and who will be the villain." (A commentator, before penalties to determine the winner of the World Cup in Qatar in 2022.)

♦ In the U.S., history, war, politics, love, religion and everything else is grist for the entertainment mill.

**character & personality: film / person / theater**

## hero (person, child, queer, dog, rat, etc.)

hero

she's tired of people calling health care workers ~s (doc)

hero dogs  
~ return to South Jersey from Uvalde (Crisis Canines)

hero rat  
Magawa the ~ retires from job detecting landmines (BBC)

hero twin sister  
she doesn't like the "~" label (saved sister from crocodile)

American hero  
they called her an ~ (Facebook whistleblower)

my (guitar) hero  
he was ~ (he inspired me to play guitar)

civil rights heroes  
everyday people were ~, too (NPR)

pandemic hero  
he went from a ~ to a political pariah (Andrew Cuomo)

Poll Hero  
~ Project aims to recruit younger poll workers

queer heroes  
~ who paved the way...

unsung hero  
the ~ for me was... (a championship soccer game)  
he is a bit of an ~ (the remarkable Martyn Stewart)  
the ~s (five maintenance workers at pre-K-12 school)

Unsung Hero  
time now for My ~, a series from Hidden Brain (NPR)

greatest heroes  
you are truly some of the ~ this nation has seen (nurses)

national hero  
Jose Bove became a ~ (tore down a McDonald's)  
Joe Wicks became a ~ as he livestreamed PE lessons

superhero  
~s are people, too...  
America Chavez, Marvel's first queer Latina ~

fierce and heartwarming hero  
she is a ~ (Afghan woman gets top score on test)

cast as a hero  
a guard ~ was recast as a villain (Richard Jewell)

considered heroes  
at one time we were ~ (worked jobs during pandemic)

hailed as a hero  
she is being ~ (recorded police trying to make arrest)

hailed as heroes  
once ~, health care workers now face a rash of violence

went from heroes to zeros  
we ~ (pandemic starts to recede)

♦ An academic expert on a show about heroes said, "We actually call that *heroization*, right..."

♦ "Should The Late George Floyd Be A Black American Hero?" by B. Robinson, *The Tennessee Tribune*, July 23, 2021.)

♦ "Essays by contemporary queer figures pay homage to queer heroes who paved the way." (A blurb for *The Queer Bible*.)

♦ "Heroes wear glasses." (The character of Mirabel in Disney's film *Encanto*.)

♦ "What I bring as a Black female to my craft and in being a director... [is] recognizing how important it is that everybody deserves to be seen as a hero." (Gina Prince-Bythewood, director of *The Old Guard*, speaking to Terry Gross on *Fresh Air*.)

♦ "Take Tracy in Massachusetts. She's a nurse who's been treating veterans with COVID-19. Every day she's had to put on a hazmat suit and go to work for 12 hours, days on end. If it wasn't for folks like Tracy, our own families wouldn't have a chance to be reunited. If you want to find a hero in America, they're all around us, and Tracy's one of them." (Joe Biden, July 2020.)

♦ *Superheroes Are Everywhere* by Vice-President Kamala Harris is a children's book that celebrates ordinary people.

♦ "Look inside you and be strong / and you'll finally feel the truth / that a hero lies in you." (Mariah Carey.)

♦ "The crowd was right. That crowd was full of heroes." (Prosecutor Thomas Binger, during the Kyle Rittenhouse trial. The jury disagreed with Binger, and found Kyle not guilty of all charges.)

♦ "The heroes saving Ireland's seals." (A BBC article about an "inspiring" seal sanctuary.)

♦ "She focusses on wildlife 'heroes.'" (The TV series *Wildlife Warriors*.)

♦ "I know America loves its bad guys. But I'm a great guy. I just won a Super Bowl. I'm an American hero." (The NFL player Antonio Brown, on being cut from his team after abandoning it.)

♦ "Opinion: In Paris, heroes carry espresso," by Scott Simon, NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, July 9, 2022.

♦ "I felt it was so important for someone like that to be given a voice and then to be shown that she is actually a superheroine..." (Actor Michelle Yeoh about her character in *Everything Everywhere All At Once*. From "Actor Michelle Yeoh wants to change the way we think of superheroes," NPR, *Fresh Air*, April 25, 2022.)

♦ "Zero is the nickname of Omar, the lead character, a young Black Italian delivery worker who is more or less ignored by the white society around him. But his metaphorical invisibility turns into a magical power when he discovers he can actually make himself invisible. He becomes a superhero, helping save his neighborhood..." ("In New Italian Netflix Series 'Zero,' A Black Hero Makes Invisibility His Superpower" by Sylvia Poggioli, NPR, May 27, 2021.)

♦ "To every Batgirl fan—THANK YOU for the love and belief, allowing me to take on the cape and become, as Babs said best, 'my own damn hero!' #Batgirl for life!" (Afro-Latina actress Leslie Grace, posting on Instagram, after Warner Bros. Discovery shocked Hollywood by shelving her Batgirl film after having spent \$90 million on it. The Batgirl character is from DC Comics.)

♦ "Over the first four months of the Covid pandemic in 2020 Joe Wicks became a national hero as he livestreamed PE lessons every morning to hundreds of thousands of Brits." (BBC, "Joe Wicks: 'I realized my childhood wasn't normal'" by Thea de Gallier, May 14, 2021.) (The intersection of the pandemic, mental health, "online reporters," clickbait, and the BBC.)

♦ "Not all heroes wear capes. Some of them have white paws..." (Therapy dogs.)

♦ "Heroes don't always wear capes. Carton of cigarettes to that man." ("That man" poured scalding water on the face of Frank Abrokwa at Rikers Island, where both were inmates.)

♦ "I stopped watching, reading and listening to the media hype when I heard the players being called 'heroes' after the Germany game. Get a grip BBC." (Grommy on the BBC HYS on the eve of England vs. Ukraine, Euro 2020.)

♦ Some Australians regard Ned Kelly as a national hero. Others view him as a murderous villain and cop killer.

♦ "One man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter." (PLO Chairman Arafat in a 1974 speech before the United Nations.)

♦ The official name of the Veterans Affairs (VA) hospital in Asheville, western North Carolina, is the Charles George VA Medical Center. As a young man, Charles George walked from his reservation to Whittier, to sign up for the Korean War. He died thousands of miles away from the Oconaluftee River. See his Wikipedia entry.

♦ "Rank and organization: (X). Place and date: (X). Entered service at: (X) Citation: (X)...Suddenly, an enemy grenade landed in the midst of the (branch of the armed forces) and rolled alongside Private First Class (X's) head. Unhesitatingly and with complete disregard for his personal safety, he reached out, grasped the grenade, pulled it to his chest and curled around it as it went off..." (A Medal of Honor citation.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## heroic (groups)

heroic efforts

his ~ saved the night (a Black *understudy* goes onstage)

heroic (TSA) officer

~ saves baby from choking (Cecilia Morales)

heroic rat

a ~ has been working in Cambodia (de-mining)

heroic survivor

a ~ of brutal abuse (Amber Heard vs. Johnny Depp)

heroic tasks

Moms perform ~ every day

extraordinarily heroic

most of them do ~ jobs (Arthur Labinjo-Hughes failure)

♦ "We are proud of the heroic and swift actions of our staff to ensure that our residents were protected and kept safe." (A senior living facility. A resident shot and killed two employees he had had a conflict with, then lay down on the floor and waited for the police to arrest him.)

♦ "By far and away I think Charlie is the most heroic man I have ever played. His superpower is to see the good in others and bring that out of them." (Brendon Fraser about his role in the film *The Whale*, in which he plays Charlie, a 600-pound-man who rarely leaves his couch. The article goes on to read, "Hunter, who also wrote the screenplay, said his play is personal. He started it 12 years ago when he was teaching a mandatory expository writing course at Rutgers University that no one wanted to take and everyone resented. He also pulled from his own background, setting the play in his hometown of Moscow, Idaho, and weaving in his history of being depressed, self-medicating with food and going to a fundamentalist religious high school as a gay teenager." (From "Brendon Fraser celebrated for a comeback role in 'The Whale'" by Lindsey Bahr, AP Film writer, Sept 4, 2022.)

♦ "We told you that this would be a performance, the role of her lifetime as a heroic survivor of brutal abuse." (Camille Vasquez, in her closing arguments in the Amber Heard-Johnny Depp trial. She defended Depp, she was being sarcastic when she said "heroic survivor," and, of course, she and Depp prevailed.)

♦ "Presidents Day Sale / Heroic Deals on Top Tech." (An advertisement for Dell Technologies.)

♦ The official name of the Veterans Affairs (VA) hospital in Asheville, western North Carolina, is the Charles George VA Medical Center. As a young man, Charles George left the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indian Nation reservation and walked to Whittier, North Carolina, where he signed up for the Korean War. He died in Korea, thousands of miles away from the Oconaluftee River. See his Wikipedia entry.

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## heroism (groups)

ordinary heroism

her view of painful injustice and ~ (*Women Is Losers*)

stories of heroism

there are great ~ (Adam Schiff hawking his book)

dress up incompetence as heroism

it is less disturbing to ~ (Scott and the South Pole)

♦ "Look, I never expect a foreign leader I'm dealing with, or a colleague senator, to voluntarily appear in the second edition of *Profiles in Courage*. So you got to think of what is in their *interest*." (Joe Biden speaking to Evan Osnos.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## heroization (noun)

heroization of Russian mercenaries

pop culture and the ~

call that *heroization*

we call that ~, right...

♦ An academic expert on a show about heroes said, "We actually call that *heroization*, right..."

♦ There is no Wikipedia entry. This has a Wiktionary entry: "the act, or result, of heroizing someone." While Merriam-Webster recognizes "heroize" as a very old word, it doesn't recognize "heroization."

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## heroize (verb)

heroize surgeons

he is skeptical of our tendency to ~ (Jay Wellons)

♦ "She's tired of people calling health care workers heroes." (A doctor.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation / verb**

## hew (hew to the line, etc.)

hew to her beliefs

a young person trying to ~ and save the world

hew to your intention

you try to make language ~

hews to his (conservative) roots

he ~ (a judge)

hew to the rules

she helped schools ~ (Title IX)

hews (close) to tradition

the band ~ (bluegrass)

hew closely

he promises to ~ to the course set by Raul Castro

hews too closely

the author ~ to events

**unanimity & consensus: line / tree / verb**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: line / tree / verb**

## heyday (noun)

heyday of Brazilian rock

the 1970's was probably the ~

heyday of hotels

life after the Catskills' ~

Kameny's heyday

in ~, and my youth... (gay history)

Shanghai's heyday

the colonial architecture that dates back to ~  
 '70's heyday  
 his ~ (a singer)

since the heyday of LaFace Records  
 the strongest R&B vibes to emerge ~ (Atlanta)

**achievement, recognition & praise: day**  
**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**

**hibernation (in hibernation)**

in hibernation  
 the industry has been ~ for 20 years (the nuclear industry)

in the winter hibernation  
 his leadership appeared ~ at Cape Evans (in Antarctica)

**activity: animal / death & life / sleep**

**hibernation (other)**

hibernation environments  
 hospitable ~ for apples (controlled atmosphere storage)

awoken from hibernation  
 the comet lander, Philae, has ~

emerged from his hibernation  
 Betts ~ to hit a home run (baseball)

put in hibernation  
 the spacecraft was ~ for 31 months (Rosetta)

reopen the US economy from its hibernation  
 how and when to ~ (coronavirus pandemic)

♦ "The Zhurong rover has yet to wake up since going into hibernation for the Martian winter nearly a year ago."

**activity: animal / death & life / sleep**

**hiccup (noun)**

hiccup  
 the datacenter is having some ~s (down Websites)  
 we've had some ~s along the way

hiccups in this matter  
 there's been a lot of ~ which has taken a lot of time (trial)

hiccups with supply  
 limited time to sort out ~ (COVID vaccine)

minimal hiccups  
 we followed a detailed plan with ~ (big-wall climbing)

sort out hiccups  
 limited time to ~ with supply (COVID vaccine)

♦ "There are always land mines and hiccups that come along." (Doctor Anthony Fauci on vaccine production during the 2019-2020 pandemic.)

**flaws & lack of flaws: bodily reaction**  
**failure, accident & impairment: bodily reaction**

**hidden**

hidden costs  
 the ~ of gambling (divorce, etc.)

hidden enemy  
 landmines, the ~

hidden epidemic  
 sex trafficking is a ~ (US)

hidden gems  
 the road reveals many ~ (N7 in France)

hidden logic  
 the ~ behind military training

Hidden Toll  
 "The Orphans of COVID, America's ~"

kept the story hidden  
 she ~ for 20 years, never sharing it with anyone

**concealment & lack of concealment: eye**  
**hide (hide behind something)**

hide behind anonymity  
 it's easy to be forthright when you ~

hides behind a facade  
 he ~ of jokes

hides behind the nom de plume  
 the woman who ~ of...

hides behind a (tough-guy) posture  
 he ~

hides behind a locked door  
 the bureaucrat or politician who ~

hides behind a friendly face  
 fraud often ~

hides behind a fictitious name  
 he ~

hides behind innocuous phrase  
 she ~ (an administrator)

**concealment & lack of concealment: direction / verb**  
**hide-and-peek**

game of hide and seek  
 a very serious ~ (with Palestinian terrorist)

**pursuit, capture & escape: sports & games**

**hidebound (adjective)**

hidebound bureaucracy  
 a ~

**constraint & lack of constraint: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

**high (noble)**

high art  
 I walked past ~ and low art (New York City)

highbrow  
 see *highbrow* (and *lowbrow*, *middlebrow*)

high character

he is a solid American, a man of~

high-character

it's a team that prides itself on hiring ~ people (NBA)

high-class

I'm a redneck woman, I'm not a ~ broad (hell yeah)

high expectations

it was a cocoon of ~ and harsh discipline (a black school)  
~ coupled with love is a gift (child-rearing)

high ground

see *ground* (*moral high ground, etc.*)

higher (moral) imperative

a ~ than objectivity is the alleviation of suffering

high purpose

a great speech is made for a ~ (inspire, ennoble, rally...)

high regard

he is held in ~

highest traditions

Sfc. Ashley's bravery was in the ~ of... (died in battle)

♦ "I walked past high art and low art, past the theaters where famous people played to packed houses, past theaters where anonymous people played with themselves." ("In the Temple," a chapter from *All Over but the Shoutin'* by Rick Bragg.)

**admiration & contempt: direction / height**

**high (from on high)**

directive from on high

there's a clear ~ to investigate thoroughly (government)

edict from on high

an ~ banned any mention of sex (Woman's Weekly)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: direction**

**high (on a high)**

on a high

he's ~ right now and will use it for motivation (victor)

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction**

**high (emotion)**

high

emotions are ~

highs and lows

so you suffer fewer energy ~ (diet)  
her eyes gleamed as she recalled the ~ (of her life)  
it's a game of ~ (baseball)

emotional high

it was an incredible ~

incredible (emotional) high

it was an ~

get our hopes (too) high

we should not ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction**

**high (enthusiasm)**

real high

it's a ~, you just get hooked (genealogy)

**enthusiasm: addiction**

**high and low**

searching high and low

they are ~ for him (a cop killer)

**extent & scope: ground, terrain & land / height**

**highbrow (and lowbrow, middlebrow)**

highbrow conversations

the *Daily Mirror* was filled with ~ about art and politics

highbrow critics

it confounds the expectations of ~

highbrow pedestal

we're watching a genre step off its ~ (documentaries)

highbrow thinkers

contestants identify ~ by their fictional lowbrow digs

middlebrow readers

Howells was acceptable to ~ and attuned to the avant-garde

among the highbrows

the argument didn't stay in the academies ~ (a dispute)

attitude toward the highbrow

contributors take an irreverent ~ (a podcast)

low-brow and exploitative

critics dismissed the show as ~ (Jerry Springer)

archaic and 'highbrow'

in the US Shakespeare has the reputation of being ~

♦ "JUNK SHAKESPEARE. A family-friendly version of the hit show "DRUNK Shakespeare"! This Off-Broadway comedy combines a classic Shakespeare play with extreme food challenges—trying to discover the original intent of William Shakespeare. We don't know what he was eating...maybe it was Doritos?"

♦ "He's not a dignified old greybeard, like you know he's not Sir Laurence Olivier or Liam Neeson, he'd be like you know this 21-year-old surfer dude from California with like sick abs." (The 48-year-old George O'Connor thinking about the Greek God Zeus. From "Graphic novelist O'Connor turns ancient gods and goddesses into modern superheroes," NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, April 16, 2022.)

♦ "What if these beloved comic book characters fucked? And also solved murders? And had super powers? ("Riverdale' Will Finally Come to an End After Seven Absolutely Unhinged Seasons" by Jordan Julian, *Daily Beast*, May 19, 2022.)

♦ "It's a little bit like, say, *Spitting Image* has done in the past doing fur the present moment... On the eve of Good Friday, a man on the run from life finds himself in a deep dark wood, and he spends Easter weekend on a rollercoaster...Let's have a quick listen to Canto 26 here." ("Dante's Divine Comedy mined for 21st-century meaning," BBC, 11 Jan 2021, with BBC Europe Editor Katy Adler.)

♦ "The short-list for this year's Turner prize doesn't feature any individual artists for the first time. Instead, the contenders are all collectives, which created artwork ranging from a 24-hour fundraising rave to the use of food to help understand the workings of the world... There's a strong political thread. The raves... are part of what is described as queer, trans and intersex black and people of color radical activism." (BBC Six

O'clock News, 07/05/2021. J.M.W. Turner was born 1775 and died 1851. Many people know him for his painting, "The Fighting Temeraire.")

♦ "[F]or me this is just two lads kissing, fully clothed, what could be more normal than that? If you don't like the picture, you're not going to like the book." (Douglas Stuart about the cover of his second novel *Young Mungo*. From "Douglas Stuart: Booker Prize-winning author 'feels like an impostor,'" by Rebecca Jones, April 14, 2022.)

♦ "Alex Humphreys asks if video games should be appreciated as a form of art." (BBC.)

♦ "Is the nude selfie a new art form?" (BBC Culture.)

♦ "There is an almost kind of fetishization of street art these days." (Banksy, etc.)

♦ "Plywood From Boarded-Up Shops Turned Into Art Commemorating Floyd Killing" by Leila Fadel, NPR Culture, March 18, 2021.

♦ "Killer Mike calls for protection of Black art amid Young Thug and Gunna indictment."

♦ "Beyonce's 'Renaissance' is a thotty, naughty and ethereal work of art."

♦ "The assemblage provokes a meta-consideration: what truly separates the stripper from the actor, the club from the theater?" ("Down South: P-Valley," on Starz by Doreen St. Felix, *The New Yorker*, August 8, 2022.)

♦ "We do not believe there is a difference between arts coverage and hard news and understand that art is inherently political." (The value statement of the *Baltimore Beat* newspaper, a free newspaper. Its metal receptacles provide a space not only for newspapers but also for people to donate to the community, for example, food, clothing, books, Narcan, etc.)

♦ "This is the 70th birthday of one of the most important works of art in American history. (Sound of opening music to the beloved TV show *I Love Lucy*.) Yeah, think of it as a work of art..." (Steve Inskeep, NPR, Morning Edition, Feb 5 2021.)

♦ "The dialogue is...rich through *White House Plumbers*, and so are the performances and characters. Harrelson is wonderful, exploding like Ralph Kramden one moment, simmering like Macbeth the next." ("*White House Plumbers*" puts a laugh-out-loud spin on the Watergate break-in" by David Bianculli, NPR, Fresh Air, May 1, 2023.)

♦ "Spielberg's *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* signaled a shift towards broader popcorn sensibilities." (*Versus 2001: A Space Odyssey*, etc.)

♦ "It is *Gulliver's Travels*, Homer's *Odyssey*, *Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo*, and Edgar Rice Burrows..." (Tom Shales' 1977 review of *Star Wars*.)

♦ "In the modern United States, food sculpture is the art of the people." ("A Toast To Butter Sculpture, The Art That Melts The Hearts Of The Masses" by Tove Danovich, NPR, *The Salt*, June 25, 2015.)

♦ He threw a three-hit masterpiece. (Baseball.)

♦ The great Shaquille O'Neal, one of the greatest NBA players of all time, has been referred to as the Big Baryshnikov. And Lynn Swann was labeled the Baryshnikov of football for his acrobatic receptions at Super Bowl X.

♦ "Maybe I'll lean into the pain narrative, write that and get a good advance, ya'll pay me for that, right." (Fantasy author L.L. McKinney.)

**superiority & inferiority: direction / face**

## higher-up (person)

pressure from higher-ups

the recruiters are under ~ (military)

**hierarchy: direction / height / person**

## high five (noun)

social-media high-five

you can send them a ~ via Facebook, Twitter... (NPR)

**achievement, recognition & praise: gesture / hand**

## highlight (verb)

highlights a tension

the dilemma ~ within the ruling elite

highlighted (major) weaknesses

the report ~ in the economy

underline, highlight

the Soviets did not ~ the tragedy of the Jews (WWII)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: light & dark / verb**

## high-minded (adjective)

high-minded politician

it's hard to find a ~

high-minded project

he tried to raise money for his ~ (library)

**character & personality: direction**

**mind: direction**

## high-powered (adjective)

high-powered law firm

he has retained a ~ and says he is innocent

**power: tools & technology**

## high priest

high priest of imperialism

Winston Churchill, the ~ (opinion)

theory's high priest

General Petraeus, counterinsurgency ~...

**message / sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## high-spirited

high-spirited

if your child is ~, give her unstructured time

high-spirited man

a ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction**

## high tide

high tide of American greatness

the ~ has passed

**extent & scope: sea / tide**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: sea / tide**

## high-water (high-water mark)

high-water mark of student activism

this was the ~ (school shootings)

high water mark of the (Sanders) campaign

Nevada was the ~ (politics)

high-water mark of his career

it was the ~ (sports)

high-water mark of partisanship  
the vote was a ~ (Republicans versus Democrats)

high-water mark for religious participation  
1962 as the ~ in the US (Life Magazine)

♦ "It would prove to be the high-water mark of the German invasion." (Khimki, just 15 miles from the Kremlin. Watch Soviet Storm, WW2 in the East, YouTube. The Wikipedia article is titled "Soviet Storm: World War II in the East.")

**extent & scope: flood**  
**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: flood**  
**highway (iceberg highway, etc.)**

highway  
the Rhine is a ~ as much as a moat (Roman history)  
oceans are ~s rather than protective moats (geopolitics)  
the oceans were the ~s of the late 19th century (ships)  
the Med and Black Seas have been ~s since antiquity

humpback highway  
the so-called "humpback" (whales migrate by Australia)

"iceberg highways"  
one of the four major ~ that lead beyond Antarctica

ocean highway  
it's a very busy ~ (Santa Barbara Channel / shipping)

water highway  
this mighty ~ of China (Yangtze River)

well-travelled highways  
the rivers and streams of South Vietnam are ~

became (enormous and busy) highways  
the rivers ~ (Mississippi basin circa 1812)

**route: infrastructure**

**highway (highway to hell)**

Highway to hell or a livable future

"Humanity at climate crossroads, ~"

on a highway to (climate) hell  
we are ~ with our foot on the accelerator

♦ "We are on a highway to climate hell with our foot still on the accelerator." (UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres at COP27. One writer described his speech as fiery.)

♦ This may or not echo the Australian AC/DC rock song "Highway to Hell," which has a Wikipedia entry. "Ain't nothing that I'd rather do!"

♦ U.S. 666, in the Four Corners region of the Southwest, had its number changed to U.S. 491. (In 2003. Some Navahos had referred to the road as "Satan's Road." Listen to "Highway to Hell Gets Name Change," Linda Wertheimer, NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, June 7, 2003.)

♦ "I used to be a warrant officer in the British SAS and now I'm a soldier of fortune. I'm a hired gun, a mercenary if you like, and I'm the man who was trying keep the other four guys in the car alive on the drive from Jordan to Baghdad..." (*Highway To Hell: Dispatches From A Mercenary In Iraq* by John Geddes.)

**fate, fortune & chance: infrastructure**

**highway (my way or the highway)**

my way or the highway  
him and his edicts and his "h" (recall election)

type-A-my-way-or-the-highway  
he was a ~ guy

**allegiance, support & betrayal / character & personality / control & lack of control / unanimity & consensus: walking, running & jumping**

**high wire (fate)**

*Life On The Wire*  
*Al Pacino: A ~* (by Andrew Yule)

walking a (political) high wire  
the Taliban have been ~ ever since they took charge

♦ see also *tightrope (fate)*

♦ "The Taliban have been walking a political high wire ever since they took charge in Kabul. How do they...? How do they...? That high wire is not wobbling. The world is watching." ("Ayman al-Zawahiri: Shock in Kabul as US kills al-Qaeda leader" by Lyse Doucet, BBC, 2 August 2022.)

♦ In 1970 the German-born Karl Wallenda walked across the Tallulah Gorge in northern Georgia (the US state, not the country) on a high wire. He performed 2 handstands—one in honor of the US troops in Vietnam—as 30,000 men, women and children looked on. When he reached the end of the walk, his wife handed the 65-year-old Wallenda a martini.

♦ "I am interested to inspire people to uplift their soul and to look at the sky and say 'Wow, I can move mountains now, nothing is impossible' so that's why I love what I do... I never leave anything to chance and I have weaved this safety net in my head for the past 55 years. So I value life too much to risk my life and I do something I think much more inspiring and noble, I don't risk my life, I carry my life across." (The remarkable high-wire artist Philippe Petit.)

**fate, fortune & chance: circus**  
**difficulty, easiness & effort: circus**

**hijack (verb)**

hijacked the agenda  
anti-Western countries have ~ (UN)

hijacked the debate  
she ~ to announce her candidacy (politics)

hijacked the (electoral) process  
organized labor has ~ in Canadian provinces

hijacked the revolution  
his opponents fear that he has ~ (politics)

hijacking our culture and our minds  
how outrage is ~ (Shankar Vedantam)

**control & lack of control: crime / verb**  
**taking & removing: crime / verb**  
**possession: crime / verb**

**hijacked**

hijacked around the world  
meetings have been ~ (video-conferencing app)

hijacked by the (economic) elite  
government has been ~

hijacked by her emotions  
she let herself be ~

hijacked by this group

the Republican Party has been ~ (the Tea Party)

hijacked by the virus

T-cells spot which cells have been ~ and destroy them

**control & lack of control: crime**

**possession / taking & removing: crime**

## hill (over the hill)

over-the-hill

♦ "He's still talented, but he's on the other side of the hill now." (Said about an older boxer.)

**decline: mountains & hills**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: mountains & hills**

## hill (difficulty)

psychological hill

he has a ~ to climb

**difficulty, easiness & effort: direction / mountains & hills**

## hill (resistance)

die on this hill

I am wrong a lot, but I'll ~... (an opinion)

♦ "Thank you. I am wrong a lot, but I'll die on this hill. Sportsmanship and personal accountability are 'non negotiables' in athletics." (An online commenter, about getting rid of the traditional handshake line after sports events to forestall ugly behavior and incidents.)

**commitment & determination / resistance, opposition & defeat: military**

## hilt (to the hilt)

defend itself 'to the hilt'

the US will ~ in trade

perform her diva role to the hilt

she chose to ~ (a celebrity trial)

**extent & scope: blade / sword / weapon**

## Hilton (Fontana Hilton, etc.)

Fontana Hilton

the ~, a famous shelter on the Appalachian Trail

Hanoi Hilton

the ~ included Heartbreak Hotel and New Guy Village

♦ Names like these are often ironic. The Fontana Hilton is a trail hut, but it is near the parking lot at Fontana Dam, where there are hot showers. Those showers are much appreciated by trail walkers.

**proper name: infrastructure**

## Himalayan (miscalculation, etc.)

Himalayan proportions

it was a mistake of ~

**size: mountains & hills**

## himself (every man for himself)

every man for himself

it's ~, it's keeping alive (the film *On the Waterfront*)

there's no real sense of civil society, it's sort of ~ (Greece)

they'll work together and suddenly it's ~ (Tour de France)

greed is good and it's ~

every-man-for-himself play

~ versus selfless team play (NBA)

♦ "They were surrounded by troops led by Rommel... And being from these ancient Scottish regiments with a very noble tradition, they wouldn't surrender... And in the end it was every man for himself and they all tried to scatter and break through the lines..." (Battle of St. Valery, "the Other Dunkirk," wonderfully talked about by the actor Hugh Grant on NPR, Fresh Air, July 23, 2021.)

**competition: jungle**

## hindsight (noun)

20/20 hindsight

we are expressly forbidden from using ~ (shootings)

with hindsight

he said ~ he wouldn't have done it (forced to resign)

lens of hindsight

use of force should not be viewed from the 20-20 ~

♦ "When we analyze police-involved shootings, we must look to the totality of the circumstances, and we are expressly forbidden from using 20/20 hindsight, because unlike all of us, officers are not afforded the luxury of armchair reflection when they are faced with rapidly evolving, volatile encounters in dangerous situations." (An attorney representing a police officer. From "Family of Donovan Lewis demand accountability after police killing" by Nick Evans, *Ohio Capital Journal*, Sept 2, 2022.)

**past & present / perception, perspective & point of view / time: direction / eye / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## hinge (hinge event, etc.)

*Hinges of History*

his ~ series (the historian Thomas Cahill / turning points)

hinge event

this was a ~ in the industry (a crypto bankruptcy)

hinge moment

this conflict is a ~, if could change world politics if...  
your characters are often living through historical ~s...

history's hinges

Casey saw the Iraq War as a pivot point, one of ~

**development / importance & significance / reversal: direction / mechanism / movement**

## hint (verb)

hints that

the study ~ the father's age really might matter (birth)

**evidence: speech / verb**

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

## hint (noun)

hint of foul play

there was no ~

hint of an irregular trip

there is the ~ (naval officer)

**evidence / fictive communication: speech**

## hint at (verb)

hints at an accident

the radioactive cloud ~ further east (radiation leak)

hints at a growing American military role

the remote airstrip in Syria ~

hints at ways

the research ~ to stop Parkinson's and Alzheimer's

hint at where

Australian fossils ~ to search for life on Mars

**evidence: speech / verb**

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

## hip (joined at the hip)

joined at the hip

he and the company he founded were ~ (MTK Global)  
they usually disagreed, but on this they were ~ (a decision)  
the unions and Jerry Brown are ~ (California politics)

linked at the (etymological) hip

"medicine" and "meditation" are ~ (mindfulness)

politically joined at the hip

the gay-and-lesbian and trans movements became ~

**division & connection: health & medicine**

**relationship: family / health & medicine**

## Hiroshima (epithet)

Ceausima

Romanians referred to the razed areas as ~ (1980s)

call "Hiroshima"

a rubble-strewn terrain the locals ~ (Bucharest)

**destruction: epithet / history / nuclear energy / place**

## history (secret history)

secret history of the term

the ~ "pundit"

'Secret History' Of Nuclear War

"The ~" (Fresh Air / with the journalist Fred Kaplan)

Secret History of Wonder Woman

"The ~" (Fresh Air with Jill Lepore)

**concealment & lack of concealment: history**

## hit (arrive)

hit the big time

he ~

hit some (real) low points

I've ~ in my life

hit pay dirt

he finally ~ (a researcher)

on the fourth day, Fitch seemed to ~ (experiment)

hit the eddy

he managed to roll up and ~ (kayaker)

hit a plateau

if you slip up or ~, don't beat yourself up (weight loss)

hit the weight room

he ~ (basketball)

hit middle age

now that we've ~

adolescence hits

childrearing can be difficult, especially when ~

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: verb**

## hit (hit the market, etc.)

hitting the bookstores

new books on women and sex are ~

hit the market

COVID-19 blood tests ~

hit (long-track) speedskating

clap skates ~ in 1997-98

**inauguration: verb**

## hit (hit \$30, etc.)

hit the mid-20s

during a hard freeze, temperatures ~ for 6-8 hours

hit the speed of sound

at 22,200 feet, the airplane ~ (jetliner in dive)

hit (an estimated) 140 mph

winds ~ in Tennessee (tornadoes)

hit \$30

the stock ~ before settling down to \$23 (share price)

hits \$5

gas ~ a gallon, here's how it got here and what's ahead

**attainment: number / verb**

## hit (take a hit, etc.)

reputational hit

it would have been a huge ~ for FX (bankruptcy)

taken a hit

tourism along the Gulf has ~ (oil spill)

took a (major) hit

her grades ~ (online learning / pandemic)

**feeling, emotion & effect: fist / verb**

## hit (affect)

hit (real) hard

it ~ (a murder)

pandemic hit

once the ~, we started doing virtual visits

once the ~, nobody came, so... (ad for Microsoft Teams)

**effect: fist / force / sensation / verb**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: fist / force / sensation / verb**

## hit (affected)

hit by Covid-19 and the shutdowns  
when these industries were ~... (pandemic)

hit hard  
Bosnia's fragile economy was ~ by the financial crisis  
the cruise industry was ~ by the pandemic

**effect: fist / force / sensation**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: fist / force / sensation**

## hit (computer)

hits on the (erotic) Web site  
5 million viewer ~

hits a day  
his Web site was getting nearly 2 million ~

viewer hits  
5 million ~ on the erotic Web site

5 million (viewer) hits  
~ on the erotic Web site

**computer: force**

## hit (comprehension)

hit me  
and then it ~, Joe was sick

**comprehension & incomprehension: force / fist / verb**

## hit (success)

hit  
a ~ is better than a flop (Broadway)

hit on (Top 40) radio  
she has a fast-rising ~

hit play  
his ~, "The Sunshine Boys"

hit song  
recorded a ~, toured England

hits and flops  
seeing ~ at the local movie theater;  
he has had ~ (film actor)

monster hit  
the studio hasn't had a ~ since... (films)

TV hit  
it was a smash ~ from 1959 to 1963

Broadway hit  
he chalked up about a dozen ~s

fast-rising hit  
she has a ~ on Top 40 radio

**success & failure: target / weapon**

## hit (mob hit, etc.)

hit job  
the Bloomberg article was a ~ (against a company)

hit operation  
it's a progressive ~ now (Southern Poverty Law Center)

political hit  
the hearings were a ~ (politics)

partisan hit job  
this is a ~ (political kerfuffle)

political hit job  
how a ~ backfired

ridiculous hitjob  
he called the *New York Times* article a ~ (Carlos Watson)

♦ A hatchet job, a hit job / piece, a drive-by...

**conflict: crime / death & life / violence**  
**accusation & criticism: crime / death & life / violence**  
**punishment & recrimination: crime / death & life / violence**

## hit back (verb)

hit back  
prosecutors ~ in court documents (politics)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: fist**

## hitchhike (verb)

hitchhikes with people throughout the world  
the Mediterranean recluse spider ~

hitchhike with passengers  
the virus continued to ~ from other hot spots (COVID)

'hitchhiking' on ships  
invasive species are ~ (Antarctica)

**transmission: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## hitchhiker (noun)

hitchhiker  
it could be a ~ (latent virus in transplanted pig's heart)

barnacles, sponges and other hitchhikers  
he found ~ (on the bottom of a boat)

**transmission: journeys & trips / movement**

## hit it off (verb)

hit it off well  
we ~, I didn't really know him or his work (film actor)

**attraction & repulsion: crashes & collisions / verb**

## hitter (heavy hitter)

heavy-hitters from the worlds  
~ of sports, entertainment, and pop culture (NPR)

BBC's big hitters  
two more of the ~ are departing

two heavy-hitters  
you have ~ meeting (Rapinoe on France vs. US soccer)

**force: boxing / fist / sports & games**

## hive (noun)

hive  
if the outside was dark and lonesome, the inside was a ~

hive of activity  
the marketplace is a ~

**activity: insect**

## hives (noun)

gives people (like Kennan) hives  
his opinions ~

**affliction: health & medicine**

## hobble (verb)

hobbled past (Labour) governments  
the matter of military intervention has ~

hobble the organization  
the FBI were finally able to ~ (KKK)

**constraint & lack of constraint / functioning: animal / health & medicine / leg / movement / verb / walking, running, & jumping**

## hobbled

hobbled by a (deadly) pandemic  
the US economy has been ~

hobbled by (international) sanctions  
Iran has been ~

hobbled by a (debilitating) stammer  
he was ~ (George VI)

hobbled for a generation  
the real-estate market is going to be ~

**constraint & lack of constraint / functioning: animal / health & medicine / leg / movement / walking, running & jumping**

## Hobson's choice

presented him with a Hobson's choice  
the crisis ~ (response to caving fatality)

♦ Thomas Hobson was an English liveryman who required every customer to take the horse nearest the door. It means an apparently free choice when there is really no alternative.

♦ "Health officials have said the best vaccine is the one you're offered." (Johnson & Johnson, AstraZeneca, Moderna, etc.)

**alternatives & choices: allusion**

## hog (verb)

hog the headlines  
Haaland will continue to ~ (Erling. Haaland.)

hog photo spots  
they ~ so no-one else can enjoy them (Instagram tourists)

**behavior: animal / verb**

## hog (noun)

room hog  
you can lose your job for being a ~ (writers room)

**behavior: animal**

## hogtie (verb)

hogties U.S. counter-proliferation strategy  
diplomatic dialogue only ~ (with North Korea)

**constraint & lack of constraint: animal / verb**

## hold (the future can hold something)

holds  
nobody knows what the future ~  
I am optimistic about what the future ~  
getting people to prepare for what a warmer climate ~

hold  
so what does the future ~ for the Supreme Court

**future / time: container / verb**

## hold (long-held)

long-held assumptions  
challenge ~ about...

long-held practice  
it dropped its ~ of... (way a company orders goods)

long-held resentments  
she was a creature of her ~

long-held tradition  
abandoning such a ~ is heresy

**possession: hand**

## hold (verb / possession)

held him in its grip  
the current ~

hold its monopoly  
Portugal ~, but then began to lose its hold

**possession: hand / verb**

**fictive possession: hand / verb**

## hold (noun / possession)

hold on power  
he is trying to maintain his ~

lose its hold  
Portugal held its monopoly, but then began to ~

losing their hold  
residents are ~ on the middle class (recession)

**possession: hand**

**fictive possession: hand**

## **hold (noun / emotion)**

hold

he was unnerved by the ~ it still had on him (trauma)

**fictive possession / possession: hand**

**mental health: hand / possession**

**feeling, emotion & effect: hand / possession**

## **hold (close held, etc.)**

close held

it's ~, few people have read this (a report)

**concealment & lack of concealment: cards / gambling /**

**sports & games / hand**

## **hold (take hold)**

take hold

the trend could ~ in other states (declaring bankruptcy)

taking hold

competitive instincts are ~ (classroom)

take hold in Spain

when liberal ideas began to ~

take hold in the community

we don't want extremist elements to ~

began to take hold

the idea ~

beginning to take hold

democracy is ~

failed to take hold

democracy has ~

contagion took hold

~ (Soldiers' Home in Holyoke, Massachusetts)

drugs took hold

AIDS cases fell as new, more effective ~

**growth & development: hand / verb**

**fictive possession: hand / verb**

## **hold (on hold)**

on hold

negotiations are ~

his life in the sky has been ~ (crash with fatalities)

many Afghan lives now seem to be ~ (Taliban takeover)

recovery efforts are on hold

~ because of dangerous conditions (avalanches)

put our relationship on hold

we had to ~

**action, inaction & delay / situation: hand**

## **hold back (restraint)**

hold back

Spike Lee did not ~ during the press conference

hold back at the United Nations

she didn't ~ (Greta Thunberg's "How Dare You" speech)

**restraint & lack of restraint: arm / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: arm / verb**

## **hold back (obstacle)**

held them back

another policy that women believe ~

holding you back

do you think I'm ~

hold her back

the fact that she is shy needn't ~ (toddler)

♦ "She talked about how it was 'gangs'—'not white people'—who were responsible for holding back Black and Hispanic men." (The politician Marjorie Taylor Greene.)

**obstacles & impedance: arm / verb**

**constraint & lack of constraint: arm / verb**

## **hold in (emotions)**

hold it in

don't ~ (emotions)

**feeling, emotion & effect: container / verb**

## **hold off (verb)**

held off the future

they ~ by building a fragile present from pieces of the past

**obstacles & impedance: arm / verb**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: arm / verb**

## **hold on (survival)**

hold on

controller said to ~ (soldiers waiting to be exfiltrated)

the Maasai won't be able to ~ much longer

~ (911 operator to 9/11 caller)

just ~, there will be tomorrow (Maria Carey)

held on to win

AC Milan ~ the title... (soccer)

strength to hold on

I ask God to give me ~ (mother of missing kid)

♦ "The worst part is behind us, we are seeing a new dawn, hold on, have faith, because good days are coming."

♦ "Keep your eye on the prize, hold on." (A moving song from the Civil Rights era of the 1960s.)

♦ "Keep your hand on that plow, and hold on." (A moving Negro spiritual.)

**survival, persistence & endurance: hand / verb**

**resiliency: hand / verb**

## **hold on to (verb)**

hold on to faith

in the hell of war, how does a chaplain ~

holds on to grievances

he ~

holding on to hope

they're ~ that they will find survivors (building collapse)

held on to its role

the department has ~ as... (State Department)

held on to his people's ancient religion

Nicholas Black Elk, who ~ when it was actively suppressed (Oglala)

hold on to her sanity

her work enables her to ~ (an activist)

hold on to my senses

I am trying to ~, to fend off the black dog (depression)

hold on to that

if I ~, I'll never be able to move on (a boxer and a defeat)

**attachment / possession: hand / verb**

## hold out (persist)

hold out for real change

the parents hope protesters will ~ (Sandy Hook murders)

**survival, persistence & endurance: verb**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: verb**

## hold out (offer)

held out the promise

California ~ of a better life for migrants

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: hand / verb**

## hold up (rob)

hold up corporations

activists can ~

**taking & removing: crime / verb**

♦ "[M]inority activists can 'hold up' (in both senses of the idiom) corporations, raising objections that can be overcome with compensation." ("The Inequality of 'Equity,'" by Christopher Caldwell, *National Review*, May 17, 2021.)

## hold up (obstruct)

holding me up

you are ~

**obstacles & impedance: hand / verb**

## holdup (noun)

holdup

come on, what's the ~

**obstacles & impedance: hand**

**action, inaction & delay: hand**

## hole (feeling)

hole in my heart

it left a huge ~ (loss of a baby)

hole in my life

it left a ~ that won't ever be filled (loss of her mother)

**feeling, emotion & effect: hole**

## hole (flaw)

holes in her game

there are no ~ (tennis player Emma Raducanu)

security hole

the break-ins exploited ~ on these systems (computers)

the ~s have now been plugged (computers)

gaping hole

the case has ~s in it

full of holes

your theory is ~ (discussion comment)

shoot holes in the study

skeptics have been quick to ~ (science)

blew a (sizable) hole in the stock

his report ~ of the high-flying, high-tech company

♦ "It doesn't take long at sea to learn that nothing is too rich to rust... / Hang around the superyacht world for a while and you see the metaphor everywhere. Four months after Putin's invasion of Ukraine, the war had eaten a hole in his myths of competence." ("The Floating World" by Evan Osnos, *The New Yorker*, July 25, 2022. A brilliant writer!)

**flaws & lack of flaws: hole**

## hole (dry hole)

dry hole

it was a ~ (combat mission fails to detain target)

♦ "It was a dry hole, which is the term that we use whenever a mission doesn't find anything or is unsuccessful..." (A U.S. military operation in Iraq.)

**success & failure: ground, terrain & land / mining / water**

## hole (tree hole)

at a tree hole

people can post secrets for strangers to read ~

♦ People can reveal secrets for strangers to read at several "tree hole" sites on Weibo.

♦ An actual tree hole used for secret communication features in the beloved book *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee.

**concealment & lack of concealment: tree**

**computer: tree**

## hole (situation)

hole of addiction

it's easy to fall into a ~ (skateboarding)

job hole

we're still in a deep, deep ~ (unemployment)

dark hole

he's in that ~ right now (mentally ill, drug addled, homeless)

deeper hole

I want him to dig a ~ for himself with his mouth

demographic hole

it's going to be so hard to get out of this ~

financial hole

he had to declare bankruptcy to get out of his ~

climb out of their hole  
will they be able to ~ (losing team)

dig a (deeper) hole  
I want him to ~ for himself with his mouth

digging herself (deeper) into this hole  
she is ~ and she'll never get out (a trial)

digging ourselves into a hole  
we could be ~, for a very long time...

dug herself out of the hole  
she finally ~ (financial)

dug ourselves into a hole  
we have ~ (budget deficit)

claw their way out of the hole  
Spain dug deep to ~ but Scotland... (soccer)

fill in that hole  
it will take a lot more jobs to ~ (unemployment)

get out of this (demographic) hole  
it's going to be so hard to ~ (aging people, low birth rate)

♦ "We've been digging ourselves into this situation for 40 years, and it's likely going to take us 40 years to get out." (Eric Tars, the legal director at the National Homelessness Law Center.)

♦ "He's in that dark hole right now, and if you could force treatment there's a chance he could possibly crawl out of it." (A mentally ill homeless drug addict who refuses treatment and is in and out of crisis police holds, emergency rooms, jails, and homeless shelters.)

♦ First law of holes: if you are in one, stop digging.

♦ "If you dig a hole for your brother, you will fall down in it." (Said in Saudi Arabia, about revenge.)

**involvement / situation: container / hole**

## holed up

holed up in his (Ramallah) compound  
Arafat remained ~ for 2 years

holed up in a (hotel) room  
he is ~ after being attacked (a reporter abroad)

**protection & lack of protection: animal / fox / ground, terrain & land / hole**

## hole up (verb)

holed up  
and that's where we ~ (musicians record in bedroom)

**protection & lack of protection: animal / fox / ground, terrain & land / hole / verb**

## holic (shopaholic, etc.)

shopaholic  
I was a ~  
she was a ~ (designer clothes)

workaholic  
I was a ~

♦ "-holic" is entered at Wiktionary. The four examples there are: danceaholic; workaholic; sexaholic; and sugarholic.

**behavior: addiction / affix / alcohol**  
**language: affix**

## hollow (hollow promises, etc.)

hollow promise  
the joint agreement was a ~ (diplomacy)

hollow sentiment  
it's a rather ~ considering that...

hollow slogans  
I began to dislike this girl for her ~ and bombastic cliches

hollow victory  
it's a ~ (boxing / an impaired contestant)

hollow and self-serving  
their platform is ~ (politics)

hollow, cynical and inauthentic  
he is often dismissed as ~ (a politician)

proved hollow  
the pledge ~ (U.N.)

rang hollow  
his apology ~ (insincere)

ring hollow  
promises that the country's best days lie ahead ~

rings hollow  
his argument ~ to many  
that is an argument that ~ (a bad argument)

sounded hollow  
his speech ~ (president)

**speech / substance & lack of substance: air / atmosphere / materials & substances**

## hollowed out

hollowed out  
key programs were ~ under the administration  
with the State Department ~, the military is driving policy

enforcement has been hollowed out  
ATF ~ (politics)

weakened and hollowed out  
America's local newspapers have been ~

becomes hollowed out  
without the rush and brush and crush of the world, one ~

getting hollowed out  
the middle class is ~ in America

♦ "Without the rush and brush and crush of the world, one becomes hollowed out. The cavity fills with envy." (Cynthia Ozick, on the isolation of being a writer without success.)

**attenuation / strength & weakness: tree**

## hollow out (verb)

hollowed out enforcement  
years of budget cuts have ~ of the nation's tax laws

hollow it out  
the Supreme Court will reverse or ~ (Row v. Wade)

hollow out abortion rights  
legal restrictions designed to ~

hollowed out the island's rural towns  
the recession has ~ (Puerto Rico)

**attenuation / strength & weakness: tree / verb**

## Hollywood (Hollywood of Africa, etc.)

Hollywood of Africa  
Ouarzazate, sometimes called the ~ (*Gladiator*, etc.)

Hollywood of the South  
Atlanta, Georgia, the ~

Bollywood  
she was known as the Nightingale of ~ (Lata Mangeshkar)

Nollywood  
Hollywood, Bollywood, make way for ~ (Nigerian films)  
Jocelyn Bioh's vampy off-Broadway comedy ~ *Dreams*

♦ "Black Hollywood" reshoots classic film scenes with Black actors. (*Black Hollywood: Reimagining Iconic Movie Moments*, a photography book by Carrell Augustus.)

♦ "The business is run by the cornflakes men. And they're only in it for the girls. You used to join amateur dramatics to get at the crackling. These men buy up studios to achieve the same end." (The great theater actor Peter O'Toole, about the film industry.)

♦ "Two guys who would never get layed [sic] if not for the movie industry." (A commenter about an incarcerated film producer and a famous director.)

**achievement, recognition & praise: epithet**

## Hollywood (Hollywood ending, etc.)

Hollywood ending  
this is a ~ (strike by IATSE averted = happy ending)

Hollywood fantasy  
that's not ~ any more (robotic bees)

♦ "I bet more Marines have joined the Corps because of *Full Metal Jacket* than because of any fucking recruiting commercial." / "And that's an antiwar film." / "Nothing's an antiwar film," I say. "There's no such thing." (From the brilliant short story "War Stories" in *Redeployment* by Phil Klay.)

♦ According to Justin Chang, "The great French director Francois Truffaut once said there was no such thing as an anti-war film, because it's in the nature of war films to valorize the spectacle of armed combat." ("1917" Is A Mind-Boggling Technological Achievement—But Not A Great Film," NPR, Fresh Air, January 15, 2020.)

**fantasy & reality: film**

## holocaust (noun)

holocaust of abortion  
unborn babies murdered in the ~ (pro-life activism)

holocaust of a national memory  
the fire was a ~ (Rio's National Museum / indigenous tribes)

nuclear holocaust  
the spread of an ice sheet is more deadly to life than a ~

racial holocaust

Fidel Castro accused Paris of carrying out a "~"

♦ A burnt offering; a sacrifice to the Gods consumed by fire: *holos* (whole) and *kaustos* (burned). (Greek.)

♦ "The results of Cook's intrusion into Tahiti and Australia had been bad enough for the native people: for the Antarctic animals it was a holocaust... From Le Havre in France and Hull in England, and from New Bedford and Nantucket in America, the whaling and the sealing fleets set out." (*The Fatal Impact* by Alan Moorehead.)

♦ "The use of 'holocaust' by Mr. Castro demonstrates his ignorance of history and disdain towards its victims. Such words are unacceptable." (French foreign ministry spokesman Bernard Valero, responding to comments by Fidel Castro that France's deportation of Roma in 2010 amounted to a 'racial holocaust'.")

♦ "So I just wanted to come here today and say that I'm truly sorry for offending people with remarks about the Holocaust. There's no comparison." (Marjorie Taylor Greene, U.S. Congresswoman.)

♦ "Holocaust remembrance Day is a time to remember more than one atrocity." (The Louisville *Courier-Journal*, Opinion, Jan 27, 2023. The opinion includes references to Black people, Asians, Hispanics, Muslims, LGBTQ+ and trans-gender people, Native Americans, skin color, religion, gender identity, ethnic background, hate speech, current "autocratic" leaders, and "polite racism" versus outright bigotry.)

♦ Russia versus the Ukraine. Both sides are referring to the Holocaust.

♦ Nick Robinson: Do you when you hear people making comparisons with the thirties pause or do you in stark contrast as some people do say, 'How dare you make that comparison?' / Suella Braverman: To throw out those flippant analogies diminishes the unspeakable tragedy that millions of people went through. And I don't think anything that is happening in the UK today can come close to what happened in the Holocaust. So I find it a lazy and unhelpful comparison to make." ("Gary Lineker tweet 'diminishes' tragedy of Holocaust—Suella Braverman," BBC, Political Thinking with Nick Robinson, March 9, 2023.)

♦ "It would be good generally if people could stop using Nazi Germany as a kind of bad things emoji. Better to explain and use detail. Save Nazi Germany. Keep it in your back pocket for those occasions when only Nazi Germany will do." ("Why there are no winners after the BBC's two-footed tackle on Gary Lineker" by Barney Ronay, *The Guardian*, 10 March 2023. Wisdom!)

**sacrifice: fire / religion**

**destruction: allusion / fire / history**

## holy grail

see grail (holy grail)  
this is a ~ (strike by IATSE averted = happy ending)

## home (home of golf, etc.)

home of cricket  
the ~ (Lord's Cricket Ground, London)

home of golf  
St. Andrews is the ~

home of the great steamships  
Wuhan, ~ of the Yangtze

home of the world's biggest wave  
Nazare is the undisputed ~ (surfing / Portugal)

home of whisky  
Scotland is the ~ and has the greatest expertise

spiritual home  
the Maracanã is the ~ of world football (hallowed turf)

♦ The "home of British boxing" is (a) York Hall, Bethnal Green (b) Alexandra Palace (c) the O2 Arena.

**location / origin: house / place**

## home (home to)

home to one of the island's largest cathedrals  
the city was ~ (Arecibo, Puerto Rico)

home to an exhibition  
Derry's Tower Museum is ~ of the discovery (a galleon)

home to a (vast) collection  
the museum is ~ of archives

home to all 14 of the world's 8,000-meter peaks  
Central Asia is ~

home to a (major Soviet) listening station  
during the Cold War, it was ~ (Cuba / SIGINT)

**location: house / place**

## home (home in Islam, etc.)

home in Islam  
people who found a ~

lucrative, satisfying home  
I had a ~ (an actor in a successful TV series)

**protection & lack of protection: house**

## home (home for the archive, etc.)

home for the archive  
a proper final ~

final home  
a proper ~ for the archive

future home  
~ of First National Bank and Trust

permanent home  
temporary premises vs. a ~ (museum)  
whales making a ~ in the Gulf of Mexico

proper (final) home  
a ~ for the archive

**location / place: house**

## home (hit home)

hit home  
I have a brother who's an addict so it ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: house / verb**  
**effect / proximity: house / verb**

## home (close to home)

hit (very) close to home  
this has ~ (a school shooting)

**feeling, emotion & effect / proximity: house**

## home (feel at home)

feel at home  
Americans never ~, even in their houses

felt at home

for the first time in his life, he ~ (athlete on team)  
she had to leave her orphanage, where she had ~

feels at home in Japan  
he ~ (a Latin baseball player)

feel at home with my relatives  
I don't ~

feel most at home  
I ~ in the gym (a boxer)

♦ **Home is where the heart is!**

**feeling, emotion & effect / welcome: house**

## Homeric (adjective)

Homeric aspirations  
he left Oxford with ~ (a politician)

Homeric battle  
the two teams engaged in a ~ (football)

Homeric curse  
he remembers the ~ of the truck drivers (Little Athens)

Homeric epic  
her work is described as a ~ about...

Homeric life  
he wanted to live a more ~ (Classics grad joins the army)

Homeric proportions  
an armada of ~ invaded Sicily (World War II)

Homeric retreat  
the climbing party's ~ down K2 is legendary

Homeric struggle  
he lost a ~ (sculling)

stern, erect, Homeric  
he stood over his foe, ~ (a fight)

**superlative: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey**  
**comparison & contrast: affix**

## home run (success)

home run for Ford  
the new car has become a ~

home-run line  
it was a ~ (a memorable line in a speech)

conservation home run  
it was a ~ (fishery rebounds)

hit a home run  
you ~ (successful proposal)  
this is an opportunity for us to ~ (an initiative)

♦ **like park (hit something out of the park)**

**success & failure: baseball / sports & games**

## home run (swing for a home run, etc.)

home run  
that's his ~, his money-punch (Cordina vs Ogawa)

swinging for the fences  
he is ~ (a restaurateur)

swinging for a home run  
Trump is ~ (final status peace in Middle East)

**success & failure: baseball / sports & games / verb**  
**commitment & determination / difficulty, easiness & effort:**  
**baseball / sports & games / verb**

## homestretch (noun)

homestretch of the (US mid-term) elections  
race-baiting allegations have mired the ~

in the homestretch  
this is crunch time, we're ~ (election campaign)

in the final stretch  
we are ~ (election campaign)

**development / starting, going, continuing & ending: horse / sports & games**

## homework (noun)

homework  
show that you have done your ~ by... (job interview)

did their homework  
they ~ before creating the Mach-E SUV (an ad)

do your homework  
~ before you buy...  
~ and don't make assumptions

do (all) your homework  
you try to ~ (preparing for NCY marathon)

**readiness & preparedness: school & education**

## honcho (leader)

honcho of *The New York Times*  
the new head ~ is Joseph Kahn

head honcho  
CNN ~ Chris Licht...

hedge fund honcho  
~ Daniel Loeb: stop spreading fear at Sony

♦ According to Merriam-Webster, this is Japanese for "leader of the squad, section, group," and was brought back from Japan by U.S. soldiers after World War II. It seems to be the Japanese equivalent of the French *doyen*.

♦ Soka Gakkai, a modern version of Buddhism, was brought to the US by Japanese war brides.

**power: person**

**person: military**

## hone (verb)

honing her (observational) gifts  
she has been ~ for 50 years (the artist Catherine Murphy)

honed a sense  
he has ~ of "radical informality" (a leader)

hone their skills

they ~ in Iraq and then go elsewhere (terrorists)

hone (job) skills  
as more Americans return to school to ~

hone their technique  
the hole is perfect for those wishing to ~ (kayaking)

develop and hone  
they practice a lot to ~ their routines (cheerleaders)

**amelioration & renewal: blade / knife / verb**

## honed

finely honed (m)  
he demonstrates ~ political instincts (a diplomat)

**functioning: blade / knife**

**condition & status: blade / knife**

## honey (honey, baby, etc.)

honey  
hey, ~...

honey, baby, sweetie  
he addresses me as ~ and other inappropriate names

**vocative: taste**

## honeycomb (shape)

honeycomb cardboard  
packaging materials such as ~

honeycomb mold  
the glass flowed into a ~ (telescope mirror)

honeycomb structure  
~s are widely used in the aerospace industry

honeycomb weathering  
rocks and bones can display ~

♦ The cells in a honeycomb structure are usually columnar and hexagonal (6-sided).

**shape: animal / insect**

## honeycomb (verb)

honeycombed the island with bunkers  
Taiwan's military ~

**configuration: animal / insect / verb**

## honeycombed

honeycombed with caves  
the cliffs are ~

honeycombed with mines  
the mountain is ~, many over a century old (Chile)

honeycombed with tombs  
this area is ~ (Judean foothills south of Jerusalem)

honeycombed with tunnels and bunkers  
North Korea is ~

**configuration: animal / insect**

## honeymoon (noun)

honeymoon

the ~ didn't last (teacher on job)

honeymoon between the media and police

the end to the ~ (leak)

honeymoon period

his ~ is clearly over (an elected official)

voter honeymoon

he still basks in a ~ (a politician)

end to the honeymoon

the ~ between the news media and police (leak)

honeymoon didn't last

at first things were great, but the ~ (a new teacher)

♦ "She wasn't prepared for the honeymoon shocker... a snoring spouse."

♦ "She disappeared on their honeymoon in Jordan."

**conflict: love, courtship & marriage**

**feeling, emotion & effect: love, courtship & marriage**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: love, courtship & marriage**

## honey-tongued

honey-tongued

the ~ French major

**speech: taste / tongue**

## honor (noun / groups)

it is an honor for NPR to distribute

~ Radio Ambulante...

in honor of "Record Store Day"

jazz recordings to be released ~

in honor of Donovan Lewis

a large crowd gathered ~ (shot by a policeman)

in honor of George Floyd

a rally and march ~

badge of honor

see *badge (badge of honor)*

point of honor

he made it a ~ to shoot only what he could eat (a hunter)

gets (overdue) honors

Black civil-war soldier ~ (Lt. Stephen Atkins Swails)

♦ "It's an honor for NPR to distribute Radio Ambulante and to join Daniel in elevating public radio's long-form journalism for Spanish-speaking audiences." (NPR President and CEO John Lansing, after Daniel Alarcon was selected for a MacArthur Foundation grant.)

♦ "LGBT Pride events are held annually in June in honor of the Stonewall riots." (Wikipedia.)

♦ "Ahead of Trans Day of Visibility, I rise in honor of a community that is being forced to fight for its very existence. I rise in honor of trans voices that deserve to be heard—not silenced and not criminalized. I rise in honor of trans joy that deserves to be celebrated—not eradicated." (U.S. Representative for Massachusetts Katherine Clark, House Minority Whip.)

♦ "USPS Picks Perfect Line For Maya Angelou Stamp—If Only It Were Hers" by Colin Dwyer, NPR, The Two-Way, April 8, 2015.) / "Let's save Maya Angelou from fake quotes" by Rebecca Seals, BBC News, 13 November 2017.)

♦ "Doesn't she need to go pick up some irrelevant award that she didn't actually earn and is now ruined as it is associated with her?" (Online snark against a "woke" celebrity.)

♦ "Can honour set to a leg? No. Or an arm? No. Or take away the grief of a wound? No. Honour hath no skill in surgery, then? No. What is honour? A word. What is in that word honour? What is that honour? Air. A trim reckoning! Who hath it? He that died a' Wednesday. Doth he feel it? No. Doth he hear it? No. 'Tis insensible, then? Yea, to the dead. But will it not live with the living? No. Why? Detraction will not suffer it." (Henry IV, Shakespeare.)

♦ "This potter will be remembered," Bob Blankenship, chairman of the Cherokee Tribal Council, told those gathered at the Cherokee High School Auditorium to honor Louise Bigmeat Maney. / Saturday's celebration was public recognition of the "Beloved Woman" title conferred on Maney by tribal council in December 2001. / Principal Chief Leon Jones noted the title of Beloved Woman had been bestowed on only two other Cherokee women since the 1700s... / Marie Junaluska, the other Painttown council representative and member of the Ani'Yun'wiyahi (Principal People) committee, gave an emotional eulogy in her native tongue. Afterward Junaluska said, "She was my mentor and a great believer in preserving our culture." / The program began with a "Presentation of Colors" by the Tsalagi Warrior Society and included presentations by the Cherokee Elementary Traditional Singers and the Young Voices... / Former Principal Chief Joyce Dugan said Maney "would be embarrassed" by all the attention... / Her pottery is on display at the Smithsonian." ("Maney is third 'Beloved Woman' in 225 years" by Don Hendershot, *Smoky Mountain News* / Regional / Week of 3/13/02.)

♦ Duty, Honor, Country. (The motto of West Point.)

♦ "With only precious seconds to decide..." (From a Medal of Honor citation.)

♦ Better poor with honor than rich with shame.

♦ Better deserve honor and not have it, than have it and not deserve it.

♦ Where there is no shame, there is no honor. (An Ethiopian proverb.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## honor (verb / groups)

honor those who died

how to pay the victims and ~ in the accident

honors (queer people's) existence

Queer Gym ~

honor your feelings

we ask each of you to ~ (after mass shooting)

honors (groundbreaking 1898) film

Library of Congress ~ depicting Black joy

honor Black History Month

six books republished to ~ (Penguin Classics)

honor '(un)known' enslaved people

new monument will ~ (IDEAS xLab / Louisville)

honors victims

the community ~ of the shooting and calls for change

honor women

we wanted to ~ who have been doing what they do...

celebrate and (we) honor

we ~ the women who made history...

♦ see also *celebrate (groups)*

♦ "As a brand, we want to honor women, like Misty, who are inspiring the next generation of girls to live out their dreams. We know role play often

leads to real 'play' in life and we're thrilled to celebrate Misty with her very own doll." (Lisa McKnight, Barbie's general manager and senior vice president. From "Misty Copeland Inspires A Barbie 'Sheroes' Doll" by Bill Chappell, NPR, The Two-Way, May 2, 2016.)

♦ "Many of them have suffered much. And we honor them and we honor their pain and suffering." (Southern Baptist Church sexual abuse.)

♦ "Others took umbrage with the fact that Mr Vine, 57, had used the word 'honoured' when describing the meeting with the teenager." (Jeremy Vine of the BBC posts a picture of him and Greta Thunberg. The *Daily Mail* described this as "gushing.")

♦ "A Georgia restaurant employee is honored for grilling a million steaks," NPR, Morning Edition, April 27, 2022.

♦ Honesty; doing the right thing; learning and education; kindness and helping the weak and animals... (Things that are their own rewards.)

♦ Where there is no shame, there is no honor. (An Ethiopian proverb.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation / verb**

## hood (look under the hood, etc.)

underneath the hood

there was nothing ~ ("BIC for Her" marketing fail)

looked under the hood

he ~ of the Chrome web browser (privacy investigator)

digging under the hood

they are ~ (investigators / how company operates)

look under the hood to understand

Google doesn't ~ who these companies are (trackers)

opening the hoods

these auditors are ~, showing us how they work

kicking the tires, and looking under the hood

Microsoft is ~ of Tik-Tok (possible merger)

♦ "Under the bonnet, though, it works in a different way." (Mastodon vs. Twitter.)

♦ "And under the hood Twitter has never been a very good business right?" (Bobby Allyn giggling about Elon Musk while being interviewed by Scott Simon. NPR.)

♦ "If you consider mathematical models as the engines of the digital economy—and in many ways they are—these auditors are opening the hoods, showing us how they work. This is a vital step, so that we can equip these powerful engines with steering wheels—and brakes." (*Weapons Of Math Destruction* by the remarkable writer Cathy O'Neil.)

**bases / searching & discovery: engine**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: engine**

**concealment & lack of concealment: engine**

## hood (personhood, etc.)

girlhood

all those who identify as girls or with ~ (kids)

herohood

why Mr. Floyd's ascension to ~ should be reconsidered

personhood

their radical view of '~' (Nonhuman Rights Project)

"Racist, Sexist Boy" is a joyous assertion of ~ (teens)

fetal ~, the next frontier in the legal battle (abortion)

giving ~ to nature has been gaining adherents

Spain gives ~ status to saltwater lagoon

sisterhood

see *sisterhood* (noun)

thinghood

the transition from ~ to personhood (slaves, women, etc.)

victimhood

see *victimhood* (groups)

womanhood

a portrait of ~ and sisterhood (the film *She Said*)

I decided to detransition and accept my ~

**inclusion & exclusion: affix / epistemology**

## hoof (on the hoof)

on the hoof

he made up policy ~ (UK Labour politics)

♦ "He was sacked because he booked himself on to media programs without permission, and then made up policy on the hoof." (A labour-party official.)

**haste / readiness & preparedness: horse**

## hook (off the hook)

off the hook for now

he might be ~, but... (criminal investigation)

got him off the hook

his lawyers ~ (acquittal)

let him off the hook

don't ~ (prosecutor to jury)

let Real off the hook

City ~... (City won, but blew first-leg big lead)

let them off the hook

she likes them, but she doesn't ~

**pursuit, capture & escape: fish / justice**

**punishment & recrimination: fish / justice**

## hook (Hook of Holland, etc.)

Hook of Holland

he walked from the ~ through the Low Countries to...

**proper name: shape**

## hook (hook, line and sinker)

swallowed his story hook, line and sinker

I ~

**consumption / extent & scope: fish / food & drink**

**acceptance & rejection: fish / food & drink**

## hooked (enthusiasm)

hooked

I started with a free trial and then I was ~ (brand)

hooked on raptors

I got ~ because birds of prey are majestic, awe-inspiring

hooked on (American) TV

he got ~ (diplomat's son)

hooked on social media or even an unboxing video

kids who are ~

completely hooked

I got ~ on viruses (a scientist)

get hooked

when you're a young musician you ~ on a phrase  
it's a real high, you just ~ (genealogy)

got hooked

he ~ on the game (Cow Clicker)  
he tried backcountry once last year and ~ (skiing)

♦ "I love maps, and when you get hooked, you get hooked." (W. Graham Arader III, a preeminent map dealer of old American maps.)

♦ "Oxygen set a new standard by doing Grade 4 and Grade 5 jumps. They remain the greatest tower jumps in Czech history."

♦ "And ever since that day migration has had its hooks in me, raptors have had their hooks in me..." (A 12-year-old Scott Weidensaul sitting on Hawk Mountain with a strong northwest wind blowing on "one of the best migration days of the fall.")

**enthusiasm: addiction / fish**

## hook up (connect)

hooked up with Lashkar-e-Taiba

through friends in Durham, he ~ (group)

**division & connection: tools & technology / verb**

## hook up (relationship)

hook up with her

I might ~ sometime later down the road

hooked up with her ex-boyfriend

rumors that she might have ~

hooked up with a friend

he ~ who... (camping)

hook up online

as more people ~ (long-distance relationships)

**social interaction: tools & technology**

## hookup (sex)

hookup

~s are happening while on the job (sex)  
with a ~, it's about instant gratification (young woman)

hookup in Japan

a ~ is called a take-out (sex)

homosexual hook-ups

the Minneapolis airport is known as a site for ~

site for (homosexual) hookups

the Minneapolis airport is known as a ~

**sex: tools & technology**

## hoop (jump through hoops, etc.)

cumbersome bureaucratic hoops

you have to jump through ~ and wait days (healthcare)

jump through hoops

they make you ~ to get a good rate (banks)

jump through (superhuman) hoops

you must ~ to become "one of the good ones" (immigrants)

**difficulty, easiness & effort / obstacles & impedance: circus / sports & games / verb**

## hoop (as verb)

want to hoop

I just want to play basketball, I ~ (NBA's Zion Williamson)

♦ "I just want to play basketball. I want to hoop, I want to play the game I love." (The NBA player Zion Williamson.)

**inclusion & exclusion: part of speech**

## hoover (hoover up, etc.)

hoovered up (close to) half the golds

Australia and England ~ (Commonwealth Games)

hoovering up (all of these) influences

Biden was ~ (Kennedy, Kinnock)

hoovering up talent

big clubs have been ~

**taking & removing: mechanism / verb**

## hop (verb)

hopping

the stockyards were ~ during the war (Chicago)

the city of Memphis is ~ this month (civic festivals)

**activity: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

**movement: animal / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## hop (hop across, etc.)

hopped the ocean

it has now ~ and arrived in Latin America (banana fungus)

**transmission: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## horde (people)

internet horde

he and the ~ discovered this and... (conspiracy theorists)

♦ This originally referred to groups of Asian nomads, for example, the Golden Horde.

**amount / group, set & collection: history**

## horizon (on the horizon)

on the horizon

there's no miracle cure ~

a solution is not yet ~ (nuclear waste)

with the threat of a war ~ (with Iran)

a wedding is ~, she says... (celebrity)

American sanctions are ~ (diplomacy)

what's next ~ for you (question to a celebrity)

on the immediate horizon

children are not ~ (an actor)

see the collapse on the horizon

we can ~

see anything on the horizon

I don't ~ (a change in the law in the future)

♦ "A new day is dawning on the horizon." (The Democrat Nancy Pelosi. The final three words are redundant and fall flat. !!! "It's the new dawn." (Grace Slick live at Woodstock. Not flat.)

**future / time: distance / eye / horizon / sky**

## horizon (expand one's horizons)

expand his horizons

he wanted to ~ (oilman working in Nigeria)

**experience: earth & world / horizon / sky**

## horizon (extent and scope)

widening (strategic) horizons

the naval deploy is a clear sign of Iran's ~ (the Med)

**extent & scope: horizon / sky**

## horn (shape)

Horn of Africa

over 90 million people inhabit the ~

Cape Horn

the ~ is at the southern end of South America

♦ Towers (the Trango Towers); tooth (The Tooth near Seattle); cathedrals (the Baltoro Cathedrals); spires (the Lobsang Spires); spurs (the Abruzzi Spur); peaks (Broad Peak); horns (the Matterhorn); pyramids (Carstensz Pyramid / Puncak Jaya); pinnacles; pillars; crags; domes (Half Dome); knobs (Huckleberry Knob); balds (Hooper Bald); monoliths (El Capitan, Shiprock, Stone Mountain)...

**shape: animal / horn**

## horn (Horn of Africa, etc.)

the Horn

Eritrea and Ethiopia are the pole around which ~ moves

Horn of Africa

over 90 million people inhabit the ~

Cape Horn

the ~ is at the southern end of South America

bedrock of the Horn

Eritrea and Ethiopia are the ~

**proper name: animal / horn / shape**

**geography: animal / horn / proper name / shape**

## horn (lock horns)

lock horns

former champions ~, they are to go head to head (Scrabble)

lock horns with (the inexperienced) Zelensky

Poroshenko would love to ~ (a debate)

locked horns in the debate

the three leaders ~

lock horns in (television) debate

assembly candidates ~

lock horns over spy charges

China and US ~

lock horns over whether

Betty and Mark ~ Bono should... (TV)

locked horns on the economy

Labour and Conservative politicians ~ (BBC debate)

lock horns with him over whether

they will ~ LSD allows access to a deeper reality (discussion)

Oxford and Cambridge lock horns

live coverage as ~ (Boat Race)

**conflict: animal / crashes & collisions / head / horn / verb**

## hornet's nest

hornet's nest of (antiaircraft) fire

the Apache helicopters ran into a ~ (Iraq)

hornet's nest of (surface-to-surface) missile

Baghdad's air defenses were a ~

hornet's nest of (local) politics

he stepped into a ~ and got stung (President)

poke a stick in the hornet's nest

what we did was to ~ (investigation)

stumbled into a hornet's nest

she ~ (criticised transgender athletes)

**activity / environment: animal / insect**

**conflict / danger: animal / insect**

## horrible (as noun)

my horrible

I can't complain about ~ (Hal Harrell / Uvalde shooting)

**feeling, emotion & effect: part of speech**

## horrific (adjective)

horrific

the footage is ~, a terrorist attack (2021 US Capitol riot)  
this season could be '~' (tick season and Lyme disease)

horrific agenda

their ~ (an anti-abortion group)

'horrific' strike calls

College baseball umpire suspended after ~ end game

horrific (travel) conditions

Chinese New Year brings celebration, ~

horrific (budget) crunch

most states are in the middle of a ~

'horrific' editorial

she has sued the paper for its ~ (politics)

horrific experience

it was a ~ (slow Black female golfers kicked off course)

horrific infection

Guinea worm is a ~

horrific (racial) slurs

she attacked our son with ~

horrific looking

it was quite ~ (a beautiful frilled shark)

fundamentally horrific

something ~ has happened (cleaning crew erases artwork)

called the graffiti “horrific”

Mayor Robert Garcia ~ (on a statue)

calls the situation “just horrific”

Ruth ~ (Ruth Madoff, wife of Bernard Madoff)

♦ “And I think that that’s the frame that we should that I at least take into so many of the problems that we see in our society. It’s like, well, ya know, we are working to end mass incarceration. We are working to end poverty or we are working to end all these horrific things...” (Clint Smith, author of *How The Word Is Passed*. From “Why Juneteenth Isn’t Taught In Schools—And What That Means For Our Understanding Of Slavery” with Tonya Mosley, wbur, June 15, 2021.)

♦ A group of Black lady golfers was kicked off a golf course for playing too slowly. One of them described it as a “horrific” experience.

♦ “Black attorneys make up less than 5 percent of all attorneys and continue to face horrific experiences in law school and in the legal community.” (“Must I Mentor a White Law Student When I Requested a Black Mentee?” The Ethicist by Kwame Anthony Appiah, *The New York Times Magazine*, Dec. 4, 2022.)

♦ “Capital letters are horrid. Hard to read.” (Message board snark.)

♦ “Geoff Nunberg deconstructs this word in “‘Horrific’ And ‘Surreal’: The Words We Use To Bear Witness,” NPR, Fresh Air, April 26, 2013.)

♦ “Oh for goodness sake. Anyone would think you were dying. You’ve only got suspected leprosy.” (A British nurse to a terrified English patient just returned from Afghanistan who is howling in pain, delirious with fever, and covered in enormous black lumps.)

♦ “I heard yesterday that there is a military hospital hidden in the forest for the soldiers who have had their faces shot away. They apparently look so horrific that ordinary people can’t even look at them. Things like that make me despair.” (Elfriede Kuhr, a young German schoolgirl. From *The Beauty and the Sorrow* by Peter England.)

♦ He watched the coverage and couldn’t believe his eyes. (9/11.)

**hyperbole: bodily reaction**

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

**horrifically**

horrifically offensive

I think that was a ~ thing to say

**hyperbole: bodily reaction**

**horrified**

easily horrified

you are ~ (“join the discussion” snark)

**hyperbole: bodily reaction**

**horrifying (adjective)**

truly horrifying

this is ~

♦ “This is truly horrifying.” (Polina Edmunds, speaking on NPR to Scott Simon about the Russian figure skater Kamila Valieva at the Beijing Winter Olympics, after Valieva finished fourth in a skating event.)

♦ “I stopped watching, reading and listening to the media hype when I heard the players being called ‘heroes’ after the Germany game. Get a

grip BBC.” (Grommy on the BBC HYS on the eve of England vs. Ukraine, Euro 2020.)

**hyperbole: bodily reaction**

**hors de combat**

hors de combat

Dmetri, too, was ~ (Terra Nova expedition in Antarctica)

♦ **Out of combat; unable to perform duty.**

**condition & status / functioning / presence & absence: military**

**hors d’oeuvres (noun)**

mere hors d’oeuvres

what had gone before were ~...

♦ “Here [in Marble Canyon] the men started to grow restless: the trip was taking too long and was bruising, cold, and dangerous. Major Powell, they complained, was interested only in science—in taking observations, in collecting, in writing. He seemed less concerned with getting the team down to calm waters, to safety, and to home. / There were mutinous rumblings, and they were scarcely mitigated when their leader realized—and promptly told his men—that it was going to get worse and take still longer. For with the cliffs fast rising around them and the outflow of a known river named by the old conquistador explorers the Colorado Chiquita bursting in on their left side, it was clear that the main part of the huge cleft, the hitherto untraveled Big Canyon, as it was then vaguely known—lay now directly in front of them. What had gone before were mere hors d’oeuvres. The main dish lay just ahead. / ‘We are three quarters of a mile in the depths of the earth,’ Powell would later write in his diary.” (*The Men Who United The States* by Simon Winchester.)

**development: food & drink**

**horse (hold your horses)**

hold your horses

~, we got it right here... (a good boxing show)

**eagerness & reluctance: animal / horse / verb**

**control & lack of control: animal / horse / verb**

**horse (get back on the horse)**

get back (up) on the horse

it’s important to ~ (Simon Biles / Tokyo Olympics)

**resiliency: animal / horse / verb**

**horse (switch horses)**

switched horses

progressive school reformers have ~ (tactics)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: animal / horse / verb**

**horse (high horse)**

high (though not very reliable) horse of privilege

the foreigner tends to ride upon the ~ (in Asia)

judgmental high horse

people are quick to jump on the ~

come down from your high horse

you can ~ now (an overdose death)

**superiority & inferiority: animal / height / horse**

## horse (horse in the race)

have no horse in this race

I'm not a Democrat and ~ (comment message)

see also *dog (dog in the fight)*

**involvement: animal / horse / sports & games**

## horse (back the wrong horse)

backed the wrong horse

he ~, Clinton trounced Bush (John Major)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: animal / gambling / horse / verb**

## horse (the willing horse, etc.)

willing horse

the ~ is overworked (in human organizations)

**work & duty: animal / horse**

## horse (a gift horse)

look fashionability in the mouth

a rebel artist should not ~ (Joan Didion)

**worth & lack of worth: animal / horse**

## horse (cart before the horse)

putting the cart before the horse

it was ~ (making it smaller before making it work)

**sequence: horse**

## horseshoe (shape)

horseshoe of the Carpathians

every superstition is gathered into the ~

**shape: horse**

## horse-trading

horse-trading

this ~ is disgraceful (politics)

negotiations and horse trading

spending and budgeting are fair game for ~ (politics)

**position, policy & negotiation: horse / money**

## host (host of questions, etc.)

host of questions

Democrats have a whole ~

host of symptoms

they have suffered a ~, including... (Gulf War Syndrome)

**amount: military**

## hostage (held hostage)

held hostage to the unions

the city is ~ (transportation unions)

held hostage to (political) posturing

reform has been ~

held hostage by the (culinary) canon

he is not ~ (a chef)

held hostage by (union) demands

public education is ~

held hostage by elites

democracy is ~ (Africa)

held hostage by politicians

we're being ~ who don't know how we survive

held hostage by (politically powerful) interest groups

their budgets are ~ (universities)

**constraint & lack of constraint: crime**

## hostage (other)

hostage to (larger) forces

architecture is always ~ (high-rise success or failure)

willing hostages

they have made themselves ~ to a dangerous man (politics)

legislative hostages

he had no qualms about ~ (politics)

holding us hostage

the weather is ~ (emergency response)

take yourself hostage

don't ~ to your own fears (reaction to terrorism)

**constraint & lack of constraint: crime**

## hostile (adjective)

hostile anti-LGBTQ+ bills

we have seen an onslaught of aggressively ~

hostile environment

our children are trained to operate in a ~ (school shootings)

hostile (work) environment

she abused her power as our boss, she created a ~

hostile way

she crossed a line by airing her views in a ~

bitter, angry and hostile

he was ~ (sick man with undiagnosed illness)

crazy and hostile

Boston Celtic fans are ~ (NBA)

became more hostile

we found that the language ~ (a study)

♦ "Albert Sabin... turned to me and said, 'Now Dr. Salk, you should know better than to ask a question like that.' It was like being kicked in the teeth. I could *feel* the resistance and the hostility and the disapproval. I never attended a single one of those meetings afterward without that same feeling." (Dr. Jonas Salk on being put in his place by Albert Sabin at a meeting.)

♦ "Our children are trained to operate in a combat zone, in a hostile environment." (School-shooting drills.)

♦ "AFFAIRS IN MINNESOTA / Movements of the Hostile Sioux Indians / ...They rushed on to the camp with that unearthly scream and yell

peculiar to their race... This shouting is done on purpose to terrify their opponents, and give them an exaggerated idea of their strength. Whatever the strength of the assaulting party was, it is sufficient to say they were repulsed, but not before they had killed one enlisted man of the Seventh Minnesota Volunteers, and one boy. Two women were wounded and three or four men...[The] Indians carried away with them several horses. Col. Miller, upon being informed of this unfortunate event, immediately sent a force of well-mounted cavalry in pursuit, and if the redskins are captured they will be summarily dealt with. This outrage has again stricken the inhabitants of the border settlements with terror, and many are fleeing from an expected crusade of the savages..." (Correspondence of the *New-York Times*, May 1, 1863.)

♦ **ATTACK ON BRITISH TROOPS IN AFGHANISTAN.** / Bombay, April 18. / Intelligence has been received that a considerable force of hostile Pathans have attacked and massacred a small party of British troops in the vicinity of Quetta. The party included the British officer commanding. The enemy have since followed up the attack by blocking the high road between Quetta and Candahar. Strong detachments have been despatched against them from both places." (*The Brisbane Courier*, Tuesday, April 20, 1880.)

♦ "A machine gunner scans for hostiles while his helicopter is on patrol over the Mekong Delta." (Music of Vietnam, YouTube)

♦ "NPR's increasingly restive newsroom staff..."

**behavior / conflict / feeling, emotion & effect: military / society**

## hot (controversial)

hot

the issue has gotten so ~ that...

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature**

## hot (emotion)

hot temper

he had a ~ (an executive / verbal abuse)

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature**

## hot (activity)

hottest (real estate) markets

during the housing boom, Florida was the ~ in the world

hot mess

see *hot mess*

hot mike

she was caught on a ~

hot mic

a ~ caught the candidates trading accusations

~s are just a hot mess (Nato meeting embarrassment)

a ~ picked up his remarks about... (TV commentator)

**activity: temperature**

## hot (popularity, attention, etc.)

hot favorite

Holloway was the ~ (Tokyo Olympics)

hot prospect

she is already a ~ for nomination to the Supreme Court

hottest trends

cryotherapy has become one of the ~ in health, wellness

♦ "Right now the California desert is the hottest place and I'm not talking about the weather." (The 2022 Coachella Music Festival kicks off.)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: temperature**

## hot (come in hot, go in hot)

keep coming in hot

if economic indicators ~ like that, the Fed may have to...

♦ The OED recognizes three senses of this phrase at "hot" to include (1) to arrive at a high or dangerous speed (2) to be prepared to go to work immediately, energetically, intensely, enthusiastically and (3) to come in with guns blazing (military).

♦ "[A] flight of Crusaders came in right off the deck, supersonic winged darts flashing past the road-bound grunts, placing their bombs and napalm cannisters precisely where Bird Dog had marked his targets. Again, Bravo Company experienced a napalm wall from only seventy-five meters, and again, it worked. Not another AK47 round was fired at them." (*Operation Buffalo: USMC Fight For the DMZ* by Keith William Nolan. If a helicopter landing zone was hot, it meant the enemy was firing at the arriving helos. And that meant the helicopter door gunners were probably firing back.)

**force: military / weapon**

## hotbed (noun)

hotbed of racism

stereotypes of Mississippi as a ~ (civil-rights activists)

hotbed of revolt

the region has been a ~

hotbed of extremism

a reputation as a ~ (a university)

hotbed for al Qaeda activity

Yemen is a ~

hotbed of volcanic activity

Iceland is a ~

cyclo-cross hotbed

New England is a ~ (bicycling)

reputation as a hotbed

it has a ~ of extremism (a Saudi university)

♦ A hotbed is a garden enclosed by glass and fertilized with manure. In such an environment plants grow rapidly.

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant**

## hot-blooded (adjective)

hot-blooded crime

it was a ~, not a cold-blooded one, if you will

hot-blooded fits of anger

his ~, spewed in Spanish (beloved *I Love Lucy* TV show)

hot-blooded Romeos

~, looking for the perfect mate

**character & personality / feeling, emotion & effect: blood / temperature**

## hot dog (person)

hot dog

he's a ~

**character & personality: dog / person / temperature**

## hothead (person)

hothead  
he's a ~

message for the hotheads  
here's a ~ in the community (stand-your-ground killing)

**person: head / temperature**  
**behavior / character & personality / control & lack of control / feeling, emotion & effect: head / person / temperature**

## hotheaded (and hot-headed)

hotheaded (political) aspirant  
he's a ~

hotheaded ways  
he was known for his ~

**behavior / character & personality / control & lack of control / feeling, emotion & effect: head / temperature**

## hothouse (noun)

musical hothouse  
the Dominican Republic is a ~

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant creation & transformation: farming & agriculture / plant**

## hotline (988, etc.)

hotline  
988, the new national suicide ~

Lifeline  
Trans ~ is a hotline for trans people

Blackline  
~ is a hotline for Blacks

“warm” lines  
~ are typically staffed by “peers”  
~ are an alternative to the 988 hotline (suicide)

♦ “Blackline is a hotline geared towards the Black, Black LGBTQ+, brown Native, and Muslim communities.” (A hotline.)

♦ “Trans Lifeline is a hotline for trans and questioning individuals.”

**help & assistance: mechanism**

## hotly

hotly anticipated  
boxing fans look forward to the ~ rematch

hotly debated  
this question has been ~ for decades

hotly contested  
BASE jumping is a ~ issue (Yosemite Valley)

hotly disputed  
nuclear reactor safety is a ~ issue

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature**

## hot mess (person)

hot mess  
I admit it, I've been a ~ lately  
being in your 20s is a ~, a mad time  
drugs, alcohol and low self-esteem turned her into a ~

hot mess (best) friend  
Wren, Lily's ~ (film characters)

**person: hygiene / temperature**  
**character & personality: hygiene / person / temperature**

## hot mess (situation, etc.)

hot mess  
I didn't understand what that article said, it was a ~  
it's a ~, c'mon guys, get it together (school policy)

**flaws & lack of flaws / situation: hygiene**

## hot seat (noun)

in a hot seat  
the CEO of Boeing is back ~ on Capitol Hill (crashes)

in the hot seat  
he's ~ as he tries to boost CNN's ratings (Chris Licht)

in the hotseat with regulators  
Facebook is also ~ because...

♦ “It can't surprise us that our language began with metaphors. Words are being made today under our own eyes in precisely the same fashion. Witness the terse and vivid terms that the gangsters coin: gun moll, for the racketeer's girl-friend; hot seat, for the electric chair; stool pigeon, for the traitor who acts as a spy for the police.” (*Word Origins and Their Romantic Stories* by Wilfred Funk, Litt. D., 1950.)

**accusation & criticism / judgment: crime / electricity / justice / temperature**

## hotshot (person)

hotshot  
he's a ~

hot-shot (account) executive  
a ~

♦ “The engineers were formed into three divisions, and some experiments were made with red-hot shot... / Artillery salvos more tremendous, if possible, than ever were now directed from Gibraltar; incessant showers of red-hot balls of every calibre, of flaming carcasses, and shells of every species, flew from all quarters... / From the depressed guns the red-hot globes of iron seemed to streak the air with red lines as they went on their errand of destruction... / Upward of 8,000 rounds (more than half of which were red-hot shot) and 716 barrels of powder, were expended by our artillery.” (Gibraltar. From *British Battles On Land and Sea* by James Grant.)

**person: weapon**  
**behavior: hunting / person / weapon**  
**character & personality: explosion / hunting / person / weapon**

## hotspot (place)

hotspot for celebrities  
L.A.'s newest ~

hotspot for migrants

Melilla became a ~, just like the Balkans

L.A.'s (newest) hotspot  
~ for celebrities

Hollywood hotspot  
she stays clear of ~s

disease hotspot  
the Lyme ~ was a goldmine of research

selfie hotspot  
she fell from a ~ where people climb over the fencing

surfing hotspot  
they have turned Yakutat, Alaska into a ~

skateboarding hot spot  
the Tampa Bay area is a ~

global hotspot  
the Congo basin is a ~ for thunderstorms (meteorology)

newest hotspot  
L.A.'s ~ for celebrities

piracy hotspot  
the Gulf of Guinea is the world's most dangerous ~

turned Yakutat into a (surfing) hotspot  
they have ~ (Alaska)

**activity / location / place: temperature**

### hot water (in hot water)

in hot water with my dad  
I'm ~

in hot water with that woman  
I'm already ~ (an authority figure)

in hot water for the crime  
he now finds himself ~

in (judicial) hot water  
she finds herself ~

finds himself in hot water  
he now ~

get me into hot water  
my pride and stubbornness ~ once in a while

gotten in hot water  
he has ~ lately for his tweets (auto executive)

keep me in hot water  
you ~ all the time (George to Lennie / *Of Mice and Men*)

landed him in hot water  
his unapologetic remarks on issues have frequently ~

**situation: heating water / temperature / water**

### Houdini

Houdini of British Politics  
the ~ shows no signs he intends to step down

veritable Houdini  
Swallow was a ~ (William Swallow, Australian convict)

♦ "My dad wasn't Harry Houdini, but he managed to disappear out of my life before I knew him." (The football player Keith McCants, referring to the famous escape artist.)

**pursuit, capture & escape: allusion / epithet**

### hound (autograph hound, etc.)

autograph hound  
an ~

gossip hounds  
~ wondered if she was doomed in love and marriage

powder hounds  
joy for ~ falling in love with backcountry skiing

publicity hound  
a pack of bizarre ~s (public meetings)  
yes he's an opportunist, yes he's a ~ (a lawyer)

pack of (bizarre publicity) hounds  
a ~ (public meetings)

**enthusiasm: dog / hunting / person**

### hound (verb)

hounded Congress to pass their measures  
they ~ (U.S. presidents FDR and JFK)

hounded Zhao  
U.S. federal agents ~ (a Chinese national)

harassed and hounded  
bill collectors ~ me, it was horrible

**affliction: animal / dog / hunting / verb**  
**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / dog / hunting / verb**

### hounded (dogged)

hounded with questions  
candidates have been ~ about whether... (politics)

hounded from their lands  
Native Americans were ~

hounded until his death  
he was dragged to a court and ~

hounded by allegations  
he has been ~ of unethical business dealings

hounded by "the footnote police"  
he said he was being ~ (a politician / plagiarism)

hounded by scammers  
lottery winners are ~ and sometimes robbed or killed

hounded by investigators and the media  
he has been ~

hounded and hunted  
the gang is on the run, ~ by the law

paparazzi-hounded

what it's like to be a ~ celebrity

**affliction: animal / dog / hunting**

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / dog / hunting**

## **hour (finest hour, etc.)**

finest hour

this was his ~ (soccer player scores important goal)

Liberal Hour

it was the ~, when liberalism was at its ascendancy (1960s)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence / superlative /**

**time: hour**

## **hour (timeliness)**

hour

the ~ is getting late

early hours

I know it's ~ but...

eleventh hour

why did she wait until the ~ to reveal this

it's disingenuous to wait until the ~ (politics)

they didn't bring this to us until the ~ (labor talks)

11th-hour

Samra made no ~ appeals to the court (executed)

he got an ~ stay of his execution

golden hour

a clock starts ticking on what is called the ~

the "~", when life can hang in the balance

"Golden Hour"

if treatment is available within the first ~ of injury

hour is getting late

so let us stop talking falsely now, the ~

**time / timeliness & lack of timeliness: hour**

## **hour (of one's hour / of the hour)**

heroes of the hour

Johansen was one of the ~ (along with Nansen)

man of the hour

he is the ~ (FBI director gives Congressional testimony)

question of the hour

women suffrage was the burning ~ (late 1860s)

**past & present / time: day**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**

## **hourglass (shape)**

hourglass figure

the ~ shape (a body type)

hourglass-shaped

the Bottleneck, an ~ gully beneath a serac (on K2)

♦ Sh2-106 is also known as the Celestial Snow Angel. It's a nebula in the constellation Cygnus (the Swan), and its shape has also been compared to an hourglass and butterfly.

**shape: clock / tools & technology**

## **hourglass (time)**

hourglass

the sand is running through the ~ (approaching deadline)

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: clock / mechanism**

**time: mechanism**

## **house (a house in order)**

fiscal house

we must get our ~ in order

put your house in order

~ before you condemn others

get its house in order

the church must ~ (pedophile priests)

get our own house in order

we need to ~when it comes to data governance (hacking)

**amelioration & renewal: house**

## **house (hype house)**

this hype house

this ~ is leaning into the campaign in a big way (2020)

**group, set & collection: house**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: house**

## **house (clean house)**

cleaning house

she is ~ and stopping harassment and discrimination

mandate to clean house

the new police chief has a clear public ~

on a mission to clean house

somebody who's ~

need to clean house

we ~

♦ Michele Rhee was an educational crusader. As chancellor of the Washington, D.C. school system, she was given a mandate to "clean house." She appeared on the cover of *Time Magazine* with a broom. But community members felt like they had been compared to dirt, and she ended up having to resign her position.

**amelioration & renewal: house / hygiene / verb**

**disruption: house / hygiene / verb**

## **house (origin)**

royal house

his descent from a ~, the Ranas (India)

**origin: house / royalty**

## **house (house that somebody built, etc.)**

house that Emile Griffith built

the ~ (boxing / Madison Square Garden)

House That Jack Ma Built

Alibaba: The ~ (book by Duncan Clark)

house that Kobe built  
some have dubbed the Staples Center “the ~”

House That Ruth Built  
Yankee Stadium—the ~

house that Henry Ford built  
a dip brought the ~ to a value of \$45 billion (Ford)

“House That Trump Built”  
the convention will celebrate the ~ (Republican party)

♦ On hearing his fellow commentator for the 2014 “Irish” Andy Lee—John Jackson fight claim that Madison Square Garden was “the house that Emile Griffith built,” Roy Jones went “Mmm.” Both Jackson and Griffith came from the Virgin Islands, and Emile Griffith fought many times in Madison Square Garden.)

**creation & transformation / origin: house**

## house of cards

house of cards  
her ~ was about to collapse (Holmes of Theranos)

Enron's house of cards  
~ began to disintegrate (bankrupt company)

house of cards collapses  
the whole ~ and the entire statute falls (Supreme Court)

**substance & lack of substance: cards / house**

## hover (numbers)

hovers at (around) 70%  
unemployment ~ in winter (reservation)

temperatures hovered  
in July 1995, when ~ around 100 degrees (Chicago)

**configuration: flying & falling / verb**

**increase & decrease: number**

## hover (other)

hover  
the batterer may ~ and refuse to leave the patient (ED)

hovers  
the fear that he might recognize me still ~

hovered behind her  
her manager ~ protectively

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: flying & falling / movement / verb**

## howl (noun)

howl of pain  
that ~ has a vent through the ballot box (democracies)

heard the (same) howls  
we ~ in the 1980s (amateurism and sports)

**sound: animal**

**conflict: sound**

**resistance, opposition & defeat / speech: animal / dog / sound**

## howl (verb)

howl  
why didn't liberals ~ when... (culture wars)

howling about the (new pricing) policy  
people are ~ (airline fees)

howling in protest  
people are ~

**sound: animal / verb**

**conflict: sound / verb**

**resistance, opposition & defeat / speech: animal / dog / sound / verb**

## hub (center)

hub airport  
he is the security chief at a major ~

hub of the militia movement  
northwestern Michigan was a ~

hub of (contemporary Middle East) painting  
Damascus has evolved into a ~

narcotics hub  
Guinea-Bissau has become a global ~ (cocaine)

transit hub  
the UAE is a business and tourist center as well as a ~

publishing hub  
lower Manhattan is re-emerging as a ~

shopping hub  
the Fulton Street Mall is an eclectic ~

commercial hub  
protestors occupied the ~ of Bangkok (2010)

financial hub  
Warsaw has become a ~

**center & periphery: mechanism**

**location / place / shape: mechanism**

## hub (branching system)

hub-and-spoke  
the ~ model is out of favor (airlines)

smuggling hub  
Atlanta is a major ~ (US)

**branching system: mechanism**

## hug (configuration)

hugs the cliff  
the trail ~, 70 feet above the sea, and is very dangerous

hug the (Mediterranean) coast  
beaches that ~ (Egypt)

hugs a mountainside  
the Poomau Ditch Trail ~ (Kauai, Hawaii / hiking)

**configuration: arm / verb**

## huge (significant)

huge

I knew this was ~, this was so big (photojournalist)

huge for us

Clax is ~ (praise for NBA player Nic Claxton)

huge deal

this is a ~, she is alleging... (a sensational trial)

**importance & significance: size**

## huge (huge gratitude, etc.)

huge gratitude

so we also owe Megan a ~ (Wajahat Ali)

♦ "She signed off 'Big huge love.'" (The Irish actor Jessie Buckley to the writer Jordan Kisner. Kisner characterized the signoff as a "spirit of abundance." From "Monster Talent: In role after indelible role, Jessie Buckley is exploring the darkest corners of human nature" by Jordan Kisner, photograph by Jennifer Cheng, *The New York Times Magazine*, December 4, 2022.)

see also *big (big love, etc.)*, *enormously (exciting, etc.)*, *great (great hatred, etc.)*

**feeling, emotion & effect: size**

## hugely

hugely loved

she was ~, and she will be sorely missed by so very many

**extent & scope: size**

## Hugo Chavez

Gallic Hugo Chavez

he has been called a ~ (France's Jean-Luc Melenchon)

♦ "Clever, funny, a former professor..., and a brilliant orator, Melenchon has been called a Gallic Hugo Chavez." (The wonderful NPR contributor from France, Eleanor Beardsley.)

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## hum (hum along)

humming along

the team just keeps ~

the economy has been ~

**functioning: engine / mechanism / sound / verb**

**activity: engine / mechanism / sound / verb**

**condition & status: engine / mechanism / sound / verb**

## hum (noun)

hum

the ~ is incessant (emergency room / NYC)

hum of activity

from the vast Allied camp rose a mounting ~

**activity: animal / insect / mechanism / sound**

## hump (noun)

get over that hump

we need to ~ (a sports team)

get people over the hump

he was an elite player who could ~ (Michael Jordan)

**obstacles and impedance: direction / infrastructure / shape**

## hung (hung out to dry)

hung out to dry

he feels like he's been ~

gets hung out to dry

he does it and he ~ (CIA operator)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: atmosphere / clothing & accessories**

## hunger (noun)

hunger to escape

an aching ~ the loneliness and boredom (teen)

hunger to succeed

he has a ~ (an foreign athlete in US)

hunger for (snake) meat

the ~ is a country-wide phenomenon (China)

hunger for opportunity

they have a ~ (Samoans in NFL)

hunger for the profits

the ~ from arctic oil (Canada)

hunger for revenge

ways people can peaceably satiate their ~

hunger for a better life

a gnawing ~ (Ellis Island)

nation's hunger

our sports-starved ~ for baseball (during pandemic)

aching hunger

an ~ to escape the loneliness and boredom (teen)

gnawing hunger

a ~ for a better life (Ellis Island)

hunger and desire

the ~ which has driven them (Manchester City win treble)

♦ "[Our hosts] gave us some fat pork, corn bread, and a kind of coffee, made, I think, out of burned peas. But it was warm... Hunger made that breakfast the most delicious we had in six months." (*Memoirs of Chaplain Life* by W. Corby, about his service during the Civil War.)

♦ "Hunger was now torturing us. The Cossacks sat gloomily round the fire and hardly spoke. Hoping to forget their hunger a little, the men tried to sleep. I lay down too, but could not sleep. Anxiety and doubt tormented me. If we did not manage to kill something tomorrow, or reach the Iman, things would be desperate indeed. In the summer a man can carry on without food for several days, but in the winter hunger kills quickly." ("Dersu," by V. K. Arseniev.)

♦ "The mental adjustment took longer. It was a continual surprise to encounter no queues at food shops—'like a man who braces himself to pick up a heavy suitcase,' wrote Ginzburg, 'and finds it empty.' The words 'I'm hungry,' recently so charged with desperation and despair, only slowly reverted to their old function of expressing an ordinary desire for lunch." (*Leningrad* by the great writer Anna Reid.)

♦ "Man, you eat all the goddamn oranges and all the goddamn bananas you want." (An American merchant-marine sailor in 1947, to Tom Lantos (1928-2008), who was traveling from Europe to the US on a converted troop ship. Lantos, a Holocaust survivor, had discovered a big basket of oranges and a big basket of bananas in the mess and had asked the sailor, 'Should I take an orange or a banana?') On hearing the sailor, Lantos thought, "Then I knew I was in paradise." He went on to become the lone Holocaust survivor to serve in the US Congress. He was admitted to the US because he had been awarded an academic scholarship to study in the US on the basis of an essay he had written about the US president Franklin D. Roosevelt.)

♦ "There is always trouble if meat is not divided by lot. Someone immediately says that he has been given more than his share, and tries to hand a piece to someone else. Then there is much arguing and swearing 'by God!' with everyone insisting that he has been given too much, and finally a deadlock ensues which can only be settled by casting lots for the meat—as should have been done in the first place. I have never heard a man grumble that he has received less than his share. Such behaviour would be inconceivable to the Bedu, for they are careful never to appear greedy, and quick to notice anyone who is. I remember the story of a destitute Bedu boy, who told his mother that he liked dining when there was no moon, for then his companions could not see how much food he took. His mother said, 'Sit with them in the dark and cut at a piece of rope with your knife turned the wrong way round.' The boy did so that very night. There was no moon and it was very dark, but as he picked up the knife a dozen voices called out, 'You have got it the wrong way round!'" (Wilfred Thesiger, "Arabian Sands.")

♦ Bedouins will appoint a man to divide the food into portions. Each man will take a portion, but never one he thinks is larger than the other portions. And so, the last portion goes to the man who divided the food, and if his portion is larger, he will eat shame. And so he is very careful to divide the portions equally.

♦ One third food. One third water. One third empty. (What the stomach is for, according to a Bedouin.)

♦ It is said a Tuareg can survive in the desert for nine days on just three dates, if it is necessary. On the first day, he will eat the skin of one date. On the second day, he will consume the meat of that one date. And on the third day he will suck the stone of that one date. And so on for nine days. On the tenth day, however, he will die.

♦ "He who eats his fill while his neighbor goes without food is not a believer."

**consumption / wants, needs, hopes & goals: food & drink**

## Hunger Games (film)

Hunger Games feel

it does have a bit of ~ to it (too few vaccines for teachers)

Hunger Games (type) situation

college has become a ~ for many poorer students

evolutionary hunger games

in the ~, the drunk apes beat the sober ones (alcohol)

from America the Beautiful to the Hunger Games

the cancel culture is leading us ~

♦ "You have hundreds of college students who are living in their cars while attending classes. To me, it just kinda shows what kind of a Hunger Games type situation college has become for so many type people [sic] of doing what they can to make sure they get that piece of paper that will keep them in the middle class." (Journalist Will Bunch. From "College is increasingly out of reach for many students. What went wrong?" NPR, Fresh Air, August 3, 2022.)

**allusion: film & TV**

**competition / oppression: allusion / film**

## hungry (adjective)

hungry

I was ~, ready... (Bruno in ring waiting for Tyson)

hungry for adventure

weary of England, ~, he found himself in Bratislava...

hungry for sex

they are ~ (ad for porn site on Web)

women were assumed to be just as ~ as men (1700s)

hungry for new talent

Hollywood is constantly ~

hungry for attention or sympathy

parents ~ abuse their kids

hungry spiritually

I'm ~ (defies pandemic to go to church)

hungry-eyed

he would stay there, ~

celebrity-hungry

a ~ electorate

content-hungry

programming for ~ cable networks

Internet-hungry

~ investors

power-hungry

another ~ self-seeker (a politician)

publicity-hungry

the ~ D.C. lobbyist (a person)

publicity hungry

prosecutors in his own office described him as ~

stay hungry

~, stay foolish (Steve Jobs / Apple Computer)

♦ "Unseemly hungers; biting honesty; spitting it back at others; female hunger; female hunger; everybody was starving around me; if you were starving you were doing great; you must starve; then you'll be palatable; "palatable" displays of womanhood; she looks hungry, as if she could swallow the whole world and it wouldn't be enough; What Buckley remembers her whispering most was, "You're starving, you're absolutely starving"; take a bite of the apple; her taste for playing women who want something they are not supposed to want; really take a bite of the apple; demand the right to see the world as it really is, to eat what is delicious; a tree teeming with apples; her hunger is recognizable; it doesn't feed her enough (being 100% in love with her partner)... (Figurative language relating to food and eating in "Monster Talent: In role after indelible role, Jessie Buckley is exploring the darkest corners of human nature" by Jordan Kisner, photograph by Jennifer Cheng, *The New York Times Magazine*, December 4, 2022.)

♦ "I'm hungry for nature; I don't think I've ever seen kind of England so kind of delicious; I dunno, whatever feels like kind of nourishing; like [?] that I can get my teeth into..." ("Cannes 2022: Irish actress Jessie Buckley talks 'Men,' YouTube France 24 English, May 23, 2022.)

♦ (1) 9 1/2 Weeks (1986 / strawberries). (2) Tampopo (1985 / ramen, raw eggs and sake). (3) Tom Jones (1963 / chicken bones, apples, oysters). (4) Varsity Blues (1999 / whipped cream). (5) Like Water for Chocolate (1993 / quail in rose-petal sauce). (6) Woman on Top (2000 / chili peppers). (7) Flashdance (1983 / lobster). (8-Tie) Henry and June (1990 / wine). (8-Tie); Jamon Jamon (1993 / prosciutto or Serrano ham). (9) Women in Love (1969 / figs). (10) La Grande Bouffe (1973 / turkey leg). (11-Honorable Mention) Chocolat (2000 / chocolate. (12-Honorable Mention) Xiu-Xiu, the Sent Down Girl (1998 / apple). ("Top Ten Food & Sex Scenes in the Movies," at <http://blogs.houstonpress.com/eating/> 2008.)

♦ "The significance of sex and food is reversed between the Sirionos and us Westerners: the Sirionos' strongest anxieties are about food, they have sex virtually whenever they want, and sex compensates for food hunger, while our strongest anxieties are about sex, we have food

virtually whenever we want, and eating compensates for sexual frustration." (The Siriono Indians live in Bolivia. From *The World Until Yesterday* by Jared Diamond.)

♦ "Then started again, and, coming to a small log cabin, entered and asked for something to eat. The poor people seemed to be alarmed and said they had nothing. 'Oh,' we said, 'we do not wish to deprive you, and we are willing to pay.' Then they took courage and gave us some fat pork, corn bread, and a kind of coffee, made, I think, out of burned peas. But it was warm. There were three of us, the two doctors and myself. We gave our hosts five dollars, and they were delighted, and so were we. Hunger made that breakfast the most delicious we had in six months." (*Memoirs of Chaplain Life* by W. Corby. Corby served during the Civil War.)

♦ "It is a fact that if you are hungry and you see somebody eating something you would like to have your teeth in too, spit will flood to your mouth and you will swallow to make a noise. That noise Shani made as I watched her. Then I saw her eyes, and they were on my can. / 'Why no home for dinner to-day?' I asked her... / Next morning I went to school with my can packed tight... Not a word from my mother, only a little smile. / So Shani and me sat together to have dinner every day in my mother's smile..." (*How Green Was My Valley* by Richard Llewellyn.)

♦ "We will made do. Everyone will have a little bit." (Abdul Aziz, 63, of Dhaka, Bangladesh, disappointed that his money could not buy more beans and cauliflower for his family.)

♦ "He who eats his fill while his neighbor goes without food is not a believer."

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: food & drink**

**consumption: food & drink**

**eagerness & reluctance: food & drink**

## hunt (in the hunt)

in the hunt for the championship

they could be ~ (sports team)

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting**

## hunt (verb)

hunted for his sock

he ~

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb**

## hunt (noun)

hunt for a Northwest Passage

Sir John Franklin's doomed 1845 ~

hunt for the hackers

investigators continue the ~ behind the virus

hunt for the sniper

a setback in their frustrating ~ (D.C. area)

talent hunt

the ~ (to fuel the new economy)

title hunt

eliminated early from the ~ (NASCAR)

treasure hunt

most ~s are scams

Easter Egg Hunt

~ on Sunday (sign)

frustrating hunt

a setback in their ~ for the sniper (D.C. area)

setback in their (frustrating) hunt

a ~ for the sniper (D.C. area)

continue the hunt

investigators ~ for the hackers behind the virus

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting**

## hunt down (verb)

hunted down his critics

he ~ (Turkish President)

hunt down jargon

~ mercilessly and kill it (science writer David Dobbs)

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb**

## hunter (plants)

hunters for ginseng

the first Chinese who appeared in the region were ~

ginseng hunter

a ~

mushroom hunter

thousands of species are collected by amateur ~s

~s all have their secret places (France);

~s are wise to stay away from the Amanita species

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / person**

**person: hunting**

## hunter (other)

aurora hunter

~s chase the perfect pictures of the Northern Lights

bargain hunter

the souk is a ~'s delight (Sharjah City)

job hunter

~s are searching globally

house hunter

some of these ~s were asked...

relic hunter

~s have dug and taken artifacts (Civil War battlefield)

souvenir hunter

~s elbowing each other aside

treasure hunter

ship's loot unearthed by ~s

historical researchers and ~s

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / person**

**person: hunting**

## hurdle (noun)

hurdle

it was a difficult ~ to overcome

she still has another ~ to overcome

procedural hurdles

put ~ in the way of...

technological hurdle

there are a lot of ~s (medicine)

hurdles remain

~ in restarting power at the plant

running into some hurdles

marine-energy developers are ~

clear the (first major) hurdle

they are sounding hopeful that they will ~

cleared the first hurdle

she has ~ of her bid to serve again as speaker (vote)

cleared all of the hurdles

they had ~ (opposition candidates)

**obstacles & impedance: sports & games / walking, running & jumping**

**hurl (verb)**

hurling accusations (of racism) at anyone

he has been ~ who dares criticize him (politician)

hurling (rare) charges

Egyptian media were ~ of negligence (against military)

**throwing, putting & planting: arm / verb**

**hurled**

hurled at him

insults and racial slurs were ~

**throwing, putting & planting: arm**

**hurrah (and hoorah, etc.)**

great hurrah

I wanted to wish you a ~ (John Major to Geo. HW Bush)

hoorahs for his discovery

before the ~ had entirely died away... (Fritz Schaudinn)

huzzah for poetry

~ and memorization

**achievement, recognition & praise: sound**

**hurricane (noun)**

hurricane of notes

she'll peel off a ~ (guitarist Sarah Louise Henson)

♦ "You could say that 'Hurricane Impeachment' remains a category four or five storm that is still well offshore and moving in an erratic direction very very slowly." (Ron Elving, NPR, Week in Politics, Weekend Edition, Saturday, Sept. 14, 2019, right after Hurricane Dorian.)

♦ "There are a lot of ways a hurricane can kill you." (The storm surge, falling trees, electrocution from down power lines, carbon-monoxide poisoning, vehicle crashes, etc.)

**amount & effect: air / atmosphere / storm / wind**

**activity: air / atmosphere / storm / wind**

**hurt (feeling and emotion / verb)**

hurt my feelings

she ~

hurts the feelings

the film ~ of Muslims and stirs up religious sensitivities

hurt my daughter

the *New York Times* used my words to ~

hurt you

what's her name, the woman who ~...

♦ "A lot of these guys and gals are really really hurting, because of what they saw, and what they went through, and then when you add on top of that, the criticism, like I said, the moral injury..." (Andy Carrier, clinical social worker, who counseled Uvalde school-shooting officers.)

♦ See "'Adjusting Appropriately' To Words That Hurt," NPR, Opinion, Language, August 8, 2018. See also the Wikipedia entry, "Scalping."

♦ "Sticks and stones will hurt my bones / But words will never hurt me." (Said by schoolchildren.)

♦ "Anyone who says that words can hurt has never been punched in the mouth."

♦ "A knife wound heals; a wound caused by words does not." (Turkish.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / sensation / verb**

**hurt (passive)**

incredibly hurt

he spoke of being ~ by the comments (Azeem Rafiq)

stunned and hurt

her teammates were ~ (racist chants at sport event)

get hurt

people are going to ~ (in California / high risk, reward)

people are going to ~ (migration to California)

♦ "Jada's feelings were hurt, Nichol's family feelings are hurt, Rock's face hurts, Will's hand and career hurts, Simpson's prosecutor doesn't think the slap was hard enough. I feel for comedians today, can't say anything without hurting someone's feelings." (Robert, commenting on the latest controversy involving the comedian Chris Rock.)

♦ "We don't need these emotional terms like people being hurt." (The beloved comic John Cleese, in a BBC interview with presenter Karishma Vaswani. From "John Cleese walks out of BBC World News interview," BBC, 16 December 2021.)

♦ "You must not think of him as a man who had been broken... He had been hurt, he was wounded, but he was still the same man in great spirits. He thought the best spirit of resistance is joyfulness." (An acquaintance of Boris Pasternak in his last years.)

♦ "We could not leave him where he was, to the Turks, because we had seen them burn alive our hapless wounded. For this reason we were all agreed, before action, to finish off one another, if badly hurt: but I had never realized that it might fall to me to kill Farraj." (*Seven Pillars of Wisdom* by T.E. Lawrence, Book VIII, Chapter XCIII.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / sensation**

**hurt (damage, injure)**

hurt the (team) chemistry

he ~ (an athlete)

hurt (domestic) demand

a new clampdown by the authorities could ~

hurt Bernie Sanders

"Black swan" events that ~ in his bid

hurt free speech

Facebook can also ~ (to control hate speech, etc.)

hurts the students  
this is an addictive thing that ~ (laptops in class)

help or hurt  
trust can ~ you

♦ Major General Roy Urquhart: "Hancock, I've got lunatics laughing at me from the woods. My original plan has been scuppered now that the jeeps haven't arrived. My communications are completely broken down. Do you really believe that any of that can be helped by a cup of tea?" / Hancock: "Couldn't hurt, sir." (From the great film *A Bridge Too Far*. Urquhart was played by Sean Connery. The wise corporal was played by Colin Farrell. No relation to the young one.)

♦ "If you hurt a monkey, you will be cursed." (Japan.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / sensation / verb**

## hurt (as noun)

a whole lot of hurt  
we're in for ~ (coronavirus)

world of hurt  
you're gonna be in a ~ (the military)

♦ "There will be more hurt in a year that has already been painful." (The economy.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: part of speech**

## hurting

hurting  
small businesses are clearly ~ (economy)

**condition & status: health & medicine**

## husband (verb)

husbanded that character  
he ~ for five years (but finally killed off in TV show)

**directing: animal / verb**

## hurtle (verb)

hurtled from project to project  
he has ~ at a rapid clip (a filmmaker)

**movement: force / verb**

**force: movement / verb**

## husk (husk of his former self, etc.)

husk of its former self  
the company is a ~ (General Electric)

**attenuation / substance & lack of substance: plant**

## hyena (person)

syrup-coated hyena  
Giacometti Feltrinelli described him as a "~"

♦ Giangiacomo Feltrinelli described Alexei Surkov, chairman of the Soviet writers association, as a "syrup-coated hyena." Surkov personally visited Feltrinelli in Milan in a failed effort to try to prevent the publication of Boris Pasternak's *Doctor Zhivago*.

♦ "Hyenas have been known to nibble feet protruding from hut doors." (Malawi.)

**behavior / character & personality / insult / person: animal**

## hymn (noun)

hymn to the beauty  
the film is a ~ of endless prairies (Lakota Indian country)

hymn to the wild at heart  
the play is a ~

hymns to drinking  
in one of his many ~... (Charles Bukowski)

**achievement, recognition & praise / reverence: music / religion**

## hymnal (noun)

2016 hymnal  
his platform is chapter and verse from the ~ (politics)

**script: religion**

## hyper (hypersexualized, etc.)

hyperactivity  
children diagnosed with attention deficit ~ disorder

hyper-awareness  
there is a ~ and an empathy that young people have (suicide)

hyper-connection  
loneliness in the midst of ~

hyperdrive  
the aggressive media went into ~

hyper-globalism  
he malignant effects of ~

hyperpop  
Pop 2 is considered to be the blueprint of ~  
and so came the birth of the ~ playlist (Spotify)  
all of the sub-genres under that huge umbrella of ~

*hyperreality*  
in 1981, philosopher Jean Baudrillard coined the term ~

hyperreality  
the realm that the postmodernists call ~

hyper-catchy  
~, female-fronted pop (Eurovision)

hyper conservative  
we are not a ~ state (Stacy Abrams / Georgia)

hyperlocal  
a new study uses ~ data and climate projections (NBC)

hyper-masculine  
a ~ machista culture

hypermasculine  
fighting football's '~' culture of silence (mental health)

hyperprogressive  
~ Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg

hypervisible  
my Korean face made me ~ where we lived

how it feels to be treated as both invisible and ~

hyperempowered

~ computer models (the book *Weapons of Math Destruction*)

hyper-masculinized

Black men are ~, fetishized, pitied or feared (Sam Sanders)

hypersexualized

Asian women have been ~ and fetishized (in the U.S.)

hyper-safetyism

the tradeoffs of ~ (pandemic mandates)

hypersexualization

~ and fetishization of Asian women in the US

hypersexualize

how movies and TV shows ~ Asian Americans

hyper-electronic, hyper-ambient, hyper drum and bass

it's ~ (Digicore music)

super-hyper-mega-uber

this ~ French entry (Barbara Pravi / Eurovision Contest)

♦ "Dede is this combination of an extreeemly like hyper-intelligent person (light upspeak) but also a hyper-empathetic person." (Filmmaker Berry Jenkins about film producer Dede Gardner.)

♦ Much in U.S. society is and always has been and always will be commercial, promotional, and self-promotional. And our language reflects it: *big, super-, trendy, performative, curated, boutique*, "throw it all on the wall and see what sticks," *artisanal, craft, custom, heirloom, designer, bespoke, bedazzled* (or is it *bejazzled?*), *uber, meta, hyper, upcycled, -forward, -informed, -driven, -ized, reinvented, pop-up, verb-up, kinetic, fluid, deep, massive, generational, transactional, intersectional, insanely cool*, "try this genius hack to..." In warfare, bombs and missiles have gone from *dumb to smart to brilliant*.

♦ see also *supersizing* (linguistic supersizing)

contempo-speak / speed / superlative: affix

language: affix

**hyperdrive (into hyperdrive)**

kicked into hyperdrive

at that point the investigation really ~ (cold case)

went into hyperdrive

the aggressive South Korean media ~

functioning: engine / mechanism

**hyperventilate (verb)**

hyperventilating about a couple of tough remarks

mainstream media is ~ on assimilation (politics)

feeling, emotion & effect: breathing / health & medicine / verb

**hyperventilation (noun)**

hyperventilation about threats

despite his ~ to academia... (Critical Race Theory)

feeling, emotion & effect: breathing / health & medicine

**hypnotize (verb)**

hypnotized the world

Israel has ~ (according to Ilhan Omar)

control & lack of control: magic

**hysteria (noun)**

hysteria and knee-jerk reactions

~ (election politics)

McCarthyite hysteria

Democrats are sometimes prone to ~ (against Russia)

accused the West of hysteria

the Kremlin spokesman ~ (Ukraine)

stoked hysteria

the media have ~ (public health)

♦ "Until psychoanalysis came along, the accepted antidote to hysteria was rest."

mental health: health & medicine

feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine

**ice (on thin ice)**

on thin ice

you're ~, buddy... (warning)

she had been ~ for more than a year (fired)

he was on ~ because... (Secretary of Labor resigns)

skating on thin ice

I was ~ with my cholesterol (heart attack)

fate, fortune & chance: snow & ice

**ice (put on ice / constrained)**

put on ice

he was ~ (a news executive)

dismissal, removal & resignation / constraint & lack of constraint: snow & ice / temperature

**ice (put on ice / delayed)**

put on ice during the war

it had been ~ (Churchill's *History*)

action, inaction & delay: snow & ice / temperature

**ice (break the ice)**

break the ice

he uses humor to ~

once you ~, you got a new friend

break the ice with audiences

she used humor to ~

break the ice with someone

dancing is a way to ~

break the ice by getting

the game is meant to ~ party guests out of their shoes (Twister)

helps break the ice

her friendly, confident demeanor ~ (female soldier)

♦ "You need a way to actually break the grass and start a conversation."  
(The wonderful Hafida Hdoubane, first female Moroccan mountain guide,  
who leads groups of foreign women that meet Moroccan women, who  
are historically famous for their shyness. It is possible there is more  
grass than ice in Morocco, even in the Atlas Mountains.)

**amelioration & renewal / division & connection / feeling,  
emotion & effect: snow & ice / temperature / verb**

## iceberg (the tip of the iceberg)

the tip of the iceberg

reported incidents may be only ~ (child abuse)

all we know so far is ~ (investigation);

the disclosures so far are merely ~ (pedophiles)

what we're seeing here may be just ~ (vaping deaths)

what we're seeing is ~ (COVID-19 cases)

the tip of the iceberg of potential

we're just at ~ (wasps trained to detect things)

the tip of the iceberg of (secret) warfare

the affair is just ~ the US is waging in Pakistan

the tip of the (pollination) iceberg

bees are just ~

the tip of the (fiscal) iceberg

Wisconsin is just ~ (states facing deficits)

just the tip of the iceberg

this is ~

merely the tip of the iceberg

the disclosures so far are ~ (pedophiles in education)

only the tip of the iceberg

reported incidents may be ~ (child abuse)

only the (small) tip of the iceberg

what you see here is ~ (repository of poached animals)

**amount / appearance & reality: snow & ice**

**substance & lack of substance: snow & ice**

## ice-cold (adjective)

ice-cold revenge

he dished out ~ on his enemies

grew ice-cold

their relationship ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: snow & ice / temperature**

## icon (graphic)

icons on your camera

strange ~

**sign, signal, symbol: picture**

## icon (symbol)

icon

the cup of tea is a great ~ (for England)

icons of America

3 ~ are alive and well (buffalo / eagle / Native Americans)

icons of the Isle of Wight

the Needles and lighthouse have become ~

icon of (American) popular culture

the Barbie doll has become an ~

icons of democracy

~ are targets for terrorists (Washington, D.C.)

icon of fall

the plump, round, orange ~ (the pumpkin)

icon of imperialism

a massive ~ over 14 feet long (the Zam-Zammah Gun)

icon of (American) mobility

Greyhound has long been an ~ (bus company)

icon of the (body positivity) movement

she is an ~ (Lizzo)

icon of broadcast news

Ted Koppel was an ~

icon of the sport

Mike Tyson is an ~ of boxing, a legend (Eddie Hearn)

icon of a failed state

anarchy has made Somalia an ~

icon to black journalists

he was an ~ (Ed Bradley / 60 Minutes)

icon in the pantheon

Kirk Douglas will always be an ~ of Hollywood

icon status

Ali had achieved ~ by then (the boxer)

Australian icon

a virtually sacred ~, the Surf Life Saver

Australia's (national) icon

~ (the Koala)

cartoon icons

~ like Bugs Bunny, Elmer Fudd, the Roadrunner

chess icon

Georgian ~ Nona Gaprindashvili

film icon

large portraits of silent-movie ~s

film "icon"

he was an unforgettable actor and a ~ (Kirk Douglas)

lesbian icon

she became a ~ in the late 1990s

pop icon

America's biggest ~ (Michael Jackson)

hip-hop icon

Lee Iacocca did commercials with ~ Snoop Dogg

two icons

Kobe and Dwyane, ~ of American sport (NBA)

American icon

quotes from this ~ (Mark Twain)

the teenage rebel, the quintessential ~ (adolescence)

cultural icon

taco trucks, ~s and social magnets in Mexico (and US)

gay icon

Madonna is widely considered to be a ~

heroic icon

Nimitz was a ~ of W.W. II

international icon

McDonald's is an ~

mainstream icons

Net culture prides itself on scoffing at ~

national icon

Australia's ~ (the Koala)

the hairstyle is a ~ (the mullet in Australia)

sacred (Australian) icon

a virtually ~, the Surf Life Saver

career as an advertising icon

a reborn ~ (Hakman)

quotes from this (American) icon

~ (Mark Twain)

become an icon

the Barbie doll has ~ of American popular culture

**representation: picture / religion / sign, signal, symbol**

**iconic (adjective)**

iconic doll

Raggedy Ann, the 86-year-old ~

iconic crops

rising temperatures threaten Georgia's ~ (peaches)

iconic figure

he was an ~, an old-school reporter

iconic image

~s of the Holocaust

it has become an ~ of his lack of connection (Bush)

iconic look

it just happened to become an ~ (Addicted to Love video)

iconic (Trestles) surf break

the road project could ruin the ~

**comparison & contrast: affix**

**representation: picture / religion / sign, signal, symbol**

**iconoclasm (noun)**

nurtured her iconoclasm

her parents encouraged her ambitions and ~ (musician)

**idea: religion**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

**iconoclast (person)**

iconoclast

he was an ~, willing to buck the tide (Bernard Rimland)

iconoclast of (American architecture)

he was an ~

iconoclast of the group

he was the ~

iconoclast or maverick

I was more like an ~ when I was young (Felix Bast)

advertising iconoclast

the ~ Ted Chin spoke at the conference

political iconoclast

he has a history of being a ~ (eccentric governor)

♦ An earnest *bien pensant*; their pieties; iconoclast; brought back into the bucket by the other crabs; cultural Marxism; academic herdthink; orthodoxy... (Language related to a cultural issue.)

**person / idea: religion**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: person / religion**

**iconoclastic (adjective)**

irreverent, anti-authoritarian and iconoclastic

~ (*Mad* magazine)

**idea: religion**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

**identify (identify as, etc.)**

identify as a queer MMIND college student

if you ~ you can complete this form...

identifies as First Nations Ojibwe

Fawn Pochel, who ~...

identifies as LGBTQ

any who ~ my be subject to imprisonment (Uganda)

identified as transgender

Audrey Elizabeth Hale ~ (Memphis school shooter)

♦ MMIND = mad, mentally ill, neurodivergent and disabled...

♦ "As a trans nonbinary climber who is mentally struggling..."

♦ "And for readers like me, who can relate to the experience of being a non-binary gestational parent..."

♦ "The opposite of inclusion is erasure... Not everyone who is pregnant identifies as a woman." (NPR Public Editor Kelly McBride, about the use of "pregnant people" versus "pregnant women." FTM trans, and various binaries, for example, might get pregnant but not identify as a woman.)

♦ "Thomas Groover is white and Afro-Latino." (NPR.)

♦ "In L.A., many young people who are both black and Mexican are turning to a handy word to describe themselves: 'Blaxican.'" (People with a Mexican parent and an African-American parent. Not to be confused with "Afro-Mexican.")

♦ [Rachel Anne] Dolezal acknowledged that she was 'born white to white parents,' but maintained that she self-identified as black." (The Wikipedia entry for "Rachel Dolezal.")

♦ "She identifies as Xicana of Yaqui and Mexica descent. (Ramona Beltran.)

♦ "I was brought into this world visible, but I identify as invisible. My preferred pronouns are who/where." (Snark from an online commenter about a "woke" celebrity.)

♦ "Can't he identify as 17?" (Snark from an online commenter about a 25 year old teacher / coach who had sex with a high-school student.)

♦ "She said for years...she didn't identify as a survivor because she had not personally witnessed the carnage that occurred..." (A school-shooting survivor who "sees herself" as a survivor now.)

♦ "Riley Gaines is calling upon the NCAA to take greater action to protect women's sports against biological males who identify as transgender females."

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology / verb**

## identity crisis

Azerbaijan's (current) identity crisis  
the issue reflects ~

Belgian identity crisis  
the ~ hit new heights (rumor Flanders succeeded)

**identity & nature: mental illness**

## idol (person)

matinee idol  
he lit up screens as a dashing ~ (Dirk Bogarde)

cites Taylor Swift as an idol  
she ~ (Marie "girl in red" Ulven)

**importance & significance / reverence: religion**

## idolized

idolized by the media  
the same military that was ~ was now being pilloried

idolized and demonized  
he has been alternately ~ by the press (a boxer)

**importance & significance / reverence: religion**

## ification

see *fication* (*adultification, etc.*)

## ified (Princified, etc.)

datified  
descriptors express a ~ digital community (wlw, etc.)

fancified  
El Quijote spiffed up and ~ (Chelsea Hotel restaurant)

greenified  
Antarctica is getting ~ (science educator from India)

objectified  
see *objectified* (*groups*)

Princified  
they make it utterly ~ (cover of a Prince song)

yassified  
~ men's photos feature chiseled jawlines

♦ see also ized (*invisibilized, etc.*)

**contempo-speak: part of speech**

## ify (mainstreamify, etc.)

Beastify  
~ your inbox (*The Daily Beast*)

broadcastify  
the website, ~.com

Distractify  
Sam Westmoreland's Cause of Death—~

gamify  
Robinhood is trying to ~ share trading

Happify  
~ encourages users to break old patterns (mental health)

Holidify  
~ is the best travel app...

Indify  
~, a music-data startup...

"Kazakhifying  
~ Kazakhstan" (*The Economist* / demographics)

mainstreamify  
everybody in America has to ~ their blend (racial roots)

mouse-ify  
they discover the boy and ~ him (Roald Dahl's *The Witches*)

objectifying  
she is ~ (a TikTok)

Shopify  
~ Inc.

Spotify  
~ is built on the back of the music streaming business

Torify  
the drive to "~" Britain (a liberal critic)

wokeify  
ESG policies are determined to ~ every corporation

youthify  
we're not trying to ~ the show (*And Just Like That*)

♦ Cynthia Nixon, about *And Just Like That*, the reboot of *Sex and the City*, said, "I like that we're not trying to *youthify* the show."

**contempo-speak: affix / part of speech**

## ignite (verb)

ignite a (larger) conflagration  
Somalia could ~ across the Horn of Africa

ignited a (robust) debate  
the conflict in Lebanon has ~ on jihadist Web sites

ignited fear  
the attack ~ among its Muslim worshippers

ignite the (#metoo) movement  
his sex crimes helped ~ (Harvey Weinstein)

ignite a revolution

he tried to ~ in New York City's schools (education)

ignite another war

the clash showed how a small spark could ~

ignites competition and conflict

the need for recognition and power ~ (schools)

ignite and fan

it's a way to ~ the flames of an epidemic (wildlife markets)

ignited and fueled

opposition was ~ by the church (innovation)

**initiation: fire / verb**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: fire / verb**

## Iliad (Japanese Iliad, etc.)

Japanese Iliad

the classic Heike monogatari, sometimes called the ~

**military: epithet**

## ill (ills of society, etc.)

ills of (American) society

the candidates offered solutions for the ~ (debate)

♦ "Ten Hag still has many ills to cure but he is at least prescribing the sort of medication that is returning Manchester United to something like their former health." (Phil McNulty, Chief football writer for the BBC. Five of the words in that single sentence relate to health.)

**affliction / condition & status / corruption: health & medicine**

## illegitimate (adjective)

denounce federal authority as illegitimate

they ~ (militias)

**worth & lack of worth: family**

## illiteracy (noun)

Computer Illiteracy

"Combating ~ In Afghanistan" (by Benjamin Tupper)

produce illiteracy

we are witnessing a national scandal of ~ (see below)

science illiteracy

~ (science education)

economic illiteracy

the evident ~ of the reporting staff

financial illiteracy

the poll shows a high rate of ~ (high school seniors)

the leagues are aware of the ~ (NFL, etc. / athletes)

historical illiteracy

this ~ would be hilarious if... (ethnic-studies curriculum)

scientific illiteracy

neither party has a monopoly on ~ (politics / ignorance)

contributes to this illiteracy

the language barrier ~ (scientific illiteracy)

♦ "What's this?" the grocery cashier asked me, holding a tan melon at eye level. 'I don't know how much to charge you, because I don't know what to call this.' / 'That,' I answered, trying to hide my surprise, 'is called a *cantaloupe*.'" ("No Chive Left Behind" by Danny Heitman, The Last Page, Smithsonian, March 2004. A wonderful essay! Other items that checkout cashiers had no clue about included: strawberries; celery; cauliflower; and different kinds of cabbages. The title of the essay, of course, is a variation on "No Child Left Behind," which itself has been relegated to the dustbin of history.)

♦ "Athletes and other entertainers can acquire great wealth without having a clue about money." ("For Some Athletes, A Short-Lived Financial Success" by Mike Pesca, NPR, Morning Edition, May 19, 2011.)

♦ "Some argue that Emoji is a step backwards to the dark ages of illiteracy, making us poorer communicators, but this view is nothing more than ill-informed and blinkered cultural elitism." (Vyvyan Evans. He likes emojis.)

**ability & lack of ability: books & reading**

## illiterate (adjective)

illiterate in math and science

many students are ~

financially illiterate

leaders and their economic advisors are ~

it shows how ~ he is (a politician)

historically illiterate

his strategy is shallow, proud, and ~ (diplomacy)

militarily illiterate

people who were ~ but accustomed to power (civilians)

rhetorically illiterate

she is ~

scientifically illiterate

many students leave school ~

technologically illiterate

many "science" journalists are ~ (free-lancing, titles)

financially and economically illiterate

many Americans are ~ and pay the price

♦ compare with *competence* (*metaphoric competence, etc.*), *literacy* (*noun*), *literate* (*adjective*)

♦ "Beware, Monsieur, of the memory of the illiterate man!" ("The Bull That Thought" by Rudyard Kipling.)

**ability & lack of ability: books & reading**

## illuminate (verb)

illuminates

research info that sometimes mystifies as much as it ~

illuminated the lives

for 14 centuries the Holy Qur'an has ~ of Muslims

illuminate their motives

a biographical detail that may ~ but...

♦ "I had no idea there were bears in Japan." (TexasVulcan on the ABC comments section about a bad-tempered bear that caused havoc in Sapporo, on the island of Hokkaido.)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / comprehension & incomprehension / consciousness & awareness / knowledge & intelligence: light & dark / verb**

## illuminating (adjective)

illuminating insight

the new study provides an ~ into what's going on

illuminating window

the case is an ~ into the pitfalls of capital punishment

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: light & dark**

**comprehension & incomprehension: light & dark**

**consciousness & awareness: light & dark**

**knowledge & intelligence: light & dark**

**feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark**

## illustrate (verb)

illustrates a conundrum

the story ~

**evidence: picture / verb**

**characterization: picture / verb**

**fictive communication: picture / verb**

## illustration (noun)

illustration of (tobacco's) consequences

a vivid ~

illustration of the gap

this is yet another ~ between the king and...

classic illustration

Sarajevo was a ~ of how an agreement can be reached

vivid illustration

~s of tobacco's consequences

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: picture**

**characterization / evidence: picture**

## imbalanced

imbalanced

if a relationship is ~, the door is open for toxic behaviors

**equilibrium & stability: scale**

**flaws & lack of flaws: equilibrium & stability / scale**

**disruption: equilibrium & stability / scale**

## imbibe (verb)

imbibed

all the things he ~ (various philosophies / Coleridge)

imbibed from my seniors

views of frontier policy I had ~ (military)

imbibe culture

there are new places to ~ (Harlem)

imbibe new ideas

they ~ from the locals

imbibed his love

I read about Thaddeus Kosciusko and ~ of liberty

imbibe the author's views

they will read this story and gradually ~

**absorption & immersion: food & drink / verb**

**consumption: food & drink / verb**

## immerse (verb)

immersed himself in books

he ~ about the financial collapse

immerse yourself in Indian culture

~ at the Fairmont, Jaipur, a five-star hotel

immersed herself in each project

she ~

immersed himself in his work

for more than a decade, he ~

immersed myself in the (Eisenhower) papers

I ~ (a researcher)

immerse yourself in the culture

you try to ~ (anthropology)

**absorption & immersion: verb / water**

**involvement: verb / water**

## immersed

immersed in Chinese

the kids spend every other day ~ (charter school)

**absorption & immersion: water**

**involvement: water**

## immersion

immersion in English

only ~ has proved successful (vs. bilingual ed)

immersion in the (stenographic) record

his ~ of... (a historian)

immersion techniques

actors famous for their ~ (Day-Lewis, Hoffman, etc.)

English immersion

the most effective instruction is ~

Virginia, has chosen ~ (vs. bilingual ed)

~ is more effective than bilingual education

**absorption & immersion / involvement: water**

## immortal (person)

immortal of English sport

he departs an ~ (Eoin Morgan / cricket)

medical immortal

Fritz Schaudinn, a ~

**person: religion**

**superlative: person / religion**

**importance & significance: person / religion**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: person / religion**

## immortality (noun)

sporting immortality

this South Africa side have become used to talk of ~

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## **immovable (adjective)**

immovable

the negotiators won't budge, they are ~

immovable bureaucracy

Egypt's large and ~

immovable forces

the ~ in American politics (polarization, low trust, etc.)

immovable support

she offered ~ (Thatcher to Reagan)

nearly immovable

his voters are ~ (Trump)

ideological, doctrinaire and immovable

his views on race and religion are ~ (a judge)

remained immovable

Hanoi ~ (the Vietnam / American War)

♦ "What happens when an unstoppable force comes up against an immovable object?" (Politics.)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: movement**

**position, policy & negotiation: movement**

**commitment & determination: movement**

**survival, persistence & endurance: movement**

## **immune (adjective)**

immune to cold

the natives seemed ~

immune to it

I've had to deal with so much, I'm ~

immune from the "great resignation"

not even the White House is ~ (job-hopping, etc.)

immune from terrorism

no country is ~ in today's world

inoculated, if not immune

I was more or less ~, to criticism

remained (largely) immune

until this week the capital ~ to the violence (Syria)

**protection & lack of protection: health & medicine**

## **immunity (noun)**

immunity

Iran has no ~ anywhere (Israel strikes Iran sites in Syria)

immunity from prosecution

she requested ~

diplomatic immunity

Mr. Qaddafi was not arrested because he has ~

psychological immunity

experience of painful feelings can help kids develop ~

granted immunity

he was ~ from prosecution in exchange for...

**protection & lack of protection: health & medicine**

## **impact (affect)**

impacted New Mexico

how COVID-19 has ~

**effect: force / sensation / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: force / sensation / verb**

## **impact (effect)**

economic impact

the ~ of these latest tariffs

high-impact

it's considered a ~ journal

what weather forecasters are calling a ~ event (storms)

**effect: force / sensation**

**feeling, emotion & effect: force / sensation**

## **impacted (affected)**

financially impacted

half of all households have been ~ by coronavirus

**effect: force / sensation**

**feeling, emotion & effect: force / sensation**

## **impasse (noun)**

moral impasse

psychiatry is stuck in a kind of ~

**obstacles & impedance: journeys & trips / movement**

**progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement**

## **implode (verb)**

implode in a major tournament

it's not like the French to ~ (Euro 2020 vs. Swiss)

imploded (in recent weeks) with major losses

two businesses ~ (causing problems for Credit Suisse)

implode violently

the repressive regime might now ~ or lash out

life imploded

and then my ~ (diplomat falsely accused of pedophilia)

**destruction: explosion / physics / verb**

## **implosion (noun)**

implosion

this ~ will have devastating consequences (Tigray war)

career implosion

the ~ of a Tory transport minister

economic implosion

Venezuela's ~ exacerbates inequality

inside Syria's ~

verbal implosion

Don Imus' ~ (a racist, sexist insult)

**destruction: explosion / physics**

## impossible (as noun)

start your impossible

Toyota: ~ (an advertisement)

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: part of speech**

## imposter (noun)

imposter

it's not really cinnamon but an ~ (bark from cassia tree)

**appearance & reality / subterfuge: materials & substances / person**

## impotence (weakness)

political impotence

corporate greed, entertainment addiction and ~ (the US)

**functioning: health & medicine**

**strength & weakness: health & medicine**

**attenuation / force: health & medicine**

## impotent (adjective)

impotent to stop

our leaders were ~ the series of crises

**functioning: health & medicine**

**strength & weakness: health & medicine**

**attenuation / force: health & medicine**

## imprimatur

given its imprimatur

the UN has ~ to the policy

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## imprint (noun)

imprint on the Japanese

deflation has left a deep ~

imprint of his (chief) speechwriter

the words bore the strong ~ (presidential speech)

**impression: mark**

## imprisoned

imprisoned in their homes

they are not being ~ (the need to quarantine for COVID)

imprisoned in ice

the two ships had been abandoned, ~ (the Arctic)

imprisoned in our own ways

are we so ~ that we can't break loose of our chains

imprisoned by the domestic

middle-class women ~ in some way or another

imprisoned by the social system

every man that feels like he can't get his fair due or he's ~

♦ "The image of a brain traveling to the confines of space and time, diving deep into some of the biggest mysteries of science while

imprisoned in a wheelchair, excited the public imagination." ("Brief Answers To The Big Questions' Is Stephen Hawking's Parting Gift To Humanity" by Marcelo Gleiser, NPR, Book Reviews, October 16, 2018. Gleiser has appeared in *Through the Wormhole with Morgan Freeman* and in Oprah Winfrey's *Belief*. His Wikipedia entry does not mention whether or not he is "imprisoned" in a wheelchair, but it *does* include a notice at the top: "This article includes a list of general references, but it lacks sufficient corresponding inline citations. Please help...")

♦ "Byrne's work has long been obsessed with the many ways of being imprisoned—in oneself, in an addiction to things, in a meaningless life—and equally attuned to different forms of escape." ("David Byrne And Spike Lee Conjure Up A Joyous Vision Of 'American Utopia'" by John Powers, NPR, Fresh Air, October 13, 2020.)

♦ "Happy remains imprisoned in a Bronx Zoo exhibit." (According to the Nonhuman Rights Project. A court had decided that an elephant was not a person and had no right to habeus corpus.)

♦ "I wanted to speak up for my rights. And also I didn't want my future to be just sitting in a room and be imprisoned in my four walls and just cooking and giving birth to children. I didn't want to see my life in that way." (Malala Yousafzai. Greta Thunberg was born in 2003. Malala Yousafzai was born 1997. Florence Nightingale was born in 1820. Joan of Arc was born circa 1412.)

♦ "Auerbach had been imprisoned in the ghetto..." (The *Warsaw Ghetto*, World War II. Only one percent of Polish Jews survived the war.)

**constraint & lack of constraint: crime**

## in (and in thing, etc.)

in this year

long skirts are ~

latest 'in thing'

not long ago Osaka was the ~ to blow in (vs. Gauff)

new IN thing

the ~ is "burnout" (a *Times-Picayune* columnist)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## in (the cowboy in me, etc.)

in him

he had always had the cop ~ (a DEA agent)

in me

the cowboy ~ just ain't gonna die (ex-rodeo rider)

occasionally, the street ~ would surface...

inside me

the child ~ was dead (Jesse Leon / *I'm Not Broken*)

in you

if you've got the quit ~, there will always be doubt (boxing)

in my people

for singing is ~ as sight is in the eye (*How Green Was My Valley* / the Welsh)

in Wrong

there is a bit of the pith helmet ~ (a historian of Africa)

brought out the tiger in him

attacks on his family or friends always ~ (Winston Churchill)

♦ "Occasionally, the street in me would surface and I'd say: 'Fuck you!'" (The boxing trainer and manager Tunde Ajayi.)

♦ "But what do you expect from the French, eh? They've always had a strange sense of humour. I apologize. I wasn't trying to dehumanize

anyone here. It's just that I'm half-English and sometimes the English in me colonizes everything else." ("Is it really offensive to say 'the French'?" by Arwa Mahdawi, Opinion, *The Guardian*, 30 Jan 2023. Funny!)

♦ "There's an innovator in all of us." (A full page magazine advertisement for Dell Technologies.)

♦ see also *inner* (*inner sloth*, etc.)

**identity & nature: container / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## in (inclusion)

in-group

there is a lot of ~, out-group bias (empathy)

in-crowd

a teenager who tries to join the ~

voted him in

they ~

**acceptance & rejection: container / prep, adv, adj, particle / society**

## in (in pain, in anger, etc.)

in anguish

they were ~, but they listened to what the baker had to say

in pain

if Aaron was ~, he took care not to show it (dad died)

**feeling, emotion & effect: container**

## in (all in)

all in

he plays with guts, passion and heart, he's ~ (NFL)  
everybody's ~, all want to be great (a coach)

all in with the players

he has gone ~ (a football coach)

all in with President Trump

republican candidates are not ~

all-in on the outrage

I was ~ (viral video, regrets later)

all in for this day

I was ~ (Charlotte Purdue on a personal best)

all in for fight night

Las Vegas is ~ (Fury vs. Wilder)

all-in kind of defense

he wanted a loud, clear ~ (Edward Snowden)

all-in moment

her ~ comes in 1989 (magazine editor)

all-in proposition

football is an ~, you must be committed (NFL)

♦ "His experience of starting a life of activism at a young age—and going all in—is an increasingly common story among Gen Zers." (Those born between 1995 and 2010.)

♦ "At this level, if you're half in, you're nowhere." (The basketball coach of a major university about the commitment of athletes to a program and the transfer portal.)

**action, inaction & delay / allegiance, support & betrayal / commitment & determination: cards / gambling / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## in (situation)

in

I empathize with the situation that he found himself ~

**situation: container / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## in (involvement)

in it

everybody in town knew who was ~ (civil-rights murder)

in (deep) with a gang

she is ~

in or (you're) out

you're either ~, you can't be both (Queen of England)

want in

do you ~ (to join a cybercrime investigation)

**involvement: container / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## in (in it for me, etc.)

in it for me

what's ~

**worth & lack of worth: container / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## inauthentic (groups)

inauthentic versions

women are forced into becoming ~ of themselves / likeability

inauthentic and (openly) problematic

it means it's completely ~ (t.A.T.u. / Jill Gutowitz)

so inauthentic

like, her accent is ~, right...

become inauthentic

when does a depiction of culture, history and identity ~

come across as inauthentic

some politicians ~

deemed the scenes inauthentic

queer audiences ~ (the film *Blue is the Warmest Colour*)

expose the inauthentic

those who present themselves as authentic and those who ~

♦ "We're going to read the script and every time something feels inauthentic, I want you to raise your hand and tell me..." (Director Olivia Wilde to Gen Z cast members.)

♦ "Every single problem in the film is inauthentic," Renata Adler claimed in *The New Yorker*. "Every crisis and dilemma it claims to find is false. Pacino has never been so unconvincing." (Al Pacino: A Life On The Wire by Andrew Yule.)

♦ "Looking at it today, it may seem inauthentic for our Spanish-Jewish-Irish Catholic family to belt out lines from Jamaican folksongs." (Scott Simon. From "Opinion: Harry Belafonte's voice will live on," NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, April 29, 2023.)

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## inauthenticity (groups)

inauthenticity of a straight guy  
the ~ playing a gay guy (Tom Hanks)

cultural inauthenticity  
middle-classness is a marker of ~ (Blacks / assimilation)

racial inauthenticity  
he accused Obama of ~ (“acting white”)

fear of inauthenticity  
folk’s biggest bugaboo is the ~ (folk music)

practiced to the point of inauthenticity  
he seemed ~ (a politician)

♦ “What’s more obnoxious—equating Obama’s refusal to behave exactly as Jackson wants him to with racial inauthenticity, the fact that Jackson would make that rhetorical move so casually as not even to remember it afterwards, the offhand insult to whites who are interested in the Jena case and support the defendants, or the fact that he’s conveniently overlooking the fact that Obama is white on his mother’s side? Or is that the point, to remind black voters that his blood isn’t 100% ‘authentic’?” (Hot Air. From “Jesse Jackson Says Obama ‘Acting White’” by Geoff Bennett, NPR, September 19, 2007. See also the Wikipedia entry at “Jena Six.”)

♦ “A new novel by Jeanine Cummins has opened up a debate about white privilege, racism in publishing, and the unintended consequences of telling a story that is not your own... [T]here is so much...to say about these very difficult issues of race and identity and publishing and which voices are elevated in the boarder culture...” (Rachel Martin. From “Latinx Critics Speak Out Against ‘American Dirt’; Jeanine Cummins Responds,” NPR, Morning Edition, January 24, 2020.)

♦ “The resume breeds inauthenticity in every area of job search and job interviewing.”

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## incandescent (character)

incandescent (18-year-old Barnard College) freshman  
she was an ~ (Tessa Majors / murdered in park)

**character & personality / superlative: electricity / fire / light & dark / temperature**

## incarnation (character)

another incarnation  
yet, in ~, he was wearing a leather jacket (a professor)

different incarnation  
in a ~ he assists lovers (Pandarus)  
before she was a lesbian, she had a ~ (Christian, etc.)

latest incarnation  
would the ~ of feminism accuse me of body shaming  
the ~ of the character will be bisexual (Superman’s son)

modern incarnation  
the ~ of the lottery arose out of a crisis in state funding

perfect incarnation  
the Festival is a temple of glamour and Marilyn is its ~

woke incarnation  
*Teen Vogue*, in its current ~...

♦ “In our next iteration we will absolutely fold in the voices of our critics.” (Time’s Up reorganizes in response to criticism.)

♦ “The Festival is a temple of glamour and Marilyn is its perfect incarnation.” (Marilyn Monroe. The 2012 Cannes film festival.)

**representation: religion**

## incendiary (speech)

incendiary claim  
it’s a circumstantial case but it’s an ~ (journalism)

incendiary comment  
that’s an ~

incendiary invective  
politics is filled with ~

incendiary post  
what triggered the uproar was an ~ at a Website

incendiary (political) rhetoric  
the shootings caused a backlash against ~

incendiary call to arms  
she made an ~ for people to resist Washington

**speech: fire / temperature**

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire / temperature**

**initiation: fire / temperature**

## incendiary (other)

incendiary  
the situation in the south is ~ (rebellion)

incendiary issue  
race can be an ~ in American politics

politically incendiary  
the organization has made some ~ missteps

**initiation: fire / temperature**

## incestuous (adjective)

incestuous  
academia is ~ (peer review, smallness, etc.)

incestuous alliance  
the union is an ~ between public officials and labor

incestuous relationship  
the scandal revealed an ~ of lobbyists and politicians  
the web of ~s is troubling (stock analysts, the media)

super-incestuous  
the Beltway is a ~ zone (Washington politics)

ingrown, incestuous  
she represented a very ~ culture in that institution

♦ “Sixty-eight percent of tweets between journalists who work at *The Washington Post*, NPR, [and *The New York Times*...] are to each other.” (“How Journalists Congregating Into ‘Microbubbles’ Affects Quality Of News Reporting,” NPR, All Things Considered, August 12, 2020.)

♦ “Officially, the groups are all independent. In practice, everyone seems to be everyone else’s co-author, drinking buddy, former mentor, or romantic partner.” (Groups like Justice Democrats, Sunrise, and Data for Progress. From “The Left Turn” by Andrew Marantz, *The New Yorker*, May 31, 2021.)

♦ “I feel like podcasting is still small enough...but podcast is still small enough where we all know each other. In the sense like we either went

to each other's wedding, or we interned together, or we used to work for so-and-so, or we went to college with them... We've all made projects for each other, too." (Podcast producer Jesse Baker interviewed by podcast producer Carolina Groppa.)

**relationship: family / sex**

## incestuousness (noun)

social incestuousness

how much of this ~ exists in DC (media and government)

**relationship: family / sex**

## inclusion (groups)

inclusion, belonging, and respect

build ~ for diversity (Georgetown Law)

greater inclusion

positive momentum towards ~

Beyond Inclusion

~ seeks more empowerment, more representation

diversity, equity, and inclusion

embed ~ (DEI) intentionally in TESOL activities

equity and inclusion

the culture of ~ at Georgetown Law

♦ see also *diversity (groups)*, *representation (groups)*

♦ "The opposite of inclusion is erasure... Not everyone who is pregnant identifies as a woman." (NPR Public Editor Kelly McBride, about the use of "pregnant people" versus "pregnant women." FTM trans, and various binaries, for example, might get pregnant but not identify as a woman.)

♦ "And for readers like me, who can relate to the experience of being a non-binary gestational parent..."

♦ "I don't want to hear one more peep out of them about diversity, equity, and inclusion. I don't wanna see any more of our C-suite execs recommend books for women's history month. There were tangible actions they could've taken and they chose to perform these values. No thank you." (An underpaid employee with an Asian name who was repeatedly turned down for a raise. She finally applied for her job as a new hire at a higher salary, and her posts went viral.)

♦ "There had been some great sport on offer and some great moments and stories / Why write an article, emphasising how diverse these games are and highlighting the fact there is more womans medals [sic]. / Surely this is irrelevant. Why can't we just celebrate all the athletes and enjoy the sport we have seen across all competitions / It seems this agenda is compulsory in BBC written articles" (A commenter on "Commonwealth Games: Birmingham breathes life into Games" by Mike Henson, BBC Sport, 9 August 2022. Another commenter posted, "Please concentrate on the sport, that is what most watched and will remember it for....not the BBC looking for politics or identity politics in everything." And yet a third person commented, "Typical BBC trying to find something to fit their 'woke' agenda to denigrate." In the last decades it has become common to disparage great sporting events—the Olympics, the FIFA soccer World Cup—with controversies unrelated to sports.)

♦ "But [Bros] also mocks more recent trends like the mass production of LGBTQ-themed entertainment by TV and movie studios once they realized there was a huge audience for it..." (Justin Chang's review of that film for Fresh Air.)

♦ "This film includes discussion of eating disorders, body dysphoria, self-harm, sexual assault, and suicide... Use the resources at the end of the film to find support if you are struggling with any of these topics." (*They / Them: One Climber's Story*, a film about the trans climber Lor Sabourin.)

♦ The Japanese refer to foreigners as *gaijin*, literally, "outsider."

♦ "We don't mind people settlin' in the area. Just don't put your house on a ridgetop so you can look down on us, and don't tell us how you did it back home." (A Southern Appalachians woman.)

♦ "Dude should have looked into living there a little better before stepping on locals' toes like that, especially if he took his family—he owed it to

them to look out for their welfare..." (A commenter on the article "2 Hawaiian men found guilty of hate crime for attacking white homeowner" by Michelle De Pacina, Yahoo / NextShark, November 21, 2022.)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## inclusive (groups)

inclusive language

~ is about possibility...

making this mindful choice of ~ (use "Y'all")

embrace ~ and encourage others to do the same

inclusive and empowering

make our language more ~ (no gender assumptions)

more inclusive

the outdoors will be a ~ place (all-Black team on Everest)

how to be an ally and nurture a ~ world

safe and inclusive

a ~ place for anyone to play football (GFSN)

safe, inclusive, respectful, and welcoming

create psychologically ~ environments (DEI)

♦ "Inclusive language is not about critical mass, it's about possibility." (NPR Public Editor Kelly McBride, about the use of "pregnant people" versus "pregnant women.")

♦ "Once they're finished, the outdoors will be a more inclusive place, according to their GoFundMe page." ("A mountaineering group is aiming to be the 1st all-Black team to climb Mount Everest" by Sharon Pruitt-Young, NPR, October 9, 2021.)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## incoming (criticism)

incoming from both Republicans and Democrats

Facebook should expect ~ (Congressional hearing)

♦ "I remember I went down into this hole for another scoop of dirt, and then that's when the bomb hit. I looked at the man I was digging this hole with; half his body was gone. And I looked up at the trees and I could see body parts on the limbs on the trees, and I shook myself out of it and I stood up, and it was so quiet." (Private Manuel Orona, Hill 875, Dak To, Vietnam War. The 500-pound bomb from a Marine plane caused the worst friendly-fire incident of the Vietnam War. In Vietnam, the Vietnam War is referred to as the American War.)

**accusation & criticism: explosion / military / weapon**

## incontinent (fiscally incontinent, etc.)

fiscally incontinent

the Labour party is ~ (politics)

♦ "Conservative opponents label Labour fiscally incontinent, *unable to restrain the urge* [italics mine] to tax, borrow, and spend." (U.K. politics. Older people know.)

**control & lack of control: health & medicine**

## incubator (noun)

incubators of crime

prisons could not reform but were ~

incubators of despair

the refugee camps have become ~

incubator of espionage

the campus is an ~ (free flow of ideas)

incubator of innovation  
the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency is an ~

incubator for (left-wing) talent  
his show was an ~ on the air (TV)

incubator for France's top talent  
the elite Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA) is an ~

incubator for terrorists  
the religious school is an ~ (Indonesia)

business incubator  
a ~ helps new and startup companies

meme incubator  
it's a ~ (TikTok)

talent incubator  
the art gallery has emerged as a top ~ (Damascus)

technology incubator  
the zone is one of three ~s in the state (New Jersey)

**environment / growth & development: bird**

**creation & transformation: bird**

**incurable (adjective)**

incurable optimist  
I used to be an ~, but... (an Iraqi)

**character & personality: health & medicine**

**identity & nature: health & medicine**

**indebted**

indebted to them  
my work is tremendously ~ (an author about other writers)

**obligation: money**

**indelible (adjective)**

indelible mark  
he left an ~ on the world around him (Luke Howard)  
she's made an ~ on Morgan County (tragedy)  
terrorism has left an ~ on his presidency (9/11)  
his trip to Sri Lanka left an ~ on him (Chekhov)

indelible stain  
doping left an ~ on his record (sports)

**survival, persistence & endurance: mark**

**industrialize (industrialize death,  
etc.)**

industrialized death  
modern warfare ~ (World War I)

**military: manufacturing**

**industry (noun)**

trauma industry  
as the ~ was building steam and attracting clients...

in the (concussion) industry

~, there are lots of opportunists out for the quick money

made the rape and murder of women an industry  
TV culture has ~ unto itself

**creation & transformation: manufacturing**

**inebriate (verb)**

inebriated both parties  
his political fantasy has ~ (that victory is total)

**restraint & lack of restraint: alcohol / verb**

**behavior: alcohol / verb**

**inequality (groups)**

inequality in the internet age  
the digital divide, a look at ~

inequality in high education  
~, past and present (Fresh Air, Terry Gross)

fitness inequality  
the pandemic accelerated ~ (Natalia Mehlman Petrzela)

gender inequality  
efforts to fix South Korea's ~ at its cultural roots

income inequality  
the Gilded Age was characterized by great ~  
a guaranteed income program hopes to reduce ~ (Georgia)  
Ras Baraka on guaranteed income to alleviate ~ (Newark)

vaccine inequality  
what does ~ look like  
the moral threat of ~ (eco-activist Greta Thunberg)

wealth inequality  
why ~ is growing in the pandemic (rebroadcast)

learning inequality  
demand for wilderness education may widen ~

economic inequality  
'Davos Man' is an angry, powerful look at ~  
deadly protests against ~ and police brutality (Colombia)

racial inequality  
~ and anti-Blackness (the 1619 Project)

sexual inequality  
sued for ~ and harassment (game company Activision)

social inequality  
these philanthropists haven't moved the needle against ~  
the link between water quality and ~ (Jackson, MS, etc.)

systemic inequality  
Black Muppets teach kids about ~, racism (Sesame Street)

Research On Inequality  
Princeton's Program For ~

persistence of (racial) inequality  
the ~

widen inequality  
how taxes continue to ~

♦ "The assertions are strident, and the vocabulary is esoteric ('harm,' 'insurrection') as if it were translated from a foreign language. In a sense, it is. The language is legalese, and it is designed to build a foundation upon which a company can be held liable under civil-rights law in an American court. This activist tactic has been widely misunderstood." ("The Inequality of 'Equity,'" by Christopher Caldwell, *National Review*, May 17, 2021.)

♦ "Cohen wonders what happens when children's belief in Santa intersects with their increasing awareness of the inequality around them, especially when they may be looking for that inequality." (Philip N Cohen, professor of sociology at the University of Maryland, College Park. From "Time to end Santa's 'naughty list'?" by Dan John, BBC, *Family Tree*, 14 December 2022.)

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## inequity (groups)

heat inequity

~ is an environmental justice issue

racial inequity

one more ~...

thermal inequity

urban heat and climate justice, ~

♦ "The more we learn about the coronavirus, the clearer it becomes that it's disproportionately affecting communities of color." ("The Coronavirus in America: One More Racial Inequity." (Consider this from NPR, June 2, 2020.)

♦ "Top U.S. official says Brazil is making progress in combatting racial inequity," NPR, *Weekend Edition Saturday*, May 6, 2023."

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## inertia (noun)

years of inertia

environmentalists blame the government for ~

**starting, going, continuing & ending: movement**

**progress & lack of progress: movement**

**action, inaction & delay: movement**

## infancy (in infancy)

in its infancy

the field is ~

ecosystem forecasting is ~

in late 1862 photography was ~ (Mathew Brady)

scientists point out the research is ~ (medicine)

motoring was still ~ (1908 motor sledge for snow, ice)

the investigation is still very much ~ (Esther Dingley)

if we think back to 1987, DNA was ~ (cold case solved)

at an early stage, when a start-up is ~ (Silicon Valley)

in 1996, the internet was ~ (Communications Decency Act)

in Google's infancy

~, its co-founders reviled Microsoft as a technological bully

**growth & development: baby / death & life**

## infancy (other)

infancy of our DNA testing

back in 2000, that was the ~ (wrongfully convicted)

stock car racing's infancy

those hellish days of ~

**growth & development: baby / death & life**

## infant (noun)

infant colony

merchantmen were drawn to the ~ (Australia)

infant market

nurture the ~ (e-publishing)

**growth & development: baby / death & life**

## infatuated (enthusiasm)

infatuated with social networking

young adults are ~

**enthusiasm: love, courtship & marriage**

## infect (computers)

infected (industrial) computers

the Stuxnet worm ~ in Iran

**computer: health & medicine / verb**

## infect (corrupt)

infected every corner

criminality has ~ of the government

infected our culture

narcissism and exhibitionism have ~

infect the knowledge

a misconception can ~ associated with it

infected the (educational) system

the disease of grade inflation has ~

infecting the (entire) system

he is a symptom of a much wider pathology ~ (politics)

infect many of these works

assumptions of automatic agreement ~ ("woke" art)

♦ "[Gas gangrene] may cause discoloration and death of the skin alone, or else the whole limb may swell enormously and be rapidly converted into a gangrenous mass of putrefying material emitting the odour of a newly manured field..." (From the 1915 Bradshaw Lecture on Wounds in War by Surgeon-General Sir Anthony Bowlby, K.C.M.G., A.M.S., Surgeon in Ordinary to H.M. the King; Consulting Surgeon to the British Expeditionary Force in France; Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.)

**corruption: health & medicine / verb**

## infected

infected with (a succeed-at-all-costs) recklessness

cycling is ~ (doping)

infected by a (false) doctrine

I became ~ (religion)

infected computers

the data came from 729 ~ (botnets)

**computer / corruption: health & medicine**

## infection (enthusiasm)

infection of his thinking

the ~ has mutated, gone pandemic (quantum computing)

enthusiasm: health & medicine

## infection (corruption)

one single infection

amid that epidemic, ~ was fateful (NotPetya worm)

infection spreads

amputate before ~ (bad players, coach at Man U)

affliction / corruption: health & medicine

## infectious (adjective)

infectious

his zest for life was ~ (Ernest Hemingway)

courage is ~, it really is (a Churchill biographer)

Ty's personality and smile were ~ (football player)

infectious smile

we will miss his ~ and love for football (murdered player)

transmission: health & medicine

## infest (verb)

infested the country

bands of guerillas ~ (US Civil War)

infest a careless mind

cliches ~ (thinking, speaking, writing)

infest both sides

bandits ~ of the border

♦ "Clichés, like cockroaches in the cupboard, quickly infest a careless mind." ("Orwell on Writing: 'Clarity is the Remedy'" by Lawrence Wright, NPR, All Things Considered, Sept. 22, 2006.)

affliction: insect / verb

## infested

infested by German U-boats

a North Atlantic ~ in February 1942 (film *Greyhound*)

bomb-infested

the marines are trying to control a ~ stretch of road (Iraq)

crime-infested

the ~ streets of Baltimore

drug-infested

people who live in ~ neighborhoods

gang-infested

the ~ neighborhood is riddled with lookouts

mafia-infested

a ~ industry...

mine-infested

steaming through ~ waters

pirate-infested

Indonesia's waters remained the world's most ~

pirate infested

the ~ waters off Sumatra (Malacca Strait, etc.)

drug- and guerrilla-infested

in the ~ jungle

♦ "Feed a Pigeon, Breed a Rat." (Slogan in a NYC public-education campaign to reduce food for rats.)

♦ "The rats, at times numbering in the hundreds, according to witnesses, have drawn early evening crowds of curious spectators to the island that divides the north and south roadways between 58th and 59th Streets." (A *New York Times* article about an infestation of Park Avenue rats, perhaps attracted to tulip bulbs, quoted in Robert Sullivan's wonderful book, *Rats*.)

♦ James Clavell's novel *King Rat* focuses on survival, competition and dominance in a World War II prisoner-of-war camp.

affliction: insect

## infidelity (noun)

financial infidelity

~ is on the rise

~ is when people hide their accounts or debts from their spouses

allegiance, support & betrayal / behavior / concealment & lack of concealment / subterfuge: love, courtship & marriage

## infiltrate (verb)

infiltrate culture

her song helped ~ to move acceptance along (group)

infiltrated this nursing home

we still don't know how the virus ~ (COVID-19)

infiltrated the White House

COVID has ~ (pandemic)

concealment & lack of concealment / transmission: military / verb

## inflare (verb)

inflamed the (national immigration) debate

his arrest ~ (a murderer)

inflare (voters') fears

the surest way to win elections is to ~

inflare people's passions

this will ~ (politics)

inflare the situation

the photos could ~ (of dead civilians)

inflare them

good therapists usually work to resolve conflicts, not ~

increase & decrease: fire / verb

initiation: fire / verb

feeling, emotion & effect: fire / verb

## inflammatory (adjective)

inflammatory comment

this is a baseless, ~ (diplomacy)

inflammatory quotes

the army report didn't say who was responsible for the ~

inflammatory language

let's have a conversation without ~ (anti-Semitism)

shocking and inflammatory  
desecration of the Koran is a ~ act

**increase & decrease: fire**

**initiation / speech: fire**

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire**

## inflate (verb)

inflate our grades  
we are pushed to ~ (teachers)

inflated the pay  
these schemes were designed to ~ of the C.E.O.

inflates the (Latino dropout) rate  
which ~... (education)

**increase & decrease: air / atmosphere / balloon / verb**

## inflated (numbers)

inflated prices  
items trickle in at ~ (Kisangani)

sharply inflated  
~ wages

vastly inflated  
the figures are ~

figures are (vastly) inflated  
that the ~ is an open secret (refugees)

**increase & decrease: number**

## inflated (expectations, etc.)

inflated ego  
he is known for his ~ (a banker)

inflated expectations  
many high-school graduates have ~

**increase & decrease: air / atmosphere / balloon**

## inflation (noun)

concept inflation  
~ of terms and memes ("Karen," etc.)

grade inflation  
the disease of ~ has infected the educational system

emotional inflation  
your kids don't really care about your ~ (war reporter)

**increase & decrease: air / atmosphere / balloon**

## inflection point

inflection point  
*Hello, Dolly!* was an ~ (producer goes nuts)

inflection point in history  
we're living at an ~, both at home and abroad (politics)

inflection point in a story

his appearance was an ~ that will continue...

inflection point and wakeup call  
this strike should be an ~ (collateral damage)

at an inflection point  
the country is at an ~ in its history (Biden / 2022)

♦ "But, look, the next shoe to drop is Tara Reid's TV appearance, maybe on Fox, maybe this weekend. What kind of case will she present? So, Friday's Biden appearance was not an end point, but an inflection point in a story that's probably going to be around for a while." (Vague but important sounding lines on a graph. NPR's Ron Elving talking to Scott Simon, *Week in Politics, Weekend Edition*, Saturday, May 2, 2020.)

♦ "The word appears to be having its inflection point right now." (The word "bae" in 2014, in popularity. See the excellent Wikipedia entry, "Bae (word).")

♦ "Inflection point" has become a cliché and seems to have replaced the old "turning point." It provides a nice statistical sheen to pundits. The Battle of Stalingrad was a turning point in World War II. Nowadays it would be an inflection point.

♦ "Inflection point" is on the Lake Superior State University 2023 Banished Words List—words banned for "misuse, overuse, and uselessness."

**development: direction**

## inflexible (character)

stubborn or inflexible  
she has a lot of resolve, but sometimes can be ~

**ability & lack of ability / character & personality: materials & substances / movement**

## in for (a ride, etc.)

in for (a whole lot of) hurt  
we're ~ (coronavirus)

in for a (bumpy) ride  
consumers are ~ this year (customer service)

in for a (rough) ride  
we're ~ (new troops in Iraq)

in for a (wild) ride  
it looks like we're ~, so hang on (Wall Street bear market)

in for a treat  
you are ~

**experience: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## inform (verb)

inform your actions  
hope and love should ~, not hate

informed her artistry  
these stories have ~ and sense of home (book review)

informed her life  
references to the pop culture that has ~ (book review)

informs what the Battle Group does  
intelligence ~

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

## **informed (trauma-informed, etc.)**

trauma-informed

we must equip our teachers to be ~  
an expert in ~ journalism told us...  
~ therapies for anxiety, depression & PTSD

trauma informed

restorative discipline and ~ education

survivor-centered and trauma-informed

our Special Victims Division is ~ (appeal for sex victims)

**contempo-speak: affix**

**inclusion & exclusion: affix**

## **infrastructure (noun)**

intellectual infrastructure

education initiatives aim at building the ~  
the country's ~ is still eroding (research, funding, etc.)

**bases: infrastructure**

## **infusion (noun)**

infusion of (new) jobs

the recovery will suffocate without a rapid ~

infusion of (young) recruits

there was an ~, many of them women (CIA post 9/11)

cash infusion

he has stepped in with a ~ for the company

**directing / throwing, putting & planting: water**

## **ingenue (person)**

relative ingenue

he is a ~ (politics)

**character & personality: person**

**experience: film / love, courtship & marriage / person**

## **ingest (verb)**

ingested a heavy dose

in Copenhagen he ~ of Aristotle (Tycho Brahe)

**absorption & immersion: food & drink / verb**

**consumption: food & drink / verb**

## **ingrained**

ingrained in the public consciousness

that photo became ~ (Charles Manson / *Life Magazine*)

ingrained in me

winning and competing is ~ (a coach)

“ingrained” and “completely normalised”

abuse in gymnastics training became ~ (Whyte Review)

**attachment / impression: cloth / color**

## **ingredient (noun)**

ingredients for victory

Democrats are not sure what the right ~ are (politics)

**mixture: food & drink**

## **inhabit (verb)**

inhabited Travis Bickle

the way that De Niro ~... (acting)

inhabit each other

how these cultures ~ (Vietnam / Paris)

inhabit the part

he knew how to ~ (Marlon Brando)

inhabited the role

he just kind of ~ (Biden, of Neil Kinnock)

talk about and inhabit

he can ~ loss in life (President Joe Biden)

**fictive possession: house / verb**

## **inhale (verb)**

inhaled this stuff

I ~ and couldn't get enough of it (comedy)

**absorption & immersion: breathing / verb**

**consumption: breathing / verb**

## **inherit (verb)**

inherited his mantle

she ~ (politics)

inherited Ray's mission

Linnaeus ~ (classification)

inherited his father's fiery temperament

the son ~

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning / transmission: family**

**/ history / money / verb**

## **inheritance (noun)**

railroading inheritance

our national ~

economic inheritance

the government faces a terrible ~ (Britain's new coalition)

national (railroading) inheritance

our ~

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning / transmission: family**

**/ history / money**

## **inhospitable (adjective)**

inhospitable to women

the Defense Department has long been viewed as ~

**acceptance & rejection: society**

## **inhospitable (adjective)**

inhospitable conditions

life flourishes in some of the most~ (Antarctica)

inhospitable place  
the Weddell Sea is a notoriously ~  
come across as inhospitable  
a “no shirt, not vaccine, no service” policy may ~  
feel inhospitable  
gyms can ~ if your body doesn’t fit the norm

**welcome: house**

## inject (fresh blood, etc.)

inject fresh blood  
the king might reshuffle his cabinet to ~

injected new life into the industry  
suspended coasters ~ (roller coasters)

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**  
**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

## inject (put)

inject his personality into the offense  
he wants his quarterback to ~ (coach)

injected the phrase "right to die" into the lexicon  
she ~ (Quinlan)

injected race into the drama  
her allegation ~ (a murder case)

**directing: health & medicine / verb**  
**throwing, putting & planting: health & medicine / verb**  
**injection (noun)**

injection of aid  
only a massive ~ can help

**throwing, putting & planting: health & medicine**  
**directing: health & medicine**

## injure (verb)

injure the BBC  
this report will not just ~ but scar it (Lady Di)

**failure, accident & impairment: health & medicine / verb**  
**injury (moral injury)**

moral injury  
see *moral injury (noun)*

## injury (other)

traumatic stress injury  
“~” is different from “post-traumatic stress disorder”

trauma and injury  
when people don’t validate you that’s another ~

added insult to injury  
he ~ by...

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**

## inkblot (Rorschach)

inkblot  
we call this case an ~ (the murder of two girls)

♦ “We call this case an inkblot. I see what I see, Barb sees what she sees, and you see what you see.” (The podcast “Down The Hill: The Delphi Murders,” Chapter 7: Madness.)

♦ A group of Kentucky teenagers, a Native American, and black Hebrew Israelites all met by accident on the National Mall in Washington, DC. Read “Viral standoff between a tribal elder and a high schooler is more complicated than it first seemed” by Michael E. Miller, *The Washington Post*, Jan 22, 2019. Or “January 2019 Lincoln Memorial confrontation” (Wikipedia).

**perception, perspective & point of view: picture**

## inner circle (noun)

inner circle  
you’re in the ~, or you’re in exile (politics)

White House inner circle  
she has left the ~ (resigned)

part of his (inner) circle  
she was not ~ (politics)

make their own inroads into Trump’s inner circle  
the Emiratis helped the Russians ~

**group, set & collection / power / society: center & periphery**  
**inner (inner sloth, etc.)**

inner child  
she was in touch with her ~ (writer Margaret Wise Brown)  
I created these watches because they made my ~ happy  
Andra Day raps about her unhealed ~

inner hero  
she discovers her ~ and rises to the occasion

inner sloth  
embracing their ~ and being lazy (the pandemic)

♦ “It started being used a lot more during the pandemic, I think, when people became more comfortable with embracing their inner sloth and being lazy. It went viral last spring when...” (Siobhan Leahy of the BBC, about the phrase, “Goblin mode,” Oxford Dictionary’s word of the year for 2022.)

♦ “Look inside you and be strong / and you’ll finally feel the truth / that a hero lies in you.” (Mariah Carey.)

♦ see also in (*the cowboy in me, etc.*)

**identity & nature: container / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## inning (in the first inning)

in the first inning of the game  
we are still ~

**time: sports & games**  
**development: baseball / sports & games**  
**timeliness & lack of timeliness: baseball / sports & games**

## inning (ninth inning)

bottom of the ninth inning  
we are reaching the ~ (an election)

**development: baseball / sports & games**

time: sports & games

timeliness & lack of timeliness: baseball / sports & games

## inning (extra innings)

went into extra innings

the election ~ (decided by courts)

starting, going, continuing & ending: baseball / sports & games

## innocence (noun)

lost its innocence

overnight the community ~ (serial killer on loose)

♦ "In the Shark's Domain," Omnibus, BBC Sounds, 16 Jan 2003 juxtaposes a serial killer's spree, the killing of a swimmer by a great white shark, and a loss of innocence in Perth, Australia. It is a fascinating juxtaposition.

experience: love, courtship & marriage

growth & development: life span

## inoculate (verb)

inoculate themselves from the national mood

politicians are trying to ~ (elections)

inoculate us from these vanities

Vietnam did not ~ (US 'exceptionalism')

inoculate it against (possible legal) consequences

they came up with a framework to ~ (a company)

inoculated the US against foreign wars

the Vietnam War temporarily ~

protection & lack of protection: health & medicine / verb

## inoculated

inoculated against (empty) promises

the public was long ago ~ (from the government)

inoculated, if not immune

I was more or less ~, to criticism

protection & lack of protection: health & medicine

## inoculation (noun)

inoculation

but the ~ lasted less than a decade (Vietnam to Grenada)

stress inoculation

making a soldier stronger and better through ~

effects of the inoculation

the ~ are wearing off (memory of Holocaust / anti-Semitism)

♦ "Before the next campaign, we had to take the usual inoculations plus some additional ones. Our arms were sore, and many men became feverish. The troops hated getting injections, and the large number (someone said it was seven) before Okinawa made us crotchety. The plague shot burned like fire and was the worst." (E.B. Sledge on Pavuvu, after Peleliu, before Okinawa. From *With the Old Breed*.)

♦ "In those days, you could say, 'Shut up and take it, we're fighting the Japanese.' The Japanese didn't have it, and they were devastated by malaria. You could make a case that atabrine won the war." (Col. Alan J. Magill, speaking about World War II. The atabrine turned the skin yellow.)

protection & lack of protection: health & medicine

## inquisition (noun)

Spanish Inquisition

I didn't expect the ~ (questioning)

extraordinary American inquisition

the AEC set in motion an ~ (of J. Robert Oppenheimer)

oppression: allusion / history / violence

judgment: allusion / history / violence

## inroads (make inroads)

make their own inroads into Trump's inner circle

the Emiratis helped the Russians ~

♦ *Road* comes from a word for a *raid*.

progress & lack of progress: horse / military

## insatiable (adjective)

insatiable

the appetite for pornography seems to be ~

the appetite of the European rich for porcelain was ~

insatiable appetite

India's seemingly ~ for gold (jewelry, dowries, temples)

the American public has an ~ for crime stories

consumption: food & drink

sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food & drink

## inscribed

inscribed in our DNA

some places are ~ (Lake Ohrid, the Balkans)

impression: mark / tools & technology

## insecurity (food insecurity, etc.)

cyber insecurity

former NSA official calls U.S. ~ a 'chronic disease'

energy insecurity

~ among low-income households

food insecurity

the war in Ukraine is exacerbating ~ in Afghanistan

1.58 million are experiencing ~ (in Angola)

the high levels of ~ on campus (in the U.S.)

housing insecurity

those at risk of ~

the millions of Americans facing ~

~ may be keeping college students from graduating

shelter insecurity

refugee children face food and ~, exploitation...

economic insecurity

we look at indicators that shed light on ~ in the U.S.

financial insecurity

~ plagues many who live with disability

many rural Americans struggle with ~

## linguistic insecurity

~ (see Wikipedia entry)

♦ "Insecurity" seems to conflate danger and mental health, which is no doubt exactly what the users of the term intend. Clearly, it is a euphemism of some sort for *need*; *lacking in*, *a lack of*, etc. Is it simply a euphemism for "the poor" used by those who would never use such a Darwinian epithet, who would never simply shake their heads and say, "The poor will always be with us"?

♦ "Half of Peru's population is food insecure." (NPR headline.)

♦ "We will made do. Everyone will have a little bit." (Abdul Aziz, 63, of Dhaka, Bangladesh, disappointed that his money could not buy more beans and cauliflower for his family.)

♦ "Many veterans are isolated and financially insecure, and the safety nets meant to help them are too small."

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: mental health**

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## inside (emotions)

inside

how are you feeling ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: container / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## insider (insider attack, etc.)

insider attacks

so-called ~ have risen dramatically (Afghanistan)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: fortification**

## insider (person)

entrenched insiders

he is a Washington outsider facing down ~

**power / society: center & periphery / person**

**person: society**

## instrument

instrument of terror

a burning cross is a particularly powerful ~ (KKK)

instrument of foreign policy

he believed war was an ~

powerful instrument

a burning cross is a particularly ~ of terror (KKK)

**help & assistance: tools & technology**

## insular (adjective)

insular (warrior) caste

Marine pilots are an ~

insular sport

it's a very ~ (horseracing and corruption)

insular, intermarrying Brahmin

they have coalesced into an ~ elite (David Brooks' Bobos)

insular American media bubble

the ~

siloed and insular

political journalists are even more ~ today (than in 2016)

♦ "Throughout the winter in Tokyo I went to the Kabuki theater a great deal and gradually I came to know the actors themselves and their families. It is an extraordinary society, rigid, insular, with a great tradition and an equal consciousness of it." (*East of Home* by Santha Rama Rau.)

♦ "Sixty-eight percent of tweets between journalists who work at *The Washington Post*, NPR, [and *The New York Times*... are to each other." ("How Journalists Congregating Into 'Microbubbles' Affects Quality Of News Reporting," NPR, All Things Considered, August 12, 2020.)

♦ "We're able to provide a fresh, outsider perspective on US politics—one so often missing from the insular American media bubble." ("If you can, please consider supporting *The Guardian* today. Thank you.")

♦ *Insula* is "island" in Latin.

**isolation & remoteness: island / sea**

**division & connection: island / sea**

## insulate (verb)

insulate our kids from (the kind of) news

we try to ~ that frightens them

insulate their lives from modern life

the Amish try to ~

**protection & lack of protection: electricity / verb**

**isolation & remoteness: electricity / verb**

## insulated

insulated from violence

they lived in a world where they were ~ (Amish)

**avoidance & separation / division & connection / isolation**

**& remoteness / protection & lack of protection: electricity**

## insulation (noun)

community, acceptance and insulation

they feel a sense of ~ (lesbians)

**protection & lack of protection: electricity**

**isolation & remoteness: electricity**

## insurance

insurance against (unpleasant) surprises

there is no ~

**protection & lack of protection: money**

## insurrection

insurrection among his staff

the problems led to an ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military**

**allegiance, support & betrayal: military**

## intelligent (things)

intelligent design

the ID. Buzz stands for *intelligent design* and *electric*

intelligent machine

a super ~ could break capitalism (AI)

intelligent (writing) suggestions

get ~ as you type (Microsoft Word)

intelligent technology

badly designed ~ makes us feel out of control

♦ Technology can be dumb, smart, or brilliant and can even teach itself (AI).

♦ "Smart doorbells becoming more intelligent."

**ability & lack of ability: tools & technology**

## intention (noun)

takes intention

willing a plot of land into a garden ~

puts a lot of intention into her work

she ~ ("Hey Hey" Pride collection / NPR Shop)

put some intention into creating some space

so I'm going to ~ for trips this spring (binary)

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

## intentional (adjective)

intentional

we leave nothing to chance, art is ~ (fashion)

responsibility to create content that is ~ (Storm Reid)

is the timing just a coincidence, is there anything ~ about it

intentional to not try

he was ~ to make it about him (he came out as gay)

intentional with your approach

be ~ (helping kids post-lockdown)

intentional with its use

devote more focus on being ~ (technology, screens, etc.)

intentional about home

I think there is something really delightful about being ~...

intentional about that

I think that was very important to be ~

intentional about making sure

he's been pretty ~ that...

intentional actions

~ taken to get people out of prison (states)

intentional conversations

~ between partisans could be a catalyst for national healing

intentional crime

an attack like this on critical infrastructure is a serious ~

intentional-design

with ~ thinking, we can... (engineering cars)

intentional (career) focus

~ on... (social justice, etc. / LinkedIn)

intentional moments

the Newport Folk Festival showcases ~ of change (music)

intentional stupidity

my greatest strength is ~ (a very successful salesman)

intentional togetherness

we've introduced a programme for ~ (online meetings)

intentional partnerships and decisions

we always lead with ~ (NPR sells PPW Pride merch)

very intentional

I think it's ~, the way they've made this announcement

active and intentional

Avery makes like a very ~ decision to...

careful and intentional

this is part of a ~ effort to... (liberal against the right wing)

conscious and intentional

personal branding is the ~ effort to create... (advertising)

slow, intentional, purposeful

visions of ~ living (the soft life aesthetic)

need to be intentional

we ~ in building resilience into those decisions

♦ "He's been pretty intentional about making sure that everything we do has a racial equity component to it." (Cedric Richmond, a senior advisor to the president and Director of the Office of Public Engagement at the White House, responding to Black criticism of President Biden.)

♦ "Instead, the Jan. 6 hearings were meticulously choreographed... Unlike typical congressional hearings, these would have a script. 'Every word was intentional,' one senior staff member recalled. 'Nothing was spontaneous.'" ("Inside the Jan. 6 Committee" by Robert Draper and Luke Broadwater, *The New York Times Magazine*, January 1, 2023.)

♦ "They had been really intentional about their lifestyle." (Until the wedding, when they hired chariots. An article about Blacks and their finances.)

♦ "I was very aware and wanting to really be intentional about making sure..."

♦ "I think that was very important to be intentional about that." (That the *Baltimore Beat* is an incubator for Black journalists to get experience and then go on to better jobs elsewhere, according to its extraordinary editor-in-chief, Lisa Snowden. As she says, Baltimore is known for its violence and *The Wire*. She is too modest. She should include herself, and the *Baltimore Beat*.)

♦ "I didn't see that ending with one intentional single shot." (Steve Bunce, about Tyson "The Gypsy King" Fury's uppercut that dropped Dillian White in front of 94,000 fight fans at Wembley Stadium. Surprising usage from an old guy.)

♦ "Deep belief in racial equity work and challenging the institutionalized construct of race and power. Intentional career focus on increasing my depth of knowledge of the intersection of social welfare, social justice and 'access' as a civil right..." (A licensed clinical social worker describing herself on LinkedIn.)

♦ "I appreciate the advice. But every conversation I have on this platform is very intentional. Not just for the account I'm conversing with, but for all the others who follow me." (Eric Deggans at NPR on Twitter in response to a tweet, "I would suggest ignoring the sealion, Mr. Deggans. I know I am." Sealioning is a type of trolling.)

♦ "Wealth Management Achievement Takes Being intentional Learn More Advertisement"

♦ see also *mindful (adjective), purposeful (adjective)*

♦ It's hard to know what this word means, but it is beloved by contempo-speakers. On purpose? Calculated?

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

**contempo-speak: language**

## intentionality (noun)

with intentionality

handling finances ~

♦ "There's a significant amount of intentionality based on the information that's been reported. They were doing this with a purpose to cause fear

in our communities." (Drew Evans, superintendent at the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.)

♦ *Intentionality* is one of those clichés slung by contempo-speakers and bureaucrats. It has a Wikipedia entry.

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

**contempo-speak: language**

## intentionally

intentionally connect

you can use your screens as a way to ~ with each other

intentionally intersectional

I embrace an ~ embodiment of my identities (Black)

intentionally transgressive

much of the youth culture was ~ (1990s)

more intentionally

use technology ~ (screens, smartphones, etc.)

very intentionally

he ~ addressed some of those concerns

embed (DEI more) intentionally

~ in TESOL activities (diversity, equity, and inclusion)

♦ "Language should be chosen intentionally and not just in a reflexive manner based on how words were used in the past." (Emily Barske, the Office of the Public Editor, NPR.)

♦ "My momma got off welfare purposefully..." (Didn't want the supervision, visits, the questions, etc.)

♦ "She dressed the part, using shorts skirts and plunging necklines instrumentally." (The comedian Amy Schumer.)

♦ This usage is a favorite of activists seeking to push their agendas. It seems to have to do with tactics and stratagems.

♦ Terry Gross: Did you consciously say, when you sat down to write the song, it needs 20 different time signature changes? / Burt Bacharach: Oh, no. I've never done anything, like, intentionally... So it's not deliberate. I mean, that's the main thing. It can drive musicians crazy, you know, until they stop counting and just hear and feel the music. ("Fresh Air pays tribute to legendary composer Burt Bacharach," NPR, Fresh Air, February 13, 2023.)

♦ MORE CONVENTIONAL USAGE: don't do things addictively or mindlessly; pay attention; get out of the habit of...

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

**contempo-speak: language**

## intermission (noun)

intermission in the continuing saga

his appearance this week could be just an ~ (trial)

**development / starting, going, continuing & ending: theater**

## interrogate (verb)

interrogate

this idea of migration as a crisis is what I'm trying to ~

interrogate that

okay, let's ~, NPR's Brian Naylor is with us...

interrogate who is privileged and who is marginalized

~ by the notion of "standard" English

interrogate what we know

we have to ~, how we know... (NPR *mea culpa*)

interrogate the data

his tabulating machine made it easier to ~ (punched cards)

interrogate (Black) history

Johnson is able to ~ (the author of novel *Loving Day*)

interrogates the intersections

her work ~ of... (a Black academic)

interrogates masculinity

there are ways to make a show that ~ (crime entertainment)

interrogates the notion

next, the author ~ of academic language (Black English)

interrogates tragedy and trauma

Paula Hawkins in new thriller (a book)

♦ "It's both a pleasure and an education to look over Barnes's shoulder as he interrogates, wonders at, and relishes works of art." (A blurb in an advertisement for a book.)

♦ BEING abused (physically, psychologically or casually); assaulted; battered; batoned; beaten; beat(en) up; conditioned; deprived of water / food / sleep; forced to run around and dance / forced to kneel over a toilet in the floor / forced to submit for trophy photographs and videos / forced into stress positions; head butted; hit; hooded; humiliated; ill-treated; karate chopped; kicked; manhandled; mistreated; played like musical instruments ("the choir"); pulled up from the floor by the eye sockets; punched; roughed up; shouted at; slapped; struck (with a metal bar / rifle butt); subjected to suffocating holds / subjected to loud noise / subjected to white noise / subjected to the "harsh approach (interrogation)"; threatened; treated roughly... HAVING the eyes gouged / fingers inserted into the mouth / fingers pushed into the eye socket / liquid poured over a detainee in a staged immolation by gasoline... (Abuse of detained citizens of Basra by the Queen's Lancashire Regiment in 2003, from the Baha Mousa Public Inquiry, 2011.)

**fictive communication: military / speech / verb**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: military / speech / verb**

## interrogated

interrogated

a word, when ~, will tell us about the people who used it

♦ Why not just waterboard that word?

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: military**

**fictive communication: speech**

## interrogating (questioning)

interrogating race and racism

Critical Race Theory is the practice of ~ in society

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: military**

**fictive communication: speech**

## interrogation (questioning)

interrogation

political ads require discussion, conversation, ~

deserves some interrogation

the rise of the weird achiever ~ (Ann Powers)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: military**

**fictive communication: speech**

## intersect (verb)

intersects with (one's daily) existence

how one's faith ~

**division & connection: boundary / geometry / verb**

## **intersection (noun)**

intersection of art, beauty, and justice

A Thousand Pansies project sits at the ~ (Mia Birdsong)

intersection of crime, politics and law and order

the show was a look at the ~ (*The Wire*)

intersection of culture, politics, economics and identity

she is intensely interested in the arts at the ~ (NPR)

intersection of faith and politics, law, science & culture

I switched to the religion beat and reported on the ~

intersections of gender, race, immigration, pop culture

she writes most often about the ~ (Hannah Giorgis)

intersection of law, policy, and advocacy

she is pursuing a career at the ~ (Amie Rodriguez)

intersection of religion and politics

she writes about the ~ (a journalist)

intersection of (national) security and technology

she focuses on the ~ (NPR cybersecurity correspondent)

intersection of sports and social justice

he explores the ~ (a podcaster)

intersection between creativity and commerce

he explores the ~

intersection between entertainment, culture and politics

we do the hard work of ~ (yet another podcast)

intersection between grief and love

the reverend shared messages about the ~ (funeral)

intersection of positivity, grief, and Disneyland

she reported stories about the ~ (NPR's Meghan Keane)

heart and the intersection

he's really at the ~ of the jazz, R&B, and hip-hop scenes

interrogates the intersections

her work ~ of... (a Black academic)

◆ This word is one of the top ten in *contempo-speak*, along with *conversation*, *deep dive*, etc. It is even used to express grief.

◆ "Deep belief in racial equity work and challenging the institutionalized construct of race and power. Intentional career focus on increasing my depth of knowledge of the intersection of social welfare, social justice and 'access' as a civil right..." (A licensed clinical social worker describing herself on LinkedIn.)

**division & connection: boundary / geometry**

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

**contempo-speak: language**

## **intersectional (groups)**

intersectional approach

SCA privileges scholarly work that takes an ~ (university)

intersectional band

they never seen [sic] an ~ (white drummer, female trumpet)

intersectional diversity

obviously there needs to be more ~ on screens, no kidding

intersectional oppression

those who face ~

gets even more intersectional

as you move into the genres it ~ (women / electronic music)

◆ "I, as a Black trans woman, I'm facing oppression due to being a woman, I face oppression due to being black, I face oppression due to being trans, I face oppression due to being queer..." (The comedian Mx Dahlia Belle, a Black trans woman.)

◆ "The Gayly Prophet is an intersectional, queer Harry Potter analysis podcast hosted by Jessie Blount, a queer Black woman, and Lark Malakai Grey, a white disabled trans boy... It is also unflinchingly critical of JK Rowling and everything that she stands for."

◆ "[The poem that he wrote] was basically talking about intersectionality 20 years before it became a term that lots of people recognized and can discuss." ("Black Artists have always led AIDS Activism. This tribute wants to give them credit" by Allyson McCabe, NPR, Morning Edition, May 27, 2022.)

◆ "I'm Korean, queer, neurodivergent..." (Jezz Chung (They / Them), Storyteller, Speaker, Equity Advisor. An advertisement for LinkedIn that invites everyone to "join the conversation.")

◆ "Hello, I am a queer, mad and neurodivergent higher education researcher and I am looking to explore the lived experiences of queer MMIND (mad, mentally ill, neurodivergent and disabled) college students and their experiences on college campuses..."

◆ I use she and they pronouns... I am a white, queer and non-binary, Disabled and neurodivergent educator, facilitator, parent, non-clinical healer, and strategist..." (Hire Me.)

◆ "As the medalists posed for photos, Saunders raised her arms and crossed them into an X shape. She said it represented 'the intersection of where all people who are oppressed meet.'" / The 25-year-old, who is black, gay, and has spoken frankly about her struggles with depression, said she wanted 'to be me, to not apologise'. / After competing, she said she aimed to give light to 'people all around the world who are fighting and don't have the platform to speak up for themselves.'" ("Raven Saunders: What the Olympian's X protest means to her," BBC, 1 August, 2021.)

◆ "U.S. shot putter Raven Saunders raised her hands above her head in an "X" after receiving her silver medal to support intersectional oppression." (Good Morning America, recapping "Olympic Games Day 10. Surely it was to *protest* intersectional oppression!")

◆ "I've had a lot of gay people tell me, 'Okay, fine, you know, be gay, but just, the Jewish thing, tone down the Jewish thing, it's too much too many things, Ari, too many things going on. (Laughing) And, you know, but we're multifaceted individuals, we all have a lot of different aspects of us, and we're complex, and I think that it's cool to try and figure out how to express that, you know.'" (The singer Ari Gold in 2007, before the word "intersectional" became such a deadly boring cliché. At "From Bar Mitzvah to MTC: Ari Gold's Pop Journey," NPR, Tell Me More, June 18, 2007. Gold was interviewed by Michel Martin.)

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## **intersectionality (groups)**

intersectionality

she is a speaker and organizer who prioritizes ~

the poem that he wrote was basically talking about ~

◆ "[The poem that he wrote] was basically talking about intersectionality 20 years before it became a term that lots of people recognized and can discuss." ("Black Artists have always led AIDS Activism. This tribute wants to give them credit" by Allyson McCabe, NPR, Morning Edition, May 27, 2022.)

◆ "Wokeness is not just a social philosophy, but an elite status marker, a strategy for personal advancement. You have to possess copious amounts of cultural capital to feel comfortable using words like *intersectionality*, *heteronormativity*, *cisgender*, *problematize*, *triggering*, and *Latinx*..." ("How The Bobos Broke America" by David Brooks, *The Atlantic*, September 2021.)

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## intertwined

intertwined

how politics and health are ~

intertwined with our politics

race and identity are so ~

intertwined crises

the ~ of biodiversity loss and climate change

intertwined issues

the many ~ that confront us (conservation efforts)

deeply intertwined

in *X*, horror and pleasure are ~ (the horror thriller film)

become intertwined

the economies of the US and Mexico have ~

**division & connection: cloth**

## intervening (adjective)

intervening years

in the ~, the university had announced a partnership...

the ~ have been more fallow (after Calzaghe / Wales)

♦ From the Latin "to come between."

**future / time: direction / movement / position**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: direction / movement**

## interwoven

interwoven into the (social) fabric

aggression is ~ of schools (bullying, status, etc.)

interwoven stories

it's a collection of ~ (a film)

**division & connection: cloth**

## into (be into something)

into hang gliding

he's really ~

deep into

a lot of prisoners were ~ books (reading)

really into

I'm ~ horror, whether it's books or films

super into

everybody then was ~ *Kitchen Confidential* (line cooks, etc.)

got into

I ~ Jerry Butler late, you know... (Bruce Springsteen)

**enthusiasm: container / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## into (involvement)

into it

once you get that far ~... (extremism)

got into the (fishing) business

he ~ when he was just 13 years old (Florida shrimper)

**involvement: container / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## intoxicate (verb)

intoxicated us

the ability to wield force has ~

**behavior / feeling, emotion & effect: alcohol / verb**

## intoxicated

intoxicated with power

he was ~ (a politician)

intoxicated by a desire

he was ~ to run in a marathon

intoxicated by having

liberals are ~ a majority (politics)

**behavior / feeling, emotion & effect: alcohol**

## intoxicating (adjective)

entrepreneurship is intoxicating

she said ~

game is intoxicating

the ~

music was intoxicating

the ~

night was intoxicating

the warm spring ~

opera is intoxicating

Italian ~

passion is intoxicating

their ~ (performers)

scene was intoxicating

the ~ (nature)

scent was intoxicating

the ~ (flowers)

sound (of drums) was intoxicating

the ~ (at an African soccer game)

found freedom intoxicating

he ~ (immigrant)

♦ "Watching red-tailed hawks and sharp-shinned hawks and golden eagles passing by was intoxicating." (A 12-year-old Scott Weidensaul sitting on Hawk Mountain with a strong northwest wind blowing on "one of the best migration days of the fall.")

**enthusiasm / feeling, emotion & effect: alcohol**

## introduce (verb)

introduced the word in the usual, literal way

I ~ (an English teacher)

introduced the word to the English language

Captain James Cook may have ~ (taboo)

introduce new perspectives into curriculums  
trying to ~ (schools)

introduce new technology into the mail stream  
~ (post office)

introduce recreational divers to the rewards  
trying to ~ of fish watching

introduced me to the best pizza  
my brother ~ I have ever eaten

introduced us to the music, the culture  
"Sweet Jamaica" ~ (England)

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

## **inundate (verb)**

inundated the help line with calls  
the public ~

♦ Like *abundant*, this word comes from the Latin *unda*, or wave.

**amount & effect: flood / verb / water**

## **inundated**

inundated by a flood  
the public is being ~ of conflicting information

inundated with email  
you probably feel like you're ~, don't you

inundated with phone calls  
the hospital was ~

**amount & effect: flood / water**

## **invade (verb)**

invades the area  
as cold air ~... (weather)

invading her dreams  
she said her brother's ghost was ~ (Chinese)

invaded (1.5 million acres of) the ecosystem  
exotic plant species have ~

invaded (close to 70% of) the Kimberley  
cane toads have ~ (Australia)

invade US  
snow and ice move South as temperatures below zero ~

**amount & effect: military / verb**

## **invader (noun)**

underwater invaders  
~ (zebra and quagga mussels / Montana)

alien invaders  
looking for ~ (US Customs and Border Protection)

primary invader  
the ~ is eastern red cedar (grasslands)

smelly invader  
~s (brown marmorated stink bug)

toxic invaders  
they are ~ (the Australian cane toad)

bug and seed invaders  
hunting for alien ~ at Baltimore's port

fight off the invader  
the immune system's attempts to ~ (an amoeba)

♦ "Eat the Invaders." (The invasive Asian carp.)

♦ "Some believe the many mounds built by the Tocobaga tribe in what is now Pinellas County are guardians against invaders, including hurricanes." (Tampa and St. Petersburg, Florida.)

♦ "They are toxic invaders that have conquered swathes of northern Australia as they continue their seemingly irrepressible march west towards the Indian Ocean." ("The rapid spread of Australia's cane toad pests" by Phil Mercer, BBC, 22 March 2017.)

♦ "This is freedom. This is real freedom. The invaders are gone, and now we have true Islam." (Ahmed Shah, a 40-year-old Taliban supporter in Afghanistan.)

**destruction: military / person**

## **invasion (noun)**

invasion of (Asian) carp  
the ~ into the waters of the South and the Midwest...

invasion of immigrants  
what European countries perceive as an ~

invasion of privacy  
they were furious at the ~

invasion by the national media  
an ~, followed by a hasty retreat... (school shootings)

invasion (of the Antarctic) by men of science  
this was the first ~ (De Gerlache and the *Belgica*)

invasion front  
at the ~ up in the tropics (cane toads in Australia)

tourist invasion  
the economic benefits that will accompany the ~

British invasion  
the ~ of the 1960s (music)

aquatic invasion  
the Great Lakes is a hot spot for ~s (non-native species)

furry invasion  
blame this ~ on climate change (polar bears in Churchill)

invisible invasion  
people see immigration as an ~ (Europe)

see immigration as an (invisible) invasion  
people ~ (Europe)

♦ "Dollar General is the invading force in a dollar-store war. Absolutely Dollar General is going for the attack on Family Dollar." (Dollar stores across the street from one another.)

**amount & effect: military**

## **invest (verb)**

invest my heart in someone  
I can't ~ who might not stick around

invested years in toiling  
she ~ over a nonfiction account (an author)

**commitment & determination: money / verb**

## investment (noun)

emotional investment  
there's a great deal of ~ on the part of all the players

**commitment & determination: money**

## invigorate (verb)

invigorated the party  
he ran a campaign that ~ nationwide

**amelioration & renewal: death & life / health & medicine / verb**

## invisibility (groups)

invisibility  
the ~ AAPI people feel (as people, crime data, etc.)

invisibility of queers  
the wholesale ~

challenges invisibility  
she ~ (Lola Flash, a queer gender-fluid Black woman)

♦ "I would say up to the age of 25 or 26 we're the *it* girls, right? And then after you pass over this threshold of maybe 30, 35, you're put out to pasture. When we get older, we aren't seen." (Lola Flash, who uses she / her and they / them pronouns. From "Photographer Lola Flash is honored for creating images that challenge invisibility," NPR, All Things Considered, December 14, 2021. Told by Allyson McCabe.)

♦ "Zero is the nickname of Omar, the lead character, a young Black Italian delivery worker who is more or less ignored by the white society around him. But his metaphorical invisibility turns into a magical power when he discovers he can actually make himself invisible. He becomes a superhero, helping save his neighborhood..." ("In New Italian Netflix Series 'Zero,' A Black Hero Makes Invisibility His Superpower" by Sylvia Poggioli, NPR, May 27, 2021.)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## invisibilize (groups)

invisibilize and delegitimize  
society tries to ~ our existence (Liniker Barros)

view, engage and invisibilize  
how people ~ those around them (DEI)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence / verb**

## invisibilized (groups)

invisibilized  
convicts have been ~

invisibilized to (middle-class) society  
they are ~ (the incarcerated)

invisibilized by the (justice) system  
those ~ (the incarcerated)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## invisible (groups)

invisible in this society  
you're not present, so you're like ~ (Roma)

invisible people  
at times, we're an ~, lumped in to other ethnic groups

normalized and invisible  
sexual violence is ~ in our society (Irene Montero / Spain)

continue to be invisible  
"Latinos ~ in Hollywood and the media" (NPR)

felt invisible  
my AAPI friends used words like they ~ (Mazie Hirono)  
they ~, not seen (President Biden about AAPIs)

made to 'feel invisible'  
Asian women are ~ in America

rendered invisible  
they have been ~ and not received their due (Sherpas)

♦ *The Invisible Man (1952)* by Ralph Ellison is at least partly about social invisibility.

♦ "Those 'invisibilized' by the justice system... / They are invisibilized to middle-class society." (The incarcerated.)

♦ Native Americans speak of "Native invisibility." Colleen Medicine, program director at the Association on American Indian Affairs, explains how "Our people go missing three times over:" (1) Abducted, taken, murdered. (2) Missing in the data. (3) Not at home or in their communities.

♦ An ultra-orthodox Satmar woman speaks about having to be inconspicuous, the problematic nature of her female presence, having to cover it up and negate it.

♦ Says Cindy Tran, a poet, "Ever since I was little, I was made invisible in physical and emotional ways." Says Diane He, a student, "They see us as quiet, not very outspoken, almost as if we fade into the background."

♦ "There are so many anti-LGBTQ attacks going on around the country and a lot of them are really about trying to erase our existence and to make us invisible, and to make our young people invisible and our elders invisible." (Michael Adams, CEO of SAGE.)

♦ "We refuse to be invisible, we refuse to be erased. (A Pride parade.)

♦ "For all the little kids who have autism, it's validating to see characters like themselves on television, instead of feeling invisible." (Rose Jochum of the Autism Society of America, about the Sesame Street character Julia.)

♦ An actor said, "We are literally demanding to be seen," talking about the Oscars, nominations, awards, and people of color.

♦ "I just feel like black gay ppl have to fight to be seen in this world and even when we make it to the top mfs try to pretend we are invisible." (A Lil Nas X tweet.)

♦ "They have often been rendered invisible by the global lens and have seldom received their due." ("How Climbers Reached the Summit of K2 in Winter for the First Time" by Adam Skolnick and Bhadra Sharma, *The New York Times*, Jan. 19, 2021. Most would dispute the writers' claims as ludicrous, but it's good contempo-speak.)

♦ "You're not present in the curriculum or textbooks, so you're like invisible in this society." (Lana Jurko, Network of Education Policy Centres, about Roma education in the Balkans.)

♦ "At times, we're an invisible people, lumped in to other ethnic groups." (Native Hawaiians.)

♦ "I am Puerto Rican, from the Bronx, and I was raised in the 50s, loved television, never saw anybody who looked like me, I began to feel on some level that I was invisible. I didn't know what I would contribute to a society that was determined not to see me..." (Sonia Manzano, actor, screenwriter, author, speaker, TV series creator, producer, etc., who played Maria on Sesame Street for 44 years. According to her Wikipedia entry, which is extensive, she attended the High School of Performing

Arts, then Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh on scholarship. She currently lives on the Upper West Side in New York City.)

♦ "I know what it's like to be a woman who is essentially invisible to most people because of not being seen as traditionally beautiful or whatever." (Rebel Wilson, on BBC. She has been in films, is a producer and director, and is on the BBC's 100 Women of 2021.)

♦ "For Anders, although his newly brown skin is a constant physical reminder that he's no longer who he used to be, the greatest change may be in his psyche. He's now acutely aware of otherness and being observed, how he moves in the world and how he takes up space. When he returns to work...he's both drawn to and repulsed by the only other dark-skinned employee, who, unlike him, has always known what it's like to be treated as both invisible and hypervisible." (Cady Lang's *Time* review of *The Last White Man* by Mohsin Hamid, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Exit West*. This paragraph deftly weaves together several tropes relating to inclusion and exclusion.)

♦ *Black Victorians: Hidden in History* by Keshia N. Abraham and John Woolf.

♦ "I had to be nonexistent, invisible." (The 11-year-old Amos Oz, the only child at a tableful of adults discussing literature, politics, etc.)

♦ "I guess I was invisible for so long that it felt good to be noticed." (The film *John Tucker Must Die*.)

♦ "I can disappear when I get that scared." (Thandie Newton's character from the great film *The Journey of August King*, based on the book by John Ehle and with Sam Waterston.)

♦ "I was brought into this world visible, but I identify as invisible. My preferred pronouns are who/where." (Funny snark from an online commenter about a "woke" celebrity.)

♦ see also *presence, representation, space, voice, etc.*

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## invitation (noun)

invitation to frostbite or edema  
it seemed an ~ (high-altitude bivouac)

invitation for ridicule  
being a rookie is an engraved ~

open invitation  
an e-mail address in a chat room is an ~ to spammers

**attraction & repulsion / welcome: speech**

**fictive communication: speech**

## invite (verb)

invite kids to rebel  
such limits may ~ (parents are too strict)

invites abuse  
open editing ~ (Wikipedia)

invites aggression  
appeasement ~ (diplomacy)

invites (both direct and indirect) fires  
detection of a unit's location ~

invites neglect  
quarantining inmates with H.I.V. and AIDS ~ (US)

invite (nuclear) retaliation  
use of chemical or biological agents will ~

invited (a lot more) scrutiny  
he's ~ because there's more media (politics)

invite trouble

certain songs in certain parts of town ~ (gangs)

invite hand and finger movement  
silly putty, play dough, and clay all ~

invite retaliation and counter expulsions  
this action will ~ (spying)

**attraction & repulsion / welcome: speech / verb**

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

## inviting

inviting  
the people and the water are ~ (Jamaica)

inviting coffeehouse  
a lively arts scene, an ~ on every corner (Seattle)

warm, welcoming and inviting  
schools should be ~ (gay harassment)

**attraction & repulsion / welcome: speech**

## inward (turn inward, etc.)

turning inward  
we are ~ (US foreign policy)

**avoidance & separation: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## IQ (ability)

opponent's (boxing) IQ  
can he match his ~ (AJ vs. Usyk / boxing)

bball IQ  
his ~ is so high that he... (basketball)

boxing IQ  
he had terrific ~ (Marvin "Marvelous" Hagler)

ring IQ  
his ~ isn't good enough (a boxer)  
he used his ~ to keep Joshua off-balance (Usyk)

high (basketball) IQ  
he earned a reputation as a defender with a ~

♦ "Wicking and Fresh IQ® combined helps fight stinky feet." (Hanes men's cushion ankle socks.)

**ability & lack of ability: school & education**

**knowledge & intelligence: school & education**

## iron (Iron Lady, etc.)

Iron Brigade  
the ~ (the U.S. Civil War)

"iron brother"  
Chinese diplomats refer to Pakistan as their ~

Iron Chancellor  
German unification and the ~, Otto von Bismarck

Iron Dome  
many rockets were intercepted by its ~ air-defense system

Iron Duke  
Arthur Wellesley, the Duke of Wellington, the ~

“Iron Erna”

she earned the nickname ~ (Erna Solberg of Norway)

Iron Lady

Margaret Thatcher, the ~ (unions, Falklands, Ireland, etc.)

♦ “The tough ‘Iron Lady’ may have been to the Falkland Islands, what she didn’t realize was that she would be met with stronger steel.” (Margaret Thatcher visited Beijing...and slipped and fell to her knees on the steps of the Great Hall of the People.)

♦ “The Iron Brigade embodied the resolve of Michigan, Wisconsin and Indiana during the Civil War.”

**epithet: materials & substances**

**character & personality / commitment & determination / strength & weakness: epithet**

**iron (strength)**

iron will

those close to Fury speak of his ~ (the boxer Tyson Fury)

blood and iron

see *iron and blood* (*effort, sacrifice*)

**strength & weakness: materials & substances**

**iron and blood (effort, sacrifice)**

iron and blood

the great questions of the day will be decided by ~

♦ “The position of Prussia in Germany will not be determined by its liberalism but by its power. ... Not through speeches and majority decisions will the great questions of the day be decided... but by iron and blood.” (Otto von Bismarck.)

**sacrifice: blood / sign, signal, symbol**

**strength & weakness: materials & substances / sign, signal, symbol**

**ironclad (adjective)**

ironclad

you can’t report on those settlements, they are ~ (NDAs)

ironclad accounts

there are ~ of him ordering a destruction of documents

ironclad, waterproof, bulletproof, (legally) binding

we need ~ guarantees (Sergey Ryabkov / diplomacy)

**flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances**

**strength & weakness: materials & substances**

**iron curtain**

Iron Curtain of the late Middle Ages

this was the ~ (Turks block routes to the east)

information iron curtain

China is no longer shrouded by an ~ (Internet)

economic iron curtain

an ~ falling on Russia (McDonald’s closes its restaurants)

new Iron Curtain

we are seeing the ~ (a Swede, after Ukraine invasion)

Bamboo Curtain

the ~ in Southeast Asia

celluloid curtain

the ~ (attack on Russian culture after Ukraine invasion)

barbed wire curtain

the Iron Curtain has been replaced by a “~” (migrants, war)

♦ “From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended across the Continent.” (Winston Churchill at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, March 5, 1946.)

**division & connection: allusion / epithet / history**

**ironfisted**

iron-fisted

he’s ~ (a dictator)

iron-fisted dictator

~s have ruled the country since its birth

iron-fisted empire

the US State Department is the gloved hand of an ~

**oppression: fist / materials & substances**

**iron out (verb)**

iron out

there are still a few wrinkles to ~

iron out any kinks

they are having a test run to ~ (restaurant opening)

iron out the problems

I can ~

iron out wrinkles

they still need to ~ in their new contract

♦ “A faint smell of charcoal in the room. A smell of ironing. Tonia is ironing, every now and then she gets a coal out of the stove and puts it in the iron, and the lid of the iron snaps over it like a set of teeth. It reminds me of something, but I can’t think of what... As soon as I feel better I must go to the town library and read up on the ethnography and history of the region.” (*Doctor Zhivago* by Boris Pasternak. The sight and smells of Tonia ironing at Varykino have subconsciously reminded him of Lara ironing linen in Meliuzeevo, and when he goes to the library he sees her and they start their affair.)

**amelioration & renewal: cloth / verb**

**irreverent (adjective)**

irreverent attitude

contributors take an ~ toward the highbrow (a podcast)

irreverent and unshocked

he was ~ by taboos (Dirk Bogarde)

irreverent, anti-authoritarian and iconoclastic

~ (*Mad* magazine)

**reverence: religion**

**irritant (noun)**

lingering irritant

his decision was a ~ to Republicans

**affliction / feeling, emotion & effect: sensation**

## irritated

surprised, dismayed, irritated and outraged  
the French have been ~ by...

**affliction / feeling, emotion & effect: sensation**

## irritating

irritating  
she is really ~

**character & personality / feeling, emotion & effect: sensation**

## irritation (emotion)

irritation and anxiety  
students express ~ (rising tuition, fewer classes)

anger or irritation  
he never displays ~ in public (a Shia cleric)

disagreement or irritation  
"Gimme a break" expresses ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation**

## ish (androgyny-ish, etc.)

60 percent-ish  
it's ~ (with upspeak on *-ish* / Lauren Sommer)

androgyny-ish  
he picked "Eli" because it sounded ~ (non-binary)

Black-ish  
the TV sitcom series ~ (and it's -ish spinoffs)

business-ish  
Adrian Ma covers the economy and other "~" (NPR)

neighborhood-ish  
while it's in the ~ (close to the earth)

nightmarish  
see *nightmarish*

Pollyannaish  
see *Pollyannaish*

scammer-ish  
~ subjects who ooze hubris (*WeWork* documentary)

sheepish  
Democrats are ~, weak and prone to waiver endlessly

snake-oil-ish  
overprice ~ self-optimization remedies (Gwyneth Paltrow)

stalkerish  
Audrey Hale was '~' with ex-teammates

happy-ish  
I'm ~ for him (kinda happy)

newish  
brand spanking new, well, ~ (Paul O'Grady aka Lily Savage)

♦ "It's nicknamed the green comet...and you may be able to see it while it's in the neighborhood-ish. I mean, it's gettin' to within 26 million miles from earth." (NPR's A Martinez. Stellar reporting!)

♦ see also *y* (*pulpy, etc.*)

**contempo-speak / language: affix**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## island (society)

island  
no man is an ~  
schools are not ~s, they are connected to communities

island on my own  
politically, I've felt a little bit of an ~ (Maxine Peake)

island among his men  
he was sullen and morose, an ~... (a troubled leader)

♦ "I don't know why we have you know made it this separate thing, as if it's an island nation in which you need a visa and passport." (Ken Burns talking about his series on country music.)

♦ *The Gulag Archipelago* by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn.

♦ "And I thought, if I was doomed to be sent to this island of punishment, of grief, at least I will try to make it with my own words..." (The Israeli writer David Grossman about his novel *Falling Out of Time*.)

♦ No man is an island entire of itself; every man / is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe / is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as / well as any manner of thy friends or of thine / own were; any man's death diminishes me, / because I am involved in mankind. / And therefore never send to know for whom / the bell tolls; it tolls for thee. (John Donne.)

♦ The *Atlas of Remote Islands* by Judith Schalansky is a wonderfully short, impressionistic, and graphically distinguished book about actual islands that should be on the bookshelf of every household with children.

♦ Islands can be remote, and they are often the source of endemic species. On the other hand, if the island has a port, than it might be a place where people from all parts of the world mingle and mix.

♦ "When I first moved to Manhattan in 1990, it was easy to forget that New York City is a collection of islands (of the five boroughs, only the Bronx is on the mainland) or that it has over 520 miles of coastline, more than either San Francisco or Seattle." ("Wet and Wild" by Tony Perrottet, photographs by Gina LeVay, *Smithsonian*, May 2017. The map is superb.)

**division & connection: island / sea**

**society: island / sea**

## island (island of affluence, etc.)

islands of affluence  
there were isolated ~ (the Great Depression)

islands of excellence  
~ surrounded by a failing system (Israeli education)

island of stability  
Somaliland is an ~ in a sea of armed chaos

islands of convenience and prosperity  
there are ~ within seas of squalor (Lagos, Bombay, etc.)

cultural island  
Tunisia is a ~ bordered by sea and desert

de facto Russian island  
Kaliningrad became a ~, an exclave... (fall of USSR)

♦ "Paraguay is an island surrounded on all sides by land."

**division & connection: island / sea**

**environment: island / sea**

## island (beech island, etc.)

beech island

no one knows why these ~ exist (stands of beech)

coffee island

he tends the dozen dispensers at the ~ (at a mini-mart)

heat island

Tokyo is becoming a vast ~ (thermal pollution)  
an urban ~ (UHI) is warmer than its surroundings  
urban ~s and lack of access to cool spaces (heatwave)

pump island

see a car pull up to a ~ (gas station)

Self Serve Island

~ (a sign at a gas station)

traffic island

public bathroom on a ~ in the city center

glacial islands

nunataks are also called ~

**resemblance: sea / island**

## ism (groups)

ableism

factors like ~ and racial and socioeconomic bias (justice)  
disability rights groups are fighting against ~

ageism

I find ~ so old-fashioned (Vera Wang, looking *good*)

antisemitism

~ in the Labour Party (U.K.)

authoritarianism

so many people vote for racist ~ (Brad S. Lander)

birtherism

he promoted ~, saying that Barak Obama...

capitalism

black ~ as a strategy for black liberation  
'woke ~' is a derogatory reference to ESG

classism

she calls out the ~ even within Black media circles

colonialism

see *colonialism (noun)*

colorism

see *colorism (groups)*

Dataism

Yuval Noah Harari refers to this idea as “~”

degrowthism

~ (fly, travel, buy, use less / climate change)

denialism

fact-checks of the 2016 ~ were anemic (Hillary Clinton, etc.)  
AIDs ~, climate ~, vaccine ~...

midterm results show voters reject election ~ (NPR)

factionalism

progress has been made to rid the part of ~ (Labour Party)  
toxic ~ is far from over (Labour Party / U.K.)

heightism

how ‘~’ affects careers (BBC)  
~ is an implicit bias

linguicism

the impact of racism and ~ on the ELT profession (TESOL)  
~ (see the Wiktionary entry)  
“~” redirects to “Linguistic discrimination” (Wikipedia)

momism

twisted ~ unseen since *Psycho* (the film *Beau Is Afraid*)

nationalism

~ has a bad reputation today (Andreas Wimmer)  
the virtue of ~ (by Yoram Hazony)

otherism

see *otherism (noun)*

progressivism

~ was once populism

populism

~ seems to be a bad word nowadays

racism

see *racism (groups)*

rightsism

~ (Jamal Greene / *How Rights Went Wrong*)

hyper-safetyism

the trade-offs of ~ (COVID pandemic)

sexism

he compared speciesism to racism and ~ (Peter Singer)  
retaliation for speaking out against ~ is never okay  
racism, Islamophobia and ~ in the Labour Party (U.K.)

heterosexism

the NBA is a bastion of testosterone-driven ~

speciesism

Peter Singer popularized the concept of ~ (animal lib)

transgender-ism

polls show the public is increasingly rejecting ~ (anti)

transgenderism

teachers are converting kids to gayness or ~

TERFism

so ~ is a hate movement that... (Natalie Wynn / transgender)

wokeism

they clashed over alleged “~” in the military  
~ divides societies into identities

womanism

~ is a social theory (see the Wikipedia entry)

misogyny, classism and racism

Senator Tiara Mach dismissed criticism as ~ (twerking)

populism, nationalism, and authoritarianism  
contending with ~

racism and classism  
its ~ (the novel *The Well of Loneliness*)

racism and linguicism  
the broad impact of ~ on the ELT profession (TESOL)

♦ "But I just, you know, what a disservice that she did to not only my husband, but to anyone facing a disability and working through it. I don't know how there were not consequences. I mean, there are consequences for folks in these positions who are *any of the -isms* [italics mine]. I mean, she was ableist, and that's what she was in her interview." (Giselle Fetterman condemns Dasha Burns of NBC News. Her politician husband had suffered a stroke. Dasha Burns had raised questions about his fitness for office.)

♦ "[Ezra] Pound was a maker and shatterer, prancing around London with his isms—his Imagism and his Vorticism and his anti-Georgianism." ("The Prophecy of *The Waste Land*" by James Parker, *The Atlantic*, January / February 2023.)

♦ Back in the old days the "ism-s" were Communism, Socialism, Fascism, and Capitalism.

♦ It's a short walk from "ism" to "ist." See the following entry.

**inclusion & exclusion: affix**

**ist (racist, etc.)**

antinatalist  
the celebrated "~" philosopher David Benatar

anti-racist  
it's not enough to be non-racist, you must be ~  
pedagogy rooted in ~ and anti-patriarchal practices

ableist  
Richard III and ~ views (Shakespeare)  
criticism for using an ~ slur (Beyonce / "spaz")  
concerns over racist, sexist and ~ theories and language

chauvinist  
a male ~ believes that women are inferior to men  
a female ~ is a misandrist

feminist  
this book set the tone for ~ transphobia

linguicist  
a ~ discriminates on the basis of language (Wiktionary)

misandrist  
a female chauvinist is a ~

misogynist  
Andres Tate arrested has been accused of being a ~, but...

patternist  
Ray Kurzweil describes himself as a "~" (*Singularity Is Near*)

populist  
a ~ wave is sweeping the Western world (anti-elites)

racist  
see *racist (groups)*

Raptivist

"A Conversation With Houston's '~' Genesis Blue"

sexist  
she's NOT busting ~ stereotypes, she is perpetuating them...  
concerns over racist, ~ and ableist theories and language

Socialist  
the Brooklyn Democratic ~ is an anti-white race-baiter

supremacist  
Euro-Christian ~ (versus indigenous languages)

"Womanist  
~ theology" (see the Wikipedia entry)

♦ "How To Be An Anti-Casteist" by Gregory Warner, Lauren Frayer, Derek Arthur, NPR, Rough Translation, September 30, 2020. Of course, this echoes "anti-racist."

♦ *Better Never to Have Been* by the celebrated "antinatalist" philosopher David Benatar.

♦ John: Any criticism leveled at anything is labeled toxic or some sort of ist/phobic thing... Many people have forgotten or never learned how to take honest criticism." (A comment about diversity casting and *The Rings of Power*.)

♦ "Ist" is often linked to an "ism." See the entry above this one.

**inclusion & exclusion: affix**

**isthmus (shape)**

isthmus  
the narrowest part of the Eustachian tube is called the ~

♦ See the Wikipedia entry "List of anatomical isthmi."

♦ "Eliot's words are everywhere, in other words. The more closely you map 'The Waste Land,' the more it assumes the shape of an isthmus; so much of the past, both public and personal, streamed into its making, and so much has flowed from it ever since." ("On The Rocks: A hundred years of 'The Waste Land,'" by Anthony Lane, *The New Yorker*, October 3, 2022. An isthmus connects two larger pieces of land. By this wonderful analogy, the larger pieces of land are the past and the present.)

**division & connection / shape: ground, terrain & land**

**itch (verb)**

itching to incite  
the moderators were ~ conflict (a political debate)

**eagerness & reluctance: sensation / verb**

**itch (enthusiasm)**

itch to ride  
once you get the ~ motorcycles, you can't help but scratch it

scratched this itch  
Bitcoin ~ (for idealistic nonconformist Vitalik Buterin)

**enthusiasm: insect / sensation**

**itchy (adjective)**

itchy to leave  
he was ~

itchy to get back  
he is ~ in the ring (a boxer)

**eagerness & reluctance: insect / sensation**

## ity (intersectionality, etc.)

### fabulosity

she is just looking like ~ (Brittany Snow in Ty West's *X*)

### heteronormativity

its aggressive whiteness and ~ (*And Just Like That*)  
the pale leaden hand of ~ was camped down tight

### intersectionality

see *intersectionality (groups)*

### normativity

see *normativity (groups)*

♦ "Wokeness is not just a social philosophy, but an elite status marker, a strategy for personal advancement. You have to possess copious amounts of cultural capital to feel comfortable using words like *intersectionality*, *heteronormativity*, *cisgender*, *problematize*, *triggering*, and *Latinx*..." ("How The Bobos Broke America" by David Brooks, *The Atlantic*, September 2021. He gives perhaps too much credit to the current crop of contempo-speakers.)

### inclusion & exclusion: affix

## it girl (and it drug, etc.)

### IT

that quality known as ~ (see quote below)

### *It Boy*

~ is a French romantic comedy film (2013)

### 'It' drug

it has emerged as the ~ on the Australian party scene

### "it" girl

her attitude has turned her into the new political ~  
meet Broadway's newest ~  
fashion's new ~... and boy

### 'it' girl

she became known as the fashionable ~ (Korea)

### it-girl

actor and current ~ Jenna Ortega hosts SNL

### it girls

don't let the bouncy, cheery ~ make you feel bad

### It Plant

the Powdery Liveforever has become the ~ for thieves (CA)

### 'it' (electric) vehicle

why trucks are the ~ to buy right now

### It Girls of the moment

"relatable" stars like Emma Chamberlain are the ~

♦ The 1927 film *It* starred Clara Bow.

♦ "I would say up to the age of 25 or 26 we're the *it* girls, right? And then after you pass over this threshold of maybe 30, 35, you're put out to pasture. When we get older, we aren't seen." (Lola Flash, who uses she / her and they / them pronouns. From "Photographer Lola Flash is honored for creating images that challenge invisibility," NPR, All Things Considered, December 14, 2021. Told by Allyson McCabe.)

♦ "Emily Ratajkowski solidified her spot as a fashion *It* girl by wearing a tiny giraffe-print string bikini."

♦ "The flossy and intimate night clubs have discovered that their orchestras and bar tenders can be more than mere dispensers of tunes and tipples. They can, indeed, bring much romantic feminine patronage

by that quality known as *IT*... / The gossip tattlers are often stressing the attachment of some debutante for a musician or Harvard boy turned drink juggler. As a result, these employees are being selected as much for their looks as for ability. And there are some first rate Robert Taylors among them..." ("New York Day by Day" by O.O. McIntyre, from the newspaper *The Day*, New London, CONN., Thursday Afternoon, April 1, 1937.)

### attention, scrutiny & promotion / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: allusion / film / object

## ization (marginalization, etc.)

### colonialization

see *colonialization (groups)*

### colonization

see *colonization (groups)*

### criminalization

see *criminalization (groups)*

### decolonialization

see *decolonialization (groups)*

### fetishization

see *fetishization (noun)*

### heroization

see *heroization (noun)*

### idealisation

"thin ~" is a preference for thin bodies

### marginalization

see *marginalization (groups)*

### Marvelization

Elizabeth Sandifer decries "the ~ of all things"

### normalization

see *normalization (groups)*

### Problematization

see the Wikipedia article "~"

### revictimization

see *revictimization (or revictimisation)*

### *Southerization*

*The ~ of America* (by Cynthia Tucker, Frye Galliard)

### Uberization

these betting apps represent the ~ of gambling (sports)

### victimization

see *victimization (or victimisation)*

### villainization

she resists ~ (a film / mother abandons children)

### hypersexualization and fetishization

the history of ~ of Asian women in the US

see also *fiction (adultification, etc.)*

### contempo-speak / inclusion & exclusion: affix

## ize (racialize, etc.)

### colonize

see *colonize (verb)*

concretize  
see *concretize (verb)*

criminalize  
see *criminalize (groups)*

decolonize  
see *decolonize (verb)*

dehumanizes  
it ~ the entire collective (Muslim women)

exceptionalize  
resist the urge to ~ yourselves (advice to white women)

feminize  
appropriate and “~” the diction and subject matter (Sappho)

fetishize  
see *fetishize (verb)*

hypersexualize  
how movies, TV dehumanize and ~ Asian Americans

internalize  
viewing post about exercise also ~s thin ideals

invisibilize  
see *invisibilize (groups)*

marginalize  
see *marginalize (groups)*

minoritize  
see *minoritize (groups)*

normalize  
see *normalize (groups)*

otherize  
see *otherize (groups)*

prioritise  
~ climate or face catastrophe (UN chief)

problematizing  
~ traditional forms of success in higher education

racialize  
see *racialize (groups)*

sexualizing  
schools are ~ children  
she is ~ her own body to garner attention

soldierize  
every drill sergeant trying to ~, to build a soldier

spatialize  
the MASS Design Group seeks to ~ memory

stigmatize  
see *stigmatize (and destigmatize / verb)*

tokenize  
see *tokenize (groups)*

traumatize  
see *traumatize (verb)*

vampirizes  
a drab 30-something who ~ other people’s emotions

victimize  
see *victimize (groups)*

dehumanize and hypersexualize  
how movies and TV shows ~ Asian Americans

♦ A self-identified Black educator, writing about *middle and high-school education* in a *short* article, used the following: Africanize; contextualize; dehumanize; historicize; internalize; legitimize; marginalize; narrativize; organize (social protest); racialize; realize; signify; socialize; theorize; testify; and vernacularize. That’s a lot of -ize’s!

♦ see also *ify (mainstreamify, etc.)*

♦ From -ize it is a very short leap indeed to -ization / -ification.

**contempo-speak / inclusion & exclusion: affix ized (invisibilized, etc.)**

bubble-ized  
Beijing will be ~ (Christine Brennan, sports columnist)  
there will be ~ flights to get to the Olympics

colonized  
see *colonized*

corporatized  
F9 seems less ~ than other blockbusters (the film)

decolonized  
see *decolonized*

criminalized  
see *criminalized (groups)*

marginalized  
see *marginalized (groups)*

minoritized  
see *minoritized (groups)*

traumatized  
see *traumatized (groups)*

victimized  
see *victimized (groups)*

exoticized  
othered, objectified, ~, coerced (Asian women)  
~ facial features (“spicy Latina” cliché)

intelligentized  
China is focused on ~ technology (vs. old IT)

invisibilized  
see *invisibilized (groups)*

racialized  
see *racialized (groups)*

sexualised  
the female body is objectified and ~ early on

sexualized

post pics like that and of course you're going to be ~  
the ads featured children with ~ teddy bears (Balenciaga)

hyper-masculinized, fetishized, pitied or feared  
we're ~ (Black men, according to NPR's Sam Sanders)

♦ "[W]e as blacks have been opera-ed, have been operated upon, have been operationalized by white composers..." (Novelist and critic Samuel R. Delany.)

♦ see also *ified* (*Principified*, etc.)

**contempo-speak / inclusion & exclusion: affix**

## J

### jab (noun)

took a jab at Biden  
Trump ~ (politics)

traded jabs with his opponents  
he ~ (politics)

**accusation & criticism / conflict / speech: boxing**

### jackal (noun)

"jackal diplomacy"  
he practiced ~

♦ "He practiced "jackal diplomacy" to the extent that he requested for his nation a share of the spoils won by the British lion in combat; had Britain or China opposed his request, he was powerless to do more." (Commodore Lawrence Kearny in China, from *Far China Station: The U.S. Navy in Asian Waters 1800-1898* by Robert Erwin Johnson.)

♦ The jackal is a lion in his own country. (An insult.)

**character & personality / insult: animal**

### jackass (noun)

jackass  
he's a foolish ~

**character & personality / insult: animal**

### jackpot (hit the jackpot)

political jackpot  
that would be a ~ for the president

hit the jackpot  
you ~

hit the (intelligence) jackpot  
they were hoping to ~ (Russian spies in US)

**success & failure: gambling / money / verb**

### Jacobin

Jacobin publication  
he has written for *The Nation*, a ~ (culture wars)

school reform's new Jacobins  
~ have opted for a hard left turn into identity politics

**disruption: allusion / history / violence**

### jack up (verb)

jack up the cost  
green technology will ~ of power (opinion)

jack up earnings  
Wall Street will always find ways to ~

jack up (used book) prices  
the company has ~

jack up (interest) rates  
credit-card companies have ~ again

jack up (defense) spending  
the government seeks to ~

jacking up tuitions  
colleges are ~ like never before

**increase & decrease: direction / number / tools & technology / verb**

### jail (Twitter jail, etc.)

in Twitter jail  
this is the family photo that got @SteveDaines put ~

**punishment & recrimination: justice**

### jam (situation)

in a jam  
the company is ~  
she found herself ~

get in a jam  
and if you ~ and need to raise cash...

got in a jam  
and that's how the company ~

put us in a jam  
what he did ~

get him out of this jam  
perhaps a lawyer could ~  
maybe the lawyers could ~

♦ On the 6<sup>th</sup> of May the Yukon began to rise rapidly, lifting the ice, which, however, remained fast in front of the town... The sight was one to inspire respect. When a big floe, forty feet across, struck the front of the barrier, it half rose out of the water, then dived under, or turned on edge, crunched into the front with a dull roar, and remained there... At four o'clock on the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup> the cry was raised, 'The ice is going out!' and everybody rushed out in time to see the bridge of ice crack, groan, then slowly push together and stop; then slowly, slowly the whole mass began to move, and in a few minutes there was nothing but a swift river, with cakes of ice as big as cabins strewn along the banks..." (*The Klondike Stampede* by Tappan Adney, Special Correspondent of *Harper's Weekly* in the Klondike, 1900.)

**situation: container / tools & technology**

**obstacles & impedance: river**

### jambalaya (mixture)

digital jambalaya  
minorities are losing out in this ~ (internet sanctuaries)

**identity & nature / mixture: food & drink**

## jaw (Dragon's Jaw, etc.)

“The Jaw”

~, a peak overlooking Hanging Canyon (Wyoming)

Dragon's Jaw

the North Vietnamese called it the ~ (US bombing target)

Hogjaw

the ~ Up In Flames Tour, Europe, May / June 2019

Moose Jaw

~, Canada, a deeply disturbing city (Saskatchewan)

**proper name: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## jaw (jaws of defeat, jaws of victory, etc.)

jaws of defeat

if anyone knows how to grab a victory from the ~, it is  
Serena Williams

jaws of disaster

the Israeli tankers charged into the ~ (1973)

jaws of (Mr. Cosby's significant) defeat

he is trying to snatch victory from the ~ (Gloria Allred)

jaws of victory

the team somehow managed to snatch defeat from the ~

Hell's jaws

the killings began, as ~ opened... (ethnic cleansing)

♦ “Call him *Pepsi Guardiola*, because he knows how to bottle it.” (Soccer snark after Manchester City snatches defeat from the jaws of victory against Real Madrid.)

**fate, fortune & chance: animal / hunting / predation**

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / hunting / predation**

## jaw (jaws of life, etc.)

‘jaws of life’

he was extracted from the wreck with the ~

**resemblance / shape: mouth**

## jawbone (Jawbone Canyon, etc.)

Jawbone Canyon

Europeans named it ~ for its shape (Mohave Desert)

Jawbone Falls

the big pool below ~ (Panthertown, North Carolina)

**proper name: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## jaw-dropper

real jaw-dropper

that was a ~ for me

♦ “The verdict was a stunner, and my jaw dropped.”

♦ “I was just sent this letter that has my jaw on the floor...”

♦ “The details left many people's jaws on the floor.” (European Union corruption case of late 2022. Police seize a suitcase filled with cash, etc.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: mouth / gesture**

## jaw-dropping

jaw-dropping moment

this is the ~ when a sea lion attacked a girl (video)

♦ “This has been the most dizzying, jaw-dropping, eyeball-popping, head-spinning news conference I have ever attended. And I was at Bill Clinton's news conference in 1998 when he faced the press for the first time over his relationship with Monica Lewinsky.” (John Soper for the BBC, following a press conference with President Trump on Monday, April 13, 2020.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: mouth / gesture**

## Jekyll (Jekyll and Hyde)

Dr. Jekyll and Hyde in Mike

there's a little ~ (the great boxer Mike Tyson)

Jekyll-and-Hyde character

for some, he was a ~, a decorated chief who... (SEAL)

Jekyll and Hyde existence

he was rumored to have lived a ~ (government official)

Jekyll-and-Hyde existence

he was rumored to have lived a ~ (high official / low places)

“Jekyll and Hyde” figure

he was a ~ who could be charming but had a dark side

Doctor Jekyll – Mister Hyde moment

it was a very strange ~ (holding job and eating disorder)

Jekyll and Hyde portrait

a ~ emerges of SEAL accused of murder

Jekyll and Hyde role

there is a bit of a ~ for the agency (helps but also arrests)

Jekyll and Hyde side

unsure what to expect, Liverpool a complete ~ this season...

Jekyll and Hyde transformation

every now and then, desert locusts undergo a ~ (swarms)

absolutely Jekyll and Hyde

the team has been ~ (up and down, good and bad)

♦ *Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr Hyde* was written by Robert Louis Stevenson and published in 1886.

**allusion: books & reading**

**character & personality: allusion / mental health / person**

## Jeopardy! (snark)

I'll take ‘what is a royal douche’ for \$300

~ Alex (a commenter about Harry and Meghan)

I'll take What Causes a Short Lifespan for \$1000

~ Ken (a commenter about death of Gangsta Boo)

♦ Alex Trebek hosted the general knowledge quiz game *Jeopardy* for 37 seasons, from 1984 to 2020. “I'll take “X for \$X, Alex” is a meme.

♦ see also *Wheel of Fortune* (snark)

**contempo-speak: sarcasm**

## jeremiad (bitter lament)

jeremiads of a Southern apologist

the nation didn't pay heed to the ~

♦ A jeremiad often has two elements: a bitter criticism of society and a prophecy of doom.

**message: allusion / Bible / religion**

**accusation & criticism: allusion / Bible / religion**

## Jerusalem (Jerusalem of the North, etc.)

Jerusalem of the North

the Jews called it the ~ (Vilna / Vilnius)

Balkan Jerusalem

Lake Ohrid, known as the ~

Japanese Jerusalem

groups have turned the area into a kind of ~ (Mt. Fuji)

♦ "The complex has been called the 'pearl of Ukraine' and the 'Vatican' of Ukrainian Orthodoxy. (The Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra complex in Kiev. It is a UNESCO world heritage site.)

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## jettison (verb)

jettisoned the case law

the court has ~ (lawyers will appeal)

jettison (the under-performing) ministers

many people wonder why he doesn't ~

jettisoned the (Obama) playbook

the Trump Administration ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation: boat / verb**

## jettisoned

jettisoned

he was ~ (an athlete who was traded)

jettison its pariah status

Zimbabwe seeks to ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation: boat**

## Jew (Jews of the Caribbean, etc.)

Jews of the Caribbean

Indo-Caribbean immigrants have been called the ~

Jews of the Arab world

the Palestinians are sometimes said to be the ~

Jews of the Far East

the Chinese have been called the ~ (business, diaspora)

Jews of the 21st century

a sign said, "Latinos are the ~" (immigration protest)

**migration: epithet / person**

**person: journeys & trips**

## jewel (noun)

jewel

Sikkim is a ~ nestled between Bhutan and Nepal

jewel of these mountains

she was a ~ (bookmobile lady in Western North Carolina)

jewels in the crown

they are the ~ of public education (elite NYC high schools)

real jewel

it's a ~ (a kayaker speaking of a river near Vancouver)

hidden jewel

it's a ~ (a park)

national jewel

the Okavango Delta is the ~ (tourism / Botswana)

**superlative: materials & substances / mining**

**flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances**

**worth & lack of worth: materials & substances / mining**

## jewel (jewel of Syria, etc.)

jewel of Syria

this city once known as "the~" (Aleppo)

**superlative: epithet**

**epithet: materials & substances**

## jibe (verb)

jibe with his record

his statement doesn't ~

**direction: boat / verb**

## jigsaw puzzle (noun)

jigsaw puzzle of (smaller) languages

Europe was once a ~ like Ladin (Italian Dolomites)

**configuration / complexity: sports & games**

## job (hit job, etc.)

hatchet job

the *New York Times* did a complete ~ on him

hit job

the Bloomberg article was a ~ (against a company)

this is a partisan ~ (a political kerfuffle)

how a political ~ backfired...

he appeared to be the victim of a ~, orchestrated to...

♦ A hatchet job, a hit job / piece, a drive-by...

**accusation & criticism / conflict / punishment &**

**recrimination: crime / death & life / violence**

## jockey (verb)

jockey for advantage

partisans ~ (politics)

jockeying for position

he has been ~ in the department for years

jockey for power

Ukrainians, Tatars, and ethnic Russians ~ (Crimea)

jockey for leaks and scoops

reporters ~

jockeyed for face time

guests ~ with the newly minted star (party)

fiercely jockey  
reporters ~ for leaks and scoops

**competition: animal / horse / sports & games**

## Johnny Appleseed

Johnny Appleseed  
we must drop the idea the US is ~ spreading democracy

Johnny Appleseed of Agriculture 2.0  
she is the ~ (brings together entrepreneurs, investors)

Johnny Appleseed of near Earth object deflection  
his work as the ~ has begun to bear fruit (astronomy)

Johnny Appleseed of protest music  
a self-styled “~” (the blacklisted Pete Seeger)

served as a Johnny Appleseed  
he ~ for electric cars (made long trip in one, blogging)

♦ “Go forth and be the Johnny Appleseed of books and reading!” (A North Carolina teacher-trainer. Good advice, never forgotten.)

♦ Bookmobile Schedule: Tuesday: Hanging Dog community, Boiling Springs, Grape Creek, Highway 294 and Upper Bear Paw Road, Oak Park Guest Home, Andrews Elementary School... (Cherokee County, North Carolina, U.S.A.)

♦ Camels serve as bookmobiles in Kenya.

**transmission: allusion / apple / epithet**

## joke (you must be joking, etc.)

joking  
you must be ~

**comprehension & incomprehension: speech**

## joke (it's a joke, etc.)

joke  
this university is a ~

**insult / worth & lack of worth: speech**

## jolt (noun)

jolt of anxiety  
the murder sent a ~ around the city

jolt to some  
it was quite a ~ (Trump wins election)

**feeling, emotion & effect: electricity / force / sensation**

## journey (life is a journey)

life's journey  
my ~...

life will lead me  
I don't know where ~, but I know where I've been

on the journey of life  
how a person behaves ~ is directly related...

♦ “Cmdr. Robert Ramirez has crossed the bar for the final time, he is off to sea, never to return.” (An online commenter's tribute to a Navy Seal.)

**death & life: journeys & trips**

## journey (in one's journey)

in his journey from boy to man  
it was an important moment ~

in our journey towards the promise  
this is a significant milestone ~ of stem-cell-based medicines

**course: journeys & trips**

## journey (on a journey)

on a journey to understand  
the host and producer take you ~ what...

on her journey of self-discovery  
she embarked ~

on a journey of healing  
if you're ~ your mind in some way...

on a journey of self-destruction, betrayal  
choosing this path led him ~, and redemption (a true story)

on a journey to the past and present  
she takes readers ~ of the region

on your own wellness journey  
first, let's check in about where you are ~

embarked on a journey  
he ~ to create the ideal pasta

takes his fans on a journey  
Young Thug ~ of energy and emotion

♦ “First, let's check in about where you are on your own wellness journey. When was the last time you had your vagina steamed?” (“We Have Found a Cure! (Sort of...)” by Taffy Brodesser-Akner, *Outside Magazine*, 11/12/2022.)

♦ “When [Isaaco] had reached the middle of the river, a crocodile rose close to him, and instantly seizing him by the left thigh, pulled him under water. With wonderful presence of mind he felt the head of the animal, and thrust his finger into its eye; on which it quitted its hold... The wound on the left thigh was four inches in length... Drew the lips of the wounds together with slips of adhesive plaister secured with a roller...” (Mungo Park.)

♦ “It may have been a little after midnight when I ran into a bear standing on his hind legs in the middle of my path, growling at me. At this point the sound of the swiftly running waters of the Ganges was so loud that we had neither of us heard the other's approach. Pointing my primitive spear at his heart, I backed step by step so as to keep my eyes fixed on him. Around the first bend of the track I hurriedly lit a fire, and pulling out a burning stick, I brandished it in front of me and moved forward to meet my enemy. But coming around the corner I found the road clear and the bear gone. Tibetan peasants told me later that bears are only aggressive by day. At night they are afraid to attack...” (*Seven Years in Tibet*, Chapter 2 “Escape,” by Heinrich Harrer.)

**course: journeys & trips**

## journey (noun)

journey  
this whole ~ has been really amazing (actress does film)

journey towards modernity  
Bhutan's carefully ordered ~ (elections of 2007)

journey from boy to man  
in his ~

journey from complacency to (political) power  
her ~ (Wilma Mankiller)

journey with math  
reflecting back on my own ~, I did struggle with it

Bhutan's (carefully ordered) journey  
~ towards modernity (elections of 2007)

*Farmer's Journey*  
*Pastoral Song: A* ~ by James Rebanks, Custom House

A Martinez's (public radio) journey  
~ (NPR)

weight loss journey  
inside Jazz Jennings' ~

never-ending journey  
growth and development are a ~

mental health journey  
she has always been so open about her ~

legal journey  
the families have had a lengthy ~

medical journey  
work was difficult, starting a long ~ (Havana syndrome)

spiritual journey  
it is the story of a ~

total journey  
my ~ is two hundred ten point one (pounds lost / diet)

story of a (spiritual) journey  
it is the ~

journey is ongoing  
this ~ (the composition of music)

completed his journey  
he ~ from personal despair to sporting glory

♦ Life's a journey, not a destination. (Bumper sticker.)

♦ "My total *journey* is two hundred ten point one." (A YouTube diet advertisement, referring to pounds lost.)

♦ *A Season For Justice: The Life and Times of Civil Rights Lawyer Morris Dees* (1991) was updated and reissued in 2003 as *A Lawyer's Journey: The Morris Dees Story*.

♦ Glennon Doyle said, "If you've come this far with me in my—I hate the word—*journey*..." ("Glennon Doyle's Honesty Gospel" by Ariel Levy, *The New Yorker*, February 8, 2021.)

♦ "To keep class discussion buoyant, lecturers are told to 'encourage students to practise the verbalisation aspect of knowledge'. Multiple 'learning outcomes', sacred buzzwords before the pandemic, have been supplemented with 'learner journeys', promising against the odds a positive experience as well as a realistic hope of achieving something." ("Diary: On Quitting Academia" by Malcolm Gaskill, *London Review of Books*, 24 September 2020. "In May, I gave up my academic career after 27 years...")

♦ "Everybody who I speak to who's been studying coronavirus tells me that Omicron is a step on the journey towards humanity being able to coexist with this virus. And that in the end, the COVID should become not more serious than the common cold. And so there's a journey to get there, and we're on that journey." (David Nabarro of the WHO.)

♦ "Jamie Lauren Keiles follows one patient along his phalloplasty journey."

♦ "I left Tangier, my birthplace, on Thursday, 2nd Rajab 725 [June 14, 1325], being at that time twenty-two years of age [22 lunar years; 21 and 4 months by solar reckoning], with the intention of making the Pilgrimage to the Holy House [at Makkah] and the Tomb of the Prophet [at Madinah]. (The great traveler Ibn Battuta.)

♦ "[At Edfu, north of Luxor] we crossed the Nile and, hiring camels, journeyed with a party of Arabs through a desert. One of our halts was at Humaythira, a place infested with hyenas. All night long we kept driving them away, and indeed one got at my baggage, tore open one of the sacks, pulled out a bag of dates, and made off with it. We found the bag next morning, torn to pieces and with most of the contents eaten." (Ibn Battuta.)

♦ "It's sometimes necessary during a journey to repack and remount a horse." (Chinese proverb relating to a change in the middle of a plan.)

♦ No trip is long with good company!

♦ "Sometimes life takes you to places you never imagined."

**course / development / experience: journeys & trips / movement**

## joust (verb)

joust among themselves for ownership  
corporations ~ of...

jousting over (sensationalist) ads  
the two campaigns are ~ (politics)

jousts with (more left-leaning) partisans  
she is a close Clinton ally who frequently ~ online

**competition / conflict: history / Middle Ages / verb**  
**jousting (conflict)**

courtroom jousting with (federal) lawyers  
the ~ was otherworldly (secrecy)

geopolitical jousting in the South China Sea  
he covered stories such as ~ (a correspondent)

social jousting  
a lot of ~ goes on (teenagers)

♦ In *Don Quixote*, Cervantes refers to Suero de Quinones and the Jousts of the Honourable Pass at the Bridge of Orbigo in 1434.

**competition / conflict: history / Middle Ages**

## joy (groups)

joy  
~ can be also a revolutionary tool against oppression  
the ~ found in Blackqueerness

beautiful joy  
Jewish anarchism offers this ~ (Cindy Milstein, queer)

Black joy  
Library of Congress honors 1898 film depicting ~  
Don Cornelius pioneered the business of ~ (Soul Train)  
it showcased ~ and our everyday lives (Soul Train)  
~ as an act of resistance on Juneteenth (ABC)

Latinx joy  
Hola is a triumph of ~ and feminist agency (Avon book)

queer joy  
~ and Latino belonging (Orlando nightclub shooting)

trans joy

I rise in honor of ~

culture of joy

a resistance ~ (“Little Egypt” section of Astoria, Queens)

declaration of (Black) joy

David Gilfillian’s latest album is a bold ~

moments of joy

~ for the Tennessee drag scene are becoming rarer

celebration and joy, and (also) purpose

there can be ~, in protest (Lambda Legal)

community, joy and safety

support groups provide ~ (Queer people)

ferocity and joy

the group could have fed the Oscars a jolt of ~

express their joy

they actually went to the mike to ~ (trans day of visibility)

prioritize joy

in order to ~, you must... (Emily Ratajkowski)

♦ “At The ‘Museum Of Black Joy,’ It’s The Everyday Moments That Go On Display” by Neda Ulaby, NPR, Art & Design, August 14, 2021.

♦ “The presentation of Black bodies on stage singing, dancing, expressing joy, expressing melancholy.” (A Broadway musical.)

♦ “Joy is a core value at NPR. So we’re creating a space to celebrate it,” June 28, 2022.

♦ “I rise in honor of trans joy that deserves to be celebrated—not eradicated.” (U.S. Representative for Massachusetts Katherine Clark, House Minority Whip.)

♦ “‘I make work for people to see, but the process is for me,’ says Gio Swaby, the Bahamian portrait artist who positions Black joy as an act of resistance. Last spring, not long after starting as an MFA student at the Ontario College of Art and Design University...” (“Fiber Optics” by Kayla Holliday, *Vanity Fair*, June 2022.)

♦ “The difference now is what she calls a resistance culture of joy.” (A woman about hearing the call to prayer during Ramadan in the part of Astoria, Queens, called “Little Egypt.”)

♦ “We live in a world and work in industries that are so aggressively committed to upholding whiteness and perpetuating an unabashed misogyny towards Black women. And yet. I am forever in gratitude for the greatest lesson of my life—regardless of any challenges or obstacles, I will always have the power to cultivate my own joy, and it is this joy that will continue to be one of my greatest forms of resistance.” (“Oscars 2023: *Till* director Chinonye Chukwu calls out misogyny and racism after snub” by Paul Glynn & Ian Youngs, BBC News, Jan 25, 2023.)

♦ “We wanna focus on the joy, the stories, the culture, the celebration of us existing and being human. That’s it.” (Virginia teacher Deana Forbes about Black History Month in her African- American Studies class at Freedom High.)

♦ “According to Ross, we should all take joy a lot more seriously because joy is the ember and fire behind social movements and survival. And his definition of joy isn’t something that you experience alone. His joy comes from connection and our interlocking lives or, as he puts it, entanglement.” (Brittany Luse, from “Ross Gay on inciting joy while dining with sorrow,” NPR, It’s Been A Minute, Feb. 21, 2023.)

♦ “Being queer was joyful but it was also not a joke.” (An elderly lesbian, speaking today about the 1990s.)

♦ “Young Ukrainians are spreading joy by organizing cleanup parties.” (NPR’s Kat Lonsdorf. This is very interesting reporting that reflects “contempo-speak” language and consciousness: Black Joy, Queer Joy, Ukrainian Joy... Lonsdorf, of course, may not be responsible for this headline. NPR certainly is.)

♦ “Joy is underrated.” (Emily Ratajkowski in her commencement speech at Hunter College.)

♦ “He is inciting joy on his team.” (NPR’s Ailsa Chang about *Brock Purdy* [italics mine], the quarterback of the San Francisco 49ers.)

♦ “I believe if players are happy, if they feel welcome, if they feel joy when they go on the court, they’re going to be a much better version of themselves.” (Coach Mark Madsen, about accepting the job of coach of the men’s basketball team at the University of Berkeley. His team has a 3-29 record, a 38-87 record with its previous coach, 6 consecutive losing seasons, and a 16-game losing streak. Only in America!)

♦ “‘Joyful’ teen dead after six others stab him.”

♦ MORE CONVENTIONAL USAGE. “The second half was a tale of sheer joy for Liverpool and unrelenting misery for United...” (Man Utd 0-7 Liverpool.)

**inclusion & exclusion: positivity**

## Judas (betrayal)

call me Judas

they will attack me in the press, ~, accuse me of...

**allegiance, support & betrayal: Bible / religion**

## judge (role)

judge

you be the ~ (preference contest)

history will be the ~ (proper response to pandemic)

post judge

are you the ~ (response to critic)

**judgment: justice / person**

**person: justice**

## judged

judged by wins and losses

as a coach, he will be ~

**judgment: justice**

## juggernaut (noun)

juggernaut of coastal destruction

you have this ~ (land for industry, shrimp farms)

juggernaut of optimism

a ~ vaulted him to the White House (Obama)

juggernauts of global trade

container ships are the ~

Fury juggernaut

Paris is key in keeping the ~ moving (the boxer’s wife)

Russian juggernaut

the ~ in the east had moved steadily westwards (1813)

self-help juggernaut

the ~ was published in 1936 (*How to Win Friends...*)

new-school juggernaut

Tagovailoa turned old-school Alabama into a ~ (football)

ratings juggernaut

it was a ~ (The Cosby Show)

bureaucratic juggernaut

I’m up against a ~ that won’t stop (immigration status)

cultural juggernaut  
K-pop has become a ~

literary juggernaut  
he has been a ~ (great American writer Stephen King)

publicity juggernaut  
she is a shill for the family's ~ (a legal case)

unstoppable juggernaut  
his war chest and grassroots army make him an ~ (election)

up against a juggernaut  
he is ~ (a politician contending for nomination)

juggernaut rolls on  
and the Anfield ~ (winning Liverpool soccer club)

transformed Apple into a juggernaut  
he ~ (Steve Jobs)

♦ A juggernaut is associated with the Hindu deity Jagannath. It was a huge wooden chariot carrying idols in a multistory construction. The idea that devotees threw themselves under it is a misconception.

♦ "They will also know that once the juggernaut starts to gather momentum it takes some stopping—and if allowed to roll unchecked can take a football generation to halt." ("Liverpool celebrations after beating Man Utd symbolic & moment of release" by Phil McNulty, BBC, January 19, 2020.)

**amount & effect / force: religion**

## juggle (verb)

juggle careers and children  
women who ~

juggle work and school  
it can be hard to ~

juggle a full load of classes and a job  
it may be hard to ~

juggles those objectives  
he ~ with an unusual style

juggles (several) roles  
he ~ (community activist)

juggle (multiple) tasks  
employees who can handle the stress and ~

♦ "Ellis walks the reader through all the balls Madison was juggling as he advocated and negotiated at the Constitutional Convention..." (Scott Detrow, NPR Book Review. An odd image indeed. But then, you can have friends, or you can point out their odd metaphors.)

**ability / difficulty, easiness & effort: circus / sports & games / verb**

## juggling

juggling the (conflicting) demands  
~ of politics and governing

juggling act  
trying to build a team is a hard ~ (basketball)

**ability / difficulty, easiness & effort: circus / sports & games**

## jugular (go for the jugular, etc.)

jugular of the island  
he determined Syracuse was the ~ (Sicily / WWII)

going for the jugular  
they are ~ (team in tournament)

go for the jugular  
they didn't ~ (debate for political candidates)  
she has to ~ tonight (Democratic debate)

♦ "Death is as close as your jugular and as far away as the ends of the earth." (Fate.)

**conflict: animal / blood / predation / throat / verb**  
**behavior: animal / blood / predation / throat / verb**

## juicy (adjective)

juicy bonuses  
successful guides get ~ (Mt. Everest)

juicy elements  
all the ~ (scandal at CNN sees president resign)

juicy gossip  
you hear some ~ that...  
the book contains nearly 400 pages of ~ (on politicians)

juicy information  
in the hope of obtaining ~ (journalists)

juicy reveals  
candid confessions, ~ (on reality TV hot mics)

juicy revelation  
there was no ~ (press conference)

**consumption: food & drink / taste**  
**attraction & repulsion: food & drink / taste**  
**eagerness & reluctance / feeling, emotion & effect: food & drink / taste**

## jumbo (large)

jumbo jet  
lightning strikes ~

jumbo squid  
~, also known as Humboldt squid

♦ This word comes from the name of an Ethiopian elephant who was brought to the US in 1882 by P. T. Barnum and displayed in Barnum's circus. The poet and etymologist John Ciardi tells Jumbo's story on NPR, "Jumbo's Big Adventure Popularizes a New Word," April 20, 2006.

♦ The "British Expedition to Abyssinia" [title of the Wikipedia entry] was a rescue and punitive mission to what is now Ethiopia. Led by Sir Robert Napier and fought by the Bombay Army, it culminated with the British seizure of the fortress of Magdala in 1868 and the suicide of the then leader of Abyssinia, Emperor Tewodros, also known as Emperor Theodore. Harold G. Marcus characterized the whole mission as 'one of the most expensive affairs of honour in history.' It was a triumph of British engineering, and the logistics included over 40,000 animals, among them forty-four trained elephants from India, which carried the heavy artillery on the march into the Ethiopian highlands. In Rudyard Kipling's "Toomai of the Elephants," Kala Nag, the elephant mentioned at the beginning of the short story, was a veteran of the mission: "He had been hoisted into a ship at the end of a steam-crane and taken for days across the water, and made to carry a mortar on his back in a strange and rocky country very far from India, and had seen the Emperor

Theodore lying dead in Magdala, and had come back again in the steamer, entitled, so the soldiers said, to the Abyssinian War medal."

**size: affix / allusion / animal**

### jump (jump at the chance, etc.)

jump to conclusions

let's not ~

we don't know all the facts and no one should ~

it is important not to ~ based on the case of one patient

jumps to conclusions

he ~, makes up his mind, and is stubborn

jumped at the chance

I ~

he ~, here was the opportunity to...

jumped at the opportunity

he ~ (a filmmaker)

jump (all) over this

we knew the students would just ~ (robot fast-food deliveries in dorms)

**eagerness & reluctance / haste: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

### jump (leave)

jump to another company

employers worry you'll ~ (overqualified)

**allegiance, support & betrayal / coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / movement: verb / walking, running & jumping**

### jump (the place was jumping, etc.)

jumping

on Saturday night the venue was ~ (boxing / Ally Pally)

**activity: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

### jump (movement)

needle jumped

the VU meter ~ (recording sounds)

**movement: walking, running & jumping / verb**

### jump (speech)

jumps from subject to subject

she ~

**speech: walking, running & jumping / verb**

### jump (progress)

jumped from ninth place to fourth

the carrier ~ in on-time arrivals (air)

jumped six spots

Lance Armstrong ~ to second overall (Tour de France)

**progress & lack of progress: walking, running & jumping / verb**

### jump (increase / verb)

jumps by 10,000

during the summer, the county's population ~ (tourists)

demand (for electric power) will jump

the ~

**increase & decrease: number**

**increase & decrease: direction / walking, running & jumping / verb**

### jump (rivers can jump their banks, etc.)

breaking their banks

we have seen flooding with rivers ~ (New South Wales)

burst its banks

melting snowpack might cause it to ~

jumped its banks

the Medina River ~ today near Bandera (flooding)

**constraint & lack of constraint: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

### jump (jump a curb, etc.)

jumped a curb

the van ~ and plowed into three people

jumped the sidewalk

the car ~ and drove through a number of tents

jumped the tracks

the train ~ near Crescent City, Florida

♦ [Mr. Webb]: Well, she's late. Reckon she might've jumped the tracks. / [Loretta Lynn]: Oh, Daddy, them things [trains] don't do that. Do they? / [Mr. Webb, grimly]: They've been known to. (From the great film, *Coal Miner's Daughter*.)

**failure, accident & impairment: walking, running & jumping / verb**

### jump (lines)

jumped the line

she ~ to get water for her infant (Kenyan drought)

jumped a fire line

the flames ~ crews were building (Show Low)

**constraint & lack of constraint / obstacles & impedance: walking, running & jumping / verb**

### jump (transmission)

jumped from birds to humans

a strain of the virus may have ~ (flu)

**constraint & lack of constraint / transmission: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

### jump (jump ahead)

jump ahead to the last chapter

let's ~

**sequence: walking, running & jumping / verb**

## jump (jump in)

jump in  
please feel free to ~ (a discussion)

**involvement: walking, running & jumping / verb**

## jump (get the jump)

gotten the jump on all of them  
he had ~ (a competition)

get a jump on the coming season  
and so you ~ (high-school athletes graduate early)

**competition / starting, going, continuing & ending /  
timeliness & lack of timeliness: walking, running & jumping**

## jump (in jumps)

advanced in jumps  
his career ~

**progress & lack of progress: movement / walking, running  
& jumping**

## jump (noun)

jump in (suspicious) chatter  
there has been a ~

jump in the number  
contributing to growth is a ~ of online shoppers

jump in traffic  
news sites saw a ~ (Internet / Operation Iraqi Freedom)

**increase & decrease: number**

**increase & decrease: direction / movement / walking,  
running & jumping**

## jump ball (noun)

jump ball  
the race is tight, it's a ~ (mayoral election)

looks like a jump ball  
the Senate ~ (elections)

**certainty & uncertainty: basketball / sports & games**

## jumping-off place / point

jumping-off place  
this is just a ~, you still have to register (vaccine website)

jumping-off point  
he used Heidegger as a ~

**starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips /  
place / walking, running & jumping**

## jump out (verb)

jumps out at me  
it you look at the data, something that really ~ is...

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: verb / walking, running &  
jumping**

## jump-start (verb)

jump-start the economy  
the government is trying to ~

jump-start (supported) housing  
his mandate is to ~ (politician)

jump started an industry  
in a very short period of time we ~ (Texas oyster farming)

jump-start the process  
local governments have to ~

**initiation: engine / verb**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: engine / verb**

## jump-start (noun)

jumpstart on the (holiday shopping) season  
get a ~ (TV ad)

**initiation: engine**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: engine**

## jungle (competition)

jungle  
it's a ~ out there (survival of the fittest)  
the fashion world can be a ~ (greed, etc.)

**competition / danger: ground, terrain & land / jungle**

## jungle (environment)

celebrity jungle  
the ~ will be his next opponent (boxer on the skids)

hobo jungle  
he lives in a ~ near the train tracks

♦ "In the mighty jungle of Hollywood, the roar of the box office is king."  
(From Peter Travers' review of the film *Beast*.)

♦ "The celebrity jungle will be his next opponent." (Jack Daniels negative  
assessment of Anthony Joshua's boxing prospects after Joshua lost to  
Oleksandr Usyk for a second time and then threw a tantrum in the ring.)

♦ "Better run through the jungle..." (YouTube Creedence Clearwater  
Revival—Run Through the Jungle (Vietnam heavy combat footage)

♦ "We fought through the bloody rain. It's only right that the bull should  
take place in the bloody rain." (The sentiment of many of the enlisted  
men at the June 14<sup>th</sup> 1945 Fourteenth Army Victory Parade and Naval  
Review in Rangoon, which was held in driving rain. To liberate the city  
they had had to march and fight over a thousand miles of jungle and  
mountains, and beat not only the Japanese but also malaria and  
monsoons. From *The Life and Times of Lord Mountbatten* by John  
Terraine.)

**environment: ground, terrain & land / jungle**

## junk (worth)

junk  
his experiments were ~ (expert witness at trial)  
television is no longer ~ (an opinion)

junk science  
handwriting, fire, fiber, blood splatter analysis are all ~  
the ~ behind wellness scams (Maintenance Phase podcast)

junk status

their stock has been reduced to ~

worth & lack of worth: waste

## junkie (game junkie, etc.)

adrenaline junkie

~s who risk life and limb (sports)

it's bound to appeal to ~s (skeleton racing)

~s get a thrill out of riding wood roller coasters

fitness junkie

I'm a ~ who works out every day

gadget junkie

holiday gifts for ~s (computer peripherals, etc.)

game junkie

a 16-year-old ~ with a PlayStation 2

information junkie

if you're an ~ (technology)

news junkies

day traders, ~, and the Web

~ can get a daily fix (Web site)

pain junkie

a bizarre band of ~s (ultrarunners)

space junkies

~ hoping to book a flight (to the space station)

vinyl junkie

I was such a ~, the labels, the grooves, the blackness, the artwork on the covers...

waterfall junkie

hardcore ~s (those who love to find, visit falls)

college basketball junkies

~ and the NCAA tournament

junk-food junkie

a notorious slacker and ~

Internet junkie

living with an ~ ("Come to bed!")

bona fide junkie

the average weather watcher and the ~ (storm chasers)

partisan junkies

MSNBC turns its viewers into ~

political junkies

~ will obsess endlessly about...

enthusiasm: addiction / health & medicine / person

person: addiction

## jury (the jury is out)

jury is (still) out

the ~, we don't know about next year (pandemic)

jury is still out on whether

the ~ this approach will be successful (medicine)

the ~ active-shooter drills do more harm than good

certainty & uncertainty / judgment: justice

fate, fortune & chance: justice

reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: justice

## just (filler)

just got

she's ~ this, like, atomic power that comes out of her (actor)

just hate

I ~ ...

just thought

I ~ maybe like uhh...

just because

see *just because* (*polemical*)

just kind of

see *kind of* (*contempo-speak*)

just like

see *like* (*filler*)

just kind of like

see *kind of like* (*contempo-speak*)

just sort of like

see *sort of like* (*contempo-speak*)

♦ J-K-L-R speech. ("Just," "kind of," "like," and "really.")

contempo-speak: filler

## just because (polemical)

just because we don't see the problem with it

we don't get to decide what is offensive ~ or care ourselves

just because you can't vote

~ doesn't mean that you can't make a difference

just because I'm Black

I don't think that ~ I should be responsible for...

just because settlements happen

~ doesn't mean that a person is guilty (Deshaun Watson)

just because you're young

~, you can't get away with everything (students / law)

just because he said something

~ doesn't mean its true (politics)

just because Barnard is in New York

~ doesn't mean... (abortion pills)

just because you comply with the law

~ doesn't mean that... (abortion)

just because ritual does not have a direct causal effect

~, it does not mean that it has no effect in the world

just because it's about abortion

and ~, it doesn't mean that it's not about...

♦ "We don't get to decide what is offensive to other people just because we don't see the problem with it or care ourselves." (Race.)

inclusion & exclusion: polemics

## justice (groups)

Justice For Jayland

~ (fled in car and on foot, shot at policemen)

Justice For Shireen Abu Akleh

~ (Aljazeera)

abortion justice

the 5th Women's March focused on ~  
a rally for ~ in Washington, D.C.

Agricultural Justice

the ~ Project and the Equitable Food Initiative

climate justice

Tazo, a tea company, is deeply invested in ~  
global warming and ~ are inseparable  
Portland's ~ program has faced pushback  
the crowd joined her in a chant of ~ (Greta @ Glasto)  
urban heat and ~ (thermal inequity)  
the NAACP's ~ program

economic justice

Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision for ~  
she is an advocate for ~, immigration reform, and...

energy justice

he's a leader in the emerging field of "~"

environmental justice

she is a staunch ~ advocate  
Biden's ~ plan  
Rise St. James is devoted to ~ (Louisiana)  
heat equity is an ~ issue  
urban greening should close the ~ gap  
urban tree canopy cover and ~

Environmental Justice

East Yard Communities for ~ opposes the plan (L.A.)

food justice

food security and ~ issues  
topics in the Black community like ~ and Black hair  
his journey into ~ activism started in high school  
Caleb has helped start a revolution of ~  
Abe Levine of NPR worked as an educator and ~ activist

Gender Justice

leaders with the group ~ said they plan to appeal...  
Lusk and her legal team from ~ sued...

green justice

policy and planning tools for urban ~

racial justice

the link between ~ and climate change  
~ activists are upset about...  
readability of healthcare forms is a ~ issue  
the group addresses the intersection of homelessness and ~  
how struggles for ~ liberate everyone

reproductive justice

her forced contraception sheds light on ~ in the U.S.

social justice

~ groups are creating their own monuments  
liberal activists and ~ warriors have become so unhinged  
she reports on ~ and women's rights

racial, social and gender justice

Ericka Hart is a sexuality educator with a focus on ~

Rewards for Justice

~, the State Department's counterterrorism program

Peace and Justice

the National Memorial for ~ (Montgomery, Alabama)

♦ "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." (Martin Luther King. The quote and attribution appear at the end of *Mary Boyle: The Untold Story*, the documentary by Gemma O'Doherty.)

♦ JUSTICE, n. A commodity which is a more or less adulterated condition the State sells to the citizen as a reward for his allegiance, taxes and personal service. (The entry in *The Devil's Dictionary* by Ambrose Bierce. Nowadays, it might be defined as, "What aggrieved individuals or groups expect as their right.")

**inclusion & exclusion: judgment**

## K

### Kafkaesque (adjective)

Kafkaesque grounds

lawyers forced him to reopen the case on the ~ that...

Kafka-esque journey

a truly ~ through the bureaucracy (France)

Kafkaesque nightmare

my ~ is to be...  
he described the conservatorship as a ~ (#FreeBritney)  
my client is begging the court to end this ~ (#FreeBritney)

Kafkaesque outcome

that ~ demonstrates the way the system is run (education)

♦ "Then he stopped talking. There came a long, awesome silence from my father, a sort of Gregor Samsa silence, as though I had turned into a cockroach before his eyes. From my side too there was a guilty silence, as though I really had been some kind of wretched insect all along, and now my secret was out and everything was lost. / At the end of the silence Father began talking...He initiated me into the deepest secrets of the librarian's lore..." (*A Tale of Love and Darkness* by Amos Oz.)

**fantasy & reality: allusion / person**

**allusion: books & reading**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

### kangaroo court

kangaroo court

the term "~" came to mind (Title IX investigation)  
the hearing took place in a ~ (English Football)  
is this a ~, get a rope and do it right (the film *Stalag 17*)  
I urge my colleagues to reconsider this ~ (impeachment)

campus kangaroo courts

~ deny the accused rights (US universities)

run this kangaroo court

who appointed these people to ~ (a sports problem)

found guilty by a kangaroo court

we have been ~ (Manchester City soccer club)

♦ An older phrase for this is a drumhead court, or drumhead court-martial, which often led to a firing squad.

**judgment / oppression: animal / justice**

## Kansas (Kansas of China, etc.)

Kansas of China

the basin is the ~, fertile and rich (Red Basin / China)

**comparison & contrast / farming & agriculture: epithet**

## karat (24-karat)

24-karat gold

he has a heart of ~

24-karat gold (m)

he is a ~ personality (a restaurant owner)

24-karat moment

Brooklyn's championship was a ~ (baseball)

24-karat nugget

his Short Symphony is a ~ (Copeland)

24 karat product

the products I've sold are ~ in every way (fund-raiser)

24 karat or fool's gold

it's hard to say if he is ~ (an athlete bought by a team)

**worth & lack of worth: materials & substances / mining**

## karma (fate)

artistic good karma

the musical has had ~ to... (topicality)

♦ [T]his is what is known as Karma! (A Manchester United hater, after Man U lost to Liverpool 0-4.)

**fate, fortune & chance: religion**

## keel (even keel)

keep things on an even keel

let's ~

keep an even keel

I need to ~ for my kids (while Dad is on trial)

♦ "Certainly my life was [a 'bloomin' kick-up]; but, to some extent, my Indian training served to ballast me." (*Something of Myself* by Rudyard Kipling.)

**equilibrium & stability: boat**

## keep up (awareness)

keep up with the issues

I try to ~

**consciousness & awareness: walking, running & jumping / verb**

## keep up (progress)

keep up

we want to ~ and not fall behind (government official)

technology is outpacing the ability of governments to ~

keeping up

working-class families aren't ~ (educating kids)

keeping up with the rest of the world

in education, the US is not ~

**competition / progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement / sports & games / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## kernel (noun)

kernel of a (future) threat

the far-sighted saw a ~

**creation & transformation: plant**

**growth & development: plant**

## kernel (amount)

kernel of truth

the story has, at most, a ~ at its core (David and Goliath)

**amount: plant / size**

## key (important)

key

the ~ is to notice when and where he does it (toddler)

this could be the ~ that unlocks the mystery

key to (successful) marriage

the ~ is...

key to his (business) strategy

the ~

key to (mission) success

coordination and flexibility are ~ (military)

key to (the school's) success

teamwork is the ~

key to survival

hard work was the ~ (the Great Depression)

key to investing

the ~ is...

key accomplishments

write down your ~ and use specific examples (job)

key advantage

Vodafone has ~s over the competition

key aides

kill the terrorist bin Laden and his ~

key alloy

nickel is a ~ in stainless steel

key (regime) assets

targeting ~ (military)

key bridges

~, road intersections, and mountain passes (war)

key courses

avoid crowding in ~

key decision  
when it comes to ~s

key detail  
it overlooked one ~

key difference  
he points out a ~ between the men

key emotion  
empathy, the ~, emerges early

key evidence  
his dying declaration was the ~ (murder case)

key fact  
the ~ was that...

key factor  
communications is the ~  
three ~s contribute to burnout...

key (terrain) features  
~ and landmarks (military)

key figure  
he is the ~ in the group

key infrastructure  
every other ~ depends on it (electricity) (terrorism)

key meetings  
~ held privately by the rich counties

key message  
I think one of the ~s is...

key moment  
he failed to maintain his situation awareness at ~s (war)

key objective  
the airfield would be a ~

key organizer  
Beck was a ~ of the Seattle protests

key partner  
Ethiopia is a ~ in US counterterrorism efforts (in region)

key (leadership) positions  
troops in ~

key post  
he went to work filling the ~s (government)

key principle  
the ~ in the court case

key requirement  
the ~ during a retrograde is to maintain positive control

key rules  
teach your swimmers these four ~ (drownings)

key species  
the caribou is a ~ in the refuge

key technique  
mastered the ~ to create a nuclear bomb

key term  
define the ~s listed in this chapter (nursing)

key terrain  
the target may be ~, a farm, a ridgeline  
seize or hold ~ and counterattack the enemy  
the high ground in desert terrain is usually ~  
~ or landmarks are used to ... (minefield)

key test  
the ~ will involve...(gene therapy)

key time  
their parents are home at ~s of the day

key (rebel-held) town  
a ~

key witness  
police didn't interview ~s  
the ~ for the prosecution

key transit point  
Kandahar is a ~ for raw opium

key staging area  
Peshawar served as the ~

key finding  
a ~ was lax security (prison escape)

**importance & significance: key**

**key (throw away the key)**

throw away the key  
they should put him in jail and ~  
~ this time (arrested again)

**punishment & recrimination: key / verb**

**key (access)**

have the key  
you'll ~, you can open the door (NYC vaccine pass)

turn the key  
we are unlocking, but we must ~ slowly (pandemic travel)

**access & lack of access: doors & thresholds / key**

**keyhole (the Keyhole, etc.)**

Keyhole  
the ~ in Larimer County, Colorado (an arch)

Keyhole Falls  
~ on the Lillooet River...

Keyhole nebula  
the Carina Nebula, the ~, brighter than the Orion Nebula

**epithet / proper name: shape**

**geography: epithet**

**keynote (noun)**

keynote speaker  
the ~ was...

**importance & significance: sound**

## keystone

keystone members

vultures are ~ of the scavenging community

keystone species

a ~ helps determine the types of other species

as the ~ disappears, so do others (oaks)

the walrus is considered a ~ in Arctic marine ecosystems

♦ A keystone is the stone at the apex of an arch (or vault) that helps to lock the structure in place and prevents it from collapsing, in many cases.

**bases: infrastructure**

## kick (kick one's butt, etc.)

kicked my butt

asthma ~ (the great boxer Shannon Briggs)

**feeling, emotion & effect: leg / sensation / verb**

## kick (kick oneself)

kicked myself

I ~ for not doing a better job of...

**punishment & recrimination: foot / verb**

## kick (kick in the teeth, etc.)

kick in the teeth

it's been a real ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: leg / foot / sensation / verb**

## kickback (corruption)

bribery and kickback (m)

taken him to court on ~ charges (politician)

bribery, kickbacks, theft and conspiracy

a web of ~ (military contracts / Iraq)

**social interaction: foot**

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: foot**

## kicked off

kicked off the (soccer) team

he was almost ~ for missing practices...

kicked off her team

she may now be ~... (kid)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: foot / leg**

## kicked out

kicked out of Harvard

he was ~ for... (William Randolph Hearst)

kicked out of her dorm

her daughter was getting ~ for not paying rent

kicked out of their families

elderly women ~ (witchcraft / Mozambique)

kicked out of a (UW master's) program

he was ~ because... (student)

kicked out of the stadium

if a fan chants racist abuse now, he is ~ (soccer)

get kicked out

if they tell their parents, they ~... (gay students);

I'd rather leave than ~ (a bad school)

got kicked out

I wanted to be a priest, but I ~ of seminary

**dismissal, removal & resignation: foot / leg**

## kick in (start)

kick in

the link between recession and crime may ~

kicked in

the Italian mix of quality and durability ~ (soccer)

instinct kicked in

a stubborn playground ~ (not backing down in combat)

training kicks in

and then your ~ (combat)

wealth and connections kicked in

when he returned to Mexico, his ~ (extradited politician)

time to kick in

give your new diet ~ (weight loss)

**initiation / starting, going, continuing & ending: engine / foot / leg / mechanism / verb**

## kicking and screaming

kicking and screaming

the president, ~, was bought into that (to agree a bill)

drag some along kicking and screaming

he may have to ~ (a reform police chief)

**eagerness & reluctance: foot / leg / sound**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: foot / leg / sound**

## kick off (verb)

kicking off

Memoria Day sales are ~

kicked off here

an international Islamic conference ~ yesterday (Riyadh)

kicks off in Tampa

as the convention ~ (politics)

kick off this afternoon

the trial will ~ (impeachment)

kicked off the celebrations

bands and parades ~ at noon... (New Year)

kicked off a (nationwide) crackdown

authorities ~ against unlicensed Internet Cafes (China)

kick off the fiesta  
revelers packed the streets to ~ (Pamplona)

kick off the (shortboard) revolution  
his board designs helped ~ (surfing)

**initiation / starting, going, continuing & ending: foot /  
football / leg / sports & games / verb**

### kickoff (noun)

kickoff breakfast  
she attended the Democratic Convention ~

tomorrow's kickoff  
both sides have filed arguments ahead of ~ (trial)

Wednesday's kickoff  
~ is the culmination of a process (a trade treaty)

campaign kickoff  
her ~ will draw inspiration from her late mother (Clinton)

**initiation / starting, going, continuing & ending: foot /  
football / leg / sports & games**

### kick out (verb)

kicked her out of the house  
I ~ (live-in girlfriend)

kick me out of school  
they threatened to ~

kick her out  
I was afraid they would ~ (toddler who bites / daycare)

she kicked him out  
~ (grandmother found out he was gay)

threatened to kick me out  
they ~ of school

**dismissal, removal & resignation: foot / leg / prep, adv, adj,  
particle / verb**

### kick-start (verb)

kick-start a (new fund-raising) campaign  
she used the Walgreen's launch to ~ (Theranos)

kick-started this whole investigation  
Comey's firing ~ (politics)

kick-start weight loss  
Atkins saw ketosis as the obvious way to ~

kick-started the process  
he ~ to have the relics returned to Libya

♦ The pundit who wrote about the need for a candidate to "kickstart a moribund campaign" made me laugh out loud. I would try to *revive*, *reinvigorate*, *resuscitate*, or *breathe life into* that poor campaign, not stomp on its chest with what I am wearing on my feet! I would only try to *kickstart* or *jump-start* it if it had *stalled*. Warning: you can point out people's mixed metaphors, or you can have friends.

**initiation / starting, going, continuing & ending: engine / leg  
/ verb**

### kick up (verb)

gale kicked up  
a ~, causing a choking dust storm (Kansas)

waves kicked up  
had the ~... (open canoe in Glacier Bay)

wind kicked up  
the ~ and the ridgetop turned frigid (Afghan combat)

wind was kicking up  
but the ~, there was no moon and they need to hurry

**initiation: foot / leg / verb**

### kid (big kid on the block)

big kid on the (geopolitical) block  
we're no longer the only ~ (the US in Asia)

**strength & weakness: size**

### kill (verb)

killed the idea  
a backlash from parents and school counselors ~

kills innovation  
regulation ~ (tech industry)

kill the legislation  
liberals helped to ~

killing (more and more) people  
methamphetamines are ~ in the US (Blacks, Indians)

killed (1,800) people  
Hurricane Katrina ~ in 2005

kill (large) ships  
the Antey-class subs were designed to ~ (aircraft carriers)

killed the story  
*Esquire* ~ (by Nelson Algren about Rubin Carter)

kills them  
your immune system identifies those rogue cells and ~

hard to kill  
though hope is frail, it's ~ (Whitney, Mariah)

### HEAT KILLS

~, Don't Leave Children in Parked Vehicles

♦ "I worry very little about change killing us." (Social media advertising, monetizing, commodification, etc.)

♦ "They've been trying to murder memory." (Politics.)

**curtailment / destruction: death & life / verb**

### kill (verb / accomplishment)

kill it  
oh, she would ~, she would be so great on this show  
they rise to the occasion, they ~ (a high-school teacher)

killed it  
he ~ (an excellent performance)

killing it

they are ~ (a company doing well)

digs, kills, assists, blocks, aces

~ (volleyball)

♦ "They are killing it, they are crushing KFC." (Chick-fil-A versus Kentucky Fried Chicken, according to a professor of marketing at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, also known as Wharton Business School. The University of Pennsylvania is a private Ivy League university in Philadelphia, established in 1881.)

♦ "I ask a lot of these guys and, they rise to the occasion, and they kill it, they do so much work for me." (A high-school biology teacher, with upspeak, in Montana.)

♦ "7-year-old girl who slayed the makeup game is back." (An online advertisement from Brightly Creative.)

**success & failure: death & life / verb**

## killed (by disease, etc.)

killed was Alicia A. Monahan

~ (drowned in a river)

killed in Italy

Beradelli is among 50 priests ~ (died from coronavirus)

killed as of April 10

with 1,185 ~ (Bronx coronavirus deaths)

killed throughout the county

39 people were ~ a Buffalo New York blizzard / NPR)

killed by coronavirus

at least 50 priests have reportedly been ~ in Italy

♦ "Kostis was executed at close range with a spear gun." (A Mediterranean monk seal, according to the Hellenic Society for the Study and Protection of the Monk Seal, or MOm, charity.)

♦ "The Nipah virus has a kill rate of 70%." (Seventy percent of infected people die.)

♦ In the past, a person died. Now that same person is "killed": by a river, virus, etc.

**death & life: verb**

## killer (silent killer, etc.)

killer in many OD deaths

fentanyl has been a silent ~

"carrier killer"

the ~ has speeds higher than Mach 5 (ASBM / DF-21D)

number one weather-related killer

heat is the ~ in the U.S.

Silent Killer

carbon monoxide, the ~

♦ "Shame. You know, shame is a silencer. Shame is a killer. Shame is a murderer... I had nothing but shame in my entire life." (The actor Billy Porter.)

**death & life: epithet**

## killer (killer story, etc.)

killer story

if it's truly a ~, eyeballs will find it (young journalist)

killer suit

she was in this ~ and killer heels (female fashion envy)

**success & failure / superlative: death & life**

## killing field (noun)

characterized American communities as 'killing fields'  
President Biden ~

♦ Killing field is recognized by Merriam-Webster, which dates first usage to 1980. There is a Wikipedia entry for "Killing Fields" about sites in Cambodia.

♦ President Trump: "This American carnage stops right here and stops right now." (President Trump's inaugural address, Friday, January 20, 2017. In an NPR segment, Trump was condemned for being "bitter," "bleak," "dark," divisive," "hard-edged," and "negative." From "How Trump's Inauguration Speech Compares To His First Year In Office" by Mara Liasson, NPR, All Things Considered, January 18, 2018.)

♦ "Standing there is that small town [Uvalde, Texas]... I couldn't help but think, there are too many other schools, too many everyday places, that have become killing fields, battlefields, here in America." ("Biden urges gun action to end the 'killing fields,' YouTube, June 2, 2022. 622 views.)

♦ "'I'm just a photographer; I don't know anything... 'Look straight ahead. Don't lean your head to the left or the right.' That's all I said. I had to say that so the picture would turn out well..." (Mr. Nhem En, staff member and chief of 6 photographers at Tuol Sleng prison, responsible for taking mug shots of prisoners, many of which are now on display at the prison. At least 14,000 people were tortured to death or sent to the killing fields. Only a half dozen inmates were known to have survived. From "Out From Behind a Camera at a Khmer Torture House," by Seth Mydans, NYT International, Oct 27, 2007, A3.)

**destruction: death & life**

## kill off (verb)

kill off old habits

it's difficult to ~

kills off 'Batgirl' movie

Warner Bros. ~, \$90 million in...

**curtailment / destruction: death & life / verb**

## killjoy (person)

killjoy

she was trying to be realistic and not a ~ (an educator)

♦ "There are no votes or money to be gained from being a killjoy." (Politics in the age of the COVID pandemic.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: death & life / person**

**character & personality: person**

## kin (noun)

kin to (mountain) country

when the sea is ~... (resemblance)

kin to the dulcimer

the bowed Psaltery, a stringed instrument ~

closer kin

laughter that's ~ to rage than joy

**relationship: family**

## kindhearted (and kind-hearted)

kindhearted

a ~ woman gave him some food

**empathy & lack of empathy / character & personality: heart**

## kindle (verb)

kindles fears

release of bombing figure ~

kindled an (environmental) movement

her protest ~ (save the trees)

kindle violent behavior

its ability to ~ (alcohol and cocaine)

**increase & decrease / initiation: fire / verb**

## kind of (kind of like)

see *kind of like (contempo-speak)*

## kind of (contempo-speak)

kinda what

inoculation theory, which is ~ it sounds like (NPR)

kind of feels

everybody ~ like now they can't...

kind of pouring cold water

Trudeau is now ~ over the idea... (support for Haiti)

kind of icky

I still feel ~ about it (abortion)

kind of yucky

it's ~ (red tides)

kind of absolutely

see *absolutely (contempo-speak)*

kind of exactly

see *exactly (contempo-speak)*

kind of felt like

see *feel like (and felt like, etc.)*

kind of like

see *kind of like (contempo-speak)*

kind of obviously

see *obviously (contempo-speak)*

kind of pretty

see *pretty (contempo-speak)*

kind of really

see *really (and REEE•lee, etc.)*

kind of sort of

see *sort of (contempo-speak)*

kinda you know

see *you know (filler)*

actually kind of

it's really ~ cool, it never gets old

Jimmy Fallon's show is ~ great

it's ~ an interesting story

it seems ~ funny when you think about it

they are the only earthquakes we can ~ predict

this album is ~ in the same vein as RuPaul's Drag Race

it ~ worked out perfectly

I ~ used my songs, in a way, to push myself to...

extremely kind of

we used to have these ~ post-Soviet messages that...

just kinda

bikes that we ~ leave locked up outside (thefts)

to me, it ~ shows what...

just kind of

that's ~ where my head goes a lot, you know...

it ~ happened...

I ~ stack things because there's a lot of stuff

we're ~ waiting for...

so she stood up and then the second one ~ came out (birth)

really kind of

I think they've ~ managed to...

we ~ don't do that...

it's ~ a wild experience

it's ~ confusing for them because it's not even clear...

the pandemic has ~ heightened the urgency...

so it ~ depends...

she was ~ well known back in the day

it's ~ pretty (evening ground fog)

really, kind of

it's ~ an incredible thing to imagine happening...

really actually kind of

it's ~ cool, it never gets old

I ~ felt like I was getting to know her

Sorta, Kinda

"Your Questions For Sonny Rollins, Answered (~)"

♦ "I used to be in punk bands when I was a kid and I just kind of suddenly thought, 'I killed Captain Cook' sounded like a really good name for a Hawaiian punk band to have made..."

♦ "This might be ya know a way to kinda sorta eliminate them, and, it's just awful... Drag performance is just so powerful, and that's probably why they fear it, ya know?" (Frida Nightz, a drag queen, about proposed legislation in Idaho to ban public drag shows.)

♦ "I felt like I kind of realized who I was by being with him—or like, I felt like I was allowed to be who I was, and I didn't feel like I needed to be anybody different." (A contemporary woman about her relationship with her husband.)

♦ He kinda / sorta apologized for... (A celebrity.)

♦ Type in "just kinda" at NPR and you get 73 results and counting. Type in "just kind of" at NPR and you get 8,606 results and counting.

♦ see also *sort of (contempo-speak)*

♦ J-K-L-R speech. ("Just," "kind of," "like," and "really.")

**contempo-speak: adverb / filler**

## kind of like (contempo-speak)

kinda like

and I was ~, I feel like... (The Gayly Prophet podcast)

kind of like

and I felt myself, ~, stand up straighter (empowered)

kind of like taught you

in some ways I ~ how to... (trans)

kind of like stepping back in time

it's ~

kind of like a boy

I can't decide if I'm a girl who feels ~ or...

kind of like a cycle

so it was ~ that kept repeating

kind of like this exercise

it's ~ in conformity (DEI training)

kind of like a fork in the road

it's ~ on an endless path in the darkness... (karmic level)

kind of like a maid

she was ~ to Mrs. Lee...

kind of like this (dimension hopping) voyager

in my mind, she's ~

kind of like psychological

it's unpleasant to relive, I mean, half of it's ~, I don't enjoy...

felt kind of like

I just ~ a prisoner of my childhood, I was really confused

feels kind of like

I can't decide if I'm a girl who ~ a boy or like a gay man or...

looks kind of like

it ~ gold (a bright yellow powder)

actually kind of like

we believed he was ~ that in real life (Bill Cosby)

basically kind of like

so the video is ~ in the style of Godzilla  
you're ~ being in the center courtyard of a castle (Estes Park)

just kind of like

we both were ~ mind blown at the whole entire situation  
and we're being ~ told, 'unless you have...'  
I think I was ~ experiencing it and...

♦ "I can't decide if I'm a girl who feels kind of like a boy or like a gay man trapped in a girl's body or if I'm, like, a boy but in a very feminine way, or, like, am I a lesbian?" ("Banned Books: Maia Kobabe explores gender identity in 'Gender Queer,'" NPR, Morning Edition, January 4, 2023.)

♦ "And I was just kind of like 'what?'"

♦ Are you sure?!

♦ see also *sort of like* (*contempo-speak*)

**contempo-speak: filler**

## kindred (kindred spirits, etc.)

kindred spirits

she was able to find other ~

**feeling, emotion & effect / relationship: family**

**division & connection: family**

## king (king cobra, etc.)

king of beasts

this ~ (a lion)

king of fishes

on the white sand at the bottom lay the sturgeon, ~

king cobra

just a glimpse of a ~ can spread panic on a tea plantation

the ~ reaches up to 8 feet in length (India)

the ~ can growl (India)

king salmon

~ is the largest of Alaska's five salmon species

~ can weigh 30 pounds or more (Yukon River)

~, also called Chinook salmon...

**epithet / proper name / superlative: royalty**

**size: epithet**

## king (products)

king

in this seafood-crazed country, tuna is ~ (Japan / sushi)

the automobile is ~ (issue of walkability of cities)

colleges where football is ~

in the old days the broadcast networks were ~

they came from the Deep South, where cotton was ~

King of Beers

Budweiser, the ~

king of fruit

Xiyuangualu lychees were dubbed "the ~" (China)

King of Steaks

Pat's ~ (Harry and Pat Olivieri / Philly cheese steak)

king of wool

shahtoosh wool, the "~" in Persian (Tibetan antelope)

**superlative: epithet / royalty**

**epithet: royalty**

## king (person)

king

the customer is ~ (said by a Sony Corporation exec)

king of the carnival

King Momo, ~ (Rio)

king of Russian chanson

Mikhail Krug, often called the ~, was murdered

King of the city

he was the unofficial ~ (Pablo Escobar / Medellin)

“king” of *coupe-decale*

he had been referred to as the ~ (DJ Arafat)

“King of the Wild Frontier”

David Crockett, the ~

king of the hill

kids like to play ~

King of Instagram

he is often referred to as the ~ (Dan Bilzerian)

king of the mountains

points in the ~ competition (Tour de France)

King of Pop  
Michael Jackson, the ~, was also the king of shyness

King of Soul  
200,000 fans viewed the body of the ~ (Sam Cooke)

carnival king  
a representation of the ~ is set ablaze (Martinique)

cocaine king  
known as the “~ of Milan,” Morabito was arrested in...

cocaine kings  
all of the ~ had mansions, limos, helicopter (Colombia)

“Gypsy King”  
Tyson the ~ Fury...

Sausage King  
Vladimir Marugov, the ~ (owned meat-processing plants)

Taxi King  
Gene Freidman, known as “the ~” (NYC)

kings and queens  
homecoming, the American tradition featuring ~ (school)

♦ “We might not have a monarchy here in Brazil, but he was our King.” (A Brazilian man visiting Sao Paulo’s Museum of Football with his three children shortly after the death of Pele.)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty**  
**superlative: epithet / person / royalty**  
**epithet / person: royalty**

## King Canute

King Canute  
eliminating abuse is like ~ trying to hold back the tide

♦ Canute was a very good Christian, and the whole story has been misinterpreted.

**control & lack of control: allusion / sea / tide**

## kingdom (animal kingdom)

animal kingdom  
Darwin linked humans to the rest of the ~ (evolution)

**taxonomy & classification: royalty**

## kingdom (Magic Kingdom, etc.)

Magic Kingdom  
smiling faces at the ~ (Disney)

**proper name: royalty**

## kingdom (control)

their own little kingdom  
to an extent it’s like ~ (prison / correctional officers)

operated as a kingdom  
it essentially ~ rather than a corporation (advocacy group)

**area / control & lack of control: royalty**

## kingpin (person)

drug kingpin

the ~ was executed... (Federal execution)  
~s continue to run their cartels from prison (Mexico)

powerful kingpin  
police have captured many of the most ~s (drug cartels)

bandits and kingpins  
ballads about ~s (grupero music)

♦ A kingpin was the main pivot in cars for steering

**bases / importance & significance / person: mechanism**  
**power: person**

## kink (noun)

kinks  
the ~ have been worked out (interagency coordination)  
there are still some ~ to be worked out

kinks in the process  
there are still some ~

kinks in the service  
there are some ~

kinks in the system  
perhaps the Mayor can work out the ~

annoying kink  
the system still has ~s (gesture technology)

iron out any kinks  
they are having a test run to ~ (restaurant opening)

work out the kinks  
US officials are trying to ~ (border security)

**flaws & lack of flaws: rope**

## kinship (noun)

kinship with the painter  
he felt an immediate ~

felt an (immediate) kinship  
he ~ with the painter

**feeling, emotion & effect / relationship: family**  
**division & connection: family**

## Kipling (the Canadian Kipling, etc.)

Kipling of the Klondike  
Jack London was known as the ~

Canadian Kipling  
he earned the nickname, the ~ (Robert W. Service)

♦ Rangoon / Singapore / Hong Kong / Japan / San Francisco / Portland / Seattle / Victoria / Vancouver / Medicine Hat (Alberta) / Yellowstone National Park / Salt Lake City / Omaha / Chicago / Beaver (Pennsylvania) / Chautauqua / Niagara Falls / Toronto / Washington, D.C. / New York / Boston / Liverpool. (Kipling’s itinerary after leaving India for England, age 24. It was on this trip back to England that he met with another great traveler and writer, Mark Twain.)

**allusion: books & reading**  
**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## kiss of death

kiss of death

asking for a term paper in four weeks is the ~ (cheating)  
if he does endorse someone, it turns out to be a ~  
once you lose credibility, that's the ~ (crisis management)  
trying to ban handguns would be the ~ (US)  
to be known as gay then was a ~ (job / 1960s)

kiss of death to a teen girl's reputation

teenage pregnancy used to be the ~

kiss of death politically

to be seen as a US supporter is a ~

♦ This refers to the kiss that Judas gave Jesus after the last supper, which identified Jesus to the soldiers.

**destruction / fate, fortune & chance: allusion / Bible / death & life / religion**

## kitchen (creation)

“kitchen” for weather

the Arctic is the ~ in the northern hemisphere

♦ Education and Sociology are the “kitchens” for much of the “contemporary” we all hear nowadays.

**creation & transformation: cooking**

## knee (bring to one's knees)

brought the entire world economy to its knees  
it suddenly ~ (COVID pandemic)

brought the pirates to their knees  
the war ~ (Barbary States)

bring the rebels to their knees  
their efforts to ~

brought this (once-mighty) bank to its knees  
he ~

**condition & status / dominance & submission / resistance, opposition & defeat: direction / knee / standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## knee (on knees)

on its knees  
the economy was ~, now it's on its feet (politics)

**condition & status / decline: direction / knee / standing, sitting & lying**

## knee (oppression)

knee of injustice  
we have all seen the ~ on the neck of black Americans

knee on the neck  
he has his ~ of the public-health community (politics)

Get Your Knee Off Our Necks  
the event included a ~ protest

took world football's knee off Africa's neck  
so 2010 ~ (South African World Cup)

**oppression: knee**

## knee (take a knee)

take a knee

George Floyd's family and lawyers ~, call for justice  
public hostility towards athletes who ~

take a knee against racism

Olympians ~, under new policy (Tokyo)

“take a knee” protests

school district threatens to remove athletes for ~

*Raise a Fist, Take a Knee*

~: *Race and the Illusion of Progress in Modern Sports*

♦ “That issue [prejudice] is now full and centre and top of the mind in the world and I think this movement of Black Lives Matter and taking the knee campaign made the world sit back and look at the issue. So 2010 took world football's knee off Africa's neck, I don't think it will be allowed to put that knee on Africa's neck again.” (Danny Jordaan, organising chief for the 2010 World Cup in South Africa, won by Spain. From “2010 took world football's knee off Africa's neck,” BBC, July 11, 2020. This is a good example of presentism.)

♦ “I don't believe in gestures, I believe in substance, I believe in doing things that make a practical difference.” (Prime Minister Boris Johnson, asked if he would “take the knee.”)

♦ “Will England be taking the knee at this World Cup to highlight social injustices? If so, does this also cover gingers and baldies?” / “Of course. What do you think the G and B stand for in LGBTQ?” (Absolutely inspired repartee on a BBC HYS about the FIFA World Cup in Qatar. The snark alludes to several things, including a speech given by FIFA president Gianni Infantino that was characterized as a rant but that made several excellent points.)

**inclusion & exclusion: sign, signal, symbol / verb**

## knee (risen from its knees, etc.)

risen from its knees

the country has ~, from humiliation...

**dominance & submission / superiority & inferiority / resistance, opposition & defeat: direction / knee / standing, sitting & lying**

## kneecap (verb)

kneecap an (American) ambassador  
nobody should be able to ~ (politics)

kneecap the Postal Service  
he is trying to ~ to discourage voting

politically kneecap  
he tried to ~ Bill Clinton (George HW Bush)

♦ “He's basically hitting at the kneecaps of the process we all depend on.” (A political kerfuffle.)

**coercion & motivation: crime / knee / verb / violence**

## kneecapped

kneecapped through a smear campaign  
she was ~ (a US ambassador)

**coercion & motivation: crime / knee / verb / violence**

## knee-jerk (adjective)

knee-jerk reaction

the gun law was a ~ to the Parkland school shooting hysteria and ~s (election politics)  
this law is a ~ to a tragic event

knee-jerk solutions

many companies have come up with ~ (training)

♦ "[T]he simple, elegant, inexpensive almost plebeian swing of the reflex hammer has a cost/benefit ratio that I think no advanced technology will likely ever match." (Dr. Stephen Krieger, an expert on multiple sclerosis.)

**control & lack of control: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## kneel (and kneel down, etc.)

kneel down before North American imperialism  
we will never ~ (Venezuela)

**dominance & submission / resistance, opposition & defeat:  
direction / knee / religion / standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## knell (death knell / obsolescence)

sounded the death knell for VHS  
DVD ~

sounded the death knell for these landmarks  
the mobile phone may have ~ (London's red phone boxes)

♦ The tolling of a bell to mark someone's death.

**curtailment / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence:  
bell / burial / death & life / sound  
sound: bell**

## knell (death knell / destruction)

death knell for his career  
the documentary will sound the ~ (a filmmaker)

sound death knell for youth  
drugs ~ (Kachin State in northern Burma)

♦ The tolling of a bell to mark someone's death.

**destruction: bell / burial / death & life / sound  
sound: bell**

## knife (knife in the heart)

knife in the heart  
the date Feb. 6, 1958, is still a ~ (Man. U fan)

**destruction: blade / creature / death & life / knife / heart  
feeling, emotion & effect: blade / death & life / heart /  
knife**

## knife (sharpen one's knife)

sharpened their knives  
Madrid's media ~ (over a soccer controversy)

♦ "Chris dropped a knife that was used by Zucker's enemies." (CNN president forced to resign.)

**punishment & recrimination / destruction: blade / knife**

## knife-edged

knife-edged ridge  
the headwalls of back-to-back cirques form ~s

**shape: blade / knife**

## knight (Black Knights, etc.)

Black Knights  
the Robbinsville ~ (high-school football team)

Golden Knights  
the ~ Army Parachute Team

Scarlet Knights  
the ~ are off to a slow start (Rutgers football)

**proper name: Middle Ages**

## knight (knight in shining armor)

knight in shining armor  
I'm the ~ (Lenox Lewis, out to save boxing)

**help & assistance: Middle Ages / person**

## knit (knit together)

knits together many threads  
the story ~ of Muslim grievances (suicide bomber)

knit the plays together  
he ~ through overlapping themes (August Wilson)

knits this country together  
the flood ruined every thread that ~

knit this enormous planet together  
migratory birds ~

knit together as a unit  
it has taken the team a while to ~

**division & connection: cloth / verb**

## knit (tightly knit)

tightly knit community  
it's a very ~ (Neptune City, Jersey Shore)

**division & connection: cloth**

## knock-on (effect, etc.)

knock-on consequences  
it will have ~

**relationship: crashes & collisions**

## knock out (verb)

knocked out power  
winds ~ (hurricane)  
the storm ~ to thousands  
the storm ~ to about 1.2 million people (California)

knocked out (several major power) utilities  
the failure ~ (huge blackout)

knocked out 280 feet  
the flood ~ of the 36-inch steel pipe (water line)

flood knocked out 280 feet  
the ~ of the 36-inch steel pipe (water line)

storm knocked out power

the ~ to thousands

**curtailment: boxing / fist / verb**

**storm: force**

## knockout (knockout blow, etc.)

knockout blow

the air campaign failed to deliver a ~ (Iraqi Freedom)  
the ~ was delivered when... (investigation / indictments)

knock-out blow

he was unable to land a ~ on Amy Klobuchar (politics)

knock-out phases

time will tell if Italy can advance to the ~ (soccer)

**force: boxing / fist**

## knockout (knockout voice, etc.)

knockout figure

she had a ~ and dressed provocatively

knockout voice

she has a ~ and terrific timing (a singer)

**feeling, emotion & effect: boxing / fist**

## knock over (verb)

knocked me over

this book just ~ (*I'll Be Gone In The Dark*)

**feeling, emotion & effect: boxing / equilibrium & stability / fist / force**

## knot (the Pamir Knot, etc.)

Pamir Knot

the ~ (Pamirs, Hindu Kush and Karakoram meet)

**proper name: rope**

## knot (noun)

tie the city in knots

one million tourists will ~ (Olympics)

**obstacles & impedance: rope**

## know (in the know)

in the know

but those ~ say...

in the know about what

was he ~ was unfolding in Ukraine

**consciousness & awareness: part of speech**

## know (you know)

see *you know* (filler)

## know-how (noun)

technological know-how

we have the ~ to solve the problem

**knowledge & intelligence: part of speech**

## knuckle down (verb)

knuckle down and get to work

okay, let's ~

♦ Language from the game of marbles includes: all the marbles; lose one's marbles; knuckle down; and play for keeps.

**difficulty, easiness & effort: sports & games / verb**

## knuckle under (verb)

knuckle under to these demands

Facebook could ~ or get knocked offline (Vietnam)

**dominance & submission / resistance, opposition & defeat: fist / position / verb / violence**

## Kool-Aid (drink the Kool-Aid, etc.)

division Kool-Aid

we as a nation must stop drinking the ~ (politics)

drinking the coolaid

you haven't seen the video or you're just ~ (comment)

drank the Kool-Aid

wow, you really ~, no, I don't feel that at all (culture wars)

drunk the Kool-Aid

kids who have ~ (only one path to good life / school)

♦ "there are only 2 genders, don't drink the Kool aid." (An online commenter about "NJ transgender woman transferred from women's only prison after impregnating 2 inmates, report says" by Stephen Sorace, Fox News, July 17, 2022.)

♦ "Already you have a little bit of hater-ade against you, people are drinking it about you." (From a woman on CBS This Morning to Jeanine Cummins on the publication of her book *American Dirt*.)

♦ This refers to the mass suicide of over 900 members of the People Temple in Jonestown, Guyana, in 1978. Many of them drank a powdered drink laced with cyanide. See the Wikipedia entry for "Drinking the Kool-Aid."

**acceptance & rejection: food & drink**

**allegiance, support & betrayal: food & drink**

**commitment & determination / consumption: food & drink**

## kowtow (verb)

kowtow to the NCAA

the sovereign state of Montana will not ~ (sports)

kowtow to anyone

he did not feel like he had to ~

kowtow to the (religious) establishment

there is no need to ~ (broadcasting)

kowtow to (campus) orthodoxy

students and faculty who fail to ~ (DEI)

kowtow to the (very) rich

he will not ~ (Barak)

♦ "I think there's less of an intentional... I don't like the term kowtowing, but... intentionally only targeting that." (A film pundit about filmmakers and studios adapting films to the Chinese market and to the rest of the world.)

**dominance & submission / resistance, opposition & defeat: direction / knee / religion / standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## Krakatoa (Krakatoa of the Middle Ages, etc.)

### Krakatoa of the Middle Ages

it was the ~ (Kuwae eruption in 1453)

♦ Roger Crowley in *1453* writes about a possible link between the Kuwae eruption and weather and atmospheric effects during the siege of Constantinople.

♦ "For many, such as the young Luke Howard and his schoolmates at the Hillside Academy in Burford, the great cinema of light proved a magnificent compensation for all that was strange in the air. They gazed enraptured from the windows of the schoolhouse, while Howard, the sky watcher, wrote descriptions in his journal." (The strange weather of 1783 included in England appearances of the aurora borealis. From *The Inventions of Clouds* by Richard Hamblyn.)

♦ Another eruption often cited for its effects on sunsets and climate was the 1815 eruption of Mount Tambora that caused the "Year Without a Summer" in 1816 and may have inspired J.M.W. Turner's vivid red sunsets.

♦ Simon Winchester writes about the atmospheric effects of the 1883 eruption of Krakatoa in his wonderful book *Krakatoa*.

**comparison & contrast / geography: epithet**

### Krakatoan (adjective)

#### Krakatoan proportions

it was a car crash of an interview of ~

♦ The awful explosion of August 4, 2020 in Beirut was of Krakatoan proportions.

♦ The "2022 Hunga Tonga eruption and tsunami" (Wikipedia) was an event of Krakatoan proportions.

**amount & effect: explosion / sound / volcano**

**size: allusion / volcano**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: explosion / sound / volcano**

### kryptonite (noun)

kryptonite for syphilis

penicillin has remained the ~

superman's kryptonite

the World Cup has proven to be this soccer ~ (Messi)

his kryptonite

I truly am ~ (Yang versus Trump / politics)

their kryptonite

the 49ers have been ~ in recent years (for the LA Rams)

Black Man's Kryptonite

"The ~" (article by Michael Eric Dyson in *Savoy*)

political kryptonite

immigration is basically ~ (politics)

Republicans consider the ACT to be ~ (Obamacare)

ratings kryptonite

religion can be ~

bring kryptonite

I am bulletproof, next time you best ~ (boast)

♦ "As it happens, the boy in question, a budding scientist, would become serial killers' biggest adversary, the creator of their kryptonite. His name

is Alex Jeffreys. In September 1984, Jeffreys discovered DNA fingerprinting..." (*I'll Be Gone In The Dark* by Michelle McNamara.)

♦ "Patrick Mahomes is our superman, and we're the kryptonite for the rest of the NFL." (A happy man celebrating the 2023 Kansas City Chiefs' Super Bowl win.)

**danger / destruction: allusion / weapon**

## L

### label (noun)

"one-percenter label

the ~ became a badge of honor (bikers)

"Progressive" label

more and more democrats embrace the ~

**taxonomy & classification: object**

### labeled

labeled a troublemaker

he was ~ in school

**taxonomy & classification: object**

### laboratory

laboratory for warfighting doctrines

Kandahar will be the ~ forged from...

**experimentation: place**

### labor pains

labor pains

how to let peace be born despite the difficult ~

**creation & transformation: birth**

### labyrinth (noun)

labyrinth of coral

the Great Barrier Reef, the marvelous ~ (Australia)

labyrinth of (feuding) clans and subclans

a ~ (Somalia)

labyrinth of passageways

inside the ~ (aircraft carrier HMS *Queen Elizabeth*)

bureaucratic labyrinth

working his way through the ~

waiting for years in the ~s of the immigration system

giant labyrinth

the ~ of this building (the United Nations)

♦ Gardens are associated with mazes, knot gardens and labyrinths. People also enjoy corn and mirror mazes. *Labyrinth* is of Minoan origin and is associated with the Minotaur.

♦ "[T]he spiraling arms of a labyrinth have—at various times, in parts of the world as far afield as Tamil Nadu, India; Knossos, Crete; and Flagstaff, Arizona—represented the journey of life, the cosmos, and the womb, while serving as a trap for evil spirits, a cage for monsters, an ancestral abode, a ritual dance floor, and a path for pilgrims." ("The Garden Of Forking Paths" by Nicola Twilley, *The New Yorker*, November 29, 2021. A wonderful article about *actual* labyrinths.)

**complexity: allusion / infrastructure**

## lace (verb)

laced cannabis with heroin

he ~ to get women addicted to drugs

**mixture: cloth / verb**

## laced (adjective)

laced with drugs

sausage rolls found ~ in Prestatyn

laced with broken glass

peanut butter ~ found in Aberdeen

profanity-laced

he delivered a ~ speech to the seamen

**configuration: cloth**

## lacerate (verb)

lacerated Trump's calls

he ~ for the FBI to investigate political enemies

**accusation & criticism / destruction / speech: health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

## lacerating (adjective)

lacerating in his humor

Obama was often ~ at such dinners, ribbing his rivals...

lacerating (social) drama

a ~ (*Sorry We Missed You*)

lacerating insults

~ and dialogue that sizzles with withering wit

self-lacerating

the song's ~ lyrics address her guilt (Adele)

there is also a soul-searching quality and a ~ humor

emotionally lacerating

in perhaps the movie's most ~ scene, he...

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / knife / sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## ladder (hierarchy)

ladder

they failed right on up the ~ (politics)

ladder of prestige

it was the pioneers who occupied the highest rung on the ~

ladder's (lowest) rung

the socioeconomic ~

career ladder

he is moving up the ~ (military)

corporate ladder

women who climb the ~

immigrant ladder

Chaudri climbed a well-worn ~ (washed dishes, cab)

income ladder

for her and others up and down the ~

leadership ladder

she ascended the ~ in Congress (Pelosi)

promotion ladder

the Army should break down its rigid ~ (reform)

tenure ladder

once you've fought and clawed your way up the ~

beauty-pageant ladder

she began to move up the ~

corporate ladder

their rung on the ~

arrogance and ego at the top of the ~

economic ladder

anyone who works hard enough can climb the ~ (US)

educational ladder

as women started climbing the ~ (effects on marriage)

political ladder

by the mid-seventies he had climbed the ~ even higher

social ladder

men eternally trapped on the bottom rung of the ~

socioeconomic ladder

the ~'s lowest rung

supervisory ladder

I never tried to go up the ~

rung on the ladder

it was the pioneers who occupied the highest ~ of prestige

rung on the (corporate) ladder

their ~

at the top of the (income) ladder

the majority of stocks are held by those ~

climbed the (corporate) ladder

he ~

move up the (economic) ladder

the play chronicles the struggles of a family to ~

moving up the (career) ladder

he is ~ (military)

promoted up the (developmental) ladder

he was ~ (a baseball player)

**hierarchy: direction / ladder**

## ladder (ladders of opportunity, etc.)

ladders of opportunity

we have created ~ (education)

ladders of economic and social opportunity

they are pulling up the ~ to defend their place at the top

ladder to the middle class

the school is a ~

ladder to prosperity

they want to make education a ~

accession ladder

Western Balkans states have tried to climb the ~ (EU)

pull up the ladders

we were naïve to think the privileged wouldn't ~ of opportunity behind them

pulling up the ladders

they are ~ of opportunity to defend their place at the top

pulls up the ladder

a girlboss ~ behind her (puts down other women)

stay on the ladder

trying to ~, stay in the middle class (poor college students)

♦ "Boxing has long been a social staircase for those on the margins."

**help & assistance: direction / ladder**

## **ladder (increase)**

escalation ladder

the posturing and the ~ that we're seeing with Iran at that point you're moving up the ~ to nuclear war

**increase & decrease: direction / ladder**

## **Lady Macbeth (epithet)**

Lady Macbeth of Arkansas

the yuppie wife from hell, the ~ (wife of politician)

Lady Macbeth of the Balkans

she was known as the "~"

Lady Macbeth of the Mtsensk District

Robert Chandler's translations include Leskov's ~

Lady McBeth figure

you have described him as a ~ (Sunny Balwani)

Asaji, the ~... (in Kurosawa's *Throne of Blood*)

Wallis Simpson, Lady Macbeth, evil character

this ~ who led this man astray (a royal socialite)

♦ The play *Macbeth* is usually thought of in terms of manipulation, ambition, hate and revenge. On the other hand, the 2015 film *Macbeth*, directed by Justin Kurzel, portrays a *love* story. (See "Macbeth Without Evil" by Andrew O'Hagan, *The New York Review*, December 17, 2015.) And more recently, Naveen Andrews, who plays Sunny Balwani in the Hulu series *The Dropout*, compared his character to *Lady Macbeth*, and suggested that the story was about how far his character would go for *love*! (See "The Dropout's Naveen Andrews Saw Sunny Balwani as *Lady Macbeth*" by Roxana Hadadi, *Vulture*.) What an epithet traditionally suggested can completely change as the work is interpreted through the generations.

**allusion: books & reading**

**behavior / character & personality / control & lack of**

**control: allusion / epithet**

## **lag (progress)**

lagging

their kids' grades and test scores are ~

lag behind

women ~ men in the most visible arena of science

**competition / growth & development / progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## **lagoon (noun)**

lagoon

~s where hog manure is stored

hog-waste lagoon

North Carolina's 4,000 ~s

pumped into lagoons

sewage is ~ and left to evaporate or leach into the ground

**resemblance: sea**

## **laid low (killed)**

laid low by Hurricane Michael

thousands of pecan trees were ~

**death & life: direction / euphemism / position**

## **laid low (condition, etc.)**

laid low

the whole family was ~ after eating some bad chicken

laid low by malaria

few in Africa have not been ~

**condition & status: direction / position**

## **lake (noun)**

lake of fire

eternal damnation in the ~

Nato lake

the Baltic will turn into a ~ (Swedes, Finns join)

**resemblance: water**

## **La-La land**

in La La Land

stay tuned for more adventures in ~ (celebrities)

in "La-La land"

lost ~ (misinformation, conspiracies, false ideas)

in La-La Land

I was kind of in ~ and not really too focused...

comes from "la-la land"

the president's proposal ~ (politics)

put me off in la-la land

it just would ~ and make me feel better (an opiate)

**fantasy & reality / mental health: ground, terrain & land**

## **lamb (noun)**

sized her up as a lamb

he instantly ~ (a predatory direct salesman)

♦ “He instantly sized her up as a lamb.” (A predatory direct salesman. Versus a bull, owl, or tiger. With a bull, the salesman must meet force with force, stand his ground and redirect. Owls are tough sells. Tigers must be reassured they are getting the very latest technology or features. From “The Hard Sell: A door-to-door salesman’s quest to rebrand his profession” by Tad Friend, *The New Yorker*, August 8, 2022. Products direct salesmen sell door to door nowadays are roofing, pest control, and solar panels.)

♦ Death devours lambs as well as sheep.

**growth & development: animal / predation / sheep**

## **lamb (sacrificial lamb)**

sacrificial lamb

the computers served them up as a ~ (BCS football)

**sacrifice: animal / religion / sheep**

## **lamb (lamb to the slaughter)**

lambs to the slaughter

~, that’s what Forrest were (Man City 6-0 Nottingham F)

♦ “They refused to be taken like lambs to the slaughter.” (Hijacked passengers.)

**destruction: animal / predation / sheep**

## **lambast (verb)**

lambast the president

the press conference saw him repeatedly ~

♦ Lambast (or lambaste) means to beat or whip severely.

**accusation & criticism: whip / verb**

**speech: whip / verb**

## **lame (lame excuse, etc.)**

lame excuse

she refused to listen to my ~s

~s for dumping partners

what kind of ~ is that

**attenuation: walking, running & jumping**

**flaws & lack of flaws: walking, running & jumping**

**worth & lack of worth: walking, running & jumping**

## **lament (verb)**

laments the killing

Trump ~

lamented the nation’s systemic racism

Biden ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: burial / music / sound / verb**

## **lance (verb)**

lance this (perpetual) boil

we need to ~ (diplomacy)

two boils

~ were lanced today (fired from *The New York Times*)

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine / verb**

## **lanced**

lanced (today) from *The New York Times*

two boils were ~ (two men resign)

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

## **land (clubland, etc.)**

clubland

D.C. will never claim the same contributions to ~ as...

fantasyland

what kind of land have we strolled into, we’re in ~ (boxing)

identity-politics-land

all the microaggressions and callings-out of ~

La-La land

see *La-La land*

Promised Land

see *Promised Land*

never-never land

see *never-never land*

foreign land

school helps autistic kids navigate ~

strange land

in the ~ of gamer lingo (grokking, greebling, etc.)

**area / environment: ground, terrain & land**

**area / environment / language: affix**

## **land (land a job, etc.)**

landed a (bottom-rung) job

she ~ there (at a TV station)

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / fish**

## **land (landed him in jail, etc.)**

landed him in hot water

his unapologetic remarks on issues have frequently ~

**relationship: journeys & trips**

## **land (arrive, affect, decide)**

land

it’s the latest true-crime documentary series to ~ on Hulu

you don’t always know how your words are going to ~

(texting / no facial cues)

landed

there was controversy after the article ~

landed at this day

we would have ~ sooner or later (“it’s here now” /

SolarWinds Hack)

land on that

it’s a good question, where did you ~ (=decide)

landed in his in-box

the email he had been waiting for finally ~

land there

so, I don’t think it’s a good idea, and I’m gonna ~

I think it’s difficult, I will ~ (conclude my remarks)

landing anywhere else

lots of teams could use him, do you see him ~ (cut)

landed already

those checks could have ~ (arrived in bank accounts)

land any minute

they're waiting for information that could ~ (politicians)

place to land

that is not a very reasonable ~ (a political decision)

the data tells me this is the right ~ (a COVID decision)

how did it land

when you read his remarks, ~ with you

how this plane lands

it's unclear ~ (budget talks)

how those claims are landing

can we tell ~ (of voter fraud / how many believe, effect)

where did your school land

so, ~ (which option did it choose in response to pandemic)

where it ends up landing

we'll have to see ~ (the total number of layoffs at Meta)

wherever we land

~ on that question scientifically (COVID / = decide)

♦ This is often used with wh-question words: how did it land; where will it land; when will it land... It seems to be connected with the idea of something being "up in the air." It is a natural metaphor for people who are accustomed to flying and airports. In Bhutan, I suspect the equivalent expression is, "So, where does this yak stop?"

♦ One meaning of *land* means arrive. Another means "to affect you." Yet another meaning seems to be "decide."

♦ "Is she alive, is she not, where is she, is she dead, and she couldn't land on any particular... on one of those." (A priest about a bereft mother whose 6-year-old child had vanished.)

♦ "It's become, how do I say customary to say, to thank service members like yourself, for your service. I think that's an acknowledgement that a lot of people who came back from Vietnam in particular that the country did them dirty, you know, did not respect what they had personally sacrificed even if people did not like or agree with the overall mission, right, or the overall conflict, okay, so, I think people want to do better, and, it has been, you know, one thanks people who served like yourself for your service, how does that land with you." (NPR's Michel Martin interviewing Laura Jedeed, author of "Afghanistan Meant Nothing." Jedeed was gentle in her answer.)

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: plane / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: plane / verb**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: plane / verb**

**landing (stick the landing)**

stick the landing

though ambitious, the film doesn't always ~ (*Late Night*)

the book moves quickly, and she manages to ~

sticks the landing

it rarely ~ on any of them (interesting songs, but...)

stick the landing on the quid pro quo

you have to ~, I don't see proof (impeachment trial)

stick the landing on a small pad in Florida

it used rockets to stabilize itself and ~ (SpaceX / 2015)

♦ This refers to gymnastics.

♦ "By the conclusion of the '187 minutes' hearing, the question was now whether the committee's last scheduled hearing in October would, in the words of both Time and CNN, 'stick the landing.'" ("Inside the Jan. 6 Committee" by Robert Draper and Luke Broadwater, *The New York Times Magazine*, January 1, 2023.)

**starting, going, continuing & ending / success & failure: sports & games / verb**

**landmark (noun)**

landmark act

a ~ passed by the Senate (victims of human trafficking)

landmark case

the US Supreme Court, in a ~ in 2000, rejected...

landmark climb

he made a number of ~s in the Alps

landmark discovery

the ~ could pave the way for new medicines

landmark moment

it was a ~ in the evolution of artificial intelligence

landmark project

one of his ~s was a shrine... (King Tut)

landmark step

the ruling was a ~ (rape within marriage / Mexico)

landmark study

his ~ compared students... (single-sex schools)

landmark work

"Desert of the Heart" is considered a ~ of lesbian fiction

stand as a landmark

his plays ~ in the history of black culture

♦ "Einstein is a landmark, not a beacon." (*Time* magazine, about the great man at Princeton. Some attributed the remark to Robert Oppenheimer. The idea was that Einstein's importance to cutting-edge physics of the time, particularly quantum physics, was nil.)

**direction / importance & significance: ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips**

**landmine (and land mine)**

landmines

she worries about what she sees as ~ planted by Alito

landmine for prosecution

this is a ~ (new evidence)

potential landmine

social media is a ~ (news coverage and privacy, etc.)

step on that landmine

no nominee would ~ (contentious issue)

♦ "There are always land mines and hiccups that come along." (Doctor Anthony Fauci on vaccine production during the 2019-2020 pandemic.)

♦ "I can't run any more. I can't play with the other children and I can't go to school at the moment because of the infection." (Eleven-year-old Mawa, in Egypt. She kicked what she thought was a tin can and it blew off her foot. The UXO was a leftover from World War II.)

**danger: explosion / military / walking, running & jumping / weapon**

## landscape (noun)

### landscape

her patience for this ~ varies (NYC magazine publishing)

### landscape of journalism

the Internet transformed the ~

### landscape of our lives

some journeys are etched into the ~ (Lake Ohrid)

### landscape of Stevenson's great life

and going through the ~ will be Claire Harman (BBC)

### heavyweight landscape

Andy Ruiz Jr has just thrown a grenade into the ~

### media landscape

the ~ was very different in the 1980s  
concern about the dominance of tech firms in the ~

### sport landscape

the ~

### technology landscape

a clearer picture of our future ~ (airline)

### nanoscale landscape

viruses, microchips operate in a ~

### culinary landscape

she is a sharp observer of the ~ (Charlotte Druckman)

### dire landscape

in 1969, what was on TV for kids was a very ~

### diverse landscape

pushing to create a ~ with mixed results (films / minorities)

### economic landscape

changes in the ~

### educational landscape

positive changes across the American ~

### ethnic landscape

the brutal violence has reshaped the ~

### political landscape

and here to talk about the ~ is... (radio show)  
the ~ was dramatically altered by the attack  
the democrats dominated the ~ for more than a generation  
Merkel has left a very fragmented ~ in Germany (election)

### promotional landscape

Christchurch's ~ is changing (city's wizard is let go)

### religious landscape

part of the ~

### social landscape

the ~

### technological landscape

adapted to the new ~

### American political landscape

he left the ~ much the same way it was (Mueller hearings)

fragmented political landscape

Merkel has left a very ~ in Germany (election)

### new financial landscape

electronic trading has created a ~

### post-Title IX landscape

in the ~, sexual panic rules (universities)

### changes in the (economic) landscape

there have been vast ~ since the fall of Communism

### part of the (public-school) landscape

charter schools are a significant ~

### landscape can change

the heavyweight ~ in a second

### landscape may (well) change

the heavyweight ~ once more (coming fights)

### landscape shifted

then, in the late '90s, the football ~ (US)

### adapt to this (ever changing media) landscape

trying to ~

### altered the landscape

pandemics ~ of public health forever

### changes the landscape

the new rule ~ (college admissions)

### changed the landscape

it ~ (grants for Duchenne research)  
Obama has ~ for all America (race)

### dominate the landscape

health-maintenance organizations came to ~

### fit in this landscape

help me understand, where does he ~ (politics)

### left a (very fragmented political) landscape

Merkel has ~ in Germany (new government)

### moved quickly through the (American) landscape

this is an issue that has really ~ (gay marriage)

### navigate the (cyber) landscape

so how are kids supposed to ~ (misinformation)

### redefined (boxing's heavyweight) landscape

his defeat by Usyk has ~

### reshaped the (political) landscape

in 2016 he ~ but lost (Bernie Sanders)  
a populist wave has ~ (US, Hungary, Italy, Poland, etc.)

♦ (Costello) Thanks for joining us on 5 Live Boxing with Costello and Bunce. And now, with less than a month to go until the rematch between Tyson Fury and Deontay Wilder in Las Vegas, it's a chance to assess the heavyweight landscape as it stands and shapes up at the moment, Steve. / (Bunce) And what a glorious landscape it is, Mike!

♦ "The legal landscape of the past weeks and months has prompted questions of..." (Dull use of the cliché in a "Talk of the Town" article in *The New Yorker*, a magazine ordinarily known for good writing.)

♦ "The Hollywood landscape is more cautious than ever today." (Very dull use of the cliché.)

♦ "Our political parties are still in the process of working out their positions in this new drug landscape." ("Slowing the Growth of Weed" by Rachel Lu, *National Review*, December 19, 2022. Much better usage than *The New Yorker* use cited above.)

♦ "...There appeared glimpses of a landscape now in a state of arboreal undress, much changed from what had gone before. / What Clark glimpsed was a relatively treeless brown-green country, stretching away into a violet horizon that was longer and flatter than any that these hill-born Easterners had ever witnessed or imagined before. It was landscape laid out, flatly undulating, beneath a sky so big it was overwhelming. It was a new kind of prairie, a limitless tableland of grass, a huge grazing-plain, with a wind that soughed near-constantly above the vegetation, the temperature of the drifting air the only clue to the season. Its sky was flecked with mare's tails of clouds, where lightning could be seen a hundred miles distant and you could watch the black storms chewing their way toward you, the sky suddenly darkening overhead as the squalls arrived and smashed down wafting curtains of hail until the earth was quite white and crunched underfoot, though within moments the reappearing sun then melted it away, steam suddenly began to rise from the grass, and you could almost hear the plants bursting upward in the newly made and richly damp sauna of heat... / In these prairie parts one finds people and creatures uniquely suited to the conditions: the Comanche and the prairie dog, the Sioux and the rattlesnake, and all of the other Plains Indians—the Blackfoot, the Cheyenne, the Arapaho and the Crow—together with uncountable millions of the single species of animal that once so dominated and symbolized the grass-covered landscapes here, the American bison. / Generally speaking, the Great Plains extend between the 95<sup>th</sup> and 105<sup>th</sup> meridians—with the midline... marking 100 degrees west of Greenwich." (*The Men Who United The States: America's Explorers, Inventors, Eccentrics, and Mavericks, and the Creation of One Nation, Indivisible* by Simon Winchester.)

♦ "It is rough, steep, mountainous country where we were trekking, covered with dense virgin forest, the famous taigá of Siberia, in places almost impenetrable, especially where the ground is littered with fallen giants smashed down by storms." (*Dersu the Trapper* by V.K. Arseniev. The country Arseniev describes lies between the Amur and Ussuri Rivers and the Sea of Japan, north of Vladivostok, and includes the Sihoté-Alin mountain range.)

♦ "I shall always remember the next day for one of the most beautiful experiences I have ever had. As we marched forward we caught sight, after a while, of the gleaming golden towers of a monastery in the far distance. Above them, shining superbly in the morning sun, were tremendous walls of ice, and we gradually realized that we were looking at the giant trio Dhaulagiri, Annapurna, and Manaslu. As Tradun and the filigree towers of its monastery lay at the far end of the plain we had many hours in which to enjoy the view of these mighty mountains. Not even the necessity of wading through the icy waters of the Tsachu dampened our exuberance. / It was evening when we marched into Tradun. In the last rays of the setting sun the red monastery with its golden roof looked like a fairy palace on the hillside." (*Seven Years in Tibet* by Heinrich Harrer, from the chapter "Into Tibet.")

♦ "They call this plain the Nullabor (Nullarbor). If you want water you have to dig for it among the sand dunes along the shore... In this wilderness everything runs to excess; the excessive noonday heat is followed by outrageous cold by night, rainstorms burst with cyclonic force, and when the rain fails the blown sand is suffocating; even the flies and mosquitoes are in mad abundance. There are moments of grace sometimes in the evenings when extravagant sunsets sweep across the sky and then fade slowly behind enormous stars, but in the main the Nullabor has an implacable sterility and the aborigines used to believe that it was inhabited by demons. They would not chase a kangaroo there. / This then was the terrible region into which Eyre plunged..." (*The Fatal Impact* by Alan Moorehead.)

♦ see also *scape* (*threatscape*, etc.)

**area / environment: ground, terrain & land**

**contempo-speak: language**

## landslide (in a landslide)

lost in a landslide

Carter ~ to Republican Ronald Reagan

win in a landslide

if people voted today, he would ~

**amount & effect: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills**

## landslide (by a landslide)

won by a landslide

he ~ on the scorecards (boxer)

**amount & effect: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills**

## landslide (other)

landslide of evidence

there was a ~ that fell around this defendant

landslide in favor of Democrats

there was no ~ (2020 US election)

landslide vote

Proposition 187 was approved in a ~ (California)

landslide victory

the opposition won a ~ in Kenyan elections

he was appointed principal chief in a ~ (Cherokee)

♦ In 1841, an earthquake caused a rockslide that blocked the Indus River. A huge lake formed behind the natural dam. Later in the year it failed, causing perhaps the largest flood in recorded history. Far downriver and across a plain, 500 Sikh soldiers drowned at Attock.

♦ In 1999, mudslides in Venezuela killed 10- to 30,000 people in Vargas State. They are referred to as "El Desastre de Vargas."

**amount & effect: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills**

## lane (experience)

lane

this isn't just my ~, it's my highway (doctor / gun control)

he has had his ~ pretty much all to himself (politics)

she knows where her ~ in life is...

lane is

so what our ~, is we wanna work with creators...

our ~ is to figure out how to hold government accountable

healing and love lane

ya'll know me, I have one lane, the ~ (activist at demo)

fast lane

she was in the ~ of the fast group (alcohol, sex, music...)

particular lane

we can find a ~ with the *Baltimore Beat* (free newspaper)

progressive lane

they are fighting for the same ~ in the party (candidates)

safe lane

people are picking the ~ (film producer Dede Gardner)

clear and uncrowded lane

he has a very ~ (Chicago mayoral primary)

out of their lanes

cops are ~, playing judge, jury, and executioner (shooting)

carve out her own lane

she has managed to ~ (singing, fashion, etc.)

played his lane

if he would've ~ and kept his mouth shut (gang member)

stay in their lane  
anti-gun doctors should ~ (fix wounded, not protest guns)

stepped out of its lane  
OSHA ~, it went beyond its authority (a law case)

veered into the pop lane  
a lot of people have ~ (from country music)

keeps the judiciary in its appropriate lane  
the idea of standing ~ (Supreme Court)

♦ This word is often preceded by a possessive adjective: my lane, their lane, your lane, etc.

♦ "That's not their lane to teach my children about sexuality, that's my job." (An upset parent protesting school-library books like *The Bluest Eye*, *All Boys Aren't Blue*, and *Fun Home*.)

♦ "Yes, it feels to me like a moment where people are sort of battering down the hatches and picking the safe lane." (Film producer Dede Gardner.)

♦ "Hey, I stay in my own yard!" (In other words, I mind my own business. From the great John Ford 1940 film *Grapes of Wrath*.)

♦ "Straying from your lane is reckless in all scenarios."

♦ "Beef or barbecue." (A saying in New Orleans, about snitching to the police. If you "beef" or complain to the police, you'll die. Better to kick back, relax, and barbecue.)

**constraint & lack of constraint / experience / responsibility:  
infrastructure**

## language (types)

language of the body  
this liberatory ~ (twerking, pussy popping, ass claps, etc.)

language of boxing  
he understood the universal ~ (ref's gestures, etc.)

language of pop feminism  
the book was marketed with the ~

language of football  
Bora Milutinovic speaks the ~ (soccer)

language of hope  
the ~—whether, when and how to invoke it (hospitals)

language of science  
the abstract, technical ~ (environmental issues)

language of "sport"  
the international ~ (soccer)

language of the string  
they have the ~ (international yo-yo contest)

language of white supremacy  
Southern elected leaders spoke the ~ (after reconstruction)

language of war  
its language is the ~ (US football)

language of understanding, peace and harmony  
a smile is the universal ~

language of acronyms and weapons systems  
she fluently speaks the military ~ (a young soldier)

hoaxers' language

Lenny Pozner figured he could talk the ~ (Sandy Hook)

body language  
people send messages through their ~  
mismatches between words and ~ (liars)  
the worst sort of ~ to show a gorilla

computer language  
Java, a ~ created by Sun Microsystems  
FORTRAN was the first widely used ~

programming language  
write applications in the Java ~

aspirational language  
the ~ of democracy (women's rights, etc.)

different language  
it's a ~ (military acronyms)  
physicists are often speaking a ~ than biologists (math)

feminist language  
its brand is the ~ of emancipation, empowerment, equality

international language  
chocolate speaks an ~

international "language"  
the ~ of sport (soccer)

*Secret Language*  
*The ~ of Color* (a book)

universal language  
a smile is the ~ of understanding, peace and harmony  
he understood the ~ of boxing (ref's gestures, etc.)

universal cinematic language  
exploding cars are a ~ (the *Fast and Furious* franchise)

fluent in the language  
Jake Paul was ~ of YouTube

speaks the language  
Bora Milutinovic ~ of football (soccer)

understood the (universal) language  
he ~ of boxing (ref's gestures, etc.)

♦ Cars have their own language—clunks, clanks, squeals, squeaks, and rattles—which can say a lot about a vehicle's health."

♦ "Chocolate speaks an international language. There is no concern about accents or incorrectly structured sentences. Whether in Tokyo or Madrid, everyone understands chocolate's many culinary dialects." ("Chocolate: A Food Without Borders" by Alejandra Garcia, NPR, Kitchen Window, January 14, 2009.)

♦ "A brand can communicate something, how you wear your pants can communicate something, the portfolio of colors that you choose to adorn yourself with can communicate something..." (Branding and shoes, clothing, pens, politics, authenticity, identity, etc.)

♦ "If you grew up in a black household, Ebonies [copies of *Ebony Magazine*] were everywhere... It's one of our languages." (Rosa Duffy, bookstore owner and *Ebony Magazine* collector, about the transformational magazine that was intended to be *Life Magazine* for Blacks. Once a pillar of the Black community, this great magazine has fallen on hard times, and is now only available online. You would think some US philanthropist would endow a monthly hard-copy version of it in perpetuity. Sadly, not yet.)

♦ "[Jake] Paul was fluent in the language of YouTube, where he came across as a familiar type: the high-school jock, popular and gregarious...

/ His body of work is filled with dubious stunts...and with mind-numbing repetition of the word, 'bro.' / [His videos] have drawn more than seven billion views; that figure, which approaches the population of this planet, does not account for the innumerable videos that summarize or criticize the ones that Paul has posted..." ("Punching Down" by Kelefa Sanneh, *The New Yorker*, November 8, 2021.)

◆ "And from being trained, I think it's easier for me to speak a language to producers, and I can speak engineer to the engineers." (The remarkable Lizzo, who is classically trained in music theory and performance, among other things...)

◆ "Crossword puzzles are a way of documenting the language that we share." (Anna Shechtman, crossword constructor.)

◆ "There's no 'I' in 'team.'" (An NFL coach.)

◆ "There's an 'I' in 'win.'" (An NFL player.)

◆ "Everytime he says something he sounds like he is reading it from a Poundland self-help book." / "He can't think on his feet, relies too heavily on his corner, and just speaks in a series of cliches with very little substance behind them." (Criticism of a contemporary boxer.)

◆ "EOD handled the bombs. SSTP treated the wounds. PRP processed the bodies. The 08s fired DPICM. The MAW provided CAS. The 03s patrolled the MSR. Me and PFC handled the money... / I will remember that our HMMWV had 5 PX. That the SITREP was 2 KIA, 3 WIA. That KIA means they gave everything. That WIA means I didn't." (From the short story "OIF" in *Redeployment* by the brilliant Marine writer Phil Klay. OIF stands for Operation Iraqi Freedom.)

◆ "There is jargon, and then there is jargon." (Academic writing.)

◆ "Such language risks destabilizing an already complicated situation." (A Russian diplomat.)

◆ "Well, those phrases that you're referring to used by the [US] ambassador ["immediate ceasefire," "UN-facilitated talks"] have become empty cliches, they have been repeated for months and months, you know, if not years. The same phrases were used last year. People thought the elections were going to be organized. Nothing happened, and the people in power are still in power. So I think US diplomacy and other Western diplomacy should be refreshed, should be renewed, and a new technique should be used because Libyans have learned to ignore everything you said. I mean, this discourse by the internationals is absolutely ignored by Libyans, and foreign states as well." (Jalel Harchaoui, a fellow at the Royal United Services Institute which focuses on Libyan security and politics, speaking to David Gura on NPR.)

◆ NEWER TYPES OF WORKERS: Independent scrutineers (UK); violence interrupters (Baltimore); (seasoned) gallerists (NYC); disinformation analysts / researchers; narrative consultants; script doctors; mental performance coaches; neurodiversity coaches; showrunners; social theorists; bitcoin miners; public intellectuals; thought leaders; changemakers; creatives; influencers; Minecraft video creators; personal branding experts; shadow consultants (skyscrapers); chief experience officers (CXOs); chief remote officers; Chief Wellbeing Officers (CIA, etc.); chief candy officers (Canada); lifestyle impresarios; core brand ambassadors; trend-cycle analysts; trend forecasters; directors of digital strategies (the White House); cultural strategists; drama therapists; online journalists; investigative data journalists; online safety experts; YouTube investigators and cold case connoisseurs; podcast critics; content coaches (newspapers); social justice reporters; civil resistance experts (NPR); Birding activists; body-image experts; gender educators; queer, non-binary, neurodivergent educators, facilitators, healers and strategists; queer, mad and neurodivergent higher education researchers; childbirth educators specializing in queer birth experiences; ethicists-in-residence; poets-in-residence; data wranglers; documentarians; directors of equity and inclusion; diversity consultants; professional Twitch streamers; play-to-earn gamers; YouTubers; crossword constructors; voter navigators; political spin doctors; youth climate ambassadors; intimacy coordinators; sex workers; professors of television studies; imagineers; healthineers...

◆ OLDER TYPES OF WORKERS: whores; old-clothes women; pimps; taxi dancers; white-gloved tic-tac men; silhouette artists; blacksmiths; watchmakers; girdlers of pine trees for turpentine; lighthouse engineers; bateauxmen; drovers; log drivers; river hogs (the Kennebec River); tent makers; tinsmiths; camp followers; barber-surgeons; barbers who do rounds; apothecaries; snake-oil salesmen; tooth pullers; scribes; letter-writers; letter-readers; railway bulls; gandy dancers; rail-splitters; spitjacks; sutlers; pure-finders; mud larks; draymen (teamsters); carters; spinners; doffers; sweepers; carders; fullers; dressers; *sekgees*; town criers; poormasters; London crossing sweepers; lamp-post lighters; ostlers (hostlers); wind-millers; water-clerks; stagecoach drivers; Pony

Express riders; bull whackers; bawling "canawlers" (the Erie Canal); telegraphers; buffalo hunters; skinkers; Indian agents; beaters; catchers; drivers; mahouts; trackers; printer's devils; newsboys; human chimney sweeps; typewriters; elevator operators; gas-station attendants; computers; miners; muckers; swampers; nippers; drymen (to take care of the Dry); powder monkeys; muleteers (military); fusiliers (military); arquebusiers; musketeers; grammar teachers, etc.

◆ "Tuesday. The world of work has changed out of all recognition from the one I inhabited when I last received a paycheck... Now it seems, freebies are distributed with a liberality unknown in my day, in lieu of salaries, which themselves have disappeared along with actual work..." (Ed Reardon's Week, BBC Episode 5, "How did I do? Hilarious and droll!")

◆ "What the f\*\*\* is an 'online safety expert'? Do you see how media outlets baptize totally fake expertise industries and titles (like 'disinformation reporter') to launder their highly politicized censorship agenda as scientific, data-based and neutral?" (A thundering Glenn Greenwald.)

◆ "If we could claim marriage, we would be claiming an engine of transformation, a vocabulary of shared values—love, commitment, family, inclusion, dignity, respect—that would help non-gay people better understand who gay people really are, and allow us to share equally, not only in marriage, but in everything." ("Radically Normal: How Gay Rights Activists Changed The Minds Of Their Opponents." NPR, Hidden Brain (with Shankar Vedantam), April 8, 2019. Many gays at the time denigrated the tradition of marriage.)

◆ "Love is Love." (A slogan from the "Freedom to Marry" Campaign.)

◆ "As it turned out, the word 'homophobia' was exactly the concept that gay men and lesbians needed to achieve liberation." (Psychotherapist George Weinberg, in 2012. He is the author of the 1972 book *Society and the Healthy Homosexual* and a gay-rights activist. Quoted in "How 'Phobic' Became a Weapon in the Identity Wars" by Amanda Hess, *The New York Times Magazine*, Jan. 26, 2016. It's a brilliant article.)

◆ "Gay pop stars can be—and have been—subversive about slipping in references that change our language and thoughts about gay sex. The more that happens, the less likely people feel uncomfortable hearing about it." (Culture journalist Brennan Carley on BBC Culture.)

◆ "A lot of readers, both trans and cis, really want you to say, in the first sentence of the story, 'As a trans person...' But by saying as a *trans person*, it cedes ground to the idea that I need disclaimers about my point of view. There's a little bit of sick and twisted pleasure I get from saying, 'I'm not going to do that...' / That said, there are certain claims that I can make as a trans writer..." ("Jamie Lauren Keiles Follows the Surgical and Philosophical Journey of Phalloplasty" by Celia Ford, July 26, 2022.)

◆ "Alright, let's not fap around here, let's get into it..." (The opening to a Pop Culture Happy Hour episode on NPR.)

◆ "Language should be chosen intentionally and not just in a reflexive manner based on how words were used in the past." (Emily Barske, the Office of the Public Editor, NPR.)

◆ "The book was marketed with the language of pop feminism." (A comment by Jill Lepore.)

◆ "The attention The Wing generates is, in large part, because it was founded upon a paradox: its brand is steeped in the feminist language of emancipation, empowerment and equality, while its business is based on one of society's more elitist institution: the private members' club." (Investors include Serena Williams, President Obama's friend and former senior adviser Valerie Jarrett, and members of the US women's soccer team. From "The Wing: how an exclusive women's club sparked a thousand arguments" by Linda Kinstler, *The Guardian*, 18 Oct 2019.)

◆ Bill's Weekly Column. "How to Speak Progressive." (Bill O'Reilly.)

◆ "He lacks the TED-talk affect of some of his peers." (Extracurricular Kids In High Places," *The New Yorker*, Jan. 4 & 11, 2021.)

◆ "Fauci Among the Humans: Health officials play language games to make COVID life permanent" by Peter Tonguetta, *Washington Examiner*, January 4, 2022.

◆ "Wokeness is not just a social philosophy, but an elite status marker, a strategy for personal advancement. You have to possess copious amounts of cultural capital to feel comfortable using words like *intersectionality*, *heteronormativity*, *cisgender*, *problematic*, *triggering*, and *Latinx*..." ("How The Bobos Broke America" by David Brooks, *The Atlantic*, September 2021.)

♦ “black power & intersectional feminism & gender self-determination & solidarity with muslims & indigenous sovereignty & decolonization & disability justice & queer kinship & migrant justice & fat freedom & collective liberation” (A black T-shirt with white lettering worn by Stephanie Lyn Kaufman-Mthimkhulu, Director of Project LETS. “Disability and Mad Justice cultural worker. Community Educator. Organizer. Parent. Conflict Intervention. Facilitator. Care Strategist. Writer... Hire me.)

♦ “Look, I mean voters of color don’t talk about voters of color. Who the hell lives in communities of color? The people I know live in neighborhoods. Right, so there’s this whole you know sort of rhetorical lexicon the left of the Democratic party has become obsessed with and insists on using. Which basically just alienates normie voters, including normie non-white voters. I mean, we have people in and around the Democratic Party talking about how all white people have white privilege, and how this is a white supremacist society, and so on, and I just don’t think this is the way people think about the world, including you know normie non-white voters.” (The political scientist Ruy Teixeira. From “Hispanic and minority voters are increasingly shifting to the Republican party,” NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, July 23, 2022.)

♦ “I don’t know of a single person that thinks of themselves as a ‘person of color.’ I really don’t...” (James Carville, sounding honestly regretful on “Conversations with Bill Kristol.”)

♦ “PEN15, write out the title, you’ll get it, has begun its second season on Hulu...” (A well-briefed Scott Simon of NPR. This is an example of leetspeak.)

♦ “The elk whisperer speaks English, Spanish and elk.” (Mark Casillas.)

♦ “Those instructions [from the judge], I’m a lawyer and I couldn’t understand them... They’ve gotten to be too much. They’re legalese. And jurors tend to go by the smell test. Does it seem right? Does it seem wrong. And that’s what we wanted the jury to do.” (Mark Richards, Kyle Rittenhouse’s attorney, speaking to Ailsa Chang. From “Kyle Rittenhouse’s defense attorney discusses the trial and acquittal,” NPR, All Things Considered, Nov. 19, 2021.)

♦ “The language a writer uses to create a world is that world, and Franzen’s strenuously contemporary and therefore juvenile language is a world in which nothing important can happen. Madame Bovary’s marriage *sucked*, Heathcliff was *into* Catherine: these words fail the context not just because they are of our own time. There is no import in things that ‘suck,’ no drama in someone’s being ‘into’ someone else. A writer like Franzen, who describes two lovers as ‘fucking,’ trivializes their relationship. The result is boredom.” (“Smaller Than Life,” by B. R. Myers, *The Atlantic Magazine*, October, 2010.)

♦ “The prose yo-yoed between Academia.edu and a strained casualness that could inadvertently veer into the Borscht Belt... Too often, Briseis sounds like the voice-over from a History Channel special: ‘As a woman living in this camp, I was navigating a complex and dangerous world.’” (“The Many Wars of Pat Barker” by Daniel Mendelsohn, *The New Yorker*, October 18, 2021. Barker’s language is a good example of linguistic presentism, using contempo-speak.)

♦ “Meacham’s book, *And There Was Light*, tells of the anti-slavery politician whose election as president in 1860 triggered the Civil War. Lincoln struck back at the rebel states by ordering freedom for their enslaved workers, the Emancipation Proclamation, but the first Republican president was fiercely criticized by people who wanted less social change.” (Steve Inskeep, presumably reading from a script. From “Lincoln prioritized democracy over his political future. A new biography explains why,” NPR, Morning Edition, October 18, 2022. Yet another example of linguistic presentism, using contempo-speak and clichés to talk about historical events.)

♦ “Yeah, they have these belts on with like all these extra bullets and they’re like dressed for war.” (Leah like talking to her Brit producer, Georgia, for their podcast about the militia movement.)

♦ “In the language of the show, this is a very ‘Who-y’ thing for a Them to have done.” (“Guiding Stars: How ‘Who Weekly’ explains the new celebrity” by Rachel Syme, *The New Yorker*, June 7, 2021.)

♦ “I call disabled viewing platforms the ‘cripple pen.” (A comment about “After the N-word, the P-word” by Rajni Bhatia, BBC, 11 June 2007.)

♦ “A pidgin English field guide would list buk-buks, pakes, buddaheads, katonks, mokes, titas, popolos, yobos, blalahs, haoles and portagees.” (Ethnic and racial labels used in Hawaii.)

♦ “There was a lot of language I was unfamiliar with.” (A parent about messages he began receiving from his children’s elite private school

concerning antiracism. He eventually removed his children from the school.)

♦ “It occurred to me that, because the world media establishment had ignored the Balkans for so long..., these people never had to learn, as the Israelis and Arabs did, how to talk in code, so as not to offend Western sensibilities with their racial hatred. In the Balkans, people spoke more honestly than in the Middle East, and therefore more brutally.” (*Balkan Ghosts: A Journey Through History* by the superb writer and correspondent Robert D. Kaplan.)

♦ “And I hope they don’t take anything away from me... Whoever they are.” (The brilliant culture critic and comedian Dave Chappelle, on SNL.)

♦ “Collaborating with these gentry was a mixed crowd of wide-minded, wide-mouthed Liberals, who darkened council with pious but disintegrating catch-words, and took care to live very well indeed.” (*Something of Myself* by Rudyard Kipling.)

♦ see also *boilerplate* (noun), *buzzword* (noun), *doublespeak* (noun), *ese* (legalese, etc.), *funny language*, *lip service* (*pay lip service*, etc.), *newspeak* (noun), *speak* (*NASA-speak*, etc.), *supersizing* (*linguistic supersizing*), *talk* (*mediator talk*, etc.), *word salad*

**language: speech**

## lap (lap of luxury)

lived in the lap of luxury  
for a time we ~

**situation: container / lap**

## lap (responsibility)

in the lap of the administration  
it puts the issue ~ (politics)

falls in the lap  
the issue now ~ of the head of food safety

landed in the lap  
the case ~ of a federal judge

puts the issue in the lap  
it ~ of the administration (politics)

♦ “She puts it front and center, she puts it right in their lap.” (A supporter of an outspoken Black woman who accused whites of hypocrisy and a double standard.)

**responsibility: container / lap**

## lap (fall into one’s lap / a windfall)

company’s lap  
consumer data falls into the ~

falls into your lap  
occasionally an opening line ~ (via an interview / writing)

**possession: container / lap / verb**

**fate, fortune & chance: container / lap / verb**

**worth & lack of worth: container / lap / verb**

## lap (victory lap)

on the victory lap  
Liverpool are now ~ (with win over Man U)

took a victory lap  
President Trump ~ at the Michigan rally (politics)

taking a victory lap  
this morning the president is ~ (peace deal)  
no one is ~ here (US kills ISIS leader)

**achievement, recognition & praise: sports & games**  
**success & failure: sports & games**

## lapdog (noun)

lapdogs of Bush and Cheney  
*The New York Times* reporters were ~ (Iraq War)

lapdog for the president  
he is a ~ (the Senate leader)

lap-dog court system  
a ~ that is beholden to the military (Myanmar)

American lapdogs  
you are ~ (Lukashenko, about British sanctions)

self-serving political lap dog  
he's a ~ (criticism of a US general)

♦ "Trump vilified Cheney as he had no other Republican. 'To look at her is to despise her,' he declared in one statement emailed to supporters. He called her Pelosi's 'new lapdog RINO,' a 'low-polling warmonger,' a 'smug fool' and 'bad for our Country.'" ("Inside the Jan. 6 Committee" by Robert Draper and Luke Broadwater, *The New York Times Magazine*, January 1, 2023.)

**dominance & submission / dependency / insult / relationship: animal / dog / lap**

## lapidary (adjective)

lapidary  
*The Essays in Idleness* are ~ (Kenko)

lapidary chapters  
Rady's fascinating ~ (*London Review of Books*)

lapidary (fourth) novel  
in "Paradise," his ~... (*The New Yorker*)

lapidary poems  
his most ~ (Philip Larkin)

lapidary polish  
the high ~ of his witty prose (Waugh)

lapidary precision  
he is a realist painter of ~ (Caleb Considine)

♦ This word often appears in the *New Yorker Magazine*, in reviews of artists. It refers to the work involved in cutting, polishing and engraving precious stones. *The New Yorker Magazine*, God forbid, does not trade in *unpolished, uncut or rough* stones!

**superlative: materials & substances / mining**  
**flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances / mining**

## lap up (verb)

lapped up such complaints  
he ~ (an editorial cartoonist)

lap it up  
audiences ~ (rape and murder of females / entertainment)

**consumption: animal / food & drink / tongue / verb**  
**absorption & immersion: animal / food & drink / tongue / verb**

## lash (a storm lashed the Philippines)

lash the Philippines  
about 20 major storms ~ each year

lashed the islands with wind and rain  
the hurricane ~

**storm: force**

## lash out (verb)

lashed out at (Obama's) campaign  
the GOP nominee ~

lashed out at the (US) military  
he ~

lashed out at Army officials  
Barton ~ (the Angel of the Battlefield)

lashed out over (questionable) reporting  
he ~ (a bereaved father)

implode (violently) or lash out  
the repressive regime might now ~

**speech: verb / violence / whip**  
**accusation & criticism: verb / violence / whip**

## last (the last / epithet)

last fisherman  
Rinaldi is known as "the ~ of Monaco"

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: epithet**

## last (last night, etc. / at an earlier time)

last Sunday night  
I was talking to him ~

**sequence: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**  
**past & present / time: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## last (time / verb)

last forever  
summer would not ~

**time: verb**

## last-ditch (adjective)

last-ditch appeal  
his lawyers filed a ~ (capital case)

last-ditch effort  
a hiring freeze is often a ~ to reduce staff  
this was a ~ to help him (a troubled athlete)

last-ditch measure  
operators used seawater as a ~ to cool the reactors

♦ "The Army will hold its positions until the last soldier and the last ditch."  
(Hitler to Von Paulus.)

**conflict / commitment & determination / difficulty,**  
**easiness & effort / fate, fortune & chance / resistance,**

**opposition & defeat / survival, persistence & endurance:  
ground, terrain & land / military**

## last hurrah

last hurrah

WW II veterans gathered for a ~ (memorial)

last hurrah for the (landmark) restaurant

it was a ~ (New Year's Eve celebration / bankrupt)

girls' last hurrah

this is these ~ (bachelorette party)

beginning or a last hurrah

it may be a new ~ (US health-care legislation)

♦ The 1913 Gettysburg Reunion marked the 50th anniversary of the battle and was considered a great success. President Woodrow Wilson addressed the reunion and gave a conciliatory speech on July 4th.

**starting, going, continuing & ending: military / sound**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: military / sound**

## last rites (noun)

last rites

don't administer ~ to Irish Catholicism yet (scandals)

**condition & status: death & life / health & medicine / religion**

## late (timeliness)

late

the hour was ~ (need for a policy)

not too late

it's ~ to turn things around (politics)

getting late

the hour is ~

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: day**

## late (late Stone Age, etc.)

late Stone Age

by this time, in the ~...

**time: prep, adv, adj, particle**

**sequence: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## latest (the latest / most recent)

latest on that case

what is the ~

the latest (teen) craze

~ in clothes, music, illegal drugs

the latest effort

in ~ to restore stability after a military coup...

the latest flare-up

~ of their long-running feud (2 NASCAR drivers)

the latest 'in thing'

not long ago Osaka was ~ to blow in (vs. Gauff)

the latest twist

EFPs are ~ in a lethal game of measure, countermeasure

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**

## Latin (Latin of Korea, etc.)

Latin of Korea

ideographic Chinese—the ~—was isolated from everyday speech

**comprehension & incomprehension: history**

## latitude (wide latitude, etc.)

latitude for interpretation

a rule leaves very little if any ~

latitude to intervene

that would give him more ~ (a national emergency)

creative latitude

he had wide ~ (a filmmaker)

maximum latitude

he takes speculation to its ~

allow you some latitude

I'll ~ (judge at jury trial)

have (enormous) latitude

when it comes to foreign policy, presidents ~ (US)

♦ In Latin, *latus* means wide and *longus* means long.

♦ "Discretion" is a synonym...sometimes! Or "extent." Or "room," which nowadays would be expressed as "space."

**constraint & lack of constraint / extent & scope: map**

## laugh (last laugh)

have the last laugh

he may ~ here (congressional hearing)

Freud may posthumously ~ (analysis of mass hysteria)

have a kind of last laugh

though the A380 killed off the 747, Boeing will ~

**revenge: bodily reaction / sound**

**fate, fortune & chance: bodily reaction / sound**

## laughed out (of court, etc.)

laughed out of the (educational) community

if somebody suggested that model, they would be ~

laughed out of court

the case will be ~

laughed out of my profession

if I'd talked like this early in my career, I'd've been ~

laughed out of the studio

he was ~ (Dick Clark pitching *American Bandstand*)

literally laughed out of office

he was ~ (Republican arrested in a men's room)

virtually laughed out of the room

when he suggested the idea, he was ~, but...

got laughed out of a couple of professor's offices  
I actually ~ (a student with a novel good idea)

**admiration & contempt: bodily reaction / sound**

## launch (verb)

launched the age

he ~ of chemical warfare (Fritz Haber / 1915)

launched an (international appeal

the Red Cross has ~ for aid (Haiti earthquake)

launched a (court) challenge

he has ~ against the King (Swaziland)

launched a campaign

they ~ of civil disobedience (Birmingham)

launched a crackdown

the government has ~ on corruption

launched a (hugely popular) franchise

the blockbuster film ~ (X-Men)

launched a movement

they ~ that has been both applauded and denounced

launched a (quiet charm) offensive

sensing he might welcome allies, she ~

launched a project

the department ~ to install lights at crossings (safety)

launched a review

the UKA ~ (sports doping)

launched a revolution

he ~ (astronomer looking at X-ray emitters)

launched a (massive) search

officials ~ for the missing sailor

launched a thousand ships

see *ship* (*launched a thousand ships*)

launched an (all-out) war

in 2003 Thailand ~ on meth (Yaba)

launch a (trade) war

he wants to ~

launched his business

he ~ this spring

**inauguration / initiation: verb**

## launch (noun)

soft launch

NBC introduced the website with a ~ (NBCBLK)

**inauguration / initiation: flying & falling**

## launching pad

launch pads for emotions

murder trials can be ~, which can be sky-high

launching pad for the invasion

Kuwait will be the main ~

launching pad for gay marriage

Hawaii seemed the likely ~

launching pad for the embassy bombings

Somalia was a ~ (1998)

used that win as the launchpad

Liverpool ~ to a golden future (Champions League)

**initiation: mechanism / rocket**

## launder (verb)

launder their image

they are using sports to ~ (sportswashing)

laundered (the warden's) money

Andy Dufresne ~

**concealment & lack of concealment / subterfuge: clothing & accessories / hygiene / verb**

## laundry (laundry list)

laundry list of (unacceptable) behaviors

a ~

laundry list of challenges

the city is choosing a mayor to solve a ~

laundry list of illnesses

he's a 67-year-old man with a ~

**amount: clothing & accessories / hygiene**

## laurels (praise)

won more laurels

he ~ leading world-renowned ensembles (Andre Previn)

♦ "Better deserve honor and not have it, than have it and not deserve it."

**achievement, recognition & praise: allusion / history / sign, signal, symbol / tree**

## law (law of the jungle, etc.)

law of the jungle

for such is the ~, death to the weaker, food to the stronger

law of claw, horn and fang

the leopard lives by the ~

**competition: animal / jungle / predation**

## law enforcement (as verb)

law enforcement our way out

we can't ~ of this fentanyl epidemic

**amelioration & renewal: part of speech**

## Lawrence (T. E.)

"Lawrence of Afghanistan"

Army Maj Jim Gant, known as ~

Lawrence of Iraq

Travis Patriquin has been dubbed the T. E. ~

## America's "Lawrence of Arabia"

Captain Travis Patriquin, ~ in Ramadi

♦ "The Fall of the Green Berets' *Lawrence of Afghanistan*" by Mark Thompson, *Time*, June 25, 2014.

♦ "We could not leave him where he was, to the Turks, because we had seen them burn alive our hapless wounded. For this reason we were all agreed, before action, to finish off one another, if badly hurt: but I had never realized that it might fall to me to kill Farraj." (*Seven Pillars of Wisdom* by T.E. Lawrence, Book VIII, Chapter XCIII.)

♦ According to his Wikipedia entry, the great Vietnamese general Vo Nguyen Giap "had no direct military training and was a history teacher at a French-speaking academy, citing T.E. Lawrence and Napoleon as his two greatest influences."

**military: epithet**

**allusion: books & reading**

## Lawrence of Arabia-esque

Lawrence of Arabia-esque

James was kind of ~, and he probably cultivated that image  
(Alistair Harris about James Le Mesurier)

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## lay (put)

lay the blame elsewhere

many fans ~ (struggling soccer club)

laying the blame on China

the US is ~ (politics)

**throwing, putting & planting: pile / verb**

## lay (lay bare)

lays bare the fault lines

the report ~ that divide this group (Amish)

**concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories / verb**

## lay (lay into)

laid into President Trump's policies

he ~

**accusation & criticism: force / verb**

**speech: force / verb / violence**

## layer (analysis)

layer of the onion

you notice that for every ~ there's another underneath it

layer deeper

we need to dig a ~

peels back yet another layer

a revealing new interview ~ (a politician)

♦ "So many layers, Diane, to this story, a lot of moving parts, and it will of course be very interesting to see how it all plays out..." (Marcus Moore of ABC reporting on a sensational murder case.)

♦ "It's surprising, and shocking, what you learn when you begin to peel back the onion." (Dateline NBC, "Horror at the Lake.")

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: fruits & vegetables / mining**

## lay low (emotion)

laid him low

the deaths of his parents ~

**mental health: direction / position / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / mental health / position / verb**

## lay of the land

lay of the land

he knew the ~ (Congress)

can you give us the ~ (explain something)

**area / environment: ground, terrain & land**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: ground, terrain & land**

## layup (noun)

layup

it won't be a ~, but it's a shot we need to take (prosecution)

layup for the prosecution

the case looked like a ~, but...

**certainty & uncertainty: basketball / sports & games**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: basketball / sports & games**

## Lazarus (Emma Lazarus)

Emma Lazarus

somewhere, ~ is weeping (US immigration politics)

**migration: allusion / history / person**

## Lazarus (Bible)

Lazarus

he's not the comeback kid, he's ~ (a politician)

**amelioration & renewal / survival, persistence &**

**endurance: allusion / Bible / death & life / religion**

## leach (verb)

leached *badass* of its badassery

overuse has ~

leached into every aspect of our lives

race has ~

leached out of the Democratic ranks

the intensity seems to have ~ (politics)

life-leached

the ~ margins of the Great Salt Lake

**dismissal, removal & resignation / taking & removing: verb / water**

## lead (restraint)

give him a long lead

you had to ~ (the inimitable Dennis Keith Rodman)

**control & lack of control: animal / horse / rope**

## lead (one thing leads to another)

leads his colleagues to "blow up"  
the pressure ~ from time to time

led scientists to document  
his discovery ~ earlier outbreaks (epidemic)

lead you to your best achievements  
the truth is, fear of failure can ~

led me to a different conclusion  
my analysis ~

led women to desperate acts  
a decade of war has ~ (Chechnya)

led him down a dangerous path  
his unswerving belief in himself ~

lead to (intraabdominal) abscess  
intestinal leaks may ~

leads to abuses  
secrecy ~ of power (terrorism investigations)

lead to blindness  
trachoma can ~ as eyelashes turn in on the eyeball

led to the breakup  
the issue ~ of their marriage (attending sex clubs)

lead to the collapse  
the situation could ~ of the Iraqi government

led to a confrontation  
a feud between next-door neighbors ~

lead to death  
even drops of spittle or beads of sweat can ~ (Marburg)

led to death  
pregnancy often ~ in childbirth (19th century US)

led to the death  
what ~ of George Floyd

lead to dissention  
bonus disparities can ~ in the ranks (military)

leads to doom  
in social-hygiene films, transgressions ~

lead to menstrual dysfunction  
an eating disorder can ~, osteoporosis (athletes)

lead to an ileus  
pneumonia can ~, abdominal distention and fever

led to (rapid) innovation  
his modern version of a wing suit has ~ (de Gayardon)

led to this moment  
what ~

lead to reductions  
price controls ~ in supply and investment

led (up) to this ruling

what ~ (by a Florida court)

led (up) to the shooting  
we know little about what ~

lead to success  
factors that will ~

led to trouble  
how my nighttime walk ~

situation could lead  
the ~ to the collapse of the Iraqi government

**development / direction / relationship: journeys & trips /  
movement / verb**

## leading light (person)

leading lights of the conservative cause  
the ~ climbed the stage to rally their faithful (politics)

liberal leading light  
the ~ caused a political earthquake (Ocasio-Cortez)

knew its leading lights  
Pasternak ~ (members of symbolist movement)

**achievement, recognition & praise / importance &  
significance / superlative: light & dark / person**

## leak (verb)

word leaked  
but on Thursday, ~ that the visa would not be granted

**leaking: water / verb**

## leak (noun)

leaks of information  
he condemned ~ (FBI investigation)

leak of (classified) information  
the possible ~

leaks to the press  
there had been ~ about... (jetliner crash)

leaks and scoops  
reporters fiercely jockeying for ~

leaks, supposition, speculation, and spin  
there's been ~ (investigation)

♦ "So how do they all then try to mop up this leak or at least plug it up as much as possible..." (NPR's "A" Martinez about the latest government classified documents leak.)

**leaking: water**

## leaked

leaked voice mail  
on his ~, he called his daughter a rude little pig

**leaking: water**

## leak out (verb)

leak out

what you tell them would ~ (school counselors)

leaked out in bits and pieces  
the truth ~ (politician)

leaks out in debt repayments  
aid to Africa ~ ("leaking bucket syndrome")

prevent details from leaking out  
they want to ~ (explosion in North Korea)

news leaked out  
the ~ about...

word leaked out  
~ and... (Iraq)

**leaking: water / verb**

## lean (size)

lean and agile  
the company is ~

lean and mean  
it's a ~ team (Blue Origin)

lean and nimble  
the company must become more ~

**ability & lack of ability / flaws & lack of flaws / size /  
strength & weakness / sufficiency, insufficiency & excess:  
fatness & thinness / health & medicine**

## lean (lean times, etc.)

lean times  
voters are sick and tired of ~  
the newspaper has had to shut its doors in these ~

lean years  
she had some ~ (a professional golfer)

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: fatness & thinness /  
food & drink**

## lean in (verb)

leaning in  
he has not been trying to hide, he has been ~, begging to tell  
his story

leaning in on (thorny) issues  
even Obama praised him for ~ (a popular young politician)

leaning in as hard as (humanly) possible  
he is ~ to his position as a Trump backer (politics)

lean in to your career  
~ and embrace ambition

leaned in to her heritage  
in recent years Beyoncé has ~, celebrating race...

♦ "And lean in always understood that. Lean in was always about being able to go for leadership positions, always about men leaning in at home... Well, that's right, and that's why again lean in was always for this, lean in was always about men doing their share... So this report is not telling women to lean in, it's telling companies to lean in..." ("Sheryl Sandberg: Companies Need To 'Lean In' As Pandemic Threatens

Women's Progress," NPR, All Things Considered, Oct. 1, 2020. Sandberg is head of the Lean In Foundation. Her 2013 book *Lean In* called on women to be more assertive in the workplace, but has been criticized as an unrealistic panacea for most women. Michele Obama famously said, "It's not always enough to lean in because that s\*\*\* doesn't work." That criticism itself has been criticized.)

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: gesture /  
standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## lean into (verb)

lean into being  
he taught me to ~ weird instead of hiding it

leaning into his branding  
he was ~ as an educator (Dr. William H. Cosby)

leaning into the campaign  
this hype house is ~ in a big way (politics 2020)

leaned into this characterization  
prosecutors ~ during her trial (manipulative)

lean (hard) into the issue  
this will encourage Democrats to ~ (a vote)

lean into it  
the women pulled no punches, they would just ~  
(scriptwriters for SVU)

leaning (completely) into it  
for years I shied away from it, now I'm ~

leans into his reputation  
he ~ for pushing boundaries (the comic Dave Chappelle)

leaned into her status  
she has ~ as one of the only female candidates

leaned into (fear) tactics  
he ~ as he accused the left of... (politics)

leaned (heavily) into that  
he has ~ (Trump's endorsement / politics)

♦ "Maybe I'll lean into the pain narrative, write that and get a good advance, ya'll pay me for that, right." (Fantasy author L.L. McKinney.)

♦ Steve Inskeep: What are you going to be doing this summer that is possible, that is practical [about gun control]. / Mayor Aftab Pureval: We are going to do everything we can to lean into innovative law enforcement techniques that are data driven..." (On NPR.)

♦ "The film leans fully into meta territory." (Caryn James about *Bros*, a gay rom-com. This short sentence is notable for containing 3 contemporary clichés: "lean into," "meta," and "territory.")

♦ Step in / lean in and embrace it...

**commitment & determination: gesture / standing, sitting &  
lying / verb**

## lean on (coercion)

lean on his lawyer, Jeff Sessions and other aides  
the report details his efforts to ~ (obstruction of justice)

lean on and even pressure  
many companies ~ workers to volunteer

**coercion & motivation: verb / weight**

## lean on (support)

lean on

after your loss, who did you ~, family, friends... (a boxer)  
he wishes he had had a support group to ~ (trans)

lean on the crutch

people ~ of metaphor (technology)

leaned (hard) on his experience

he ~ as vice president (election debate)

leaned on their experience

scientists ~ with other viruses to make predictions

lean on scotch

he began to ~ to relax (an alcoholic)

leaned on Wilson

he ~ as his spiritual prop (Robert Falcon Scott)

leaned heavily on

I have also ~ the knowledge of a number of scholars...

**help & assistance: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

**dependency: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## lean towards (verb)

leaning towards Biden

he is ~ (a voter)

leaning towards voting

she is ~ for disapproval (declaration of emergency)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: direction / verb**

## leap (leap into action, etc.)

leapt at the opportunity

my father ~ (to help humanity / a doctor)

leaped to defend him

Churchill ~ (Stalin / World War II)

leapt into action

the police ~

leapt into the fray

eminent academics and writers ~ (literary controversy)

**movement: verb / walking, running & jumping**

**commitment & determination / eagerness & reluctance:**

**movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## leap (leap of faith, etc.)

leap of faith

you've just got to make a ~, and I'm here to catch you  
take a ~ and trust again or get out (unfaithful spouse)

leap of the imagination

America is a ~ (history)

leap in faith

marriage is a ~

♦ "When you want to test the depths of a stream, don't use both feet."  
(Chinese.)

**commitment & determination / fate, fortune & chance:**

**walking, running & jumping**

## leap (transmission)

leap from animals to humans

some viruses can ~

♦ "How a meme found on anonymous message boards is making a leap  
into real-world politics." (Eating bugs.)

**transmission: walking, running & jumping / verb**

## leap (the leap of a waterfall, etc.)

leap, splash and spray

the ~ of waterfalls

**resemblance: walking, running & jumping**

## leap (noun)

leaps in (bike) design

significant ~

leaps in (math) proficiency

students have made great ~

leap in (weapons) technology

this ~

leap to stardom

she reflects on her ~ (film actor)

leap to television

they made the ~ (from the early days of film)

leap from booby to boo-boo

it is a short linguistic ~

leap from mediocrity to greatness

11 companies that made the ~

leaps and bounds

see *leaps and bounds*

technology leap

every new ~—the longbow, the tank, the atom bomb...

great leap

students have made ~s in math proficiency

mental leap

if one can make the ~ to imagine Go in heaven...

short (linguistic) leap

it is a ~ from booby to boo-boo

significant leap

~ in bike design

made the leap

they ~ to television (from the early days of film)

**progress & lack of progress: walking, running & jumping**

## leapfrog (verb)

leapfrogged (traditional) technology

China has ~ (cellphone usage)

leapfrogs from histories to key games  
the series jumps around, it ~ (sports documentary)

leapfrogged into the internet era  
China ~ (smartphones and apps)

**progress & lack of progress: animal / verb / walking,  
running & jumping**

**movement: animal / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## leaps and bounds

by leaps and bounds  
the organization was growing ~  
the intelligence community has grown by ~

in leaps and bounds  
technology has advanced ~

**increase & decrease: walking, running & jumping**

**speed: movement / walking, running & jumping**

## learn (verb)

learned from his losses  
he has ~

**knowledge & intelligence: school & education / verb**

## lease (lease on life)

new lease on life  
the medication gave him a ~  
the new term feels like a ~ (a teacher)  
technology has given publishing a ~

getting a (new) lease on life  
they were ~ (1972 moratorium on death penalty)

gave him a (new) lease on life  
the medication ~

**amelioration & renewal: document**

## leash (on a leash / off a leash, etc.)

long leash  
he gave me the ~ and support I needed (editor at WSJ)

on a constitutional leash  
she believes in a government ~

on a (very) short (constitutional) leash  
she believes in a government ~

keeps him on a short leash  
the company ~ (an actor who is also a pitchman)

let his team off the leash  
he ~ to go and create (soccer)

tightened the leash  
the court ~ on unions and their ability to organize

**control & lack of control: animal / dog**

**constraint & lack of constraint: animal / dog**

## leave (leave something alone)

leave it alone  
people told me to ~ (don't speak out or get involved)

**involvement: direction / verb**

## leave (leave a mark, etc.)

leaves a (computer) fingerprint  
every visit ~

leaves a mark  
Afghanistan ~ on soldiers

left pockmarks  
a grenade exploded and ~ on the side of his house

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning / relationship: verb**

## leave (death)

left us  
I gather he ~ last year (died)

left this earth  
when she ~ she was... (child / 2022)

**death & life: euphemism / movement / presence &  
absence**

## leave it (leave it all on the field, etc.)

left it all out there on the floor  
I ~ along with my guys (NBA win)

left it all on the field  
he ~ for us (the great Rob Gronkowski / NFL)

**commitment & determination: giving, receiving, bringing &  
returning / verb**

## lecture (verb)

lecture about race  
the film doesn't ~, but you can feel the enmity...

**message: school & education / speech / verb**

## leech (person)

leeches  
~ come with the sudden wealth (pro athletes)  
those ~ take it all (Christian aid groups vs. refugees)

leech, the busy bee, the whiner  
the ~ (types of bad friends)

parasite, a leech  
she's a ~ (charges soldiers for water from a river)

despised the poor as leeches  
he ~ who weakened society (*Atlas Shrugged*)

♦ "Every step I've taken has gaslighted those whom I love... I am not a culture vulture. I am a culture leech. You should absolutely cancel me, and I absolutely cancel myself." (Rachel Dolezal, an academic who claimed "identities of color," including Black Caribbean, North African Blackness, US rooted Blackness, Caribbean rooted Bronx Blackness, Boricua...)

♦ "Correct; well said. Glazers = leeches" (A disgruntled Man U fan on a BBC HYS after the latest loss to Liverpool. 282 upvotes. 30 downvotes.)

♦ "This was a victory for boxing, AJ and that blood sucker Hearn out of the race..." (A BBC HYS about the second fight between Oleksandr Usyk and Anthony Joshua.)

♦ "During our excursions we found masses of wild strawberries but where we found the best we also found the most leeches. I knew from my reading that these creatures are the plague of many Himalayan valleys, and now learned from personal experience how helpless one is against them. They drop from trees on men and animals and creep through all the openings in one's clothes, even the eyelets in one's shoes. If one tears them off one loses more blood than if one lets them drink their fill, when they fall off by themselves. Some of the valleys are infested to such a degree by leeches that one simply cannot protect oneself against them. The best way of keeping them out is by wearing socks and trousers steeped in salt." (*Seven Years in Tibet* by Heinrich Harrer, from the chapter, "The Village of Happiness.")

♦ "Our first day's march lay through patches of forest, clearings, and Malay villages, and was pleasant enough... The next day, the country got wilder... We passed through extensive forests, along paths often up to our knees in mud, and were much annoyed by the leeches for which this district is famous. These little creatures infest the leaves and herbage by the side of the paths, and when a passenger comes along they stretch themselves out at full length, and if they touch any part of his dress or body, quit their leaf and adhere to it. They then creep on to his feet, legs, or other part of his body and suck their fill, the first puncture being rarely felt during the excitement of walking. On bathing in the evening we generally found half a dozen or a dozen on each of us, most frequently on our legs, but sometimes on our bodies, and I had one who sucked his fill from the side of my neck, but who luckily missed the jugular vein. There are many species of these forest leeches. All are small, but some are beautifully marked with stripes of bright yellow. They probably attach themselves to deer or other animals which frequent the forest paths, and have thus acquired the singular habit of stretching themselves out at the sound of a footstep or of rustling foliage..." (*The Malay Archipelago* by Alfred Russel Wallace, Chapter 3, Malacca and Mount Ophir.)

**affliction: animal / person**

**character & personality: animal / person**

**insult / person: animal**

## leeway (noun)

leeway

she doesn't allow me any ~

**constraint & lack of constraint / extent & scope: boat**

## left (left behind)

left behind

the poor are ~ (services go to wealthy)

**progress & lack of progress: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## left and right

thrown around left and right

the word *racist* has been ~

♦ "It's killing people left to right." (A drug user, about fentanyl. An eggcorn?)

**extent & scope: direction**

## left field (out of left field, etc.)

left-field surprises

the thriller is full of ~ (No Sudden Move)

completely out of left field

you make absurd comments that are ~ and make no sense  
this is ~, I am absolutely shocked, I was gut-wrenched...

come from left field

we were stunned, this had ~ (diplomacy)

come out of left field

the announcement ~ (unexpected)

♦ "This thing was not only from left field, it was from the planet Mars, because it didn't happen..." (A politician dismissing an old accusation of sexual abuse.)

♦ "She furrowed her brow. It was a question from left field... / Now they were the ones thrown a curveball... / This was another question our of the blue..." (A well written police procedural.)

♦ This refers to a throw from the left fielder (or center or right fielder) to any of the bases, particularly home plate, surprising the runner. Ordinarily, a throw from the outfield is cut off by the second-baseman. It takes an outfielder with a strong arm to make such a long throw, and it is *always* a dramatic moment.)

**appearance & disappearance: baseball / sports & games**

## left out (excluded)

left out of the Paris Olympics

baseball and softball will be ~

**acceptance & rejection: container / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## leg (first leg, etc.)

leg of the journey

conditions on the return ~ were worse

leg of the trip

the plane left for the second ~ to Dover Air Force Base

leg of training

the final ~ for soldiers trying to become Green Berets

return leg

conditions on the ~ of the journey were worse

first leg

the ~ of his journey

second leg

the plane left for the ~ of the trip to Dover AFB

final leg

the ~ of training (soldiers trying to become Green Berets)

**sequence: leg**

## leg (grow legs, have legs, etc.)

grew legs

my website ~ (became successful)

have more legs

this boycott seems to ~ than most (against Bud Lite beer)

**growth & development / starting, going, continuing & ending / success & failure: leg / verb**

## leg (leg to stand on)

have a (firm) leg to stand on

he didn't ~ (Secretary of Labor resigns)

**bases: leg / standing, sitting & lying**

## leg (last legs)

on its last legs

his show is ~ (TV show losing ratings)

♦ "His new show is on its last legs before it even got on its first legs."  
(Snark about a CNN personality.)

**bases / condition & status / decline: leg / standing, sitting & lying**

## legacy (obsolescence)

legacy costs

the "~" of retiree health care and pensions (industry)

legacy equipment

adding high-tech sensors to ~ is expensive and challenging

legacy issues

there are many companies that need to confront ~

legacy newsroom

change is difficult and slow in a ~ (Capital B media)

legacy system

drivers are available for ~s such as Windows 98

"legacy" technology

~—an industry euphemism for obsolete hardware

legacy thinking

generals are locked in a cold-war mindset—~

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: family / history / money**

**transmission: family**

## legacy (history)

legacy

she talked about her ~, the things she has achieved

legacy of the past

the ~ (history)

legacy of its (Soviet) past

Estonia's effort to sever the ~ (monuments, etc.)

legacy of (vanishing) plants

the seed vault seeks to save the genetic ~ (on Svalbard)

legacy of war

landmines are an insidious ~

legacy of discrimination and lived experiences

they seek to erase the ~ (critical race theory)

legacy of slavery and colonialism

how to deal with the ~

legacy of pain and prejudice

the romance of the West versus its ~ (US)

legacy of the cold war

this terrible ~ (Russian stockpiles of chemical weapons)

war's legacy

the ~ continues to divide Americans (Civil War)

family legacy

~s and obligations

colonial legacy

France's ~ has deepened that alienation (immigrants)

boxing in India is a ~ (sports)

complicated legacy

the ~ of this American classic (*Shaft* / Blaxploitation)

genetic legacy

the seed vault seeks to save the ~ of vanishing plants

insidious legacy

landmines are an ~ of war

multigenerational legacy

families with ~s of college education (vs. poor)

radioactive legacy

using the world's ~ (to determine age of whale sharks)

guardian of a (150 year) legacy

the Mariinsky Theater is a ~ (ballet and opera)

carrying on the legacy

they are ~ of George Plimpton (*Paris Review*)

deal with the legacy

how to ~ of slavery and colonialism

pass the legacy along to their children's children

~ (Shoshone)

sever the legacy

Estonia's effort to ~ of its Soviet past (monuments, etc.)

**transmission: family / history / money**

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: family / history / money**

## legacy (reputation)

legacy

his ~ is tarnished by allegations he... (a boxer)

legacy of failure

given the long ~ at schools like Thomas Jefferson

legacy of love

they left a ~ wherever they went (eulogy)

Manchester's (industrial) legacy

~ (England)

Michigan's (proud shipbuilding) legacy

~ (Lake Michigan)

shipbuilding legacy

Michigan's proud ~ (Lake Michigan)

troubled (racial) legacy

a stark reminder of this city's ~ (St. Louis)

Jewish legacy

there is a rich ~ associated with boxing

industrial legacy

Manchester's ~ (England)

proud (shipbuilding) legacy  
Michigan's ~ (Lake Michigan)

racial legacy  
a stark reminder of this city's troubled ~ (St. Louis)

rich (Jewish) legacy  
there is a ~ associated with boxing

carry on his (great) legacy  
a replacement will ~ (Supreme Court justice)

embraced (for itself) the legacy  
Gazprom has ~ of Peter the Great (new skyscraper)

leaves his legacy in ruins  
the loss ~ (Joshua defeated by Usyk / boxing)

**reputation: family / history / money**

**transmission: family**

## legend (noun)

legend  
Mike Tyson is an icon of the sport of boxing, a ~

both legends  
it was a great performance from ~ (Jones v. Tyson boxing)

♦ He is a legend... in his own mind. (A narcissist.)

**survival, persistence & endurance / time: allusion**

## legion (noun)

legion of fans  
Mr. Musk told his ~ that...

legions of others  
she is joining ~, many of them women, who are frustrated

legions of poor  
Karachi is a magnet for its ~

legions of other women  
and so are ~ ("me too" movement)

**amount: military**

## lemming (consciousness)

lemming  
what are you, a ~ (taking government advice / COVID)

lemmings for every tweet  
people aren't ~ they happen to see (conspiracy theories)

**consciousness & awareness / behavior / unanimity & consensus / society: animal**

## lemon (noun)

lemon  
my car is a ~

**failure, accident & impairment: fruits & vegetables**

**flaws & lack of flaws: fruits & vegetables**

## lend (lend a hand, etc.)

lent an ear

Michael unselfishly ~ to friends in need

lend a hand  
can I ~ (help)

**help & assistance: money / verb**

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: money / verb**

## length (go to any lengths, etc.)

go to any lengths  
the corporation will ~ to preserve the system (oil)  
political rivals will ~ to achieve their aims

gone to unusual lengths  
police had ~ in their investigation

**behavior / extent & scope: distance**

**restraint & lack of restraint: distance**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: distance**

## lens (through a lens)

through many lenses  
immigration, ~

through that lens  
I see the world ~ (being biracial)

through the new lens of the memes  
looked at ~, human beings...

through the lens of a reasonable office  
use of force is viewed ~ (the Supreme Court standard)

through the lens of science  
experiences now better seen ~ (hearing "voices")

through the lens of a (negative) stereotype  
the threat of being viewed ~

through an ethnic lens  
he refused to view things ~ (Afghan military man)

through an objective lens  
we have to look at it ~ reasonable officer standard)

through a strictly racial lens  
the project look at American history ~ (1619 Project)

through a "theological" lens  
he does not view the conflict ~ (Middle East)

♦ "It is time to remove your glasses from the last century." (Hungarian opposition politician Endre Toth, criticizing a government report about overrepresentation of women in higher education, and how that could harm the country.)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / perception, perspective & point of view: eye / tools & technology**

## lens (other)

lens onto the (shadowy) world  
his arrest provides a ~ of computer hackers

narrow lens  
presenting poetry through a ~ of immigration

novel and interesting lens

he has found a ~ through which to view the conflict

viewed from the 20-20 lens

use of force should not be ~ of hindsight (policing standard)

widen the lens

okay, so let's ~ a little bit here... (NPR / Steve Inskeep)

just to ~ and ask a big big question (NPR / Fresh Air)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / perception, perspective & point of view: eye / tools & technology**

## Leonardo da Vinci

England's Leonardo

Robert Hooke, ~ (according to Allan Chapman)

"England's Leonardo"

he was described as ~ (Robert Hooke)

**comparison & contrast / knowledge & intelligence: epithet**

## leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.)

HMS *Leopard*

there have been a number of ~s

♦ "The leopard cannot change its spots."

♦ "The skin of the leopard is beautiful, but not its heart."

♦ "Only the ignorant goat attends a leopard's party."

♦ "Even a leopard cub is called a leopard."

♦ Jim Corbett killed the Leopard of Rudrapayag and the Pana Leopard. (Read *Man-Eaters of Kumaon* by Jim Corbett, Introduction by Sir Maurice Hallett, Preface by Lord Linlithgow, Viceroy of India 1936-1943.)

**character & personality: animal / predation**

**identity & nature: animal / predation**

**proper name: animal / predation**

**military: animal / predation / proper name**

## leper (person)

modern-day lepers

we treat them like ~ (fat people)

♦ In 2009, Egypt sought to close its last leper colony, the Abou Zaabal Leprosarium. The inhabitants of the colony protested, however. Many of them preferred to live in the colony rather than return home to their villages.

**society: health & medicine / person**

**person: society**

**acceptance & rejection: health & medicine / person / society**

## lesson (noun)

got a (total boxing) lesson

AJ ~ from Usyk tonight

learned my lesson

I ~

learned his lesson

he has probably ~ (a politician who made a serious gaffe)

teach the kid a lesson

maybe I want to ~

**behavior / knowledge & intelligence: school & education**

## let down (fail)

let me down

don't ~

let the team down

in the most critical situation, I ~ (sports)

let us down

don't ~

Leslie did not ~ (a basketball player)

let you down

a book would never ~ (Amos Oz)

let a child down

every case, an adult has ~ (under-age drinking)

let myself down

if I lose this fight, I'll feel like I ~

let my family down

if I lose this fight, I'll feel like I ~

let my team down

if I lose this fight, I'll feel like I ~

let my country down

if I lose this fight, I'll feel like I ~

adult has let a child down

in every case, an ~ (under-age drinking)

dogs let him down

each time, the ~ (fighting pit bulls)

step up or let down

you can ~ your colleagues

supported their customers or let them down

have the energy companies ~ (Storm Arwen)

**success & failure: direction / verb**

**failure, accident & impairment: direction / verb**

## lethargic (adjective)

lethargic

the government's response has been ~ (earthquake relief)

lethargic display

that was a ~ (a soccer game)

**activity / flaws & lack of flaws: health & medicine**

**speed / timeliness & lack of timeliness: movement**

## letter (love letter)

see *love letter* (noun)

## level (take something to a higher level)

took it to a whole new level

yesterday he ~ (criticism of his enemies)

♦ "Nothing beats the vibrant flavor of Mexican cuisine. Come to El Tenampa, where we take those flavors to the next level." (Mexican Grill & Cantina, since 1993, Boise, Idaho. Where "tacos" rhymes with "backhoes.")

**increase & decrease: direction**

## level (ground level, etc.)

from the ten-thousand-foot level

unnecessary, seen ~, but here on the ground... (conflict)

at a 30,000-foot level

that's the whole point of vaccine etiquette ~

on a 30,000-foot level

so, ~, what has emerged is that... (analysis)

at a granular level

she learned about cops at a ~ (became a reserve cop)

at a microscopic level

~, children's use of language is... (words, images)

at a molecular level

suggestion is built into cinema ~ (sex)

at the molecular level

but the closer you look at it, if you see it ~...

from the ground level

we want to show the conflict as it looks ~

deck-plate level

the ~ of actual experiences (the Navy)

grass roots level

go back home to the ~

♦ "Carrie, let me get your 3,000-foot perspective on something. Do you think that..." / "Let me ask you to pull back 3,000 feet and get the larger view here." / "Let's back up and just get big picture for a second..." (Heard on NPR.)

♦ "It's really up to us to adopt and accept behaviors that take care of those we care about. So, that's the whole point of vaccine etiquette and what we're talking about today, I think, at a 30,000-foot level." (Steven Petrow, aka "Mr. Manners." From "As More Americans Get Coronavirus Vaccines, A New Etiquette Emerges," NPR, Weekend edition Sunday, March 14, 2021.)

♦ "We are looking at it from the 30,000 foot level." (California Democrat Congressman Adam Schiff on NPR.)

♦ "If you look at it from 30,000 feet, you know that some of those people are going to go on to commit violent crime or are going to be victims of crime." (District Attorney Chesa Boudin in San Francisco.)

♦ "[Their goals] are not that different, from a forty-thousand-foot level." (Barak Obama, speaking about two politicians.)

♦ "Yuh know, on the one hand, this is kind of nutty (huh-huh), on the other hand, hey, ya know what, uh, [Reagan's] got a point, maybe you have to look at things from uh 20 billion miles up to get this kind of perspective." (Fred Kaplan (journalist). From "The 'Secret History' Of Nuclear War," NPR, Fresh Air, September 28, 2020.)

♦ "Regardless of what upper-level leadership says about trying to erase the stigma of mental health in our services, that does not play out when you get to the boots on the ground or the deck-plate level of actual experiences of junior service members." (Stephanie Kral, from "A surge in Navy deserters could be a sign of a bigger problem for the military" by Dustin Jones, NPR, National Security, May 21, 2022.)

♦ Winston Churchill, in 1927, compared his position of Minister of Munitions of War in 1917 to riding "comfortably on an elephant... from whose back a wide scene lay open."

**perception, perspective & point of view: ground, terrain & land / height**

## level (fairness)

on the level

this is not ~ (criminal case thrown out of court)

level of accountability

there needs to be a ~ throughout the system (justice)

level playing field

all we ask for is a ~ (tariffs)

**flaws & lack of flaws : sports & games**

## levelheaded (adj)

levelheaded girl

Olga Zvirkovskaya, a ~ who will do well and go far...

**character & personality: equilibrium & stability**

## level off (verb)

leveling off

the epidemic may be ~ (opioid abuse)

**increase & decrease : direction / number / verb**

**progress & lack of progress: mountains & hills / verb**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: direction / verb**

## level up (as verb)

level up in life

~ by establishing a personal brand (Aliza Licht)

"level up" Britain's poor regions

ideas to ~ are sparse

skill up, level up

~ (an advertisement for the University of Montreal)

♦ In the U.K., "leveling up" seeks to address the imbalance that favors the south-east of England and London in areas such as opportunity; civic pride; wealth; influence; innovation; high productivity firms; highways; jobs; high-quality schools, etc.

♦ "Questions about transport and the leveling-up agenda are likely to feature heavily." (Conservative Party.)

♦ "The Leveling Up Minister Simon Clarke said..." (The U.K.)

♦ "Labour mayors across five regions of the North said leveling up had fallen short."

♦ "Is Michael Gove the Minister for Leveling Up, Taking Down, or Getting Even?" (Friday Night Comedy from BBC Radio 4. Funny!)

♦ "Level up your gift-giving game with a little help from one of our personal shopping pros... Book a free online appointment." (A Microsoft advertisement for its store.)

♦ "Cambridge discarding academic achievement for 'potential' is destructive leveling down" by Martin Stephen, U.K.'s *The Daily Telegraph*, 20 Feb 2023.

♦ "The 2023 Corolla Hybrid levels up across the board. With more power..." (An advertisement.)

♦ "Level up your grooming game, your balls will thank you." (A Manskaped ad.)

**increase & decrease: direction / prep, adv, adj, participle / part of speech / verb**

## lever (levers of power, etc.)

levers of power

he holds the ~

levers of the state  
the power of the justice system, finance ministry, other ~

diplomatic lever  
we need to find the right ~ (encouraging democracy)

Russia's (diplomatic) levers  
Kim's visit to Moscow is a reminder to Washington of ~

pulls the levers  
she ~ of power in Congress and moves legislation

**control & lack of control: mechanism**

## leverage (noun)

leverage over North Korea  
China has the most ~

diplomatic leverage  
Sadat gained ~ using oil as a political weapon (1973)

♦ "Give me a place to stand, and I shall move the earth." (Attributed to Archimedes. This attests to the power of a lever and a fulcrum.)

**power / force: tools & technology**

## leverage (verb)

leverage its support  
Israel should ~ in decisive talks with the Palestinians

**power / force: tools & technology / verb**

## leviathan (noun)

leviathans  
Britain's two new aircraft carriers are ~

leviathan's (40,000) employees  
the ~ (VinGroup conglomerate / Vietnam)

leviathan government  
he wants to shrink our ~ (a politician)

leviathan state  
they protested against the encroachments of a ~ (health)

intelligence leviathan  
9/11 helped to create a sprawling ~

new leviathan  
the intelligence services are the ~

become a leviathan  
what started as a little startup has ~ (Facebook)

♦ The Behemoth was a huge land monster mentioned in the Book of Job. Its aquatic counterpart was the Leviathan. Both creatures were controlled by God, symbolizing God's power.

**size: allusion / Bible / creature / religion**

## Lexington (of China, etc.)

Lexington, if you will, of the Republic of China  
Hankou is the ~ (the "double ten," 1911)

♦ The Wuchang Uprising of 10 October 1911 (the "double ten") was the beginning of the end of the Qing Dynasty in China.

♦ "Double Ten" is recognized by Merriam-Webster.

♦ "By the rude bridge that arched the flood, / Their flag to April's breeze unfurled, / Here once the embattled farmers stood / And fired the shot heard round the world." ("The Concord Hymn" by Ralph Waldo Emerson.)

♦ On reaching Concord, the grenadiers executed the object in view by destroying the ordnance and stores... / The loss of the Provincials in this affair, which they pompously styled 'the battle of Lexington,' was only sixty men, two-thirds of whom were killed. / An officer who was engaged wrote thus:-- / 'The rebels fought like the savages of the country, and treated some who had the misfortune to fall like savages, for they scalped them and cut off their ears with the most unmanly brutality. This has irritated the troops to a very high degree...' / The return of the troops to Boston, though they had fully accomplished the duty on which they had been sent, was represented all over the continent as a defeat..." (*British Battles on Land and Sea* by James Grant.)

**history / military: epithet**

## LGBTQ+

LGBTQIAA+  
the term ~

LGBTQ advocate  
Brinton is an ~ and activist (Sam Brinton, DOE)

LGBT ally  
he is a straight ~ (co-founder of So Gay Rosé brand)

LGBTQ children  
the "Don't Say Gay" bill will harm ~

LGBTQ+ clients  
'queer gym' empowers ~, both physically and mentally

LGBTQ Community  
the ~ fears a further escalation of hate

LGBTQ+ community  
Kendrick Lamar's new song divides the ~

LGBTQIA community  
we stand with the ~ (Urban Christian Academy Kansas City)

LGBTQ+ABCDE crowd  
BLM and the ~ (a disparaging commenter)

LGBTQ expression  
corporate reappropriation, the straight-approved forms of ~

LGBTQIA2S+ folks  
resources for ~

LGBTQIA+ Employee Resource Group  
she also served as the bank's ~ co-chair (Silicon Valley Bank)

LGBTQ supporters group  
Chelsea Pride, the London club's ~ (the "Rent boy" chant)

LGBTQ hate  
~ thrives online

LGBTQ+ identity  
Hulu special 'Mormon No More' explores ~ (Moms marry)

LGBTQ individuals  
the term "traditional marriage" marginalizes ~

LGBTQ issues  
I don't recall ever studying ~ in my history classes

LGBTQ marginalization  
talking about ~ in conversations...

LGBTQ nightclubs  
The Q, one of New York City's largest ~ (Frankie Sharp)

LGBTQ people  
the lived reality for many ~

LGBTQ Pride  
several thousand people joined a march against ~ (Belgrade)

LGBTQ rights  
fighting for ~ and advocating for oneself can be exhausting  
the Supreme Court upheld religious rights over ~

LGBTQ supporters  
3LionsPride, an England fan group for ~ (soccer)

LGBTQ travelers  
~ promoted the island as queer-friendly (Bali)

LGBT values  
the legislation will protect the country from ~

L.G.B.T.Q. Culture War  
Ross Douthat's "How to Make Sense of the New ~"

LGBTQ+ youth  
a blog emphasizing mental health awareness for ~

LGBTQ+ employees and allies  
a sense of community for our ~ (Silicon Valley Bank)

LGBTQ-themed  
the mass production of ~ entertainment

LGBTQ and Gen Z  
holding his space in ~ culture

anti-LGBTQ  
so many ~ attacks going on around the country  
a year of ~ hate  
an onslaught of aggressively hostile ~ bills  
Uganda has passed one of the world's harshest ~ bills

Black LGBTQ+  
Black, ~, brown, Native, and Muslim communities

Black and LGBTQ  
students are resisting ~ erasure

BLM and the LGBTQ+ABCDE  
~ crowd (a disparaging commenter)

trans and LGBTQ  
how to be a ~ ally at work (Gender Reveal / NPR)

identify as LGBTQ+  
half of teens who ~ experience poor mental health

♦ "There are so many anti-LGBTQ attacks going on around the country and a lot of them are really about trying to erase our existence and to make us invisible, and to make our young people invisible and our elders invisible." (Michael Adams, CEO of SAGE.)

♦ "The facts are clear, our community is growing, and we will take our seat at the table." (A comment about a poll showing that 21% of Gen Z is LGBTQ.)

♦ "16 LGBTQ art shows that keep the summer Pride vibe flowing." (NBC Out, which "showcases feature stories, original videos and other unique content about, and of interest to, the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community.")

♦ "The LGBTQ community fears a further escalation of hate." (Following the "2023 Covenant School shooting.")

♦ "Trans-curious" is listed in the Wiktionary and tagged "LGBT."

♦ "The term LGBTQIAA+ is a clear instance of balkanization." (Jonathan Rauch.)

♦ "LGBTQ+...what happens when they use up the alphabet?" (A disparaging online commenter.)

♦ "The legislation will protect the country from LGBT values." (Russia's "Answer to Blinken" law that bans gay propaganda.)

♦ "Will England be taking the knee at this World Cup to highlight social injustices? If so, does this also cover gingers and baldies?" / "Of course. What do you think the G and B stand for in LGBTQ?" (Inspired repartee on a BBC HYS about the FIFA World Cup in Qatar. The snark alludes to several things, including a speech given by FIFA president Gianni Infantino—widely characterized as a rant—in which he said he had been bullied as a youth for having red hair—but in which he also made several excellent points.)

♦ see also *alphabet (LGBTQ+)*, *queer (collocations)*

## inclusion & exclusion: language

## liberation (groups)

### liberation theology

examining Catholicism's controversial ~

### age liberation

~, don't let ageism define you (Life Kit / Tools)

### animal liberation

~ is no longer the fringe idea it once was  
the role of science in a push for ~

### Black Liberation

the ~ Army carried out a series of deadly attacks

### black liberation

black capitalism as a strategy for ~ and black attainment  
James H. Cone, Founder of ~ theology  
dissecting ~ theology (by Geoff Bennett)

### Earth Liberation

the ~ Front is attacking Hummers

### fat liberation

body positivity's more radical origins in ~

### Gnome Liberation

garden gnomes taken from homes by the ~ Front

### Health Liberation

~ Now, a trans rights advocacy group...

### Queer Liberation

the ~ March, a Pride event... (Reclaim Pride Coalition)

### achieve liberation

the term was what gays needed to ~ ("homophobic")

♦ "As it turned out, the word 'homophobia' was exactly the concept that gay men and lesbians needed to achieve liberation." (Psychotherapist George Weinberg, in 2012. He is the author of the 1972 book *Society and the Healthy Homosexual* and a gay-rights activist. Quoted in "How 'Phobic' Became a Weapon in the Identity Wars" by Amanda Hess, *The New York Times Magazine*, Jan. 26, 2016. It's a brilliant article.)

♦ "One year gnomes were found hanged along with a note that said, 'When you read these words we will no longer be part of your selfish world in which we serve only as decoration.'" ("Morning Edition' Returns: Gnome Liberation," Bob Edwards, Morning Edition, December 30, 2003.)

♦ MORE CONVENTIONAL USAGE: China's People's Liberation Army; the liberation of Auschwitz and Birkenau by the Red Army; the liberation of Paris; the National Liberation Front (Algeria); Kuwait's Liberation from Iraqi occupation...

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## library (amount)

libraries of sentiment

the line says little but conveys whole ~ (in a poem)

**amount: books & reading**

## library (tool library, etc.)

library of images

Boris Dayma used an existing ~ (DALL-E mini app)

library of (unreleased) recordings

when Prince died, he left a massive ~ at his studio

library of tests

add to our extensive ~ ("We Want Your Tests" / ETS)

library of things

the Akron-Summit County Public Library includes a ~  
the ~: why buy when you can borrow

library of shows

Netflix and its ~

tool library

Milwaukee has a ~ (users can "check out" tools, etc.)

♦ The Library of Congress is not your local neighborhood library, and its collection is not limited to books. It is a national treasure, an institution every American can be proud of. Long may it live and prosper. Which is not to say it has been without controversy...

♦ Art Library; Cake Pans; Educational Kits; Kitchen Tools; Recreational Things... (The Akron-Summit County Public Library's "Library Of Things" that you can check out. The cake-pans collection includes a Cookie Monster Happy Birthday Cake Pan. Recreational Things include backgammon and chess sets.)

♦ "Borrowers also agree that the Longmont Public Library is not responsible for any injury, loss, or damage that may occur as a result of use of Library of Things items." (Longmont Public Library, Colorado.)

♦ similar to *bank* (*tissue bank, etc.*)

**group, set & collection: books & reading**

## license (noun)

license to act vile

we the public have ~ (lack of civility nowadays)

license to publish

this is not a ~ anti-government stories

license to kill

fear or hatred are not a ~ (vigilante action)

interpret this as a license

editors should not ~ to publish anti-government stories

takes (dramatic) license

the series ~ with a lot of events (HBO)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: document / government**

## lid (keep the lid on something)

keep a lid on such information

it's next to impossible to ~ (mass shooters' names)

**access & lack of access: bottle / container / verb**

## lie (tell an untruth)

lie

DNA doesn't ~ (charged with murder)

*Lie*

*How Charts* ~ by Alberto Cairo

**evidence / fictive communication: speech / verb**

## lie (position)

lay devastated

the city ~ by typhus (Belgrade)

lay open

this was the American landscape that ~ to the virus

lay spread out

finally the mountain gateway opened, and the plain ~ below

**fictive position: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## lie (lie ahead)

lies ahead

the work that ~ will be difficult

we are ready for the struggle that ~ (war)

lie ahead

as we prepare for the elections that ~...

her biggest challenges ~

**future / time: direction / journeys & trips / verb**

## lie down (and lay down)

lay down

I ~ so she wouldn't go (pled guilty to drugs)

to ~ for your biggest rivals is unforgivable (Man U fan)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: direction / standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## lie low (and lay low)

lay low

just ~ and cool it (Anthony Fauci / Super Bowl parties)

laying low

he and his family have been ~ since the fatal incident

lying low

the gangs are ~

**activity / attention, scrutiny & promotion: animal / standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## life (give life)

given new life to grievances  
the uranium boom has ~ over land and power (Niger)

given new life to an old myth  
the controversy has ~

**amelioration & renewal: death & life / verb**  
**survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / verb**  
**life (lose one's life)**

lost his life  
he ~ in a kayaking accident

lost my life  
I almost ~ because these dumb dudes...

**death & life: euphemism / possession / verb**  
**life (take one's life)**

take his life  
his last-minute decision would ~ (climbing)

taken another life  
this awful act of violence has ~ (one victim dies in hospital)

**death & life: euphemism / possession / verb**  
**life (life was cut short)**

life was cut short  
unfortunately his life was ~ at 25 (a murdered rapper)

**death & life: euphemism**  
**life (give one's life, etc.)**

gave his life for peace  
he gave ~ (Yitzhak Rabin)

**death & life: euphemism / possession / verb**  
**life (steal a life)**

stole eight lives  
he ~ (a terrorist / NYC)

**death & life: euphemism / possession / verb**  
**life (lay down one's life, etc.)**

laid down their lives  
the 457 service personnel who ~ (Brits in Afghanistan)

lay down his life for another  
there is no greater act of selflessness than for one to ~

**death & life: direction / euphemism / verb**  
**life (begin life)**

began life as a monastery  
St Mark's Church ~

**growth & development: life span / verb**  
**starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life / verb**

## life (bring to life)

brings to life  
the exhibit ~ the personalities behind the inventions

bring a (decades-old) cold case to life  
few writers have the skill to ~ (*I'll Be Gone In The Dark*)

brings Copernicus to life  
his new biography ~

bring (educational) exhibits to life  
sound can ~ (natural-sound recordings)

brings the geography to life  
"America from the Air" ~ (picture book)

brings history (really back) to life  
it ~ (illuminating Hadrian's Wall with 500 beacons)

brings him (back) to life  
she ~ sexually (character in film)

**substance & lack of substance: death & life / verb**  
**amelioration & renewal: death & life / verb**

## life (breathe life)

breathed life into Germany's campaign  
Reus ~ (important world-cup goal)

breathe life into a career  
he continues to ~ that looked finished (a boxer)

breathe (new) life into the case  
she hoped to ~ and help the victims' families find closure

breathes life into the image  
you upload a picture and AI ~ (blinks, smiles, moves head)

breathe life into the (Arab peace) initiative  
the king's effort to ~

breathe life into the sport  
he is trying to find novel ways to ~ (Indy car racing)

♦ "What it does is it really brings your ancestors to life in a kind of really wow moment." (Rafi Mendelsohn, about "Deep Nostalgia" at the MyHeritage website. The photo will blink, smile, and move its head. From "Genealogy Website Uses AI Software To Bring Old Photos To Life," NPR, Morning Edition, March 2, 2021.)

**amelioration & renewal / survival, persistence & endurance: breathing / death & life / health & medicine / verb**

## life (life of its own)

taken on a life of its own  
his death has ~ (conspiracy theory)

**survival, persistence & endurance: death & life**  
**life (spring to life)**

sprang to life  
Mount Marapi ~ early this week (volcano)  
the town ~ from nothing (oil)

sprang (vividly) to life

the issues ~ (heated discussion)

**activity / initiation: death & life / verb**  
**starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life / verb**

### **life (from walks of life)**

from all walks of life

we are ~, but we all love the same thing (hobbyists)  
people ~ gathered (Tunisian protests)  
his funeral was attended by people ~ (Pasternak, 1960)  
people ~ were encouraged to do volunteer work (China)

friends from all walks of life

I have ~

people from all walks of life

he thinks ~ can relate to his cause

students from all walks of life

universities should reach out to ~

come from all walks of life

they ~ (to a funeral)

**society: walking, running & jumping**

### **life (in all walks of life)**

in all walks of life

Azerbaijanis ~ tend to... (opinions)

active in all walks of life

Muslims are ~ (US)

**society: walking, running & jumping**

### **life (walks of life)**

different walks of life

you've got five people from completely ~ (D. C. Metro)

spreading into all walks of life

an epidemic of violence is ~

**society: walking, running & jumping**

### **life (container)**

life

life is full of surprises  
my ~ is empty

full life

she led a ~

**death & life: container**

### **life (life is a building)**

life

my ~ is in ruins

life crumbled

my ~

built a good life

we ~ together

put my life back together

I'm trying to ~

**death & life: infrastructure**

### **life (things)**

life of the product

this product is fully warranted for the ~

life of the (ReadNet) school

the brief ~ offers a stark lesson... (charter)

life of four hours

the active battery pack has an estimated ~

life stories

the ~ of thousands of words (*Word Origins* by W. Funk)

hailstone's life

in a ~ a long time is 10 to 20 minutes

battery life

laptop users list ~ as their No. 1 complaint

design life

many bridges are at the end of their ~ (collapses)

service life

the sewer system is reaching the end of its ~

shelf life

see *shelf life (and sell-by date)*

toy life

read the directions for safer play and longer ~

half-life

the elimination ~ is 27 minutes (GHB)  
the drug has a short onset of effect and a short ~

working life

equipment has outlived its predicted ~ (electric utility)

estimated life

the active battery pack has an ~ of four hours

extended-life

~ batteries

hidden life

see *life (hidden life, hidden lives)*

predicted (working) life

equipment has outlived its ~ (electric utility)

brief life

the ~ of the ReadNet school offers a stark lesson

secret life

see *life (secret life, secret lives)*

useful lives

downtown freeways have reached the end of their ~

at the end of their (design) life

many bridges are ~ (collapses)

end of their (useful) lives

downtown freeways have reached the ~

began life

the magnetic strip ~ in the 1960s as an IBM project

draw new life from old wells

as the industry improves its ability to ~ (oil)

take on a life of its own

an injustice can ~ (the law is an ass)

♦ "Every rock face breathes life with its lungs and emanates an energy that is proper only to itself." (The great Slovenian climber Tomaz Humar in *No Impossible Ways*.)

♦ "The gun ain't nuttin' to play with. You know, it don't know nobody, you know, it just dangerous." (A resident of Newberry, South Carolina.)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life**

**life (hidden life, hidden lives)**

*Hidden Life of Garbage*

*Gone Tomorrow: the ~* (a book)

hidden life of garbage

the ~ and where old PCs go to die

hidden life of guns

a team of Post reporters have been investigating the ~

'hidden' lives

a web of trees and their ~ (Alva Noe)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life**

**presence & absence: death & life**

**concealment & lack of concealment: death & life**

**life (secret life, secret lives)**

*Secret Life of the Teenage Brain*

*Inventing Ourselves: The ~* (Sarah-Jayne Blakemore)

Secret Life of the (Sonoran) Desert

the ~ (NPR Science)

Secret Life of Dictionaries

the ~ (a review of *Word by Word* by Kory Stamper)

*Secret Life of Groceries*

*The ~: The Dark Miracle of the American Supermarket*

secret life of hues

he explores the ~ (art critic Peter Schjeldahl)

secret life of ice

the ~ (NPR Science)

Secret Life of (California's World-Class) Strawberries

the ~ (NPR's *The Salt* by Dan Charles)

secret lives of trees

the buried, ~

♦ "Explore our Secret Lives of Teachers series." (NPR, *Secret Lives Of Teachers*, by Tovia Smith, Elissa Nadworny, Lindsay Sandoval, etc.)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life**

**presence & absence: death & life**

**concealment & lack of concealment: death & life**

**life (survival)**

political life

he is fighting for his ~ (a politician)

coming back to life

the economy is ~

**survival, persistence & endurance: death & life**

**lifeblood (noun)**

lifeblood of the Gulf

the estuaries are the ~ (oil spill)

lifeblood of the country

the Congo River is the ~

lifeblood of the community

the river is the ~

lifeblood of our communities

small businesses are the ~ (commerce)

lifeblood of the (modern) economy

energy is the ~ (California)

lifeblood of racing

short tracks are the ~ (steppingstones to NASCAR)

lifeblood of the region

the economic ~ is the river

lifeblood of Saudi Arabia

this company is the ~ (Aramco)

lifeblood of the town

the sea was the ~ (fishing, etc.)

lifeblood of (so many) colleges and schools

federal financial aid is the ~

lifeblood and birthright

pumping oil and gas is considered both a ~ (Texas)

Iraq's (economic) lifeblood

pipelines funnel ~ (oil)

Zambia's (commercial) lifeblood

mining and sales businesses are ~

Sahel's lifeblood

the ~ has always been a seasonal monsoon

Mallory's lifeblood

mystery and danger were ~ (the climber)

commercial lifeblood

mining and sales businesses are Zambia's ~

economic lifeblood

the ~ of the region is the river

pipelines funnel Iraq's ~ (oil)

**bases: blood / death & life**

**lifeline (noun)**

lifeline

songwriting has been a ~ (Todd Snider / bipolar, etc.)

in Somalia, piracy isn't just a business, it's a ~

lifeline for Gaza's economy

Israeli work permits are a ~

lifeline for Egypt

the waters of the River Nile are a ~

lifeline for the (entire) Southwest

the Colorado River drainage basin, a ~

lifeline for (countless) villages

the Congo River is the ~ (Congo)

financial lifeline

Jet Airways is seeking a ~ to avoid collapse (debt)

provided a lifeline

but Congress ~ when it mandated that... (radio telescope)

♦ "Not only did they throw you a life preserver, they drove the boat and picked you up!" (Shannon Sharpe, speaking to Skip Bayless about Antonio Brown, on the sports show "Skip and Shannon: Undisputed." "They" refer to Tom Brady, Bruce Arians, and the Miami Dolphins football team, who hired Antonio Brown after he had been cut from 3 teams. Brown ended up walking off the field in the middle of a game.)

**survival, persistence & endurance: boat / death & life / water**

## life raft (and life boat, lifeboat)

life raft for his floundering campaign

South Carolina is a ~ (primary elections)

life raft for the caregivers

Patti Davis provides a ~ of Alzheimer's patients

jumped while there was still a lifeboat in the water

I ~ (voluntary redundancy vs compulsory / academia)

took refuge in their (Dragon and Soyuz) lifeboats

they ~ (the International Space Station)

**survival, persistence & endurance: boat / death & life / water**

## life span (noun)

life span of 198 days

the annual Great Whirl has an average ~ (Arabian Sea)

**growth & development: life span**

## life support (on life support)

on life support

Detroit is ~

the team is ~ (losing)

♦ "But that 1.5 degree goal is on life support—and the machines are rattling." (The UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres at COP27. That final word in his sentence falls a bit flat to my ears.)

**condition & status: death & life / health & medicine**

**decline: death & life / health & medicine**

## lift (feeling)

temporary lift

caffeine may give you a ~, but it won't sustain you

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction**

## lift (verb)

lift the (country's) mood

it's a great way to ~ (Euro 2020 in England)

lifted our spirits

Sara ~

depression had lifted

her ~, and she felt buoyant and hopeful

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / verb**

## lift (amelioration)

lift the sanctions

they want to ~

**amelioration & renewal: verb / weight**

**dismissal, removal & resignation: verb / weight**

## lift (heavy lift)

heavy lift

it's a ~ (gaining support for a bill / politics)

heavy lift for them

all that testing will be a ~ (COVID / a company)

heavy lift (for Biden) to prevent violence

it's going to be a ~ (protests)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: weight**

## lifting (heavy lifting)

heavy lifting

let us do the ~ (ad)

heavy research lifting

Oxford University had done a lot of the ~ (vaccine)

did the heavy lifting

we ~, and they got the credit (disgusted)

**work & duty: burden / weight**

## light (in light of)

in light of the difficulties

~ facing the Dukha and other traditional peoples

in light of the (uncovered) documents

an appeal ~ (trial)

in light of (yesterday's) incident

~, nobody will be allowed to...

in light of the revelation

how they would pursue the case ~

in light of (last week's) tragedy

the game has been cancelled ~

♦ This is a 3-word preposition, and it seems to mean the same as 'in view of' or 'because of' or 'considering.'

**relationship: light & dark / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## light (shining light)

shining light  
co-workers described Nina as a ~ (died)

**superlative: light & dark**  
**character & personality: light & dark**

## light (guiding light)

guiding lights of the continent  
the ~ are dull indeed (leaders)

**direction: journeys & trips / light & dark**

## light (in a same / different light, etc.)

in a different light  
he saw the world ~  
they began to view him ~

in different lights  
different men often see the same subject in ~

in a negative light  
tenants see him ~ (landlord)

in the same light  
only in China are teachers seen ~ as doctors (status)  
he wants to put himself ~ as Donald Trump (politics)

in the same (sort of) light  
we are looking at vaccine ~ (as body armor / military)

**perception, perspective & point of view: light & dark**

## light (come to light)

came to light  
the scope of medical errors ~ when...

come to light  
new evidence has ~

come to light earlier  
these misdeeds should have ~ (sex abuse)

came to light two years ago  
the problem ~

evidence has come to light  
new ~

problem came to light  
the ~ two years ago

**appearance & disappearance: light & dark / verb**  
**searching & discovery: light & dark / verb**  
**consciousness & awareness: light & dark / verb**

## light (bring something to light)

brought to light  
new findings have been ~ from the old data

**appearance & disappearance: light & dark / verb**  
**searching & discovery: light & dark / verb**  
**consciousness & awareness: light & dark / verb**

## light (see the light)

see the light  
it ought to ~ (an unpublished manuscript)

**appearance & disappearance: light & dark**

## light (shed light)

shed (no immediate) light on the (June 5) abduction  
his arrest ~

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / concealment & lack of concealment: light & dark / verb**

## light (shine a light)

shine a light on the abuse  
what he did was ~ (prison guard)

shine a light on the women  
we must ~ who have brought knowledge into the world

shining a light (of hope) to all those...  
tonight is all about ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: light & dark / verb**

## light (make light of something)

made light of the (whole) situation  
he ~ (pressure)

made light of the trial  
she ~ and has apologized (a celebrity kerfuffle)

**substance & lack of substance: weight / verb**

## lighten (lighten things up, etc.)

lightened the mood  
the good news ~

lighten things up  
things are getting a little heavy, let's ~

**amelioration & renewal: verb / weight**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: verb / weight**

## light bulb (and lightbulb, bulb)

light bulb  
a ~ went off in his head and he... (good idea)

light bulb in kids' heads  
we hope to turn on a ~ about science

light-bulb moment  
you've heard of a ~, this was a spotlight moment  
these ~s feel as if they happen in a flash but...  
will UK provide a ~ for US Democrats (Labor defeat)

lightbulb moment  
Steve Bartlett's ~ was when he realized... (Social Chain)

brightest bulb  
he is not the ~, his IQ is in the seventies...

light bulb went off

a ~ in his head and he... (good idea)

turn on a light bulb

we hope to ~ in kids' heads about science

♦ see also *moment (type of moment)* for moments of realization, understanding, discovery, etc.

**consciousness & awareness / comprehension & incomprehension: light & dark / sign, signal, symbol**  
**idea / knowledge & intelligence: light & dark / sign, signal, symbol**

## light-hearted (adjective)

seemed light-hearted

she ~ during the re-enactment (of a crime)

**feeling, emotion & effect: heart / weight**

**heart: weight**

## lighthouse (protection)

lighthouses in the storm

at times like that, people are looking for ~ (downturn)

**direction: boat / infrastructure / light & dark / sea**

**danger: boat / sea**

**protection & lack of protection: boat / sign, signal, symbol**

## lighthouse (illumination)

lighthouse of civilization, conviviality, and philosophy

Cordova was the ~ in West Europe (Muslim Spain)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: light & dark**

**comprehension & incomprehension: light & dark**

## lightly (take something lightly, etc.)

take this issue lightly

nobody should ~

taken lightly

the decision was difficult and not ~

use these words lightly

and I do not ~ (terror to describe a mass murder)

**substance & lack of substance: weight**

## lightning (adjective)

lightning fast

Khan still looks to have ~ fists (vs. Brook / boxing)

lightning-quick

he had created the mobile, ~ army (General Grant)

lightning advance

the ~ northward continues (Operation Iraqi Freedom)

lightning drive

the ~ to reach Baghdad (Operation Iraqi Freedom)

lightning (offensive) operation

one key to a ~ was making sure...(military)

lightning speed

the catastrophe developed at ~ (submarine)

color graphics downloaded at ~

the US broke again with ~ (soccer team)

the risks of a war that began with ~

the ~ of modern technology

Omicron is spreading at ~

lightning war

this ~ on public education (billionaires support charters)

**speed: lightning / storm**

## lightning (fate)

lightning

~ can strike twice

lightning struck

everything was going good, and then ~

♦ "The boy directly in front of me... In other words, his feet were about that far from my head, as he was halfway through the fence, lightning struck the barbed wire, electrocuted him on the spot. I didn't know he was dead, I had never seen a dead person, so I crawled beside him and I pulled him into the meadow and I stayed with him for an hour trying to warm him up. And that was the moment when I understood that anything can happen to anybody at any time. And it's an experience that has haunted me all my life, I've thought about it probably every day. It was the single-most important thing that ever happened to me." (US novelist Paul Auster. From "Paul Auster on his 'single most important' moment," BBC, Thursday, 14 March 2017. Paul was 14 years old when the tragedy occurred.)

**fate, fortune & chance: electricity / lightning / sky / storm**

## lightning bolt (and bolt of lightning, etc.)

hip-swinging bolt of lightning

he was a ~ (Johnny Hallyday)

**feeling, emotion & effect: electricity / lightning / storm**

## lightning bolt (comprehension)

lightning-bolt moment

it was a ~ when I knew what I wanted to do (be a singer)

I had a ~ on a trip to Fire Island (about his gayness)

**comprehension & incomprehension: electricity / lightning / storm**

## lightning rod

lightning rod

the university is a ~ for people with political statements

Al Jazeera has always been a ~ (politics)

lightning rod for (public) anger

he became the ~ over the disaster (replaced)

lightning rod for controversy

ever the ~, Soulja Boy made headlines when...

lightning rod for criticism

he became a ~ (a baseball manager)

lightning rod for a (bitter political) debate

the issue became a ~ over whether...

became a lightning rod

the case ~ for outrage in the community (bullying)

♦ Many clerics opposed the use of lightning rods on church steeples, in spite of the fact that the steeples attracted lightning that caused fires. In 1767, the church of San Nazaro in Brescia (Brescia) was hit by lightning 17 years after Benjamin Franklin invented the lightning rod. Inside were several thousand pounds of gunpowder. The blast destroyed not only the church but one-sixth of the city and killed over 3,000 people.

**attraction & repulsion: electricity / lightning**

## light show

celestial light show  
the Leonid meteor shower, that November ~...

**resemblance: theater**

## light up (a room, etc.)

lights up the stage  
she ~

**superlative: light & dark / verb**

**character & personality: light & dark / verb**

## light up (activity)

lights up social media  
Warren's fiery performance ~ (Democratic debate)

lit up with (anti-aircraft) fire  
the sky ~

**activity: light & dark / verb**

## lightweight (noun)

intellectual lightweight  
she's an ~

**substance & lack of substance: boxing / weight**

## light year (a long time)

seems like light years  
it ~ since...

**time: amount / astronomy**

## light year (light years ahead)

light years ahead of her peers  
she was ~

light years ahead of the techniques  
today's tech is ~ available in the 1940s (forensics)

**competition: distance / proximity**

## light year (light years away, etc.)

light years away  
he is ~ from the keeper he used to be (decline)  
Man U is still ~ from the glory days of old, but...

**proximity: astronomy / distance / star**

## like (Svengali-like, etc.)

Svengali-like  
Vicky Page seemed to be the victim of the ~ Lermontov  
wizard-like

Welsh boxer Joe Cordina is a man with ~ skills

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## like (not like)

it's not like  
~ you're like putting a bunch of pressure...

**contempo-speak: language**

## like (kind of like, kinda like, sort of like, sorta like)

kinda like  
and I was ~, I feel like... (The Gayly Prophet podcast)

kind of like  
and I felt myself, ~, stand up straighter (empowered)

kind of like taught you  
in some ways I ~ how to... (a Trans)

kind of like stepping back in time  
it's ~

kind of like a boy  
I can't decide if I'm a girl who feels ~ or...

kind of like a cycle  
so it was ~ that kept repeating

kind of like this exercise  
it's ~ in conformity (DEI training)

kind of like a fork in the road  
it's ~ on an endless path in the darkness... (karmic level)

kind of like a maid  
she was ~ to Mrs. Lee...

kind of like this (dimension hopping) voyager  
in my mind, she's ~

kind of like psychological  
it's unpleasant to relive, I mean, half of it's ~, I don't enjoy...

felt kind of like  
I just ~ a prisoner of my childhood, I was really confused

feels kind of like  
I can't decide if I'm a girl who ~ a boy or like a gay man or...

looks kind of like  
it ~ gold (a bright yellow powder)

just kind of like  
we both were ~ mind blown at the whole entire situation and we're being ~ told, 'unless you have...'  
I think I was ~ experiencing it and...

just sort of like  
~ if they want to go softer or more intense...  
I was ~, this feels like something that...  
it was ~ a way for me to connect and communicate...

♦ “I can’t decide if I’m a girl who feels kind of like a boy or like a gay man trapped in a girl’s body or if I’m, like, a boy but in a very feminine way, or, like, am I a lesbian?” (“Banned Books: Maia Kobabe explores gender identity in ‘Gender Queer,’” NPR, Morning Edition, January 4, 2023.)

♦ “You know, HBO is sort of like, in my experience, they’re sort of like a cool aunt that is just sort of like, ‘As long as you’re happy and you seem healthy,’ they’re like, ‘I don’t want to, I don’t want to pry.’” (“Los Espookys’ creator Julio Torres explains his fascination with Barbie dream houses,” NPR, Wait Wait...Don’t Tell Me!, October 1, 2022.)

♦ “And I was just kind of like ‘what?’”

**contempo-speak: filler**

**like (feel like, felt like, etc.)**

see *feel like (and felt like, etc.)*

**like (reported speech)**

and then it was like

~ “You have 10 minutes, pack your bags”

and it was just like

~, oh my God, what’s this

it was kind of like

~, “Oh, just figure out how to deal with it”

this whole thing was kind of like

~, “Whoa, what’s going on.” (a college coed)

and it was just sort of like

~ “Oh, OK”

because it’s like

it’s kind of bittersweet ~, “Wow, it’s really nice...”

and I was like

he said that to me, ~, ‘What the f\*\*\*\*?’ (Chloe Cherry)

~, ‘Wow’

I was basically like

~, “Look, it’s a new start” (sophomore in high school)

she’s like

~, ‘yo, is your time to be king’ (empowered by T’Challa)

and she was like

~, Oh my God, that wasn’t in the chart...

people would be like

I even had some ~ “What is that?” (monkeypox)

♦ “I even had some people would be like, ‘What is that?’ They were like, ‘I didn’t even know this was a thing.’” (A US man with monkeypox in 2022.)

♦ “I walk in, she’s like ‘You’re Kiaral’ and I’m like, ‘Who are you?’ and she’s like, ‘We’re in Biology 13 together.’” (A Dartmouth College student describing the start of a friendship.)

♦ “And I was like, ‘sweet.’” (Ironic / sarcastic. A bikini barista in Seattle, Washington, telling a videographer about serving a customer who was masturbating.)

♦ “I looked over to my friend and like, ‘Did you hear that?’ I was like, ‘I think that was like gunfire.’” (A Virginia State coed interviewed by ABC about the on-campus murder of 3 students.)

♦ “I would be like, ‘Let’s do this,’ and she’d be like, ‘Down!’” (A college coed, quoted in *The New York Times*, about her friend who was murdered in a quadruple murder in Moscow, Idaho.)

♦ “Everybody was like, ‘Yeah, right,’ kind of like, ‘I don’t see why they would do that.’” (A college coed about TikTok being banned on her college campus.)

♦ “So they asked me to come in and do, you know, werewolf boot camp, and I was like, ‘Ok, what does that mean?’” (Emma Myers. From “‘Wednesday’ star Emma Myers went to ‘werewolf boot camp’ for the Netflix Series: ‘I’ve never done so much parkour in my life’” by Eammon Jacobs, *Insider*.)

♦ “‘There was clearly a village here. People everywhere,’ he said. ‘But the Europeans were, like, ‘You are now called St. Anthony!’” (Minneapolis, Minnesota.)

♦ “Petkovic says, ‘Neymar, you can do it, well so can I, my friend.’” (Imaginary reported speech by a Fox sports commentator at the Qatar World Cup.)

**contempo-speak: reported speech**

**like (filler)**

like that’s a good idea

why do people tattoo their face ~ (online commenter)

like it’s like

~ this bias doesn’t exist (upset, sarcastic)

like it kind of felt like

~ a bad break up

like a moment

yes, it feels to me ~ where people are sort of...

like our school

~, like the ceilings, like they’re gone (a tornado / teen girl)

like a shock

when it does happen to you, it’s ~ (a Temple U. coed)

like even

see *even (contempo-speak)*

like, extremely

see *extremely (contempo-speak)*

like you know

see *you know (filler)*

like obviously

see *obviously (contempo-speak)*

like, like

~, it was just so devastating...

just like

there were ~ these kind of white mainstream approaches

there were ~ a lot of white liberals where were like,

”Europe”

I was ~ so amazed...

maybe like

and so I just thought ~ uhh...

so, like

~, think of something like...

**Totally Like**

Taylor Mali reads his poem “~Whatever”

**totally like**

and it feels ~ discrimination to me

**totally, like**

Ozzy is ~, back (Survivor: South Pacific / Linda Holmes)

something so ~, amazingly weird, insightful, sensitive...

- ◆ “There was a moment where I was like, you know, I’m this privileged person...”
- ◆ “That would be like obviously very extremely interesting for like a future direction. (An *academic* presentation.)
- ◆ “I think it’s an era that like aesthetically I could really get down with.” (Kemah Bob about the era of Hatshepsut on BBC’s “You’re Dead To Me.” She specifically mentions the colors gold and blue, eyeliner, and cats.)
- ◆ “You know, there’s the phenomenon of walking while trans where specifically like Trans women of color while just existing oftentimes get the police called on them just for like being Trans.”
- ◆ “I was just like so amazed, like, damn, this boy really don’t care, like he really *out* in public, with makeup, lashes, beard...Like I was still kinda you know...I’m doing the same thing, but I’m not as open.” (Mitch Copeland about Saucy Santana.)
- ◆ “Bats are associated with like vampires and stuff.”
- ◆ “Like our school, like the ceilings, like they’re gone.” (Like a high-school girl, like being interviewed, like right after a tornado.)
- ◆ “Yeah, they have these belts on with like all these extra bullets and they’re like dressed for war.” (Leah talking to her Brit producer, Georgia, for their podcast about the militia movement.)
- ◆ “You’re not really used to like being back, like in full gear, like the world is sort of like starting to turn back on.” (A Northeastern University, Boston, sophomore coed about mental health post-Covid.)
- ◆ “There were just like a lot of white liberals who were like, “Europe really has things figured out.” So there was like a big sort of Europe worship thing happening [with upspeak] that I think was mostly about... You know...” (The podcast *Maintenance Phase* with Aubrey Gordon and Michael Hobbes. It is very representative of alt-female and gay contempo-speak: just like; who were like; sort of; thing; you know... With constant upspeak, and not just at the end of sentences.)
- ◆ “Just like it’s giving that type of horror that’s like almost deeply uncomfortable where like somebody like gets turned into something and you’re like trapped you know?” (Who? Weekly podcast. The film *Tusk*.)
- ◆ “It’s not like you’re like putting a bunch of pressure, you’re just like, kind of like, *feel* like, okay, we’re doing a thing.” (A FTM binary athlete.)
- ◆ “And I just felt for so many years—I was like, I just feel like there’s some stuff going on with me about gender. I can’t decide if I’m a girl who feels kind of like a boy or like a gay man trapped in a girl’s body or if I’m, like, a boy but in a very feminine way, or, like, am I a lesbian? It was just very confusing. And I just kept feeling like I was trying on, like, clothes that didn’t fit. And it was just...” (“Banned Books: Maia Kobabe explores gender identity in ‘Gender Queer,’” NPR, Morning Edition, January 4, 2023.)
- ◆ “Because it was just some... like my final like hoo-rah of like this is my celebration of my drag, and, of what it has been for me in my life, so, yeah.” (Drag queen Frida Nightz.)
- ◆ “I mean this is the whole beauty of like horror movies is that it’s such like weird circumstances and there’s so much like weird rules about them that it’s fun to subvert them and it’s also like, the horror movies themselves were doing subverting, were like trying to like, be twisted and do this weird stuff and have these weird commentaries, and this is what makes *Scream* so good, right.” (WRONG! Alex Abad-Santos, a self-professed “flagrant homosexual.” From “M3GAN, murder, and mass queer appeal,” NPR, It’s Been A Minute, January 17, 2023.)
- ◆ “This kind of comes up a lot in other art as well, too, right? So, like, think of something like...” (NPR.)
- ◆ “Don’t use conversation fillers like ‘umm,’ ‘you know,’ and ‘like.’ (Presenter Tips and Tricks: Quick Tips: Things to consider: Don’t... TESOL 2023 International Convention & English Language Expo.)
- ◆ “You say ‘like’ and things like that because you know you don’t really want to commit... there’s a little more fear of saying what you mean, especially nowadays...” (The actor Oscar Isaac speaking about contemporary voice and speech. From “For Oscar Isaac, life—and acting—is all about impermanence,” NPR, Fresh Air, July 29, 2022.)
- ◆ “He talks like he possibly has ADHD or autism, too.” (An online commenter about a TikTok influencer.)
- ◆ J-K-L-R speech. (“Just,” “kind of,” “like,” and “really.”)

**contempo-speak: filler**

## like (like me, look like me, etc.)

see *me* (*like me, look like me, speak like me, be like me, etc.*)

## Lilliputian (adjective)

Lilliputian dystopia

I’m imagining this ~ (miniature candy bars, tiny drinks)

Lilliputian scale

photographing life on a ~ (insects)

land of Lilliputians

Tiger Woods has been a giant in a ~ (golf star)

◆ The allusion is to the satire *Gulliver’s Travels* by Jonathan Swift, which also contributed *Brobdignagian* to the language.

**size: allusion**

**allusion: books & reading**

## lily (gild the lily)

gilding the lily

the chips are ~, but why not (lobster thermidor with chips)

◆ Salisbury: Therefore, to be possess’d with double pomp, / To guard a title that was rich before, / To gild refined gold, to paint the lily, / To throw a perfume on the violet, / To smooth the ice, or add another hue / Unto the rainbow, or with taper-light / To seek the beauteous eye of heaven to garnish, / Is wasteful and ridiculous excess. (Shakespeare’s *The Life and Death of King John*, Act, Scene 2.)

**allusion: books & reading**

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: allusion**

**flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances**

## limb (go out on a limb)

go out on a limb

French climbers are notorious for being willing to ~

go out on a limb to hide

they are willing to ~ him (a terrorist)

willing to go out on a limb

they are ~ to hide him (a terrorist)

**fate, fortune & chance: tree / verb**

## limb (phantom limb)

“phantom limbs” of the German body politic

what MacGregor calls the ~ (Prague, Strasbourg, etc.)

**division & connection / presence & absence: sensation /**

**skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## limbo (in limbo)

in limbo

plans are ~

the children are ~ (schools destroyed by earthquake)

his fate is ~ (general in trouble with president)

the British Government is ~ (hung Parliament)

he has been ~ waiting for his case to be resolved

we are always ~ and we just don’t know...

in health-care limbo

certain of the sick find themselves ~

in legal limbo

they are in ~ (spouses of terrorists in Syria)

in an uncomfortable cultural limbo

Yoji found himself ~ (Japanese American back in Japan)

lost in limbo

the bills die, hang fire, or are ~ (in the US Senate)

stuck in limbo

the results of the first vote were ~ (votes stolen)

remain in limbo

the results ~ (election)

remains in limbo

Boeing ~ as it figures out its next steps

left people in limbo

failure to agree on regulations has ~

left the (British) people in limbo

the endless negotiations have ~ (Brexit)

found himself in (an uncomfortable cultural) limbo

Yoji ~ (Japanese American back in Japan)

**situation: container / religion**

**action, inaction & delay / certainty & uncertainty / environment / progress & lack of progress: religion**

### **limelight (in the limelight)**

in the limelight

it takes a special ability to be ~ and then be invisible

moment in the limelight

he had a ~, 30 years later

he had his most significant ~ a dozen years ago

back in the limelight

he is ~ (fashion)

basked in the limelight

they ~ (officials)

stay in the limelight

he would do anything to ~

spend three weeks in the limelight

after vanishing for 30 years, he has ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / light & dark**

### **limit (push the limits, etc.)**

pushed the limits

she has ~ too far (nudity)

**behavior: boundary / verb**

**restraint & lack of restraint: boundary / verb**

### **limits (push something to its limits)**

pushed to its limits

the agency has been ~

**survival, persistence & endurance: boundary / verb**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: boundary / verb**

**restraint & lack of restraint: boundary / verb**

**constraint & lack of constraint: boundary / verb**

### **limp (verb)**

limping along

the US economy is ~

**condition & status / progress & lack of progress: movement**

**/ walking, running & jumping / verb**

### **limp (noun)**

limp

if there is a trend afoot, it has a distinct ~

**progress & lack of progress: movement / walking, running**

**& jumping**

### **linchpin (noun)**

linchpin of medicine

nursing's roles as a ~ goes largely unreported

linchpins of the (US) strategy

a strong national army and police force are the ~ (war)

♦ A linchpin is a fastener used on hitches and axels. In the case of axels, it prevents the wheels from falling off.

♦ "Nurses are the linchpins of hospitals, and when we lose them the wheels of medicine fall off."

**attachment / bases / importance & significance:**

**mechanism**

### **line (at the front / back of the line)**

at the front of the line

minority businesses are not ~ but the end of the line (aid)

put teachers towards the front of the line

states are working to ~

**priority: direction / line / position**

### **line (end of the line, etc.)**

end of the line

it's not the ~, it's the beginning of the line (rehab)

legally, it was the ~ (man escapes conviction)

end of the line for him

this is the ~ (arrested for murder)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: line / train**

### **line (a hard line, etc.)**

tough line

taking a ~ on enforcement

conservative line

the ~ that gay civil unions threaten...

hard-line

China's ~ policy

Trump's ~ rhetoric

**position, policy & negotiation: line**

## line (division)

lines of class, race and education  
domestic violence crosses all ~

caste lines  
the public taps are divided along ~ (India)

color line  
the ~ is a fundamental U.S. problem

company lines  
collaboration is occurring across ~

gender lines  
when issues divide along ~

poverty line  
the minimum wage is below the ~  
living below the ~

sex line  
the class divided along ~s (like or dislike of author)

ethnic lines  
groups divided along ~

ideological lines  
the court's ruling broke along ~ (Supreme Court)

racial lines  
threatened to divide our nation along ~ (hate crime)  
there's a distinct blurring of the ~ here (South Africa)

thin blue line  
the ~ (policemen)

blurring of the (racial) lines  
there's a distinct ~ here (South Africa)

variations across (geographic or demographic) lines  
~ (a survey)

economic and educational lines  
typically breaks down among ~

ethnic and class lines  
the drug is crossing ~ (Ecstasy)

gender and cultural lines  
when applied across ~

geographic or demographic lines  
variations across ~ (a survey)

lines are drawn  
the ~ (nomination fight / politics)

crossing (ethnic and class) lines  
the drug is ~ (Ecstasy)

crosses all lines  
domestic violence ~ of class, race and education

crossed (party) lines  
Democrats ~

cuts across (ideological) lines

the movement now ~ (animal welfare)

broke along (ideological) lines  
the court's ruling ~ (Supreme Court)

divided along (racial) lines  
a Southern society that was still sharply ~

divided along (ethnic) lines  
groups ~

♦ Actual lines include such things as picket lines and security lines.

**division & connection: boundary / line**

## line (categories)

line between life and death  
the ~ proved a thin one (victims of terror attack)

line between abled and disabled  
he has erased the ~ (Oscar Pistorius)

line between news and entertainment  
he straddles the ~ (TV personality)

line between video games and movies  
realism blurs the ~...

line between observer and participant  
the ~ (bombings / Iraq)

line between saint and sinner  
there is sometimes a fine or blurry ~

line between martyrdom and suicide  
she explores the ~ (author)

line between the real and the unreal  
the ~ in popular culture seems ever more blurred

line between teaching and criticizing  
the delicate ~ (coaching)

line between making a point and belaboring it  
there is a fine ~

line between reality and play-acting  
the ~ is not clear in both movies and wrestling

line between normal and abnormal  
the ~ (psychiatry)

delicate line  
the ~ between teaching and criticizing (coaching)

fine line  
there is a ~ between making a point and belaboring it

fine or blurry line  
there is sometimes a ~ between saint and sinner

line has (gradually) blurred  
but the ~ as...

lines are blurring  
the ~ (between hotels and Airbnb)

blur the line  
some writers ~ (between genre and literature)

blurs the line  
realism ~ between video games and movies...

erased the line  
he has ~ between abled and disabled (Oscar Pistorius)

straddles the line  
he ~ between news and entertainment (TV personality)

**division & connection: boundary / line**

### line (out of line)

a little out of line  
I think you are ~ here...

**behavior: boundary / line**

### line (finish line)

finish line  
getting vaccinated felt like the ~, but... (pandemic)

finish line of retirement  
deep into the rat race, far from the ~

at the finish line  
I will be there ~ (lengthy lawsuit against corporation)

yards from the finish line  
they are at risk of stumbling just ~ (COP26)

finish line is in sight  
the ~ but he warned a deal had not yet been done (a protocol)

cheered me on to the finish line  
my parents and sister ~ (acknowledgments / a book)

get across the finish line  
she is looking for women we can help ~ (politics)

get this plan across the finish line  
we are going to keep working to ~ (legislature)

push the bill across the finish line  
they are hoping to ~ (politics)

♦ "I will be there at the finish line. I don't want to run halfway and decide, 'Nah, I'm too tired now.'" (One of a number of woman suing a major corporation for unequal pay.)

**attainment: line / sports & games**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: line / sports & games**

### line (over the line / finishing)

over the line  
we should have kept quiet until it was signed and ~

got the negotiations over the line  
the looming prospect of his imprisonment ~ (boxing)

**attainment: line / sports & games**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: line / sports & games**

### line (over the line / behavior)

go over the line  
"Anything goes... As long as you don't ~ (Las Vegas)

stepped over the line  
some people believe the group has ~ (ELF)

**behavior: boundary / line / prep, adv, adj, particle**

### line (cross the line)

crossed the line  
her comments ~ (racer complains about pit crew)

crossed a (constitutional) line  
the suit argues the law ~

♦ "There will be consequences for those who cross the line." (Pam Shriver, about her sexual relationship with her much older coach Don Candy.)

**behavior: boundary / line / verb**

### line (behavior)

blurred lines  
what is consent, such ~, that terrible song... (sex)

**behavior: boundary / line**

### line (battle lines, etc.)

line of defense  
it is a third ~ against the coronavirus (a third vaccine)

battle lines  
the ~ are hardening as the rulers dig in (protests)

last line  
*habeus corpus* is the ~ of defense, a Hail Mary (law)

battle lines are formed  
these ~, solid, and unmoving (impeachment)

battle lines are forming  
the ~ in the dispute

battle lines are hardening  
the ~ over the issue (abortion)

battle lines are being drawn  
the ~ (politics)

battle lines have been drawn  
the ~ (liberals versus conservative)

**conflict: military**

### line (tread a line, etc.)

treading a (delicate) line  
the government is ~ between...

walk a (really) fine line  
the government has to ~ (indictment)

walks a (very) fine line  
the indictment ~ here (case against Assange)

**fate, fortune & chance: boundary / line / verb / walking, running & jumping**

### line (on the line)

on the line

the season is ~ on Sunday (a sports team)

**fate, fortune & chance: line**

## line (in line)

in line with (embassies') advisories

Westerners keep a low profile ~

falling in line

they are rallying around their nominee, ~ (Trump)

fell in line

when Trump won the nomination, Burkman ~

**unanimity & consensus: line**

## line (toe a line, etc.)

treading a (delicate) line

the government is ~ between...

follow the (I.M.F.'s) line

countries that ~ but still fail to grow...

parroted the (official) line

he ~ about enemy losses

toes the line

not everyone ~

toe the line

the judges refused to ~ (dispute with president)

Republicans have been asked to ~ (politics)

toe the (ideological) line

you are protected only if you ~ (academia)

toed the (Republican) line

he has ~ (a politician)

♦ "This is sometimes misspelled as "tow" the line. See the interesting article, "Death nails and foul swoops," *The Economist*, July 17th 2021. That article references a George Orwell article, "Politics and the English Language," *Horizon*, April 1946, which is freely available online everywhere, thanks to the Orwell Foundation. Orwell's article is as true today as it was then.)

**unanimity & consensus: line / verb**

## line (government line, etc.)

company line

researchers toe the ~

government line

the ~ about Waco is being challenged

party line

he is not touting a ~

official line

he parroted the ~ about enemy losses

**sanctioning, authority & nonconformity: line**

## line (red line)

red line

this is a ~ that should not be crossed (national defense)

a ~ for us is if we see chemical weapons (diplomacy)

the use of chemical weapons would be a "~" that...

crossed a red line

Hamas ~ by firing rockets towards Jerusalem

♦ "This not only crossed all red lines, but smashed them to pieces." (An anti-Semitic mural at the Documenta 15 art show in Kassel, Germany.)

**behavior: boundary / line**

## line (line in the sand)

line in the sand

that ~ is long gone (stars don't do streaming films)

those are the people who decided that this was the ~

**constraint & lack of constraint / behavior: boundary / line**

## line of fire

viral line of fire

they are sending their workers into the ~ (Amazon, etc.)

walk (directly) into the line of fire

it may seem crazy to ~ (Jessi Combs / speed record)

see also *firing line* (noun)

**danger: military / weapon**

## line up (verb)

lined up to call

Republicans have ~ on him to quit (politics)

lining up behind him

they are ~ (supporting a politician)

**unanimity & consensus: line / verb**

## linger (verb)

lingers in our minds

each of us has a single meal that ~

linger for 20 hours

the Predator can ~ over a battlefield (military)

lingered for days

the cold weather ~

anxiety lingered

~ long after the threat had passed

effects will linger

the psychological ~...

hope lingers

~ for youngster's return (missing)

questions linger

he was released from prison, but ~...

storm lingers

the longer the ~, the longer we will see impacts

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: movement / verb**

## lingering

lingering doubts

put to rest any ~ about...  
jurors who may hold ~ about their guilty verdict...

lingering fears  
~ over safety (terrorism)

lingering irritant  
his decision was a ~ to Republicans

lingering smell  
the ~ of smoke (restaurant fire)

lingering stereotype  
the ~ of depression being a female condition

lingering tensions  
~ burst into violence

lingering threat  
software can prevent much of the ~ of known viruses

lingering fears or concerns  
try to address any ~ he may have (toddler)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: movement**  
**link (weak link)**

weakest link  
we're as good as the ~ (fighting worldwide pandemic)

weakest link in the (global) chain  
you're only as secure as the ~ of information (Internet)

weak link on the team  
he's a ~

**strength & weakness: chain**

**lion (the Lion of Panjshir, etc.)**

"Lion of the Desert"  
the Italians hanged the ~ in 1931 (Omar Mukhtar / Libya)

Lion of Panjshir  
the great Ahmad Shah Massoud, the ~  
defending the valley, Massoud became known as the ~

Lion of the Punjab  
Maharaja Ranjit Singh, the ~ (Sher-e-Punjab)

Lion of Verdun  
he became known as the ~ (Philippe Petain)

♦ The last lions in the Sahara survived on the Ennedi Plateau until the 1940s (Chad).

♦ "He was the lion killed by a flea." (Richard the Lionheart.)

**epithet: animal / lion**  
**courage & lack of courage / military: epithet**

**lion (Lion Rock, etc.)**

Lion Rock  
the 495m-high ~ (Kowloon Peninsula)

**geography: proper name**

**lion (the Bronze Lion, etc.)**

Lion Rock

the 495m-high ~ (Kowloon Peninsula)

Lion and the Unicorn  
the ~ appear on the UK royal coat of arms

Bronze Lion  
Queen Beatrix awarded to the ~ to...

Golden Lion  
Orson Wells received the ~ (1970 Cannes)

♦ "On Wednesday 31 May 2006, Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands posthumously awarded the late Major General Stanislaw Sosabowski, commander of the 1st (Polish) Independent Parachute Brigade, the Bronze Lion for his services in Operation Market Garden in 1944. / On Wednesday 7 October 2009, two Dutch soldiers were awarded the medal: commando Bjorn Peterse (posthumously awarded) and Kaptain Gijs, for their actions in Afghanistan."

**proper name: animal / lion**  
**achievement, recognition & praise: proper name / sign, signal, symbol**

**lion (liberal lion, etc.)**

lioness of the left  
she is a ~

liberal lions  
they were ~ of a past generation (Supreme Court)  
~ like Birch Bayh and George McGovern

old lion  
the kid is getting his shot against the ~ (boxing)

**hierarchy: animal / lion / person**  
**achievement, recognition & praise: animal / lion / person**

**lion (courage)**

lions  
we won't be sheep, we're going to be ~ (self-defense)

lion's heart  
I have a ~ (winning boxer after hard match)

courage of a lion  
she had the ~ (Sicilian journalist slain in Afghanistan)

♦ "I would liken us a little bit to a bit of a wounded lion, if you like. We'll go away, we'll lick our wounds, we'll work out what needs to be different, and we'll come back fighting and roaring." (Sally Munday, the chief executive of the funding agency UK Sport, who oversaw 27 million pounds of investment on Olympic teams and individuals in the hope of winning 3 to 7 medals at the Beijing Olympics. They only won two, both in curling.)

♦ "[I] showed heart and balls like a lion again." (Tyson Fury after his third fight with Deontay Wilder.)

♦ "Never turn your back on a lion." (A comment about the second fight between Oleksandr Usyk and Anthony Joshua. Joshua won the ninth round and returned to his corner, smiling. He ended up losing the match.)

♦ The jackal is a lion in his own country.

♦ It is better to die like a lion than live like a dog.

♦ It is better to be a live dog than a dead lion.

♦ "I fought the lions, I fed the fleas, What got me at last? Mediocrities." (Bertolt Brecht.)

♦ "He was the lion killed by a flea." (Richard the Lionheart.)

♦ The last lions in the Sahara survived on the Ennedi Plateau until the 1940s (Chad).

**courage & lack of courage: animal / lion / person**  
**person: animal / lion**

## **lion (throw somebody to the lions, etc.)**

throw innocent people to the lions  
the French think we ~ (over allegations of sexual abuse)

thrown to the lions  
we're kinda being ~ here (Afghan government)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: violence / verb**

## **lioness (Lioness.co, etc.)**

Lioness  
the letter was published on the whistleblowing website, ~

**proper name: animal / lion**  
**courage & lack of courage: proper name**

## **lioness (England's Lionesses, etc.)**

England's Lionesses  
~ stand on the brink of women's football

**epithet: animal / lion**

## **lionized**

lionized  
her aggressiveness would be ~ if she were a man (politics)

lionized by the literary establishment  
marquee names traditionally ~

lionized by journalists  
~, the sniper became a heroic symbol (WWII USSR)

lionized for his disastrous service  
there is no accountability when Summers is ~ (economics)

lionized for refusing  
athletes are ~ to stand for our national anthem (protests)

lionized as a giant  
he has been ~ of the environmental movement

lionized as a hero and a whistleblower  
he was ~ (Li Wenliang)

lionized in the West  
~, he came to be seen as a pariah at home (Gorbachev)

**achievement, recognition & praise: animal / lion**

## **lion's share**

lion's share of the attention  
a few books get the ~

lion's share of the burden  
the US is willing to do the ~, but we can't do it alone

lion's share of the credit  
he deserves the ~ (coach)

lion's share of the rewards  
they reap the ~

lion's share of revenue and profits  
tech giants collect the ~ in the media space

deserves the lion's share  
he ~ of the credit (coach)

earn the lion's share  
affiliates ~ of ransoms (ransomware)

get the lion's share  
a few books ~ of the attention

**amount: animal / food & drink / lion**

## **lip (speech)**

lip  
their ~s are sealed down at City Hall (trying to get info)  
his ~s are not sealed

loose lips  
~ sink ships (wartime)

**speech: mouth**

## **lip (stiff upper lip)**

have a stiff upper lip  
how helpful is it to ~ and just get on with it (crisis)

♦ "Oh for goodness sake. Anyone would think you were dying. You've only got suspected leprosy." (A British nurse to a terrified English patient just returned from Afghanistan who is howling in pain, delirious with fever, and covered in enormous black lumps.)

♦ Keep calm and carry on. (Great Britain, World War II.)

♦ Keep calm and wear a mask. (The COVID-19 pandemic.)

♦ Keep Calm and Call Drew! (An advertisement for Drew Cochran, criminal defense, Maryland State Bar. The exclamation mark seems to contradict the message.)

**feeling, emotion & effect / resiliency / survival, persistence & endurance: mouth**

## **lips (lick one's lips)**

licking their lips  
I feel his future opponents will be ~ (boxing)

**eagerness & reluctance: animal / bodily reaction / mouth**

## **lip service (pay lip service, etc.)**

give lip service to the victims  
officials ~ (school shooting in Michigan)

give lip service to cooperating  
they ~ (war against terrorism)

paying lip service  
can you really address the issues rather than ~ (a judge)

pays lip service to its commitment  
Europe only ~ to the nuclear deal (Iran)

pay lip service to mental health concerns  
the tabloids ~and the right to a private life

paid lip service to it  
every supervisor at least ~ (change)

pay lip service to (fiscal) responsibility  
politicians ~

pay lip service to the rules  
most at least ~ (politics)

symbolic, lip service, or pandering  
is it ~ to get the black vote (reparations)

- ◆ "I don't want to pay lip service. There are people who say, 'Do this, do this, do this.' Well, are *they* doing all those things in their life? A lot of them are not. That is something that's really important to me, to be congruent with what you're saying." ("Olympian Greg Louganis, 62, opens up about aging gracefully with HIV and overcoming addiction" by David Artavia, *Yahoo*, Sept. 27, 2022.)
- ◆ "[She offers] regular apologies, some of which, she has openly admitted, she doesn't mean." (Joy Behar of *The View*. From "No Filter" by Belinda Luscombe, *TIME*, August 8/August 15, 2022.)
- ◆ "I want her and other actresses to walk the walk." (The MeToo movement and lip service.)
- ◆ "I'll try...", "I'll get back to you...", "We'll see...", "I guess...", "Your guess is as good as mine...", "I'll bear it in mind," "I hear what you say..." (Paying lip service.)
- ◆ "They felt betrayed, which I totally get..." (Vietnam veterans.)
- ◆ "I am sorry you were treated so badly and I understand. Thank you for your service."
- ◆ "We want to reassure customers that our restaurants are clean and safe." (A statement by Yum Brands Inc. after TV cameras showed a swarm of rats scurrying about a KFC / Taco Bell in New York City.)
- ◆ "I think it's absolutely fine, I do." "I think it's great." "I have no problem with it whatsoever." (Comments about a gay marriage by a politician many consider to be paying lip service.)
- ◆ "It's not enough to say we don't support racism. You have to actually actively fight racism to get the work done." (Ashland, Oregon mayor Julie Akins.)
- ◆ "We all should feel comfortable with who we are in our own skin. But..." (Michael Phelps about male-to-female transgender swimmers like Lia Thomas.)
- ◆ "Lisa and Rhali: We see you and we hear you." (Football Australia (FA) chief executive James Johnson, responding to their accusations of "women protecting women who abuse women," presumably lesbians. From "Lisa De Vanna's allegations highlight tensions in Australia's *complex* [italics mine] football culture" by Samantha Lewis, *ABC Australia, Analysis, Sport*, 18 Oct 2021.)
- ◆ "We should have that conversation; We need to have that conversation; What an interesting idea, I think we should have that conversation..." (Excellent ways not to say yes or no, to make no commitment, while at the same time sounding sympathetic.)
- ◆ "Oh, I'm sorry about that. These things happen."
- ◆ "Good luck with that!"
- ◆ "This makes for interesting reading." (The non-committal written response to a report by the State Department's medical team about the health effects of microwaves.)
- ◆ "She said, 'I just want to check in with you and let you know your mother's doing fine, that she doesn't have a temperature.' I said, 'That's \*. My mom died at 3:30 this morning.' And she was like, 'Oh my God. That wasn't in the chart.'" (Pat Herrick, daughter of a Life Care Resident in Kirkland, Washington. Her mom died of COVID-19.)
- ◆ "An initial identification procedure was conducted using established procedures and would appear to have resulted in a mistaken identification... We ask that people do not speculate on social media." (Wrong man declared dead by the Isle of Man TT races.)
- ◆ "We agree we must do better and we are working inside to do so." (Twitter.)
- ◆ "We value your privacy." (*Express.co.uk*. Accept cookies to continue.)
- ◆ "Upon discovery, we took steps to secure our systems...Additionally, while we have safeguards in place to protect data in our care, we continue to review and further enhance these protections as part of our ongoing commitment to data security." (Shields Health Care Group, a

Massachusetts-based company, after being hacked. As Papijoe 13 commented, "Great name for a company that cannot shield their clients' personal information.")

- ◆ "Lauren's death was a tragedy that affected all of us in very, very difficult ways and we know that mistakes were made, we own the fact that mistakes were made..." (The Vice President of Student Affairs at the University of Utah, speaking on Dateline NBC for the episode "Lauren's Promise.")
- ◆ "That would be like obviously very extremely interesting for like a future direction. (The presenter responding to a question at an academic presentation.)
- ◆ "Well, so far to answer her question...we've created a [inaudible] post on our Website... (An ABC "voting help" segment.)
- ◆ "That's a great question. We don't yet know..."
- ◆ "A spokesman for the company said the safety of its residents was paramount and it was helping them find temporary alternative accommodation." (The company, according to the government, had consistently failed to take action against the risk of fire.)
- ◆ "I apologize to the world, to my family, and to the Nevada State Athletic Commission... and to Judge Patricia Clifford, who knows that I am proud to be living up to the terms of my probation..." (The boxer Mike Tyson.)
- ◆ "The club have said they will work to educate fans on the issue." (BBC, "Manchester United condemn fans' 'completely unacceptable' chants about Hillsborough tragedy," 20 April, 2022. The Hillsborough disaster occurred in 1989.)
- ◆ "I'm sorry; No, no, no; I'm so sorry; We're not doing any questions, I know you have been in touch with our communications director, that would be the best way; Sorry about that; I'm so sorry about that..." (Republican functionaries at a campaign event doing their best to silence NPR's Danielle Kurtzleben and shoo her away. Kurtzleben persisted in shrilly shouting questions and demanding answers. Many Republicans have simply given up speaking to representatives of mainstream / legacy / national media.)
- ◆ "We have secured the armaments package, which will be properly disposed of. Safety is our utmost priority." (A military official, after a plane full of rounds and live missiles crashed into a warehouse near an airport and burned. Thankfully, the live munitions did not go off.)
- ◆ "Mr. Selim will not be at work at this time." (Burnsville-Eagan-Savage School District 191 in Minnesota.)
- ◆ "The worst part is behind us, we *are* seeing a new dawn, hold on, have faith, because good days are coming, glorious days are coming, keep on praying, and we are with you, we are praying along with you, good days are coming." (Samson Shekhar Chauhan of the Lutheran Maritime Ministry, to sailors stranded on ships by COVID.)
- ◆ "Have a blessed day, that means get lost!" (The great writer James McBride.)
- ◆ "That's what I was afraid of, 'They're doing everything in their power.'" (Sarcasm about a murder investigation by the police.)
- ◆ "The Grand Slam organisers wrote to [Naomi Osaka] to offer support, as well as to 'remind her of her obligations'."
- ◆ "The safety of our cast and crew is the top priority of Rust Productions and everyone associated with the company." (A statement after cinematographer Halyna Hutchins was shot and killed on set.)
- ◆ "You're not gonna die, you're gonna be fine." (The film *Reservoir Dogs*.)
- ◆ "Let me assure you that nothing is more important to us than for you to feel your children are in a safe and secure environment... I've just been informed that all of your children are missing." (The character of Miss Mullins in the film *School of Rock*.)
- ◆ "A warning. This episode contains discussion of suicide and domestic violence." (NPR's Pop Culture Happy Hour.)
- ◆ "Warning: Post contains mention of contemplated suicide." (BuzzFeed Community.)
- ◆ A FUNNY STORY. Nasreddin decided to become a judge and make some money. Ali came to him one day to complain about Saleh. Nasreddin listened and said, "You're right, you're right, you're right." Ali gave money to Nasreddin and left happy. Then Saleh came in to complain about Ali. Nasreddin listened and said, "You're right, you're right, you're right." Saleh gave money to Nasreddin and left happy. Nasreddin's wife, who had been listening behind the curtain, was not

happy. "How can you say Ali is right, and then say Saleh is right," she exclaimed indignantly. "You're right, you're right, you're right," replied Nasreddin.

♦ see also *performative (groups)*

♦ see also *boilerplate (noun), buzzword (noun), doublespeak (noun), ese (legalese, etc.), funny language, language (types), newspeak (noun), speak (NASA-speak, etc.), supersizing (linguistic supersizing), talk (mediator talk, etc.), word salad*

**speech: mouth**

**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: mouth / speech**

**language: speech**

## lipstick (appearance)

lipstick

no matter how much ~ you put on a pig, it's still a pig

putting bright red lipstick on capitalism

it's hustle culture, it's ~ (girl boss culture)

♦ "You cannot beautify an ugly face, even if you use a lot of makeup." (A Palestinian political activist about an Israeli measure.)

**appearance & reality / concealment & lack of concealment**

**/ subterfuge: materials & substances**

## liquidate (kill)

"liquidate" defectors

his death is part of a deliberate policy to ~

**death & life: euphemism / verb**

**oppression: euphemism / verb**

## liquidated (killed)

liquidated

dozens of attackers were ~ (Kazakhstan)

♦ "Justice has been delivered and this terrorist leader is no more." (President Biden, about the killing of Ayman al-Zawahiri. The President also said, about terrorists, "The United States will find you and take you out.")

**death & life / oppression: euphemism**

## list (amount)

Christmas list

see *Christmas (Christmas list)*

laundry list

see *laundry (laundry list)*

## listen (listen to something)

listen to my body

it's important that I ~ and don't push too hard (tennis)

listened to my instincts

I ~ and didn't...

listen to the science

~ and act now, before it's too late (Greta Thunberg)

I want people to ~, not to me (Greta Thunberg)

my message has always been, ~ (Greta Thunberg)

**fictive communication: speech**

## listen (as noun)

give a listen

he doesn't say Biden won, but listen to this, ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: ear / part of speech**

## litany (noun)

litany of charges

he is facing a ~

litany of errors

let's go through the ~ (poor crisis management)

litany of ills

he presents a ~ plaguing the body politic

litany of (medical) issues

his death was due to natural causes associated with a ~

litany of (personal) problems

he has battled a ~ (the boxer Tyson Fury)

**amount: religion**

## lite (substance)

backcountry-lite

Bluebird's founders call this ~ (a ski resort in Colorado)

democracy-lite

~ won't do for Egypt

Facebook Lite

~ appears to be a cut-down version of Facebook

FOX Lite

MSNBC has gone from the "Anti-Fox" to ~

impeachment lite

he has dubbed this "~" (President Trump)

independence-lite

Scotland can choose devolution-max or ~

Jewish-lite

prosperous ~ families of the time on both coasts (1950s)

lockdown-lite

most in the Netherlands support a new ~

narco-state lite

Holland is becoming a ~

NPR Lite

I disagree that BPP is "~" (Bryant Park Project)

philosophy lite

this is ~ (self-help book based on philosophy)

Tory lite

there will be no return to a "~" agenda

♦ "This is Plan B-Lite, what we should have is Plan B-Plus." (Fear of virus.)

**substance & lack of substance: weight**

## literacy (noun)

“cyberspace literacy”

how to negotiate this space and develop a ~ (internet)

media literacy

Illinois now requires ~ instruction (high schools)

online literacy

our ever-evolving ~ and virtual social culture

mass-cultural literacy

he draws on voluminous reserves of ~ (Chuck Klosterman)

emotional literacy

how to develop ~ (Daniel Goleman)

♦ compare with *competence* (*metaphoric competence, etc.*), *illiterate* (*adjective*), *literate* (*adjective*)

♦ “Beware, Monsieur, of the memory of the illiterate man!” (“The Bull That Thought” by Rudyard Kipling.)

**ability & lack of ability: books & reading**

## literate (adjective)

“politically literate”

~ young Bolsheviks fanned out from Moscow (1929)

♦ compare with *competence* (*metaphoric competence, etc.*), *illiterate* (*adjective*), *literacy* (*noun*)

♦ “Beware, Monsieur, of the memory of the illiterate man!” (“The Bull That Thought” by Rudyard Kipling.)

**ability & lack of ability: books & reading**

## litmus test

litmus test for (Russia's) democracy

the West sees the trial as a ~

litmus test for (EU) membership

they insist on cooperation as a ~

diplomatic litmus tests

officials caution against turning issues into ~

**evidence / experimentation: chemistry**

## littered

littered with companies

the history of the sector is ~ that went bankrupt

littered with failed distribution companies

the road is ~ (films)

littered with (environmental) time bombs

Central and Eastern Europe are ~

**configuration: waste**

## little (little people, etc.)

little man

see *man* (*big man, little man, etc.*)

little people

see *people* (*little people, etc.*)

**importance & significance: person / size**

**characterization: person**

## live (location)

living

so where did you find this comet, where is it ~

live forever

Twitter users took screengrabs that will now ~

live here

your stories ~ (ad to create an account for newspaper)

live (out) here

luck don't ~ (the film *Wind River*)

lives here

the Sugar Bowl ~ (ad for TV network)

the pride, passion and pageantry ~ (Paul Finebaum Show)

the language still ~, in our valley (Aranese / Val d'Aran)

Science ~ (at The Royal Institution / the U.K.)

lives in his archive

he wrote a memo to file that ~ in which he...

lives in the indictments

that information ~

live (down) in labs

most instruments ~ on E-deck (*Polarstern*)

lives in different language

the subjunctive still ~ in quite strong ways (not in English)

live at the top

banners that ~ of YouTube's homepage (expensive ads)

lived on a hard drive in his home in Florida

until recently, his 55,000 field recordings all ~ (Martyn Stewart)

lived on Facebook

this stuff ~ for 3 months (disinformation / taken down)

living on YouTube

some of the clips were ~ months ago

lives on the internet

an NFT is a collector's item that ~ (non-fungible token)

live beneath Western Front

World War I munitions still ~ (NPR)

live under the same roof

she brings together dishes that don't ordinarily ~ (a chef)

avalanche lives

we climb where the ~

heat lives

that's where the ~ (the seeds in chilies)

♦ “One got to know that ambulance (it lived somewhere at the back of St. Clement Danes) as well as the Police of the E. Division...” (*Something of Myself* by Rudyard Kipling.)

♦ see also *reside* (*verb*)

**location: house / verb**

**place: house / death & life / verb**

**presence & absence: death & life / verb**

## live (alive / non-human)

live by the end of the year

Windows 11 should be ~ (ABC Tech Bytes)

live (single) round

a ~ was accidentally fired on set (the film *Rust*)

live wire

he touched a ~ and his left arm had to be amputated

live and ongoing

it's still ~ in the field (Extreme Ice Survey)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life**

**condition & status: death & life**

## live (live with something)

live with

I dropped an easy pass, it's one I'll have to ~ (sports)

live with it

so I learned to ~

**survival, persistence & endurance: death & life**

## live (that's where I live, etc.)

live

the middle ground is where most of us ~ (gun control)

live in my heart

that's where I ~ (a bias for singer-songwriter types)

live most of our lives

that's where we ~ (in brief interactions with others)

♦ "They live on these phones now." (A helpless father about his children and young people in general.)

**presence & absence: death & life**

## live (live and die / commitment)

live and die for each other

we're family, these guys will ~ (rugby team)

**commitment & determination: death & life**

## live (live and die / fate)

live and die by where

our campaign doesn't ~ his approval rating is (politics)

live and die by your decisions

as a manager, you ~ (sports)

live and die by intelligence

we ~ (Salt Lake City police gang unit)

live and die by their holiday sales

they ~ (bakeries that make hot cross buns)

live or die, survive or go dark

they can decide which Web sites ~ (Web hosts)

♦ This is like, "stand or fall."

**fate, fortune & chance: death & life**

**survival, persistence & endurance: death & life**

## live (live and breathe, live to)

lives to track

he ~ the scent of malfeasance (a journalist)

lived and breathed for the Olympics

Daley has always ~

lives and breathes boxing

he ~ (promoter Frank Warren)

lives and breathes football

Naples ~ (2022-23 Serie A Champions)

lived and breathed Sondheim

as someone who has ~ for my entire adult life...

lives and breathes sport

Australia is a country that ~

♦ "Haaland is a beast, he is a goalscoring machine, he lives and breathes goals." (Alan Shearer about Erling Haaland, one in a great line of exceptional Norwegians.)

**absorption & immersion / consumption / enthusiasm / identity & nature: breathing / death & life / verb**

## lived experience (groups, etc.)

lived experience

people with ~ are valued (recovery coaches / addiction)

I always knew my race was relevant to my ~ (Asian)

we've learned from those with ~ (NYC DA / prostitutes)

their actual experience, their ~, right...

lived (queer) experiences

help spread awareness of ~

lived experiences of Americans

foreign policy has become detached from the ~

lived experience of being Black in America

the ~ weathers the body (public health)

lived experiences of real people

how the law impacts the ~

lived experience of those

it is wrong to dispute the ~ suffering from Long COVID

lived experiences of women of color

the ~

lived experience of Black women

her poetry spoke to the ~ (Maya Angelou)

lived experience of social workers

it's important we try to understand the ~ (Arthur Labinjo-

Hughes case)

lived experience voice

he had that ~ (Miriam Krinsky about Chesa Boudin)

my lived experience

this violence is not new in my life, ~ (VP Kamala Harris)

my everyday lived experience here

~ is as a person who is despised (AOC / Congress)

discrimination and lived experiences  
they seek to erase the legacy of ~ (a critical race theorist)

bringing his lived experience to the role  
Hughes is ~ (disabled / Richard III)

comes from lived experience  
knowledge and expertise that ~

dispute the lived experience  
it is wrong to ~ of those suffering from Long COVID

emphasize lived experience  
the pilot program will ~ over formal education (Oakland)

known from lived experience  
what Black organizers have long ~

puts her lived experience to good use  
she ~ (a child of immigrants / YAL *Skin of the Sea*)

speak to their lived experiences  
things that are not verifiably true but ~

spoke to the lived experience  
her poetry ~ of Black women (Maya Angelou)

question or debate (Black colleagues') lived experience  
don't ~ (Disney World employee training)

◆ "Lived experience" is not listed by the Merriam-Webster online dictionary, although the perfectly comprehensible "life experience" is. Its short Wikipedia entry is categorized as follows: philosophy stubs | phenomenological methodology | qualitative research. Even academics are befuddled by it: see "Exploring what the Notion of 'Lived Experience' Offers for Social Policy Analysis" by Ian McIntosh and Sharon Wright, Urban Studies, School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Glasgow.

◆ "Sullivan is curious what scientists will discover about her lived experience." (Autistic, agender. From "Transgender and non-binary people are up to six times more likely to also have autism" by Lesley McClurg, NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, January 15, 2023.)

◆ "Don't question or debate Black colleagues' lived experience." (Disney World employee training.)

◆ "[It's] something that Black folks have always known: white people continue to be the biggest threat to American democracy." (Candace McDuffie, *The Root*.)

◆ "[I]f you're Black, even if you are middle class, there is something about the lived experience of being Black in America that weathers the body. And this is the theory of Dr. Arline Geronimus from the University of Michigan. And she believes that the high-effort coping of dealing with racism in America makes the body prematurely aged. And so if your body is older, then you're more susceptible to every kind of health problem." (Linda Villarosa, from "How Systemic Racism Continues To Determine Black Health and Wealth In Chicago," NPR, Fresh Air, May 6, 2021.)

◆ "Reginald Mobley, a black American countertenor, says that when he was growing up in Florida his family thought of classical music as the music of cross-burners." ("From 'Classical music: Airs and Graces,'" *The Economist*, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022. "Such notions did not deter Mr Mobley. A professor who heard him singing in a barbershop quartet identified him as countertenor.")

◆ "To question the role of trauma, we are warned, is to oppress: it is 'often nothing but a resistance to movements for social justice,' Melissa Febos writes in her forthcoming book, "Body Work: The Radical Power of Personal Narrative." Those who look askance at trauma memoirs, she says, are replicating the 'classic role of perpetrator: to deny, discredit and dismiss victims in order to avoid being implicated or losing power.'" ("The Key To Me" by Parul Sehgal, *The New Yorker*, January 3 & 10, 2022.)

◆ "For all of you that want to slap narratives on my words and my experience—one in which I lived for 17 years—you can't do that because you have no clue." (Carli Lloyd, soccer player.)

◆ "You don't understand how sisters move." (Joy Reid supports her fired MSNBC colleague Tiffany Cross. In a completely different context, a Black female middle-schooler texted, "I'm glad my parents stay on me and taught me how to move in situations like this." The "situation" was her videoing her teacher, who was fired.)

◆ "Listen to your kids. They know what's best for them because they're living their experience every single day." (JR Ford. From "Children's book 'Calvin' shows how a community can embrace a trans child's identity," NPR, All Things Considered, Nov 9, 2021.)

◆ "He is versed in a certain kind of performativity, a conspiratorial brandishing of one's Blackness as automatic expertise." ("All Talk: The news, according to Charlamagne tha God and Jon Stewart" by Doreen St. Felix, *The New Yorker*, October 25, 2021.)

◆ "Her poetry spoke to the lived experience of Black women." (Maya Angelou. According to Wikipedia, some of her work may be considered autobiographical fiction. She certainly made the most of her extraordinary life.)

◆ "We're headed in a direction where we want people to feel more comfortable bringing their lived experiences into the hosts' chairs." (Sarah Gilbert, NPR's vice president over its newsmagazines. From "NPR hosts' departures fuel questions over race. The full story is complex" by David Folkenflik, NPR, media, January 12, 2022.)

◆ "In describing their lived experiences during the pandemic, several participants specifically referenced the movie *Groundhog Day* remarking that they felt as though they were stuck in some sort of repeating existence."

◆ Mr. Head: What was that? / Nelson: A man. / Mr. Head: What kind of a man? / Nelson: A fat man. / Mr. Head: You don't know what kind? / Nelson: An old man. / Mr. Head: That was a black man. / Nelson: You said they were black. You never said they were tan. How do you expect me to know anything when you don't tell me right? (From a short story by Flannery O'Connor, published in 1955. Nelson, a rural boy, had never seen a Black person before.)

◆ [Scientist] "It is quite clear to me that the legend of the mapinguary (pronounced ma-ping-wahr-EE) is based on human contact with the last of the ground sloths. We know that extinct species can survive as legends for hundreds of years. But whether such animal still exists or not is another question, one we can't answer yet." (Dr. David Oren, a former director of research at the Goeldi Institute in Belem, at the mouth of the Amazon River.) [Indigenous person] "The only way you can kill a mapinguary is by shooting at its head. But that is hard to do because it has the power to make you dizzy and turn day into night. So the best way to do if you see one is climb a tree and hide." (Domingos Parintintin, a tribal leader in Amazonas State, on the mapinguary, a legendary Amazonian beast. From "A Huge Amazon Monster Is Only a Myth. Or Is It?" by Larry Rohter, *The New York Times International* Sunday, July 8, 2007.)

◆ "The law, in its majestic equality, forbids rich and poor alike to sleep under bridges, to beg in the streets, and to steal their bread. This equality is one of the benefits of the Revolution." (Anatole France, *The Red Lilly*.)

◆ "We kinda really tried to focus on that lived experience that people have." (Colorado Democratic Governor Jared Polis, explaining his laissez-faire Covid strategy. It is interesting usage by a relatively older, white politician.)

◆ Lol, she seriously used the phrase "lived experience" in her apology for being completely out of touch with her job. (A tweet about the US charge d'affaires Karen Decker of the U.S. Mission to Afghanistan.)

◆ "I felt like books were almost in some passive way, judging me for being who I was, simply by erasing me from the idea, like from the canon in and of itself, right? If I'm not shown or if I don't exist in a story, then that means that somebody doesn't find my life valuable enough to talk about, right? So why would I engage in something that's not engaging with me?" (Jason Reynolds, National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, an award which is presented bi-annually by the Library of Congress.)

◆ "We sell [young people] insultingly short in thinking that they won't read unless the subject is themselves." ("School Shouldn't Be A Battlefield" by George Packer, *The Atlantic*, April 2022.)

◆ "It is disingenuous, absurd and historically false to argue that a hellish system such as National Socialism sanctifies its victims." (Primo Levi. Quoted in "How Did He Die?: An Exchange" by Tim Parks, *The New York Review*, December 17, 2015.)

♦ “Whether it’s journalism, fiction or poetry, writing about war is routinely prized for ‘combat gnosticism,’ which is the notion that the ability to comprehend war requires a special knowledge possessed only by a battle-hardened elite.” (“The War of Words” by John Palattella, *The Nation*, January 2, 2004 issue.)

♦ “The new exclusivity is partly epistemological, claiming that out-group members cannot share in the knowledge possessed by in-group members.” (“How America’s identity politics went from inclusion to division” by Amy Chua, *The Guardian*, 1 March 2018.)

♦ “This thinking [identity politics] appeals not to reason or universal values but to the authority of identity, the ‘lived experience’ of the oppressed... [This has led some] to believe that words can be a form of violence; to close down a general argument with a personal truth (‘You wouldn’t understand,’ or just ‘I’m offended’); to keep your mouth shut when identity disqualified you from speaking.” (“School Shouldn’t Be A Battlefield” by George Packer, *The Atlantic*, April 2022.)

♦ “The movie starts off like a sentimental ‘fish out of water’ story, about a young woman’s search for her roots. It quickly becomes clear we are seeing something stranger, and stronger... Freddy is clearly searching for an identity, yet neither she nor the movie defines identity in terms of race, nationality or family, notions that Chou, himself a cultural outsider, thinks too broad to capture the multiplicity of lived experience.” (John Powers brilliant review of the film *Return to Seoul* on Fresh Air, March 8, 2023.)

♦ A FUNNY JOKE. Question: How many Vietnam veterans does it take to screw in a lightbulb? The twitchy, trembling, quavering answer: How would you know, man? You weren’t there!

♦ A FUNNY STORY. A college-student “reporter” for a free community newspaper in the 1970s interviewed the owner of a porn shop when such things were new and unusual. While interviewing the owner, the youth was startled by a contraption that looked like an octopus, and heard himself blurting out, “What’s that for?” The porn-shop owner narrowed his eyes and growled, “The clientele knows.”

♦ A FUNNY CARTOON. Four Viking types, each clutching a book, are sitting around a fire under a sign that says, “Saga Club.” One of them is speaking, and he is saying, “The endless parade of murder and pillaging really spoke to me.” (*The New Yorker*, November 22, 2021)

♦ “EXPERIENCE, n. The wisdom that enables us to recognize as an undesirable old acquaintance the folly that we have already embraced.” (*The Devil’s Dictionary* by Ambrose Bierce.)

♦ “There’s no fool like an old fool.”

♦ see also *lived reality (groups, etc.)*

### **inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## **lived reality (groups, etc.)**

lived reality of racism

the ~ persists in the black community

lived reality of their students

many white educators have a hard time addressing the ~

lived reality for many LGBTQ people

housing discrimination is the ~ in our country

people’s lived reality

legislative decisions take place at a great distance from ~

face discrimination as a lived reality

black and racialized Canadians ~ every single day (Trudeau)

♦ see also *lived experience (groups, etc.)*

### **inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## **live up to (something)**

live up to the commitments

we expect the Japanese to ~ they have made

live up to expectations

many athletes do not ~ (behavior problems)

live up to those expectations

the training they go through to in order to ~

lived up to (family) expectations

he never ~ (a drifter)

live up to (fans’) expectations

he may never ~ but... (player with big salary)

lived up to the hopes

the claims for brain imaging have not ~ (psychiatry)

live up to the hype

the fight did not ~ that it received (boxing)

live up to its (professed) ideals

an American failure to ~ (New Orleans hurricane)

live up to the image

it’s harder for him to ~ the public has of him (a poet)

live up to the (gangsta) image

there are those who work to ~

live up to their obligations

both countries should ~ under the agreement

lived up to its promise

if Pakistan ~ on infiltration, New Delhi would...

live up to you (campaign) promise

do you think it’s so difficult to ~

lived up to (longstanding) promises

he has not ~ to tribal groups (Brazil)

lived up to their reputation

Bayer Leverkusen, who ~ (soccer team)

lived up to his responsibilities

he has not always ~

live up to the rhetoric

will reality ~

live up to my own standards

I have failed to ~ (an abusive coach)

live up to his own standards

he failed to ~

live up to its (own stated) values

the US has failed to ~ (secret prisons, etc.)

live up to their vows

a majority who took the pledge did not ~ (virginity)

live up to its words

we are simply asking BP/Amoco to ~ (environment)

lived up to its expectations or talent

the team never ~

live up to the conditions of the agreement

local officials would not ~ (Red Cross program)

failed to live up to

the US has ~ its own stated values (secret prisons, etc.)

**commitment & determination: direction / verb**

**responsibility: direction / verb**

## live on (verb)

live on

there is no doubt that his books will ~ (VS Naipaul)

lives on

the filibuster ~, in its 3rd century, more powerful than ever  
the film's influence ~ (the film *Super Fly*)

lived on

the bomber was dead, but the threat ~ (unexploded bombs)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence / starting, going, continuing & ending / survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / verb**

## live wire (person)

live wire

she was a ~ (outspoken, passionate, talented, dedicated)

live-wire ex-soldier

the stereotype of the ~ (the Gulf War)

one-time live-wire

Martin, a ~ who is now a boring teacher... (a film)

♦ "Good teacher. He really seems to care. About what, I have no idea." (Rodney Dangerfield's reaction after Professor Terguson's "live wire" outburst. View at YouTube: Back To School Clip, "Professor Terguson" (1986) Sam Kinison.)

**character & personality: electricity / person**

**person: electricity**

## livid (adjective)

livid that

she is ~ her husband is dating...

**feeling, emotion & effect: blood / color**

## living (adjective)

living document

the Constitution is a ~

this report should be considered a ~ (subject to changes)

living text

oed.com is a ~, updated every three months (dictionary)

longest living

the Bullet is the ~ motorcycle design in history

**growth & development / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: death & life**

## load (work)

load of a (college) professor

he's teaching double the normal ~ (adjunct)

course load

I adjusted to the new ~

workload

teachers complained about the increased ~

teaching and research load

faculty members can reduce the ~ by half

parenting load

she has been carrying the full ~

extra load

the types of ~ that we are placing on teachers

full load

it may be hard to juggle a ~ of classes and a job

full (parenting) load

she has been carrying the ~

normal load

he's teaching double the ~ of a college professor (adjunct)

bear (some of) the load

build a new airport to ~ (Chicago)

carrying the (full parenting) load

she has been ~

handle the load

the system can barely ~ (airline travel)

♦ "A woman without a donkey is a donkey herself." (Debre Zeit, Ethiopia.)

♦ "God makes the back to bear the load." (Said in Ireland. This means God will never give you a degree of suffering that you can't cope with.)

**work & duty: burden / weight**

## loaded

loaded term

experts say temptation is a ~ (a crime against women)

loaded, loaded word

the word "victim" is a ~ (Judge Bruce Schroeder)

racially loaded

he tweeted the ~ term on Tuesday ("lynching")

♦ "Last week, there was widespread outrage when Judge Schroeder set ground rules forbidding prosecutors from referring to the men Rittenhouse shot as victims." ("A look at Bruce Schroeder, the judge in the Kyle Rittenhouse trial," NPR, All Things Considered, Nov. 4, 2021.)

♦ "The word 'victim' is a loaded, loaded word that can prejudice the jury." (Judge Bruce Schroeder of Wisconsin.)

**history: burden / journeys & trips / weight**

**oppression: burden / journeys & trips / weight**

**speech: burden / journeys & trips / weight**

## loan shark

loan shark

he borrowed the money from a ~

**money: person / predation**

**person: money**

## lock (lock something away)

locked it away

it was embarrassing, so I ~ (sexually assaulted)

**concealment & lack of concealment: key / verb**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: key / verb**

## lock (under lock and key)

kept under lock and key  
the report was meant to be ~ (Catholic Church)

**concealment & lack of concealment: key**

## lockdown (noun)

lockdown  
our ~ is a giant garden party (vs. China, Italy)

lockdown measures  
a number of countries are set to relax their ~ (COVID)

lockdowns and death counts  
before life turned into this slog of ~ (pandemic)

coronavirus lockdowns  
sports fans are going through withdrawal because of ~

lockdown is getting looser  
the ~ (pandemic)

♦ "Last night we got out of strict Level Four lockdown, which hasn't allowed us to surf for five weeks. We're in Level Three now and we can finally surf. I'm so pumped to get out there." (A video showing a female teen surfer in New Zealand on the shore in a wetsuit with her surfboard. She turns and runs to the water.)

**curtailment: doors & thresholds / key**  
**constraint & lack of constraint: doors & thresholds / key**

## locked (locked in a battle, etc.)

locked in a (custody) battle  
they are ~

locked in a (seesaw) battle  
they are ~ for the strategic city

locked in a (fierce and noisy) debate  
Tunisians are ~ about the role of Islam in politics

locked in a (bitter) dispute  
they are ~ over Kashmir

**attachment / configuration / division & connection: doors & thresholds / key**

## locked and loaded (adjective)

locked and loaded  
the US is ~ (diplomatic crisis)  
the US is ~, ready to retaliate over the attack

locked and loaded for a retaliatory strike  
the military was ~

**readiness & preparedness: military / weapon**

## locked in (target)

driven, locked in, damn the torpedoes  
he is ~ (the NFL quarterback Tom Brady on winning)

♦ "In the end, cold-blooded killer, in the end all that matters is, Lombardi number eight. He is driven, he is locked in, he is damn the torpedoes."

(Skip Bayless, speaking with Shannon Sharpe about the great quarterback Tom Brady, on "Skip and Shannon: Undisputed." "Lombardi number eight" refers to Brady's quest to win his eighth Super Bowl, in 2022.)

**commitment & determination: military / target / weapon**

## locker (noun)

Web locker  
he is a prominent ~ operator (file sharing)

**computer: container**

## locker (sports)

in his locker  
it's always something he's had ~ (ability to assist, score)

**help & assistance: sports & games**

## lockstep (in lockstep)

in lockstep  
they were all ~, working together (Boeing, FAA)

in lockstep with the White House  
Senate Republicans will be ~

act in lockstep  
he will ~ with the White House

march in lockstep  
climate and carbon dioxide clearly ~ (Antarctic ice)

work in "lockstep"  
Obama said the US would ~ with Israel to prevent...

working in lockstep  
Obama is ~ with the Israelis

♦ "Go to Cam Ranh Bay / Go to Cam Ranh Bay! / Chasing Charley all the way / Chasing Charley all the way! / Wiiiide River / Wiiiide River! / Oh! One more river to cross / Oh! One more river to cross." (Marching cadence, Vietnam War training at Fort Knox. In Vietnam, the Vietnam War is called the American War.)

**unanimity & consensus: line / military / walking, running & jumping**

## lodestar (noun)

lodestar of my life  
Mother Teresa was the ~

Taliban's spiritual lodestar  
his involvement was minimal, yet he remained the ~ (Mullah Omar)

legal lodestar  
Thurgood Marshall was his ~ (lawyer Ben Crump)

political lodestar  
cutting taxes is a ~ for many Tories (UK)

one of our lodestars  
the spirit of that imperative is ~ ("believe women")

♦ A lodestar refers to the North Star, or to stars that help people to find the North Star. As such, it relates to direction and following.

♦ Somebody sent an anonymous op-ed article to *The New York Times*. The writer included the word "lodestar." People interested in "outing" the

anonymous author focused on that "rarely used word" to try to determine who sent it. ("Does 'lodestar' guide us to anti-Trump op-ed author?" BBC, 6 September 2018.)

**direction: astronomy / journeys & trips**

## **lodestone (noun)**

lodestone for migrants

Angola has become a ~ (2009 / from Congo)

♦ A lodestone is a piece of naturally magnetic rock, once used in primitive compasses for roughly indicating the direction of north.

**direction: astronomy / journeys & trips / tools & technology**

## **lofty (adjective)**

lofty rhetoric

he is known for his ~ (a politician)

**achievement, recognition & praise: height**

**speech: height**

## **logjam (noun)**

logjam

coat checks and valet parking can become ~s (malls)

logjam of traffic

he looks out onto an endless ~

logjam on death row

the execution does not signal a break in the ~

logjam in Washington

there is such a ~ (politics)

log jam in the Suez canal

the ~ forced 350 ships to park (*Ever Given*)

logjam (with Congress) over the president's plan

he seeks a way to break the ~

data logjam

limited storage media has created a scientific ~

bureaucratic logjam

despite the ~s the Army faced in stepping up...

ideological logjam

progress has been stuck in an ~ (warming)

legislative logjam

squabbling could lead to a ~ (politics)

partisan logjam

the White House seeks to break the ~ (politics)

political logjam

the ~ must be dislodged

break in the logjam

the execution does not signal a ~ on death row  
not everyone is happy about the ~ (politics)

polarization and logjam

they talked about the ~ in Congress

log jam broke

the ~ (writer's block)

logjam (holding up the bill) broke  
the ~ on Saturday (politics)

logjam (on extradition) was broken  
in 2012, a ~ when...

break the logjam

we must ~ (politics)

Islamic leaders are working to ~ (immunizations)

broke that logjam

it was that demonstration that ~ (AIDS protest)

clear the logjam

I sought a way to ~ (a diplomat)

♦ "All I carried away from the magic town of Auckland was the face and voice of a woman who sold me beer at a little hotel there. They stayed at the back of my head till ten years later when, in a local train of the Cape Town suburbs, I heard a petty officer from Simon's Town telling a companion about a woman in New Zealand who 'never scrupled to help a lame duck or put her foot on a scorpion.' Then, precisely as the removal of the key-log in a timber-jam starts the whole pile—those words gave me the key to the face and voice at Auckland, and a tale called 'Mrs. Bathurst' slid into my mind, smoothly and orderly as floating timber on a bank-high river." (*Something of Myself* by Rudyard Kipling.)

♦ "Old man Jinby rode frantically into Grand Rapids, like a second Paul Revere, screaming out that the flood had broken loose. It is impossible to describe the excitement and consternation that reigned in Grand Rapids as the rushing timbers shot down the current past the city. The heavy iron bridges one after the other crumpled up like matchwood and were borne out of sight down stream on the very top of the jam... Five hours later about half of the logs boiled into sight at Grand Haven, fifty miles away... Now [at Grand Haven] for four days and nights ensued a grim struggle for supremacy [to secure its own booms and to keep the logs from floating out into Lake Michigan] that has probably never been equaled in industrial history." ("The Great Log Jam" by Stewart Edward White is a terrific account of an actual log jam. It appeared in Frank Leslie's *Popular Monthly*, Vol. LII No. 3 in July, 1901, and it is an account of the Great Log Jam of 1883 on the Grand River in Michigan, perhaps the largest logjam in the history of logging.)

♦ See "Last Log Drive in U.S. Floating to End in Maine" by John Kifner, *The New York Times*, Sept. 8, 1976. It occurred on the Kennebec River. Logs are transported by trucks and helicopters, even, nowadays, but the old log drive, like so many obsolete practices or technologies, lives on, in the language.

**obstacles & impedance: river**

## **logroll (verb)**

logroll to get

politicians ~ their share of pork

**help & assistance: history / tree / verb**

**social interaction: history / tree / verb**

## **logrolling (noun)**

political logrolling

they practice ~ (politicians)

♦ In the past, on the frontier, neighbors would help one another to roll logs to construct buildings.

**help & assistance / social interaction: history / tree**

## **loiter (verb)**

loiter in the sky

drones can ~ for several hours and spy... (warfare)

loiter (in the sky) for several hours

drones can ~ and spy (warfare)

**movement: verb**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: movement / verb**

## lone wolf (person)

lone-wolf attack

it's difficult to protect against ~s (terrorism)

lone wolf individual

a dozen ~s with ties to the group have been caught

racist "lone wolves"

Obama has enraged ~

**society: animal / predation / wolf**

**behavior: animal / predation / wolf**

**character & personality: animal / predation / wolf**

## long (a long time, etc.)

long ago

in the ~, when I was a girl

long day

let's get some sleep, it's been a ~

long history

there's a ~ of laws targeting Drag in the US

long nights

I've had some ~ in the stir... (*Shawshank Redemption*)

long time

this has been a ~ coming (trans representation / Olympics)

long behind

his best writing days were ~ him

♦ see also *time (long time / short time)*

**time: amount / distance**

## long-run (adjective)

long-run impact

the ~ on the world economy

**time: distance / movement / walking, running & jumping**

## long shot

long shot

the horse is a ~ to win

**fate, fortune & chance: weapon**

## longstanding (adjective)

longstanding

Saudi-US relations are ~ and have stood the test of time

longstanding absence

adapt to the ~ of water (Santa Fe)

long-standing dispute

the ~

long-standing embargo

a ~

long-standing feud

motivated by a ~ (murder in Afghanistan)

longstanding grievances

the uranium boom has given new life to ~ over land

long-standing history

a woman with a ~ of depression and abuse

long-standing resentments

~ over past mistreatment (US blacks)

longstanding taboo

a ~ against use of nuclear weapons except as last resort

longstanding (Chinese) tradition

spitting is a ~

longstanding (security) relationship

the ~ between the two countries

long-standing and deserved (m)

it has a ~ reputation for... (a company)

deep and long-standing

our ties are ~ (US / Canada)

recurrent, chronic, or longstanding

symptom episodes may be ~ (depression)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence / survival,**

**persistence & endurance: standing, sitting & lying**

## longtime (adjective)

longtime alliance

their ~ has been frayed by his rejection of the bill

long-time (NATO) ally

the US is turning the heat up on its ~

long-time (Trump) ally

~ and conservative media mogul

**time: distance**

## long-winded (speech)

a little long winded

this guy's ~ (vice-president)

thoughtful, reflective, (occasionally) long-winded

he was ~ (a politician)

**speech: air / atmosphere**

## look (a bad look, etc.)

good look

it's not a ~

**appearance & reality: part of speech**

## look (look the other way / look away)

look away

we can no longer ~ (justice)

look away from election interference

we not going to ~

looked the other way  
corrupt officials ~ (contract)

looking the other way  
even the Supreme Court is shrugging its shoulders and ~

♦ "98% of Wikipedia's readers don't give, they simply look away." (Fund raising.)

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: eye / verb**

## look at (analysis)

look at Chernobyl  
if you ~ you will find...

look at the data  
if you ~, one thing that really jumps out is...

look (more closely) at these (reluctant) pioneers  
we must now ~

look at Poland  
so let's ~ (talk show)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: eye / verb**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye / verb**

## look back (verb)

look back  
was there a low point when you ~ (addiction)  
when I had a chance to ~ and go through all the what-ifs...  
I don't ~ and think, "Those were the days"  
as I ~ now, I can see so clearly that...

look back on her accomplishments  
we ~ (tribute to woman who died)

looks back on Houston's life  
John Donaldson ~ (died)

look back on your life  
sometimes you ~ and wonder..

looked back on my old life  
I haven't ~ once... (travel abroad)

look back through rose-tinted glasses  
it is easy to ~ and miss problematic details (history)

never looked back  
I switched girlfriends and ~  
after cutting his rival in the first round he ~ (boxing)

♦ "We're looking so far back in time." (James Webb Space Telescope.)

**past & present / time: direction / eye / verb**

## look down on (something)

look down on me  
I am suffering every day when people ~ (immigrant)  
some people ~, but I don't give a rip ("Redneck Woman")

**admiration & contempt: direction / eye / gesture / height / verb**

## look for (verb)

looking for how

we're really ~ we can improve...

looking for answers  
we are ~  
everyone is ~ (school shooting / community)

looking for excuses  
I think you're ~

looking for love  
Don was online ~, like millions of other men...

look for opportunities  
~ to develop new skills...

look for patterns  
~ in your preferences (job hunt)

looking for (better) opportunities  
they are always ~ (jobs)

looking for sympathy  
the amputee is not ~ (an amputee)

looking for trouble  
if you ask me, he was ~

look for (new) ways  
~ to apply knowledge management

looking for something  
they meander about, ~ to do (kids)

looking for something new  
women are always ~ in cosmetics

started looking  
the four partners ~ for help

**searching & discovery: eye / verb**

## look forward to (verb)

looking towards his future  
the boy, ~ ("Ike" memorial in D.C.)

look towards smaller parties  
he can now ~ to build a government (election winner)

look forward to going  
I don't ~ to work tomorrow...

looking forward to going  
Andrea was ~ on holiday...

look forward to hearing  
I ~ if he made it to Katahdin (AT)

look forward to seeing  
I ~ you in Detroit

looking forward to seeing  
he was ~ his wife and children

looking forward to spending  
he was ~ time with his grandchildren

looked forward to watching  
she ~ the World Cup (marine in Iraq)

look forward to the class  
students should ~ (teacher training)

look forward to and accept  
some people ~ death (nursing)

**future / time: direction / eye / verb**

**eagerness & reluctance: direction / eye / verb**

## looking (forward-looking, etc.)

forward-looking  
see *forward-looking*

## Looking Glass

Looking-Glass world  
the Poles are ~ (every direction north or south, sun, etc.)

looking-glass world  
its ~ (*The Hearing Trumpet* by Leonora Carrington)

through the looking glass  
we really are ~, I despair (#savewomensports)

♦ Lenora Carrington (OBE) was a devoted reader of Lewis Carroll (Charles Lutwidge Dodgson) and Jonathan Swift.

**allusion / fantasy & reality: books & reading**

## look into (verb)

looking into what  
is anybody ~ happened or...

looking into whether  
they are ~ foam produced... (*Columbia* disaster)  
investigators are ~ the attack was...  
federal agents are ~ he violated...

looking into (food) allergies  
my son has become a biter and we are ~

look into the case  
they agreed to ~ of Amy Wroe Bechtel (Vidocq Society)

looking into the complaint  
authorities are ~ of a Saudi camel owner who...

look into a (horrible) crime  
the soldiers were asked to ~ (Iraq atrocity)

look into ecoterrorism  
the FBI said it would ~ as a possible motive

looking into evidence  
is the White House ~ that American POWs may...

look into (Baluch) grievances  
committees set up last year to ~ (Pakistan)

look into it  
this is the first I've heard of it, I'll ~  
we'll ~, thanks for bring it to my attention...

look into the matter  
he'll ~

looking into the possibility  
officials were ~ that tribal leaders had...

looking into the (various) theories  
engineers ~ (plane crash)

look into ways  
or you could ~ of covering it up with destroying it

look into transferring  
maybe you should ~ to another school

investigators are looking into  
~ who received traffic tickets in... (murder)

**searching & discovery: eye / verb**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: eye / verb**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye / verb**

## look like (resemble)

look like  
what does genius ~ (NPR)

looks like  
this is what liberation ~ (Russians withdraw from Kherson)  
we understand what responsible drinking ~ (vs. pot use)

looks like  
we know what fake ~ (commitment vs. opposite)  
this is exactly what national embarrassment ~ (diplomacy)

look like people  
harassment can ~ looking at you in a sort of odd way...

what a hero looks like  
films condition us to think this is ~ (physicality, danger)

♦ "We're always gonna have to be struggling for what liberation and freedom look like." (Cindy Milstein, a diasporic queer Jewish anarchist, activist, and writer, in an interview at [Oberlinreview.org](http://Oberlinreview.org).)

♦ "I know dead when I see dead."

**appearance: eye**

**contempo-speak: language**

## look like (analysis)

look like  
what does that tension ~ (Anya Kamenetz)  
what would "ready" ~ for you... (NPR)

mean or look like  
so what does a pivot to China ~ in practical terms (NPR)

♦ "What does too far look like and what does too young look like." (An advocate for antiracism in public schools.)

♦ "What does 'clear sighted' and 'cold-blooded' look like?" (NPR's Leila Fadel interviews an ex-Ambassador about US-Saudi relations. Of course, his answer was "self-interest.")

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: eye**

## look like (future)

what that looks like  
we're just going to have to wait to see ~ (regime change)

look like  
what will the new normal ~ (post-COVID-19)

look like in the fall  
what might campus life ~ (during pandemic)

look like when  
what life might ~ normal returns

look like if  
what would this vote ~ this were a secret ballot

looked like in your view  
what would justice have ~, what should have happened

look like for Cuomo  
so what does the future ~ (politics)

is going to look like  
we don't know what 2021 ~

might look like  
police reform and what it ~

ought to look like  
what safety measures ~ in the movie industry

supposed to look like  
what the right relationship with a male figure is ~

will look like  
we will talk about what voting ~ during the pandemic

would look like  
tell me what an ideal system ~

♦ "So like what do you think this should be, like what does it look like?"  
♦ The future is less and less a time, and more and more a *place* that we can see!

**future / time: eye / place**

## look up (verb)

looking up  
Rhyl's image is ~ (English town)  
New York's economy is ~ (post 9/11)  
things are ~, progress is being made  
so things are *not* ~ (a political problem)

looking up for her  
things were finally ~

looking up for the president  
things are ~ (Iran)

**progress & lack of progress: direction / eye / verb**

**look up to (somebody)**

look up to  
she is someone young people can ~ (an athlete)  
it's good for the country to have heroes to ~

look up to me  
there are kids out there who ~ (an athlete)

look up to my father as a role model  
I've always been able to ~

looked up to Bruce Lee as a role model  
he ~ (the martial arts star)

looked up to him in high school  
I ~

looked up to them all my life  
I've ~ (Native Americans)

looked up to him ever since  
he flew in space, and the US has ~ (John Glenn)

**admiration & contempt: direction / eye / gesture / height / verb**

## loom (loom large, etc.)

looms large over Wisconsin  
the president still ~ (elections)

loom over the game  
those larger issues ~ (football and CTE)

♦ "Boy, this really is looming. It looms large." (An ABC investigative producer visiting the Ohio State Reformatory, the setting for the great film *The Shawshank Redemption*.)

**presence & absence: height / verb**  
**attention, scrutiny & promotion: height / verb**  
**superiority & inferiority: height / verb**

## loop (in the loop)

in the loop  
we make sure you are ~ at every step (financial planning)

**involvement: shape**

## loop (other)

doom-loop  
we're trapped in something of a ~ (social media)

doom loop  
a ~, a cycle of negative economic feedback

♦ "The city is in absolute chaos because we will continue to spiral in this doom loop." (Revulsion about San Francisco after high-profile attacks on prominent people in supposedly safe neighborhoods by violent criminals, people with mental illnesses, drug addicts, "woke" government and district attorneys, etc.)

**involvement: shape**

## loophole (noun)

loophole  
until the ~ is closed...

legal loophole  
many believe he wriggled through a ~ (Rubin Carter case)  
~s are still open to abusers (France)

exploiting that loophole  
unions are exploiting ~ (politics and money)

find a loophole  
we were able to ~, but that loophole has been closed (law)

used a loophole  
he ~ to keep practicing (a bad doctor)

♦ Defenders fire weapons through loopholes from inside a fortification.  
♦ "But, as is so often the case, when one loophole closes, another one opens..."

**protection & lack of protection: fortification / military**

## loose (get looser, etc.)

getting looser

the lockdown is ~ (pandemic)

**constraint & lack of constraint: rope**

## loose (let loose)

let loose

he has largely held his tongue, but on Friday he ~

he ~ in attacks on his enemies (politics)

**restraint & lack of restraint: hand / speech / verb**

## loose ends

tied up loose ends

I put my affairs in order, ~

tie up some loose ends

in this last episode, I'll try to ~ (podcast)

♦ "There are a lot of loose ends that people really want to see tied up."  
(Liz Farrell, co-host of the Murdaugh Murders podcast.)

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: rope**

## loose (loose woman)

loose woman

she might be labeled a ~, a prostitute (for bike riding)

**sex: euphemism / rope**

## loosen (loosen control, etc.)

loosening

a sign that the government's grip was ~

loosened their grip

tradition, ideology, and religion have ~ in the West

loosen (Germany's) manacles

Hollande wants to ~ of austerity (economics)

**increase & decrease: pressure / verb**

## loosen up (feelings)

need to loosen up

they are grumpy people who need to ~

laugh and loosen up

this would make them ~ (a joke)

**amelioration & renewal / feeling, emotion & effect: rope / skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

## loot (verb)

loot the assets

they could no longer ~ of the Venezuelan people

**taking & removing: crime / verb**

**possession: crime / verb**

## Lord of the Flies

Lord of the Flies

you've got ~ if you take a small group of young men...  
(*Lords of Chaos*)

**behavior / oppression / violence: allusion**

**allusion: books & reading**

## lord over (verb)

lorded over his (C.E.O.) son

the father still ~ (corporation)

lorded over their slaves

the plantation owners ~

**oppression / power: royalty / verb**

## lose (verb)

lose it

see *lose it (mentally)*

lose (through death)

see *lose (through death)*

lose (through extinction)

see *lose (through extinction)*

lose an arm, limb, eyesight, etc.

see *lose (a limb, etc.)*

lose one's life

see *life (lose one's life)*

lose one's mind

see *mind (lose one's mind)*

lose (one's temper, etc.)

see *lose (one's temper, etc.)*

lose time

see *time (lose time, etc.)*

lose one's tongue

see *tongue (lose one's tongue)*

## lose (through death)

lost three family members to (logging) accidents

he ~

lost his (adoptive) father to cancer

he ~

lost last year

singers we ~ (died)

lost a friend

I had never ~ before (climbing fatality)

lost him

my dad loved this place and then I ~ (father died)

I ~ when I was four years old (father died)

we ~ (to suicide)

lose one's life

see *life (lose one's life)*

lost a parent

an estimated 6,000 children ~ (on 9/11)

lost his wife  
he ~ (she died)

lost one of its own  
the police force has ~ (killed in the line of duty)

♦ He is no longer with us.

**death & life: euphemism / presence & absence / verb**

### lose (through extinction)

lost (70 to 100% of our) coral to bleaching  
we have ~ (Virgin Islands)

lose the big apes  
in 30 years we could ~ from central Africa

losing their cultural heritage  
Nigerians are ~ (indigenous languages versus English)

lose Lake Baikal  
the warnings of scientists who say "we will ~"

lost about a third of North America's birds  
since 1970, we've ~

♦ "When ice melts, walrus and polar bears lose habitat and hunting grounds."

♦ "He lost his homeland, his language, his class pedigree..."

**appearance & disappearance: death & life / verb**

### lose (a limb, etc.)

lost a leg to a land mine  
she ~ (a Vietnamese farmer)

lost limbs to land mines  
40,000 Cambodians have ~ over the years

lost her leg  
she ~ in a motorcycle accident

lost both legs  
she ~ after her Humvee hit an IED in Iraq

lost her sense of smell  
she ~ (COVID)

lost his (right) eye and (left) leg  
he ~ fighting the Soviets (an Afghan)

lost their voices, hair, eyes, hearing  
POWs ~ (US / Vietnam War)

♦ Abality (lose the ability to speak, etc.); balance (footing); consciousness; fertility; period; virginity; weight... (Things you can lose that are associated with the body.)

♦ "Oh, my poor man. You've lost your leg." "By God if I haven't!"

**presence & absence: possession / verb**

### lose (one's temper, etc.)

loses touch with reality  
he ~ (a schizophrenic)

lost control  
she ~ of herself (got angry)

lose courage

I didn't want to ~

lost faith  
the crewmen never ~ (that they would be rescued / sub)  
many party members have ~ in him (a politician)

lose your fear  
once you face danger over and over you ~ (mountaineering)

lost heart  
many people have ~

lose hope  
she began to ~ of ever finding her daughter  
he told the worshippers not to ~, despite...

lose interest  
students often ~ in school

lost interest  
he ~ and dropped out of school

lose their motivation  
depressed teens will ~, or become withdrawn

lost the motivation  
he has ~ to succeed

lose our nerve  
terrorists can win if we ~ and abandon our mission (Iraq)

lost his nerve  
one intended suicide bomber ~ (Casablanca)

lose patience  
newly married couples are the quickest to ~ (snoring)

lost my temper  
I ~

lose trust  
this will make people ~ in the government

lose the will  
some ~ to live (when elderly partner dies)

♦ You can lose your sense of competence; humor; purpose; success...

**feeling, emotion & effect / mental health: possession**

### lose it (mentally)

lost it then  
and that's when I guess I ~ (murdered a screaming woman)

**control & lack of control / feeling, emotion & effect / mental health: possession**

### lose out (verb)

lost out to home refrigerators  
block ice ~

**competition: sports & games / verb**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: sports & games / verb**

### loser (noun)

winners and losers

there will be ~ (the economy)  
there will be ~ (climate change)

**success & failure: sports & games**

## loss (death)

awful loss  
he siblings can hardly process this ~ (selfie accident)

**death & life: euphemism**

## lost (direction)

lost in illusions  
the expectation leaves us ~ (that history progresses)

easy to get lost  
it's ~ in the music

got lost in the murk  
I ~ of the situation

get lost in the music  
it's easy to ~

get lost in a (large) school  
a lot of kids ~ (immigrants, etc.)

got lost in a bureaucratic maze  
when her scholarship money ~...

leaves us lost  
the expectation ~ in illusions (that history progresses)

**direction: journeys & trips**

## lost (extinction)

lost with her generation  
the Blues will be ~ (the great blues singer Mary Lane)

**appearance & disappearance: death & life**

## lost (death)

lost here  
so many lives were ~ (at a concentration camp)

lost to COVID-19  
members of the community ~

lost to gun violence  
he was ~ on April 3, 2021 (murdered)

**death & life: euphemism**

## lot (lot in life, etc.)

accepted their lot  
they made no excuses and just ~ and moved on (2 boxers)

**fate, fortune & chance: gambling**

## lottery (win the lottery, etc.)

lottery  
it was not the ~ I wanted to win (bad luck)

lottery winner

he is a genetic ~ (an athlete)

academic lottery  
getting into his class is winning the ~

♦ "Defenders of the lottery sometimes cast it as a tax on the stupid."

**fate, fortune & chance / success & failure: gambling**

## loud (attention)

LOUD HAIR  
I could always count on her to have ~ (Dyshea Upshaw)

LOVELOUD Foundation  
10% of all proceeds will be donated to the ~

loudest and (most) engaged  
Kenya has one of Africa's ~ internet communities (#KoT)

♦ "Protests over raising the age of retirement continue in France. Things have gotten loud." (French crowds bang pots and pans and chant. See the Wikipedia entry at "Cacerolazo.")

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound**

## loudmouth (person)

loudmouth  
he might be a ~, but... (boxing)

bombastic loudmouths  
stop listening to the ~ on the radio, TV and internet

**character & personality: mouth / speech**

**speech: mouth / person**

## love (fall in love)

fell in love with  
they found someone that they ~ in Mac Jones (sports)

fall in love with a walrus  
to meet a walrus is to ~ (a walrus researcher)

fell in love with (big-wave) surfing  
she ~ (Maya Gabeira)

**enthusiasm: love, courtship & marriage**

## love (enthusiasm / noun)

love of baseball  
her ~ continues to this day (Wanda Fischer)

in love with birds  
what can I say, I'm ~ (a birder)

in love with this city  
I'm ~ as I guess most people are (Rome)

♦ "What can I say, I'm in love with birds." (A birder.)

♦ "To meet a walrus is to fall in love with a walrus." (A walrus researcher.)

♦ "Some people say they are awfully homely, awful bad looking, but to me... they are beautiful fish, just like a beautiful blonde." (Pat Wudtke, 73, in Wisconsin. He has speared sturgeon—living fossils—for 50 years during the state's annual season.)

**enthusiasm: love, courtship & marriage**

## love (enthusiasm / verb)

love to see people crash

people ~ (the great Mike Metzger, freestyle motocross)

love the freedom

I ~ (a re-enactor)

love maps

I ~, and when you get hooked... (W. Graham Arader III)

loved the railways

Ian has ~ since he was a child in the fifties (train spotting)

love sundials

getting people to ~ is an uphill battle (sundial enthusiast)

♦ "When I am a medieval plunderer, I can do what I want, and I love the freedom." (Pol Malfait, a 53-year-old postal clerk from Ghent, Belgium. As a medieval re-enactor, he spends the weekends pretending to be a 14th-century Flemish soldier.)

♦ "I probably loved atlases so much because the lines, the colours and the names replaced the real places that I could not visit. When I was eight... (From the wonderful little book *Atlas of Remote Islands* by Judith Schalansky.)

♦ "People love to see people crash." (The great Mike Metzger, a pioneer of freestyle motocross. He once sustained 4 concussions in two months, has broken his back 3 times, has broken his arms and legs, and lost a testicle after crashing.)

**enthusiasm: love, courtship & marriage / verb**

## love (love that dare not speak its name)

dare not speak its name

it's a policy that ~ ("windfall tax" / British politics)

dared not speak its name

a project that ~ ("nation-building" in Afghanistan)

♦ "[W]hen the then US head of Central Command David Petraeus was asked whether the US was engaged in nation building, he replied, 'We are indeed.' He added that 'I'm just not going to evade [the question] and play rhetorical games.' This was an implicit acknowledgment that rhetorical games had become almost compulsory in official parlance. The US was spending hundreds of billions of dollars on a project that dared not speak its name." ("The Lie of Nation Building" by Fintan O'Toole, *The New York Review of Books*, October 7, 2021.)

**allusion: books & reading**

**concealment & lack of concealment: allusion / books & reading**

## lover (enthusiasm / person)

lover of Greece and Greek culture

a Philhellene is a ~

lover of knowledge

he was a voracious reader and autodidact, a ~

lover of things English

an Anglophile is a ~

lover of film

a cineaste is a ~

woodie lover

one ~ explains his passion (wooden roller coasters)

yarn lovers

an event for ~ (Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival)

♦ Anglophile (lover of things English); audiophile (lover of high-fidelity sound); bibliophile (lover of books); cineaste / cinephile (lover of films); Philhellene (lover of Greece and Greek culture); herpetophile (lover of reptiles); lexophile (lover of words); oenophile (lover of wine); pagophile (an ice-dwelling organism); philosophy (lover of wisdom)... (Names of enthusiasts that incorporate various suffixes.)

**enthusiasm: love, courtship & marriage / person**

**person: love, courtship & marriage**

## love letter (noun)

love letter to South Los Angeles

the show is a ~ (HBO's *Insecure*)

love letter to Black boys

this is kind of a ~ (*Punch Me Up to the Gods*)

love letter to your childhood

what a ~ (the film *Belfast* by Kenneth Branagh)

love letter to New York City

*Deacon King Kong* is a ~ (by the great James McBride)

love letter to Kabul

a ~ by Lyse Doucet (BBC)

love letter to (classic) Hollywood

*Mank* is a ~ (the film)

love letter to the movies

this film is my ~ (Olivia Wilde / *Don't Worry Darling*)

love letter to his (soaring) spirit

*Tik, Tik...Boom!* is a ~ (Jonathan Larson)

Summer of Love love letter

"Chelsea Morning" is a ~ (Joni Mitchell / *Girls Like Us*)

cinematic love letter

for Kirsten Dunst, the film is a ~ to her children

rapped a love letter

she ~ to her immigrant mother (Ruby Ibarra of Balibayans)

sends a love letter

Los Lobos ~ to Los Angeles (*Native Sons* album)

♦ "D C-T! is an ILU to NYC." (The book by Joana Avilez and Molly Young.)

♦ "In so many ways this show feels like a love letter to a generation of women comedians who maybe weren't celebrated in their heyday as much as they should have been." (NPR's Ali Shapiro, with upspeak.)

♦ The BBC published "A love letter to Kabul" by Lyse Doucet, with Mahfouz Zubaide and Esmatullah Kohsar, photography by Paula Bronstein, in Nov 2021, not long after the US fled that country. It is a wonderful and uplifting presentation, showing life as it goes on. It shows nine wonderful places: (1) Zarghuna Girls' High School (2) Streets of Spandi (3) Sarai Shahzada money exchange market (4) Kah Faroshi bird market (5) Musicians' lane (6) Café culture (7) Babur Gardens (8) Nadir Khan Hill (9) Bibi Mahru Hill. I'd love to visit sometime!

♦ "Tiana's Bayou Adventures is a love letter to New Orleans." (Contempo-speak Disney advertising for its rebrand of Splash Mountain.)

♦ "A hate letter to Hollywood and a love letter to movies." (Director Damien Chazelle touting his 2022 film *Babylon*.)

♦ see also *ode* (praise), *love letter* (noun)

**achievement, recognition & praise: writing & spelling**

## love on (something)

loving on my coworkers  
just here ~ at @WHYYunion rally! (a tweet with picture)

love on your loved ones  
~, life is short (brother of Tytyana Miller)

♦ see also *love up (and love up on, etc.)*

**feeling, emotion & effect: prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## love up (and love up on, etc.)

love up on him  
we just want to ~ (QB Josh Allen about Damar Hamlin)

♦ "There was a big line of guys ready to love up on him." (NFL quarterback Josh Allen, about a visit to the team by Damar Hamlin.)

♦ Wiktionary has an entry. So does the Collins Dictionary.

♦ see also *love on (something)*

**feeling, emotion & effect: prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## low (low on food, etc.)

low on food  
I was ~ due to the curfew

**amount: direction / height**

## low (decline)

brought low  
he has been ~  
high-flying people ~ (celebrity scandals, etc.)

**decline: direction**  
**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction**

## low (emotion)

low  
I was unhappy, as ~ as any man could go (a boxer)

feeling (pretty) low  
I was ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / height**

## low (base, bad / adjective)

low art  
I walked past high art and ~ (New York City)

lowest form  
the story is the ~ of journalism (a *Sun* article)

low life  
he lived the ~ with tramps and gypsies in barns  
♦ "He lived the low life with tramps and gypsies in barns and the high life with barons in castles." (Patrick Leigh Fermor on his rambles in 1933.)  
♦ "I walked past high art and low art, past the theaters where famous people played to packed houses, past theaters where anonymous people played with themselves." ("In the Temple," a chapter from *All Over but the Shoutin'* by Rick Bragg.)

**behavior: direction / height**  
**admiration & contempt: direction / height**  
**superiority & inferiority: direction / height**

## low (base, bad / noun)

new low  
this is a ~, a blatant political ploy

**behavior: direction / height**  
**admiration & contempt: direction / height**

## low (lie low)

lying low  
he is ~ over fears for his safety

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / pursuit, capture & escape:**  
**animal / height / hunting / standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## lower (river, etc.)

Lower Yangtze  
this is what one might call the upper reach of the ~

**orientation: direction / height**

## lubricant (social lubricant, etc.)

social lubricant  
alcohol is a crucial ~ (Great Britain)

**amelioration & renewal: mechanism**

## Lucullan (adjective)

Lucullan feast  
at the celebration of the birth we were entertained to a ~

**amount / money: allusion**

## Lucullus (epithet)

Scottish Lucullus  
Cpt John Piper, a very unthrifty ~ (d. 1851)

**money: allusion / epithet**

## Luddite (allusion)

plenty of Luddites  
~ making comments here (airless tires)

**epithet: history / tools & technology**

## lukewarm (feeling)

lukewarm about the (coronavirus) vaccines  
they were ~ (vaccine reluctance)

lukewarm to the idea  
but back in America, the NBA was ~ (pros in Olympics)

lukewarm to Trump  
the state was ~ but has since converted

**allegiance, support & betrayal: temperature**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature**  
**eagerness & reluctance: temperature**

## lukewarm (activity)

barely above lukewarm  
the economy is really ~

**activity: temperature**

## **luminary (person)**

luminaries

where the president and other ~ sat... (graduation)

establishment luminaries

she attracted ~ to the board (Kissinger, Shultz, Mattis, etc.)

conservative luminaries

~ are rallying their troops against Obama (politics)

**person: light & dark**

**superlative: light & dark / person**

**importance & significance: light & dark / person**

**achievement, recognition & praise: light & dark / person**

## **lunch (destruction)**

became lunch

Barnes & Noble eventually ~ for Amazon

**consumption / destruction: food & drink**

## **lung (atmosphere)**

lungs of humanity

the Congo Basin acts as the ~

“Lungs of the Planet”

the Amazon Rain Forest is sometimes called the ~

lungs of Southeast Asia

it is sometimes called the ~ (Borneo and its forests)

planet's "lungs"

the Amazon is considered to be part of the ~

Mumbai's last green lung

the Aarey forest is often referred to as ~

green lungs

the Gorski Kotar region, referred to as “the ~ of Croatia”

♦ In 2019, forest fires in the Amazon caused leaders and the media to repeat the old canard that the Amazon creates 20 percent of the world's oxygen. This figure is grossly inflated, and reflects a total misunderstanding of the science involved. That's because plants not only create oxygen but use it. “The net contribution of the Amazonian ecosystem to the world's oxygen level is effectively zero.” (FactCheck.org and many other sources.)

♦ “Without the Congo Basin, the rest of the world couldn't breathe... The Congo Basin acts as the lungs of humanity. And the kidneys, too [due to its peatland capture of CO2].” (Minister Ms Soudan-Nonault, Congo-Brazzaville, seeking money from Western governments.)

**biodiversity, nature & life: atmosphere / breathing / epithet**

## **lurch (verb)**

lurched from scandal to scandal

Facebook has ~ over the past months

lurch (too far) to the left

the party should not ~ (politics)

**movement: verb / walking, running & jumping**

**control & lack of control: equilibrium & stability / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## **lure (verb)**

lured him out of the bar

they ~ and robbed him

lure listeners down (dark sonic) avenues

her songs ~ (Billie Eilish)

lured him (back) to Memphis

she ~ with sexually explicit texts and he took the bait

lured the Persian fleet into a trap

the Greeks ~ (at Salamis)

lure Diana into doing

he used deceit to ~ the interview

**attraction & repulsion: fish / hunting / verb**

**pursuit, capture & escape: fish / hunting / verb**

## **lure (noun)**

lure of the Himalayas

the ~ is still with Tomaz Humar (the great climber)

lure of (modern) conveniences

the ~, steady jobs and a cash economy (to the Inuit)

lure of the north

the ~ is hard to overcome (migrants)

lure of the (majestic) peaks

the ~ pulled him back (Montana Blackfoot)

lure of sex

he used the ~ to get athletes to his club

lure of the summit

the ~ proved stronger than a fear of death (climbing)

lure of the water

the ~ was too much (drowning incident)

lure of wealth

the ~ provides powerful incentives (capitalism)

lure of easy money

the ~ sparked a land boom (Everglades)

lure of multiple majors

at many universities, the ~ has become so strong

lure of cheap homesteads and easy money

the ~ sparked a land boom

lure of investing

for many, the ~ is the thrill of uncertain reward (stocks)

♦ What do you have if you have a Damsel Dredger, a Braided Bitch, a Crystal Rubber Bugger, a Pulsating Caddis, or a Gold Beaded Poopah? (Trout flies for fly fishing.)

♦ In the southern Appalachians, hunters will hang a ham from a tree on the crest of the ridge to lure bears to the scent. They will return to the bait with dogs, which will follow the scent of the bear. Such baiting is illegal.

**attraction & repulsion: fish / hunting**

**pursuit, capture & escape: fish / hunting**

## lurk (verb)

### lurking

if you've had a heart attack, another could be ~  
how many quakes are ~ in unknown faults  
Luan is always ~ now (Rio 2016 football final)

lurks in every direction

danger ~

lurk in every shadow

for some people, dangers ~ (anxiety)

lurking on the margins

Manchester United is ~ of the Premier League's top four

terrorism lurks

~ in small towns and rural areas (as well as cities)

**movement / presence & absence: animal / hunting /  
predation / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## lurking (lurking danger, etc.)

lurking danger

he was seized by a gut feeling of ~

**danger / presence & absence: animal / predation**

## lust (noun)

lust for gold

the word lust has wider application: ~, lust for power

*Lust for Life*

~, the film about van Gough with Kirk Douglas

lust for power

he has been described as having a ~ and money  
the word lust has wider application: lust for gold, ~

lust for travel

his restlessness, his ~ (Bruce Chatwin)

lust for war

his brutality and ~ (a Marine)

lust for power and money

he has been described as having a ~

curb their lust

politicians need to ~ for contributions

**attraction & repulsion / enthusiasm / wants, needs, hopes  
& goals: sex**

## luster (noun)

luster of (unlimited) promise

he arrived in Washington with the ~ (a politician)

lost its luster

but in the 1960s, Detroit ~

**superlative: light & dark**

## lynch (lynch mob, etc.)

see *lynch mob*

## lynched

lynched

I give you hope that can't be ~ (Rochester demonstration)

**judgment / oppression: history / violence**

## lynching (media lynching, etc.)

media lynching

he said the actor was the victim of a “~”

partisan lynching

this was just a ~ (impeachment)

illegal and unconstitutional public lynching

he will not participate in his own ~ (a fired official)

victim of a (media) lynching

his lawyer claims he is the ~

♦ “Michael Irvin analogized the controversy he's in with Marriott to a time when black men accused of harassing white women were hung [sic] from trees.” (“Michael Irvin: Woman's hotel accusations turning into modern-day lynching” by Ryan Glasspiegel, *The New York Post*, March 8, 2023.)

**judgment / oppression: history / violence**

## lynch mob

lynch mobs

Bill Cosby's wife says he was the victim of “~”

lynch mobs with pitchforks

what I call ~ (the CEO of AIG, about critics)

partisan lynch mob

informed voices were drowned out by the thunder of the ~

digital lynch mob

he accused people of forming a ~ (tech's Sean Parker)

♦ Mr. Salam: And when you have people who are trying to kind of isolate part of your statement...to hang you (chuckling), metaphorically, I think that it's really bad news for our culture. / Mr. Zirin: I think given some of the sensitivities around this, first of all, that lynch metaphors are very inappropriate... / Mr. Salam: Dave, that was a misstatement—that was a careless misstatement, and I apologize for that. / Mr. Zirin: Okay... (“Shop Talk”: Was NPR Right To Oust Juan Williams?” NPR, Tell Me More, October 22, 2010.)

♦ “[T]wo [girls]—one white, one black—who were almost exactly the same age and had both witnessed the same lynching. A real lynching, not someone's cheap metaphor... I don't know what image people have of these things to the degree that they think of them at all...” (NPR, “From Martin Luther King Jr., A Burden and Gift,” Tell Me More, Michel Martin, January 13, 2012. Blacks attended lynchings, too.)

♦ “The community is well convinced he was disloyal. The city does not miss him. The lesson of his death has had a wholesome effect on the Germanists of Collinsville [Illinois] and the rest of the nation.” (The report in a local paper on the murder of Robert Prager, a German immigrant, who was lynched in Collinsville, Illinois, now a suburb of St. Louis, on April 4, 1918. He was stripped naked and made to walk down Main Street singing patriotic songs. The drunken mob broke beer bottles at his feet, so that he walked barefoot on glass shards to the tree from which he was hanged. The mob believed him to be a German spy. Eleven men were put on trial for his murder, and all were acquitted. From “During World War I, U.S. Government Propaganda Erased German Culture,” NPR, All Things Considered, April 7, 2017.)

♦ “Hey, Mr. Cunningham. I said, ‘Hey, Mr. Cunningham’... Don't you remember me, Mr. Cunningham? I'm Jean Louise Finch. You brought us some hickory nuts one early morning. Remember? We had a talk... I go to school with your boy... He's a nice boy, tell him hey for me, won't you?” (A small girl shames a lynch mob and affects an entire generation. From the beloved novel and film *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee.)

♦ See “Tracing The Story Of ‘Lynch Mob’” by Lakshmi Gandhi, NPR, Code Switch, September 30, 2013.

**judgment / oppression: history / violence**

## M

### Machiavelli (Trump’s Machiavelli, etc.)

*Machiavelli for Women*

~: *Defend Your Worth, Grow Your Ambition...*

Trump’s Machiavelli

he essentially became ~, plotting and planning...

♦ “I mean, his life basically vanished like an Alka-Seltzer tablet.” (Guy Raz and Stacey Vanek Smith dishing about Machiavelli on NPR to promote Stacey’s book, *Machiavelli for Women: Defend your Worth, Grow Your Ambition, and Win the Workplace.*)

♦ “‘Italy,’ declared Metternich, ‘is a geographical expression.’ He spoke no more than the truth. Never in all its history had the Italian peninsula constituted a single nation; even in the days of imperial Rome it had been merely a part—and usually quite a small part—of the Roman state. Since the early Middle Ages, however—and perhaps even earlier—the concept of Italian nationhood had existed as a distant ideal: Dante and Petrarch had both dreamed of it, as later had Machiavelli.” (*The Middle Sea: A History of the Mediterranean* by the historian John Julius Norwich.)

♦ “Niccolo Machiavelli’s cool appreciation of expediency, expressed most famously in his slender book *The Prince*, has made his name a synonym for double-dealing and cynicism. And yet most modern historians who examine his life and work offer a more balanced perspective... [He] was also an Italian patriot who believed that the well-being of his countrymen could only be ensured by a strong ruler who would unify the country...” (National Geographic *Almanac of World History* by Patricia S. Daniels and Stephen G. Hyslop.)

♦ Many historical personages—such as Hector, Machiavelli, Charles A. Lindbergh, and Joe McCarthy—have been mischaracterized in the language.

**allusion: books & reading**

**behavior / character & personality / history / subterfuge: allusion / epithet**

### Machiavellian (adjective)

Machiavellian

his rags-to-riches story is amazing, but his practices are ~

Machiavellian machinations

we are deep in the weeds of ~ (politics)

the ~ of Washington politics

Machiavellian manservant

the power struggle between Tony and his ~ Hugo (a film)

Machiavellian sociopaths

challenge his notion that powerful people are all ~

Machiavellian tool

his anti-corruption campaign is a ~ to eliminate rivals

Machiavellian and ruthless

he had to be ~ (a leader)

at his most Machiavellian

Billy Bob Thornton plays a political consultant ~

♦ “‘Machiavellian’ should be a compliment and *The Prince* has in fact been an infallible guidebook followed closely by all successful leaders.” (A BBC blurb for “Niccolo Machiavelli—the Prince,” produced and directed by Clive Brill. A Pacificus production for BBC Radio 4.)

♦ Many historical personages—such as Hector, Machiavelli, Charles A. Lindbergh, and Joe McCarthy—have been mischaracterized in the language.

**character & personality / subterfuge: allusion**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

### machine (the Swiss Machine, etc.)

“Swiss Machine”

Ueli Steck, who was known as the ~, died in an accident nicknamed the ~ for his ruthlessly methodical approach

**functioning: epithet**

### machine (publicity machine, etc.)

machine

he’s a ~ (Ronaldo starts for Man U vs. Newcastle)  
the pandemic reminded us that people are not ~s (jobs)

machine of state

the great ~ always wound up mired (Colombia)

anthem machine

George M. Cohan was an ~ (songwriting)

cash machine

see *cash machine* (noun)

entertainment machine

Hollywood is an ~ constantly hungry for new talent

gaffe machine

Biden has called himself a “~” (verbal miscues)

goal machine

Lewandowski, their Polish ~ (Bayern Munich)  
even ~s need a rest (Erling Haaland substituted)  
City ~ Haaland was outstanding throughout...

intelligence machine

we need to have a robust ~ to keep us safe

meat machines

stop treating animals like ~ (factory farms)

social-media machine

that’s when the ~ starts, you can’t do anything about it  
(racist abuse of soccer player)

money machine

it’s a ~ for the owners, not the fans (Man U)

policy machine

she’s the ~ who can fix it (candidate Elizabeth Warren)

propaganda machine

the ~ has helped keep in in power (state media)

publicity machine

as the ~ rolled forward (for a film)  
generally, she played her part in the ~ (Hollywood gossip)  
the ~ that is Kim Kardashian

Scream Machine  
we kayaked ~ (Green River Gorge North Carolina)

war machine  
factory workers for the ~  
the diamond trade fuels the ~ (Angola)

stolen-base machine  
he was a ~ (Lou “the Base Burglar” Brock)

well-oiled machine  
the team is a ~ (sports)  
his administration is not a ~ (politics)  
everybody is working as a team, we’re a ~ (volleyball)

well-oiled (propaganda) machine  
Isis has a ~

well-run machine  
it was a ~ (the TV series *Law & Order*)

killing machine  
the hydraulic below a dam is a ~ (kayaking, swimmers)  
the crocodile is an efficient ~  
when let outside, the typical house cat turns into a ~

marketing machine  
the league's ~ (N.B.A.)  
they are a ~ (the Dallas Cowboys, to include boxing)

winning machine  
they were a brilliantly managed half-season ~ (Chelsea)  
they are a ~ (the Azzurri / Italian national soccer team)

resentment-generating machine  
the modern meritocracy is a ~ (David Brooks)

fantasy-making machine  
Hollywood, the greatest ~ the world has ever known

money-making machine  
he was once a ~ worth \$400 million (a boxer)  
the big teams are enormous ~s (soccer / EPL 2021)  
Disney is a ~ that follows formulas based on past success

great machine  
imagine the US military and its diplomatic corps as a ~

medical machine  
I had always felt I was an important cog in the ~ (infection)

political machine  
a powerful black ~ based in Harlem

robust (intelligence) machine  
we need to have a ~ to keep us safe

ruthless machine  
Liverpool are a ~ (Liverpool 5 Manchester United 0)

cog in the machine  
see *cog (cog in the machine, etc.)*

part of a (Democratic) machine  
he was ~ that won year after year (a political figure)

machine hums along  
that ~ despite a record of failure (US military)

became a (recording) machine  
I started just taking notes, I ~ (Hamill at RFK assassination)

creates a machine  
he ~ and the players are just cogs (soccer manager)

keep the machine running  
they ~ no matter who’s in charge (national-security)

♦ “I’m part of a machine that always wins.” (A Marine captain in Marjah, Afghanistan, 2010.)

♦ “Really the most depressing thing to me is if you imagine the US military and its diplomatic corps as kind of a great machine that is supposed to be kind of dynamic and alive and processing information and correcting course and changing course when it needs to, the thing could never change...” (“Dexter Filkins on the Fall of Afghanistan,” *The New Yorker Radio Hour*.)

♦ “As the war machine keeps turning...” (“War Pigs,” Black Sabbath, Olympia Theater, Paris, 1970. Lots of locs-waving and teeth-clenching.)

♦ watch for the hate and disrespect machine to rev up the attacks (Politics.)

♦ “With victory secured, [Erling] Haaland was replaced by Cole Palmer at half-time—even goal machines need a rest...” (Soccer.)

♦ “Haaland is a beast, he is a goalscoring machine, he lives and breathes goals.” (Alan Shearer about Erling Haaland, one in a great line of exceptional Norwegians.)

♦ see also *cog (cog in the machine, etc.)*

**creation & transformation / functioning / operation:**  
**mechanism**

**machine (sex machine)**

sex machine  
I told them he was a ~ (my boyfriend)

**sex: mechanism**

**machinery (government, etc.)**

machinery of law enforcement  
the ~

machinery of government  
the Party, the ~, and the nation are one (China)

machinery of society  
the ~ in its dehumanized extensions (bailiffs, bankers, etc.)

machinery around her  
the ~ only grew (Britney Spears)

machinery of the state  
the ~ is engaged in the suppression of...

machinery of state  
I relish being a tiny cog in the massive ~ (Swiss voter)

cog in the machinery  
he was a fossilized bureaucrat, a ~ for decades

machinery is set in motion  
the infernal plot ~ when they receive a letter (*Is God Is*)

set the (state’s) machinery in motion  
she was able to ~ but couldn’t stop or direct it (rights)

set its machinery going  
we hit upon a scheme that promised well, and ~ (subterfuge)

**functioning / operation: government / mechanism**

## mad (crazy)

mad scramble

organizers start the ~ to... (international festival)

baseball-mad

the crowd of ~ Habaneros (Cuba)

business-mad

Hanoi is brash and ~

celebrity-mad

a ~ world

football-mad

~ F.S.U.

hockey-mad

in ~ Canada

soccer mad

Turks are ~

status-mad

~ consumers

totally mad

it's mad, ~ (running with bulls at Pamplona)

♦ For mad used as an adverb, see crazy (and mad / as adverbs)

**enthusiasm: health & medicine / mental health**

## made of (character)

what AJ is made of

we now need to find out ~ (the boxer after upset loss)

**character & personality: materials & substances**

## Madeleine McCann (Ireland's Madeleine McCann, etc.)

Ireland's Madeleine McCann

the mystery of "~" ("Disappearance of Mary Boyle")

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## made man (experience)

made men

these were ~ (NBA veterans vs. rookies / sports talk)

♦ A "made man" refers to the Mafia. The epithet "OG," which stands for "Original Gangster," seems similar. Both refer to experience, authority, authenticity, power, and intimidation. In the NBA, some players wield more authority than coaches or even general managers.)

**character & personality / experience: crime**

## madhouse (place)

madhouse

it's a ~ there (a crisis situation)

**environment: mental health**

## madness (enthusiasm)

March Madness

college basketball fans look forward to ~

**enthusiasm: health & medicine / mental health**

## Madonna (Russian Madonna, etc.)

Russian Madonna

pop star Alla Pugacheva, who is basically the ~

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## maelstrom (in a maelstrom)

in a maelstrom of (negative) attention

he has found himself ~ (an athlete)

**amount & effect: sea**

## maelstrom (other)

swept up in this maelstrom

savings are ~ (electronic stock exchanges)

**amount & effect: sea**

## maestro (person)

living legends, phenoms, maestros

they are ~ (DeNiro and Scorsese)

**ability & lack of ability: music / person**

**person: music**

## mafia (group)

Stanford mafia

there's a bit of a ~ within the organization (NFL 49ers)

♦ "When I say *Mafia*, I mean what most people see in the word: people who take over control but never let anyone have an inside look at what they are doing." (The great Terje Haakonsen, after comparing the International Olympic Committee to the Mafia.)

**group, set & collection: crime**

## magic (versus reality)

magic

decisions must be based on science, not ~

magic versus science, evidence and data

his policy is ~ (public-health crisis)

**fantasy & reality: magic**

## magic (magic bullet, etc.)

magic bullet

nothing yet has proved a ~ (against oak-killing spore)

magic cure

there is no ~ (for kid fire-setting behavior)

magic formula

there is no ~, but try... (predicting NCAA winner)

we don't have a ~ for predicting wildfires

magic wand

I wish I could wave a ~ and make it all better

there's no ~ (to fix aging Chicago El system)

you can't just wave a ~ and reopen the economy (pandemic)

magic word

the ~s are "please," "thank you" (adult to 3-year-old)  
there are no ~s to motivate every student (a teacher)  
"I want to speak to a supervisor" can be ~s (disputes)  
STEM was a ~ (in education / "pedagogical vapor")

works its magic

the digital effects team ~ (on a commercial)

**amelioration & renewal: magic / sign, signal, symbol**

## magic (Magic Kingdom, etc.)

Magic Dragon

their classic hit, "Puff, the ~"

Magic Kingdom

smiling faces at the ~ (Disney)

Magic Slate

paper and pencils, ~s, communication boards

**proper name: magic**

## magic (magic moment, etc.)

magic from Messi

Argentina are ahead, ~ (Qatar FIFA World Cup)

magic moment

that ~ when you feel the team spirit coming together

**feeling, emotion & effect: magic**

## magic (trail magic, etc.)

trail magic

we experienced a lot of ~ (on AT Trail / trail angels)

**fate, fortune & chance: magic**

**help & assistance: magic**

## magic (effect)

magic spell

80 types of weapons and a dozen ~s (computer game)

magic mushrooms

amphetamines, LSD, ~, amyl nitrate and Ecstasy

**feeling, emotion & effect: magic**

## magical (effect)

magical

the effect was ~ (a new drug)

it's absolutely magical (data from migrating birds)

magical part

the ~ of backcountry skiing is getting away from people

**feeling, emotion & effect: magic**

## magical (versus reality)

magical

this isn't ~, this is scientific (public-health debate)

magical shortcut

joining the military should not be a ~ to hero status

**fantasy & reality: magic**

## magic up (verb)

magic up 30,000 casual workers

the idea that you can ~ is laughable (the economy)

♦ **magic up (magics up) / magicked up / magicked up... (Confusing!)**

**creation & transformation / appearance & disappearance: magic**

## Maginot Line

Maginot Line between two (warring) worlds

14th Street was the ~ (Manhattan theater world)

**allusion: military**

**division & connection: allusion / history / military**

## magisterial (adjective)

magisterial

a biography, even one as ~ as this one...

magisterial *The Wind and the Lion*

John Milius's ~ (film)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: government**

## magnet (attraction)

magnet for Muslims

Makkah is a ~ (Hajj)

magnets for beggars

mosques are ~ (Harar / end of Hajj)

magnet for business

they want to make it once again a ~ (lower Manhattan)

magnet for (political) candidates

state fairs are a ~

magnet for controversy

a ~, he riled people up... (an artist)

he is a ~ (the footballer Paul Pogba)

magnet for (illegal) immigrants

Fairfax County is a ~

magnet for immigration

New York is a ~

magnet for (foreign) investment

tourism has been a ~ (Burma)

magnet for (music) lovers

Nashville is a ~ (live music, museums, etc.)

magnet for (illegal) migrants

the border village is a ~ (Las Chapas)

magnet for (committed) militants

Karachi is a ~

magnet for Muslims

Makkah is a ~ (Islam and Saudi Arabia)

magnet for people

it isn't much of a ~ who want to meet people (a town)

magnet for politicians  
the convention is a ~ and businessmen (Davos)

magnet for (sexual) predators  
Webcams are a ~

magnet for (slave) raiders  
the area is a ~ (Sudan)

magnet for retirees  
Western North Carolina is a ~

magnet for sharks  
the seals are a ~

magnet for students  
Dr. Chamberlain was a ~ (approachable, etc.)

magnet for tourists  
St Mark's Square is a ~ (Venice)

magnet for transients  
the city has become a ~ from around the West

magnet for westerners  
it's a ~ seeking large tax-free salaries (Saudi Arabia)

magnet for artists and tourists  
Santa Fe is a ~

magnets for the drunk and the unruly  
they are ~ (urban liquor markets)

magnets for pickpockets, shoplifters, and muggers  
shopping districts are ~

magnet for (avid) rock climbers  
Looking Glass Rock is a ~ (NC)

magnet for music lovers  
Nashville is a ~ (live music, museums, etc.)

magnet for sex offenders  
the area has become a ~ upon their release from prison

magnet for gold prospectors  
the area was a ~

magnet for sexual predators  
Web cams are a ~

magnet for the eating-disordered  
running is a ~

magnet for its legions of poor  
Karachi is a ~ (Pakistan)

magnet school  
~s induce kids to schools outside their neighborhoods

magnet and amenity  
waterfronts are a ~ for downtown development

fun magnet  
the pristine Santa Paula creek is a ~ in the summer

immigrant magnet

~s like California

job magnet  
the bad economy took away the ~ pulling people here

media magnet  
the case has become a ~

suicide magnet  
the viaduct has a morbid reputation as a ~ (Toronto)  
The Gap has a reputation as a ~ (Sydney)  
the Fall Creek Gorge is a ~ (Cornell University)

tourist magnet  
Bali has been a ~

bad luck magnet  
he is a ~

social magnets  
taco trucks, cultural icons and ~ in Mexico (and US)

become a magnet  
South Beach has ~ for crime and disorder (Miami)

#### attraction & repulsion: tools & technology

### magnetic (adjective)

emotionally magnetic  
the idea of our decline is ~

extraordinarily magnetic  
he is an ~ camera subject

#### attraction & repulsion: tools & technology

#### comparison & contrast: affix

### magnetism (noun)

personal magnetism  
Amundsen had the ~ that is the hallmark of great leaders

share a deep magnetism  
Bogarde and Rampling ~ (*The Night Porter*)

#### attraction & repulsion: tools & technology

### magnifying glass (under...)

under the magnifying glass  
Amazon is ~ in several probes in the U.S. and Europe

under the magnifying glass right now  
the social problems that are ~

put us under the magnifying glass  
another death would ~ (NASCAR)

#### attention, scrutiny & promotion: tools & technology

### magnifying glass (search)

holding a magnifying glass to those gaps  
the economic crisis is ~ (job losses / people of color)

♦ "Well, to be fair—12-year-old Cayden Parson of McKinney, Texas said he was technically trying to use his new Christmas present to set the newspaper on fire. The lawn was just an innocent bystander." ("Texas Kid Immediately Uses Christmas Present To Set Fire To His Family's Lawn," Tara Holley, KNUE 101.5, December 28, 2021.)

**searching & discovery: sign, signal, symbol / tools & technology**

## magpie (bird)

magpie's curiosity

his ~... (the writer Patrick Leigh Fermor)

magpie's nest

her mind was a ~ of knowledge

♦ "Murphy...was a brilliant talker... [H]er mind, a magpie's nest of knowledge, connected people to ideas and ideas to sweeping philosophies." (Esther Murphy. From "Clock's Ticking" by Rachel Syme, *The New Yorker*, July 5, 2021.)

**behavior / person: animal / bird**

## maiden (adjective)

maiden venture

it was not the group's ~ into Pakistan

maiden voyage

HMS *Queen Elizabeth* set sail for the US on its ~

maiden win

his solo break paved the way for his ~ (Tour de France)

**experience: love, courtship & marriage / sex**

## main course (and main dish)

main course

this is just the appetizer, the ~ will come (battle)

♦ "Here [in Marble Canyon] the men started to grow restless: the trip was taking too long and was bruising, cold, and dangerous. Major Powell, they complained, was interested only in science—in taking observations, in collecting, in writing. He seemed less concerned with getting the team down to calm waters, to safety, and to home. / There were mutinous rumblings, and they were scarcely mitigated when their leader realized—and promptly told his men—that it was going to get worse and take still longer. For with the cliffs fast rising around them and the outflow of a known river named by the old conquistador explorers the Colorado Chiquita bursting in on their left side, it was clear that the main part of the huge cleft, the hitherto untraveled Big Canyon, as it was then vaguely known—lay now directly in front of them. What had gone before were mere hors d'oeuvres. The main dish lay just ahead. / 'We are three quarters of a mile in the depths of the earth,' Powell would later write in his diary." (*The Men Who United The States* by Simon Winchester.)

♦ "There's one of your Whigs for ye!" cried Alan; and then turning to me, he asked if I had done much execution. / I told him I had winged one, and thought it was the captain. / "And I've settled two," says he. "No, there's not enough blood let; they'll be back again. To your watch, David. This was but a dram before meat." ("Siege of the Round-House" from *Kidnapped* by Robert Louis Stevenson.)

**development: food & drink**

## mainstay (noun)

mainstay of (gossip) columns

sex is a ~

mainstay of the (bear's) diet

acorns and other mast is the ~

mainstay of the economy

agriculture is the ~ (Pakistan)

mainstay of (Uzbekistan's) economy

cotton is the ~

mainstay of (burn) management

antibiotics are a ~

mainstay for the national side

Raheem Sterling has been a ~ since his debut (soccer)

economic mainstay

trafficking of opium and heroin is Afghanistan's ~

♦ A mainstay is an important rope on a sailing ship that serves to support and stabilize.

**bases: boat**

## mainstream (society)

mainstream

his ideas about diet and health have entered the ~

mainstream of (city) life

remote from the ~

mainstream artists

such ~ as the Chieftains

mainstream audiences

getting short films to ~

mainstream conventions

Ismailis ignore some of the ~ of Islam

mainstream culture

~ and drug culture

mainstream icons

Net culture prides itself on scoffing at ~

mainstream media

the ~ is often accused of liberal bias

nobody in the ~ will touch this

mainstream medicine

a religious sect that rejects ~

mainstream popularity

the brief ~ of folk music

mainstream (Saudi) view

the ~ on social issues (women in sports, etc.)

mainstream thinking

it seeped into ~

mainstream and alternative

he straddled the worlds of ~ medicine

underground and the mainstream

he is stuck between the ~ (a snowboarder)

outside the (medical) mainstream

his approach lies ~ (controversial treatment)

from the fringes into the mainstream

social media can push conspiracies ~

entered the mainstream

his ideas about diet and health have ~

join the mainstream

children of immigrants will ~

society: center & periphery / river

center & periphery: river / society

## **maintenance (high maintenance, etc.)**

high-maintenance

Carly is ~, a very complicated person (relationships)

difficulty, easiness & effort: mechanism

## **major league (success)**

major league

his journey from the streets to the ~ (a rapper)

success & failure: baseball / sports & games

## **make (create)**

make Marines

it's essential to ~ (recruitment and training)

makes me

I don't make music, music ~ (Skilyr Hicks)

creation & transformation: manufacturing

## **make (make of something)**

make of the (Trump administration's) decision

what do you ~

make of it

so what did you ~

make of this

what do you ~

make of (all) this

so what do Americans ~ (NPR analysis)

analysis, interpretation & explanation: verb

## **make-believe (noun)**

air of make-believe

diplomacy can have an ~ (protocol, etc.)

fantasy & reality: magic

## **make-believe (adjective)**

make-believe world

I lived in a ~ that afforded me great comfort (abused)

fantasy & reality: magic

## **make it (didn't make it)**

did not make it

unfortunately, she ~ (girl died after being stabbed)

death & life: euphemism

## **make up (verb)**

made the whole story up

police are investigating whether he ~ (hate crime allegation)

creation & transformation: prep, adv, adj, particle / verb

## **making (creation)**

making and unmaking

the book describes her ~ (Elizabeth Holmes)

creation & transformation: manufacturing

## **malaise (decline)**

malaise speech

it became known as the ~ (Jimmy Carter / 1979)

capitalism's malaise

remedies for ~

American malaise

American exceptionalism in a time of ~

current malaise

United's ~ will not continue indefinitely (soccer team)

economic malaise

the country's ~

state of malaise

across the globe, democracy is in a ~

condition & status: health & medicine

## **malfunction (verb)**

malfunctioned and look muddled

he picked a team that ~ (Champions League final)

failure, accident & impairment / functioning: mechanism / verb

## **malignant (adjective)**

malignant (management) style

nobody can refine his ~

affliction / corruption / growth & development: health & medicine

## **malpractice (noun)**

malpractice

the diagnosis is wrong, and the prescription is ~

foreign-policy malpractice

this qualifies as ~ (politics)

failure, accident & impairment: health & medicine

## **mama's boy (and mummy's boy, etc.)**

mama's boy

the term ~ is widely viewed as an emasculating insult

Mummy's boy

~ Joshua never had any real talent, time to retire (boxing)

♦ "Mama's boy' is a flex, not an insult." (According to NPR's Neda Ulaby. Neda is a lesbian.)

♦ "Mummy's boy Joshua has finally realised he's not any deal at all, never mind the real deal." (A comment following Joshua's bizarre antics following his second loss to Oleksandr Usyk. This seems to be a nod to the great boxer Evander "the Real Deal" Holyfield.)

♦ "Really tricky situation, FA, Prem and FIFA only had 12 years to prepare. You do wonder who ties shoelaces for those in charge." (A

sarcastic commenter about “tired, overworked” soccer players and the Qatar World Cup.)

♦ “Bleating millionaire wimps. How about grow a pair.” (An online commenter about “tired, overworked” soccer players and the Qatar World Cup.)

♦ “Brilliant performance by Brighton, I know it was only Liverpool, but you can only spank what’s in front of you.” (Sureditch on a BBC HYS. 1056 thumbs up.)

♦ “Ya’ll is mama’s boys. And you don’t knowing nothing about me and women. Excuse me!” (The character of David Ruffin in *The Temptations: Season 1*.)

♦ Man up! Grow a pair!

♦ see also *apron strings*; *baby (insult)*, *brat (insult)*, *child (spoiled child, etc.)*, *crybaby (person)*

**growth & development: life span**

**behavior / character & personality / insult / person: baby**

## **mammoth (size)**

mammoth job

the heavy burden of this ~ (Man U manager)

mammoth task

the researchers gave them a ~ (students)

**size: animal**

## **man (the man / approving)**

the man

and Michael was ~ (Bill Russell about Michael Jordan)

♦ “And so, when Michael starts wearing longer shorts, and Michael was [dramatic pause] “the Man,” and so, everybody started [inaudible], ‘Hey, if Michael’s wearing them, it’s good enough for him, that works for him, baby, I’ll try it, might help!’ And so all these guys are getting longer and longer shorts.” (Bill Russell, the NBA great, schooling Terry Gross on how the tight short shorts of Larry Bird’s NBA gave way to the longer, looser shorts of today.)

**superlative: person**

## **man (the man / oppression)**

fight the man

she is ready to ~ against this injustice

Fight The Man

“Underground Musicians ~ In Tehran” (Mark Jenkins)

fighting the man

Black characters facing urban decay, crime and ~ (films)

stick it to the man

I’m as happy as the next Negro to ~

stick it to The Man

employees try to ~

stick-it-to-the-man

this anti-financial elite, ~ ethos in contemporary US society

♦ Frankie: Miss Mullins, you’re the man. / Miss Mullins: Thank you, Frankie. (Frankie and the kids snicker. From the great film *School of Rock*.)

♦ “Oh, look at them. They’re terminal. Every last one of them... It’s a rare blood disease. Stick-it-to-da-man-i-osis.” (From the great film *School of Rock*.)

♦ “Cause if I was a man, then I’d be the man...” Taylor Swift—The Man (official video) On YouTube

♦ “What’s that? You’re desperate to support fearless journalism, independent from **THE MAN**?... Support *The Guardian* for as little as one pound / Euro / dollar...” (A cute 3-panel cartoon at The Guardian.)

♦ “Don’t let the man get you down.”

**oppression: person**

## **man (big man, little man, etc.)**

hatchet man

see *hatchet man (person)*

made man

see *made man (experience)*

bad man

this is a ~ who needs to be captured (Oregon police)

big man

he was a ~ in the mob (Boston)

great men

~ get great praise, little men nothing (military history)

hard man

see *hard man (character)*

little man

it’s the ~ who does the courageous thing

Homer Stokes, servant of the ~ (a politician)

little men

great men get great praise, ~ nothing (military history)

strong men

~ like Trump, Duterte, Chavez, Fujimori (leaders)

~ use populism and charisma to rule with an iron fist

yes man

he was a ~ (an employee, to his boss)

yes-man

he was perceived by some of his colleagues as a ~

he was a ~ who did his boss’s bidding

angry black man

I am not an ~ trying to argue with America about...

his suit alleges he was cast as the “~” (NFL)

quiet little man

the ~ has more guts and courage...

♦ “I’ve always found out the quiet little man that nobody pays any attention to usually has more guts and courage than the big blowhard, the big outspoken fellow... It’s the little man who does the courageous thing.” (The filmmaker John Ford.)

♦ “Sure, I know the type, he don’t rile easily, but when he blows, look out.” (YouTube, “Gomer Pyle Learns a Bully”.)

♦ see also *boy, guy (good guy, etc.)*, *Mister (and Mr., Missus, Mrs.)*

**importance & significance: person / size**

**characterization: person**

## **manacle (noun)**

loosen (Germany’s) manacles

Hollande wants to ~ of austerity (economics)

puts manacles on the media

this judgment, in its widest context, ~ (the *Mail*)

**constraint & lack of constraint: crime**

## mandible (noun)

upper mandible

North Head, the ~ of the harbor (Sydney)

**orientation / resemblance / shape: mouth**

## maneater (female)

flirter or maneater

I'm not a ~ (single girl after married husbands of friends)

♦ "The call of a tigress in search of a mate cannot be described in words."

**person: animal / predation**

**sex: animal / person / predation**

**character & personality: animal / person / predation**

## maneuvering (strategy)

backstage maneuvering

there has been a lot of ~ (diplomacy)

political maneuvering

the ~ started immediately

**position, policy & negotiation / strategy: movement**

## Manhattan Project

Manhattan Project for autism

Gardner has dreamed of a sort of ~

company's Manhattan Project

he called it the ~ (Monsanto's roundup-resistant plants)

new Manhattan Project

he's calling it a ~ for clean energy

**allusion: military**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: allusion / history / military**

## mania (noun)

mania for quantification

this ~ was in Bezos' heart (Amazon)

"Automania"

MOMA opens ~, a show about the legacy of the auto

docu-mania

the pandemic has accelerated ~ (crime, headlines, etc.)

self-improvement mania

the ~ is sweeping the country

Serena-Mania

~ has gone beyond reason (her narcissism, poor loser, etc.)

Internet retail mania

the rising tide of the ~

♦ "For every mania there comes a payback time." (Booms and bubbles.)

**behavior: health & medicine / mental health**

**mental health: health & medicine**

## maniac (Hulkamaniac, etc.)

maniac observer

Leeuwenhoek was a ~ (the microscopist)

Beatlemaniacs

~ besieged the hotel

Broadway maniacs

for ~, this show is a must-see (TV)

Hulkamaniac

~s loved the show

♦ "Are these motherfuckers what all the people are screaming about? My dog plays drums better than that kid with the big nose." (The great boxer Sonny Liston at a Beatles' concert. From *King of the World* by David Remnick.)

♦ Fans of Mariah Carey are "lambs," part of the "Lambily," or "Lamb family."

**person: health & medicine / mental health**

**enthusiasm: affix / health & medicine / mental health / person**

## Manichean (adjective)

Manichean struggle

a ~ between democracy and autocracy (vs. co-existence)

**conflict: light & dark / religion**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## manicured

manicured view

his show presents a ~ of a controversial man

**appearance & reality: finger**

## manifesto (noun)

manifesto for targeting violence

his book is a ~ (*Bleeding Out*)

her manifesto

*Lean In*, ~ encouraging women to...

**message: books & reading**

## mantle (noun)

mantle

its ~ was taken away (a champion tree)

mantle of religion

blasphemy laws are cloaked in the ~

mantle of his office

he still seems to be adjusting to the ~ (district attorney)

mantle of the presidency

he is set to ~ (leader)

mantle of a prophet

he increasingly adopted the ~

antiimmigration mantle

he has taken on the ~ (a political leader)

feminist mantle

she has laid claim to the ~

maverick mantle  
she wears the ~ (a politician)

progressive mantle  
he took up the ~ in the nominating process (Bernie Sanders)

mantle fell on him  
the ~ (job responsibility)

assume the mantle  
now that Pavarotti is dead, who will ~ (opera)

cast off the mantle  
Klopp can now ~ (of a loser in soccer finals)

claimed his mantle  
the new party has ~ (politics)

given up the mantle  
women have ~ of being defined by their husbands

inherited his mantle  
she ~ (politics)

invoke the (respectable) mantle  
they ~ of originalism, but... (constitutional law)

laid claim to the feminist mantle  
she has ~

picked up the mantle  
the group ~ (fan club for dead celebrity)

seize the mantle  
she sought to ~ of economic competence from... (politics)

shake off the mantle  
they want to ~ of tradition (artists)

taken up their mantle  
he has ~ (politician and an issue)

wrapped itself in the mantle  
the group has ~ of the civil rights struggle (SPLC)

♦ A mantle was a cloak.

**representation / role: clothing & accessories**  
**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: clothing & accessories**

## mantra (message)

mantra  
the ~ was trade not conquest (British East India Company)

mantra of American rage  
the ~ (I'm mad as hell and I'm not going to take it anymore)

mantra in the computer world  
"innovate or die," long the ~

mantra (we all learn) in nursing school  
the ~ is, "If it isn't charted, it isn't done"

Toyota mantra  
in the ~, quality was always first

cherished mantras  
"We must fix poverty" is one of the most ~ in education

familiar mantra  
"16 shots and a cover-up" became a ~ (Chicago police)

"hope and change" mantra  
the ~ that propelled Obama to the presidency

**message / repetition: religion**

## manufacture (verb)

manufactures good news  
the Public Information Office mainly ~ (military)

manufacture outrage  
they ~ and scream and holler like it's the end of the world

♦ "People feel if somebody makes a mistake anymore on an elected body that you need to manufacture outrage and scream and holler and carry on like it's the end of the world." ("Gun provocation reveals tensions in Michigan tourist haven" by John Flesher, AP, Feb 22, 2021.)

**creation & transformation: manufacturing / verb**

## manufactured

manufactured  
they argue that the controversy is ~ (Critical Race Theory)

manufactured term  
BIPOC is another ~ (like Latinx, cisgender, etc.)

manufactured or exaggerated  
their stories were ~ (sex-abuse accusers)

how manufactured  
how ~ it really is (porn videos)

**creation & transformation: manufacturing**

## man up (verb)

man up  
it was time for me to ~

♦ "I had to humble down and realize I'm flawed." (The actor Will Smith.)

**responsibility: direction / verb**

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: direction / verb**

## map (on the map)

on the map  
the village is ~ again (presidential visit)

on the streetfood map  
the Philly cheese steak put the city ~

on the financial map  
he put Bank of America and Charlotte ~

on the literary map  
he helped put the review ~

put Los Angeles on the (art) map  
he helped ~ (a sculptor)

put Chicago on the map  
he ~ (Michael Jordan according to Barack Obama)

put this issue on the map

New York City has ~ (voting rights for immigrants)

**consciousness & awareness: map**

**location / place / presence & absence: map**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: map**

## map (drop off the map, etc.)

drop off the map

the Grenadines are an ideal place to ~

fall off the map

you see teams that ~ after losing (NBA)

fell off the map

he turned off his phone and ~ shortly thereafter (suicide)

**consciousness & awareness: map / verb**

**appearance & disappearance: map / verb**

**location / place / presence & absence: map / verb**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: map / verb**

## map (all over the map, etc.)

just all over the map

ideologically, he's ~ (a politician)

♦ "He's all over the map, you can't pin him down..."

**location: map**

## marathon (effort and time)

marathon meeting

gearing up for a ~ next week (city government)

marathon (public) speeches

during his ~

marathon, not a sprint

tackling the virus is a ~ (coronavirus pandemic)

emotional marathon

we have been running an ~ this past year (COVID)

**difficulty, easiness & effort / time: distance / sports & games / walking, running & jumping**

## marble (marbles)

got all his marbles

he's still ~ (a 100-year-old man in Khabarovsk)

♦ Language from the game of marbles includes: all the marbles; lose one's marbles; knuckle down; and play for keeps.

**functioning: sports & games**

## marbled

marbled with orchards

the community is ~

marbled polecat

the Arabic name for the ~ means "stinky"

♦ Animals might be banded, dappled, marbled, mottled, ringed, speckled, spotted, stippled, striped, and even spectacled!

**configuration: materials & substances**

## march (together, etc.)

march in lockstep

climate and carbon dioxide clearly ~ (ice cores)

**relationship / unanimity & consensus: military / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## march (move)

marching east

and in the West, a new storm system is ~

marching through the world's banana-growing countries

TR4 is ~ (a fungus)

marched (through the season) undefeated

the team ~ (but lost the championship game)

**movement: military / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## march (march ahead, etc.)

marching ahead

the science is ~ (genetic tests)

marching forward

the bill is ~ (politics)

♦ Mara Liasson, national political correspondent for NPR: "The bill is marching forward, or stumbling forward, depending on your favorite metaphor, and it has bipartisan..." / Lulu Garcia-Navarro (interrupting suddenly): "Dancing forward." / Mara Liasson: "Dancing forward, right, cha-cha-cha, it has bipartisan support but..." (Odd repartee on NPR.)

♦ Dallas Cow: Fantastic result for Villareal, simply incredible. Hard to believe that they just knocked out Bayern Munich. The yellow submarine goes marching on. / Chris: Sailing on? / Shaid: Submarines don't have sails. / The Spin Doctor: "Sailing" is something submarines do whether or not they are on the surface. / Rellis: being pedantic but the US navy calls the conning tower a "sail" / Liverpoolblackcaps: Propelling along? (A BBC HYS thread that went on far too long. Villareal is nicknamed the Yellow Submarine, for their all yellow uniforms.)

**force / progress & lack of progress / starting, going, continuing & ending: direction / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## march (March of Time, etc.)

March of Time

the ~ was a series of short films (1935-1951)

**time: movement / walking, running & jumping**

## march (on the march)

on the march

Bolshevism was ~, Lenin was in Moscow (revolution)

**driving force / progress & lack of progress: military / movement / walking, running & jumping**

## march (noun)

march of civilization

the ~ cannot be stopped (British in Afghanistan)

he started the ~ (Kamehameha)

march of globalization

the inexorable ~

march of COVID-19  
the lethal ~ has passed 100,000 deaths in the US

march towards majority rule  
rugby's starring role in the ~ (South Africa)

inexorable march  
the ~ of globalization

slow Biden's march  
the debate was his last chance to ~ (election)

**driving force / progress & lack of progress: military /  
movement / walking, running & jumping**

## **marching orders**

marching orders  
his ~ were to bring discipline to the staff

marching orders for the black electorate  
the ~ were now clear (vote for Grant)

marching orders from the White House  
they are getting their ~ (NSA / CIA)

takes his marching orders  
he ~ from liberal hypocrites (politics)

♦ "Even though winter doesn't slip away until next weekend, time has its marching orders." (The US adjusts its clocks. "Spring ahead, fall back.")

**work & duty: military**

## **Marco Polo (Muslim Marco Polo, etc.)**

Marco Polo of the Arab world  
Ibn Battuta, the ~

Muslim Marco Polo  
his popular chronicle made him a kind of ~ (Ibn Battuta)

**history: epithet**

## **margin (on the margins)**

on the margins  
boxing has long been a social staircase for those ~

live on the margins  
they ~, where things often go wrong (justice system)

♦ "The celebration of the margins—black bodies in motion, women's voices centered, black queer voices centered—is what ultimately vanquishes the state, represented by a NOPD car." ("We Slay, Part 1" by Zandria F. Robinson @ New South Negress about Beyonce's "Formation.")

♦ "Boxing exists on the margins of decency."

**society: center & periphery**

## **marginalization (groups)**

marginalization  
their ~ is due to naked discrimination

marginalization of First Nations people  
the ~ (musician Joanne Shenandoah)

marginalization by the (country's ruling) elites  
~ (the Mayan communities of Guatemala)

marginalization and discrimination  
~ (queer gender-fluid Black woman Lola Flash)

LGBTQ marginalization  
talking about ~ in conversations...

racist marginalization  
no action was taken to curb the ~ (Dr. Vanessa Toolsie)

social marginalization  
Juan Crow, a similar form of ~ as Jim Crow

socioeconomic and political marginalization  
~ (U.N. Rights Chief says reparations are needed)

homophobia, poverty, racism, marginalization  
the show deals with issues like ~

stigma, marginalization and discrimination  
~ against the communities hit hardest (monkeypox)

fight (alleged) marginalization  
English speakers ~ (Cameroon)

♦ see also *ization (marginalization, etc.)*

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## **marginalize (groups)**

marginalize Black art  
the forces that ~ (*Black Art: In the Absence of Light*)

marginalizes LGBTQ individuals  
the term "traditional marriage" ~

marginalized gay people  
the church has consistently ~ in the course of its history

♦ "Around the world today, the powerful 'feed upon the powerless' and too many people are treated as 'consumer goods to be used and then discarded,' Pope Francis writes in his first major paper..." ("Pope Slams 'Disposable' Culture That Marginalizes Many" by Mark Memmott, NPR, The Two-Way, November 26, 2013.)

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection / verb**

## **marginalized (groups)**

marginalized  
the Pope said religion was being ~

marginalized backgrounds  
NPR is hemorrhaging hosts from ~

marginalized communities  
~ are in competition for the tiny allotment of space...

marginalized hero  
a gay white man as a ~ is a harder sell (publishing)

marginalised identities  
a non-binary person at the intersection of multiple ~

marginalised voices  
~ are telling stories that need to be heard  
she became a music journalist to platform ~

marginalized or stereotyped  
those who are often ~

historically marginalized

people of color and other ~ groups

politically marginalized

the far right in Germany is small and ~

racially marginalized

she was ~ by others in the NAACP (South Asian)

I investigate what it means to be ~ while minoritized  
people from poor, immigrant, and ~ communities

privileged and (who is) marginalized

interrogate who is ~ by the notion of “standard” English

low income and marginalized

~ students will suffer the most academically

claim they are marginalised

many Israeli Arabs ~

♦ “Are all people of color at NPR ‘from marginalized backgrounds’? What if they went to elite universities?” (A comment by Earthrise, one comment of 2,371 comments, about the article “NPR is losing some of its Black and Latino hosts. Colleagues see a larger crisis” by Paul Farhi and Elahe Izadi, *Washington Post*, Jan. 5, 2022.)

♦ *Seen, Heard, and Paid: The New Work Rules for the Marginalized.* (The book by Alan Henry.)

♦ “The school board in Tupper Lake, New York, tasked a committee to draft a new policy on diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). Whether or not the phrase “historically marginalized” was to be included became a sticking point, among many other issues. In the end, the draft policy did *not* include a reference to “historically marginalized groups.” (“Schools find conspiracy theories interfere with making classrooms inclusive” by Zach Hirsch, NPR, Morning Edition, August 16, 2022.)

♦ “I will NO LONGER tolerate ANY racism against me for being a #ProudBrownWoman of #SouthAsian and #Caribbean descent...The fact that I have consistently been made to endure this hateful racism in anti-racist spaces is abhorrently shameful.” (Dr. Vanessa Toolsie, who was born in Trinidad of Indian descent, resigning from her position of elected vice president of the Orange County branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. From “NAACP leader in Florida quits over ‘racist marginalization,’” AP, August 25 2022. Republished on ABC News.)

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

**Mariana Trench (epithet)**

Mariana Trench of human shittiness

middle school, the ~ (the writer Tad Friend)

**attainment / epithet / superlative: mountains & hills**

**marinate (verb)**

marinating in this

we have been ~ for the last 6 months (a political scandal)

marinate in lies and hate

millions now ~ (the internet, media, etc.)

**absorption & immersion: verb / water**

**mark (black mark)**

black mark on the city

the case put a ~ (a murder)

black marks on their credit

~ that can last for year (credit cards)

♦ “While the chops were being cooked, Fleete opened his shirt and showed us, just over his left breast, a mark, the perfect double of the

black rosettes—the five or six irregular blotches arranged in a circle—on a leopard's hide... / Here the chops came in, all red and juicy, and Fleete bolted three in a most offensive manner. He ate on his right grinders only, and threw his head over his right shoulder as he snapped the meat...” (The creepy story “The Mark of the Beast” by Rudyard Kipling.)

**characterization / reputation: color / mark**

**mark (effect)**

mark on Morgan County

she's made an indelible ~ (tragedy)

mark on the region

the waves of Germans who made their ~ (Wisconsin)

mark on soldiers

Afghanistan leaves a ~

profound marks

immigration left ~ on the region

high-water mark

it was the ~ of his career (athlete)

indelible mark

she's made an ~ on Morgan County (drunk-driving)

terrorism has left an ~ on his presidency (9/11)

his trip to Sri Lanka left an ~ on him (Chekhov)

leave your mark

you gotta ~ on the world (tree planted for murder victim)

left a mark

she ~ on all of us who crossed her path (an actor)

left (profound) marks

immigration ~ on the region

made their mark

the waves of Germans who ~ on the region (Wisconsin)

made his mark

he's training in an ER, where he wants to ~ (new nurse)

**effect / impression: mark**

**feeling, emotion & effect: mark**

**mark (off the mark)**

way off the mark

you are ~ (argument)

**target: weapon**

**mark (high mark)**

high marks for his courage

I give him ~ and commitment (anti-terrorism)

**judgment: school & education**

**marketplace (noun)**

marketplace of ideas

New York City is a cacophony of voices and a ~

sexual marketplace

our ~ is explicitly and brutally judgmental

**competition: money**

**society: infrastructure**

## Mark Twain (the Yiddish Mark Twain, etc.)

Jewish Mark Twain

the ~ (Sholem Aleichem / Sholem Rabinovich)

♦ "Please tell him that I am the American Sholem Aleichem." (Mark Twain, about 'the Jewish Mark Twain.' From "The Jewish Mark Twain" by William Deresiewicz, *The Atlantic*, January / February 2014 issue.)

**allusion: books & reading**

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## marmite (noun)

marmite character

Jake Paul is a ~, a love-hate character (boxing)

marmite fighters

they are ~ if you like (2 boxers with unpleasant sides)

marmite person

he was a ~, people either hate him or love him

marmite thing

it's a real ~, you find it repugnant or you love it (mullet hairstyle)

♦ "If you love me or you hate me, you're gonna watch me fight." (The MMA fighter Paddy "The Baddy" Pimblett, who refuses to get his hair cut. He is from Liverpool.)

♦ "Love it or hate it." (Uniliver's slogan for Marmite, a "delicious/disgusting" yeast extract spread produced in the UK. Vegemite is a similar product. The "Marmite Test" has come to mean when people have extreme experiences in the same context.)

♦ A similar food is the durian, which has been described as smelling like garbage, moldy cheese, rotting fish, a dead cat, last season's unwashed gym socks, and a mixture of cheese, onions, sherry, rotting meat and drains.

♦ "Most lutefisk is not edible by normal people. It is reminiscent of the afterbirth of a dog or the world's largest chunk of phlegm." (The beloved American humorist Garrison Keillor.)

♦ "The staple food in this region is tsampa. This is how they prepare it. You heat sand to a high temperature in an iron pan and then pour barley corns onto it. They burst with a slight pop, whereupon you put the corns and the sand in a fine meshed sieve through which the sand runs: after this you grind the corn very small. The resulting meal is stirred up into a paste with butter tea or milk or beer and then eaten. The Tibetans make a special cult of tsampa and have many ways of preparing it. We soon got accustomed to it, but never cared much for butter tea, which is usually made with rancid butter and is generally repugnant to Europeans. It is, however, universally drunk and appreciated by the Tibetans, who often drink as many as sixty cups in a day." (*Seven Years in Tibet* by Heinrich Harrer, from the chapter, "The Village of Happiness.")

♦ "Kangding is a crossroads town, once a terminus for the brick tea trade, now an important rest stop for anyone bound into or out of Tibet—it is the true beginning of ethnic Tibet or, for someone coming from the far side, the true beginning of the real China. The little cafes here serve Tibetan tea—a powerful decoction brewed from tea dust and twigs, with copious amounts of salt added to impart extra flavor and with large globules of rancid, hairy yak-butter floating on top. It is an acquired taste that I was not to acquire—finding it even less attractive a comestible than *tsampa*, the principal food of the Tibetan peasantry, which consists merely of flour worked with water and yak-butter, and which is eaten raw and has a taste like rotten dough." (*The River at the Center of the World: A Journey Up the Yangtze, and Back in Chinese Time* by the wonderful writer Simon Winchester.)

♦ "Walrus flippers with sea cabbage. It's delicious food." (Ludmilla Ainana, a 66-year-old woman, reminiscing about the food she ate at coastal camps as a child.)

♦ "Squirrel soup with a lot of hot peppers is very popular." (A Hmong in the US who maintains the Hmong hunting tradition.)

♦ "We don't call him Marmite for nothing." (A colleague of the irrepressible Piers Morgan of ITV.)

**attraction & repulsion / character & personality: food & drink**

## marooned

marooned by history in positions

they were ~ out of kilter with their era (leaders)

marooned on a (lonesome) block

the restaurant is ~

marooned on a traffic island

hundreds of protestors were ~ (by police)

marooned in camps

people are ~ (refugees from fighting)

marooned in a traffic jam

truckers have been ~ for a week (China)

marooned in a sea

I was ~ of premeds (an arts major)

marooned overnight

several subway trains were ~ after losing power (snow)

marooned hopelessness

in that isolation, in the ~ of the protagonists... (a film)

marooned travelers

at JFK, ~ slept on cots (blizzard)

feel marooned

people ~ (survivors of earthquake)

**isolation & remoteness: island / sea**

**society: island / sea**

## marquee (attention)

marquee defendant

while others face more serious charges, he is the ~

marquee fight

we want a big fight, a ~ (Eddie "Who Else?" Hearns)

marquee game

he will miss Sunday's ~ against the Kansas City Chiefs

marquee hearing

this is the first big ~ for the Democratic-controlled house

marquee issue

immigration is his ~ (politics)

the economy and abortion are ~s (elections / 2022)

marquee names

~ traditionally lionized by the literary establishment

~ such as Nigella Lawson and Rachael Ray (food)

marquee players

both were ~ in the national-security establishment

marquee things

the ~ that make headlines (better pay and benefits, etc.)

marquee title

Sunisa Lee claimed the sport's ~ (Olympics / gymnastics)

marquee witness

he could be the ~ in this impeachment probe

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: film / theater**

**importance & significance: film / theater**

## **marriage (relationship)**

marriage of convenience

they appear to have made a ~ (terrorist groups)

their alliance was a ~, not deep ideological affinity

marriage of Java and VRML

the ~ (computing)

marriage of mobile phones and the Internet

the ~

marriage of new media and old media

the ~ (AOL and Time Warner)

marriage of science and government

the ~ in the US

marriage of technology and opera

the ~

marriage of turquoise and gold

the ~ is an ideal one (the Mariinsky Theater)

marriage of the Web and the classroom

the ~ ("education")

marriage between Islam and modernity

some Arabs want a ~

marriage between crypto and sports

the ~

♦ "Treat her like a Queen, and she'll treat you like a King." (Said in Saudi Arabia.)

♦ "I have studied this matter. Most of the couples who visit a big shopping center start quarreling with each other within an hour and a half." (Sergei Y. Klyuchnikov, a psychologist in Moscow, on Russia's long New Year's holiday.)

♦ Men who do housework may get more sex...

♦ First man: "How's your wife?" / Second man: "Still in charge..."

♦ "My wife ran off with my best friend... and I miss him!" (A bumper sticker.)

♦ "Why women seek conflict," Health & Science, *The Week*, March 23, 2012.)

♦ "Grow your own dope—plant a man." (A bumper sticker for a female landscaping company, seen at the Ingles parking lot in East Oteen, Asheville, North Carolina, USA.)

♦ A FUNNY STORY. One day Abu Nuas and the Caliph Haroon Rashid were talking about marriage. "Tell me, great Caliph, speaking about the men you rule over, who has the upper hand in the relationship, the man or the woman?" Abu Nuas asked innocently. The Caliph snorted at such a stupid question and became angry. He berated Abu Nuas. He laughed at him and mocked him and abused him! / Abu Nuas just smiled a little smile. He knew that he had netted a great fish. And not just the greatest fish in the Tigris, or the Euphrates, or the Nile, but the greatest fish in all the seas and oceans in the world! And so he made his wager... (To be continued in tomorrow's class. The bell has rung.)

♦ Old: the battle of the sexes... / New: gendered...

♦ see also *gendered (groups)*

**relationship: love, courtship & marriage**

**division & connection: love, courtship & marriage**

## **marriage (shotgun marriage)**

shotgun marriage of S4C and the BBC

the ~ is an awkward match

shotgun marriage between the two parties

the ~ will not last (politics)

♦ Cartersville, Ga., May 13.—William V. Jones, a young man of Taylorsville, was violently taken from his home on Tuesday night to the residence of Miss Ida Gaston, whom he was accused of betraying, and compelled under pressure of shotguns to marry her. He came here today and entered suit for divorce. ("Married Under Threats, of Death," *The New York Times*, May 14, 1885.)

**coercion & motivation / division & connection / eagerness**

**& reluctance / relationship: love, courtship & marriage**

## **married**

married to her job

the kind of woman people describe as ~

married with cyber activity

conventional ground operations ~ (Georgia / S. Ossetia)

**attachment / division & connection / relationship: love,**

**courtship & marriage**

## **Marshall Plan**

Marshall Plan to fight

we need a ~ climate change

Marshall Plan for racial equity

calls for a ~

"Marshall Plan" for the US healthcare industry

Democrats argued for a ~

21st-century Marshall Plan

we need to invest in a ~ for Honduras... (immigration)

♦ "If we were to launch a Marshall Plan of equivalent size today, as a percentage of our GDP we would be talking about 800 billion dollars." (Benn Steil, author of *Marshall Plan: Dawn of the Cold War*. More to the point, he talks about the context and *purpose* of the real Marshall Plan.)

**allusion: military**

**help & assistance: allusion / history / military**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: allusion / military / history**

## **Martian (adjective)**

Martian landscape

the road takes us through a dusty, reddish ~ (Chile)

**resemblance: astronomy**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## **Martian's-eye**

Martian's-eye view

he takes a ~ of the habits and customs of *Homo sapiens*

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye**

## martyr (person)

scientist-martyr

many Americans began to regard Oppenheimer as a ~

free speech martyrs

don't turn loudmouths and thugs into ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: person / religion**

**person: religion**

## martyrdom (noun)

political martyrdom

he had no desire for ~ (going against his party)

**destruction: death & life / religion**

## martyred

martyred by Republican extremists

Democrats thought of him as an honorable man ~ (Oppie)

**destruction: death & life / religion**

## mask (drop the mask, etc.)

mask

seeing people when their ~ starts to slip

dropped the mask on his nativist sentiments

he has ~ (a politician)

let the mask slip

frequently anti-Zionists ~ (anti-Semitism)

let his mask slip

he ~ and is now trying to court sympathy (a boxer)

♦ "The only surprise is that it's taken this long for his mask to slip and the wider public come to realise what some of us have always known..." (A BBC HYS comment about Anthony Joshua's bizarre behavior following his second loss to Oleksandr Usyk in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.)

**concealment & lack of concealment: face / verb**

**appearance & reality: face / verb**

**subterfuge: face / verb**

## mask (hide)

mask your intentions

in war, you try to ~ (intelligence)

mask the location

Moscow's ability to ~ of Russian forces

**concealment & lack of concealment: face / verb**

**subterfuge: face / verb**

**appearance & reality: face / verb**

## masquerade (verb)

masquerading as "history"

the film is right-wing character assassination ~

masquerade as local news organizations

over 300 accounts and pages ~ (internet misinformation)

masquerading as a US merchant ship

the *Odenwald* was captured while ~ (S. Atlantic / WW2)

masqueraded as a Christian and English teacher

he ~ (a pedophile)

**concealment & lack of concealment: face / verb**

**subterfuge: face / verb**

**appearance & reality: face / verb**

## masterclass (noun)

masterclass

it was a ~, the best I've ever seen in my life (boxing)

masterclass from Conlan

it looked a ~ (until he was knocked out in the 12th)

masterclass in (modern) marketing

the way they generated hype was a ~ (Epic Games)

masterclass in showmanship

it was a ~ (historic Kim-Trump meeting at DMZ 2019)

masterclass lesson

Joshua was given a boxing ~ tonight (by Usyk)

goalkeeping masterclass

it was a ~ from Courtois (Real Madrid)

managerial master-class

Ole was given a ~ by Brendon (Leicester beats Man U)

delivered a masterclass

Manchester City ~ to overwhelm Arsenal (4-1)

gives a masterclass

De Gea ~ (excellent performance in goal)

produced a masterclass

Tottenham ~ at Everton (English football)

put on a masterclass

the Ukrainian ~ (Usyk beats Joshua / boxing)

**knowledge & intelligence: school & education**

**superlative: school & education**

## masterpiece (engineering masterpiece, etc.)

masterpiece of spins

a technical ~, spirals and footwork (Michele Kwan)

engineering masterpiece

these race cars are ~s

the Taif escarpment road is an ~ (Saudi Arabia)

technical masterpiece

a ~ of spins, spirals and footwork (Michele Kwan)

three-hit masterpiece

he threw a ~ (baseball)

work of art, a masterpiece

the winning of the South Pole had been a ~ (Amundsen)

♦ "Watching Warren Spann pitch was like watching Rembrandt paint a masterpiece. On the corners, low, a little extra here, a little off there, screwball here, up and in fastball there... (The great MLB player Keith Hernandez.)

**achievement, recognition & praise: picture**

**creation & transformation / superlative: picture mat (welcome mat)**

welcome mat for African migrants  
in Israel, no ~

welcome mat for (African) students  
India has been laying out the ~ for a while

White House welcome mat  
Obama rolls out ~ for the interim prime minister

U.S. welcome mat  
but the ~ is gone (for Haitians / immigration politics)

put out the welcome mat  
one mayor in Italy ~ for refugees years ago (Riace)

rolls out welcome mat  
Bush ~ for Obama (2008)

roll up the welcome mat  
if we ~, America will lose (immigration politics)

yanking the welcome mat  
Australia is ~ (for refugees)

♦ "It's like someone took the welcome mat and put a torch to it." (MC Masta Ace on the failure of Americans to embrace Blacks.)

♦ "Local politicians had already put out an unwelcome mat for LIV golf." (Portland, Oregon. Of course, there is no such thing as an "unwelcome mat" and yet language somehow allows it. An alternative might be, "Posted," or "No Trespassing Sign.")

**welcome: carpets & rugs**

**match (light / strike a match, etc.)**

struck a match  
before a crowd poised for violence at his signal, he ~

**initiation: explosion / fire**

**match (chess match)**

see *chess match* (noun)

**match (death match)**

in a death match  
the two men are engaged ~

in a death match with enemies  
American democracy was ~ within (McCarthy, etc.)

**conflict: film / history / sports & games**

**matchmaker (person)**

matchmaker between investors and landowners  
he began acting as ~ (marijuana / hemp farming)

**division & connection / person / relationship: love, courtship & marriage**

**matter (Black lives matter, etc.)**

matter most  
the question, whose lives ~ (vaccine distribution)

matter so much  
why does that diversity of options ~ (Black newspapers)

what matters  
Anjelah Johnson on ~ (Black and Latina women)

what's missing matters  
~ (BeReal vs. Instagram)

*Why the Greeks Matter*  
*Sailing the Wine-Dark Sea*: ~ (Thomas Cahill / 2003)

Why Indonesia matters  
~ (*The Economist* / 2022)

Why America's wetlands matter  
"Swamped: ~" by Annie Proulx

Why that matters  
"Few Black men become school psychologists, ~" (NPR)

why it matters  
what China is reading and ~

how we say Uvalde matters  
~ (different groups pronounce it differently)

how we talk about monkey pox matters  
~ (stigmatize no one)

who is in the room with the ear of the president matters  
~ (historian Manisha Sinha)

Art Matters  
~ (Baltimore Museum of Art)

Black Dykes Matter  
she was wearing a " ~" T-shirt

Black employees matter  
we will make it clear that our ~ (hypocrisy)

Black lives matter  
Phoenix said "no" to a ~ mural

Black Lives Don't Matter  
"GSMNP vandalized with '~' Sign" (Laurel Wamsley NPR)

*Black Love Matters*  
~: *Authentic Men's Voices...* (by Armon Perry)

Black mental health matters  
~: how to cope during a time of social justice

Black Voters Matter  
advocates with ~ have been circulating a petition...

Blue Lives Matter  
the ~ movement advocates for the police

British Empire matters  
~ (Sathnam Sanghera, author of *Empireland*)

Cannon's Life Matters  
~ (see Wikipedia entry "Killing of Cannon Hinnant")

China matters  
why an aging ~ (NPR's Emily Feng)

confidentiality matters  
information where ~ (privacy-enhancing technologies)

context matters  
when it comes to terms, ~ (“C.P. Time”)

death matters  
every ~ (Fentanyl overdoses)

Democracy matters  
Lesson from Ukraine: ~ (the *Christian Science Monitor*)

Design Matters  
~ (a podcast)

diversity matters  
~ (Coast Guard’s first female commandant)

elections matter  
~, and I think that... (Maggie Hassan, pro-abortion)

Equality Matters  
~ (BBC)

everyone matters  
our vision is to create an environment where ~ (police)

faith matters  
~ promises to spark thought and conversation...

February matters  
Black History is more than one month, but ~

His life mattered  
~. Period (shot and killed by police)

History Matters  
~ (Drew Gilpin Faust)

it MATTERS  
it’s consuming and exhausting but ~ (an Instagram story)

Jayland’s Life Matters  
Black Lives Matter / Murder! / ~ (signs at the protest)

language matters  
~ when talking about suicide (politically correct language)  
~ (New York changes “inmate” to “incarcerated person”)

lawyering can matter  
it’s not just the defendant or witness, ~ (Depp-Heard trial)

My mother’s life mattered  
~, your actions here today...

Parents matter  
~ (Parents’ Bill of Rights in Texas / education)

Pronouns Matter  
~ Tell us yours! (Signature Bank)

race matters  
~ in college admissions, now more than ever (2015)

representation matters  
for Sheku and Isata Kanneh-Mason, ~  
Barbie knows that ~ (Laverne Cox transgender doll)

Russian Lives Matter

~ (Candace Owens)

Sex Matters  
the lobby group ~ (Maya Forstater)

size matters  
~ for most women (penis enhancement ad / YouTube)

size (of the boat) matters  
for captains, the ~ (mega yachts / salary / 2022)

Stories Matter  
the “~” initiative (the Walt Disney Company)

teaching matters  
~ is an audio series exploring...

trans lives matter  
*of course* ~

White Lives Matter  
poor turnout at ~ rallies (NPR)

words matter  
simply put, ~ (equity, diversity, inclusion)  
~ because they reinforce negative attitudes (“spaz”)  
~ but actions matter much more (activists who want things)  
~ (Puffin Books erases and changes Roald Dahl’s words)

“Art and Race Matters [sic]  
~: The Career of Robert Colescott”

♦ “Why does ‘Black Lives Matter’ trigger so many people?”

♦ “The slogan [White Lives Matter]... is considered hate speech by the Anti-Defamation League and has been attributed to white supremacist groups...” (“The fashion world embraced Ye. After his ‘White Lives Matter’ shirts, that may change” by Michel Martin, NPR, *All Things Considered*, October 9, 2022.)

♦ “When you’re not able to recognize Black lives, you just don’t get to [sic] all lives.” (Celeste Hodge Growden, president of the Alaska Black Caucus. Presumably, she is referring to “Black Lives Matter” versus “All Lives Matter.” From “Anchorage police investigated in White Privilege card photo” by Mark Thiessen, AP, July 13, 2022.)

♦ “You have to be authentic, I want you to be authentic, your story matters.” (Maimouna Youssef to young artists about social-justice music and the new Grammy merit award for “Best Song for Social Change.”)

♦ *The Matter of Black Lives: Writing from The New Yorker*, Edited by Jelani Cobb and David Remnick, with a foreword by Jelani Cobb.

♦ “Black Lives Matter. History Matters. John Hope Franklin showed us how much they matter to each other.” (“John Hope Franklin: Race and the Meaning of America” by the historian Drew Gilpin Faust, *The New York Review*, December 17, 2015. History framed in contempo-speak.)

♦ “As the historian Eric Foner phrased it, for all its shortcomings, the Midwest ‘recognized black humanity.’ One might even say that with Lincoln and the region’s ardent abolitionists, black lives, for the first time, mattered.” (“Recovering The Heartland” by Hendrik Meijer, *National Review*, December 19, 2022. History framed in contempo-speak.)

♦ “Institutions matter... The church as an institution matters. Ask John Wesley. The government as an institution matters. Ask John Lewis. The post office as an institution matters. Ask Benjamin Franklin. The CDC as an institution matters. Ask Anthony Fauci. The EU and Nato as institutions matter. Ask Vladimir Zelensky. And one more...Marsh Chapel, as an institution, matters.” (From the live broadcast of the Marsh Chapel Service at Boston University on May 1, 2022. “Ask” is a fine rhetorical device, as is “matters.”)

♦ “If we truly believe that all lives matter, and Black lives matter and brown lives matter and the lives of poor people matter, it’s time for us to make sure...” (US Senator Dick Durbin of Illinois, who is seeking to end federal capital punishment.)

♦ “If we believe that the lives of incarcerated people matter, she maintains, we have a legal and moral obligation to make these

conditions less inhumane." ("Dying Behind Bars" by Eyal Press, *The New Yorker*, August 23, 2021.)

♦ "We are sending a strong message to young girls who dream... Your service matters, your contribution to the Coast Guard and to the country matters. And yes, you too can be Commandant someday." (U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell praising Admiral Linda Fagan, the first female commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard. Military recruitment matters...)

♦ "[The parents] want to make their [children's] loss of life matter." (Uvalde school shooting.)

♦ The phrase "Black Lives Matter" has achieved the status of a meme, along with online meme generators (often with vile results), and variations on porn sites. Not only that, but it now tinges any use of "something matters" whether or not there is a direct link to Black Lives Matters, to include usages before the term was coined in 2003, excluding only basic usages such as, "Don't worry, it doesn't matter."

♦ "We need to stop with the delusions. Science matters. Biology matters. Truth matters." (Trans women are trans women, not women.)

♦ "Why don't you guys talk about something that matters? I'm happy to answer a question that matters." (President Joe Biden, criticizing reporters asking him if he regretted fist-bumping Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in 2022.)

♦ "I like living someplace where a horse matters... I like being a person to whom a horse matters... I like living a life where a horse matters..." ("Baxter Black's final column: A horse matters," *The Las Cruces Bulletin*, posted Jan. 5, 2022. Baxter Black wrote the article in November 2017, and it was reprinted after his death on June 10, 2022.)

♦ "Hope. Hope and just the fact that we actually matter. Like Kansas City's on the map, I mean, we're like the center of the NFL World right now, so, like yeah, he brought us hope, he brought us meaning, he brought us purpose." (A happy football fan about what Patrick Mahomes means to Kansas City, Missouri, in 2023.)

♦ "Being personal with each other, it's valuable, it matters..." ("Warm human connections.")

♦ Variations of the trope serve as categories on Pornhub.

♦ "Last week meant something"; "Positions are important (in basketball)"; "Every decision I make counts..." (Conventional language to express that something "matters.")

♦ "The war had made it obvious by the most cruel of all arguments, that science is of the most immediate and direct importance to everybody. This had changed the character of physics." (The physicist Victor Weisskopf. If he were alive today, he probably would simply write, "Physics matter," and expect everyone to understand and agree.)

♦ Everything matters.

♦ Nothing matters...

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## mature (verb)

matured

our relationship has ~ (between India and US)

**growth & development: life span / verb**

## maturity

democratic maturity

a key measure of the ~ of Turkey

**growth & development: life span**

## maul (a storm mauled the Bahamas, etc.)

maul the Bahamas

Hurricane Dorian continues to ~ (slow moving)

**storm: force**

## maven (person)

maven of taste

the Baron de Gunzburg and another ~, Frances Stein

apartment mavens

he took them with him as ~ (looking for an apartment)

♦ Experienced, knowledgeable, expert... Yiddish from Hebrew, first known use 1950 according to Merriam-Webster. Can refer to a male or female.

**knowledge & intelligence: person**

## maverick (noun)

maverick

I like being a little bit of a ~

being the ~ that I was, I decided to challenge those rules

Shackleton was too much of a ~ for a desk job

maverick mantle

she wears the ~ (a politician)

maverick mindset

she has soured on the politician's ~

hard-charging maverick

he was a ~ who shook up football (a coach)

iconoclast or maverick

I was more like an ~ when I was young (Felix Bast)

♦ This word relates to Samuel A. Maverick (1803-1870). It refers to an unbranded range animal.

**person: animal**

**character & personality / sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: animal / cows & cattle / horse / person**

## maybe (contempo-speak)

maybe rethink

turn it into a chance to ~ how we do some thing

maybe having

I do feel like ~ an openness and vulnerability...

maybe like

see *like (filler)*

"Definitely Maybe"

~, the debut album by Oasis

*Definitely, Maybe*

the 2008 romantic comedy film ~

obviously, maybe

but ~ I didn't...

**contempo-speak: adverb**

## Mayflower (Mayflower of the Third Aliyah, etc.)

Zionist *Mayflower*

the *Ruslan*, which was the ~ of the Third Aliyah

**comparison & contrast / migration: epithet**

## maze (terrain)

maze of canyons

wild horses—both mustangs and runaways—roam the ~

maze of (decaying) seracs  
one last trip through the ~ (Icefall / Everest)

maze of (tire) tracks  
the only roads are a ~ in the sand (Dadaab)

maze of trails  
a ~ that leads to a construction site and a series of roads

maze of (deer) trails  
a ~

maze of ice and rocks  
alone, lost in a ~ (Nuptse)

maze of mangrove, canals and swamps  
the forest was a dark ~ (U Minh)

**complexity: infrastructure**

## **maze (structures)**

maze of (hillside) slums  
people crammed into the ~ (Kabul)

maze of (vertical) slums  
squeezed into a ~ without bathrooms (Kabul)

maze of (narrow) streets  
crowds of shoppers in the ~ (Nanning)

maze of tunnels  
they got lost in a ~ (Canary Islands)

maze of bars, restaurants and nightclubs  
a ~ (Kuta Beach, Bali)

maze of dikes and dams and ditches  
the Tulare Lake Basin, with its ~

maze of shanties and shacks  
fought their way through a dense ~ (Mogadishu)

maze of (refuse-strewn) back streets and alleyways  
the ~ (Sadr City)

♦ "Oh, wait, it's upside-down." (A member of a group of people lost in a corn maze, referring to their map of the maze.)

**complexity: infrastructure**

## **maze (bureaucracy, etc.)**

maze of (bureaucratic) rules  
a civil-service culture, with a ~ (NASA)

heath care maze  
an immigrant's tale of navigating the tangled ~

bureaucratic maze  
her scholarship money got lost in a ~  
workers whose only job is to navigate the ~ (Sudan)

navigate the (bureaucratic) maze  
workers whose only job is to ~ (Sudan)

got lost in a bureaucratic maze  
when her scholarship money ~...

♦ Gardens are associated with mazes, knot gardens and labyrinths. People also enjoy corn and mirror mazes. *Labyrinth* is of Minoan origin and is associated with the Minotaur.

**complexity / situation: infrastructure**

## **McCarthy**

McCarthy moment  
this cancellation culture is the SJW ~ (of Walt Whitman)

♦ According to Larry Tye, author of *Demagogue*, "Those records document in detail every flight [Joe McCarthy] went up in as a tail gunner. He volunteered for those flights, he came under fire... McCarthy at great risk to himself when he could have stayed safely on the ground was up there as a tail gunner under enemy fire." Charles Lindbergh, also a demon of the left, was another American who managed to get himself into the fight in a real way at the risk of his life.

♦ Many historical personages—such as Hector, Machiavelli, Charles A. Lindbergh, and Joe McCarthy—have been mischaracterized in the language.

**oppression: allusion / history**

## **McCarthyism**

kind of McCarthyism  
the group's campaign is a ~ that bashes us (says NPR)

**oppression: allusion / history**

## **McCarthyite**

McCarthyite hysteria  
Democrats are sometimes prone to ~ (against Russia)

**oppression: allusion / history**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

**me (like me, look like me, speak like me, be like me, etc.)**

like me  
and for readers ~ (a non-binary gestational parent)

like us  
you want to be ~, you gotta do like we do  
people ~ don't do things like that (go into acting)

look like the country  
the Supreme Court should ~ (Joe Biden)

looked like him  
few people ~ in the lecture hall, he felt isolated

look like me  
space for people who ~ (the online Black Opry)

looked like me  
I never saw anyone who ~

look like them  
a more welcoming place for others who ~ (music industry)

looked like them  
fat people felt unwelcome because no one ~ there (gyms)

look like us  
there aren't a lot of people that ~ that are on the air

looks like yourself

when you have a chance to see someone who ~ (deaf, ASL)

## looks and sounds like America

we seek to build a staff that ~ (NPR)

- ◆ “You can’t be what you can’t see.”
- ◆ “I was welcomed by so many amazing Black students who look just like me, who have the same dreams and aspirations as me as well.” (Daya Brown about Duke University. From “Teen accepted to more than 50 colleges, receives over \$1.3 million in scholarships.” She wants to study mass communications or film, and she created her own production company while in high school. “I think a lot of people think that if you’re smart, you can’t be cool. So I found a way to showcase brilliance [and] still have fun while you’re doing it.”)
- ◆ “He had to deal with being the only young person of color in Narcotics Anonymous meetings.”
- ◆ “I was exhausted with the culture of country music not creating space for people who look like me.” (This short sentence combines three tropes relating to inclusion and exclusion: physical malaise; the idea of spaces; and “look like me.”)
- ◆ “Let’s face it, America is getting bigger, and women want to see themselves instead of the image of what society says they should be.” (Plus-size model Ashley Graham.)
- ◆ “Not everyone feels safe and comfortable in nature. People who didn’t grow up camping or who might not recognize themselves in a hiking-gear catalogue may experience stress or anxiety instead. To make green spaces more inviting to everyone, start by evaluating your own actions and following this advice from Latino Outdoors founder Jose G. Gonzalez.” (“The Nature Antidote” by Jill U. Adams, *Audubon* magazine, Winter, 2019.)
- ◆ “It does open up a conversation because it’s her using her voice and her platform to really call out systemic change, which she has done before. I think she can show other girls and women who look like her how to empower them to stand up for themselves in ways that I think we haven’t always been able to see.” (C. Vaile Wright, PhD, a clinical psychologist and the American Psychological Association’s Senior Director of Health Care Innovation, about Naomi Osaka and her struggles with mental health.)
- ◆ “Yeah, absolutely. You know, I was a typical sort of nineties alternative person [upspeak] you know like I really prized the clothes I wore sort of my unusual taste in music and when I arrived at Berkeley in 1995 I was seeking out people who were exactly like me [light upspeak]. And Ken was very different. You know, he was really confident, sort of conventionally handsome... He was in a frat.” (*The New Yorker* writer Hua Hsu, speaking to Scott Simon on NPR. Sixty-eight percent of tweets between journalist who work at *The Washington Post*, NPR, and *The New York Times*... are to each other.)
- ◆ “I am Puerto Rican, from the Bronx, and I was raised in the 50s, loved television, never saw anybody who looked like me, I began to feel on some level that I was invisible. I didn’t know what I would contribute to a society that was determined not to see me...” (Sonia Manzano, actor, screenwriter, author, speaker, TV series creator, producer, etc., who played Maria on Sesame Street for 44 years. According to her Wikipedia entry, she attended the High School of Performing Arts, then Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh on scholarship.)
- ◆ “If you’ve not seen yourself on screen before, why would you ever want to go for that role? You’ve suddenly got representation from not one, but two South Asian women and it’s a period drama which traditionally you’d only see white cast members in.” (Laraib Waheed, an actor, about on-screen representation of people of South Asian heritage in the hit period drama *Bridgerton*. From “Bridgerton: South Asian faces on TV ‘makes me happy’” by Paige Neal-Holder and Steffan Powell, BBC, March 22, 2022.)
- ◆ “This is not just for me, this is for every little girl that looks like me... We want to be seen. We want to be heard.” (Michelle Yeoh touting herself on Instagram for an Academy Award.)
- ◆ “[Deaf people] want to see someone like themselves use their language on TV. We’re always used to reading captions on TV, and all the shows. But when you have a chance to see someone who looks like yourself, who used the same language as you, we’ve got many people that were so excited to see themselves on screen.” (Raven Sutton, the first deaf contestant on Netflix’s “The Circle.”)
- ◆ “Solving a crossword puzzle, there’s a lot of joy in that moment when you see something you know reflected back to you in the newspaper

grid. And so for me, it became a project of bringing that moment of recognition to more and more people who look and sound like me and consume the same sort of cultural artefacts that I do.” (Anna Shectman, crossword constructor. A clue that she constructed that she likes best is: Grande Dame of music. (Answer: Ariana.) From “The ‘real outlier’ in the crossword puzzle-making community” by Lucy Wallis, BBC News, April 3, 2022.)

- ◆ “A young man, that looks like everyone in this room right now...” (Was murdered nearby. From “Raising Kings: A Year Of Love And Struggle At Ron Brown College Prep. Episode 1: A Year Of Love And Struggle In A New High School,” NPR, Code Switch, October 18, 2017.)
- ◆ “Someone went out of their way to target and kill children who look like our children, teachers who look like our teachers—and did it for no other reason than to hurt them.” (Psychologist and consultant John Van Dreal.)
- ◆ “These kids look like me, this could have been me, or this could have been my family or this could have been us.” (Maria Maldonado Morales, a clinical social worker at Texas Children’s Hospital in Houston. From “What the shooting in Uvalde has meant for the Latino community” by Mary Louise Kelly, Alejandra Marquez Janse, and Roberta Rampton, NPR, June 4, 2022.)
- ◆ “Critics have complained the police department doesn’t look enough like the city its serves.” (Boston.)
- ◆ “The Cosby Show, the Huxtables, were meant to inspire us. Be like them, everyone seemed to be saying...” (A discussion on Bill Cosby’s legacy.)
- ◆ “Parents share their children’s joy at seeing a Disney princess who looks like them,” Michel Martin, NPR, All Things Considered, September 17, 2022. Halle Bailey as The Little Mermaid.)
- ◆ “Hello there, I’m Jennifer and welcome to *Simply + Fiercely*... I’m passionate about helping other women just like me.”
- ◆ “Hello, I am a queer, mad and neurodivergent higher education researcher and I am looking to explore the lived experiences of queer MMIND (mad, mentally ill, neurodivergent and disabled) college students and their experiences on college campuses...” (reddit.)
- ◆ “We don’t have enough representation of people that look like me as non-binary... that are outside the white androgyny.” (Self-described as fat, Black, and non-binary. Dating...)
- ◆ “If you sound like America, then it’s America that’s talking.” (Keith Woods, NPR’s vice president of newsroom training and diversity.)
- ◆ “As you get higher up in the levels, when it comes to the national circuit, if you don’t fit in with the crowd, you won’t make it.” (Retired W-League player Rhali Dobson. Quoted in “Lisa De Vanna’s allegations highlight tensions in Australia’s complex football culture” by Samantha Lewis, Analysis, Sport, 18 Oct 2021. “The crowd” and “complex” in the above sentences seems to be euphemisms for “lesbian.”)
- ◆ “She dreamed of having a more dignified place to go, where women like her—talented, outgoing, highly ambitious—could find like-minded souls, get changed and charge their phones in peace. Thus the idea for The Wing was born.” (Audrey Gelman, the company’s co-founder and CEO. From “The Wing: how an exclusive women’s club sparked a thousand arguments” by Linda Kinstler, *The Guardian*, 18 October 2019.)
- ◆ “[My father said to me] ‘Listen son, people like us don’t do things like that (go into acting)...son, I just don’t want you to talk about it anymore...’” (“British Actor Terence Stamp Reflects on London in the Swinging ‘60s,” NPR, Fresh Air, Nov 5, 2021. Originally broadcast in 2002. About what his father had said, Stamp said, “In fact, it didn’t deter me at all.”)
- ◆ “Well,” [Mr. Motshill] said when he saw me, “what is it?” / “I have come to join school,” I said. / “Speak English,” he said. “What is it you want?” / “To join school,” I said, in English. / “Much better,” said Mr. Motshill...” (*How Green Was My Valley* by Richard Llewellyn.)
- ◆ Ron Clark: “You see this? [Pointing to a poster that says, “We Are Family.”] This means that this year is going to be different. This year is going to be about more than school. This year, we are going to be a family.” / A student: “But you don’t look nothin’ like me.” (The film *The Ron Clark Story*.)
- ◆ “It gets boring just talking to the same people that look like you, you know. It’s like talking to yourself. So, it would be nice, you know? Different perspectives on different things. Too bad I don’t see a lot.” (Dahi, a student who only knows two white adult people, teachers at his nearby all Black school in Washington, DC. From “Raising Kings: A Year Of Love And Struggle At Ron Brown College Prep. Episode 3: The

Fierce Debate Over High Standards," NPR, Code Switch, November 1, 2017. In a Code Switch follow-up, "Is Ron Brown High School Working?" (October 31, 2018), we learn that Dahi left the school after being threatened by a student and harassed by others.)

♦ "It's time to face the music, / it's time to make you see / the root of all your problems is / that you don't look like me." (Candy Pink (Julie Brown) organizing a make-over for Valerie Gail (Geena Davis) to make her brand new and more appealing to Ted Gallagher (Charles Rocket). From the silly film *Earth Girls Are Easy*.)

♦ "Be like Mike." "Eddie Would Go."

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## meal ticket (noun)

meal ticket

she was the ~, but he was afraid he could lose her

Warren's (last) meal ticket

Fury is ~ (the boxer and promoter)

lose their meal ticket

NFL players don't want to ~ (protest and get fired)

saw him as a meal ticket

she ~ (source of support and money)

**cost & benefit: food & drink / ticket**

**worth & lack of worth: food & drink / ticket**

**money: sign, signal, symbol**

## meander (verb)

meander in new and different directions

as the two states ~ (Ireland and UK)

meander in unexpected ways

conversations ~

meanders from action to satire to romance

the film ~

highways meander

~ in the South

♦ According to Merriam-Webster, this word comes from the name of a river in Asia Minor that was known for its turning and winding. It's a very nice way to think of the word.

**fictive motion: river / verb**

**direction: movement / river / verb**

## measure (measure up, etc.)

measure myself by their standards

I don't ~ (manosphere versus feminism)

measure up to the film

does the sound track ~

measure up to the standard she sets

I certainly can't ~

measure up against other films

how does it ~ set in Boston

measure up favorably

when we feel we don't ~...

fails to measure up

their new burger ~

**judgement: tools & technology**

## meat (substance)

meat of the story

and now it's time to get into the ~ (Crime in Sports)

meat of the subject

and then go on to the real ~

meat on the bone

there isn't any ~ (nothing to investigate)

**substance & lack of substance: food & drink / meat**

## meat (fresh meat, etc.)

fresh meat

they knew we were ~ (prison-guard trainees)

**consumption: animal / meat / predation**

## meat (red meat, etc.)

delivering red meat

he was ~ to an audience hungry for it (Victor Orban)

serve up red meat

politicians ~ to true believers (a convention)

throwing red meat to the base

she's ~ hoping to win them over (politics)

**consumption: animal / meat / predation**

## meat (piece of meat)

piece of meat

they get another fresh ~ to fill the slot (adjunct PhDs)

pieces of meat

football players are ~ sold to the highest bidder

♦ "We're pieces of meat at the end of the day, and we're not treated with much respect." (Bryn Hargreaves, rugby league player, who retired in 2012 at the age of 26.)

**consumption / product / worth & lack of worth: meat**

## meat grinder (military)

meat grinder on the Western Front

the post trained infantry troops to be sent into the ~

Rzhev Meat-Grinder

the ~ ("Soviet Storm: World War II in the East")

turned into a meat-grinder

the land war had ~ (Russo-Japanese War)

sparked a (two-week) meat grinder

the ambush on Hill 861 ~ (Khe Sanh Hill Fights)

♦ "This is a ship of war, and I will grind whatever grist the mill requires in order to fulfill my duty." (Capt. Jack Aubrey, played by Russell Crowe, in the film *Master and Commander*.)

♦ Part Two: THE WALKING DEAD 6. Sunday Morning... 7. Clay pigeons... 8. Run in Circles, Scream and Shout... 9. Into the Meat Grinder... 10. What Sixty Mike Mikes Do... 11. Alpha A Go-Go... 12. Banzai... 13. Better Late Than Never... 14. Let's Die Right... 15. Survivors... 16. Incoming... 17. Finally, Medevacs... 18. Charlie Company's Turn... (From the Contents of the affecting book *Operation Buffalo: USMC Fight For The DMZ* by Keith William Nolan. "Then came

the morning" / "It don't mean a thang." In Vietnam, the Vietnam War is known as the American War.)

♦ "They are thrown into battle as meat." (A current conflict.)

**death & life / environment / experience / military:  
consumption / meat / mechanism**

## meat grinder (other)

meat-grinder of a job

being White House Chief of Staff is a ~

Hollywood meat-grinder

what it's like to go through the ~ (Dominik's film *Blonde*)

♦ "Being White House Chief of Staff is a meat-grinder of a job." (NPR's Tamara Keith.)

**creation & transformation / environment / experience:  
meat / mechanism**

## meaty (substance)

meaty book

people *will* be talking about this ~ (by Patricia Lockwood)

meaty story

it just struck me as this very ~ (a journalist)

♦ The boxer Liam "Beefy" Smith...

**substance & lack of substance: food & drink / meat**

## mecca (mecca of bluegrass, etc.)

Mecca

Howard University was the ~ (NPR's Ayesha Rascoe)

mecca of basketball

a ~ (the Christian Street YMCA in Philadelphia)

mecca of bluegrass

the ~ (Bean Blossom, Indiana)

mecca of American rock climbing

Yosemite, the ~ (El Cap, Half Dome, etc.)

mecca of Manolos and Miuccia Pradas

Manhattan's ~ (Bergdorf Goodman)

mecca for (500,000) bikers

a motorcycle ~ (Sturgis, S.D.)

Mecca for train buffs

the town is a ~ (Folkston, GA / USA)

Mecca for climbers

Hueco Tanks State Historical Park, a ~

mecca for kite lovers

the Washington (D.C.) area is a ~

mecca for glider pilots

Marfa, Texas, is a ~

mecca for (Arizona) tourists

a ~ (Kartchner Caverns)

mecca to (whitewater) paddlers

the Altays are a ~ (Russia)

New Zealand's canyoning Mecca

the Mount Aspiring region is ~

arts mecca

the city wants to be an ~

basketball mecca

the little church gym became a ~ (St. Cecilia / Detroit)

drug mecca

Spain has replaced Amsterdam as the new European ~

Mariachi mecca

Plaza Garibaldi is a ~ (El Tenampa, etc. / Mexico City)

motorcycle mecca

a ~ for 500,000 bikers (Sturgis, S.D.)

spring break meccas

~ like Pensacola and Panama City Beach

tourist mecca

the ~ of Waikiki (Hawaii)

boxing Mecca

he settled in Philadelphia, a ~ (Joe Frazier)

gambling meccas

~ like Atlantic City and Las Vegas

skateboarding mecca

he moved to the ~, California

homophile mecca

this ~ (San Francisco)

becoming a (tourist) mecca

Maun is ~ (Okavango Delta / Botswana)

♦ "Ladies and Gentlemen, good evening, and welcome to the boxing mecca, the boxing capital of the World, Madison Square Garden, New York City, New York, U-S-A..." (Michael Buffer announcing "Irish" Andy Lee v. John Jackson, HBO PPV, 2014.)

♦ "The tiny Swiss canton of Appenzell Innerrhoden has voted to prohibit the phenomenon of naked hiking. Among naked hikers, there is disappointment... Swiss lawyers say the ban is illegal, as the Swiss parliament voted to remove public nudity from the penal code in 1991... The decision is being watched closely by other alpine regions... Just over the mountains in canton Glarus, there is nervousness that if naked hikers are driven out of Appenzell, they may choose Glarus as their next favorite spot."

♦ Over a billion Muslims around the world pray five times a day towards the Saudi city of Makkah, and over two million Muslim pilgrims a year visit that city for the annual Hajj.

♦ "It's like you're praying closer to God's ear." (A pilgrim performing Hajj, on praying in Makkah near the Grand Mosque.)

**attraction & repulsion / enthusiasm / reverence: place / religion**

## mechanics (noun)

mechanics of (international) finance

the climate crisis and the ~

mechanics of hatred

in this series I'll be unpicking the ~ (a history of hate)

mechanics of (criminal) investigations

a powerful portrait of the ~ (*I'll Be Gone In The Dark*)

functioning: tools & technology

## medal (noun)

take it as a medal

I ~ (the label 'bleeding heart')

achievement, recognition & praise: sign, signal, symbol / military

## medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)

got a taste of her own medicine

she ~ (therapist goes to therapy)

♦ "...and the chickens came home to roost."

♦ "One reason 'homophobia' was such a provocative neologism was its somewhat trollish imputation that the person who holds anti-gay beliefs is pathetically scared of gay people... / Pathologizing the anti-gay position gave heterosexuals a taste of the own medicine." ("How '-Phobic' Became a Weapon in the Identity Wars" by Amanda Hess, *The New York Times Magazine*, Jan. 26, 2016. It's a brilliant article.)

experience: food & drink / health & medicine / taste

reversal: food & drink / health & medicine / taste

fate, fortune & chance: food & drink / health & medicine / taste

## medieval (adjective)

medieval

to the outside eye, the system appears ~ (Afghanistan)

medieval mindset

Portnikov argued that some officials have a ~ (Ukraine)

dark, sadistic and medieval

his ~ vision of the future (al-Zarqawi)

criticised the measure as "medieval"

opponents ~ (option of execution by firing squad)

past & present / time: history

growth & development / knowledge & intelligence /

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: history

## meet (connect)

meet at the Strait of Messina

the waters of the Eastern and Western Mediterranean ~

division & connection: society

## meet (attain)

met with (limited) success

traditional methods have ~ (problem bears)

meet (strict academic) criteria

to get in, girls must ~ (high school)

meet their goals

students should record whether or not they ~

met the objectives

how well the group had ~ of the lesson (schools)

on track to meet

the services are ~ reserve manpower goals (military)

attainment: verb

## meet (meet the moment, etc.)

meet the moment

Biden has plainly struggled to ~ (2019 campaign)

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: verb

## meet (something can meet you)

met our eyes

an unusual sight ~ (on a wilderness trip)

meets the eye

there is more to the case than ~ (a murder)

fictive meeting & seeing: verb

perception, perspective & point of view: verb

## meet (non-human)

met one in full bloom in the botanic garden

I ~ (Colin Tudge / a handkerchief tree)

met a pancake

I ~ in the West Cell (H.T.S. magnet at M.I.T.)

♦ "I met a pancake in the West Cell, an enormous open laboratory space at M.I.T. which resembles an airplane hangar. What with all the pancakes and doughnuts being tested there, the West Cell has come to be called the West Cell Diner." ("Green Dream: Is limitless clean energy finally approaching?" by Rivka Galchen, *The New Yorker*, October 11, 2021. The "pancake" is an H.T.S. magnet, in the form of a stacked array.)

fictive meeting & seeing: verb

## mega (mega-blogger, etc.)

mega-blogger

~ Belle Gibson casts doubt on her own cancer claims

mega-downfall

this was like a three-day like ~ (podcast snark)

megadrought

~ across the West right now

megafloods

'~' could devastate California, new study says

MegaRamp

most of the riders had never ridden the ~

mega talent

he was a ~ Leslie Jordan's representative David Shaul)

megayacht

anything more than two hundred and thirty feet is a ~

mega exciting

it's been engaging, but not ~ (HT: Croatia 0-0 Brazil)

mega-rich

carbon-shaming the ~ (for their planes, yachts, etc.)

super-hyper-mega-uber

this ~ French entry (Barbara Pravi / Eurovision Contest)

♦ "We've never witnessed buildings rise so much, so quickly. From high-rises, we've stretched to supertalls and even megatalls (double the

height of a supertall), and engineers are already discussing 'ultratalls' that would take us higher still." ("Can A Building Be Too Tall?" by Bianca Bosker, *The Atlantic*, January / February 2023.)

♦ "If it has a crew working aboard, it's a yacht. If it's more than ninety-eight feet, it's a superyacht. After that, definitions are debated, but people generally agree that anything more than two hundred and thirty feet is a megayacht, and more than two hundred and ninety-five is a gigayacht. The world contains about fifty-four hundred superyachts, and about a hundred gigayachts. / For the moment, a gigayacht is the most expensive item that our species has figured out how to own." ("The Floating World" by Evan Osnos, *The New Yorker*, July 25, 2022.)

♦ "He was a mega talent." ("Timeless Star" Leslie Jordan's representative David Shaul. Tributes were also paid by Dolly Parton; Lynda Carter; Sean Hayes, Erick McCormack and Megan Mullally (*Will and Grace*); George Takei; RuPaul's Drag Race; Ellen DeGeneres; Bobby Berk; Billy Eichner; Jim Parsons (*The Big Bang Theory*); Michelle Pfeiffer; Lonnie Love; Marlee Matlin; Jackée Harry; Demi Lovato; and Wilson Cruz.)

♦ Much in U.S. society is and always has been and always will be commercial, promotional, and self-promotional. And our language reflects it: *big, super-, trendy, performative, curated, boutique*, "throw it all on the wall and see what sticks," *artisanal, craft, custom, heirloom, designer, bespoke, bedazzled* (or is it *bejazzled?*), *uber, meta, hyper, upcycled, -forward, -informed, -driven, -ized, reinvented, pop-up, verb-up, kinetic, fluid, deep, massive, generational, transactional, intersectional, insanely cool*, "try this genius hack to..." In warfare, bombs and missiles have gone from *dumb* to *smart* to *brilliant*.

♦ see also *supersizing* (*linguistic supersizing*)

**language / size / superlative: affix**

## **megaphone (noun)**

megaphone for rants

the Internet gives anyone a free ~

media megaphone

his voice is amplified by the ~ (a Wall Street analyst)

social justice megaphones

~ such as *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*

digital megaphone

he has been communicating through his ~, Twitter

huge megaphone

I work at *The New York Times*, I have a ~ and platform

pulpit and the megaphone

use the ~ of the office to highlight human rights

lost his megaphone

I'm happy that Jones has ~ (deplatformed by Twitter, etc.)

♦ "Farm labourers harvesting in the fields recalled [the 25-year-old Italian Vincent Lunardi] shouting through his silver speaking-trumpet." (From a hot-air balloon, 15 September, 1784. From *The Age of Wonder* by Richard Holmes.)

♦ "Sullivan stood in the dock [of the Old Bailey] directly facing the witness box. Above him was a sounding board to amplify his voice." (1851.)

**message / transmission: tools & technology**

## **meh (noun)**

meh

~, just another Hollywood junkie, they're a dime a dozen...

felt pretty meh

many workers have always ~ about their work

**feeling, emotion & effect: exclamation**

## **melodrama (noun)**

legal melodrama

a ~ erupted, dismaying and demoralizing patients

**feeling, emotion & effect: theater**

## **melodramatic (adjective)**

melodramatic

don't be so ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: theater**

## **melt (verb)**

melted (silently) into the trees

the platoon ~

melted under the onslaught

Saudi Arabia ~, as Germany... (soccer)

**appearance & disappearance: snow & ice / verb**

## **melt away (verb)**

militias have melted away

Shiite ~

tension melted away

all my tension ~

**appearance & disappearance: snow & ice / verb**

## **meltdown (failure)**

in meltdown

the country is ~ (Yemen)

market meltdown

a bill to prevent a repeat of the ~ of 2008

dot-com meltdown

the ~ and poor economy

internet meltdown

a software bug triggered the ~

NotPetya meltdown

Maersk's global network in the wake of its ~ (worm)

social-media meltdown

it was a major ~ (Facebook goes down for 14 hours)

full-blown meltdown

Southwest Airlines cancels 5,400 flights in a ~

economic meltdown

the landmark restaurant was a victim of the ~  
the economy is in free-fall, ~ (Zimbabwe)

financial meltdown

the IMF tries to avert ~s  
we are still paying for the ~ (2010)

meltdown dealt a deathblow to both ideas

the financial ~ (foreign policy)

avert (financial) meltdowns

the IMF tries to ~

paying for the (financial) meltdown  
we are still ~ (2010)

triggered (economic) meltdown  
sanctions have ~

**destruction / failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances / nuclear energy**

## meltdown (emotions)

meltdown and rant  
his ~ was a disgrace to boxing (Anthony Joshua)

went into meltdown  
Madrid's media ~ (over a soccer controversy)

♦ Selfish, childish meltdown; and that meltdown at the end, totally bizarre...; wow, that was some meltdown; AJ has serious issues, his meltdown was worrying... (Comments about the bizarre post-fight antics of Anthony Joshua following his second loss to Oleksandr Usyk.)

♦ "I hadn't an inkling of [depression's] true contours or the nature of the pain so many victims experience as the mind continues in its insidious meltdown. / In Paris that October night I knew that I, too, was in the process of meltdown." (*Darkness Visible: A Memoir of Madness* by William Styron.)

**mental health: direction / nuclear energy  
feeling, emotion & effect: nuclear energy**

## melt down (emotions)

melt down in my office  
he would ~, start sobbing about his dad (death of dad)

**mental health: direction / nuclear energy / verb  
feeling, emotion & effect: nuclear energy / verb**

## melting pot (noun)

melting pot  
the ~ was being reimagined as a salad bowl (ethnic identity, multiculturalism, etc.)

melting pot, a (beautiful) tapestry, or a salad bowl  
is the United States a ~

cultural melting pot  
a foundational element of US society is that we are a ~

religious melting pot  
Sarajevo, a ~ throughout its history...

♦ "Macedonia [was] the inspiration for the French word for 'mixed salad' (*macedoine*)." (*Balkan Ghosts: A Journey Through History* by Robert D. Kaplan.)

♦ Argentina was once describe by a Polish émigré as "batter that has not yet become cake." ("Another New World" by Larry Rohter, *The New York Review*, June 10, 2021.)

♦ "This points to a unique understanding of plurality of Indian society—it is more like a *thali* (an Indian meal comprising a selection of separate dishes served on a platter), rather than a melting pot." (Neha Sahgal, a lead author of a Pew study that found Indians support religious tolerance and religious segregation.)

**mixture: container / fire / mining / temperature  
identity & nature: container / fire / mining / temperature**

## memo (sarcasm)

missed the memo  
somewhere at some point I ~ that says it's OK to be insane

♦ "Somewhere at some point I missed the memo that says it's OK to be insane and that is the new and upcoming norm-!" (A commenter at the Libs of TikTok.)

**language: sarcasm**

## memory lane (down memory lane)

trip down memory lane  
a ~ (old photos)

walk down memory lane  
a ~

take a (quick) trip down memory lane  
let's ~ and review the past decade (on Mount Everest)

## past & present / time : journeys & trips / infrastructure menagerie (group)

menagerie of drones  
a veritable ~ circles the skies (Raven, Wasp, Hawk, etc.)

menagerie of (fundamental) particles  
the ~ that has been collected since the 1890s (physics)

menagerie of (unruly and curiously assorted) ships  
an admiral called it a ~ (British Navy in the 1880s)

zoo of (subatomic) particles  
the Standard Model includes a ~ (physics)

♦ "Some nights at the bar I would descend into discussions with cosmologists and other[s]... and discover that Doctor Seuss meant more to them than a menagerie of imagined animals and a vivid and troublesome cat." ("The Science of Dr Seuss," BBC, Sounds, with Robin Ince. Seven Doctor Seuss books were cancelled in 2021.)

**group, set & collection: animal / zoo**

## mend (on the mend)

on the mend  
but now his life is ~  
the presidents says he and the country are ~ (pandemic)

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine / mechanism**

## mend (verb)

mend the divisions  
~ in East Timorese society (elections)

**amelioration & renewal: mechanism / verb**

## mental (adjective)

mental competence  
cases where a defendant's ~ is in question...

mental competency  
the judge has not asked for a ~ evaluation (Aiden Fucci)

mental disease  
not guilty by reason of ~ (Darrell Brooks / Waukesha)

mental disorder  
they have not said if he suffers from a ~ (Aiden Fucci)  
TikTok is a dangerous breeding ground for ~s

mental distress  
we develop new language around ~ (Project LETS)  
he showed signs of ~ (a school shooter)  
she had her son committed for ~ (Cody Cousins /Purdue)

mental evaluation  
ex-Disney start to undergo ~

mental fitness  
Serena Williams talks ~ with Selena Gomez

mental health  
see *mental health (noun)*

mental ill health  
~ was a factor in Andrew Leek's decisions (UK)

mental illness  
a young immigrant has ~...  
Care Court for those with untreated severe ~ (California)

mental healthcare  
a ~ executive named David Covington

mental history  
and then she's got this ~...

mental hospital  
she is currently receiving treatment in a ~

mental instability  
judging by this comment section, ~ is rampant

mental issue  
everybody has some type of ~  
seems like she always had to struggle with ~s (a celebrity)

mental state  
ultimately it's very detrimental to my ~ (social media)  
Joshua's ~ has been under the spotlight (boxing)  
something is very wrong with his ~ (Bryan Kohberger)

mental well-being  
see *mental well-being (and mental well-being)*

mental wellness  
see *mental wellness (noun)*

**mental health: euphemism**  
**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**  
**mental health (noun)**

mental health  
Moore's mother, Rachel Crisp, spoke about her son's ~  
unfortunately, many police officers are not trained in ~  
before ~ was among everyone's mind (Serena Williams)  
~, how to cope with trauma (in the intelligence community)

mental health of athletes  
there has been a growing conversation about the ~

mental health of students  
a new school year brings fresh concerns about the ~ (NPR)

mental health in the workplace  
the need to address ~ and prevent violence

mental health advocates  
~ hope that 988 will... (telephone number)  
~ hope today starts a new era for mental health (988)

mental health ambassadors  
~, students who have been trained as peer counselors

mental health awareness  
a blog emphasizing ~ for LGBTQ+ youth

Mental Health Battle  
Singer Opens Up About ~ (GMA news ticker)

mental health blogger  
Beth Matthews was a well-known ~ (Mental Health UK)

mental-health boost  
living near a park seemed to offer the same ~ (as nature)

mental health break  
Nat Sciver takes ~ (England women's cricket)

mental-health call  
video shows Ohio cop stabbed in neck during ~

mental health care  
the ~ system is a revolving door

mental-health centers  
the state's existing ~

mental health challenges  
the person who made this claim is struggling with deep ~  
if you've ever known anyone with severe ~  
the data add details to a worrisome picture of youth ~  
people with ~ (homeless, drug and alcohol use disorders)

mental health charity  
Talk Club, a men's ~ (name-checked by Tyson Fury)

mental health (welfare) check  
St. Louis officer shot during ~

mental health community  
the plan was a big deal in the ~ (mobile units, etc.)

mental health concerns  
teachers must understand what ~ are in their classroom  
resources for responding to ~ are in short supply

mental health conditions  
his lawyer said he needs medication for his various ~

mental health content  
adolescent girls consume ~ on TikTok

mental health counseling  
Uvalde school district to receive \$1.25 million for ~  
she needs some serious ~ before she hurts someone (actor)

mental health (First Aid) course  
staff must take a ~ (a university football team)

mental health crisis  
police responded to a report of an individual with a ~

she was experiencing a ~  
73% of college students experience some sort of ~  
he suffered a ~ after doing badly in his exams (Exeter suicide)

mental-health crisis  
beginning today, anyone having a ~ can dial 988

mental health crises  
~ can be connected to other situations (drugs, abuse)

mental-health crises  
individuals who are experiencing ~ (and the police)  
most of the country still relies on 911 to manage ~

Mental Health Day  
World ~

mental health emergencies  
the risks of having law enforcement officers involved in ~

mental health episode  
they say their son was having a ~ and police escalated...

mental health expert  
a school ~ says to let them know (about coming hurricane)

mental health explosion  
the TikTok ~ is a modern version of social contagion (girls)

mental health facility  
the threshold to forcibly commit to a ~ is very high  
you were involuntarily admitted to a ~

mental health grounds  
Nick Kyrgios seeks dismissal of assault case on ~ (BBC)

mental health group  
our department has a ~ that is available to them (police OIS)

mental health help  
call 988 for ~ (national suicide hotline)  
people seeking ~ for secondary trauma (no direct contact)

mental health hold  
she was placed under a ~ after the stabbing (for 48 hours)

mental health honesty  
Selena Gomez documentary receives praise for ~

mental health hotline  
a new ~ provides support to farmers and ranchers

mental health influencers  
most of the TikTok ~ are teen girls and young women  
~ help viewers self-diagnose (not good)

mental health initiative  
Selena Gomez launches ~ by sharing letter (WonderMind)

mental health issues  
Danish police say the suspect has ~  
there are ~ concerning everyone involved in this case  
people and caregivers dealing with ~  
she has had some substance and/or ~ for some time  
her lawyer said she had a history of profound ~  
these ~ are sad but not a 'get out of jail free' excuse  
how was she allowed to be a nurse, with these ~

he discussed his ~ and addiction battles (died in bathtub)  
Amber McLaughlin's traumatic childhood and ~ (trans)  
gender-diverse kids are at high risk for ~ (over 50 percent)

mental health journey  
she has always been so open about her ~

mental health message  
fans applaud Garcia's ~ (boxing)

mental health needs  
New York will invest \$1 billion to address ~

mental health platform  
the actresses' ~ (Selena Gomez / WonderMind)  
the teen ~ BeMe

mental health pressure  
more athletes are speaking up about the ~ of their sport

mental health prioritisation  
Lisa Keightley on ~ (England women's cricket)

mental health problems  
he had been struggling with ~ (a suicide)  
~ verge on an epidemic (colleges)  
'Ice' is fueling violent crimes, addiction and ~ (Australia)

mental health professional  
the alleged suicide attempt had been handled by ~s  
his parents assured police he was getting help from ~s  
he was taken into custody and is being evaluated by ~s

mental health providers  
Colorado's politically powerful ~  
Dartmouth's ratio of students to ~ is abysmal and it shows

mental health resources  
the need for more ~....  
there is a need for more ~  
Megan Thee Stallion launches website with ~ for fans

mental health risks  
California may require labels to warn of ~ (legal cannabis)

mental health services  
local organizations providing ~  
Florida's Baker Act provides emergency ~ and detention...  
more students are asking for ~

mental health struggles  
he was spoken candidly about his own ~ (a boxer)  
the defendant's extremely reckless conduct and her ~...

mental health support  
Skateboard England does not provide any ~  
the failures in ~ for young people (pandemic)

mental health system  
the ~ needs to be evaluated and changed

mental health workers  
~ plan to strike (Kaiser Permanente, California)

mental health and substance abuse  
she is struggling with ~ issues

mental health and self esteem

being teased had a negative impact on ~ (weight)

mental health and happiness  
Ellie Downie retires to ‘prioritise ~’ (the gymnast)

mental health and homelessness  
he struggled with ~ (shot dead after threatening a child)

mental health and addiction recovery  
National Recovery Month increases awareness around ~

mental health and well-being  
full-time streamers must focus on their ~ (Twitch, etc.)  
spending time in nature benefits ~ (Audubon Society)  
ESL teacher ~ (TESOL Arabia 2023)

mental health and wellbeing  
Sciver pulls out of India series to ‘focus on ~’ (cricket)  
she has decided to withdraw to focus on her ~

mental health and wellness  
Talkspace can take care of your ~

athletes’ mental health  
universities focus on ~

kid’s mental health  
educators and health-care providers are concerned about ~

Edwards’ mental health  
State Police missed red flags about ~ before hiring him

society’s mental health  
the impact gun violence is having on ~

declining mental health  
he asked for help because of his ~ (student suicide / Exeter)

positive mental health  
fraternities have higher levels of ~, less depression, anxiety

worse mental health  
women who do more chores, caregiving may have ~ than men (ABC News)

message on mental health  
Dad shares emotional ~ (daughter committed suicide)

National Institute of Mental Health  
according to the ~...

levels of (positive) mental health  
fraternities have higher ~ less depression, anxiety

decline in her mental health  
her social media use coincided with a severe ~

dialogue around mental health  
we are hoping to change the global ~

concerns about the mental health  
a new school years brings fresh ~ of students (Chatterjee)

struggles with mental health  
LeAnn Rimes is opening up about her ~  
speaking about her ~ (Irish actor Jessie Buckley)

impact on (society’s) mental health  
gun violence has an ~ (NPR)

for his mental health  
he is taking a social media break ~ (celebrity actor)

bettering students’ mental health  
the JED foundation focuses on ~ and preventing suicide

behaviour, mental health and learning difficulties  
Cadman-Smith was a mentor responsible for pupils’ ~

racism and mental health  
the intersections of ~ exist at all levels of play (athletes)

mental health spiralled down  
his ~ after... (doomsday prepper, killed cops)

affect mental health  
how does machismo ~

benefits our mental health  
nature ~ and cognitive functioning...

blame mental health  
the judge criticized a “feeble attempt to ~” (Darrell Brooks)

eating away at your mental health  
if social media is ~, please stop (advice to athletes)

harms mental health  
the Chiefs’ imagery ~ (the NFL team / a Native activist)

hurts their mental health  
nearly half of workers say their job ~, survey finds...

improve our mental health  
science shows that green spaces ~ (Audubon Society)

improve mental health  
the fatal beating of a psychiatrist has sparked calls to ~

improve their mental health  
steps individuals can take to ~ (tips, etc.)

prioritise mental health  
Ellie Downie retires to ‘~ and happiness’ (the gymnast)

protect mental health  
gymnast Ellie Downie retires to ~

struggle with mental health  
earthquake survivors ~ two months later

struggling with her mental health  
she was ~ (Gabby Petito / according to a policeman)

struggling with their mental health  
another wave of kids ~ (NPR / Sept. 2022 / education)

taking a break for her mental health  
Nat Sciver is ~ (a female cricket player)

taking a toll on her mental health  
it’s clearly ~ (criticism of Gabby Hanna, Trauma Queen)

talk about mental health  
people do not ~ (in the world of skateboarding)

♦ In many of the examples above and below, “mental health” can be substituted with “mental illness.”

\*\*\* groups (autistics, women, Blacks, etc.)

♦ “Too many times we think of things like ‘this is racism’ and ‘this is mental health,’ and they’re separate. But in reality, it’s really complex and they inform one another.” (Kristi Oshiro, an assistant professor at Belmont University who has studied racism and its impact on athletes. From “Why mental health matters for athletes—even as they give their all to win” by Leah Asmelash, CNN, July 26, 2022. Consider also “Dumped NBA Star Goes After Team Therapist Who Exposed Him” by Josh Fiallo, *Daily Beast*, Nov. 04, 2022, about the NBA player Joshua Primo. At one time Primo’s lawyer accused the therapist of trading in “racial stereotypes.”)

♦ “The intersection of policing, race, and autism has the potential to result in tragic outcomes.” (“Parents of Black autistic sons share their stories after tragic encounters with police,” ABC News, April 28, 2023.)

♦ Dylann Roof, who murdered nine in “The Charleston church shooting,” is autistic. So was Adam Lanza, the “Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting” shooter. As was the U.K.’s Jake Davison (“Plymouth shooting”), who shot his mother and four passers-by.

♦ “Transgender and non-binary people are up to six times more likely to also have autism” by Lesley McClurg, NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, January 15, 2023.

♦ “You think I’m tepid but I’m misdiagnosed, / Cause I’m a stalker I seen all of your posts.” (“Crush” by Tessa Violet.)

♦ “My brain is poison and I’m searchin’ for the antidote / but every time I find it, my defenses scream ‘Oh no you don’t! woah...’” (YouTube gabbie hanna tik tok compilation.)

♦ “Famous American ‘OnlyFans’ star has been charged with murder for stabbing her Nigerian-American lover to death.”

♦ “Girlfriend kills boyfriend by mowing him down with her car, police say.”

♦ “Even before her teens [the blond actress Tuesday] Weld had claimed a nervous breakdown at nine, heavy drinking at ten and a suicide attempt at twelve. ‘As a teenager I was a wreck,’ she admits. ‘I drank so much I can’t remember anything. My teens passed by in drink.’ She had brawled publicly with an early Hollywood beau, John Barrymore, Jr., and tried to run down another, Gary Lockwood, speeding down Sunset Boulevard with him clinging to the hood. ‘Tuesday’s done some wild, wild things,’ said one longtime friend, ‘and screwed up many, many guys. She’s highly sexual.’” (*Al Pacino: A Life On The Wire* by Andrew Yule.)

♦ “The same formula again and again. I want to post pictures of myself in bathing suits. When I get criticized I’ll say I want to do it for others and for body positivity. When I get criticized for that, I will show sadness that the world doesn’t support mental health and I’m a victim, and finally I’ll get praised for being so brave for living my own truth.” (Bob Loblaw. A BBC HYS comment about “SI Swim model Natalie Mariduena wants to ‘be an example’ of ‘body normalcy’” by Stephanie Nolasco, August 20, 2022.)

♦ “We have Mexican vocalist Carla Morrison talking about mental health. Her own mental health, and how reaching out for help is viewed in some Latino communities...” (“After an extended hiatus, Alt. Latino returns to NPR Music,” NPR Morning Edition, Sept. 14, 2022.)

♦ “One study found eliminating marijuana use in adolescents would reduce global rates of schizophrenia by 10%.” (“California may require labels on pot products to warn of mental health risks” by April Dembosky, NPR, June 17, 2022.)

### \*\*\* language

♦ “We...develop new knowledge *and language* [italics mine] around mental distress.” (Project LETS.)

♦ “On Saturday, July 16, 2022, at 2:am, Officers responded to an armed *mental consumer* [italics mine] call in the 200 Block of South Main Street.” (A tweet by Memphis Police. The “armed mental consumer” was threatening to commit a mass shooting outside an arena.)

♦ DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND / DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES / CENTRAL STATE HOSPITAL / HIRAM W. DAVIS MEDICAL CENTER. (Signage for Virginia State’s “mental health” facility.)

♦ “Our perhaps understandable modern need to dull the sawtooth edges of so many of the afflictions we are heir to has led us to banish the harsh old-fashioned words: madhouse, asylum, insanity, melancholia, lunatic, madness. But never let it be doubted that depression, in its extreme form, is madness.” (*Darkness Visible: A Memoir of Madness* by William Styron.)

♦ “When I was first aware that I had been laid low by the disease, I felt a need, among other things, to register a strong protest against the word ‘depression.’ Depression, most people know, used to be termed

‘melancholia,’ a word which appears in English as early as the year 1303 and crops up more than once in Chaucer, who in his usage seemed to be aware of its pathological nuances. ‘Melancholia’ would still appear to be a far more apt and evocative word for the blacker forms of the disorder, but it was usurped by a noun with a bland tonality and lacking any magisterial presence, used indifferently to describe an economic decline or a rut in the ground, a true wimp of a word for such a major illness. It may be that the scientist generally held responsible for its currency in modern times, a Johns Hopkins Medical School faculty member justly venerated—the Swiss-born psychiatrist Adolf Meyer—had a tin ear for the finer rhythms of English and therefore was unaware of the semantic damage he had inflicted by offering ‘depression’ as a descriptive noun for such a dreadful and raging disease. Nonetheless, for over seventy-five years the word has slithered innocuously through the language like a slug, leaving little trace of its intrinsic malevolence and preventing, by its very insipidity, a general awareness of the horrible intensity of the disease when out of control. / As one who has suffered from the malady in extremis yet returned to tell the tale, I would lobby for a truly arresting designation. ‘Brainstorm,’ for instance, has unfortunately been preempted to describe, somewhat jocularly, intellectual inspiration. But something along these lines is needed...” (*Darkness Visible: A Memoir of Madness* by William Styron.)

### \*\*\*the bright side

♦ “Living a life of mental illness, they call it—I like to say mental superpowers—you know, basketball was always my escape.” (Former NBA player Delonte West about bipolar disorder.)

♦ Vibrant Emotional Health, which operates the lifeline...

♦ “WonderMind will adopt a more approachable and comfortable tone...” (The mental health platform of Selena Gomez and her mother.)

♦ Funding for WonderMind, the mental health platform associated with Selena Gomez and her mother, is partly funded by Serena Ventures, the golf legend Serena Williams’ investment portfolio.

♦ “Autistic people who create new universes...”

♦ “For all the little kids who have autism, it’s validating to see characters like themselves on television, instead of feeling invisible.” (Rose Jochum of the Autism Society of America, about the Sesame Street character Julia.)

♦ “People use the term neurodiverse to recognize the rich differences...”

♦ “If we can just free them to think that they can do anything, I really think they can. They need support. We should support them.” (Debbie Mielewski, whose son has autism spectrum disorder (ASD). From “U. Michigan study to help those with autism improve driving” by Mike Householder, AP, August 23, 2022. In phase 1 of the study, researchers found drivers with ASD detected fewer hazards. They also tended to stop short at stop signs. For further consideration, read “She was a respected nurse. Now she’s accused of killing 5 in horrific Windsor Hills crash” by Richard Winton, Noah Goldberg, Nathan Solis, *Los Angeles Times*, Aug. 12, 2022. Nicole Lorraine Linton had “mental health issues” and had been “involved in up to 13 wrecks before the Windsor Hills crash.”)

♦ Brendan Depa was one of the “so-called exceptional students.” The special help they are given at school is called exceptional student education. (Video shows 6-foot-6 student beat teacher unconscious, Matanzas High School, Palm Coast, Florida.)

♦ “According to the Clay Center for *Young Healthy Minds* [italics mine], 73% of college students experience some sort of mental health crisis during college.”

♦ “I’m not crazy. But it’s a crazy life. I was raised in a crazy family and it took 31 years to get the crazy out of me.” (Anne Heche, speaking to ABC News. Her 2001 memoir is called *Call Me Crazy*. Sadly, she died in 2022 in Los Angeles, age 53, having run her car into another person’s house and destroyed it, and leaving behind two children.)

♦ “This is what happens when you work to change things. First they think you’re crazy, then they fight you, and then all of a sudden you change the world.” (Elizabeth Holmes of Theranos.)

♦ Seize The Awkward: seize the awkward.org. / Love is Louder: loveislouder.com / Half of Us: halfofus.com... (JED foundation campaigns.)

### \*\*\*doing nothing...

♦ “When the paramedics arrived and tried to hospitalize Flack, she refused to go, telling the EMTs that she was just stressed and trying to sleep. / The following day...Flack took her own life.” (“Trouble in Paradise” by Anna Peele, *Vanity Fair*, July / August 2022.)

♦ “Joanna Hartigan, 54, from Hereford, was found dead in Nov. 2021 after medics decided she did not pose a serious risk.”

♦ “She was found asleep in a doorway in Croydon on the 6<sup>th</sup> of July, but told police officers she didn’t need help, and left.” (Student nurse Owami Davies. Subsequently five men were arrested for her disappearance, police trawled through 50,000 hours of CCTV, and Great Britain was put on alert. Five weeks later, she was found in Hampshire “in good health and not in a vulnerable state.” From BBC Six O’Clock News, August 23, 2022.)

♦ “His parents assured police he was getting help from mental health professionals.” (Robert E. Crimo III.)

♦ “So this nurse was psychotic, but allowed to be in the medical field???? If she was in jumping out of windows, on police cars but a licensed medical professional. Hmmm now that is insane.” (A commenter about “Nicole Linton Was Involuntarily Committed Multiple Times Before LA Crash, Attorneys Said” by Kui Mwai, Yahoo news, August 16, 2022.)

### \*\*\*the police, caught in the middle...

♦ “Jason had a medication meltdown where he was very, very violent. And I had to call the ambulance. The fire department called the police. And they came in with guns drawn. I’m telling them all the time, ‘There’s no weapons. My son has autism.’ They weren’t hearing anything. So, we want to make sure that the first responders are trained...” (Debra Vines. From CNN health. To donate to Vines’ group The Answer Inc. via GoFundMe, click here.)

♦ “He trusted the police to come and help him. Instead, they attacked and killed him.” (Simon and Sally Glass, the parents of Christian Glass. Christian had self-inflicted wounds from stabbing himself. Suicide by police is becoming more and more common in the United States.)

♦ “St. Louis officer shot during mental health welfare check.”

### \*\*\*parents love their children...

♦ “We choose to remember Jonathan as the thoughtful and intelligent young man we knew and loved.” (Family of man who shot and killed three strangers at a shopping mall and who himself was killed by an armed citizen who prevented an even worse massacre.)

♦ “It’s so terrible when someone is a good person but they do something like this and then all the good is erased and they only see the bad.” (Sylvia Brogdon, ex-mother-in-law of Amy Brogdon Anderson.)

♦ “He was crazy silly, crazy happy. He just loved everybody, he loved life.” (The mother of a 20-year-old man shot by police who had come to arrest him for domestic violence, assault, and improper handling of a firearm. The mother is suing.)

♦ “He was just a great kid... He’d walk in a room and he’d have this infectious smile... I had a false expectation that if law enforcement...knew that he *just* [italics mine] had a mental health condition...that he wouldn’t be gunned down in the middle of the street on a bright sunny day.” (The mother of a mentally ill man. She herself was the one who called the police, who ended up shooting and killing her son.)

♦ “He was the peacemaker [with his siblings]. He was the one that would make sure that they didn’t fight and they get along very well.” (A family member about Osaze Osagie, a schizophrenic, killed by police.)

♦ “Crumbley’s parents, James and Jennifer Crumbley, were charged with involuntary manslaughter and have pleaded not guilty. / Prosecutors accuse the couple of failing to keep the gun used in the shooting secure at home and failing to reasonably care for their son when he showed signs of *mental distress* [italics mine].” (“Lawyer: Teen a worry months before Michigan school shooting” by Corey Williams, AP, Sept. 22, 2022.)

### \*\*\*Simon Biles, Naomi Osaka, etc.

♦ “[Her case] is opening up this space to have these conversations where people can you know choose mental health over you know necessarily you know showing up to work when they’re feeling miserable.” (ABC, “Naomi Osaka Steps Away.”)

♦ “It does open up a conversation because it’s her using her voice and her platform to really call out systemic change, which she has done before. I think she can show other girls and women who look like her how to empower them to stand up for themselves in ways that I think we haven’t always been able to see.” (C. Vaile Wright, PhD, a clinical psychologist and the American Psychological Association’s Senior Director of Health Care Innovation, about Naomi Osaka and mental health.)

♦ “This is the new breed of ‘sporting achievement.’ The loser reveling in their own narrative of ‘poor me’ and ‘victimhood...’ [A] troubled past, a difficult childhood from nothing, and then of course the trump card: ‘My mental health issues.’ Serena W., Naomi O., Anthony J.” (A BBC HYS commenter about Anthony Joshua’s “bizarre post-fight antics” after his second loss to Oleksandr Usyk.)

### \*\*\*criminality, bad behavior, personality disorders, etc.

♦ “Nick Kyrgios seeks dismissal of assault case on mental health grounds.” (BBC.)

♦ “Draymond Green said he will step away from the Golden State Warriors ‘for a few days’ to *focus on himself* [italics mine] and allow the team to ‘heal’ in the wake of him punching teammate Jordan Poole in the face during an altercation at practice on Monday.” (“Draymond Green stepping away from Warriors after punching Jordan Poole: ‘Huge embarrassment’” by Brian Wacker, *New York Post*, Oct 8, 2022. See also “NBA suspends Warriors’ Draymond Green for stomping on Kings’ Domantas Sabonis” by Jeff Zillgitt, *USA Today*, April 18, 2023.)

♦ “Rapper Designer said he is seeking mental health treatment after he exposed himself on flight.”

♦ “I know that you all are surprised by today’s announcement. I’ve been seeking help to deal with previous trauma I suffered and will now take this time to focus on my mental health treatment more fully.” (A statement by NBA player Joshua Primo. According to Primo’s lawyer, Primo “never intentionally exposed himself [to Cauthen] or anyone else.”)

♦ “I’m thankful to my dad, who has been with me through this whole period and I’m glad this nightmare is coming to an end for the sake of our combined mental health.” (A statement by Conor Benn, who failed two drug tests, resulting in the cancellation of his scheduled fight with Chris Eubank Jr.)

♦ “The minute you give up is the minute your mental health wins. You’ve just got to keep on going.” (The boxer Anthony Joshua prior to his latest fight. His statement is interesting because he seems to consider his demons, his insecurities, his criminal past, and his execrable sportsmanship to be his “mental health.”)

♦ “Actor Ezra Miller seeking treatment for ‘complex mental health issues’ after period of ‘intense crisis.’” (Accused of abuse, arrested for bizarre acts...)

♦ “The Grammy Award winner cited past struggles with alcohol and depression.” (Accused of sexual misconduct.)

♦ “At the time of the offence, Cadman-Smith was a mentor responsible for supporting pupils’ ‘behaviour, mental health and learning difficulties.’ / But, now aged 24, she suffers from ‘extreme anxiety’ and was deemed ‘not mentally fit enough’ to enter a plea or stand trial.” (*Daily Mail*, about the mother-of-one’s sexual relation with a 15-year-old school boy.)

### \*\*\*Left to the imagination...

♦ “Australian captain Michael Hooper has withdrawn...and will return home as he is not in the right ‘mindset’ to play.”

♦ “Adrien Broner withdraws from upcoming fight due to mental health reasons.”

♦ “He withdrew from a fight with Javier Fortuna to address his mental health.” (Ryan Garcia.)

♦ “It is important that I focus on my own family and health...” (A leave of absence.)

### \*\*\*Social media

♦ “A new group of social media stars are surging on TikTok: Mental health influencers. Most of them are teen girls and young women who...” (“How TikTok has become a dangerous breeding ground for mental disorders” by Rikki Schlott, *New York Post*, March 12, 2022.)

♦ “Gone are the days of showing the highlight reel of your best life on Instagram. Now, it’s trendy to celebrate your worst moments. What attracts eyeballs in today’s social media market is tears, and content creators are incentivized to be vulnerable for views.” (“How TikTok has become a dangerous breeding ground for mental disorders” by Rikki Schlott, *New York Post*, March 12, 2022.)

♦ “Instagram pushed her down a dangerous rabbit hole.” (An eating disorder leads to teen suicide.)

♦ “‘I find Instagram and Twitter to be overstimulating, to be overwhelming,’ he said in a video posted Saturday. ‘I get caught up and I spiral when I read things about me online, and ultimately it’s very

detrimental to my mental state. So I decided to take a step back and delete the app." ("Spider-Man" actor Tom Holland says he is taking a social media break for his mental health" by Mirna Alsharif, NBC News, August 15, 2022. He has 67.7 million Instagram followers.)

♦ "The truth about teens, social media and the mental health crisis," NPR, All Things Considered, April 25, 2023.

### \*\*\*paranoid schizophrenia, etc.

♦ "Moore's mother, Rachel Crisp, spoke to Louisville news station WHAS11 about her son's *mental health* [italics mine] leading up to the incident. 'He was talking about vampires following him home. Just crazy nonsense stuff like that, it doesn't make any sense' she told the news station, adding that her son believed he was a werewolf and that most of his family, including his own child, were vampires." ("Man Killed Firefighter Who Came to His Aid, Thought Vampires Were After Him" by Gerrard Kaonga, *Newsweek*, 5/1/22.)

♦ "The assailant had mental health issues." (Ran into a family with truck, got out, and with a shotgun murdered a man and a baby held in her mother's arms...)

♦ "Sgt. Matthew Fishman of the Wayne County Sheriff's Office was killed last week. He was one of three deputies shot while trying to serve involuntary commitment papers at a home south of Goldsboro on Aug. 1." (The 23-year-old who shot the officers committed suicide after a 9-hour standoff.)

♦ "Jailhouse sources noted Abrokwa clearly has 'mental health issues.'" ("Alleged NYC 'poop perp' Frank Abrokwa scalded with boiling water on his face while at Rikers Island" by Gabrielle Fonrouge, *New York Post*, August 1, 2022.)

♦ "Major manic episodes; antisocial personality disorder (sociopath); anxiety disorders; bipolar disorder; schizo-affective disorder; schizophrenia; paranoid delusions; delusional disorder; dissociative disorders; "D.I.D., a complex mental health condition (dissociative identity disorder); "He felt like he was being surveilled and then accusing me of conspiring with the government" (a mother, about her son); borderline personality disorder; histrionic personality disorder; (THC-induced) psychosis; "How to spot the difference between a narcissist, psychopath, or sociopath"; hallucinations; hearing voices...; auditory hallucinations... (Mental illness terms, some scientific, some lay, some relatively innocuous, some incredibly dangerous, all commonly referred to as "mental health.")

### \*\*\*jumping on the bandwagon, etc.

♦ "The field is starting to build momentum right now. Evidence is there to support the conclusion that contact with nature benefits our mood, our psychological well-being, our mental health, and our cognitive functioning." (University of Washington environmental psychologist Gregory Bratman. Quoted in "The Nature Antidote" by Jill U. Adams, *Audubon* magazine, Winter 2019.)

♦ "A recent study in the journal *Scientific Reports* found that hearing or seeing birds can have a positive benefit on one's mental health." ("Feeling down? Step outside for a bird walk," Scott Simon, NPR, Mental Health, Weekend Edition Saturday, Nov. 12, 2022. A 1-minute listen. Thanks! That's helpful! See the Wikipedia entry "Scientific Reports.")

♦ "We want teachers to be able to understand what mental health concerns may be in your classroom." (Psychologist Dr. Janice Beal, who works with schools in the Houston area. "Have everybody share how they're feeling.")

♦ "People found they got remarkable feedback when they talked about their mental health." (Dan Roth, Editor in Chief at LinkedIn, about LinkedIn's "new emotional tone.")

♦ "Even five years ago people didn't open up so much. Now there's greater awareness of people's vulnerabilities, such as mental health and LinkedIn has magnified this." (Douglas Rode of the recruitment giant Page Group in the U.K and Ireland about LinkedIn's "new emotional tone.")

♦ "Heather has a BS in Psychology and an MS in Criminal Forensic Studies. She aims to use her gifts, talents, experiences, education, and authentic self to help others feel empowered to live as their authentic selves. She wants to normalize mental health struggles and addiction, and let people know that they are not alone. There is help and support just around the corner." (An advertising circular on a public bulletin board at a public library.)

♦ Funding for WonderMind, the mental health platform associated with Selena Gomez and her mother, is partly funded by Serena Ventures, the golf legend Serena Williams' investment portfolio.

♦ "Barbie launches first ever Barbie doll with Down Syndrome. (Mattel. The doll is shorter, with smaller features.)

### \*\*\*an international perspective...

♦ "For more than a generation now, we in the West have aggressively spread our modern knowledge of mental illness around the world. We have done this in the name of science... There is now good evidence to suggest that in the process of teaching the rest of the world to think like us, we've been exporting our Western 'symptom repertoire' as well. Indeed, a handful of mental-health disorders—depression, post-traumatic stress disorder and anorexia among them—now appear to be spreading across cultures with the speed of contagious diseases. These symptom clusters are becoming the lingua franca of human suffering, replacing indigenous forms of mental illness..." ("The Americanization of Mental Illness," by Ethan Watters, *NYT*, January 10, 2010. In addition, the western idea that mental illness is a disease, and not a spiritual sickness or temporary possession, has led to greater stigmatization for sufferers, not less. Studies show that schizophrenics fare better over time in less developed countries in such aspects as relapses, and social acceptance.)

### \*\*\*institutionalization, commitment

♦ "New Hampshire Hospital was established, in 1842, as a kind of utopian community, a reprieve from the disorder of the outside world. The hospital's early leaders tried to help patients regain their common sense... by immersing them in a model society. The hospital was situated on a hundred and seventeen acres, and patients lived in a stately, red-brick Colonial building with a steeple and a tiered white porch, surrounded by trees. They farmed, gardened, and cooked together; there was a golf course, an orchestra, a monthly newspaper, dances, and boating on the hospital's pond... / As the patient population expanded, though, the hospital couldn't maintain its early idealism. Psychiatrists no longer had time for the benevolent form of care known as "moral treatment." ("God Knows Where I Am," by Rachel Aviv, *The New Yorker*, May 30, 2011.)

♦ "It's concerning how easily the courts and the clinicians presume danger in individuals who may be having extreme mental experiences." (Laurie Coker, a psychiatric nurse once diagnosed with bipolar disorder. Her son committed suicide. She has opened the Green Tree Peer Center, "a peer-operated wellness center that empowers people to live more fully through peer support, self-help education, and great social connections! Click to donate online.")

♦ "Care Court as it's written right now is unconstitutionally vague and it violates the civil rights of our clients with mental health disabilities who are homeless." (Christian Abasto, legal director of Disability Rights California.)

♦ "California governor OKs mental health courts for homeless" by Janie Har and Adam Beam, ABC/AP, Sept. 14, 2022. The ACLU of California, Human Rights Watch, Disability Rights California, and numerous other organizations that work with homeless people, minority communities and people with disabilities, all claim the new program will violate civil rights.)

♦ "There was a 91% increase in involuntary commitment petitions in North Carolina between 2009 and 2018."

♦ "Dear has refused to take medication." ("Planned Parenthood shooting suspect can be forcibly medicated" by Abigail Beckman, KRCC. In a 2015 attack on a Colorado Springs Planned Parenthood, Robert Lewis Dear Jr. murdered three people and injured nine others.)

♦ "He's in that dark hole right now, and if you could force treatment there's a chance he could possibly crawl out of it... He's never been diagnosed. He doesn't want any help. He refuses to think of himself as ill, at all... It's okay to kill himself. He can stay on the streets, and he can die there, but he's going to die with his rights. The only rights I have as a mother is to go claim him in the morgue." (The mother of a mentally ill homeless drug addict who refuses treatment and is in and out of crisis police holds, emergency rooms, jails, and homeless shelters.)

♦ A "Ulysses pact" (contract) allows a mentally ill person to stipulate in advance that he be hospitalized during a mental illness crisis, thus circumventing a legal requirement that he give permission. Ulysses wished to hear the sirens, but understood their voices would lead him, and his men, to his doom. So he ordered his men to tie him to the mast, block their own ears with beeswax, and under no circumstance untie him until the danger was past.

♦ "I, \_\_\_\_\_, being an adult of sound mind, willfully and voluntarily make this advance instruction for mental health treatment to be followed if it is determined by a physician or eligible psychologist that my ability to receive and evaluate information or communicate decisions is impaired

to such an extent that I lack the capacity to refuse or consent to mental health treatment." (A psychiatric advance directive (PAD), or advance instruction.)

♦ "Why wasn't I in a hospital?... / I'm convinced I should have been in the hospital weeks before. For, in fact, the hospital was my salvation [where] I found the repose, the assuagement of the tempest in my brain... This is partly the result of sequestration, of safety, of being removed to a world in which the urge to pick up a knife and plunge it into one's own breast disappears... [T]he hospital also offers the mild, oddly gratifying trauma of sudden stabilization—a transfer out of the too familiar surroundings of home, where all is anxiety and discord, into an orderly and benign detention where one's only duty is to try to get well. For me the real healers were seclusion and time... [I] began to get well, gradually but steadily. I was amazed to discover that the fantasies of self-destruction all but disappeared within a few days after I checked in, and this again is testimony to the pacifying effect that the hospital can create, its immediate value as a sanctuary where peace can return to the mind." (*Darkness Visible: A Memoir of Madness* by William Styron.)

♦ "The fatal beating of a hospital psychiatrist, allegedly by a former patient, has sparked calls in Italy to improve mental health." (From "Fatal Beating of psychiatrist in Italy sparks reform outcry," AP, April 24, 2023. According to the article, "Under a 1978 law, Italy closed down psychiatric hospitals and made all psychiatric treatment voluntary, with very few exceptions. Critics say the legislation envisioned a network of neighborhood public health facilities to deliver mental health care, but that never fully developed." The victim, Dr. Barbara Capovani, 55, was the mother of three children. She was beaten to death while unlocking her bicycle by a man who had previously beaten a doctor.)

#### \*\*\*perceptions of the majority...

- ♦ "The clinical varieties of what used to be called 'madness' keep rising, especially among the young."
- ♦ "I am a retired senior citizen, but I do not recall any era in my lifetime of such an overload of patients seeking mental health services." (An online commenter.)
- ♦ "Growing up in the 70s and 80s we never heard much about "mental health." (An online commenter.)
- ♦ "Seems many of these wellness checks involve mental health issues." (A commenter about the case involving Amy Brogdon Anderson and her daughter.)

#### \*\*\*a funny cartoon

♦ A FUNNY CARTOON. Two young men are sitting at a table. The man on the left is a picture of despair: His elbows are on the table, his head is bowed, and his hands are on the top of his head, so that you can't see his face. Across the table, his nerdy Zoomer friend is saying, "Maybe try turning the mug around so its inspirational message faces you?" On the table is a mug. Looking closely, you can see that the "inspirational message" on the mug is the yellow smiley face. The upspeak indicated by the question mark in the caption is priceless. *The New Yorker*, November 7, 2022.)

#### \*\*\*the military...

- ♦ "Just admitted a gunner suffering from shock alone—no wound—completely knocked out; he can't tell you his name, or stand, or even sit up, but just shivers and shudders. Now he is warm in bed, he can say 'Thank you.' I wonder what exactly did it." (*Diary of a Nursing Sister on the Western Front: 1914-1915* by Kate (Katherine) Evelyn Luard.)
- ♦ "HYSTERICAL MONOPLÉGIA, Case D5.—FLACCID FOOT DROP / PRIVATE, 21 YEARS OF AGE. DURATION, 9 MONTHS / During the advance on Loos this private was "blown up" with his platoon and taken prisoner. He escaped the same evening and returned to the trenches, but walked with difficulty. The following evening when making an attack he was wounded in the left arm by shrapnel. The arm fell lifeless and he was dazed. An officer gave the warning that the Prussian Guards were advancing; he got up and made his way to a communication trench, where he began shaking; the left leg went "dead" and powerless and he became deaf. Hearing came back in about an hour. A fortnight later he was sent to England, where he received electrical treatment to the left arm and leg. / Nine months later there was no power whatever in the left foot. Anaesthesia was noted over the leg to a line drawn round the knee." (*Hysterical Disorders of Warfare* by Lewis Ralph Yealland, M.D., Resident Medical Officer, National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic, Queen Square, London, with preface by E. Farquhar Buzzard, M.D., F.R.C.P., Lieut.-Colonel, R.A.M.C., 1918.)

♦ Zhivago: There are three points. First, the court-martial of the vodka brewers; second, the reorganization of the field ambulance and the

pharmacy; and third, my proposal for the treatment of mental illnesses. I don't know whether you agree with me, my dear Lajos, but from what I observe we are going mad, and modern forms of insanity spread like an epidemic... / Lajos: ...I am not surprised at your suggestion for preventive psychiatry. I believe in it myself. We are faced with the rise and spread of a form of psychic illness that is typical of our time and is directly related to the contemporary upheavals. We have a case of it in the camp—Pamphil Palykh... / Zhivago: I know Palykh very well... All right, I'll see what I can do about it." (*Dr. Zhivago* by Boris Pasternak, from "The Forest Brotherhood." Palykh would end up murdering his wife and children with an ax to prevent them from falling into the hands of the enemy.)

♦ "One agency that seized upon Freeman's work was the Veterans Administration. Faced with an influx of shell-shocked World War II GIs that flooded its mental wards, the VA issued a directive in 1943 requesting its neurosurgeons to study and use the Freeman and Watts lobotomy technique. By 1951, nearly 3,000 lobotomies had been performed at VA hospitals, according to agency records." ("D.C. Neurosurgeon Pioneered 'Operation Icepick' Technique" by Glenn Frankel, the *Washington Post*, April 7, 1980.)

♦ It is impossible to understand what "mental health" means nowadays. Having a bad day? Female hormones? Bad behavior? A personality disorder? An excuse for bad behavior? An aspect of the for-profit and clicks "wellness" industry? Criminal behavior? An excuse for criminal behavior? Drug addiction or alcoholism? Simple anxiety? Paranoid schizophrenia? All of these things seem to be expressed by the term, "mental health." Mental illness is even considered as a "gift," "wonderful," and the mentally ill person is considered "amazing" and "exceptional" right up until the time he or "they" commits a horrible mass shooting, and then the person becomes "pure evil." This phrase is one of the best to illustrate the notion that when something means everything, it means nothing.

♦ see also *mental wellness* (noun), *self-care* (and *self care*), *welfare* (mental, etc.), *wellbeing* (noun), *wellness* (noun)

**mental health: euphemism / health & medicine  
inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

**mentally (mentally unwell, etc.)**

mentally disabled

- one man was ~, and another was untraceable (crime)
- Supreme Court blocks execution of ~ man (Texas)
- executing the ~ violated the Constitution's ban (2002)
- man pleads guilty to enslaving ~ man (NPR)

mentally fit

- a brain scientist explains how she stays ~ ("health" news)

mentally healthy

- how to stay resilient and ~ during the coronavirus outbreak

mentally ill

- law meant to help ~ puts more of them on the street
- county jails struggle to treat ~ inmates
- ~ inmates are often punished for their symptoms

"mentally retarded"

- the Supreme Court used the phrase ~ (2002)

mentally strong

- we are ~ (French coach Didier Deschamps / soccer)

mentally unwell

- she was deemed too ~ to attend court

physically and mentally

- 'queer gym' empowers LGBTQ+ clients, both ~
- the shooting impacted her health, both ~ (Megan T. Stallion)
- he is still healing ~ from the shooting (serious injuries)
- we put a lot in each game, ~ it's hard... (soccer)

**mental health: euphemism / health & medicine**

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## **mental wellbeing (and mental well-being)**

mental wellbeing

shift mental health away from crises toward ~ (jobs)

mental well-being

green space can restore not just your body but your ~, too

employees' mental wellbeing

discrimination linked to weight can affect ~

physical fitness and mental well-being

an athlete's ~

look after his mental wellbeing

he withdrew in order to ~ (a boxer)

**mental health: euphemism**

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## **mental wellness (noun)**

mental wellness classes

~ on a variety of topics (at a local library)

mental wellness conversation

she has elevated the ~ (Simone Biles)

environment of mental wellness

the intelligence community doesn't have an ~

path to mental wellness

there is a ~

focus on her mental wellness

she withdrew to ~ (Simone Biles)

*see also mental wellbeing (and mental well-being), mental health (noun), self-care (and self care), welfare (mental, etc.), wellbeing (noun), wellness (noun, etc.)*

**mental health: euphemism / health & medicine**

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## **menu (computer)**

Search Menu

Back to ~ (computer)

start menu

each user has a customized desktop and ~ (computers)

tools menu

on the ~, click mail merge (computers)

View menu

click on the following items on the ~ (computers)

items on the View menu

click on the following ~ (computers)

**alternatives & choices / computer: food & drink**

## **menu (other)**

menu of drugs

we have a ~ that... (treating virus)

menu of (vaccine) opportunities

we want to have a whole ~ (COVID-19)

**alternatives & choices / amount: food & drink**

**group, set & collection: food & drink**

## **mercenary (person)**

mercenaries

they are ~ who sell to anyone willing to pay (spying)

mercenaries for hire

he was ashamed to see his former colleagues ~

mercenary approach

some of his former colleagues took a more ~

mercenary model

locals renting rooms has been supplanted by a more ~

just a mercenary

he was ~ brought in to win a championship (baseball)

♦ Only stayed for money, a mercenary" (Commenter on a BBC HYS about a Man U goalie.)

**character & personality: money / person**

**person: money**

## **mercurial (adjective)**

mercurial insight

he is a visionary with a capacity for ~ (scientist)

mercurial manager

she has chosen to be a ~ (passionate but challenging)

mercurial personality

his ~ caused headaches (an employee)

mercurial producer

the ~ threw a baked potato at his head in 2018

mercurial trickster

Brando was a ~, he could be very selfish (the actor)

mercurial and uncertain

he is ~

brash and mercurial

Somalia's pirates are ~

♦ Anxiety; irritability; insomnia; emotional instability; depression; suicidal thoughts; racing thoughts; fearful feelings; feelings of persecution; feelings of worthlessness; anhedonia (an inability to feel pleasure); loss of self-control; loss of joy in life; a vexing inner restlessness; restless sleep; moodiness; withdrawal from society; fear of further deterioration; vomiting; enlarged brain; congestion in lungs; gingivitis; tremors... (Symptoms of mercury poisoning, known as Mad Hatter's Disease. Suffered by those who did fire-gilding in the past.)

**character & personality: materials & substances**

## **merry-go-round**

merry-go-round of foster care

the ~

Chelsea manager merry-go-round

the ~, the gift that never stops giving (Tuchel sacked)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / movement:  
sports & games

## mesmerizing (adjective)

mesmerizing

he is ~, you can't take your eyes off him (Ronaldo)

mesmerizing performance

she bewitched all with a ~

makes the film mesmerizing

strangeness and emotion ~

♦ This word comes from Franz Anton Mesmer (1734-1815). As such, it is a eponym. Like *Kung Pao* chicken, or *General Tso's* chicken. Roy Allen and Frank Wright (A & W Root Beer). Hans Asperger. Robert Wilhelm Bunsen (the *Bunsen* burner). Samuel Colt (the Colt revolver). Gabriel Fallopius. Dr. Richard J. Gatling (the *Gatling* gun). Joseph Guillotin. The Greek God *Hymen*. Mikhail *Kalashnikov*. Jules *Leotard*. Joseph Lister (*Listerine*). John Landis Mason (the *Mason* jar). Claude-Etienne Minie (the *Minie* bullet). Jean *Nicot* de Villemain (*nicotine*). Louis Pasteur (*pasteurization*). Julius Petri (*petri* dish). Henry Shrapnel (the shrapnel shell). Etienne de *Silhouette*. Horace Smith and Daniel B. Wesson (*Smith & Wesson*). Frederick Wilfred Stokes (the *Stokes* mortar). John Montagu, 4th Earl of *Sandwich*. James Syme (the *Syme's / Syme* amputation). Uziel Gel (the *Uzi*). Germany's Count Ferdinand von *Zeppelin*.

feeling, emotion & effect: magic

## mess (person)

mess

he's a ~ (not in control of his life)

hot mess

see *hot mess (person)*

character & personality: hygiene

## mess (noun)

hot mess

see *hot mess*

becoming a mess

our generation is ~ (social media)

clean up the mess

grownups must ~ (finances)

cleaning up this mess

we're ~ (diplomacy)

get into this mess

so how did we ~ (computers)

walking into a mess

he was ~, a complete rebuild (a sports franchise)

flaws & lack of flaws / situation: hygiene

## message (send a message, etc.)

message of hate

bin Laden's ~ (terrorism)

message of hope

a ~ versus false hope (schizophrenia)

the film offers a ~

message of unity and equality

his ~ (Martin Luther King, Jr.)

messages about cheating

schools send mixed ~

play's message

some have questioned the ~ (controversial, political)

song's message

the ~

core message

his ~ is...

key message

I think one of the ~s is...

public health message

Angolans have resisted the ~ (Marburg virus)

underlying message

understand their ~ (autistic behaviors)

inspiring message

not exactly an ~

leaders issued ~s

mixed message

schools send ~s about cheating

subliminal message

logos can be powerful, and they are all about ~s

wrong message

sending the ~ to kids (that thin is good)

important psychological message

this would send an ~ to Noriega

message is getting through

our message is ~

get the message across

we need to ~ to every fan that racist abuse is wrong

send messages

people ~ through their body language

♦ "[In the hill and mountain country of northern India]... inter-village communication is carried on by shouting. Standing on a commanding point, maybe a big rock or the roof of a house, a man cooees to attract the attention of the people in a neighboring village, and when the cooee is answered the message is shouted across in a high-pitched voice. From village to village the message is tossed, and is broadcast throughout large areas in an incredibly short space of time." (The cooee method of communication. From *Man-Eaters of Kumaon* by Jim Corbett.)

message: tools & technology

## messenger (shoot the messenger)

shoots the messenger

if he doesn't like the intelligence he gets, he ~ (a leader)

message: allusion / person

## messiah (noun)

messiah of the (global warming) movement

she has been described as the ~ (Greta Thunberg)

political messiah

Bobby Kennedy was being transformed into a ~ (1968)

hailed him as the Messiah

MU fans ~ (Cristiano Ronaldo / soccer)

♦ It's a message we were dying to hear; oh, man, I love it, I like what he said; I'm impressed; he hit all the right notes; music to the ears; he seems like a genuine dude; I think this is the coach that's going to bring us to the promised land... (Comments about coach Mark Madsen, the new basketball coach at the University of California, Berkeley.)

♦ "He said there was gold here. He lied. He is not perfect!" (The character of Auda Abu Tayi, played by Anthony Quinn, to the character of Sherif Ali, played by Omar Sharif, about the character T.E. Lawrence, played by Peter O'Toole, from the great film *Lawrence of Arabia*, directed by David Lean.)

**message: Bible / person / religion**

## messianic (adjective)

messianic terms

he saw the mission in almost ~ (WeWork)

messianic zeal

he has a ~ (Adam Neumann of WeWork)

**message: Bible / religion**

## messy (adjective)

messy

the world is ~ (Barack Obama on being "woke")

messy situation

it's a ~

described as messy

we separated under circumstances best ~ (relationship)

**flaws & lack of flaws: hygiene**

## met (met by anger, etc.)

met by violence

somewhere along the way they were ~ (murdered couple)

**fictive meeting & seeing: verb**

## meta (affix)

meta-consideration

the assemblage provokes a ~...

meta-pop

Gayle, and the rise of ~... (Taylor Gayle Rutherford)

meta territory

the film leans fully into ~

metaverse

see *metaverse* (noun)

meta-textual

her post-modern, ~ lyrics failed to find an audience (contest)

♦ "The film leans fully into meta territory." (Caryn James about *Bros*, a gay rom-com. This short sentence is notable for containing 3 contempo-speak clichés: "lean into," "meta," and "territory.")

♦ "The assemblage provokes a meta-consideration: what truly separates the stripper from the actor, the club from the theater?" ("Down South: P-Valley," on Starz by Doreen St. Felix, *The New Yorker*, August 8, 2022.)

♦ Much in U.S. society is and always has been and always will be commercial, promotional, and self-promotional. And our language reflects it: *big, super-, trendy, performative, curated, boutique*, "throw it all on the wall and see what sticks," *artisanal, craft, custom, heirloom, designer, bespoke, bedazzled* (or is it *bejazzled?*), *uber, meta, hyper, upcycled, -forward, -informed, -driven, -ized, reinvented, pop-up, verb-up, kinetic, fluid, deep, massive, generational, transactional, intersectional, insanely cool*, "try this genius hack to..." In warfare, bombs and missiles have gone from *dumb* to *smart* to *brilliant*.

**contempo-speak / language: affix**

## metastasize (verb)

metastasize

this is a cancer that has been allowed to ~ (an issue)

metastasized

the mission has ~ (a military operation)

metastasized to (over) \$20,000

that debt ~ (credit-card debt)

metastasized into a (regional) crisis

the cancer has ~ (terrorism)

metastasized into a (global) crisis

recklessness ~ (financial collapse)

metastasized into a Great Depression

the great slump could have ~ (2010)

metastasized from a controversy to an indication

the situation has ~ of a larger problem (blackface)

metastasizing across the country for a long time

the problem of domestic terrorism has been ~ now

grown and metastasized

extremism has ~ in the country

allow the (underlying) problem to metastasize

treating the symptoms of the problem can ~ (politics)

**affliction: health & medicine / verb**

**growth & development: health & medicine / verb**

## metastasizing (adjective)

metastasizing (coronavirus) outbreak

the ~ in the US...

**affliction: health & medicine**

**growth & development: health & medicine**

## metaverse (noun)

Metaverse

the ~ is the next frontier (Mark Zuckerberg)

Metaverse app

~ allows kids into virtual strip clubs

metaverse landscape

the much-hyped ~

described the metaverse

Zuckerberg has ~ as the company's new "North Star"

♦ "In 1992, Neal Stephenson coined the term *metaverse* in his novel *Snow Crash*." ("The Coming Worlds: The Metaverse is still under

construction, but it's sure to change our lives" by Matthew Ball, *Time*, August 8/August 15, 2022.)

♦ "In 1992, Neal Stephenson's sci-fi novel *Snow Crash* imagined a form of virtual entertainment so immersive that it would allow people, essentially, to live within it. He named it the metaverse." (We're Already In The Metaverse: Reality is blurred. Boredom is intolerable. And everything is entertainment" by Megan Garber, *The Atlantic*, March, 2023.)

♦ "Imagine something innocuous like a water-cooler conversation in an office. Imagine that it's happening in a fully-monitored metaverse environment—that is certainly going to have life-changing consequences..." (Alex Rice, the co-founder of online security company HackerOne.)

**computer: astronomy**

**area / environment: astronomy**

## meteoric (adjective)

meteoric

her academic progress was less than ~

meteoric rise

his ~ was the stuff of New York dreams (literary agent)

she had a ~ and a heartbreaking fall (Whitney Houston)

the podcast chronicles her ~ and fall from grace

she enjoyed a ~ through Washington's journalism ranks

his resignation cuts short a ~ through Scottish politics

a racial slur has stopped his ~ in its tracks (singer)

the ~ in popularity of the word "bae" (2014)

meteoric success

he achieved ~ (owner of Israeli winery)

**speed: astronomy**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## meteorically (adverb)

risen meteorically

the money made by social-media influencers has ~

**speed: astronomy**

## meteorite (noun)

fiscal meteorite

higher taxes caused by the ~ of COVID

♦ "It's an aberration, the burden of tax, caused in no small part by the fiscal meteorite of COVID." (Prime Minister Boris Johnson, during a speech in Blackpool.)

**destruction: astronomy**

## Methuselah

comic-book Methuselah

a ~, Stan Lee died aged 95...

Methuselah Foundation

the Immortality institute, the ~ (longevity science)

"Methuselah Trusts"

~ can build massive wealth

♦ Long living things from turtles to trees have been named Methuselah. Methuselah is the name given to the bristlecone pine in California's White Mountains, thought to be the oldest living thing at 4,600 years old.

**past & present / time: Bible / religion**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence / survival, persistence & endurance: allusion / Bible / religion**

## metronomic (operation)

metronomic

she is not ~, she's not a machine, she's very human (athlete)

**consciousness & awareness / feeling, emotion & effect / operation: mechanism**

## miasma (noun)

miasma of sleaze and corruption

the administration is mired in a ~ (politics)

**corruption: air / atmosphere / smell**

## Michael Jordan (Michael Jordan of the dog-show world, etc.)

Michael Jordan of the dog-show world

Mick is the ~ (a blue terrier)

**achievement, recognition & praise: epithet**

## microaggression (groups)

microaggression

~s are nothing compared to... (life / hunger, etc.)

~s are pervasive (a Cambodian immigrant)

micro-aggression territory

her repeated questions stepped into ~

microaggression trauma

most of the world doesn't care about your ~

microaggression websites

~ where students document microaggressions...

microaggressions, discrimination or macroaggressions

the difference between ~ is that...

racially aggravated microaggressions

Scottish cricket enabled a culture of ~ to develop

collection of microaggressions

Morris showcases a ~ (*All Her Little Secrets*)

treat every minor insult as a microaggression

they treat ~ (an Indian foreign student in the U.S.)

♦ In academia, eye-rolling can be considered a sign of patriarchy and a micro-aggression.

♦ "Microaggressions: Be Careful What You Say," NPR, Tell Me More, April 3, 2014.

♦ "Dancers who accused a leading choreographer of transphobia have claimed she has jeopardised their safety by publicising her resignation. / Rosie Kay resigned this week from the dance company she founded in 2004... / Kay believes what ensued at the dinner illustrates how women who stand up for women's rights are deliberately smeared with accusations of transphobia and more. Others there that night describe it differently. They claim, as alcohol was consumed, she crossed a line by airing her views in a hostile way... / One of the company members told the BBC: 'Initially, I was OK with her asking about why we identify as non-binary. It's OK to be a bit curious. But her repeated questions stepped into micro-aggression territory...'" ("Rosie Kay: Dancers write open letter to choreographer after gender row" by Katie Razzall, Culture editor, BBC, December 10, 2021.)

♦ "A scientific gang fight; furor; fierce outcry; fierce criticism; objections; personal attacks; leading the charge against someone (and his theory); savage mockery; allegations of hubris; condemnation of a scholarly paper as dreck (trash, rubbish); bearing a grudge; resentment; tarring someone as being a charlatan; claims of distorting what others scientists are saying; claims of willful misrepresentation..." (A scientific dispute involving academics. From "E. O. Wilson's Theory of Everything" by Howard French, *The Atlantic Magazine*, November, 2011.)

♦ Bitter feuds; divisions; hatreds (sectarian and personal); sectarianism; a maelstrom of professional ill will (Philadelphia); animosity; denunciations; fraternal hatred; resentment; conspiracies; schisms; coups; ousting... (Doctors and medical schools in the 1800s. From *The Social Transformation of American Medicine* by Paul Starr.)

♦ "Albert Sabin... turned to me and said, 'Now Dr. Salk, you should know better than to ask a question like that.' It was like being kicked in the teeth. I could *feel* the resistance and the hostility and the disapproval. I never attended a single one of those meetings afterward without that same feeling." (Dr. Jonas Salk on being put in his place by Albert Sabin at a meeting.)

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

## microclimate

microclimate of white literary bourgeois Cape Town  
her novel is an evocation of the ~

**environment: weather & climate**

## microscope (under a microscope)

under the microscope  
cycling is ~ (Lance Armstrong, on doping)  
every aspect of their relationship is ~ (celebrities)  
now her own behavior is ~ (sex scandal)  
now it's Trump's turn ~ (a book by Bob Woodward)

get put under a microscope  
the first time a family gets a foster kid they ~

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / attention, scrutiny  
& promotion: tools & technology / eye**

## microscope (through a microscope)

look at things through a microscope  
my job is to ~, not the binoculars (reporter)

**perception, perspective & point of view: tools & technology**

## Midas (Midas touch)

Midas touch  
he had the ~ (Steve Jobs)

McTominay's Midas touch  
Robertson's tenacity and ~ (2 goals / Scottish soccer)

man with the Midas touch  
Jack Dorsey was the ~

♦ In some versions of the story, Midas did not end up well.

**money: allusion**

## middle (in the middle)

caught in the middle  
civilians are ~ (war)

**situation: center & periphery / position**

## Middle Ages (history)

medical Middle Ages  
the Civil War was fought at the end of the ~ (US)

marching backward to the Middle Ages  
it feels like this country is ~ (religion)

**growth & development: history**

**past & present / time: history**

## middle-of-the-road

middle-of-the-road approach  
we are taking a ~

middle-of-the-road Democrat  
he's been a ~ his entire career (a politician)

**position, policy & negotiation: position**

**center & periphery: position**

## middle-of-the-roader

middle-of-the-roaders  
they are ~

**position, policy & negotiation: person / position**

**center & periphery: position**

## midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.)

one more stroke closer to midnight  
for him, the campaign clock took ~ (failing)

two minutes before midnight  
it's ~ but I'm not desperate (genetic / tech safeguards)

♦ This is a reference to the *Doomsday Clock*.

**fate, fortune & chance: allusion / clock / day**

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: allusion / clock / day**

## midwife (person)

midwife of clowns  
Fusetti is known as the ~ (see below)

midwife of a flourishing English literature  
Caxton was the ~ (the printer)

midwives of success  
blunders are the ~ (the Museum of Failure)

played midwife to (new) democracies  
the US ~ in Germany and Japan after World War II

served as midwife  
Stanford has ~ to many disruptive technologies

♦ "Fusetti is known as the midwife of clowns." (The theater artist and teacher Giovanni Fusetti, in Padua, Italy. To paraphrase the great boxing promoter Don King, "Only in Italy!")

**creation & transformation: birth / person**

## midwife (as verb)

midwife the birth  
dispatched home in order to ~ of a Communist state

creation & transformation: birth / part of speech / verb

## migraine (noun)

full-on migraine

what we've got coming this weekend is a ~ (winter storm)

**affliction: health & medicine**

## migrate (verb)

migrating away from the Big Tech platforms

right-wingers are ~ they view as censorial

migrated to YouTube

after gaining nearly 6 million Vine followers, she ~

swimsuits migrate

~ (suit "wedgie" disqualifies swimmer)

♦ In the old days, people migrated from one country to another. Nowadays, they migrate from Twitter, Facebook and Reddit to Parler or Gab or Ovarit.

**movement: verb**

## migration (#TwitterMigration, etc.)

migration from Reddit to Ovarit

the TERF ~

"Great Mining Migration"

the ~ may lead to serious repercussions (bitcoin)

"great mining migration"

what crypto enthusiasts call the ~

#TwitterMigration

on October 27<sup>th</sup>, the ~ started trending (2022)

♦ "But there was one melancholy part. In the mouth of Loch Aline we found a great seagoing ship at anchor... / Then I understood this was an emigrant ship bound for the American colonies. / We put the ferry-boat alongside, and the exiles leaned over the bulwarks, weeping and reaching out their hands to my fellow-passengers, among whom they counted some near friends... / Thereupon Neil sheered off; and the chief singer in our boat struck into a melancholy air, which was presently taken up both by the emigrants and their friends upon the beach, so that it sounded from all side like a lament for the dying..." (*Kidnapped* by Robert Louis Stevenson.)

♦ Before 1910, more than 90 percent of blacks lived in the South. In 1940, 77 percent of black Americans still lived in the South—40 percent in the rural South. By the end of the migration, black America was only half Southern, and less than a quarter rural; "urban" had become a euphemism for "black." The black migration was one of the largest and most rapid mass internal movements of people in history—perhaps the greatest not caused by the immediate threat of execution or starvation. In sheer numbers it outranks the migration of any other ethnic group—Italians or Irish or Jews or Poles—to this country." (*The Promised Land: The Great Black Migration and How It Changed America* by Nicholas Lemann.)

♦ 1947. August 15, 1947. "Months of violence sharpened the divisions, highlighted Jinnah's arguments, achieved partition. On August 15, 1947... a bleeding Pakistan was carved out of the body of a bleeding India." (*Halfway to Freedom* by Margaret Bourke-White.)

♦ 1939-1946. "Between 1939 and 1946 an unprecedented number of people living between the Baltic and the Black Sea were uprooted from their homes. Over 20 million people were forced by fear, or by compulsion, to leave their homes, and to seek new, and mostly permanent sanctuary elsewhere." (*Atlas of Russian History* by Martin Gilbert.)

♦ The Harbor of Tears (Irish), the Trail of Tears (Cherokee), the Gate of Sorrows (China)...

♦ see also *exodus* (noun)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / migration: allusion / history

## mile (go the extra mile)

go the extra mile

we will have to ~ (negotiations)

gone the extra mile to make

we have ~ the fair safe

go the extra mile to ensure

we will ~ his safety (a famous inmate)

**extent & scope: distance / journeys & trips**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: distance / journeys & trips**

## mile (the last mile)

last mile

more attention paid to the ~ (COVID vaccine into arms)

last-mile problem

culture is the ~ of progress (willingness to trust, adopt)

**attainment: distance / journeys & trips**

## mile (by a mile)

won by a mile

the better fighter ~ (Usyk beats Joshua)

**extent & scope: distance**

## mileage

political mileage

~ to be gotten from historic grievances (blacks)

given the series (all sorts of) mileage

the pandemic has ~ (lockdown entertainment)

**cost & benefit: distance**

## milestone (noun)

milestone

the groups applauded Bush's signing of the bill as a ~ it was a ~, it held a lot of symbolic meaning (diplomacy)

milestone in (modern Holocaust) awareness

Eichmann's trial was a ~

milestone in the development

a ~ of Africa (emergency-med conference)

milestone in our journey

this is a significant ~ towards the promise of... (medicine)

milestone for a kindergartner

tying his shoes can be quite a ~

milestone payments

the companies get ~ to encourage development (outer space)

22 milestones

we laid out a series of ~ (contract)

another milestone

this is ~ in Georgia's democratic development (election)

motor milestone  
delays in language, speech and ~s (grasping objects, etc.)

developmental milestones  
~ occur (babies)

grim milestone  
a ~ is passed (US death toll passes 50,000 / pandemic)

major milestone  
the extraditions are a ~ in our effort... (law)

next milestone  
the ~ in neural prosthetics (for quadriplegics)

sad milestone  
this is a ~ on our descent into intolerance (shooting)

milestone was reached  
today a ~ (Stock Market hits 40,000)

passed a milestone  
the country appears to have ~ (Iran / nuclear weapons)

passed a milestone  
the country appears to have ~ (Iran / nuclear weapons)

♦ "The Appian Way began, as would all Roman Roads, from the Golden Milestone (*miliarium aureum*) at the Forum in Rome, the point from which all distances in the empire were measured... Milestones every 1,000 paces gave the distances between cities..." (*To the Ends of the Earth: The Great Travel and Trade Routes of Human History* by Irene M. Franck and David M. Brownstone.)

♦ Traditional sociologists listed five milestones of adulthood: (1) finishing school (2) leaving home (3) getting a job (4) marrying (5) having a child.

**achievement, recognition & praise / attainment / importance & significance / progress & lack of progress: infrastructure / journeys & trips / sign, signal, symbol**

## **milk (verb)**

milk this issue for all it's worth  
he will ~ (a politician)

milked them for all they were worth  
he seized the opportunities and ~ (Napoleon)

milk money out of the public  
it has always sought to ~ (Southern Poverty Law Center)

milk (as much) money (as possible) out of the public  
they try to ~ (disgruntled boxing fan)

milked the moment  
the Israelis really ~ (a diplomatic success)

MILKING this (worthless) story  
worthless writers are still ~ (Amber Heard vs. Depp)

**taking & removing: cows & cattle / verb**

## **milk run (noun)**

milk run  
it was a ~, like a neighborhood delivery (firebombing)

**danger / difficulty, easiness & effort: military**

## **mill (gossip / rumor mill)**

gossip mill  
the ~ at the office

rumor mill  
we all know the ~ churns out misinformation  
getting involved in the ~ at work can get sticky

rumor mill says  
the ~ he may have plans that do include Fury (boxing)

rumour mill spun out of control  
the ~, creating fear in the high school

rumour mill went into overload  
the ~ that O'Toole was to blame...

rumor mills whirred  
in the soldiers' camps, ~

rumor mills worked overtime  
the ~, cranking out fabulous yarns... (wartime)

♦ *Viva voce* is Medieval Latin for "with a living mouth." If you hear something *viva voce* it means somebody told you. It has come to mean "word of mouth."

♦ Hawaii has the "coconut wireless" or the Coconut Wire. The Philippines have the Bamboo Telegraph. Ghanaians can hear things via "the talking drum." From time immemorial, as Ibrahim al-Koni tells us, the desert winds have brought rumors and reports to the Saharawis: "I heard it on the wind." Americans can "hear it through the grapevine," or hear a report or account through the rumor mill. Italians say "*per sentito dire*" which basically means, "heard it said," and they hear gossip "*voci di corridoio*" which means "hall voice" or "voices in the hall." These systems operate by word-of-mouth, or, nowadays, the Internet.

♦ "The next person I came across was a dapper little man in a beautiful white wig, whom I saw to be a barber on his rounds; and knowing well that barbers were great gossips, I asked him plainly what sort of a man was Mr. Balfour of the Shaws." (*Kidnapped* by Robert Louis Stevenson.)

♦ "They've got a gallows-bad reputation, but, you know what a place the beach is for talking." / "The beach, if you don't know is the name of the gossip mill of white derelicts and rough customers that hang around your South Sea island ports. You'll find captains and traders too fond of their grog and properly down on their luck. I'll admit, I was fond of the gin myself back then..." (*The Beach of Falesa* by Robert Louis Stevenson.)

♦ "You may take it for a fact that anything of this kind is not only noticed and discussed by a man's own race but by some hundred and fifty natives as well... [T]he news flew, in the usual mysterious fashion, from mouth to mouth, till Bisesa's duenna heard of it and told Bisesa." (The affecting and horrible "Beyond the Pale" by Rudyard Kipling.)

♦ "You're sure you've took no 'arm?" cried Mrs. Cloke, who had heard the news by farm-telegraphy, which is older but swifter than Marconi's. / "No. I'm perfectly well," Sophie protested." ("An Habitation Enforced" by Rudyard Kipling.)

♦ "Word around the campfire for me was...that there was at least speculation, maybe informed speculation, that..." (A sports analyst.)

♦ "[The internet] is the modern world's equivalent of those bars in Donegal where rumors about the case used to circulate." (*No Body Recovered*, BBC Sounds, Episode 6. A missing child.)

♦ "Gossip is a fearful thing"—this phrase was found in the note left by the film star Ruan Langyu after she took her own life. ("On 'Gossip Is a Fearful Thing' by Lu Xun, from *Jottings under Lamplight*, edited by Eileen J. Cheng and Kirk A. Denton.)

♦ He who gossips to you will gossip about you!

**content / gossip: manufacturing**

## **mill (grist for the mill)**

grist for their (propaganda) mill

the leaks will be more ~ (war)

grist for the tabloid mill

his attention-grabbing antics are ~

provided the grist

the report ~ for a lot of conspiracy theories

♦ Grist is grain that is ground to make flour.

**content / gossip: manufacturing**

## mill (through the mill)

through the mill

I've been ~ already (a boxer)

♦ This is similar to wringer (through the wringer)

**experience: mechanism / manufacturing**

**affliction: mechanism**

## mill (other)

"mills of citizenship"

the role of French schools as ~ (and Frenchness)

diploma mill

he received his degree from a ~ (coach)

the NCAA is trying to clean up the high school ~s

~s are only one troubling part of youth basketball

essay mills

students turn to '~' to help them cheat

propaganda mill

the leaks will be more grist for their ~ (war)

pill mill

the doctor ran an illegal "~" for addicts, dealers

term-paper mill

online ~s are the curse of education

online (term-paper) mills

~ are the curse of education

♦ A mill traditionally ground wheat, then the word became synonymous with a factory.

♦ Workers in West Bengal's foundries make manhole covers for New York City. The workers make a few dollars a day, and are not supposed to work barefoot.

**creation & transformation: manufacturing**

## million-dollar

million-dollar question

that's the ~

**importance & significance: money**

## millstone (noun)

millstone of debt

if students suddenly had this ~ lifted from their necks

millstone around the neck

the nuclear weapons became a ~ (South Africa)

millstone around the president's neck

Republicans see the scandal as yet another ~ (election)

millstone for the Republicans

opposition to Obamacare was expected to be a ~ (politics)

debt millstone

the board has worked to reduce the ~ around the club's neck

permanent millstone

his critics will consider this a ~ that could weigh Biden down (Afghan withdrawal)

millstone will be removed

the ~ from the neck of both white and black people

become a millstone

his passion project that he saw as a public service has ~

♦ "So I walked in circles for days like a blind horse / Harnessed to an oaken pole that turns a millstone, / A sight we might have seen so many years ago-- / Barley being ground near a swift and silent millrace--" (The great poet and former US poet laureate Billy Collins. From "Collins Values Approachable Poetry, Not Pretension," NPR, Talk of the Nation, April 6, 2011.)

♦ Millstones come in pairs.

**oppression: weight**

## mince (verb)

minced no words

Putin ~

**speech: cooking / verb**

## mind (wrap / get one's mind around something, etc.)

wrap our minds around what

it was hard to ~ had happened

wrap his mind around what

he is trying to ~ the future will be like (after disaster)

get their heads around

that's very difficult for people to ~ (murder trial)

get my head around it

I still can't ~

wrap you mind around it

you try to ~ but it's just incomprehensible (a disaster)

wrap my mind around this tragedy

I still can't ~

**comprehension & incomprehension / mind: verb**

**comprehension & incomprehension: head**

## mind (go through one's mind, etc.)

cross your mind

did it ~ that...

going through your mind

what was ~ at the time (the sinking of a ship)

go through your head

thousands of thoughts ~ (on a sinking ship)

went through your mind

so what ~

mind: movement / space

## mind (lose one's mind)

losing my mind  
he worried he was ~

mind: possession

mental health: possession

## mind (platform)

on her mind  
the passage of time has been ~ lately (an aging actor)

on your mind  
what's ~

on my mind  
but here's why integration was ~

on people's minds  
it's got to be ~ (possibilities)

weigh on people's minds  
it will ~ (bad repercussions)

get it off my mind  
I can't ~

mind: platform

## mind (container)

in mind  
what do you have ~ (idea)

change our minds  
we might ~

opened (Afghan women's) minds  
the media has ~

keep in mind  
it is a benchmark that we must ~

keep that in mind  
we've got to ~ (explanation)

put the problem out of his mind  
he tried to ~

come into your mind  
how did the idea ~

get it out of my mind  
I can't ~

get out of my mind  
it's something I can just never ~ (horrible memory)

put Amundsen out of his mind  
Scott now tried to ~, he refused to discuss the subject

sticks in your mind  
it ~ forever (a combat memory)

mind: container

## mind (open mind)

open mind  
I kept an ~, but... (antiracism)

open mind with regard to everything  
I've got to keep an ~ (military discipline)

tunnel vision versus an open mind  
~ (criminal investigations)

have an open mind  
God tells us to ~ and an open heart (interfaith issues)  
we ~, we have to think out of the box (WHO and Ebola)

keeps an open mind  
I just hope that everyone ~ and understands that...

keeping an open mind  
we are ~ (about cause of disease)

maintain an open mind  
I want to ~, I've read Mao, Marx, Lenin... (a US general)

♦ "Open eyes, open minds." (*The Dispatch*.)

♦ "The country is in a better place than it was in 2001 and the Taliban have become more open-minded." (General Sir Nick Carter, Britain's Chief of Defense Staff.)

♦ "A person can be so open-minded that his brains fall out." (A critic, speaking of Thabo Mbeki's willingness to accept any argument against giving antiretrovirals to South African H.I.V. sufferers.)

mind: container

## mind (top of mind)

top of mind  
what else do you want to know, what questions are ~

top of mind is  
~ they want to know more about the shooter (investigators)

top-of-mind for the astronauts  
those hiccups are ~ (problems with parachutes)

top of mind for the leaders  
Ukraine is ~ (G-7 meeting)

top-of-mind awareness  
retain loyal customers with ~ (TOMA / marketing)

at the top of the mind  
this has been ~ for the president (Brittney Griner's plight)

♦ "So, of course, she was on his mind. She was *on* [italics mine] top of mind..." (White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre, about President Biden and the dead Jackie Walorski.)

♦ "From what I know, with working with different police departments, it's on the tip of their mind." (Requesting long guns while on patrol. "On the tip their tongues?" "Top of mind?" Is this an eggcorn?)

mind: space

importance & significance / priority / superiority & inferiority: direction / position

## mind (front of mind)

front-of-mind for most Angelenos  
it is not ~ (the Los Angeles River)

mind: space

**importance & significance / priority / superiority & inferiority: direction / position**

## **mind (back of mind)**

at the back of your mind

other cases like this, are they always ~ (child abuse)  
missing something is always playing ~

in the back of your mind

it's always ~ (shark attacks / Perth)

in the back of our mind

the Wichita incident was ~ (caution after mistake)

pushed to the back of your mind

things you've ~ demand to be address

**mind: space**

**importance & significance / priority / superiority & inferiority: direction / position**

## **mind-bending (adjective)**

mind-bending

these new theories are ~ (post-string theory / physics)

**mind: materials & substances**

**comprehension & incomprehension: head**

## **minded (steely-minded)**

steely-minded detective

Miss Marple is a ~

**mind: materials & substances**

## **mindful (adjective)**

'mindful' of how

she urges people to be ~ they're treating the planet

mindful of what

you must be very ~ your behaviors are (monkeypox)

mindful about their consumption

water companies are asking users to be more ~

mindful about respecting

I will be more ~ personal space (Joe Biden)

mindful choice

making this ~ of inclusive language (Y'all)

mindful life

tips for living a ~

*Mindful Masculinity*

*For The Love Of Men: A New Vision For* ~ (Liz Plank)

♦ "Queer theorists and 'crip' theorists (those critiquing 'disabilities') are at the cutting edge that I believe we need to also be mindful of." (Jack Tchen, a professor and historian at New York University.)

♦ a) stimulants when you wake up, sleeping pills if you need them when you sleep. b) be mindful of where your headspace is: I often nap in the office so that my mind doesn't leave work mode in between shifts. (A tweet from Sam Bankman-Fried.)

♦ "A Mindful Gratitude Exercise for the English Classroom" by Monica Flores Rojas, the *English Teaching Forum Magazine*, 2023, Volume 61, Number 1.

♦ "It's essential to be mindful of other people's interiority." (Therapy speak.)

♦ Like many contemporary cliches, this sometimes appears in quotes. People use it, but it is often impossible to know exactly what they mean by it, or why they are using it.

♦ Mindful pregnancy; mindful parenting; mindful politics; mindful diet; mindful burger...

♦ "She's always mindful of how much she's paying him." (*Good Luck To You, Leo Grande*.)

♦ see also *intentional (adjective)*, *purposeful (adjective)*

♦ Old: think about / consider... / New: be mindful...

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: target**

**consciousness & awareness: head**

**contempo-speak: language / mental health**

## **mindfully**

mindfully reject

~ it every day (sexism and misogyny)

**consciousness & awareness: head**

**contempo-speak: mental health**

## **mindfulness (noun)**

mindfulness

~ is paying attention to what's happening...

~ can also play a role in coping with anxiety

~, the practice of being in the moment...

~ has become a buzzword in current mainstream culture

mindfulness movement

the growing ~

a nature-based ~ is taking off (the Audubon Society)

mindfulness programs

there's little research behind ~ (schools)

mindfulness training

even the military and police provide ~

mindfulness workshops

Becky leads birding and ~ at a popular wellness retreat

digital mindfulness

rather than cutting out tech altogether, Joeniedy practices ~

~ is more practical (versus digital detox)

research on mindfulness

clinical ~

mindfulness can enhance our connection

~ to nature and sense of well-being

embracing mindfulness

schools are ~

♦ "The groups host mindfulness workshops." (TransFamily Support Services.)

♦ "Everyone at my job is completely overworked. They gave us a mindfulness advent calendar. Behind every door, there was a training exercise you could do at work to be more 'mindful.'" (Stupid employer holiday gifts.)

♦ "Mindfulness is often spoken of as the heart of Buddhist meditation, uh, so it's a form of meditation that really is the cultivation of intimacy with awareness." (Jon Kabat-Zinn. From "How to start a practice of mindfulness," NPR, All Things Considered, December 29, 2022. Thanks for clearing that up!)

♦ "The 'mindfulness' many Westerners are being introduced to today is a great start, but pretty much represents the bunny hill of contemplative practice." ("The Greatest Philosopher You've Never Heard Of" by Adam Frank, NPR, May 31, 2016.)

wants, needs, hopes & goals: target

consciousness & awareness: head

contempo-speak: mental health

## mine (bitcoin mine, etc.)

bitcoin mines

~ require a lot of energy

computer / product: mining

## mine (search)

mine (real-time) intelligence

security personnel will now ~ (at airports)

mine the (elaborate) chemical signatures

researchers have begun to ~ of breath (medicine)

searching & discovery: mining / verb

## minefield

minefield

the unwritten rules, hidden agendas, and ~s

minefield of (early) adolescence

the story follows him through the precarious ~

minefield of challenges

the tumor presents a ~ for the surgeons

minefield for those

the immigration bill is a ~ who have been waiting...

minefield of (US) politics

I'm not going to walk into the ~ (a foreign leader)

minefield of false-news stories

social media has become a ~

geopolitical minefield

South Korea's new president steps into a ~

political minefield

how to dispose of his body is a ~ (a dead dictator)

advertisers are afraid to step in any ~s (Super Bowl)

relational minefield

school can be a daily ~ for girls (social aggression)

rhetorical minefield

he has entered the Mideast's ~ (use of word *crusade*)

social minefield

every day of school can be a new ~ (girls' bullying)

entering a (dangerous) minefield

the administration is ~ with serious repercussions (politics)

navigate a minefield

ad makers had to ~ (Super Bowl 55 / pandemic, strife)

planted a (political) minefield

the British colonizers ~ in the 1920s (Sudan)

stepped into this minefield

the US ~, this tangle of alliances (northern Syria)

♦ "So the idea here is to prioritize tests, localize decision-making, and to be careful that we don't run blindly back into a virus minefield of people that can be sick but don't know it, asymptomatic but infectious... Masks are a really important layer in this effort... The mask...kinda defuses the mine, if you will, in the virus minefield." (ABC News Homeland Security analyst Tom Bossert.)

♦ Mine / UXO Messages / Game and fun are fine but not with dangerous objects and in suspicious places. / Play only in safety places. / Do NOT throw and do not touch UXO. Report Police, KPC or KFOR. / Do NOT go into abandoned houses. / Do NOT go in suspicious places for any reason. / Do NOT touch suspicious objects. / Do NOT touch and do not take anything that is not yours. (A poster at the entrance to the main police station in Pristina, Kosovo, in 2008, showing pictures of the common types of mines and UXO found in the region.)

♦ "It looked like a little can; it was interesting." (Mara al-Miri, 10, injured by the explosion of a bomblet in the village of Ayt el Shaab in southern Lebanon.)

danger: explosion / military / walking, running & jumping / weapon

## miner (bitcoin miner, etc.)

bitcoin miners

~ prefer the US (cheap electricity, few rules)

Nebraska is welcoming ~

product: mining / person

## Mini-Me

mini-me

she made me look like her, a ~ (child sex abuse)

Natalie is my only child, my ~ (mysterious death)

mini me

he was just ~, he was Alan junior, he was me all over...

mini-me crop tops and padded bras

~ (for under-tens) (like adults)

mini-me (US army) version

we just created a ~ (Afghan Army collapses in 2021)

mini-mayors

Chicago's 50 aldermen are ~ of their individual fiefdoms

mini-Michele

we were so alike that my family called me ~

Donald Trump's mini-me

are we ~, always agreeing with the Americans (Brits)

♦ This is an allusion to the late, great and greatly beloved Verne Troyer, a Michigander. He affected not only so many people but also the language.

♦ Mini-Me: [writes] Are you a clone of an angel? / Foxy Cleopatra: Ohhh how sweet. No, my mini-man, I'm not. / Mini-Me: [writes] Are you sure you don't have a little clone in you? / Foxy Cleopatra: Yes, I'm sure. / Mini-Me: Would you like to? (The film *Austin Powers in Goldmember*.)

allusion: film & TV

relationship / resemblance: allusion / film / size

## mining (data, etc.)

bitcoin mining

~ takes a lot of electricity (to power servers)

data-mining  
~ software sorts information

text mining  
~ software to analyze customer feedback

**searching & discovery: mining**

## minnow (noun)

minnow  
the FA Cup allows a ~ to kill a giant (soccer)  
the company is a ~ in the world of tech giants

footballing minnow  
England was knocked out by Iceland, a ~ (Euro 2016)

European minnows  
the ~ knocked out Lyon on penalties (Apocel Nicosia)

♦ "Back home I was a big fish in a small pond, but in Miami I'm just a minnow surrounded by sharks." (A model.)

♦ "The [BBC], once a shark in the media pond, is now a mere sardine in a media ocean." (Clever writing from BBC Six O'Clock News, 26/05/2022.)

♦ "The whole country will be behind the minnows." (Les Herbiers plays Paris St-Germain for the final of the Coupe de France.)

**competition / size: animal / fish**  
**importance & significance / power / strength & weakness:**  
**animal / fish / size**

## minoritize (groups)

minoritize subjects  
forms of power that ~ (post-queer politics)

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection / verb**

## minoritized (groups)

minoritized  
what it means to be racially marginalized while ~

minoritized (racial) backgrounds  
educators and learners from ~

minoritized communities  
historically research has left out ~

minoritized women and girls  
violence against black ~

racially minoritized  
the rule targets ~ athletes (Rule 50 / Olympics)  
we don't know how many respondents were ~

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## Minotaur

Minotaur of the national interest  
they would have sacrificed his expedition to the ~

Minotaur at the heart of the labyrinth  
it's Nixon who's the ~ (the film Frost/Nixon)

Operation Minotaur  
~, the US military operation to clear a village (Iraq 2007)

**affliction: allusion / creature**

## mint (verb)

minted more (Black) millionaires  
the company has ~ (McDonald's)

**creation & transformation: money / verb**

## minted

freshly minted  
~ graduates

newly minted  
~ M.B.A.s  
guests jockeyed for face time with the ~ star (party)

recently minted  
he is a ~ University of Iowa MFA graduate

**creation & transformation: money**

## minute (last minute)

last-minute pardon  
some convicts clung to the hope of a ~

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: clock**

## minute (for a minute, etc.)

for a minute  
he played football ~ (=a short time / "Suge" Knight)

**time: amount**

## minute (at this minute)

at this minute  
the entire Horn of Africa seems really unstable ~ (NPR)

**past & present / time: day**

## miracle (Miracle on the Hudson, etc.)

Miracle on the Hudson  
the crash landing became known as the ~ (Flight 1549)

"Miracle at Medinah"  
Europe's ~ (2012 Ryder Cup comeback / golf)

Bat Cave Miracle  
the ~, 16 August 1992, Nickajack Lake Cave...

♦ "Knowing that the divers on the scene were not up to this specialized task of entering the cave, and assuming—that Gant might still be alive in an air pocket—[Buddy] Lane pleaded by telephone that trained caver divers be called in..." ("The Bat Cave Miracle," 16 August 1992, Nickajack Lake Cave, New Hope, Tennessee.)

**fate, fortune & chance: epithet**

## miracle (Miracle of Istanbul, etc.)

Miracle of Bern  
the "~", as the '54 final is known (World Cup soccer)

Miracle of Istanbul  
the ~, it's called (Liverpool wins Champions League)

**fate, fortune & chance: epithet**

## miracle (other)

### miracle

there can be ~s when you believe...  
who knows what ~s you can achieve  
photosynthesis is a ~ linking heaven and earth

### miracle cure

there's no ~ on the horizon (brain tumors)

### miracle drug

the beneficiary of a ~

### miracle pill

see *pill (miracle pill)*

### miracle worker

you're a ~ (helped solve a person's problem)

### Christmas miracle

sometimes ~s just don't happen

### accomplished miracles

he ~

### expect miracles

you can't ~ (search dogs)

### pray for a miracle

until the moment of death, families ~

### pray for miracles

we still ~ in West Virginia (trapped miners)

### believe in miracles

we ~ (that trapped miners are alive)

### worked a miracle

you ~ last night (praise for a nurse)

### pulled off a miracle

they ~... (sports comeback)

♦ "We still pray for miracles in West Virginia. There is still a chance and there's hope and we have that." (Gov. Joe Manchin, on the possibility that miners trapped in an explosion were still alive.)

**fate, fortune & chance: religion**

**cost & benefit: religion**

## miraculous (adjective)

### miraculous

the last-minute goal bordered on ~ (sports)

### miraculous escape

reports of his ~ (from capture)

♦ "I would just like to comment briefly about that casualty chart. The loss of one human life is intolerable to any of us who are in the military. But I would tell that the casualties of that order of magnitude considering the job that has been done and the number of forces that are involved is almost miraculous..." (General Schwarzkopf, at the "Mother of All News Conferences," the Gulf War, 1991.)

**fate, fortune & chance: religion**

**feeling, emotion & effect: religion**

## mirage (noun)

mirage of a media company

his reporting suggests that Ozy is a ~ (fraud)

### mirage of sorts

his lead was a ~ (uncounted mail-in ballots)

### mirage or reality

is it a ~ (the 4-day workweek)

### quick-fix mirage

beware of the ~ (brain-fitness programs)

### essentially (just) a mirage

the US's most valuable startup was ~ (WeWork)

### just a mirage

is the housing recovery ~

### *Inside the Mirage*

~: *America's Fragile Relationship with Saudi Arabia*

♦ "In crossing the desert, I perceived, at a distance, immense tracts, which had the appearance of rivers or lakes, with islands of sand rising in the midst of them; they presented themselves to the eye, in the horizon of the desert, as places where one might quench one's thirst... This illusion only rendered my situation more dreadful, when I was consumed with thirst, and saw the sea receding before me as by enchantment. It is impossible to form any correct idea of a *mirage* without have seen one." (*Travels Through Central Africa To Timbuctoo; and Across The Great Desert, to Morocco; Performed in the Years 1824-1828* by Rene Caillie.)

♦ "The mirages in the Antarctic had a clarity that was almost beyond belief, and made it difficult for an explorer to know whether he was seeing land or not. Second ranges of mountains appeared to be built up on top of the real mountains lying below, and these false ranges were immensely high and clear in outline. They hung there in the pale sky for a few minutes and then vanished only to re-form themselves again, so that the sailing ships drifted about in an atmosphere of ghostly fantasy. It was both awe-inspiring and wonderfully beautiful." (*The Fatal Impact* by Alan Moorehead.)

♦ "Some of the things you could see from a Great Lakes steamer were not really there... In certain lights the lakes could produce mirages. A freighter on the skyline would suddenly break up, midships section vanishing altogether, pilothouse and after cabins becoming extremely tall, reaching up like lighthouses in the deep water; then, after a minute or two, the lighthouses would disappear and there would be a steamboat again, prosaic as any other cargo carrier. On the north shore of Lake Superior the Canadian cities of Fort William and Port Arthur lie at the end of a broad bay, and on the seaward side of this bay there are islands; and if you sail from one of these cities late in the day these islands suddenly multiply so that each one is accompanied by a twin, each rock and tree perfectly duplicated, and no matter how hard you look you cannot tell which island is real and which is not... After a while the imitation islands rise into the air, get all streaky and distorted, and then go away entirely, and the lake is clear once more. I feel sorry for people who have never cruised the Great Lakes by steamboat." (*Waiting for the Morning Train: An American Boyhood* by Bruce Catton.)

♦ "One of...my experiences with the magicians of the air occurred near the forks of the Platte. There had been a tremendous thunder-storm, lasting all night. In the morning my party set forward over the soaked prairie under a cloudless sky intensely blue. I was riding in advance... Looking forward I beheld a truly terrifying spectacle. Immediately in front, at a distance, apparently, of not more than a quarter-mile, was a long line of the most formidable looking monsters that the imagination ever conceived. They were taller than trees...and partook of the triple character of animals, houses and machines. Legs they had, that an army of elephants could have marched among; bodies that ships might have sailed beneath; heads about which eagles might have delighted to soar, and ears—they were singularly well gifted with ears. But wheels also they were endowed with, and vast sides of blank wall; the wheels as large as the ring of a circus, the walls white and high as cliffs of chalk along an English coast. Among them, on them, beneath, in and a part of them, were figures and fragments of figures of gigantic men. All were inextricably interblended and superposed—a man's head and shoulders blazoned on the side of an animal; a wheel with legs for spokes rolling along the creature's back; a vast section of wall, having no contact with the earth, but (with a tail hanging from its rear, like a note of admiration), moving along the line... [O]ur tongues were loosened only when it began

rapidly to diminish and recede, and at last was resolved into a train of mules and wagons, barely visible on the horizon. They were miles away and outlined against the blue sky. / This pageant had appeared to move along parallel to the foot of a slope extending upward and backward to an immense height, intersected with rivers and presenting all the features of a prairie landscape. The mirage had in effect contracted the entire space between us and the train to a pistol-shot in breadth, and had made a background...by lifting into view Heaven knows how great an extent of country below our horizon. Does refraction account for all this?" ("Mirage" by Ambrose Bierce. Early Cubism?)

**fantasy & reality / substance & lack of substance: desert**

## **mired (stuck)**

mired at 9.6 percent  
unemployment is ~

mired in Afghanistan  
now we are ~ (war)

mired in crisis  
Somalia has been ~ since 1991

mired in (economic) distress  
people are ~ (unemployment)

mired in the doldrums  
we remain ~ (poor economy)

mired in grief  
rabbis stress Yom Kippur should not be ~

mired in litigation  
the university is still ~

mired in misery  
Haiti remains ~

mired in a (4-decade) war  
Colombia is ~ against guerrillas

mired in squalor and devastation  
they led lives ~ (Chechnya)

became mired in controversy  
the event ~ last year (investment initiative)

get mired in another Iraq  
the US doesn't want to ~ in another Iraq (Syria)

**obstacles & impedance: ground, terrain & land**  
**flaws & lack of flaws: ground, terrain & land**  
**progress & lack of progress: ground, terrain & land**

## **mirror (verb)**

mirrored his erratic (off-the-field) behaviour  
his unpredictable style ~ (sports)

mirror her lifestyle  
those who tried to ~ (influencer Belle Gibson)

echo, mirror and differ  
the two stories began to ~ from each other (a writer)

**repetition: mirror / verb**

## **mirror (noun)**

mirrors of life

writers whose books are faithful ~

mirror and a bridge  
we are a ~ to culture at large (TikTok)

look in the mirror  
I ~ and I like who I am (gay)

looking in the mirror  
we have been ~ and changing the way we teach  
we have been ~ and rethinking our approach (education)

look at himself in the mirror  
he's got to ~ (businessman / ethics)

hold a mirror up to ourselves  
we must ~ and ask why (physician suicides)

holds a mirror up to how  
the film ~ people in this generation grew up

holding a mirror up to himself  
he was a terrific self-analyzer ~

♦ "He needs to look himself in the mirror and ask himself what is in the best interests of our country and of our party." (An MP with a "no" vote of confidence.)

♦ "We've got to take a sober, humble, and honest look in the mirror and rebrand ourselves based on what we truly value." (Matthew McConaughey after a visit to the White House to meet President Biden and talk about the Uvalde school shooting. An interesting use of the word "rebrand.")

♦ "He'd look in the mirror and see Paret." (Emile Griffith, according to Jimmy Breslin. From the documentary film *Ring of Fire: The Emile Griffith Story* 2005.)

♦ "I don't think I would've been able to look myself in the mirror had I not said anything."

♦ Some amusement parks have mirror mazes.

♦ A carnival or funhouse mirror is a curved mirror that can distort your image. Such a mirror can make you look like a fat midget, or make your chin look a foot long.

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / consciousness & awareness: mirror**

## **mirror (in the rear-view mirror)**

in the rear-view mirror  
she knows her setbacks will soon be ~ (teen)  
we'll be glad to put this cold weather ~  
now that *that* is ~ (behind us)

leave Steubenville in the rear-view mirror  
she was glad to ~ (Traci Lords / Ohio)

put this in the rear-view mirror  
he needs to ~, move past it (politician and election issue)

put Covid in the back mirror  
we must vaccinate more to ~ (Dr. Zeke Emanuel)

♦ "Covid is very much in the side-view mirror, soon to be in the rear-view mirror..." (One can only hope!)

**past & present / time: direction / mechanism / mirror / movement / position**

## **mis (misbehave, etc.)**

misbehaved

when one of the newer gyros was switched on, it ~ (Hubble)

**failure, accident & impairment: affix**

## **misappropriate (groups)**

misappropriated (Holocaust) history  
he ~ (use of Nazi / U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum)

misappropriates (Hawaiian) language  
some feel the film's name ~ (*Aloha*)

♦ Ordinarily, someone misappropriates funds (money). This usage seems to focus on words and ideas.

♦ see also *appropriate (groups), appropriation (groups), coopt (and co-opt), misappropriated, misappropriation (groups, etc.), reappropriate (groups), reappropriation (groups), reclaim (groups), reclaimed (groups), take back (take back one's life, etc.)*

**inclusion & exclusion: possession / verb**

## **misappropriated**

misappropriated  
that term has been ~ ("fake news")

misappropriated by misguided individuals  
the testimony of faith has been ~ (terrorists)

misappropriated word  
appropriation, the most ~ in the English language

♦ The title of Dickens' great book is commonly misappropriated: See "Please, Liberals: Stop Abusing 'A Tale of Two Cities'" by Reid Cherlin, *The New Republic*, Jan 2, 2014.

♦ "Appropriation, the most misappropriated word in the English language at this time. Stuff and nonsense." (greatpix about the #BlackTikTokStrike.)

♦ see also *appropriate (groups), appropriation (groups), coopt (and co-opt), misappropriate (groups), misappropriation (groups, etc.), reappropriate (groups), reappropriation (groups), reclaim (groups), reclaimed (groups), take back (take back one's life, etc.)*

**inclusion & exclusion: possession**

## **misappropriation (groups, etc.)**

cultural misappropriation  
they described the video as the height of ~ (U.S. Indians)

reappropriation or (perhaps) misappropriation  
"Columbusing"—the ~ of African-American culture...

♦ "She takes to task [her poetic peers] for their misappropriation of the stories and metaphors of the disabled..." (The poet Jillian Weise, amputee, disability activist, and self-identified "cyborg.")

♦ "Patricia Williams, one of the key scholars of the C.R.T. canon, refers to the ongoing mischaracterization as 'definitional theft.'" ("The Limits Of Liberalism: How Derrick Bell's pioneering work gave rise to critical race theory" by Jelani Cobb, *The New Yorker*, September 20, 2021.)

♦ see also *appropriate (groups), appropriation (groups), coopt (and co-opt), misappropriate (groups), misappropriated, reappropriate (groups), reappropriation (groups), reclaim (groups), reclaimed (groups), take back (take back one's life, etc.)*

**inclusion & exclusion: society**

## **misbehave (machine)**

misbehaved  
when one of the newer gyros was switched on, it ~ (Hubble)

♦ "Say an algorithm appeared to be misbehaving. I'd have to locate it and then find the person responsible for it, at any time of the day or night,

and tell him (and it was always a him) to fix it. It wasn't always a friendly encounter." (*Weapons Of Math Destruction* by Cathy O'Neil.)

**disruption / flaws & lack of flaws / functioning: mechanism / verb**

## **miscarriage (of justice, etc.)**

miscarriage of justice  
the referee made mistakes and there was a ~ (soccer coach)

**failure, accident & impairment: baby / birth / health & medicine**

## **miscue (noun)**

miscues  
Biden can't afford these kinds of ~ (politics)  
his only ~ is to... (the director of a documentary)

verbal miscues  
he is no stranger to ~ (a politician)

high-profile political miscue  
this was arguably his most ~ (a politician)

♦ A miscue refers to billiards or pool.

**failure, accident & impairment: sports & games**

## **misdiagnose (verb)**

misdiagnosed the severity  
economists ~ of the problem (financial)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / failure, accident & impairment: health & medicine / verb**

## **misfire (failure)**

misfires  
during a trial plagued with ~, he was found not guilty

**failure, accident & impairment: weapon**

## **misgender (groups)**

misgendered Brinton  
tweets from Clyde ~ (Rep. Andrew Clyde / Sam Brinton)

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection / verb**

## **misgendered (groups)**

misgendered  
how to handle those moments when you are ~ (NPR)

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

## **mislead (verb)**

mislead  
historical analogy can ~

misled Congress  
he disputed that he ~ last month when he said...

mislead anyone about his credentials  
he said he had not tried to ~

**direction: journeys & trips / verb**

**failure, accident & impairment: journeys & trips / verb**  
**misleading (adjective)**

misleading

laboratory results were ~ (vs. fieldwork)

misleading advertisements

~ (personal ads for porn sites on Internet)

misleading case

having made a ~ for war... (in Iraq)

misleading (label) claims

exotic supplements with ~

misleading narratives

he debunks ~ about crime, gangs and public safety

misleading (accounting) practices

~ in the marketplace

misleading statement

~s have been made

misleading or inaccurate

the information presented is ~ (medical Web sites)

totally misleading

the stereotype is ~ (that young drug users are "losers")

phony, dishonest or misleading

there was nothing ~ about the photo (Iwo Jima)

**direction: journeys & trips**

**failure, accident & impairment: journeys & trips**

**misread (verb)**

misread what

they ~ the protests were all about (the government)

misreading the evidence

he is ~ (scientific dispute)

misread him

I guess I ~ from the beginning

misread each other's intentions

countries ~, in the fog of all these events (the Gulf)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: books & reading / verb**

**miss (verb)**

miss

a lot of times his jokes ~ (a comic)

**success & failure: target / verb**

**missing (groups, etc.)**

missing

older characters are ~. Period (ageism in entertainment)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

**consciousness & awareness / presence & absence: eye / space**

**missing in action (MIA)**

MIA

Google may be ~ (at tech hearings)

missing in action from the big screen

they have been ~ for years (old stars)

missing in action in terms of leadership

our national government is ~ (Australia)

missing in action when this bill was being negotiated

the president was ~

**condition & status / presence & absence: military**

**mission (on a mission)**

on a mission

John Ryder is ~ here (a boxing match)

on a mission to clean house

somebody who's ~ (an administrator)

on a mission to travel

they were ~ further than... (England at Euro 2020)

**commitment & determination / work & duty: military**

**mission (mission accomplished)**

mission accomplished

there is no such thing as bad publicity, so, ~

it aims to mess with your head and heart, ~ (*Beau Is Afraid*)

**success & failure: military**

**mission (other)**

mission is to keep

part of our ~ history alive (Trail of Tears)

rescue mission

Ronaldo had been introduced to try and lead a ~ (soccer)

strayed from its (intended) mission

Wall Street has ~ (to raise money, versus betting)

**commitment & determination / work & duty: military**

**missionary (person)**

missionary to America

he was a soccer ~

missionary of jazz

Mary Lou Williams, ~ (NPR)

missionary spirit

you feel that ~ in the performance (BMOP / music)

missionary work

this is my form of ~ (Duckwrth / Hip-Hop)

**enthusiasm / message: person / religion**

**person: religion**

**misstep (noun)**

misstep

the lamb was topped, in a ~, with tomatoes (food)

#### public-relations misstep

the stores decision to change its logo was a ~

#### costly misstep

this bill is a ~ (politics)

#### honest misstep

he made an ~ (politician)

#### inadvertent misstep

he should be blamed for an ~ (ethics)

#### incendiary misstep

the organization has made some politically ~s

#### procedural misstep

death-penalty cases are vulnerable to ~s

#### strategic misstep

the company's ~

#### admitted missteps

he ~ in his first year (president)

#### made any missteps

he hasn't ~ (political campaign)

#### apologize for its missteps

Curtis did not acknowledge her experience or ~ (school)

#### engaged in additional missteps

Curtis ~ following the publication of the article (school)

#### marred by missteps

the operation was ~ and poor judgments (government)

#### failure, accident & impairment / flaws & lack of flaws:

#### walking, running & jumping

### mist (red mist)

#### red mist

the ~ is a very dangerous thing

#### red-mist moment

Horner accused Hamilton of a ~ (vs. Max Verstappen)

#### red mist came down

he acted deplorably as the ~ (prosecutor / England)

#### red mist descended

then the ~ (soccer player retaliates for foul)

#### saw the red mist

he ~, that's no excuse...

#### suffer the red mist

he would be leading if he didn't ~ (an FI driver / crashes)

♦ see also *blood* (*blood in one's eyes, etc.*), *red* (*see red*)

♦ "He saw the red mist. That's no excuse. You can't lay your hand on an official." (Ex-footballer and commentator Chris Sutton, recommending that Aleksander Mitrovic get a 10-game ban for pushing the referee.)

♦ "They were one hole over. They got plumed. They were erased from the Earth. DiLeo watched the round all the way down, and it exploded right in their hole, vaporizing them. One second, they were there, living and breathing and thinking and maybe swearing or even praying just like him. And in the next second, two hale, young men, both of them

sergeants in the United States Army, pride of their hometowns—Perryville, Mo., and Willimantic, Conn., respectively—had been turned into a plume of fine pink mist, tiny bits of blood, bone, tissue, flesh and brain that rose and drifted and settled over everyone and everything nearby. It—or they—drifted down on DiLeo, who reached up to wipe the bloody ooze from his eyes and saw that his arms and the rest of him were coated, too. Then there would come another pock and another whoosh." (Mark Bowden, author of *Hue 1968*, reading from his book. From "Hue 1968" Revisits An American 'Turning Point' In The War In Vietnam," NPR, Fresh Air with Dave Davies, November 10, 2017.)

#### mental health: blood

#### feeling, emotion & effect / violence: blood / color

### Mister (and Mr., Missus, Mrs.)

#### Mister Right

if I found ~... (a woman)

♦ Valerie: I guess I figured that everything would just fall into place if I found Mr. Right. / Mac: Mr. Right? (Inspired dialog from the film *Earth Girls Are Easy* with Geena Davis.)

♦ See also *boy, guy* (*good guy, etc.*), *man* (*big man, little man, etc.*)

#### character & personality: person

### mix (in / into the mix)

#### soldiers in the mix

more ~ will ensure the desired outcome

#### get (right) back in the mix

you've got to get back up and ~ (MMA fighter)

#### bring more people into the mix

we must ~ (process)

#### remained in the mix

he ~ as an informal outside consultant (election campaign)

#### involvement: mixture

### mixed up

#### mixed up with a Japanese girl

I got ~ in Honolulu

#### involvement: mixture

### moan (verb)

#### moaning about

they're doing fine, what are they ~ (lower middle class)

#### wail and moan

they'll ~ and write outraged editorials...

#### conflict / feeling, emotion & effect / resistance, opposition

#### & defeat: sound / verb

### moaning

#### stop moaning

he told colleagues to ~ about the pandemic

#### conflict / feeling, emotion & effect / resistance, opposition

#### & defeat: sound

### moat (noun)

#### moat

the Rhine is a highway as much as a ~ (Roman history)

moat around the outbreak  
officials acted to build a ~ (bird-flu outbreak)

protective moats  
oceans are highways rather than ~ (geopolitics)

digging a (legal) moat  
one made no official move without first ~ (Colombia)

**protection & lack of protection: fortification / military**

## moated

moated from popular sentiment  
some political systems suffer because they are ~

**division & connection / isolation & remoteness / protection  
& lack of protection: fortification**

## mob (group)

mob of volunteers  
police were joined by a ~ (search)

**amount / behavior / group, set & collection: crime**

## mob (society)

mob of his day  
he appealed to the base instincts of the ~ (orator Cleon)

mob rule  
the confirmation hearing descended into ~ (protests)  
the impeachment is legislative ~

liberal "mob"  
he portrayed himself as a victim of a ~ (culture wars)

lynch mob  
see *lynch mob*

online mobs  
the threat of ~ shutting down speech (cancel culture)

twittermob  
yet none of this matters to the ~ (racism controversy)

twitter mob  
a ~ has managed to change a *New York Times* headline

woke mob  
I realize I'm in the crosshairs of the ~ (Aaron Rodgers)

vicious (trans activist) mob  
the ~ coming for women who defend women

baying of the mob  
he did not bow to the ~ (followed his own mind)

mob is baying  
the ~ for blood (an accidental police shooting)

captured by an anti-intellectual, illiberal mob  
Brearley has been ~ (the school / obsession with race)

♦ "They feel pressured by the mob to agree." (That trans women are women.)

♦ According to Wilfred Funk, Litt.D., this word is a clipping of the Latin *mobile vulgus*, or "the fickle crowd" and was used at the time of Charles II. From his book, *Word Origins and Their Romantic Stories*.

**behavior / society: person  
oppression: history / society / violence**

## mogul (noun)

media mogul  
long-time Trump ally and conservative ~

music mogul  
the ~ lured youngsters into his cars

American porn mogul  
Leo Radvinsky, an ~

**power: history / person**

## mold (verb)

mold their athletes into officers  
coaches help ~ able to lead (West Point)

moulded the ordinary person into a consumer  
capitalism ~ (envy, ads, fashion, etc.)

**creation & transformation: manufacturing / verb**

## mold (fit a mold, etc.)

societal mold  
many autistic people try to fit into a specific ~

fit a (prescribed) mold  
in an environment where you feel pressured to ~

fit the mold  
male anchors who don't ~ (TV news)

fit a (prescribed) mold  
workplaces where you feel pressured to ~

**behavior / constraint & lack of constraint / sanctioning,  
authority & non-conformity: manufacturing**

## mole (noun)

Russian mole  
he turned out to be a ~

♦ "Remember, reader, if you've ever been caught in the mountains by a mist through which you only saw as moles see through their skin..." ("Bear Meat" by Primo Levy, translated from the Italian by Alessandra Bastagli.)

**concealment & lack of concealment: animal**

**behavior / subterfuge: animal**

## mole hill (noun)

mole hills turn into (hallucinatory) mountains  
in isolated communities, where imaginary ~ (Antarctica)

make a mole hill into a mountain  
don't ~

♦ "What is going on? Explain it to me like I'm 6." / "somebody got mad that somebody retweeted something some people don't like, then everyone picked a side and got even madder, then the guy who retweeted something got a 5 game suspension and was forced to apologize, now there's a race war." (Two online commenters on the Kyrie Irving NBA controversy.)

♦ From one blackbird, fifty blackbirds!

♦ "Men trip not on mountains but on molehills."

importance & significance: animal / size

## Molotov cocktail

digital Molotov cocktail

the arrests were greeted with ~s (hackers' revenge)

disruption: explosion / fire

## moment (type of moment)

moment of reckoning

will "Framing Britney Spears" be a ~ for the media

moment of (national) reckoning

people who want an attorney general to meet this ~ (BLM)

moment in the limelight

he had a ~, 30 years later

he had his most significant ~ a dozen years ago

moment in the sun

he had his ~ (rock star)

I think they have had their ~ (team in World Cup)

"Cronkite Moment"

the ~ has it the anchorman changed history (a myth)

Gideon Moment

hope is fading, but could this be a "~" (Trump re-election)

"Lincoln moment"

he described the situation as a ~ (Ghani to Biden / support)

McCarthy moment

this cancellation culture is the SJW ~ (of Walt Whitman)

Pearl Harbor moment

it was sort of a ~ for America (Fort Sumpter attack)

nine-eleven moment

it was sort of a ~ for America (Fort Sumter attack)

Rashomon moment

this was a ~ meeting a Rorschach test ("January 2019 Lincoln Memorial confrontation" / Wikipedia)

Sputnik moment

we are not prepared, it's a ~, a challenge (a cyberattack)

Doctor Jekyll – Mister Hyde moment

it was a very strange ~ (holding job and eating disorder)

Kitty Hawk moment

fusion scientists often speak of waiting for a "~"

Kitty Hawk Moment

is this the '~' for Fusion Energy

Rubicon moment

this was my ~

Aha! instant

the ~ in cognitive science, the Eureka moment...

"Aha!" moment

see *Aha!* (*Aha! moment*)

carpe diem moment

this is mental-health crisis care's ~ (new 988 number)

crossroads moment

the government is at a ~ (crisis)

eureka moment

see *eureka* (*moment, etc.*)

fulcrum moment

the Capture of Istanbul was a ~ in the Middle Ages

full-circle moment

it's very much this ~ (vagaries of fate)

groundswell moment

we're at that ~ (rising demand for antibiotic-free meat)

lift-off moment

it was a ~ for the game (Federer beats Sampras in 2001)

breakthrough moment

it was a ~ for a young man (Federer beats Sampras in 2001)

'holy-shit' moment

Mr. President, this is your ~ (Cristina Romer to Obama)

'holy crap' moment

she called it "a real ~" in her research (professor / activist)

come-to-Jesus moments

I began to have various ~ (a bulimic / awful health issues)

light-bulb moment

see *light bulb* (*and lightbulb, bulb*)

flashbulb moment

but I do recall the ~ when my mother... (memory)

lightning-bolt moment

see *lightning bolt* (*comprehension*)

split-screen moment

dueling televised town halls, a ~ (rival politicians)

24-karat moment

Brooklyn's championship was a ~ (baseball)

key moment

he failed to maintain his situation awareness at ~s (war)

landmark moment

it was a ~ in the evolution of artificial intelligence

"all hands on deck" moment

see *hand* (*all hands on deck*)

"where were you when" moments

it was one of those ~ from history (*Challenger* Disaster)

heart-in-throat moment

Oh my God, a ~ for the U.S.... (World Cup soccer)

"Oh, no!" moment

for Riley, a wildlife biologist, it was a ~

last straw moment

and then there was the ~ when I just realized... (an injustice)

"river catches on fire" moment

Biden is trying to create a ~ (politics / allusion)

there-goes-the-neighborhood moment  
in a ~, older historians protested... (CRT, etc.)

magic moment  
that ~ when you feel the team spirit coming together

mom moment  
this is a very great ~, a proud ~ for me... (with daughter)

storybook moment  
it was a ~ (glass-carriage royal wedding)

watershed moment  
see *watershed* (noun)

dramatic moment  
a throw from the outfield to a base is always a ~

viral moment  
so he had this ~... (an imprisoned rapper)

heart-stopping moment  
it was a ~ (near-accident)

jaw-dropping moment  
this is the ~ when a sea lion attacked a girl (video)

all-in moment  
her ~ comes in 1989 (magazine editor)

heat of the moment  
he said some things he wished he hadn't in the ~  
I made my decision in the ~ (regret)  
it just happened in the ~ (regret)

spur of the moment  
see *spur* (*spur of the moment*)

♦ "Life is made up of moments." ("18 Things You Will Never Understand Until You Experience Them Yourself" by Paul Hudson, *Elite Daily*, March 4, 2015. He posits that the moments he lists can only be appreciated through personal experience.)

## moment (moment where)

moment where  
this was the ~ I thought everything was over (fear)  
I think that now is a ~... (NPR)

like a moment where  
yes, it feels to me ~ people are sort of...

in a moment where  
well, I think we're ~ 80% of the country thinks...  
I think we are ~ many of us... (pandemic)

in a moment (right now) where  
we are ~ people are taking UFOs seriously (NPR)

in this moment where  
we're ~ there's so much fakery (a journalist)

**past & present / time: place**

## moment (this moment)

this moment  
my hope is that ~ allows us to... (social change)

this moment of reckoning and re-imagining  
in ~, we wanted to understand... (monuments)

about this (particular) moment  
it was so insightful ~ (a parody)

at this moment  
~, it's estimated that... (school enrollment in pandemic)

for this moment  
he is the right man ~ (Dr. Anthony Fauci and pandemic)

in this moment  
I'm more optimistic ~ than I've ever been  
what is the legal situation for her ~ (#FreeBritney)  
what are the choices it's left with ~ (the NCAA)  
I know it is best for all concerned ~ (a resignation)

in this (modern) moment  
is selective-service registration really required ~

in this (unique) moment  
~ we're in, we have a chance to... (lots of funding)

through this moment  
what music is getting you ~ (the pandemic)

let this moment go by  
I implore everyone to not ~ (don't forget this tragedy)

**past & present / time: clock**

## moment (that moment)

in that moment  
I had so many thoughts, ~ (fear)  
hundreds could have used the vaccine ~ (COVID)  
it felt like anything was possible ~ (Minneapolis protest)  
let's listen to Baldwin talk about what happened ~  
I thought, ~, I know that pain, what being bullied feels like

**past & present / time: clock**

## moment (other)

moment or a (new) movement  
is it a ~ (a protest)

cultural moment  
it's a song of defiance for a ~ ("Break My Soul" / 2022)

different moment  
yeah, it's a totally ~ (2008 vs now)

in her moment  
she understood how celebrity culture worked ~ (S. Bernhardt)

seize the moment  
Congress must ~ to legalize... (politics)

♦ Old: how celebrity culture worked at the time... / New: how celebrity culture worked in her moment...

**past & present / time: clock**

## moment (have a moment / attention)

having a moment  
the Marshal Plan is ~

the Enneagram is ~, thanks to millennials  
the word “bae” seems to be ~ (2014)  
Sydney Sweeny is ~ (*Glamour Magazine*)  
artificial intelligence is ~ (NPR’s Ario Shapiro)

having its moment

the arepa is ~ (a corn pancake)  
dirty soda is ~ (a sweet drink)

having a Hollywood moment

Muslims are ~

having (something of) a moment

multiverses are ~

having a moment in Singapore

vending machines are ~ (face masks, cacti, frozen beef)

clearly having a moment

the jigsaw puzzle is ~, toilet paper, step aside...

♦ The online Cambridge Dictionary defines this as something currently popular or in fashion. It echoes / evokes old clichés like everything has its moment in the sun, or every dog has its day.

♦ If something is “having a moment” in this sense, then it is a “thing.”

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: object**

**moment (have a moment / emotion)**

having a moment

Joe’s ~ (a man weeps in front of his friends)

♦ The online Cambridge Dictionary defines this as simply having an emotional moment, for example, tearing up, weeping, the voice cracking or wavering, or otherwise becoming overwhelmed by an emotion.

♦ “Time out for a moment...” (An Afghan veteran gets emotional.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: verb**

**momentum (lose momentum)**

losing its momentum

the US economic recovery is ~

lost their momentum

they ~

**failure, accident & impairment: movement / verb**

**momentum (gain momentum, etc.)**

gained momentum

the notion has ~ (that speaking out is therapeutic)  
street protests have ~ (Myanmar in 2007)

gaining momentum

protests are ~

gathering momentum

a campaign to regulate the company is ~ (Facebook)

**force / power / speed: movement / verb**

**momentum (noun)**

momentum of the game

the missed penalty kick changed the ~

momentum for a lottery

the budget crisis creates ~ (state)

anti-noise momentum

the ~ appears to be growing

word-of-mouth momentum

the ~ that propels a book (publishing)

burgeoning momentum

a 3-week layoff stopped Baylor’s ~ (basketball)

lost momentum

the Democrats need to regain their ~ (politics)

changed the momentum

the missed penalty kick ~ of the game

lost their momentum

they ~

♦ **Movement, weight and speed equals force.**

**force / increase & decrease / power / progress & lack of progress / starting, going, continuing & ending: movement**

**Mona Lisa (Mona Lisa of baseball cards, etc.)**

“Mona Lisa” of baseball cards

the T206 Wagner, the undisputed ~ (50 known copies)

equivalent of the “Mona Lisa”

it’s the food ~ (Jiro’s in Japan)

**worth & lack of worth: allusion / epithet / money**

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

**superlative: picture**

**monarch (MS Monarch, etc.)**

“Monarch of the Dailies”

the San Francisco Examiner, the ~ (Hearst)

Monarch of the Glen

“The ~” shows a red deer stag (1851)

Monarch of Muscledom

John Grimek, “The ~” (the bodybuilder)

“monarch stag”

a ~ has 16 points (antlers)

*MS Monarch*

the ~, formerly *Monarch of the Seas* (a cruise ship)

**epithet / proper name: royalty**

**superlative; epithet**

**monarch (primacy)**

monarch of AI

deep learning is the reigning ~

monarch of the floating fiefdom

a captain was a ~ of his ship (1770)

reigning monarch

deep learning is the ~ of AI

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty**

**superlative: person / royalty**  
**person / power: royalty**

## Mongolia (Outer Mongolia)

playing games in Outer Mongolia  
always hated Europa with its Thursday-Sunday and ~

**isolation & remoteness: ground, terrain & land**

## monkey (insult)

monkeys  
the plane was designed by clowns supervised by ~

♦ "If you hurt a monkey, you will be cursed." (Japan.)

**insult: animal**

## monkey (monkey on one's back, etc.)

monkey on the sector's back  
this is far from the only ~ (rule hurts for-profit schools)

carried that monkey on his back  
but people were aware he ~ (compulsive gambling)

get the monkey off our back  
I only want to win it once just to ~ (CL title)

♦ "I only want to win it once just to get the monkey off our back." (A sad Manchester City fan after City bottled the end of their semifinal Champion's League game against Real Madrid.)

**affliction: animal**

## monkish (adjective)

monkish breakfast  
a ~ of raw eggs, tea, and a biscuit

**size / sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: religion**

## monolith (noun)

monolith  
the religious right is not a ~ (a gay man)

♦ El Capitan, Shiprock, Stone Mountain... (Famous U.S. monoliths.)

♦ "[Tommy Caldwell's] best-known first ascent is the Dawn Wall, the hardest route on El Capitan, the tremendous granite monolith in Yosemite, which he completed in 2015. President Obama tweeted congratulations from the White House." ("Finding a Way Up" by William Finnegan, *The New Yorker*, November 29, 2021.)

**bases: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills**

## monolithic (adjective)

monolithic  
there are all sorts of Black people, we are not ~ (NPR's Ayesha Rascoe)

**bases: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills**

## monster (Monster.com, etc.)

Monster and MSN  
the site is jointly operated by ~ (Web site)

**proper name: creature**

## monster (create a monster, etc.)

create a Frankenstein  
it gets out of hand, they ~ (extrajudicial killings)

created a monster  
we have ~ (diplomacy)  
they still don't accept that they ~ (Facebook)

sewn together a (Frankenstein's) monster  
Ducournau has ~ from so many disparate ideas (film)

**affliction: allusion / creature**

**allusion: books & reading**

## monster (affliction)

monster  
only ~s could have planned this (Siberian slave labor)  
it is a ~ (methamphetamine usage in small rural town)  
these are the ~s we've been hunting (serial shooters)  
~s committed this crime  
these savage ~s will not escape their fate (terrorists)

evil monster  
this ~ has faced justice (murdered a woman)

vicious monster  
they have become ~s (terrorists)

portrayed as a monster  
I'm being ~ and no one is defending me (in prison)

turned into a monster  
in the 3 months we were engaged he ~

♦ "Unemployment is a monster which not only renders the fit powerless but prevents them from contributing to their society's development." (Abdullah Al-Asmari, in *Al-Watan*, on unemployment in Saudi Arabia.)

**character & personality / affliction / insult: creature**

## monster (size)

monster  
it's a ~, it's awesome (speaking of a huge wildfire)  
he is a ~ (a 131-pound blue catfish)

monster hit  
the studio hasn't had a ~ since... (films)

monster hurricane  
the tingling anxiety one feels facing a ~  
a ~, with its 150-mile-an-hour winds

monster kite  
running a ~ is a special skill

monster monsoon  
~ wreaks havoc in Pakistan

monster ramp  
most of the riders had never ridden the ~ (MegaRamp)

monster ratings  
the game show's ~

monster swarm  
trillions of cicadas are emerging in a ~ (Brood X)

monster talent  
she is a ~ (the actor and singer Jessie Buckley)

monster tsunami  
a ~ had been unleashed (Indian Ocean / 2004)

monster waves  
the hurricane spawned ~ that toppled beach houses

monster (40-foot) waves  
surfers couldn't resist the challenge of the ~

monster dust devil  
a ~ sent sand and litter high into the air

monster iceberg  
a ~ is drifting towards western Australia (2009)

monster sandstorm  
a ~ grounded coalition forces south of Baghdad

concrete monster  
it's a dinosaur, a ~ (an old sports stadium)

mechanical monster  
as the clattering ~ descends (helicopter)

**size: creature**  
**amount & effect: size**

## monster (power)

mentality monsters  
Klopp refers to his players as “~” (LFC / YNWA)

absolute monster  
Erling Haaland is an ~ (scores hat trick for Man City)

♦ Canelo was a monster, Foden magnificent, De Bruyne incredible...  
(An online commenter about those soccer players.)

**character & personality / force / power: creature**

## monument (noun)

monument to insignificance  
the novel is a 576-page ~

greatest monument  
"Warsaw Survivor" is music's ~ to the Holocaust

**importance & significance: infrastructure**

## monumental (adjective)

monumental achievement  
it was a ~ (scholarship)

monumental implications  
simple acts can have ~

monumental law  
but passage of the ~ was an uphill battle

♦ "That is sensational! What a result! Argentina cannot believe it. It is a monumental result." (Mark Scott, BBC 5 Live commentator, on Saudi Arabia 2-Argentina 1 at the FIFA World Cup in Qatar. Mashallah! "Raise Our Green Flag.")

**importance & significance: infrastructure / size**  
**size: infrastructure**

## moon (Valle de la Luna, etc.)

Craters of the Moon  
~ National Monument and Preserve (Idaho)

Val de la Luna  
the ~, the Valley of the Moon (west of San Pedro, Chile)

Half Moon Beach  
visit ~ on your visit to Al Khobar (Saudi Arabia)

**proper name: astronomy / moon / shape**  
**geography: astronomy / moon / proper name / shape**

## moon (shape)

moon face  
when will my ~ go away (facial swelling due to a drug)

**shape: astronomy / moon**

## moon (over the moon)

over-the-moon excited  
I am ~ (a Swiftie, about Taylor Swift's latest album)

**feeling, emotion & effect: astronomy / height / moon**

## moonscape (noun)

moonscape  
it was a ~, nothing left almost (after wildfire)

moonscape of ash  
a million years ago the caldera was a vast ~ (Valles Caldera)

scorched moonscape  
a ~ scoured by whirlwinds of ash (after wildfire)

barren moonscape  
elephants turn woodland into a ~

turned (parts of) Gaza into a moonscape  
tank and artillery fire and air sorties have ~

turn woodland into a (barren) moonscape  
elephants can ~

**appearance / environment / resemblance: moon**

## moonshot (noun)

moonshot  
a ~ is the biggest of ideas to solve the very biggest problems

moonshot of its day  
the Brooklyn Bridge was the ~

moonshots and miracles  
aiming for ~ is not far-fetched (diplomacy)

♦ "Make Your Moonshot Less of a Long Shot." (An ad for Quantic's "Business School of the Future." The full page ad on the back of *The Economist* shows a young woman with one hand on her hip, a phone in her other hand, and dressed futuristically in what looks like black vinyl. In the background is what appears to be a Martian landscape.)

♦ "She is one of the five Earthshot Prize winners."

**difficulty, easiness & effort: astronomy / moon**

## moral injury (noun)

### moral injury

it's a documentary about ~ and the American military  
it's ~ at the corporate level (equity firm closes hospital)

### moral injury Olympics

the ~ (disparagement of term)

### PTSD or moral injury

veterans dealing with ~

♦ According to the Wikipedia entry for "moral injury," the term "moral distress" originated in the 1980s in reference to health-care workers. Through "concept inflation" or "co-option," the construct has since been applied to soldiers, police, firefighters, EMTs, legal defenders and lawyers, people in child and adult protective services, and even to veterinarians, leading inevitably to the construct's disparagement: "moral injury Olympics."

♦ "A lot of these guys and gals are really really hurting, because of what they saw, and what they went through, and then when you add on top of that, the criticism, like I said, the moral injury..." (Andy Carrier, clinical social worker, who counseled Uvalde school shooting officers.)

♦ "With the moral injury, that was going on with the officers, because of the scrutiny from the public, umm, uhh... I'm sure you've heard of the term compassion fatigue and secondary trauma, we felt it..." (Andy Carrier, clinical social worker, who counseled Uvalde school-shooting officers.)

♦ [A quiet card game in the rear was disturbed by the shots of a sniper in a tree. A soldier from the West, a crack shot, dealt with the problem.] "That gray squirrel is pretty frisky, and I must stop his fun to stop him spoiling ours." He drew a bead on the man in the tree and fired. As the Confederate sharpshooter came crashing through the branches to the ground, the Westerner sat down and asked: 'What's trumps?' He seemed as unconcerned as if he had killed a mosquito that had been annoying him. / ...[B]ehind all this was constantly present to our eyes and mind the scene of a great stream, a procession, so to speak of human souls on their way to eternity." (*Memoirs of Chaplain Life* by W. Corby.)

**feeling, emotion & effect / mental health: health & medicine**

## moored

### moored in an (earlier) time

the religion seems permanently ~ (criticism)

**progress & lack of progress: boat / movement**

## moral panic (noun)

### moral panic

evidence-based decisions should replace ~ (psychedelics)  
the ~ known as the Salem Witch Trials (NPR)  
~ is eternal (horror movies)  
a ~ rooted in group anxieties and collective shame

### moral panics over what goes on in schools

there are always these ~ ("Don't say gay," etc.)

### moral panic around crime

Republicans attempt to create a ~ (politics)

### full-on moral panic

"stranger danger" bloomed into a ~ (the US in the 1980s)

♦ "In American history there are these irrational outbursts of moralism, and the death of "Kid" Paret was the occasion for one of these epidemics of piety." (Jack Newfield, boxing journalist. From the documentary film *Ring of Fire: The Emile Griffith Story* 2005.)

♦ "Moral panics are a way of pushing back against change or reform, a way of preserving the status quo." (According to Sandhya Dirks, who

covers race and identity for NPR, about US citizens concerned about crime, who tend to vote Republican.)

♦ "Moral panic" and "-phobia" are two good examples of words used by proponents to mischaracterize their opponents.

**behavior / feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## morass (noun)

### morass of (complicated and conflicting) research

school officials are confronted with a ~ (education)

### legal morass

he found himself in a ~

**complexity / environment / obstacles & impedance /**

**progress & lack of progress: ground, terrain & land**

## moribund (adjective)

### moribund

the pace of economic growth is ~  
the economy is ~

### moribund economy

he should focus on our ~ (politics)

### moribund Klan

its marketing exaggerates the threat of the ~ (SPLC)

**condition & status: death & life / health & medicine**

## Mormon (Mormons of the Middle East)

### Mormons of the Middle East

the Druze are the ~

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: epithet / religion**

## morning (early in the morning)

### early in the morning

but it's ~, at this point... (response to computer virus)

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: day**

## morning lark (person)

### morning larks

~ can and do pair with night owls (sex and sleep)

**behavior: animal / bird / sleep**

**person: animal / bird / sleep**

## morsel (amount)

### morsel of hope

he was noncommittal but offered me a ~

**amount: food & drink**

## mortal (adjective)

### mortal blow

the law would strike a ~ to a system that... (athletics)  
the Supreme Court's decision was a ~ to the union

### mortal threat

Pakistan poses a ~ to the security and safety...

**destruction: death & life / health & medicine**

## **mortally (mortally wounded, etc.)**

mortally

Joe Biden is wounded, perhaps ~ so (primary election)

**destruction: death & life / health & medicine**

## **mortar (noun)**

mortar of society

family ties across the generations were the very ~

**attachment: materials & substances**

## **mosaic (configuration)**

mosaic of seas

the Mediterranean is a ~

mosaic of states

India fell into an anarchic ~

mosaic of tribes

Italy, meanwhile, was still inhabited by a ~

mosaic of lakes, shrub bogs, cypress heads and bays

it was a ~ (the Okefenokee)

♦ Seas within the Mediterranean Sea include the Alboran Sea, the Ionian Sea, and the Ligurian Sea, as well as the Aegean Sea and the Adriatic Sea. A sea can have a sea!

**configuration: picture**

## **mosaic (analysis)**

mosaic of evidence

it adds to the overall ~

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: picture**

## **Moses (noun)**

GOP's Moses

he was hailed as the ~

♦ "[He was] hailed as the GOP's Moses after he led the party out of 40 years in the wilderness of minority status." (Newt Gingrich of Georgia.)

**message: Bible / person / religion**

## **mosquito (Mosquito Fleet, etc.)**

"Mosquito Fleet"

the ~ had command of the lake (Champlain, 1776)

♦ "Most of the 25,000 soldiers that Napoleon sent to Haiti to quash the slave rebellion died of malaria. Napoleon had planned to transfer his army from Haiti to New Orleans but he had to abandon that strategy, and sold the Louisiana Territory to the US instead." (*The Invention of Nature: Alexander Von Humboldt's New World* by Andrea Wulf.)

♦ "*Anopheles claviger!* This became the slogan of Battista Grassi. You can see him, shuffling along behind lovers in the dusk, making fists of his fingers to keep himself from pouncing on the zanzarone who made meals off their regardless necks... You can see this Grassi, sitting in a stagecoach with no springs, oblivious to bumps, deaf to the chatter of his fellow-passengers, with absent eyes counting the *Anopheles claviger* he had discovered—with delight—riding on the ceiling of the wagon in which he journeyed from one utterly terrible little malarious village to another still more cursed." (Grassi did what Ross and Koch couldn't: prove that malaria is passed from man to man by the bite of a mosquito that the locals called *zanzarone* and that naturalists called *Anopheles claviger*. From *Microbe Hunters* by Paul De Kruif.)

♦ "A Japanese man burned his house down while trying to kill a mosquito."

**size / strength & weakness: epithet / insect**

## **moth (a moth to a flame, etc.)**

flame to (a good many) moths

he was certainly a candle ~ (Lord Byron and women)

**attraction & repulsion: fire / insect / light & dark**

## **mothball (verb)**

mothball the aircraft carriers

some wanted to ~ (because of high cost / Britain)

mothballed (many of their) aircraft

airlines have ~ (COVID pandemic)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: insect / verb**

## **mothballed**

mothballed in a bureaucratic post

he was ~ and rarely heard from again

mothballed, refitted and recommissioned

they can be ~ (Navy ships)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: insect**

## **mother (mother's milk)**

mother's milk of politics

money is the ~

**bases / importance & significance: food & drink**

## **mother (mother ship, etc.)**

mother cloud

a funnel cloud reaches down from the ~ (tornado)

mother ship

divers on tethers to their ~

their orbiting ~ (above asteroid)

refueling, resupplying with the help of tenders and ~s

pirates operating from a ~ off the Somali coast

this submarine and its ~ (DSSV Pressure Drop)

drug smugglers use semisubmersibles to meet a ~

♦ "I am so grateful to all my colleagues at the mothership." (NPR's "Morning Edition" co-host Rachel Martin leaves show.)

**division & connection: family**

**person / relationship: family**

## **mother (mother of all battles, etc.)**

mother of all airports

architect Norman Foster dubbed Tempelhof "the ~" (Berlin)

mother of all battles

Saddam promised the ~ (Gulf War)

"mother of all biases"

overconfidence is often known as the ~ (psychology)

"mother of All News Conferences"

it has become known as the ~ (Gen. Schwarzkopf / 1991)

mother of all (oil and gas) companies  
this is the absolute ~ (Saudi Aramco)

Mother of all Rivers  
our own Yukon, the ~

♦ "We perceived a single Bedawi, running southward all in a flutter, his grey hair and grey beard flying in the wind, who yelled 'The biggest aeroplane in the world...' At Um el Surab the Handley stood majestic on the grass, with Bristols and 9's like fledglings beneath its spread of wings. Round it admired the Arabs, saying, 'Indeed and at last they have sent us THE aeroplane, of which these things were foals.'" (*Seven Pillars of Wisdom*, Book X, Chapter CXIV, by T.E. Lawrence.)

♦ "All were on foot, with the exception of a few gentlemen, about fifty in number; and they possessed but one piece of artillery—an old iron cannon, drawn by a string of ponies. For any military purposes it was useless, and it was only employed as a signal gun; but it accompanied the march in deference to the superstitious ideas of the Highlanders, who, being but little accustomed to cannon, attached great importance to the possession of 'the musket's mother,' as they called it. Many of the Highlanders were armed only with scythes or pitchforks." (*Prestonpans. From British Battles on Land and Sea* by James Grant.)

**superlative: family**

## mother (mother of NPR, etc.)

Mother of Israel  
Jews for centuries referred to Salonika as "the ~"

mother of invention  
if necessity is the ~, discontent is the father of progress

mother of (all) learning  
repetition is the ~

mother of machines  
the clock was destined to be the ~ (scientific instruments)

mother of NPR  
Cokie Roberts, a founding ~

mother of telenovelas  
Delia Fiallo, known as the ~, dies at 96 (NPR)

founding mothers  
the ~ of NPR (Susan, Linda, Nina & Cokie)

♦ "Henrietta Lacks: 'Mother' of modern medicine honoured," BBC.

♦ see also *father* (*father of India, etc.*)

**creation & transformation: epithet / family**

**bases / person: family**

**epithet: family**

## mother (mother earth, etc.)

Mother Russia  
the annexation returned the Crimea to ~

mother earth  
care for our ~

considered as our mother  
in Bangladesh, the river is ~ (has human legal status)

**relationship: epithet / family**

**epithet: family**

## mother (earth mother)

earth mother

the no-bra, hairy-underarm ~ (1970s California)

**character & personality: earth & world / family**

## mother (Mother Nature)

Mother Nature

~ didn't cooperate (Winter Olympics weather)  
~ had other ideas (concerning explorer's planned trip)  
~ makes smart critters (salmon head upstream, etc.)  
let ~ take her course (a sick animal)

at the mercy of Mother Nature

we're ~ right now (wildfire / town)  
we are still ~ with her winds (California wildfires)

Mother Nature smiled

I think today ~ on us (NASA launch)

Mother Nature is finally starting to smile

~ on the Winter Olympics

depends on Mother Nature

so much of surfing ~

**biodiversity, nature & life: epithet / family**

**epithet: family**

## mother (Mother Mountain, etc.)

Mother Mountain

Sam Ahkeah says that it is the ~ near Taos

Mother and Child

the ~ are peaks in Vietnam

**proper name: family**

**geography: proper name / family**

## mother (den mother, etc.)

den mother

she is a natural ~  
the "~" of Yorkville, singer Vicky Taylor (*Girls Like Us*)  
*Eye's* rock scene ~, the charismatic Lillian Roxon...

den mother to Canada's folk community

she was a ~ (Estelle Klein)

stage mother

I'm not a pushy ~

leaned on to be a 'den mother'

42% of women feel they are ~ (Portland women in tech)

**help & assistance / role: animal / family / person**

## mother hen

mother-hen

her ~ efforts were in her daughter's best interests

♦ "She was the mother hen of the station. She was always looking out for everybody. She was always there." (Bereft colleagues of Lt. Alison Russo-Elling of EMS Station 49 in Astoria, Queens.)

**help & assistance: animal / bird / family / person**

## mother lode

mother lode

the ~, the jackpot, Valhalla (88th episode of show)

hit the mother lode

we ~ (information in archive)

**source: mining**

## **motherly (adjective)**

motherly figure

she can't physically have a baby but she is a ~

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## **Mother Teresa (epithet)**

Mother Theresa of pro athletes

Ed Butowsky is the ~ (free financial literacy advice)

“Mother Teresa” of her community

a woman known as the ~ (Bea Gaddy / East Baltimore)

Mother Teresa of Somalia

Abdi has been nicknamed “the ~” (Dr. Hawa Abdi / doctor)

♦ The beloved Mother Teresa is associated with India and Calcutta. Too few people know that she was ethnic Albanian. She is, of course, a beloved figure in the Balkans, especially Albania, Kosovo and Macedonia.

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

**epithet: religion**

## **mother tongue**

mother tongue

hyperbole is his ~ (a politician)

his ~ is Yoruba

in their mother tongues

users all over the world post content ~ (translation)

speak Chinese as their mother tongue

over a billion people ~

speak English as their mother tongue

372 million people ~

translate from their mother tongue

students who need to ~ to English

**language / speech: family / tongue**

## **motor (driving force)**

non-stop motor

he had a ~ and a no-quit attitude (an athlete)

**driving force: engine**

## **mount (verb)**

bloodshed mounted

the ~ on both sides (gang violence)

concerns (over data security) mount

as ~ (Internet)

costs mounted

his ~ and mounted some more (bankruptcy)

losses are mounting

livestock ~ (blizzards in Colorado / especially cattle)

pressure is mounting

the ~

outrage is mounting

~ over the security guard who...

death toll mounted

the pandemic worsened and the ~

continued to mount

heat-related deaths ~

**increase & decrease: number / pile / verb**

## **mountain (at the top of the mountain)**

at the top of the (boxing) mountain

he has reclaimed his place back ~ (Tyson Fury)

**hierarchy: direction / mountains & hills / position**

**attainment: direction / mountains & hills / position**

## **mountain (difficulty)**

mountain

you can move ~s if you put your mind to it

psychological mountain

he now has a ~ to climb (young boxer quits in ring)

steep mountain

the team has a ~ to climb

move mountains

they will ~ for you (coach about his players)

moved mountains

we asked for support and he ~ to provide it

♦ "Enjoy [your unbeaten streak]—the emotion of getting to the top of the mountain—because you can't duplicate that. It's a lot tougher to stay on the mountain than it is to climb it." (Ara Parseghian's advice to Tyrone Willingham.)

♦ "After the Roc Noir, I had the feeling of closing a door behind me. I was entering another world. I was far from the world of the living. I had never had this feeling on any other mountain." (Jean-Christophe Lafaille on the east ridge of Annapurna in 2002.)

♦ "We can control our heartbeat, which in cold, drawn-out bivouacs is preferably as slow as possible. It is necessary to disconnect the arms and the legs and draw most of one's blood into the core of the body and the head. We switch to other dimensions. We become insensitive to pain, cold, wind, homesickness, thirst, hunger. Instead of having dinner we separate from the physical world. But the further you go into the world where there are no reasons or consequences, points of the compass, time points like yesterday or today, where you only are—the harder it is to return. The reentry into the body is usually accompanied by pain." (No Impossible Ways by the great Slovenian climber Tomaz Humar.)

♦ "Don't take a camera, and don't post about it on Facebook—just climb a hill or do a walk, and keep the experience for yourself." (Stein P Aasheim, Norway. In 1985 he climbed with Sir Chris Bonington to the top of Everest. From "Finding 'friluftsliv' in Norway, by Tim Moore, BBC, 23 August 2011.)

♦ "Burn your TV, fill your pockets with chocolate and ham, and go for a big walk." (A Norwegian.)

♦ "Evenings spent in a mountain hut are among the most sublime and intense that life holds." ("Bear Meat" by Primo Levi.)

♦ "There are two kinds of climbers. Those who climb because their heart sings when they're in the mountains, and all the rest." (Alex Lowe.)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: mountains & hills**

## mountain (amount)

mountain of cocaine

he has done a ~ (a troubled celebrity)

mountain of criticism

she was subjected to a ~ (a tennis star)

mountain of data

the newspaper had to sort, search and understand a ~

mountains of data

sift through ~

mountain of debris

people trapped under a ~ (building collapse)

mountain of debt

they were buried under a huge ~

mountains of disagreement

negotiators tried to scale ~ (G-20)

mountain of evidence

police have a ~ and a statement (murderer)

mountains of garbage

neighborhoods here are ringed by ~ (Luanda)

mountain of paperwork

Brexit has created a ~ for wine importers

mountain of (new) paperwork

a ~ will be required from today (Brexit)

mountains of paperwork

the ~ take up so much time that... (Sudan aid)

mountains of refuse

~ filled the streets (Athens)

mountain of research

a ~ shows that...

mountains of waste

~, public nudity, drunkenness, drugs (biker rally)

mountain of (coal) waste

a ~, now 50 stories high (Shanxi Province)

man-made mountain

a ~

data mountain

no such ~ exists for low-resource languages (translation)

♦ "There would need to be a Mt. Everest of evidence to get them to change their minds." (Politicians.)

**amount: mountains & hills**

## mountainous (adjective)

mountainous seas

~ threatened to dash them against the rocks (sailing)

Cape Horn, with its ~

mountainous waves

~ crashed against the headlands (Pillar Point)

~ overturned ocean-going freighters (typhoon / Japan)

**resemblance / size: mountains & hills**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## Mount Everest (and Everest)

Everest

"Ulysses" was an ~ no filmmaker dared assault

Everest of jump sites

El Capitan is the ~ (BASE jumping)

Everest of the Seas

the race is known as the "~~" (Vendee Globe)

Mt. Everest of the gene therapy community

it was the ~ (Muscular Dystrophy cure)

Mt. Everest of surfing

Hawaii's Waimea Bay, the ~

Mount Everest of wreck diving

the Andrea Doria is considered the ~

Mount Everest of surfing waves

Pipeline is the ~ (North Shore of Oahu)

Mount Everest of the yachting universe

Cape Horn is regarded as the ~

motorcycling's Mt. Everest

the Isle of Man TT is ~, it can be thrilling, fatal

my Everest

beating Klitschko was ~ (the boxer Tyson Fury)

regarded as the Mount Everest

Cape Horn is ~ of the yachting universe

♦ "It's really the center of the surfing universe. It's like Mount Everest for surfers everywhere. And Pipeline is really the wave one needs to come to terms with as a surfer in order to be considered a great surfer." (Shaun Tomson.)

♦ "Once they're finished, the outdoors will be a more inclusive place, according to their GoFundMe page." ("A mountaineering group is aiming to be the 1st all-Black team to climb Mount Everest" by Sharon Pruitt-Young, NPR, October 9, 2021.)

♦ "There is a lack of representation of Black people in mountaineering and in high-altitude mountaineering." (Philip Henderson, leader of the Team Full Circle Everest, an American / Kenyan group, in 2022. Ten Black climbers had previously accomplished the feat.)

♦ "It's all bullshit on Everest these days." (Sir Edmund Hillary in an interview with *The Guardian* in 2003.)

**attainment / epithet / superlative: mountains & hills**

**size / danger / difficulty, easiness & effort: epithet / mountains & hills**

## mounting

mounting (medical) bills

he needs to protect himself from ~

mounting concern

in response to ~ over...

mounting criticism

he had to address the ~

mounting debt  
a network of lies and ~s

mounting (public and congressional) doubts  
there are ~ about the war

mounting evidence  
~ suggests that...

mounting pile  
a ~ of invitations

mounting scandal  
a ~ over accusations that... (church)

**increase & decrease: pile**

## Mount Rushmore

Mount Rushmore of heavyweights  
if there were a ~, it would have the likenesses of...

on our Mount Rushmore  
he's ~ (Rocky Marciano / Italian athletes)

♦ The staff refers to the mural as "Mount Funkmore. (A wonderful mural that features the faces of performers such as Isaac Hayes, Sly Stone, James Brown, Prince, Roger Troutman, etc. Listen to "Funk Carves Out A Groove At The Funk Music Hall of Fame in Ohio." NPR, Morning Edition, January 10, 2018, read by Rachel Martin. The Funk Music HOF is in Dayton, Ohio, "the funkier place on Earth." As a bonus, the episode includes a curated song list with snippets of song. Papa's Got A Brand New Bag!)

**superlative: allusion / place / mountains & hills**

## mouse (size)

mouse lemur  
~s are the planet's smallest primates (Madagascar)

**size: animal**

## mouse (cat and mouse)

see *game (game of cat and mouse)*

## mouth (entrance)

mouth of the Bosphorus  
ferries chug up into the ~ (Istanbul)

mouth of the Gulf of Aden  
Socotra, the main island at the ~

mouth of the Persian Gulf  
the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow ~

mouth of a cave  
8 Delacour's langurs scampered into the ~ (Vietnam)

mouth of the cave  
piles of breakdown at the ~

mouths of both the (Missouri and Ohio) Rivers  
they passed the ~ (Jolliet and Marquette)

mouth of a (hanging) valley  
the ~ generally discharges a waterfall

tunnel's mouth  
his office at the ~ (Mont Blanc)

cave mouth  
salamanders also live under rocks near ~s

goal mouth  
moving quickly from post to post in the ~ (ice hockey)

river mouth  
sea snakes can be found near ~s

**orientation / resemblance: mouth**

## mouth (both sides of one's mouth)

speaks out of both sides of his mouth  
he ~

**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty / speech: mouth**

## mouth (run one's mouth)

runs his mouth too much  
sometimes he ~ (an NBA player)

**speech / restraint & lack of restraint: mouth / water**

## mouthpiece (person)

mouthpiece for the British government  
she believes the BBC is a ~

Party mouthpiece  
control of the ~, *Pravda*... (Russia)

loyal mouthpiece  
she was a ~ (president's press secretary)

**repetition / sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty / speech: mouth / person**

## mouthwatering (adjective)

mouth-watering (all-British) clash  
it could be a ~ (Fury vs. Whyte / boxing)

mouth-watering prospect  
the fight was a ~ for boxing fans  
the meeting of England and Germany in the final is a ~

looks mouth-watering  
a bout at a catchweight ~ (boxing)

**eagerness & reluctance / feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / food & drink / taste**

**consumption: food & drink / taste**  
**attraction & repulsion: food & drink / taste**

## mouthy (adjective)

mouthy  
he's ~

**speech: mouth**

## move (not move an inch, etc.)

move an inch  
I wouldn't ~ (negotiations)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: movement / verb**  
**position, policy & negotiation: movement / verb**

**commitment & determination: movement / verb**

## **move (take action)**

move on this

gentlemen, we need to ~ (reaction to plot)

move aggressively

many universities felt they had to ~ (online education)

moves slowly

bureaucracy ~

got to move

we've ~ (act)

**action, inaction & delay: movement / verb**

## **move (direction)**

moving in a different direction

we're ~ (an investigation)

move in that direction

it is in everyone's interest to ~ (diplomacy)

moving in a different direction

we're ~ (an investigation)

move in that direction

it is in everyone's interest to ~ (diplomacy)

**direction: movement / verb**

## **move (progress)**

moved beyond race

America has largely ~ (opinion)

move forward

we can't ~ until you send your answers back (US census)

moving forward

things are ~ and they're moving quickly (many projects)

we are ~ with solutions on many issues (politics)

moving a little too fast

maybe we've been ~ (relationship)

**progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## **move (chess move, etc.)**

chess moves

with a couple of ~, the CIA changed Iran's history (1953)

move towards authoritarianism

critics called the vote a ~ (Hugo Chávez)

career move

one of the best ~s I ever made

genius move

playing that card was no ~ (father's influence)

career-ending move

it was considered a ~

unprecedented move

in an ~...

get-tough move

in the latest ~

bold move

it was regarded as an unusually ~

dangerous move

it was a politically bold and ~ (gay marriage)

extraordinary move

removing a commander in combat is an ~

latest (get-tough) move

in the ~

next move

commanders have been forced to rethink their ~

now we await the ~ from House Democrats (politics)

what is our ~ (an investigation)

poor political move

this is a ~ (Republicans)

risky move

he testified in his own defense, a potentially ~ (trial)

smart move

it's just not a ~ (celebration resulting in a penalty)

strategic move

this was a ~ (an airline merger)

**strategy: cards / chess / sports & games**

## **move (move up)**

moving up in the world

he is ~ (affluence, power)

move up the (beauty-pageant) ladder

she began to ~

move up the (economic) ladder

the play chronicles the struggles of a family to ~

move up the ranks

workers who want to ~

**hierarchy: movement / direction / verb**

**progress & lack of progress: movement / direction / verb**

## **movement (progress)**

little movement

there has been ~ in the negotiations

**progress & lack of progress: movement**

## **move on (resiliency)**

move on

let's just ~ (end of a relationship)

we've got to ~ (put the church controversy behind)

we need to close the book on this and ~

we want to close this dark chapter of our history and ~

it's time to put this behind us and ~ (Muller report)

the artist in me needed to ~ (from a successful TV series)

moved on

Nina had ~ (after end of relationship)

move on with your life

you need to ~ (encouragement)

move on with our lives

we've got to put this behind us and ~ (disaster)

move on from it

if I hold on to that, I'll never be able to ~ (boxer / defeat)

“moved on” from 2015

the science has ~ (a sports issue)

forget the past and move on

it's time to ~

♦ “We should move on, we should leave the past behind. Not forget it, but just leave it behind... Not forgetting, it doesn't mean not cooperating with you or not working with you or anything... You have never been damaged by us, that's why you never will know what is the feeling... It's not about you.” (Twenty-year-old Arian speaking with 16-year-old Selena on the bridge over the Ibar that separates their two communities in Mitrovica, Kosovo.)

♦ “She said she wanted to move on but is going backward.” (Heard vs. Depp celebrity trial.)

♦ “Eighty years on, how should the desire to move on be balanced with the need to remember?” (“Ukraine's forgotten 'Holocaust by Bullets,' BBC, 27 Sept 2021.)

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion / resiliency / starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## **move on (change the subject, etc.)**

move on to other areas

I'm going to ~ that need discussion

move on to a different story

let me ~ (ABC news interview)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## **move on (development)**

moved on

civil rights have ~ (to equity ideology)

**development: movement**

## **move on (time has moved on, etc.)**

time had moved on

but the world had changed, and ~

**time: movement**

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: movement**

## **Mozart (Mozart of Rock, etc.)**

Mozart of Basketball

Drazen Petrovic, AKA “the ~”

‘Mozart of rock’

tributes paid to ~ Eddie Van Halen

hard-rock's Mozart

~, Eddie Van Halen

**achievement, recognition & praise: epithet / music**

## **much (sarcasm)**

double standard much?

if whites did this, blacks would be outraged, ~

~ much (politics)

derange [sic] much

Holy cow Matt, ~ (an online commenter)

hypocrite much

yet she takes the money, ~

♦ “yet she has no problems using money from a system she despises, hypocrite much?” (A commenter about a “woke” celebrity.)

**contempo-speak: sarcasm**

## **mud (drag something through the mud)**

dragged the city's reputation through the mud

he has ~ (false allegation of hate crime)

**accusation & criticism: ground, terrain & land / verb**

**reputation: ground, terrain & land / verb**

## **mud (dragged through the mud)**

dragged through the mud

the doctors in the case have been ~ (criticism)

getting dragged through the mud

my name is ~ (suspicion of sports doping)

**accusation & criticism / reputation: ground, terrain & land**

## **mud (sink in the mud)**

mud of defeat

the US is sinking into the ~ (Iraqi spokesman on war)

sinking into the mud

the US is ~ of defeat (Iraqi spokesman on war)

**obstacles & impedance / progress & lack of progress: ground, terrain & land / verb**

## **mud (in the mud)**

in the mud

we're all ~ and have to get dirty (intelligence)

♦ “You cannot catch rats without going into the sewers.” (A spy for Britain.)

**behavior: ground, terrain & land / height**

## **mudslinging (noun)**

mudslinging

they both seem to prefer ~ (politicians)

mudslinging between rival factions

~ is being waged out in the open (catholic church)

political mud-slinging

this is not the time for ~ (Afghan withdrawal)

name-calling and mud-slinging

~ (politicians)

♦ "[Ms. Heard] slings an exceptional amount of mud at the wall in the hope that something might stick." (Johnny Depp's attorneys." This seems to combine *mudslinging* and *wall (throw something at a wall, etc.)*."

**accusation & criticism: ground, terrain & land / speech**

## muffled

muffled

Australia's conversation has been ~ by defamation laws (sex abuse)

**constraint & lack of constraint: speech**

## mugged (mugged by the officials, etc.)

mugged by the officials

City were ~ (a disgruntled Manchester City fan)

mugged by reality

when young people grow up and get ~

**accusation & criticism: crime**

## Muhammad Ali (Muhammad Ali of her generation, etc.)

Muhammed Ali of her generation

Megan Rapinoe is the ~

her generation's Muhammad Ali

Megan Rapinoe is ~

younger generation's Muhammad Ali

Nike supports the ~ (Colin Kaepernick)

**achievement, recognition & praise / superlative: epithet**

## mule (drug mule, etc.)

mule profile

he fit the ~ (busted drug courier at airport)

ballot mules

~ deliver fraudulent ballots to drop boxes (US)

drug mule

Iranian ~s fly into Dubai every few months

money mule

authorities ran ~'s names against JPay records (scam)  
more than 12m moved by Irish ~s

♦ "...it's tramp, tramp, tramp, / And tighten up your lines, / And watch the playful horseflies / As o'er the mules they climb. / Gidap, gidap, whoa! / Forget it I never shall / When I drove a pair of spavined mules / On the Erie Canal."

♦ "The organization was on the same lines as the previous expedition, only I took mules instead of horses. They stand the mountain tracks better, as they are harder in the hoof and not so particular about their feed, but are easily bogged in swamps..." (*Dersu Uzala* by V. K. Arseniev.)

♦ "Making our way through the submerged forest was no easy job. The mules sank up to their knees in the mud, fell into deep holes, and exhausted themselves. / It was not till dusk that we managed to reach the hills on the right side of the valley. The mules were dead beat, but the men were still more tired." (*Dersu Uzala* by V. K. Arseniev.)

♦ My grandpa was a muleteer during World War I. He was gassed in France.

**transportation: animal**

## mule-headed

mule-headed

he is ~ (stubborn)

♦ "A certain driver, who was driving six mules with a single line, was whipping and cursing away 'like sixty,' as the saying is, when a lean, long-necked minister came along, on a horse covered with cooking utensils and stores. The minister, feeling it his duty, called out: / 'Young man, do you know who made you?' / 'What?' said the driver, stopping a moment from his whipping and cursing. / 'Do you know who made you?' repeated the minister, this time in a very loud voice. / 'Oh!' said the driver, 'this is no time for conundrums!' / And lifting his great army whip, he struck the leading mule on the ear with a snap that sent the blood flying. / 'Go on there!' he cried, 'you cursed descendant of Pluto!' / He had heard some one say Pluto, and he thought it must mean some very bad beast—bad enough to be the origin of mules. Anyhow, the minister retired." (*Memoirs of Chaplain Life* by W. Corby. The U.S. Civil War.)

♦ "There is no education in the second kick of a mule."

**character & personality: animal**

## multiplier (force multiplier)

force multiplier for delivering

embracing collaborations is a ~ top-notch journalism

acts as a force multiplier

Fox TV ~ for President Trump

**increase & decrease: military / number**

## multipronged

multipronged approach

we need a ~ to containing COVID-19

multipronged effort

this is a ~

multipronged scheme

the suit claims the pair of companies carried out a ~

**branching system: animal / horn**

## multiverse (noun)

multiverse

~s are having something of a moment

multiverse of roads not taken

there's a ~ in *Everything Everywhere All At Once*

*Multiverse of Madness*

*Doctor Strange in the ~* is a formulaic corporate slog

multiverse movie

it's refreshing to get a new ~ (Michele Yeoh)

through this multiverse

she embodies alternate versions of her life ~ (a film)

enters a multiverse

Evelyn ~ of alt-Evelyns

♦ "I felt it was so important for someone like that to be given a voice and then to be shown that she is actually a superheroine..." (Actor Michelle Yeoh about her character in *Everything Everywhere All At Once*. From "Actor Michelle Yeoh wants to change the way we think of superheroes," NPR, Fresh Air, April 25, 2022.)

♦ "Yooo, that Liam Neeson scene is sending me. Is this a confessional? #AtlantaFX be on some multiverse shit." (A tweet.)

♦ see also *verse* (*metaverse*, etc.)

area / environment: astronomy

## murder (verb)

murdered

squatting next to a bear you just ~ is such a weird flex

murder memory

they've been trying to ~ (overwrought politics)

hyperbole: crime / death & life

## murderer (shame is a murderer, etc.)

murderer

shame is a ~

trophy murderers

big, brave "hunters" and ~ (a wildlife activist)

♦ "Shame. You know, shame is a silencer. Shame is a killer. Shame is a murderer... I had nothing but shame in my entire life." (The actor Billy Porter.)

hyperbole: crime / death & life / person

## murderous (murderous hail of bullets, etc.)

murderous footsteps

he is determined his son will not follow in his ~

murderous hail

the Turks loosed a ~ of bullets (Gallipoli)

murderous microbes

the way our bodies fight off ~

death & life: crime / violence

comparison & contrast: affix

## murk (in / amid the murk)

amid the murk

it's hard to find clarity ~

in the murk of the conflict

he is a beacon of moral truth ~ (Middle East)

in the murk of history

he is a shadowy figure lost ~

in the murk of the situation

I got lost ~

certainty & uncertainty / comprehension &

incomprehension / concealment & lack of concealment / perception, perspective & point of view: eye / light & dark / water

## murk (other)

cultural and political murk

investigators have been slowed by the ~ (Middle East)

♦ "Any clarity that Kuryakov's solution might have brought was quickly occluded amid an atmosphere of murk and mistrust." ("Cold Case: A new

solution to the mystery at Dead Mountain" by Douglas Preston, *The New Yorker*, May 17, 2021.)

certainty & uncertainty / comprehension & incomprehension / concealment & lack of concealment / perception, perspective & point of view: eye / light & dark / water

## murky (adjective)

murky problem

what to do with pirates has become a ~ (Somalia)

murkier question

the ~ of whether there are other factors at play...

murky world

foreign women working in the ~ of the bar trade (Japan)

still murky

exactly what happened is ~

remain murky

though the facts ~... (criminal case)

remains murky

even now, the source of the problems ~

♦ "The stream is very murky from the very top." (Afghanistan. Meaning the generals / high officials are involved in corruption and bad dealings.)

certainty & uncertainty / comprehension & incomprehension / concealment & lack of concealment / perception, perspective & point of view: eye / light & dark / water

## muscle (political muscle, etc.)

muscle of the operation

a guy I thought might be the ~ (drugs)

muscle-flexing

~ by Pakistan's armed forces

litigation muscles

the music corporation has flexed its ~ (copyright lawsuit)

geopolitical muscle

Iran is increasingly flexing its ~s

political muscle

the Eastern Band has visibly flexed its ~ (Cherokee)

they use their ~ to scare Republicans

economic and political muscle

unions once had ~

flex its muscles

North Korea might ~

flexing its muscles

the religious right is ~ in the corridors of power

Saudi Arabia is ~ in the oil market

flexing its (geopolitical) muscles

Iran is increasingly ~

flexing their muscles

California politicians are ~ on the national stage

♦ You got so many kids out here acting crazy, wanting to flex some muscle. They don't have respect for life." (South Los Angeles resident, commenting on a spate of gang killings.)

**force / power: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

**strength & weakness: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

### **muscle (muscle its way through, etc.)**

muscled its way through the Midwest  
the storm ~ (tornadoes and rain)

**force / power / strength & weakness: movement / skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

**movement: force / skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

### **muscular (adjective)**

muscular response  
we need to have a ~ (impeachment politics)  
why have such a ~ (measures against pandemic)

**force / power / strength & weakness: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

### **muse (person)**

muse  
she was his ~, model and co-conspirator (Wendy Whiteley)

muse and doormat  
the muddy line between ~ (Broadway)

two muses  
the film brings together his ~, De Niro and DiCaprio

**person: religion**

**relationship: allusion / person / religion**

**creation & transformation: allusion / person / religion**

### **museum (noun)**

museum of agriculture  
the EU is a ~ (according to US ambassador)

belong in a museum  
they ~ now (Pele, Maradona, versus Ronaldo)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: antiques**

**past & present / time: antiques**

### **mushroom (verb)**

mushroom into a (strategic) blunder  
this is a tactical mistake that will ~ (a company's decision)

mushroomed in Zambia  
anti-Chinese sentiment has ~ since 2005

mushroomed along the coast  
resorts and hotels ~ (Negombo)

mushroom out of the piles  
jerry-built shacks ~ of rubble (Tokyo, 1947)

audience mushroomed  
his audience ~ (Alex Jones, conspiracy theorist)

♦ In Asheville, North Carolina, mushrooms truly DO mushroom after a period of rainy, damp weather. They spring up in patches, can be quite colorful, and some of them can be quite large.

**appearance & disappearance: plant / verb**

### **mushroom (shape)**

mushroom cloud  
the blast sent a huge ~ into the sky (Beirut 2020)

**shape: plant**

### **music (face the music)**

face the music from audiences  
the film finally streams on Netflix to ~

**judgment: music**

### **musical chairs**

musical chairs at the Justice Department  
~ (acting attorney general due to be replaced)

game of music-show chairs  
the game of ~ may not be over (BBC Radio 2)

game of musical chairs  
it's a ~, you have to be ready when the music stops (stocks)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: movement / music / sports & games**

### **mustang (noun)**

Mustang program  
the ~ lets people forgo the Foreign Service Officer test

♦ A "mustang" is a commissioned officer who began his career as an enlisted man. Such men are prized.

**military / experience: horse**

### **muster (pass muster)**

passes (constitutional) muster  
a judge will decide if the law ~

**judgment: military / verb**

### **muster (muster courage, etc.)**

muster the courage  
republicans must ~ to stand up

**assembling: military / verb**

### **must-have (noun)**

must-have  
trees are a ~ in city budgets (environmentalists)

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: part of speech**

### **mutate (verb)**

mutated into a metaphor  
as its use ~ (the word *weaponize*)

**creation & transformation: biology / verb**

### **mute (speech)**

mute  
he remained ~

speech: sound

## mutilate (verb)

mutilated the truth with selective and deceptive sources  
she consistently ~ (Naomi Wolf)

failure, accident & impairment: health & medicine / skin,  
muscle, nerves & bone / verb

## mutineer (person)

selfish, mutineer  
he dealt with ~ Renaldo (ETH at Man U)

resistance, opposition & defeat: boat / person  
allegiance, support & betrayal / person: boat

## mutinous (adjective)

mutinous mood  
workers are in a ~

mutinous homeowners  
~ are trying to secede from the town

resistance, opposition & defeat: boat  
allegiance, support & betrayal: boat

## mutiny (noun)

mutiny against her teachers  
the 9-year-old girl contacted Johnny Depp to lead a ~

mutiny among (federal) judges  
the verdict is so outrageous that it has produced a ~

mutiny among taxpayers  
high taxes set off a ~

World Cup mutiny  
Anelka was involved in the ~ (against the coach)

cabinet mutiny  
Johnson dig in amid growing ~ (U.K. politics)

victim of a mutiny  
he was the ~ by ultra-conservatives (politics)

provoked a mutiny  
he ~ (a boss, of his employees)

♦ "The story of the *Bounty* mutiny has become so addled by popular myth that it is generally forgotten that it was caused, not so much by the authoritarian character of Captain Bligh, as by the undermining of his men's discipline during their long stay on Tahiti... / Whatever else he may have been he was thorough, he carried out instructions, he was almost as good a navigator as Cook, and it is strange that so much sentimentality about the whole *Bounty* incident has fixed itself not, as one would have supposed, on the sirenian allurements of the Tahitian women, but upon the irascible temper of this unfortunate man..." (*The Fatal Impact* by Alan Moorehead.)

resistance, opposition & defeat: boat  
allegiance, support & betrayal: boat

## muzzle (verb)

muzzle dissent  
they are seeking to ~

constraint & lack of constraint: animal / verb

speech: mouth / verb

## myopia (noun)

myopia  
this ~ can be cured by leadership (shortsightedness)

myopia of (modern democratic) politics  
the ~ is all too obvious (the near term, quick fixes, short-termism)

philanthropic myopia  
the long lineage of ~ (Mrs. Jellyby, etc.)

perception, perspective & point of view: eye  
future / time: eye

## myopic (adjective)

myopic policymaking  
this kind of ~ was dubbed the "political-business cycle"

♦ "We see nothing truly till we understand it." (John Constable, about clouds.)

consciousness & awareness / future / perception,  
perspective & point of view: distance / eye

## myth (noun)

myth  
much of what we think we know about Australia is a ~

myths about trauma and sexual offences  
there are a number of ~

myths and tropes  
what are some common ~ about looting

weight loss myths  
stop following ~ (an advertisement)

create that myth  
I didn't ~, but I certainly inherited it (drunk journalists)

bolster the myth  
this has helped to ~ that children...

perpetuate (dangerous) myths  
her comments ~ (opinion)

bound up in the myths  
Indians are ~ white Americans have created

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion

## mythology (noun)

family mythology  
this Paradise Lost kind of ~ (formerly rich family)

Good War mythology  
the legacy of ~ still affects foreign policy

Greek left-wing mythology  
in ~, the crime was blamed on the US (Nov. 19, 1973)

♦ "By God, we've kicked the Vietnam syndrome once and for all." (George H.W. Bush, about the Gulf War.)

bases: religion

# N

## nadir (at the nadir)

at a nadir

his popularity was ~ (a politician)

at its nadir

the team is ~ (losing)

at their nadir

in 2009, stock prices were ~

at the nadir of the (financial) crisis

~, gold was a safe haven (investment)

at the nadir of a bad economy

the store opened ~

at the nadir of his tenure

he finds himself ~ (a politician)

reached their nadir

house prices have not yet ~ (falling)

**decline: astronomy / direction**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / direction**

## nadir (since the nadir)

since the (recession's) nadir

~ in 2009, things have improved

**decline: astronomy**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy**

## nadir (other)

nadir of his career

the ~ came after... (Frank Sinatra)

nadir of education

the late sixties were surely the ~ (US)

nadir in (US) history

his presidency was the ~ (politics)

economic nadir

they have taken us to this ~ (politics)

political nadir

the government has reached a ~

hit a nadir

sales have ~

hit its nadir

the population of panthers ~ in the 1980s (Florida)

**decline: astronomy**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy**

## nag (verb)

nagging at those

there was a question ~ in charge of his manhunt

**affliction / fictive communication: speech / verb**

## nagging (adjective)

nagging awareness

this ~ of having taken someone else's place...

nagging fear

the ~ that the cancer will return

nagging guilt

still, I felt this ~

nagging injuries

she came off the pitch early, which could indicate ~

nagging issue

there is the ~ of waste (agricultural plastic)

nagging problem

the ~ of head lice

nagging question

the ~ what if we had only...

an expert answers ~s about the virus

there's always this ~, "Why?"

nagging worry

it has become the focus of ~ (air pollution and its effects)

constant, nagging

the ~ fear of catching the disease again (COVID)

**affliction / fictive communication: speech**

## nail (hit the nail on the head)

hit the nail on the head

you ~ when you say...

you don't offend me, you ~

hits the nail on the head

that ~ (what you said was right)

one critic called it "Brooklyn verismo," that pretty much ~

hit some nails on their heads

the prophets ~ (futurists got some things right)

**success & failure: nail / target / verb**

## nail (nail something)

nail this audition

focus up, we've got to ~... (band)

nailed a (48-yard) field goal

he ~ (football)

nailed it

you ~ (correct answer)

he ~, he's right of course (an opinion about Afghanistan)

the sunshield has been unfurled, we ~ (space telescope)

nailed (several huge) jumps

he ~ and a spock 540

nailed the message

her cheerful, soulful, poppy songs that ~ (Lizzo)

nailing it

they spotted a gap in the market and they're ~ (Social Chain)

**success & failure: nail / target / verb**

## **nail (nail somebody)**

nail this guy

we need more evidence to ~ (police)

**pursuit, capture & escape: nail / verb**

## **nail (bite one's nails)**

bite their nails

her parents ~ during big-wave season (Maya Gabeira)

biting their nails

Germany, Italy, Hungary are ~, nervously (Ukraine crisis)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / finger / gesture / verb**

## **nail (nail someone to the cross)**

nailed the quarterback and the coach to the cross

they have ~ for the sins of the team (NFL)

♦ "In the old days, Yamamoto would have had to commit ritual disembowelment." / "No, he wouldn't have been given the honor! He would simply have been crucified!" ("The Emperor's Code: Breach Of Protocol Spurs Debate in Japan" by Lucy Craft, Nov. 13, 2013.)

**accusation & criticism: religion / verb / violence**

**punishment & recrimination: religion / verb / violence**

## **nail biter (noun)**

nail-biter

it was a ~, a lot of back-and-forth play (soccer game)

nail biter of a mission

it's a ~ (India spacecraft)

in a nail-biter

the French beat Slovenia 90-89 ~ (Olympic basketball)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / finger / gesture**

## **nail-biting (fingernails)**

nail-biting experience

the space repair was a ~ for NASA

nail-biting thriller

it's a ~ (a TV show)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / finger / gesture**

## **nail down (gain)**

nail down the agreement

she helped to ~ between... (government)

**success & failure: nail / verb**

## **nail down (settle)**

nail down the facts

it was very hard to ~

nailed down her proofs

Evans ~ (concerning undulant fever)

nailed down the source

scientists believe they have ~ of the coronavirus (MERS)

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: nail / verb**

## **naked (unadorned)**

naked abuse

this is ~ of power (politics)

naked aggression

lies, deceit and ~ (Saddam Hussein)

naked bigotry

the ~ (4 Pakistani female nurses murdered)

naked discrimination

their marginalization is due to ~ (an ethnic group)

naked politics

this is ~ (impeachment investigation)

naked self-interest

~ among budding lawyers (university)

naked truth

what I believe to be the ~ (identity of murderer)

**appearance & reality: clothing & accessories**

**concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories**

## **naked (substance)**

naked

our leaders are ~

♦ This reminds us of the 1837 story "The Emperor's New Clothes" by Hans Christian Andersen, about the child who exclaimed, "The King has no clothes!"

**substance & lack of substance: clothing & accessories**

## **naked (protection)**

naked to the elements

they were ~

left us naked

the destruction of their air-defence radars ~

**protection & lack of protection: clothing & accessories**

## **nakedly**

nakedly often

bars are places where people reveal themselves, most ~

**appearance & reality: clothing & accessories**

**concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories**

## **name (reputation)**

name

his ~ is dirt

my ~ is clean (exonerated)

man's good name

what's at stake in this trial is a ~ (Heard vs. Depp)

## bad name

his comments give boxing a ~ (Deontay Wilder)

## big name

see *big* (*big name, etc.*)

## good name

the company has a ~

## clear his name

he has vowed to ~ (a politician)

he wanted to prove his innocence and ~ (refuses deal)

## clear my name

I'm here today to ~ and restore my reputation (fired coach)

## made his name

he had ~ as the cofounder of the White Helmets

## make a name for himself

he wants to ~, unquestionably (a physicist)

## make a name for themselves

they should go into business and ~ (father about his sons)

## tarnished the (Hernandez) name

they felt she had ~

♦ "A name doesn't spoil a man, but a man can spoil a name." (A Finnish proverb.)

♦ Life is for one generation; a good name is forever. (Japan.)

♦ "You have blackened our name. Kill yourself and clean our shame or we will kill you first." (Text message to a 17-year-old Turkish girl in Southeast Anatolia from one of her uncles. She had taken a boyfriend.)

♦ "If your name is good on the block until you die, you've made it." (Poet and essayist Hanif Abdurraqib.)

♦ The Howards and the Turners; the Hatfield and the McCoys; the Lincoln County Feud; the Frenches and Eversoles; the Martins and Tollivers; the Bakers and Howards... (Famous Appalachian family feuds.)

♦ "Don't get me wrong: I have nothing against the Campbells, but I would not stay a night in the company of one." (Said by a MacDonald recently, referring to a massacre of MacDonalds by Campbells after the Campbells had accepted the MacDonalds' hospitality. The murders took place in 1692.)

## reputation: proper name

## name (groups)

### HER NAME

~ IS BRIANNA GHEY (message on a placard at vigil)

### say his name

~ (social activist chant)

### say her name

~ (social activist chant)

~ (Ashli Babbitt)

### say their names

~ (social activist chant)

Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment, ~ (Stanford EDU DEPT)

♦ "#Sayhername,' the patriots will tweet, delighting in their appropriation of a campaign created for Black women." (Ashli Babbitt.)

♦ "I was a black girl who had jumped fences and fought boys and made them say my name and resisted death." (Zandria F. Robinson @ New South Negress.)

♦ "NPR's Ari Shapiro speaks with Marijuana Pepsi Vandyck about her recent PhD completion despite the hardships she's faced because of her

birth name... / The title of her dissertation [is]—'Black Names in White Classrooms: Teacher Behaviors and Student Perceptions.'" ("Marijuana Pepsi Fends Off The Jokes To Earn Her PhD," NPR, Race, All Things Considered, June 21, 2019.)

♦ "Call me by your name and I'll call you by mine." (The film *Call Me by Your Name*, a "gay coming-of-age film.")

♦ "Every weekend I use my husband's phone and he uses mine." (Chris Dancy, about his husband.)

♦ "Y/N" is used with the meaning of "Your Name." (Fanfiction, fandom.)

♦ "Readers can Mad Lib themselves into the narrative." (Use their own names for a character.)

♦ "Jeremy's not a nut. He doesn't make people call him by his name on set." (Playwright, screenwriter and film director Aaron Sorkin about the great actor Jeremy Strong.)

♦ "Names come into and fall out of fashion much as clothing styles, musical genres, and haircuts do. None of the top five girls' names from 1912—Mary, Helen, Dorothy, Margaret, and Ruth—ranked in the top 40 in 2010, when the leaders were Emma, Olivia, Sophia, Isabella, and Ava."

♦ "From an Internet search I learned that boys' names beginning in N were relatively rare, appearing only once in the top one hundred names of the 1930s and '40..." (*I'll Be Gone In The Dark: One Woman's Obsessive Search For The Golden State Killer* by Michelle McNamara.)

♦ "She connects the popularity, ten years ago, of four-letter names (Ruby, Luna, Levi) with the rise of such instant-gratification apps as Seamless and Tinder. Now longer names are making a comeback—the result, Humphrey believes, of the lockdown-related return to leisurely pursuits like gardening, cooking, and crafting. Waiting for the sourdough to rise has given people the patience to enunciate multisyllable names like Genevieve, Josephine, and Theodore." ("Dept. Of Monikers: Would Smell As Sweet?" *The Talk Of The Town*, *The New Yorker*, April 18, 2022. A delightful talk with Taylor A. Humphrey, a professional baby namer and doula.)

♦ "Women are flocking to TikTok in droves to complain and commiserate about the perils of dating people named Ben in videos amassing millions of views online." ("What is the 'Ben Stage'? Women warned about dating men named Ben" by Ben Cost, *Viral Trends*, *New York Post*, February 23, 2023.)

♦ John Denver (Henry John Deutchendorf); Cher (Cherilyn Sarkasian); Tina Turner (Anna Mae Bullock); Elton John (Reginald Kenneth Dwight); Snoop Dogg (Calvin Broadus)... (Professional / stage names.)

♦ Mark Twain (Samuel Langhorne Clemens); Lewis Carroll (Charles Dodgson); George Orwell (Eric Blair); O. Henry (William Sydney Porter); George Eliot (pen name of Mary Anne Evans—1819-80—author of *Middlemarch*); Ellis Bell (Emily Bronte, who wrote *Wuthering Heights*)... (Pen names / pseudonyms / *noms de plume*.)

♦ "Nixon Moreno; Stalin González; Taj-Mahal Sánchez; Elvis Presley Gomez Morillo; Darwin Lenin Jimenez, Yesaidú ("Yes I do"); Mao Pino; Irohshima Bravo (from the Japanese city "Hiroshima"); Susej ("Jesus" spelled backwards... (Venezuelan names.)

♦ "My great-grandmother [Queen Victoria] was always very particular about the names of her descendants. When I was born she wrote to my mother, in the rather shaky handwriting of an octogenarian: 'There is one thing that would give me great pleasure if you and Louis approve of it, viz. if you would add the name Albert to the four others.' So I was christened Louis Francis Albert Victor Nicholas—but all my life people have called me Dickie." (Lord Mountbatten on his name, in his forward to *The Life and Times of Lord Mountbatten* by John Terraine.)

♦ "[My name is] Kittredge McPherson Printer-John Vine Terhune... Kittredge was a senator our folks allers voted for... Then McPherson, he was the preacher married Pa and Ma. Printer-John—well, they was three John Vines: Long-John, Sick-John and Printer-John who run the paper, oncet, in Kittuwa. Vine was Ma's name afore she married... [But you can call me] Kit." (*Smoky Mountain Magic*, by Horace Kephart.)

♦ "It wasn't a great time to be an Iranian, so when I went to university I changed my name to Fred." (Farhad Mohit, who arrived in the US in 1979 at the height of the hostage crisis and who was called names at school.)

♦ Muhammad Ali famously taunted Ernie Terrell in the ring with calls of "What's my name?" Before the fight, Terrell had referred to Ali as Cassius Clay, and Ali had said, "Why don't you call me my name, man?" Ali made Terrell pay in the ring, which went all 15 rounds. Terrell wasn't

the only person who had trouble accepting Ali's name change. Ali's *father* had trouble accepting it, too.

♦ "Muslims serving in the US military in Iraq and Afghanistan often use fake names on their uniforms to avoid being singled out by insurgents as traitors and to prevent reprisals against their families back home." (*The Week*, November 20, 2009.)

♦ "We're Muslims. Now there's no limiting. Before, there were no mosques. Now there are many." (A Tajik mother of three, waiting at the airport for her father to return on a Haj flight. Islam was suppressed under the Soviets. Now *Medina* has become a popular name for girls.)

♦ "Roma children are given three names. The first is a secret name, which is whispered by the mother during christening. Its role is to hide the real identity of the child from evil spirits. The second is a Roma name that is used by the community. The third is the official Christian name, for use in relations with those outside the community." (Delia Grigore, University of Bucharest, on a naming tradition among some groups of Roma.)

♦ The 9/11 memorial features a list of names.

♦ The Vietnam Veterans memorial features a list of names.

♦ Long lists of names are often read at memorial services. Reading the names of Holocaust victims can take days and require shifts of people.

♦ "28,788 names are etched in marble on the Honolulu Memorial at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific."

♦ The Menin Gate (of the missing) in Belgium lists the names of 54,305 soldiers.

♦ Chaney, Goodman, Schwerner... (The shocking deaths that *united* a nation.)

♦ "You know, I'm embarrassed to say this, but I don't even know your name." / "You really want to know my name? You do?" / "Sure." / "It's Ernie Douglas. But my friends call me Chip." / "Um. Goodbye." (From the funny 1996 film *The Cable Guy*.)

**inclusion & exclusion: objectification**

## namecheck (and name-check)

namechecked in rap

the Draco is a baby AK-47 frequently ~

namechecked it in a song

Beyonce has ~ (OnlyFans porn site)

name-checked you

the President has ~, called you a rat (NPR)

♦ This means to acknowledge and the verb is of very recent origin, according to Merriam-Webster. *Name-drop* has the connotation of mentioning a name in order to impress.

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: person / verb**

## namechecked

name-checked

landmarks (like Amy Ruth's restaurant) are ~ (Harlem)

namechecked in rap

the Draco is a baby AK-47 frequently ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: person**

## nanny (person)

nanny state

people expect the ~ to do everything for them (Brexit)  
a small but growing number are defying the ~ (Singapore)

**dependency: baby / family / person**

**person: baby**

## nap (noun)

taking a nap

the GOP is ~ somewhere (politics)

**action, inaction & delay: sleep**

**consciousness & awareness: sleep**

## Napoleon (the Black Napoleon, etc.)

Napoleon of the West

he referred to himself as the ~ (the captured Santa Ana)

Black Napoleon

Toussaint Louverture, the ~ (Haiti)

"Chinese Napoleon"

the last Mongol emperor was driven from Peking by the upstart ~ (Chu Yuan-chang)

Muslim Napoleon

his resting place resembles that of a ~ (Mehmet II)

Mahometan Buonaparte

so brave and so good they call him the ~ (Ali Pasha)

"One Eyed Eastern Napoleon"

he was also called the ~ (the Maharaja Ranjit Singh)

♦ "Napoleon is not a name that is easy to live up to, or live down."  
("Napoleon's incendiary legacy divides France 200 years on" by Lucy Williamson, BBC Paris correspondent, May 4, 2021.)

**military: epithet**

## Napoleon (the Napoleon of surgery, etc.)

"Napoleon of the Poles"

Roald Amundsen, often called the ~

Napoleon of the Polar regions

that extraordinary explorer, the ~ (Amundsen)

Napoleon of the stage

the proprietor and "~~" R.W. Elliston (Drury Lane Theater)

Napoleon of Surgery

on June 26, 1870, 'the ~' died (James Syme)

**allusion: military**

**achievement, recognition & praise / character & personality: epithet**

## Napoleonic (adjective)

Napoleonic audacity

he had the ~ to swing from one Pole to the other

Napoleonic fervor

and elsewhere he wrote, with ~... (a Zionist)

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## narcotic (noun)

narcotic

rising profits were a ~ that affected everyone

♦ "Salt is the primordial narcotic."

**feeling, emotion & effect: addiction / health & medicine**

## narrative (groups, etc.)

### narrative

what ~ they want to advance (disinformation)  
people were expecting this ~ that... (a controversial show)  
I am so tired of this ~ (Ailsa Chang / life's milestones)  
the ~ is they versus you (culture wars in U.S.)

### narrative is

the conventional Anglocentric ~ that... (the Alamo)

### narrative was

a lot of his ~ to create a sensational story (murders)

### narrative that we aren't doing anything

the ~ is just not true

### narrative that dehumanizes policeman

I think the ~ is dangerous (the writer James McBride)

### narrative about the war

this false ~ (that US accomplished nothing)

### narrative of the Supreme Courts

in his ~ he identifies issues like gun rights, free speech

### narrative of negativity

the "deficit narrative" frames Aboriginal identity in a ~

### narratives of the occupation

it does not fit within dominant ~ (Vichy Jewish Scouts)

### narrative of elevating

his comments cohere around a ~ white Americans

### narrative in his head

he has a ~ that he wants Americans to believe

### narrative from the report

police say they sent the ~ to the FBI

### narrative of the war

he became entangled in the race to control the ~ (Syria)

### "narrative enforcers"

my name was on the list of ~ (Chloe Hadjimatheou)

### narrative machine

the problem with the media ~

### narrative threat

the 1776 Commission fought the ~ of the 1619 Project

### narrative war

the North won, but the South won the ~

### suspect's narrative

law enforcement's focus on the ~ has been criticized

### one's narrative

gender, self-definition in taking control of ~

### self-narrative

construction and accuracy in the ~  
~s of adult children of alcoholics  
it became a part of his ~ (Joe Biden and personal tragedy)  
at the center of Joe Biden's ~ has always been that...

### my narrative

but I mean, it's his words, it's not ~ (disagreement)

### his narrative

although, in ~, the other side is to blame...

### their own narratives

equitable support for BIPOC filmmakers to author ~

### ABC narrative

my posts simple don't agree with the ~ (removed)

### "deficit narrative"

the ~ frames Aboriginal identity (negative news)

### massacre narrative

people pushing the ~ are still looking for the graves (Tulsa)

### master narrative

that account should not be the ~ of Trump's ascent

### misinformation narratives

a number of vaccine ~ have appeared

### press narrative

that's the ~, it's backwards from what's likely to happen

### wellness narrative

as the ~ toggles between self-improvement and self-acceptance... (*Vanity Fair*)

### "white saviour" narrative

critics say the film pursues a ~ (*They Are Us*)

### Syrian State narrative

something useful to the ~ doesn't mean it's not true

### "stop the steal" narrative

they want to keep alive the ~ (political protesters)

### victim narrative

but his is anything but a ~ (Zygmunt Bauman / Polish Jew)  
guests are expected to wallow in a ~ (media)

### public narrative

the issue has defined her ~ (Britney Spears' conservatorship)  
the ~ was that this was about... (a corporate issue)

### third narrative

but I think this ~ is also a big narrative

### tale of 2 cities narrative

the curfew reinforces the ~ (Sydney lockdown / a tweet)

### changing narrative

reflecting on the ~ around mental health in sport

### evolving narrative

the ~ of what happened at Uvalde the day of the shooting

### misleading narratives

he debunks ~ about crime, gangs and public safety

### prevailing narrative

his book calls into question the ~ surrounding the murders

### shifting narrative

there is growing frustration over the ~ (school shooting)

accepted narrative  
the ~ of the murders just can't be true (Manson Family)

established narrative  
I learned not to write papers going against the ~ (campus)

misguided narrative  
attributes it to what he insists is a ~ of the shooting

overblown (political) narrative  
poor photo selection fueled an ~ (#defundNPR)

predetermined narrative  
history is molded to fit the needs of a ~ (at the NYT)

preferred narrative  
research that clashes with the ~ is denied and dismissed

unsubstantiated narrative  
the company is using an ~ to obscure other factors

online narrative  
~s are misleading

counter-narratives  
how far right movements create ~ to accepted understandings of history

archaic narrative  
change the ~ that gay = bad (So Gay Rosé wine)

digestible narrative  
we'll tackle the ~ that sports are a pathway...

dominant narratives  
what do ~ do to our understanding of history  
~ maintain black oppression (education)  
Jewish Scouts do not fit within ~ of the occupation (Vichy)

Eurocentric narrative  
he upends the ~ (*In the Forest of No Joy*)  
curriculum that center around ~s (vs. Afrocentric)

fake narrative  
it's wrong, it's a ~, you don't care about the facts

false narrative  
he led an entire generation into believing a ~  
one of the ~s is there is no choice (plural marriages)  
this ~ about the war (that US accomplished nothing)

foundational narrative  
their work threatens the ~ of Polish Society (Holocaust)

historical narrative  
elite, white-led institutions coopt and control the ~

national narrative  
being a part of a ~ sends a message (arrested for rioting)

negative narrative  
the ~ influences public opinion (about a black athlete)

new narrative  
his lawyer said this ~ was known to the presiding judge  
the group pushing this ~ have already sued the Cherokees

official narrative

the migrants don't believe the ~  
some go beyond the ~ to look into the reality (Syria)  
the ~ that was presented by prosecutors was that... (crime)  
the ~ of the mass shooting has changed (Uvalde)

outlandish narrative  
~s began to development (about James Le Mesurier)

persuasive narrative  
lawyers attempt to craft a ~

rosy narrative  
they agreed to stick to a ~ (diplomacy)

separate narratives  
the trend has been ~ (vs. a collective national story)

similar recurring narratives  
show after show is driven by ~ (rape and murder of females)

narrow and sensational and false narrative  
he presented such a ~ of the murders (a prosecutor)

conventional Anglocentric narrative  
the ~ is... (Texas independence from Mexico)

strong, legitimate narrative  
we have a ~ (secret British document / *HMS Defender*)

narrative around it  
did he try to justify it, was there a ~ (surprise rough sex)

in his narrative  
although, ~, the other side is to blame...

mastermind behind the narrative  
Steve Jobs was not the ~ ("Think Different" ad campaign)

change in the narrative  
now, this is a real moment, right, this could be a real ~

control of this narrative  
the white media does not want to relinquish ~ (black sports)

part of the narrative  
TikTok has become ~ of the election (2020)

"war for narrative"  
she reminds us of Kimberle Crenshaw's "~"

controlling the narrative  
he has done so well at ~ (civil-rights lawyer)

managing the narrative  
the government appears obsessed about ~

stealing their narratives  
excluding Latinos while still ~ (films)

narrative was amplified  
the ~ in a feedback loop by the media (Steele Dossier)

narrative (shaped around him) will become  
I wonder what the ~ (gossip about NFL player)

narrative is changing  
the ~ from 'Fuck Jake Paul' to 'We love Jake Paul'

narrative was disputed

the guards' ~ by prosecutors (Blackwater)

narratives are emerging  
two very different ~ (government's vs. social media)

narrative (of fake cures) is fed  
the ~ by hope (COVID)

narratives (about her) have dominated  
two ~ coverage (pop diva is hot mess, has lost her voice)

narratives maintain  
dominant ~ black oppression (education)

narrative is shifting  
I'm pleased that the ~ ("sober curious" movement)

narrative (of deceit) unraveled  
after her ~ (the influencer Belle Gibson)

amplify (pro-government) narratives  
these networks ~ (the internet)

author their own narratives  
equitable support for BIPOC filmmakers to ~ (from PBS)

believe in this narrative  
the more people ~...

bring that (important) narrative forward  
how can they ~

caused that narrative to grow  
lack of understanding has ~ (about polygamy)

challenge the (Kremlin's) narrative  
there is less to ~ (radio station shut down)

change the narrative  
we were inspired to go public and ~ (about polygamy)  
she is keen to ~ (Outdoor Afro)  
once a story has been framed, it's hard to ~

choose a narrative  
most often they ~ that makes them feel good (denial)

come up with a narrative  
they rationalize and ~ that makes them feel good

committed to the (CRT) narrative  
those ~ (critical race theory)

constructs its official narrative  
as Colombia ~ of the violence, one core actor is Uribe

contradicts her narrative  
it ~ that she just wants to move on (Heard-Depp trial)

control the narrative  
he was at the center of a battle to ~ of the Syrian War  
they went to great lengths to ~ (COVID deaths)  
now Silicon Valley has come up with a way to ~  
Europe is struggling to ~ in his conflict (Ukraine)

controlled the narrative  
the white people who ~ for the past 400 years...

controlling the narrative

he complained that the team was ~ (an NFL player)

convince herself of her own narrative  
she did these stories just to try and ~ (Gabbie Hanna)

craft a (persuasive) narrative  
lawyers attempt to ~

create a (different) narrative  
I want to ~ (Elizabeth Colomba, "Riding Places")

curates the narrative  
he carefully ~ around his exploits to enlarge them

debunks (misleading) narratives  
he ~ about crime, gangs and public safety

define it  
you get to ~, it doesn't have to look like any other narrative  
(Blacks "participating" in nature)

enforce the (false) narrative  
you ~ that BIPOC artists are... (BIPOC vs. PBS)

establish the narrative  
we need to ~ that the President is still in charge...

fit the narrative  
they didn't tell you because it didn't ~ (politician vs. media)

fit within (dominant) narratives  
it does not ~ of the occupation (Vichy Jewish Scouts)

form a narrative  
when they come together and ~ (microaggressions)

frame the narrative  
it is vital to ~, to persuade the justices of your version

fueled an (overblown political) narrative  
poor photo selection ~ (#defundNPR)

fueled by (false) narratives  
grievances ~ (extremists)

get across the narrative  
to ~, the basic idea of what's going on in the country

get ahead of the narrative  
it is so important to ~ (civil rights lawsuits)

goes against the narrative  
never commission a story that ~ (*The New York Times*)

influence the narrative  
how today's events could ~ in Westminster (UK politics)

justify her narrative  
she jumped so quickly to these elaborate conclusions to ~

keep the narrative alive  
they want to ~ (politics)

kill the narrative  
he said, we have to ~ that the vice president is...

laid out a narrative  
his attorney ~ that... (court martial)

lost that narrative  
we've ~ (that Democrats keep jobs in the U.S. / politics)

lost control of the narrative  
we have ~ (sports journalists, to Twitter, teams, etc.)

Mad Lib themselves into the narrative  
readers can ~ (Y/N fandom / fanfiction)

make our own narrative  
we don't care, we ~ (an older NBA player)

plays to their narrative  
they are trying to spin the data that ~ (politics)

plug what happened into the narrative  
people are starting to ~ (NFL sports injuries)

promoted these narratives  
the Japanese government ~ (soldiers should die in battle)

push that narrative  
you need support for the war, so you ~ (of terrorism)

pushing the (massacre) narrative  
people ~ are still looking for the graves (Tulsa)

pushing a (false) narrative  
he is ~ that he was robbed (election)

puts a dent in that narrative  
this withdrawal ~ (of being competent in foreign policy)

reinforce the narrative  
they're continuing to ~ that this was led by the President

reframe the narrative  
critical race theory seeks to ~ of American history

resisted the narrative  
I ~ and the pressure being applied to me (whistleblower)

runs counter to the narrative  
what I saw ~ that the border is open (immigration)

shape the narrative  
TikTok has helped ~ of the election (2020)

shape a narrative  
give all the facts, not just selective ones that ~

shape narratives  
archaeology's power to ~ (history)

shattered the narrative  
this has ~ of a Black / brown coalition (LA scandal)

shifted the narrative  
it ~ (a protest / from reform to defund the police)

stick to a (rosy) narrative  
they agreed to ~ (diplomacy)

support the narrative  
the media ignores these cases because they don't ~

supported the (police) narrative  
they played up other factors that ~ (medical examiners)

sustain the narrative  
this is just what you want to ~ (propaganda)

take back her narrative  
she tries to ~ (gain control over / Monica Lewinsky)

take charge of her own (creative) narrative  
she wanted to ~ (former child actress)

take control of the narrative  
Palestinians on the ground have phones and can “~”

taking control of their (own personal) narratives  
athletes are ~ (via the media, The Players' Tribune, etc.)

talk about that narrative  
Yah, I want to ~... (NPR's Sarah McCammon)

tilt the narrative  
the photo fueled the notion that NPR is trying to ~

upends the (Eurocentric) narrative  
he ~ (*In the Forest of No Joy*)

using (an unsubstantiated) narrative  
is the company ~ to obscure other factors (Walgreens / San Francisco)

writes my narrative  
no one ~ but me, so know this now... (a celebrity)

written out of the narrative  
like so many Black icons, his contributions were ~

coopt and control the (historical) narrative  
we can't let an elite, white-led institution ~

♦ “Seduced or raped?”

♦ “The same tired narrative gets thrown out there.” (Disgusted.)

♦ “As Colombia constructs its official narrative of the violence that has torn it apart, one of the core issues is how Mr. [Alvaro] Uribe's legacy will be remembered. He's seen as both a victim of the FARC, after the guerrillas assassinated his father, and as a perpetrator, for his alleged ties to paramilitary groups and the false-positives scandal. The future, sadly, looks bleak for Colombia...” (BBC 4, From Our Own Correspondent, “Japan's Second World War Legacy,” 15 Aug 2020.)

♦ “Politics is story-telling, and politics hopefully is about persuasion, about winning people's hearts and minds.” (Senator Ted Cruz.)

♦ “Wars are fought with guns, bombs and stories.” (Intrigue, Mayday, BBC Radio 4.)

♦ “Narrative consultant John Yorke advises politicians, businesses, advertisers on how to tell their stories.” (The old category of “script doctor” has morphed into public relations and crisis communications.)

♦ “When it fits your narrative it's not a theory, when it doesn't, it becomes one.” (Rancor on a message board about the coronavirus pandemic.)

♦ ““Research” is just another way of saying, ‘I'm just going to look at stuff that agrees with me.’” (Carl Brutananadilewski.)

♦ “somebody promo a narrative and y'all follow it.” (Meek Mill, a rapper, unhappy about criticism of some of his lyrics.)

♦ “For all of you that want to slap narratives on my words and my experience—one in which I lived for 17 years—you can't do that because you have no clue.” (Carli Lloyd, soccer player.)

♦ “They say history is written by the victors. But is that still true? Or is it written by whoever wins the race to control the narrative, the viral video, the meme...” (Chloe Hadjimatheou. Intrigue, Mayday, BBC Radio 4.)

♦ “He has always been of the opinion the truth is something that people need to know, not the narrative that has been put out.” (A lawyer, speaking for his client.)

- ◆ "NPR's Emily Feng explains the dueling political narratives..."
- ◆ "You know, the media narrative, which they have been lazy and listless about trying to inform or control the media narrative internationally [*sic*] has gone completely against them." (A former State Department official on NPR's Fresh Air, about an international crisis.)
- ◆ "This is the new breed of 'sporting achievement.' The loser reveling in their own narrative of 'poor me' and 'victimhood...' [A] troubled past, a difficult childhood from nothing, and then of course the trump card: 'My mental health issues.' Serena W., Naomi O., Anthony J." (A BBC HYS comment about Anthony Joshua's "bizarre post-fight antics" after his second loss to Oleksandr Usyk.)
- ◆ "Did she say 'media narrative'? Edward R. Murrow is turning over in this grave." (A comment about reporting on a scandal involving ethics and sex at CNN.)
- ◆ "Narratives tend to get generated by various events. And newspapers and television programs and pundits tend to coalesce around these narratives. The main storyline was 'This is what boxing does. This is the goal of boxing. We've got to get rid of boxing.'" (The historian Neal Gabler. From the emotionally wrenching documentary movie *Ring of Fire: The Emile Griffith Story* 2005.)
- ◆ "The story delves deep into what Bret sees as the performance of everyday life; the way everything is a narrative, a 'pantomime,' a 'script.'" ("Bret Easton Ellis' first novel in more than a decade, 'The Shards,' is worth the wait" by Gabino Iglesias, NPR, Review, Books, January 19, 2023.)
- ◆ This word has its own, huge Wikipedia entry.
- ◆ Narrative (count noun): (a) Your personal view and set of beliefs, which conflict with mine. (b) A codeword for, "I completely disagree with you." (Collocation) You do your very best to *control / frame* the narrative and *attack* the other person's narrative. *My* narrative is *right*. *Your* narrative is *wrong*. (See belief, polemic)... (A definition written in the spirit of Ambrose Bierce's *The Devil's Dictionary*. A more concise definition could be, "What you believe and I don't.")

**inclusion & exclusion: messaging**

**narrow (breadth)**

**narrow lead**

he holds a ~ over his opponent (election)

**narrow scoreline**

despite the ~, they outclassed Real (Manchester City)

**narrow win**

the US survived with a ~ over Spain (World Cup soccer)

**size: breadth**

**narrow-minded (adjective)**

**narrow-minded**

he is ~

**mind: breadth**

**narrowness (noun)**

**ideological narrowness**

~ is a threat to intellectual openness

**mind: breadth**

**nascent (beginning)**

**nascent campaign**

kindness and decency is the central thrust of his ~ (politics)

**growth & development: baby / birth**

**nation (Who Dat Nation, etc.)**

**Cub's Nation**

for ~, this was a tough goodbye (baseball trades)

**'Bachelor' Nation**

racism controversy rocks ~ (the US TV show)  
there are controversial cast members within ~

**Buckeye Nation**

hate and derision have no place in ~ (Ohio State loses)

**Cenation**

she's a member of the ~ of John Cena (the wrestler)

**Sooner Nation**

~, thank you (Coach Cale Gundy)

**Vol Nation**

the ~ is celebrating the win over Alabama

**Who Dat Nation**

members of the ~ (fans of New Orleans Saints)  
man, there's a whole ~ out there (Bobby Hebert)

◆ "Well, you know, this is so fascinating, first of all, the fact that you use that term, "Batchelor Nation." So what I take from that is it isn't just a show anymore, it's like a whole, what? Ecosystem? Who's in Batchelor Nation, is it like everybody who watches the show, who was a part of it, what does that mean?" (Michele Martin wants to know. From "Racism Controversy Rocks 'Bachelor' Nation, NPR, All Things Considered, Feb 20, 2021.)

◆ "Citizens of vaccination nation, all those shots in the arm, gave a shot in the arm to the box office this weekend..." (Chris Connelly promoting filmgoing on ABC. This is a good example of recontextualization of an old cliché in the age of COVID.)

◆ "I'm so grateful to Bachelor Nation for all of the memories we've made together." (Chris Harrison. Canceled.)

◆ "Chiefs Kingdom was not enthused by the call." (A NFL commentator about fans booing a roughing-the-passer penalty.)

◆ "We thought this was a fun way to invite Vol Nation to continue in the celebration. We had heard before and during the game that the fans would support a celebration, no matter the cost, so we leaned into that enthusiasm." (Athletic Director Danny White at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tennessee, seeking donations from fans to replace the goalposts that fans tore down after a victory over Alabama. Chase McGrath hit a 40-yard field goal with no time remaining to win the game, and fans stormed the field. The suggested contributions were: (1) \$16 (# of years since Vols beat Alabama) (2) \$52.49 (the final score) and (3) \$1,019.15 (# of sold-out crowd at Neyland Stadium). Members of the Vol Nation donated \$50,000 almost immediately, 35% of the goal of about \$143,000. In addition, Tennessee faces a \$100,000 fine for allowing fans to rush onto the field. Now, that's a nation!)

**enthusiasm / group, set & collection: person**

**nature (force of nature)**

**force of nature**

she is a wonderful woman, a ~ (innocence project)  
he is no longer the ~ he once was (Don King / boxing)  
Joshua Goldbard called Bob Lee "a ~" (stabbed to death)

**amount & effect / force / power: storm**

**character & personality: storm**

**naut (Argonaut, etc.)**

**aquanaut**

an ~ is to the sea what an astronaut is to space

## Argonauts

Jason, the ~, and the Golden Fleece

## astronaut

an ~, from the Greek “star” and “sailor”

## cosmonaut

a ~, the Russian equivalent of astronaut

## internaut

journalists and ~s can overstate the importance of “clicks”

## parastronaut

the newly minted ~ (John McFall of ESA / leg amputee)

## taikonaut

~ (hangtianyuan / heaven-sailing)

## searching & discovery: affix / boat / sea

### navel gazing (omphaloskepsis)

#### navel-gazing

millennials are so self-entitled, and there’s lots of ~

#### navel-gazing tabulation

the ~ of credentials is insufferable (literary world)

#### academic navel gazing

thinking about free will is much more than ~ (justice, etc.)

#### indulging in navel gazing

the British government is ~ while... (aggrieved Scotsman)

#### feel (too much) like navel-gazing

internal ethics issues can ~ (newsrooms)

## analysis, interpretation & explanation: religion

### navigate (feelings, emotions)

#### navigate my way out of the darkness

I was able to ~ (“A Letter to College Sports”)

#### navigate through this

how am I going to ~ (being gay)

#### navigating mixed emotions

families are ~ as they channel their grief and fury...

#### navigate drug abuse, depression, love and high school

the HBO show follows a group of teens as they ~

♦ “They are navigating a difficult transition between high school and college.” (A young idealistic educator about minority students.)

♦ “Where are you now in sort of navigating your grief?” (Rachel Martin, NPR.)

♦ “Nostalgia seems to be one of the psychological resources that we have to help us navigate current challenges and stressors and also...” (Clay Routledge, a professor of psychology at North Dakota State University, who has studied nostalgia.)

♦ “Navigating this hideous grief that has absolutely destroyed & shattered my heart and my soul into nothing has swallowed me whole.” (A public expression of grief.)

♦ “We were all in very uncharted waters without really a sense of what possible routes there were.” (A writer expressing his feelings about the random murder of a friend, speaking to Scott Simon on NPR in 2022. His friend was murdered in 1998.)

♦ “Navigate” is one of the top ten cliches of contempo-speak.

## feeling, emotion & effect / mental health: boat

### navigate (verb)

#### navigate their way out of the Mormon church

they ~ and out of their marriages (ABC)

#### navigated their way out of so many tight situations

they have ~ (Real Madrid wins CL final)

#### navigate through the ocean

it’s hard to ~ of digital information and misinformation

#### navigating a tough environment

higher education is ~ for enrollment

#### navigating this (incredibly difficult) experience

we are ~ (pandemic)

#### navigate gender fluidity

there’re as many ways to ~ as there are gender-fluid people

#### navigating the idea

we are ~ that others were involved (cops about a murder)

#### navigate the (cyber) landscape

so how are kids supposed to ~ (misinformation)

#### navigate the (bureaucratic) maze

workers whose only job is to ~ (Sudan)

#### navigate the (tangled health-care) maze

it’s difficult to ~ (immigrants)

#### navigate a minefield

ad makers had to ~ (Super Bowl 55 / pandemic, strife)

#### navigate (embarrassing, even scandalous) moments

he helped his clients ~ (Howard Bragman / crisis manager)

#### navigating a new (geopolitical) order

countries are ~ framed by the rising dominance of China

#### navigate the presence

ways to ~ of social media in our lives (Mayowa Aina)

#### navigate the (DMV) process

he coached applicants on how to ~ (crooked lawyer)

#### navigates a (byzantine) asylum process

he ~ to finally get a court hearing

#### navigate racism

having to ~ among fans of TV shows (Blacks)

#### navigate a (snow-covered) sidewalk

pedestrians ~ in Chicago (caption of a photo / little snow)

#### navigate the terrain

he knows how to ~ (philosophy)

#### navigate a (dense) thicket

Netflix is trying to ~ of challenges

#### navigate the threat

they are forced to ~ of rape daily (girls in South Africa)

#### navigate (yet) another year

colleges ~ of Covid-19

navigate work, friendship, and romance  
she struggled to ~ (*Awkward Black Girl*)

navigates the (plot's emotional) peaks and chasms  
she ~ like a seasoned Sherpa (critic Robbie Colin)

navigates and negotiates  
she ~ her Black identity in a white space (high school)

difficult to navigate  
for Democrats, the issue has been ~ (Trump vaccine)

difficult (for the outsider) to navigate  
byzantine regulations are ~ (Egypt)

easy to navigate  
the attention is not always ~ (an indigenous chef)

hard to navigate  
family dynamics and political opinions can be ~

♦ "Family dynamics and political opinions can be hard to navigate during Thanksgiving."

♦ "How people are navigating this New Year's Eve amid this variant." (Omicron. NPR.)

♦ "A Black family in Maryland is navigating the economic strain." (NPR. By Alana Wise.)

♦ "Clever comedians can navigate cancel culture."

♦ "Pedestrians navigate a snow-covered sidewalk in Chicago." (The caption of a picture, showing two people walking side-by-side down a sidewalk that is covered by a light dusting of snow. The picture was underwhelming, to say the least. The caption might just have well as been captioned, "Two people walk along a sidewalk in Chicago.")

♦ *Navigate* is one of the most popular clichés in "contempo-speak." Literally anything can be navigated and *is*, nowadays. Oftentimes it can be replaced with the old but less trendy "deal with."

♦ "Two Swedish tourists headed for the Italian resort of Capri misspelled the name in the GPS device and ended up in the industrial town of Carpi, 400 miles away, where they were very puzzled by the absence of a beach." (*The Week*, August 7, 2009.)

♦ "Triple A suggested that drivers who use GPS still carry a good old-fashioned map."

♦ "Tired of stumbling off curbs or bumping into other pedestrians while consulting a map on your smartphone? When you wear **Lechal Insoles**, a gentle vibration in one shoe or the other will tell you when and in which direction to turn. Just enter your destination into Lechal's GPS app, and let your phone do the navigating. The batteries for the vibrating pads last about 15 days on a charge. Besides steering you from place to place, the insoles can also act as activity trackers, monitoring distances traveled, steps taken, calories burned, and more. \$150, amazon.com."

♦ The great captain James Cook learned cartographic trigonometry from Lt. Samuel Holland in the year prior to the 1759 Siege of Quebec. Cook, in turn, transmitted his knowledge to Captain William Bligh, who taught Captain Matthew Flinders. Cook, Bligh, and Flinders were famous for their voyages of exploration and discovery.

♦ William Bligh, Ernest Shackleton... (Two men associated with extraordinary feats of open-boat navigation.)

♦ "...the Englishmen were treated to an astonishing spectacle, a review in which no fewer than 330 canoes took part, some of them almost as long as the *Resolution* herself... The painting by Hodges now in Admiralty House gives one an idea of the scope of this display..." (*The Resolution's* second visit to Tahiti. From *The Fatal Impact* by Alan Moorehead. Pacific Islanders performed great feats of navigation.)

♦ A FUNNY CARTOON. A gridlocked 5-lane urban highway. In the very center of the mass of anonymous cars, two people can be seen behind their windshield. The driver is saying to his passenger, "The navigation says that we're wasting our time and should never have left home." (*The New Yorker*, July 4, 2022.)

♦ A FUNNY STORY. A rich city man stopped his limousine next to a field in the countryside and waved a farmer over. "Where's Centerville?" the rich man demanded. "Never heard of it," said the farmer. "Well,

where is Nearville?" the rich man spluttered. "Couldn't say," said the farmer. "Well, you're pretty goddamn stupid, ain't you, boy," the rich man said. "I ain't lost," said the farmer.

**contempo-speak: language**

**direction: boat / ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips / map / verb**

**navigating**

navigating consent  
~ is all about communication (sex)

navigating the (neurological) disorder  
she talked about ~ (Billie Eilish / Tourette's)

navigating one's identity  
without a strong support system, ~ can be a little tricky

navigating the (tangled health care) maze  
an immigrant's tale of ~

navigating (America's byzantine health care) systems  
~ can be frustrating

navigating the terrain  
they have shown themselves adept at ~

**direction: boat**

**navigation (cyberspace)**

ease of navigation  
great content and ~ (a Web site)

**direction / computer: boat**

**Neanderthal**

Neanderthal thinking  
the last thing we need is ~, wear a mask (COVID)

**growth & development: history**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: history**

**past & present / time: history**

**near (near future, etc.)**

near getting  
we're nowhere ~ on top of this virus (pandemic)

near future  
nobody knows what the ~ will bring

draws near  
the night ~

drawing near  
the time is ~

**future / proximity / time: distance / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

**near (verb)**

verdict nears  
Weinstein judge warns defense as ~

**future / time: direction / distance / movement / verb**

## nearsighted (adjective)

nearsighted

the committee members are ~ (Nobel Peace Prize)  
corporate America is ~

nearsighted and ill-informed

most Americans are ~

♦ "We see nothing truly till we understand it." (John Constable, about clouds.)

**consciousness & awareness / future / perception,  
perspective & point of view: eye**

## neck (save one's neck)

save his neck

nothing he can do will ~

save his own neck

he is doing anything he can to ~ (death row)

**death & life / destruction: neck**

**survival, persistence & endurance: neck**

**fate, fortune & chance: neck**

## neck (stick one's neck out)

stick their necks out

people don't want to ~ (buying decisions)

stick your neck out

if you ~, you might get your head cut off (politics)

stick our necks out for you

we're not going to ~ (not in national interest)

**fate, fortune & chance: neck**

## neck (fate)

neck

my ~ is on the chopping block (accountability)

put his neck on the line

he decided it was time to ~ (publicize sensitive info)

**fate, fortune & chance: neck**

## neck (up to one's neck)

up to their necks in clutter

they are ~

up to his neck in corruption

everyone's ~ around here (illegal logging / Siberia)

buried up to my neck

I was ~ in debt

♦ see also *neck-deep* (in debt, etc.)

**extent & scope / involvement: neck**

## neck (pain in the neck)

pain in the neck

rebuilding it will be a ~ (damaged overpass)

what a ~

pain in my neck

she was often a ~

**affliction: health & medicine / neck / sensation**

## neck (oppression)

neck of black Americans

we have all seen the knee of injustice on the ~

neck of the people

as the boot is removed from the ~ (Saddam's regime)

boot on the neck

the government has its ~ of the company

knee on the neck

he has his ~ of the public-health community (politics)

putting our foot on their neck

we're out here every night ~ (a protest leader)

Get Your Knee Off Our Necks

the event included a ~ protest

took world football's knee off Africa's neck

so 2010 ~ (South African World Cup)

♦ "That issue [prejudice] is now full and centre and top of the mind in the world and I think this movement of Black Lives Matter and taking the knee campaign made the world sit back and look at the issue. So 2010 took world football's knee off Africa's neck, I don't think it will be allowed to put that knee on Africa's neck again." (Danny Jordaan, organising chief for the 2010 World Cup in South Africa, won by Spain. From "2010 took world football's knee off Africa's neck," BBC, July 11, 2020. This is a good example of linguistic presentism, using contempo-speak to talk about the past. See also *creep* (mission creep, etc.) and *self* (authentic self, true self, etc.)

**oppression: neck**

## neck (area)

neck of land

we landed on a ~

**area: shape**

**shape: neck**

## neck (Throggs Neck, etc.)

Chicken's Neck

the Siliguri Corridor, or the ~ (India)

Throggs Neck

~ is a neighborhood, peninsula and bridge (the Bronx)

**proper name: neck**

## neck and neck (adjective)

neck and neck with the Yankees

they are ~ (a baseball team)

**competition: horse / neck**

## neck-deep (in debt, etc.)

neck deep in debt

thousands of drivers were ~ in debt (NYC taxi drivers)

neck deep in a documentary boom

we're currently ~ (true-crime)

♦ see also *neck* (up to one's neck)

**extent & scope / involvement: neck**

## Necklace (Necklace Nebula, etc.)

Necklace Nebula

the ~ in Sagitta, the Arrow

Necklace Valley

the ~ Lakes include Jade, Opal and Emerald (the Alpine Lakes Wilderness in Washington State)

**proper name: clothing & accessories**

## necklace (configuration)

necklace of islands

to the east was a long ~ known as the Lau Group

necklace of lights

a ~ was laid upon the sea (lighthouses on Mediterranean)

necklace of sensors

an electronic ~ (traffic management in urban areas)

electronic necklace

an ~ of sensors (traffic management in urban areas)

**configuration: clothing & accessories**

## need (she needs to, etc.)

needs to be

that animal ~ in a cage for life (crime)

need to know

5 songs you ~ right now, curated by NPR's Alt. Latino

needs to be removed

he ~, hopefully by his underlings (a world leader)

needs to resign

Council President Martinez ~ (politics)

needs to (seriously) rethink

he ~ his emotional state and maturity

needs to retire

after this fight he ~, he has nothing left (boxing)

needs to shut up

she ~ and stop doing the talk shows (aggrieved celebrity)

needs to take responsibility

he ~ instead of blaming others (a celebrity)

need to talk

we ~... (uh-oh)

need to visit

if you can't see the form you will ~ the mobile version

needs to keep his name out of her mouth

she ~ and just go away (Depp vs. Heard)

♦ This usage relates to a strong form of advice, something between "should" and "must." There is also an element of wish fulfillment and even threat. See also *want* (I want her home, etc.).

♦ "We need you to talk. We need you to stop sitting around the dinner table acting like everything's great because it's not." (A black woman "schooling" white people about structural racism.)

♦ "She needs some flour, she needs some bread, she needs some eggs, she needs to take her ass to the supermarket..." (Kim Wayans as the character Benita Buttrell from the 1990s "In Living Color" TV Series. Funny!)

♦ "Pumpkin cheesecake cookies are the trendy fall treat you need to try."

♦ This usage is often associated with women.

♦ "Some people need to be fired."

♦ "Needed killing." (Vigilante justice.)

**language: verb**

## needle (verb)

needed Republicans about why

he ~ the resolution... (politics)

**affliction / speech: sensation / verb**

## needle (move the needle, etc.)

moral-outrage needle

it takes a lot to move the ~

needle seems (kind of) stuck

the ~ to me (on progress)

move the needle

these ads can ~ if executed correctly (social consciousness)

moved the needle

he's ~ like few others (the exciting boxer Gervonta Davis)

move the needle from A to B

legislators have the power to ~ (regulation of social media)

moved the needle against social inequality

these philanthropists haven't ~

move the needle on a novel, film or a TV show

you can ~ (*Vanity Fair* editor Radhika Jones / promotion)

moving this needle forward

black women are ~ (protesting a policy)

♦ "Davis is one of the biggest needle-movers in boxing." (The boxer Gervonta "Tank" Davis, about a fight between him and Ryan Garcia. Such a fight would be extremely popular and help the sport.)

**action, inaction & delay / effect / progress & lack of**

**progress: tools & technology / verb**

## needle (shape)

bullets, needles, prisms, columns, stars, cups, plates

snowflakes come in shapes: ~

**shape: cloth**

## needle (the Needles, etc.)

the Needles

~ are a group of rock pinnacles (Arizona)

~ are a famous tourist attraction (Isle of Wight)

**proper name: cloth**

## needle (needle in a haystack)

needle in a haystack

they found a ~ (searchers for body of missing girl)

needle in a haystack of nothing

my blog was a ~

found a needle in a haystack

they ~ (searchers for body of missing girl)

looking for a needle in a haystack

these poor scientists were ~ (viruses back in the day)

♦ "Someone said it's kind of like looking for a needle in a haystack—only right now, the haystack is covered with snow." (Winter search for body of missing woman.)

♦ In August, 2008, two-year-old Emmett Trapp wandered off into the desert. Many wished to look for him, but officials refused offers of help, saying only *they* were qualified to search, based on their training. After 40 hours, the little boy was found by a citizen who disregarded the officials. The boy was just outside the official search zone, which had been combed over and over. He was only about a mile from his home.

♦ "Knowing that the divers on the scene were not up to this specialized task of entering the cave, and assuming—that Gant might still be alive in an air pocket—[Buddy] Lane pleaded by telephone that trained caver divers be called in..." ("The Bat Cave Miracle," 16 August 1992, Nickajack Lake Cave, New Hope, Tennessee.)

♦ "Finding an animal with a SARS-CoV-2 infection is like looking for a needle in the world's largest haystack. They may never find a 'smoking bat.'" (Angela Rasmussen, virologist, Columbia University.)

♦ "In the months before meeting Oppenheimer, [Lawrence] had conceived the notion of building a machine capable of penetrating the so far unassailable nucleus of the atom, which existed, he quipped, 'like a fly inside a cathedral.'" (An astonishing simile from *American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer* by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin.)

♦ "To find a needle in a haystack, wouldn't you just use a very large magnet?"

**searching & discovery: tools & technology**

## needle (thread the needle, etc.)

needle to thread

they have a difficult ~ (politics)

diplomatic needle

Beijing has to thread this ~ pretty carefully

thread the needle

I tried to ~ (a diplomat)

♦ "Threading the needle of writing a good headline while avoiding the clickbait trap comes down to honesty, Lorenz told *The Dispatch*. "The best way to be honest is to have a conversation with yourself, which is, 'If I was shown this headline and I clicked into the story, would I be disappointed in what I'm getting on the other end of it?'" ("The Writer of This Article Also Wrote This Headline and That's Rare: Everything you need to know about headlines and the art of writing them" by Ryan Brown, *The Dispatch*, June 12, 2021.)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: cloth**

## needle (eye of the needle, needle's eye)

make it through the needle's eye

those who ~ (and get into Harvard)

♦ See the Wikipedia entry "Eye of a needle" for references to the three Abrahamic religions.

**difficulty, easiness & effort: cloth**

## negotiate (terrain, etc.)

negotiate this space

how to ~ and develop a "cyberspace literacy" (internet)

negotiated the (rocky) terrain

she adeptly ~ of the New York publishing world

navigates and negotiates

she ~ her Black identity in a white space (high school)

**direction: ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips / verb**

## neighbor (verb)

neighbors China

Russia ~ in the Far East

**configuration / proximity: house / verb**

## neighbor (noun)

neighbors

raised in Brownsville, where poverty and violence were ~

friendly neighbors

Azerbaijan and Armenia are not ~

new neighbor

her apartment had a view of her ~, the Atlantic Ocean

♦ "Choose your neighbor before your house."

♦ "Good fences make good neighbors."

♦ "A big river and a rich man can be bad neighbors."

♦ "When your neighbor's house is on fire, carry water to the top of your own roof."

**configuration / proximity: house / person**

## neighborhood (numbers)

in the neighborhood of 3,000

most scholars believe that the actual number is ~

**direction / proximity: number**

## neighborhood (area)

dangerous neighborhood

the US needs a real partner in a ~ (Sudan)

neighborhood and internationally

the last thing we need in the ~ is a collapsing state (Burma)

**area: house**

## neighboring (adjective)

neighboring countries

Venezuela's health crisis has spilled over to ~ (measles)

the earthquake rattled Myanmar and ~

neighboring Jordan

Syrian refugees are flooding into ~

neighboring lands

Christians are seeking shelter in ~ (from Iraq)

**configuration / proximity: house**

## nemesis (noun)

nemesis of Koch Industries  
the EPA has been a ~ for decades

Chicago's nemesis  
they were ~ in the late 80s ("Bad Boy" Pistons)

sees her as its nemesis  
the banking lobby ~ (politics)

♦ Nemesis was the Greek Goddess of divine retribution, revenge and justice.

**affliction / judgment / punishment & recrimination / revenge: allusion / justice / religion**

## neophyte (noun)

political neophyte  
Grant wasn't entirely a ~

♦ From the Greek for *new* and *plant*.

**experience / growth & development / person: plant**

## nerd (word nerd, etc.)

word nerd  
I was a ~, like yourself (two crossword constructors)

♦ Or "wordnik."

**character & personality / enthusiasm: creature / person**

## nerve (anxiety)

war of nerves  
(see *war of nerves*)

nerves are shot  
her ~, she has no confidence (Wimbledon)

nerves can become frayed  
~ in the blasting Antarctic winds

nerves had gotten the better of him  
Holloway said ~ as he lost momentum... (Olympic track)

calm his nerves  
he lit a cigarette to ~

calm people's nerves  
he appeared on TV to ~ (trade war)

♦ Andy: "Barney, you've just GOT to control your nerves." (*The Andy Griffith Show*. Barney was comically excitable. No doubt every culture has a representation.)

♦ "It was a joke. Calm down, Ernie." (A response to a negative poster on a message board. This may be a meme relating to some TV show featuring Ernie and Bert.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## nerve (strike a nerve, etc.)

raw nerve  
(see *raw nerve*)

hit a nerve  
the tweet ~ for doctors (from NRA)  
you are very defensive, I guess I ~, good (discussion)

hit a Russian (raw) nerve  
the German report ~ (about Kursk Battle)

struck a nerve  
her article ~ (rant against obese people)

struck a (growing anti-bullying) nerve  
his death ~ in America (suicide)

touched a (raw) nerve  
the withdrawal ~ (troops give up area)

hitting a nerve with progressives  
the speech was clearly ~ (Bernie Sanders)

struck a (raw) nerve in Haiti  
the incident ~ (foreign adoptions)

**effect / feeling, emotion & effect: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

## nerve (courage)

lose our nerve  
terrorists can win if we ~ and abandon our mission (Iraq)

lost his nerve  
one intended suicide bomber ~ (Casablanca)

shatter (the enemy's) nerve  
the objective is to ~ (shock and violence)

get up the nerve  
it has taken me 11 years to ~ to come here...

**courage & lack of courage: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## nerve center (basis)

nerve center of the (light rail) network  
the Guadalupe yard operates as the ~

nerve center for the continent's liberation movement  
at one time Cairo was the ~ (Africa)

nerve center for (Red Cross) operations  
Mazar-i-Sharif, known as the ~ in the north... (Afghanistan)

serves as the nerve center  
Singapore ~ for the company's global operations

**bases: back / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## nerveless (adjective)

nerveless Stosur  
a ~ dominated the match (tennis)

**character & personality / feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## nerve-racking

nerve-racking  
it was ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## ness (Asian-ness, etc.)

### African-ness

they fortified New Orleans' ~ (Saint-Domingue)

### Asian-ness

push your ~ to the fore and make art out of it

### non-binary-ness

your ~ can make them feel like... (dating)

### Blackness

Lil X Nas doesn't need to shrink or compromise his ~  
it's a sad state when your ~ is questioned  
the anti~ and colorism that's common among Latinos

### blackness

a broader southern ~ that is frequently unseen  
this reckless country ~ (Beyonce's "Formation")

### Blackqueerness

the joy found in ~

### brown-ness

as if that ~ could change anything (more brown faces)

### anti-fatness

~ keeps fat people on the margins (Aubrey Gordon)

### gayness

teachers are converting kids to ~ or transgenderism  
his ~ is a given (an artist)

### Gen Z-ness

amazed at the strategic ~ of the looting (Santa Monica)

### Indian-ness

you hide aspects of your ~ to fit in (Asian in London)

### Jewishness

I just live my life and let the ~ take care of itself (Stoppard)

### Latino-ness

what defines Latinidad or ~

### maleness

the incredible whiteness and ~ (#OscarsSoWhite)

### male-"ness"

masculinity and ~ (Lee Marvin, gay-tham for Statham, etc.)

### mindfulness

see *mindfulness* (noun)

### Muslimness

Cabinet office to investigate '~' claim (England / BBC)

### other-ness

the ~ of people (racism)

### queerness

was the show's ~ part of your original concept (NPR)  
there are other bodies and stories that encapsulate black ~  
for this transgender 18-year-old, ~ is happiness (NPR)  
~ is synonymous with happiness (by Kerrie Hillman)  
there is no word to describe ~ in Xhosa (South Africa)  
speaking of ~, that leads really well into my next point...  
race, ~ and superpowers... (NPR / Code Switch)

incorporating ~ into English Language Classrooms (TESOL)

Vaginal Davis forefronts ~, sex, race, and radical politics

### ratchetness

his ~ or his gayness (Lil Nas X)

### trans-ness

I was well aware of my ~ early on in life

### transness

Amy was able to center and de-center her ~ (*Jeopardy!*)  
trans-curious means to be interested in one's potential ~

### truthiness

~ (see the Wikipedia entry)

### whiteness

we hear them talking about the sin of ~ (Fox News)  
Misty Copeland on the ~ of ballet ("It chips away at you")  
the show is about ~, and white grievance (*Yellowstone*)  
the incredible ~ and maleness (#OscarsSoWhite)

### anti-whiteness

~ is the fundamental premise of the left

### wokeness

see *wokeness* (groups)

### uniqueness

she stands boldly in her ~ (Amythyst Kiah)

### African-ness and my queerness

I carry my ~ on my sleeve because that's who I am

♦ "Lil Nas X doesn't need to compromise or shrink his Blackness, his Southern-ness, his ratchetness or his gayness." ("Lil Nas X is the boundary-smashing pop revolutionary of 2021" by Jason King, NPR Music, Dec. 28, 2021.)

♦ "Emily Bazelon's article, 'The Battle Over Gender Therapy' uncritically used the term 'patient zero' to refer to a trans child seeking gender-affirming care, a phrase that vilifies transness as a disease to be feared." ("For the attention of Phillip B. Corbett, associate managing editor for standards at The New York Times.")

♦ "Every step I've taken has gaslighted those whom I love... I am not a culture vulture. I am a culture leech. You should absolutely cancel me, and I absolutely cancel myself." (Rachel Dolezal, an academic who claimed "identities of color," including Black Caribbean, North African Blackness, US rooted Blackness, Caribbean rooted Bronx Blackness, *Boricua*...)

♦ "It doesn't embrace the overblown-y-ness of... (Linda Holmes of Pop Culture Happy Hour reviewing a film.)

♦ "I felt what he was doing was pathetic and I didn't want to deal with his patheticness. (Quentin Tarantino about Harvey Weinstein.)

♦ "My goal was a galette to show off the gorgeousness of leeks." (A recipe.)

♦ MORE CONVENTIONAL USAGE. "Toblerone to drop Matterhorn logo over 'Swissness' rule."

### inclusion & exclusion: affix / epistemology

## nest (Bird's Nest, etc.)

### Bird's Nest stadium

an art performance at the ~ in Beijing

### proper name: animal / bird / house

shape: bird / proper name

## nest (shape)

edible nest

creamy quail eggs served in an ~ of spun rye bread

**shape: animal / bird / house**

## nest (resemblance)

nest of (torn) foam

she had her puppies there, in a ~ (old mattress)

rat's nest

they must deal with a ~ of wires

**resemblance: animal / bird / house**

## nest (military)

machine-gun nest

interlocking ~s (combat)

sniper's nest

he was struck in the abdomen leading his squad against a ~

**military: animal / bird**

## nest (of vipers, etc.)

nest of (ISIS) military camps

B-2 bombers destroyed a ~ in Libya

nest of smugglers

he may have surprised a ~ (border agent found dead)

nest of vipers

the palace turned out to be a ~ (Hulu series *The Great*)

he was an honest man in a ~

hornet's nest

the measure could raise a ~ of legal problems

the new tariffs stirred up a ~ of problems

*Pirate Nests*

~ *And the Rise Of The British Empire* (by Mark Hanna)

**group, set & collection: animal / bird / house**

## nest (empty nest)

empty nest

some parents find freedom in an ~

"empty nest" parents

~ whose children fly back home

empty nest syndrome

how to cope with ~ (kids go away to college)

**place: animal / bird / house**

## nest (mare's nest)

mare's nest of (legal and practical) problems

the administration has a ~

mare's nest of (squabbling) tribes

she knows what a ~ is... (an experienced diplomat)

♦ This perhaps morphed from meaning an illusionary or nonsensical discovery (horses don't construct nests) to meaning simply a tangled mess, perhaps based on analogy with a *rat's nest*, which actually may not be that messy... Sigh...

**complexity: bird / horse**

## nest egg

nest egg

at age 69, he had a ~ (retirement savings)

**money: animal / bird**

## nestled

nestled on the Black Sea

this regional capital ~ (Trabzon, Turkey)

nestled between Bhutan and Nepal

Sikkim is a jewel ~

nestled in the heart

George Washington University, ~ of the nation's capital

**configuration: animal / bird**

## net (cast a net)

cast a (wide) net

they have not yet ~ (a criminal investigation)

casting a very broad net

it is a fishing expedition for information, ~

cast a (wide) net for the assassins

police ~ (bus / rail / plane, etc.)

**pursuit, capture & escape: fish / verb**

## netherworld (noun)

netherworld

the ~ in which he indulged (Calvin Klein)

flourish in the netherworld

these falsehoods ~ of internet pranksters and trolls

disappeared into the netherworld

he ~ of Egyptian jails

**concealment & lack of concealment / environment:**

**direction / earth & world / society**

**center & periphery: direction / society**

**society: center & periphery / direction**

## neuter (verb)

neuter Grant

Johnson hoped to ~ and control the army (politics)

neutered blogging

social media ~ as a mode of online expression

neutered its parliament

the new Turkish constitution has ~ (2017)

neuter (if not destroy) trade unions

the legislation was designed to ~

neutered the press and the courts

he has ~ (a leader)  
struck down or neutered  
the Supreme Court has ~ the Voting Rights Act (NPR)

**attenuation: health & medicine**  
**force / strength & weakness: health & medicine**  
**neutral (in neutral)**

in neutral  
uncertainty is keeping the economy ~  
**activity / functioning: engine / mechanism**  
**condition & status: engine / mechanism**

### neutralize (kill)

neutralized the threat  
police engaged the shooter and ~ (shot him dead)  
♦ "We will catch the rapist and murderer, and encounter him."  
("Hyderabad rape suspect found dead: Is it murder or suicide?" by Geeta  
Pandey, BBC News, Delhi, Sept 18, 2021. This refers to extrajudicial  
murder by police who "encounter" a suspect.)

**death & life: euphemism / verb**  
**oppression: euphemism / verb**  
**neutralized (shot, killed, etc.)**

neutralized  
the threat has been ~ (school shooter shot)  
"neutralized" at 20:09  
the perpetrator was ~ (terrorist attack in Vienna)  
neutralized within one minute  
the suspect was ~ of attacking his first victim (Gare du  
Nord)

♦ Taken down; gunned down; shot and critically wounded; shot dead...

**death & life: euphemism**  
**oppression: euphemism**  
**never-never land**

Never-Never land  
we live in a veritable ~ (Amundsen in Antarctica)

never-never land Britain  
she set her novels in a ~, massively elitist (Christie)

♦ This is an allusion to Peter Pan. See also *Peter Pan*.  
♦ "We live in a veritable Never-Never land. Seals come up to the ship  
and penguins to the tent, and allow themselves to be shot." (The great  
Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen, the Bay Of Whales, Antarctica.)

**environment / fantasy & reality: allusion**  
**allusion / fantasy & reality: books & reading**  
**new (new Floyd Mayweather, etc.)**

new Floyd Mayweather Jr  
he's the ~ (the boxer Devin Haney)

**comparison & contrast: epithet**  
**new (new chastity, etc.)**

new chastity

the ~ on screen is perhaps prudent, but... (Hollywood)

new normal  
the new chastity is not an entirely welcome ~ (films)  
**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: object**  
**new (new teacher, etc.)**

new father  
he was a ~ who died while climbing a mountain

new mother  
I was a ~ myself, my baby was six months old

new soldier  
to a ~, they're BCGs (glasses)

new teacher  
the first year for a ~ can be brutal

**experience: person**

### new (orange is the new black, etc.)

Asians are the new Jews  
today at Harvard, ~ (quotas limit numbers)

Atlanta is becoming the new Chicago  
~ (crime, violence, ethnic groups)

Black Is the New Black  
~ celebrates Britain's black community (BBC 2)

*black is the new white*  
~ by Paul Mooney (a memoir)

Gay is the New Black  
~ (an activist's placard / same-sex marriage)

data is the new oil  
~ (as valuable as oil)

fish gape is the new duck face  
the ~ (female selfie pose)

frozen is the new fresh  
~ (fish that is flash frozen and vacuum sealed)

"nice is the new nasty"  
her career rise might signify that ~ (Rachel Maddow)

orange is the new black  
~ reprises "Pink is the new black"

orange is the new grey  
~ for Bangladesh beards (henna)

pink is the new black  
"~" was perhaps the origin for "orange is the new black"

rum about to become the new gin  
is ~

shark is the new dolphin  
the ~ (favorable references on net/ don't kill man eaters)

great sleep is the new 'great sex'  
~ (Dr. Wendy Troxel, author)

surgery is the new sex  
in this thrill-seeking world, ~ (film *Crimes of the Future*)

Thursday is the new Friday  
they say that ~ (ad for a wine club / “Every day feels like Friday”)

listening is the new reading  
~ (an advertisement for audiobooks)

zombied is the new “ghosting”  
being ~ (dating / singer-songwriter Mariel Darling)

70 is the new 50  
~ (you’re only as old as you act)

Next Big Thing  
the suckers who want to get in on the ~ (stocks)

♦ “The pattern “X (be) the new Y” echoes the old phrase, “the next big thing.” In other words, it is promotional.

♦ see also *future (of the future)*, *next (next Steve Jobs, etc.)*

♦ “If you think that English that has some errors in it is bad, maybe that’s the new good.” (Heather Hansen, an English Language Instructor and Global Communications Specialist.)

♦ “Yeah, and this is a Monday, you should see this place on a Thursday, because Thursday’s a new Friday.” (The crazy film *Year One*.)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: object**  
**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: object**

## new (as noun)

lots of new  
there will be ~ in theaters before Memorial Day (NPR)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: part of speech**

## newborn

"newborn" country  
Kosova, the ~

newborn league  
the ~ is fighting for its life (soccer / US)

♦ The Newborn monument in Pristina, Kosovo, is a popular spot for citizens and tourists alike. Children, especially, enjoy climbing and playing on the giant letters.

**growth & development: baby / birth / death & life**  
**amelioration & renewal: baby / birth / death & life**

## New Deal (Green New Deal, etc.)

Green New Deal  
a ~, a sweeping agenda (jobs, energy, infrastructure)

this generation’s New Deal  
the relief programs could become ~ (politics)

♦ President Roosevelt’s Rural Electrification Administration (REA), founded in 1935, began to bring electricity to the quarter of the population that lived on farmlands. “Sign up and get the REA” was the slogan. At the start, 90 percent of farmers were without electricity. By 1942, half of all American farms were connected to the grid: by 1952, they almost all were. Rural families typically made the radio their second electric purchase, after the clothes iron.

♦ “I wanted to be at my parents’ house when the electricity came. It was in 1940. We’d all go around flipping the switch, to make sure it hadn’t come on yet. When they finally came on the lights just barely glowed. I remember my mother smiling. When they came on full, tears started to

run down her cheeks.” (A farm family that got electricity from the Rural Electrification Administration.)

♦ In “A Summer Breather” and “Poverty” by the Russian writer Mikhail Zoshchenko, “early adopters” of technology got electricity in their apartment building for the first time. / The problem was, the electric bill was communal. A man appointed himself to ensure that people didn’t waste electricity, and for a while the bill was low and everyone was quite happy. Everyone used the light sparingly, say, only to undress before going to bed. But the enforcer took his job too zealously, stayed up every night checking on people, never slept, and finally went mad. Once he was gone, people started to use the electricity more, say, to heat a room. The communal bill went up, which in turn unleashed an orgy of use: if other people are profligate, than I will be too! People began to do such outlandish things as to re-warm their food on their hotplates, and turn on lights to read at night. The electric bill became astronomical. In the end, the people decided to have the electricity cut off, and went back to kerosene and candles. / Stories like these went against the grain of Soviet pride in their technological accomplishments—huge dams and electrification—and got Zoshchenko denounced personally in the Zhdanov decree of 1946. He died in poverty.

**help & assistance: allusion / history**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: allusion / history**

## new school

new-school juggernaut

Tagovailloa turned old-school Alabama into a ~ (football)

new school / old school

a classic ~ rift (newer kayaking moves)

♦ see also *old school*

**past & present / time: school & education**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: school & education**

## newspeak (noun)

Newspeak

*Newsweek* should be called ~ (fact-checking controversy)

goal of Newspeak

the ~ is to impoverish language...

♦ “[T]he goal of Newspeak is to impoverish language so that politically incorrect thoughts are no longer possible.” (“Doublethink Is Stronger Than Orwell Imagined: What 1984 means today” by George Packer, *The Atlantic*, July 2019.)

♦ Wikipedia has entries for “Doublespeak” and “Newspeak.” Both are related to George Orwell’s *Nineteen Eighty-Four*.

♦ see also *doublespeak (noun)*

**language: speech**

**speech / subterfuge: allusion**

## next (next Steve Jobs, etc.)

next Bali

Mandalika, a new tourist area touted as the ~ (Lombok)

next Steve Jobs

she was supposed to be the ~ (Elizabeth Holmes)

if you want to be the ~, you’ve got to do it honestly

next Russia

Italy was considered to be the ~ (post WWII)

Next Big Thing

the suckers who want to get in on the ~ (stocks)

next big thing

apparently, it's the ~ (the metaverse)

next Steve Jobs or Bill Gates  
she was anointed "the ~" (Elizabeth Holmes)

♦ "You start to realize you are looking into the eyes of another Bill Gates, or Steve Jobs." (The smitten Channing Robertson about Elizabeth Holmes of Theranos.)

♦ see also *future (of the future)*, *new (orange is the new black, etc.)*

**sequence: epithet / prep, adv, adj, particle**  
**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: epithet / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## next (at a later time)

next day  
the ~ we were sent to the rear (soldiers)

next summer  
the bitter political climate ahead of elections ~

what's next  
moving on in the ~, social media age (bad behavior)

**time: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**  
**sequence: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## Niagara (Niagara of the South, etc.)

Niagara of Asia  
the Khone Phapheng Falls, the ~ (Laos)

Niagara of the South  
Cumberland Falls, Kentucky, the "~~"  
Tallulah was soon dubbed the "~~" (Georgia)  
local and national writers extolled Tallulah as the ~

♦ "And when Randolph and his crew broke the final wall on a bitterly cold January day in 1900, it seemed to a writer on the *Chicago Tribune* an almost apocalyptic moment: / 'It is open! It is open!' went up from scores of throats as the water at last... had been made to start down the toboggan slide into the canal. The fall... was 24 ½ feet... 'It is the Niagara of Chicago,' Mr. Eckhart said as he stood, watching the waters, together with the ice and boulders, sweep down the chute and drive far into the wide canal..." (The opening of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal. From *The Men Who United The States* by Simon Winchester.)

**comparison & contrast / geography: epithet**

## Niagara (the river and falls)

Niagara of vitriol  
it was a ~ (a rock interview)

in a Niagara Falls  
we are ~ of the report (criticizing the group)

**amount & effect / force: river / water**

## nibble (nibble at, etc.)

nibbling away at land and vital infrastructure  
coastal erosion is ~ (remote Air Force radar stations)

**destruction: animal / food & drink / predation / verb**

## nibble (noun)

got a nibble  
he finally ~ from a potential employee

**pursuit, capture & escape: fish / verb**

## night (death / actual)

go (gently) into that good night  
do not ~ (Dylan Thomas)

**death & life: day / sign, signal, symbol**

## night (night and day and day and night)

night and day to the first round  
the start was ~ 12 months ago (a boxing match)

**comparison & contrast: light & dark**

## nightingale (Nightingale of India, etc.)

known as the Nightingale of Bollywood  
she was ~ (the singer Lata Mangeshkar)

**superlative: bird / music**  
**achievement, recognition & praise: bird / epithet / music**

## nightmare (worst nightmare)

worst nightmare  
the ~ a parent could endure (missing kid found dead)

girl's worst nightmare  
it's every ~ (getting pregnant accidentally)

industry's worst nightmare  
shoppers like her are the supermarket ~  
he turned into the ~ (George Atiyeh vs. logging)

mother's worst nightmare  
as a teen, she was every ~ (drugs, sex, etc.)

parent's worst nightmare  
every ~ (child kidnapping, murder)

my worst nightmare  
this was ~ (emergency landing in plane)

**feeling, emotion & effect: sleep**

## nightmare (noun)

nightmare  
you're seeing shyness as a ~ and it can be...  
she talks about her ~ (rape)  
traveling alone with young kids can be a ~ (airlines)  
she sees her ~ unfolding before her (traffic jam)  
it's been a ~ (affirmative action for fire department)  
he soon discovered the job was a ~  
shopping for school clothes can be a ~ (girls)  
the ~ was not over (one more round / boxing)  
the ~ began with an e-mail (hackers extort company)  
OnlyFans was a godsend, now it's kind of a ~ (porn)

nightmare of all firefighters  
structural collapse is the ~

nightmare of (loose) granite  
a ~ and overhanging seracs (Dhaulagiri)

nightmare of Sept. 11  
nearly a year after the ~, kids still...

nightmare of war  
the dream of peace has often turned into a ~ (Africa)

nightmare scenario  
the ~ for NATO  
the ~ for many biologists, conservationists  
that's a ~ for those... (politics)

nightmare year  
it was a ~ (teaching at troubled D.C. school)

nightmare first round  
they horribly underachieved in a ~ (World Cup)

actor's nightmare  
will I ever work again, that's the ~ (Sir Anthony Hopkins)

credit nightmare  
divorce can create ~s

examination nightmare  
but would it be an ~ (scheduling school tests)

traffic nightmare  
the city festival will cause a ~

parking and traffic nightmares  
residents living near the popular club face ~

public-relations nightmare  
they are fighting a ~ (restaurant chain)

horrifying nightmare  
blind dates are either a huge success or a ~

living nightmare  
he described his life as a "~" (paralysed neck down)

scheduling nightmare  
family events can become a ~

annual nightmare  
the ~ of Christmas cards

bureaucratic nightmare  
he found himself in a ~

complete nightmare  
it's turned into a ~ (trapped at airport by blizzard)

concave nightmare  
a ~ of loose granite, overhanging seracs (Dhaulagiri)

Kafkaesque nightmare  
my ~ is to be...

legal nightmare  
it was the beginning of a ~  
a ~ arises (Jehovah's Witnesses and doctors)

logistical nightmare  
getting a force that size into Iraq by air would be a ~  
the Hajj is a ~ (Makkah / Saudi Arabia)  
resupply was a ~ (Egyptians fight in Yemen)

nuclear nightmare  
India has revived the ~ (nuclear tests)

racial nightmare  
turning the trial into a ~

ultimate nightmare  
"brilliant" bombs strike some as the ~

18-hour nightmare  
it turned into an ~ (Mogadishu firefight)

beginning of a (legal) nightmare  
it was the ~

start of the nightmare  
yeah, that was the ~ (security arrest)

dream and nightmare  
every surfer's ~ (Condition Black / huge surf)

nightmare is over  
what makes you think the ~, if he gets away with it

nightmare arises  
a legal ~ (Jehovah's Witnesses and doctors)

nightmare began  
his ~ with a phone call from...

nightmare (finally) coming to an end  
is the ~ (politics)

faced a public-relations nightmare  
the university ~ (murder of Lauren McCluskey at the University of Utah)

found himself in a nightmare  
he ~ (bureaucracy)

make commuting (by train) a nightmare  
the gropers who ~ for women (in Japan)

turned into an (18-hour) nightmare  
it ~ (Mogadishu firefight)

turned the dream into a nightmare  
the loans have ~ (home ownership)

♦ A find-yourself-standing-naked-in-Times-Square-type nightmare...

**feeling, emotion & effect: sleep**

**nightmarish (adjective)**

nightmarish scene  
it was a ~ (125-vehicle pileup that killed four)

nightmarish thoughts  
~ about...

**feeling, emotion & effect: sleep**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

**night owl (person)**

night owls  
the frozen beef is often bought by ~ (from Singapore vending machines)

**behavior: animal / bird / sleep**

**person: animal / bird / sleep**

## Nile (America's Nile, etc.)

### America's Nile

the Colorado River has been referred to as “~”

♦ According to Dr. Jack C. Schmidt of Utah State University, the Colorado River is similar to the Nile River for the following reasons: (1) original development was in its downstream end (lower basin) (2) water comes from distant headwaters (3) while it flows mostly north to south, it is an “upside down version of the Nile” (4) dams and water diversion in its upstream end (upper basin) are greatly affecting its lower reaches (lower basin). Almost needless to say, it also flows at certain points through arid places and its waters are the lifeblood of those places. (“Spring 2022 GES Seminar Series with Dr. Jack Schmidt” on YouTube. His wonderful presentation might make a young person consider a career in hydrography! Of course, there are many ways that the two rivers are completely different.)

**comparison & contrast / geography: epithet**

## nimble (adjective)

### nimble

the security system is not ~ enough (border)

### nimble negotiating

Egypt had distinguished itself for ~ (the past)

### nimble mind

he has a ~

### nimble enough

are they ~ to close and reopen (schools in pandemic)

### nimble and aggressive

the company vowed to be more ~ (layoffs)

### nimble, tough-minded and effective

we need government that is ~

### lean and nimble

the company must become more ~

### more nimble

smaller, ~ warships and subs are the way to go (Navy)

### remain nimble

we must ~ (military)

### keep your mind nimble

you need to ~

♦ “Jack be nimble, / Jack be quick, / Jack jump over / the candlestick” (A nursery rhyme.)

**ability & lack of ability: movement**

## nimbus (cloud)

### nimbus of (curly graying) hair

she is a self-possessed woman with a ~

**resemblance: cloud**

## nine eleven (Australia's 9/11, etc.)

### nine-eleven moment

it was sort of a ~ for America (Fort Sumter attack)

### Australia's 9/11

in many ways, it is ~ (Bali bomb blast)

### “China's 9/11”

in Beijing the incident was called ~ (2014 Kunming attack)

♦ “What will archaeologists twenty-five centuries from now make of the ruins of One World Trade Center, currently nearing completion in downtown Manhattan?” (The beginning of “Deep Frieze” by Daniel Mendelsohn. His article is about the Parthenon, another “memorial to a devastating attack...one terrible day in September.”)

**history / military: epithet**

## nineteen eighty four (and 1984)

### went all 1984

technology was a lot more fun before it ~

**oppression: allusion / books & reading**

**allusion: books & reading**

## ninja (person)

### information ninjas

libraries are full of ~ (employees who can help)

**ability & lack of ability: creature / magic / person**

**person: creature / magic**

## nipple (Mollie's Nipples, etc.)

### Nippletop

~ in Zion National Park, Utah (unofficially named)

### Ferns Nipple

~ is an iconic landmark in Capital Reef National Park

### Mollie's Nipples

there are several ~ in Utah (Wikipedia)

♦ The Wikipedia entry, “Mollie's Nipple,” is quite interesting as it relates to Utah and its early history and exploration, to include Indians, pioneers, and outlaws. It also includes a unique collocation: “Notable Mollie's Nipples”! Wikipedia also has an interesting article at “Breast-shaped hill.”

♦ The GNIS Feature Search returns many results for *nipple*, including “Peters Nipple,” “Grannys Nipple” and “Little Nippletop.” Perhaps the less said about these things, the better.

**proper name: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## nipple (shape)

### nipple

a ~ can connect two other fittings (pipes)

### hex (pipe) nipple

a ~ can be grasped with a wrench

**shape: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## Noah's Ark

### Noah's Ark of (exotic) wildlife

the Berenty Reserve is a ~ (Madagascar)

### Noah's Ark of small-time criminality

this ~ (First Fleet / Australia)

### modern-day Noah's Ark

Norway's Global Seed Vault is a ~ for plant seeds

**biodiversity, nature & life / group, set & collection: allusion / Bible / epithet / religion**

## no (no Jack Kennedy, etc.)

no de Gaulle

you will see that Andropov is ~ (Milovan Djilas)

no Jack Kennedy

Senator, you're ~ (Lloyd Bentsen to Dan Quayle)

no (African) Abraham Lincoln

Kagame was ~ (Rwanda)

no Andy Dufresne

but Lester Eubanks was ~ (ABC's *Have You Seen This Man*)

no Suvorov

he's ~, but it's possible to work with him (combat)

no Mardi Gras

but living just above the poverty line is ~ (Scotland)

no Kent State

this was ~, but... (Cambridge University student protests)

♦ "I'm not Reichenau!" (General Von Paulus at Stalingrad.)

♦ "Oppenheimer was aware that Teller was no fool."

♦ "The opposite of a sensory-deprivation tank might be to spend a Monday morning in the library's InfoNow Department." (*The Library Book* by the wonderful writer Susan Orlean.)

♦ See **comparison & contrast** in the thesaurus of this work for a selection of the various ways we can make comparisons in English. There are several affixes that one can add to a noun or proper name to make a comparison, and they can be determined by examining **comparison & contrast: affix**.

**identity & nature: allusion**

**comparison & contrast: negation**

## Nobel (Nobel Prize of the Arab World, etc.)

Nobel Prize of the Arab World

the King Faisal Award for Service to Islam, dubbed the ~

Nobel Prize for Agriculture

the World Food Prize, dubbed the ~

Nobel Prize for mathematics

it is regarded as the ~ (Fields Medal)

**achievement, recognition & praise: epithet**

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## nobody (a nobody)

just a nobody

I'm ~

♦ "To me, being a gangster was better than being President of the United States... To me, it meant being somebody in the neighborhood that was full of nobodies... They did whatever they wanted, they double-parked in front of a hydrant and nobody ever gave them a ticket." (Ray Liotta's opening voiceover for the film *Goodfellas*.)

**importance & significance / power: person**

## no-brainer (noun)

no-brainer

chumbuckets are a ~ (money to be made)

no-brainer for me

it was a ~, I was in from day one

make the decision (on Hamilton) a no-brainer

Mercedes had enough information to ~ (F1 strategy)

**certainty & uncertainty / difficulty, easiness & effort: head**

## nod (permission)

get the nod

chances are good that the Chinese firm will ~ (contract)

given the nod to more (COVID) boosters

advisors for the FDA have ~

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: gesture / head**

## nod (agree)

heads nod

there are days when I see ~ (a defense of Facebook)

**unanimity & consensus: gesture / head / verb**

## nod (acknowledge)

nods to Ralph Ellison

the chapter ~ (Colin Whitehead)

**achievement, recognition & praise: gesture / verb**

## nod (acknowledgement)

nods to diversity

in a sea of performative, less than relevant ~

nods to the past

we're going to do some ~ (a new version of Bebo)

nod to the victims

it's a ~ to make it easier for them (no contest plea)

acting nods

there may be ~ for some members of the cast (Emmys)

party nod

everyone knew that Grant would get the ~ (politics)

**achievement, recognition & praise: gesture**

## no-holds-barred (and no holds barred)

no-holds-barred conversation

it was a ~

no-holds-barred dramas

Riot Girls offer ~ (BBC Radio 4)

no-holds-barred fight

this was a ~, and neither side backed down (Golan / 1973)

**constraint & lack of constraint / restraint & lack of restraint: sports & games / wrestling**

## noise (worthlessness)

noise

trying to pick out the signal from the ~ (epidemiology)

a lot of extraordinary data are nothing but ~

the ~ makes it hard to distinguish what matters (the media)  
results are results and the rest is ~ (politics and elections)  
your speculation is ~, it has negative value (comments)

#### noise of customer behavior

Amazon leads the way in finding patterns in the ~

#### "noise" in the data

~ makes the new results dubious (earthquakes)

#### noise in the system

there's going to be some ~ (way to produce statistics)

#### noise to folks

that is ~, what matters is... (a temporary legal distraction)

#### noise and confusion

we hope it will reduce some of the ~ (vaccine website)

#### annoying noise

they create this ~ (government internet trolls)

#### background noise

to me it's just ~, not important (attacks on social media)

#### short-term noise

stick to fundamentals, try and look through the ~ (stocks)

#### terrible noise

enlightening and helpful data vs. ~ (AI and medicine)

#### full of noise

the information space is ~ (fakes, disinformation, theories)

#### chaos and noise

viewers were left with ~ (presidential debate)

#### nonsense and the noise

if you are tired of the ~ in our politics... (Amy Klobuchar)

#### signal-noise

I will wait for a bit more ~ clarity drug trials)

#### cut through all this noise

trying to ~ (what was true and what wasn't)

#### rise above the noise

artists need to ~ and stand out (TikTok)

#### separate the noise from what is sound and true

we have to ~ and rely on fact (election journalism)

#### separate the signal from the noise

~ (when considering what president says)

#### separate signal from noise

if the volume is turned to 11, how do you ~ (culture wars)

#### tease apart signal from noise

powerful computing and statistical approaches ~

#### integrate, unify, and make simple the (apparent) noise

he wants to ~ of the world (Karl Friston)

♦ This word is similar to *static*.

♦ "Some of that data will be enlightening, and really helpful. But some of it is going to be terrible noise and even lead to unnecessary testing and anxiety." (Dr. Eric Topol on the kind of health data people can now track with their smartphones.)

♦ "The human mind can acquire knowledge from very limited input and rapidly sort through noisy, conflicting information to reach judgments."

♦ "We have so much noise in the environment these days, there's seven point six, seven billion people on the planet making a lot of noise... Such is the noise we live in." (The remarkable sound recordist Martyn Stewart, who has dedicated his life to recording the sounds of nature. "Why this wildlife expert is making his archive public" by Mark Savage, BBC, 2 December 2021.)

**activity / analysis, interpretation & explanation / obstacles & impedance / worth & lack of worth: sound**

## **noise (attention, conflict, and controversy)**

### noise

there has been a lot of ~ and trending on Twitter about...  
we can't react to all the ~ outside, there'll be criticism  
there's nothing wrong with making ~ (progressive issues)  
his comments bring ~ we don't need (disgruntled athlete)  
online sleuthing groups can generate a lot of ~, a lot of data

### clatter

how do you get through the ~ that he creates (politics)

### noise of the Internet

better to give an exhausted shrug at the ~ and move on

### noise and spin

this is what's wrong with boxing, it's just all ~ (a fight fan)

### online noise

he has tried his best to block out the ~ (an injured athlete)

### outside noise

the club's hierarchy won't be swayed by ~ (complaints)

### political noise

it's all just ~, I don't listen to it (a political kerfuffle)

### racket and noise

only the president has the authority to transcend the ~ (issue)

### truth and noise

it's hard to discern between the ~ (war in Ukraine / a Zoomer)

### used to the noise

you just have to get ~

### block out the noise

all you can do is live your life and try to ~ (invasion threat)

### cut through the noise

~, register for a BBC account  
SLATE Podcasts: ~

### made noises

Nepal authorities ~ that they would limit permits (Everest)

### make enough noise

the challenge is to ~ to capture the zeitgeist (films)

### making noises

the Russians have been ~ about withdrawal (from ISS)

### shut out the noise

I'm in awe of her ability to ~ (celebrity kerfuffle)

♦ "I've calmed down now after a week of getting used to the noise and you just have to accept it." (Costello of Costello & Bunce, about the on/off/on/off bout between Tyson Fury and Anthony Joshua. Of course, Costello and Bunce were responsible for a lot of that noise!)

♦ "You showed me how, how to leave myself behind / how to turn down the noise in my mind." ("Haven't Got Time for the Pain" sung by Carly Simon.)

♦ "We're a small minority, we had to make some noise or we knew that unless we made that nobody would listen to us." (Clyde Bellecourt, co-founder of A.I.M.)

♦ "She's bilingual in Spanish and is happy there [in Spain], raising her daughter away from all the noise." (A film celebrity.)

♦ "The dog may bark, but the caravan moves on."

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / conflict / feeling, emotion & effect / obstacles & impedance / resistance, opposition & defeat: sound**

## noisy (debate, etc.)

noisy

we will be very ~ in the House because we are unhappy

fierce and noisy

Tunisians are locked in a ~ debate about...

**conflict / feeling, emotion & effect / resistance, opposition & defeat / speech: sound**

## noisy (data, etc.)

noisy data

studies chase small effects hidden in ~

**activity / analysis, interpretation & explanation / obstacles & impedance / worth & lack of worth: sound**

## nomad (person)

nomads of the agriculture world

beekeepers are the ~

academic nomad

she's become an ~ (adjunct professor)

railroad nomads

"shantytown," a word evoking ~...

Greyhound nomads

they arrived as ~ (Somali refugees in Lewiston)

techno nomad

he was a ~, moving from country to country (J. Assange)

become an academic nomad

she's ~ (adjunct professor)

♦ "In their eyes man was a born migrant, settlement the perversion of degenerates, and cutting the soil to grow crops, murder." (Chinese nomads. From "Heavenly Horses" in *What Am I Doing Here* by Bruce Chatwin.)

♦ "No one but a slave would agree to live behind walls or under a mud roof..." (*Gold Dust* by Ibrahim al-Koni.)

**migration: person / journeys & trips**

**person: journeys & trips**

## nomadic (adjective)

nomadic life

he lives a ~ drifting from town to town (Jack Reacher)

**migration: person / journeys & trips**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## no man's land (people)

No Man's Land

early cartographers called it ~

no man's land

the reserve is a vast, jungly ~ (rain forest)

the desert was not a ~ (archaeology)

the piers became a ~, blocked off by highways

no-man's sea

all through these years the Pacific had remained a ~

no-man's-land or twilight zone

the ~ between permitted or forbidden (Amos Oz)

**isolation & remoteness: map / journeys & trips**

## no man's land (regulatory, etc.)

no-man's-land for police jurisdictions

St. Francis is a ~ (the Rosebud Reservation)

bureaucratic no man's land

he found himself in a ~ amid 3 agencies

regulatory no man's land

oil-exploration waste falls into a ~

regulatory no-man's-land

Theranos continued to operate in a ~ (the company)

**control & lack of control: military**

## no man's land (danger)

no-man's-land

murders and kidnappings make the district a ~

no-man's land

it was hotly disputed land, ~... (between tribes)

♦ "Nobody's going to help you, you're in no-man's-land." (Outpost Restrepo, Korangal Valley, Afghanistan.)

♦ "But by far the most terrible feature of the present war is the fact that in so many cases it is impossible to bring timely help to the wounded. The trenches face each other at very short distances. An attack is delivered, and a mass of wounded fall on the unsheltered space between the trenches. When the struggle is over this space is carefully watched, and the slightest movement brings a volley from rifles or machine guns. / At night only, when favored by darkness, some of the wounded may be able to crawl back to their trenches. It is a cruel fact that aid reaches the wounded very late, if at all. That accounts chiefly for the high death rate." ("DEATH RATE ABOVE CRIMEAN / Due to Delay In Reaching the Wounded, Says London Lancet / Special Cable to THE NEW YORK TIMES. / LONDON, Saturday, July 17," *The New York Times*, July 17, 1915.)

**control & lack of control: military**

**area / danger / environment: military**

## nomics

see *enomics* (and *nomics*)

## non-person

literary non-person

he has become a ~ (disgraced French author)

acceptance & rejection: person / society

person: society

## noon (high noon)

high noon for Darwin's theory

it was ~ (1860 Oxford debate)

high-noon deadline

this ~ meant having to choose between sleep, food and work

timeliness & lack of timeliness: day / film / sun

fate, fortune & chance: day / film / sun

## noose (fate)

noose

the ~ is tightening (manhunt)

the ~ is tightening around him (a dictator)

noose around Baghdad

we're tightening the ~ (Operation Iraqi Freedom)

noose around my neck

for six months the media had a ~ (Van Gaal at Man U)

global financial noose

the ~ is tightening around Iran (sanctions)

legal noose

the newspaper is putting its head in a ~ (libel)

noose is tightening

the ~ (manhunt)

pull the noose round Hacken's neck

he himself had helped to ~ (Krymov / *Life and Fate*)

putting its head in a (legal) noose

the newspaper is ~ (libel)

tightening the noose

we're ~ (Operation Iraqi Freedom)

they are ~ but we will fight to the end (protestors)

♦ "Methodically Siilasvuo tightened the noose on Suomussalmi..."

fate, fortune & chance: death & life

destruction: death & life

## norm (groups)

norm

when you do nothing, that allows the ~ to persist (racism)

gendered norms

~ still shape the workplace

transgressing against society's norms

undermine society by ~ (ONA / O9A)

♦ "Many O9A members openly view rape as an effective way to undermine society by transgressing against its norms." (Wikipedia entry "Order of Nine Angles.")

♦ "It should not only be allowed to happen when there's a trend, it should be the norm." (Maimouna Youssef about the Grammy's new Special Merit Award for "Best Song for Social change.")

♦ "We have dissolved social norms and expectations of what is normal and acceptable." (An online commenter, about a school shooting carried out by a transexual woman in Memphis.)

inclusion & exclusion: epistemology

## normal (as noun)

the normal

more signs of ~ we once knew (COVID restrictions lift)

a little bit of normal

it's ~ (cider mill is open during pandemic)

normal returns

what life might look like when ~ (Mary Louise Kelly)

society: part of speech

## normal (new normal)

new norm

blaming others has become the ~ (U.S. society)

new normal

shrinking coastlines will be the ~ for centuries to come

welcome new normal

the new chastity is not an entirely ~ (films)

new normal look like

what will the ~ (post-COVID-19)

♦ "Simply put, normalization is becoming the new normal in this region." (Secretary of State Antony Blinken about the Abraham Accords.)

♦ *The New Abnormal*. (A podcast.)

♦ "Our next normal: Resilience building and Future-Ready ELT." (CamTESOL. This is the organization in Cambodia.)

society: part of speech

## normal (groups)

normal part

some researchers see sexting as a ~ of teens' awakening

normal shape

private areas do not have a so called ~ (labiaplasty)

♦ "But some researchers see sexting as a normal part of a teenagers sexual awakening." ("Teen Sexting Not So Bad?" by Tell Me More Staff, NPR, Tell Me More, April 15, 2014. Anonymous writers.)

♦ "Bakhtiar said that too often stories like theirs will come out 'in a scandal.' / 'But we're openly showing it and proud of it,' Bakhtiar, 34, said during a video interview, as Brown and Al-Khayyal sat on either side. 'It should be destigmatized. It's a very valid familial structure that people should embrace.'" ("Georgia lawmaker comes out as nonmonogamous: 'I'm in love with two wonderful people'" by Jo Yurcaba, NBC, Sept. 28, 2022. Yurcaba's story reads like fiction and is the urtext for these sorts of things.)

♦ "Mountain Bike World Championships 2022: 'Young female athletes need to know what's normal and what's not—Evie Richards'" by Evie Richards, BBC, 24 August 2022. An important contribution to a problem that just keeps growing and growing and is getting worse and worse.)

inclusion & exclusion: epistemology

## normalcy (groups)

body normalcy

she wants to be an example of ~ (Natalie Maridueno)

♦ “‘Body Normalcy’ is a large contributor to the unhealthy state of Americans of box sexes today. Fat (sorry if you are triggered by the word) is not healthy unless you are a walrus.”

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## normalization (groups)

normalization of homosexuality

conservatives saw this as ~ (*Perfect Strangers* / Egypt)

normalization of other types of unions

the ~ like plural marriage

♦ The callousness of shooting into a crowd outside a cinema, shooting at young women, the normalization—never mind the ramping up by social media—all of that makes me alarmed and worried.” (“Violent Killings Are On The Rise In London” by Joanna Kakissis, April 6, 2018.)

♦ “The normalization of the abnormal...”

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## normalize (groups)

normalizes behavior

it ~ (MTV’s *Skins* / teen sex, drug use and nudity)

normalize bloating

fans thanked the influence for her efforts to ~

normalize deaf people

you’ve got to ~ on TV (deaf activist Raven Sutton)

normalize stuff like this

it’s important to ~ (Dr. Craig Canapari / bed-sharing)

normalized same-sex unions

corporations basically ~ (through employee benefits, etc.)

normalize women

comedy should just ~, you know, in whatever size...

♦ “Harris’ attorneys had sought a six-year sentence, followed by eight years of supervised release, arguing in court documents filed last month that he is ‘both victimizer and victim’ after being assaulted as a minor. ‘The trauma he experienced as a child normalized his skewed version of what he understood to be appropriate relationships,’ his attorneys said.” (“Former ‘Cheer’ star Jerry Harris sentenced to 12 years in Prison for sex crimes,” by Meredith Deliso, ABC News, July 06, 2022. Crimes against boys.)

♦ “The show follows a group of teenagers as they navigate sex, life, sex, school, sex, relationships and sex. There is partying, there’s drug use, and there’s nudity. It’s definitely not *Father Knows Best*.” (“MTV’s *Skins* Has Parents On Edge,” Michel Martin, NPR, Heard on Tell Me More, February 8, 2011.)

♦ “Heather has a BS in Psychology and an MS in Criminal Forensic Studies. She aims to use her gifts, talents, experiences, education, and authentic self to help others feel empowered to live as their authentic selves. She wants to normalize mental health struggles and addiction, and let people know that they are not alone. There is help and support just around the corner.” (An advertising circular at a public library.)

♦ “If we could claim marriage, we would be claiming an engine of transformation, a vocabulary of shared values—love, commitment, family, inclusion, dignity, respect—that would help non-gay people better understand who gay people really are, and allow us to share equally, not only in marriage, but in everything.” (“Radically Normal: How Gay Rights Activists Changed The Minds Of Their Opponents,” NPR, Hidden Brain (with Shankar Vedantam), April 8, 2019. Many gays at the time denigrated the tradition of marriage.)

♦ “Love is Love.” (A slogan from the “Freedom to Marry” Campaign.)

♦ “Gay pop stars can be—and have been—subversive about slipping in references that change our language and thoughts about gay sex. The

more that happens, the less likely people feel uncomfortable hearing about it.” (Culture journalist Brennan Carley on BBC Culture.)

♦ “The problem we have now is normalising mental illness.”

♦ “Thank you for sharing this. We really need to normalize bloating because why do I always feel the need to hide it?”

♦ “Normalize the bulge. We are normalizing the bulge. Women can have bulges and that’s okay...” (Trans rights activist and social media influencer Dylan Mulvaney, “Day 74 of girlhood.”)

♦ See Wikipedia’s entry “Overton Window.” Essentially, social media has opened the Overton Window to... Well, anything and everything.

♦ “We have been able to push the Overton Window on AGI.” (OpenAI’s Sam Altman.)

♦ “Once we make excuses for them, we normalize their behavior.”

♦ see also *stigmatize (and destigmatize / verb)*

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology / verb**

## normalized (groups)

normalized discourse

help us create a ~ around our family life (bisexual / kids)

normalized and invisible

sexual violence is ~ in our society (Irene Montero / Spain)

“ingrained” and “completely normalised”

abuse in gymnastics training became ~ (Whyte Review)

became (almost) normalized

the crimes ~ (Navy bribery case involving admirals)

became (completely) normalised

abusive training ~ (child abuse / Whyte Review)

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## normalizing (groups)

normalizing mental health issues

Ari Leff is at the forefront of ~ (Lauv)

normalizing antisemitic tropes

social media has been instrumental in ~

normalizing (same-sex) sex pleasure, lust and kink

his songs hold power by ~ (Lil Nas X)

reclaiming—and normalizing—

~ the word ‘fat’

♦ “Sole-Smith says parents can combat American diet culture by reclaiming—and normalizing—the word ‘fat.’” (“Diet culture can hurt kids. This author advises parent to reclaim the word ‘fat,’” NPR, Fresh Air, April 25, 2023.)

♦ “It does feel great to be a part of normalizing representation.” (“Fans cheer as Velma is shown crushing on a woman in the new *Scooby-Doo* movie” by Halisia Hubbard, NPR, Movies, October 5, 2022.)

♦ “Lil Nas X is the boundary-smashing pop revolutionary of 2021” by Jason King, NPR, Music, December 28, 2021.

♦ “We have to stop normalizing the absurd.”

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## normative (groups)

normative bounds

people who are outside of ~ of gender

normative ideas

~ of masculinity and manhood (vs. Blackqueerness)

normative pressure

freedom from dulling and hypocritical ~ (queer punk)

normative society

she aimed to corrupt and unsettle the habits of ~ (artist)

hetero-normative

this ~ idea of marriage

neuronormative

what is now called ~ (based on *heteronormative*)

♦ *Throbbing Gristle*; *Psychic TV*; industrial and acid house genres; avant-garde; social provocateur; destruction as a means to creation; "they" pronoun; modified their own body; gender transition; pornographic photos; used tampons, syringes and bottled blood; William S. Burroughs; occult philosophies; "Slug Bait"; "a home intruder who castrates a husband and then eats the fetus from his pregnant wife's lacerated abdomen"; a thin, androgynous voice; shrieks; taboo; mutilation; disease; suicide; rape; darkness; toxic; the horrors of life under post-industrial capitalism; spiritual resistance to systemic oppression; the ritualistic body modification subculture; extensively pierced and tattooed; risky self-harm... ("Genesis Breyer P-Orridge, Provocateur and Industrial Co-Creator, Dead At 70" by Sasha Geffen, NPR, Music News, March 15, 2020.) [Note from the compiler: I was only able to get half-way through this NPR tribute article to someone who "aimed to corrupt and unsettle the habits of normative society." I simply don't have the heart and stomach to read and record one more word or phrase. It was just too much.]

♦ "Neurodivergent" is a non-medical term. A medical condition isn't required to have neurodivergence, nor does neurodivergence mean that a person has a medical condition.

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

**normativity (groups)**

historical normativity

they/we are questioning all forms of ~

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

**north (numbers)**

north of 70

death toll will be ~ (ABC / Kentucky tornadoes)

north of \$50 million

he has invested ~ to build...

north of minus fifteen to twenty percent

we're looking at negative GDP growth that's ~

♦ "The selling price is 'in the region' of \$200m..." (The luxury art market.)

♦ See *direction (symbol)* for quotations about the cardinal directions as metaphors.

**direction: numbers**

**North Korea (epithet)**

North Korea of Africa

Eritrea is often described as the ~

North Korea of Europe

he is turning my country into the ~ (S. Tsikhanouskaya)

Africa's North Korea

why Eritrea is called ~ (*The Economist* magazine)

♦ *The Economist* has a wonderful article entitled "Why Eritrea is called Africa's North Korea" (August 14th 2018). It is wonderful because it starts out with how Eritrea is NOT like North Korea.

♦ Korea is often referred to as the Hermit Kingdom. But it has also been referred to as The Land of the Morning Calm.

**isolation & remoteness: epithet**

**Norway (the Norway of Arabia, etc.)**

Norway of Arabia

Musandam's nickname, 'the ~,' derives from its coastline

**geography: epithet**

**nose (shape)**

Nose

a popular routes is "The ~" (rock climbing)

**shape: nose**

**nose (Devil's Nose, etc.)**

Nose

the ~ is a peak in Alberta, Canada

Devil's Nose

the ~ section of the Mokelumne (a river)

Gladstone's Nose

~ is a rock in the Western Cape, South Africa

Alligator Nose

~ is a point in Honduras

Dolphins Nose

the ~ is a point in Andhra Pradesh, India

the ~ is a headland (Myanmar)

**proper name: nose**

**nose (orientation)**

nose of the plane

pulled back on the stick to get the ~ up

deck, tail, nose, rails and wheels

a skateboard has a ~

**orientation: animal / direction / nose**

**nose (under somebody's nose)**

everybody's nose

this is going on right under ~ (child abuse)

under the noses of the security forces

they set up cells right ~

**consciousness & awareness: nose / proximity**

**nose (ability)**

nose for it

he has a great ~... (talent for basketball)

**ability & lack of ability: nose**

## nose (bloody nose, etc.)

bloody nose

the dream of giving Germany a ~ (Greek soccer)

“bloody nose” attacks

risk of brinkmanship and talk of ~ (diplomacy)

“bloody nose” option

a limited, pre-emptive military strike, the so-called ~

“bloody nose” theory

they call it the ~ (military force with diplomacy)

got a bloody nose

he had a rough hearing, he really ~ (confirmation hearing)

suffered (something of) a bloody nose

they've ~ in the past couple of days (armed clashes)

♦ “Obviously we have a bloody nose this morning, but we are not down for the count. We will continue to stand up and fight this risky route.” (Jane Kleeb, an opponent of the Keystone XL oil pipeline, after a legal defeat.)

**coercion & motivation / punishment & recrimination: blood / nose / sign, signal, symbol / violence**

## nose (thumb one's nose)

thumbing their noses at almost everything

rare men were ~ that passed for knowledge (Renaissance)

thumbed his nose at the (US) government

he has ~ (laws)

thumbing their nose at the rules

people are ~ (leash law for dogs)

thumb its nose at the US

Russia is putting him up to ~ (Edward Snowden)

♦ “Do you bite your thumb at us, sir?” / “No, sir, I do not bite my thumb at you sir, but I bite my thumb, sir.” (Abraham vs. Sampson in *Romeo and Juliet*.)

**insult: gesture / nose / verb**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: gesture / nose / verb**

## nose (attention)

get your nose out of your computer

~ and spend more time with...

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: nose**

## nose (look down one's nose)

looks down its nose

satire generally ~ at its subject

**admiration & contempt: direction / eye / gesture / height / nose**

## nose (hold one's nose)

held its nose

the palace has ~, refusing to comment... (scandal)

held their noses

voters who ~ and voted for him (lesser of two evils)

**eagerness & reluctance: gesture / nose / smell**

## nosedive (verb / decrease)

temperature will nosedive

the ~ by this weekend

**increase & decrease: direction / flying & falling / number / plane / verb**

## nosedive (verb / decline)

nosedived

relations (with North Korea) have ~

nose-dived from A's to (straight) D's

her grades ~

**decline: direction / flying & falling / plane / verb**

## nosedive (noun / decrease)

taken a nosedive

the temperatures have ~

**increase & decrease: direction / flying & falling / number / plane**

## nosedive (noun / decline)

nosedive

his career took a ~ because of questionable integrity

takes a nosedive

tourism ~ in Crimea

took a nosedive

sales ~ (fashion during the pandemic)

**decline: direction / flying & falling / plane**

## nostrum (noun)

vague nostrums

they give voters promises and ~ (politicians)

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

## not (when is a Mastodon not, etc.)

“When is a Mastodon Not?”

~ by Earle Spamer, Oct 23, 2018

**reversal: part of speech**

**contempo-speak: language**

## not (and not so much / sarcasm)

your kids will thank you...not

well done mate ~... (sarcasm)

that's a really funny joke – not

two and half years – now ~ (sarcasm at a light sentence)

Gotta love those 2nd Amendment rights. NOT!!

~ (online commenter after yet another mass shooting)

my heart bleeds for them, NOT!!!!

~ (Pepe and Ronaldo at the Qatar FIFA World Cup)

not so much

fans are ecstatic, residents of the neighborhood ~ (a film)  
the Croatians enjoyed the first half, the Brazilians maybe ~

so not

big help you're ~ (British)

♦ "Nothing is more lovely then [sic] to wake up on a Tuesday morning (Not) with TMZ calling you saying Chris Rock made a horrible 'joke' about..."

♦ "Time was the City of London was a byword for financial might, security, and stability. Today, perhaps, not so much. (BBC Global News Podcast about the Square Mile.)

♦ Defundbbc: "Well at least Liverpool won something today. Gapeo won dive of the year. Awful fans, awful team awful manager." / chelseakev (to Defundbbc); "Other than that they are ok lol NOT (Soccer snark on a BBC HYS.)

♦ "I think [the Croatians] enjoyed that first half. The thousands of Brazil fans, maybe not so much. (The Qatar World Cup. Croatia won on penalties.)

♦ "gee whiz....let's hire her!!! seriously?!?!" (A commenter about a mentally ill nurse.)

**contempo-speak: sarcasm**

**comparison & contrast: negation**

**not (not in a good way)**

not in a good way

...and critics say, ~

**language: judgment**

**notch (verb)**

notched 10,000 new coronavirus cases

New York State ~ between...

**attainment: number / verb**

**notch (take something up a notch)**

kicks the intensity up a notch

each verse ~ (a rap song)

kick it up a notch

if you want to ~, try... (an exercise program)

ratcheted things up a notch

he has ~ (political rhetoric)

step it up a notch

and then, to sort of ~, he invited... (promotion)

**increase & decrease: direction / verb**

**note (compare notes)**

compared notes about Iraq

the soldiers ~ (in hospital ward)

**knowledge & intelligence: school & education**

**note (on a note)**

on a confident note

Republicans ended their convention ~

on a high note

at least I finished ~ (learning a job)

ended (their convention) on a confident note

Republicans ~

finished on a high note

at least I ~ (learning a job)

leave on a high note

he wanted to ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: sound**

**note (right note)**

struck (all) the right notes

the words he spoke ~ (a conciliatory politician)

**flaws & lack of flaws: music / speech**

**note (note of caution, etc.)**

note of caution

he sounded a ~ over encouraging...

note of confidence

he is injecting a new ~ into the Nato campaign

note of fear

in his voice I detected a ~ (dangerous weather)

cautious note

he sounded a ~ at the meeting

defiant note

the Iraqi information minister sounded a ~

different note

he sounded a ~ (on a public-health issue)

hopeful note

striking the same ~, the girl's aunt... (abducted girl)

new note

he is injecting a ~ of confidence into the Nato campaign

optimistic note

he struck an ~

upbeat note

he sounded an ~ at the end of his fact-finding trip

detected a note

in his voice I ~ of fear (dangerous weather)

injecting a (new) note

he is ~ of confidence into the Nato campaign

sounded a note

he ~ of caution over encouraging...

struck (all) the right notes

the words he spoke ~ (a conciliatory politician)

**feeling, emotion & effect: music / sound**

**note (one note)**

one-note character

in the original script he was a ~ (*Do the Right Thing*)

**complexity: sound / music**

## nothing-burger

nothing-burger  
they claim the meeting was a ~ (political scandal)

biggest nothing-burger ever  
she called it the ~ (political scandal)

big, fat nothingburger  
is the memo a damning expose or a ~ (politics)

♦ For information about this word, see “Nothingburger: From 1950s Hollywood to the White House” by Ben Zimmer, *Wall Street Journal*, March 9, 2017.)

♦ see also there (*there is no there there, etc.*)

♦ see also the entry in this dictionary for *funny language*

**importance & significance: food & drink**

**substance & lack of substance: food & drink**

**language: cliché**

## nourished

nourished by the media  
sports are ~

**growth & development: baby / plant**

## nowhere (go nowhere, etc.)

getting nowhere  
we are ~ fast

go nowhere  
they said their claims seemed to ~ (sexual abuse)

go-nowhere  
he took a series of ~ jobs

going nowhere  
the peace process is ~ anyway  
negotiations are ~ (politics)

get anywhere  
if you're worried about the outcome, you don't ~ (sports)

went nowhere  
the peace plan ~

**direction: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

**progress & lack of progress / success & failure: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## nowhere (come out of nowhere, etc.)

out of nowhere  
he had himself a career day ~ (football)

came out of nowhere  
the team ~ (winning in the NCAA tournament)  
Edwards' finish of Usman ~ (head-kick / UFC 278)

come out of nowhere  
he had ~, now he's all over Radio One (Headie One)

♦ “A devastating day for all @ManUtd supporters and the club but it didn't come out of nowhere. It was not a surprise.” (Bastian Schweinsteiger, about Liverpool 5 Manchester United 0.)

**appearance & disappearance: air / atmosphere / sky**

## noxious (adjective)

noxious (online) behaviors  
stalking and bullying are ~ (Internet)

noxious law  
we need to repeal this ~

noxious tide  
we need to stem the ~ of ideologically-driven rhetoric

noxious (racial) views  
this book connects his ~ to his foreign policy

bigoted and noxious  
the film is ~

♦ Literally, this word tends to collocate with fumes, chemicals and smoke. In other word, bad smells.

**corruption: smell**

**feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances / smell**

## nudge (verb)

nudged  
he never judged, you know he just ~ (a pastor)

nudged him to change  
his coach ~ his morning routine

nudged me into (just) getting  
he gently ~ it over with

nudged America's allies  
they have ~ to patch up their differences (diplomacy)

♦ “Cuomo strong-armed rather than cajoled; he used intimidation rather than seduction to get his way.” (“New York After Cuomo” by Michael Greenberg, *The New York Review*, October 7, 2021.)

♦ Cajole, compel, force, make, mandate, make mandatory, mandate, nudge, persuade, require... (Language used by vaccine advocates about the vaccine reluctant. Words with like meaning include: “intimidate,” “strong-arm,” and “seduce.”)

♦ “Sen. Hillary Clinton said America must use ‘smart power’—which includes diplomatic, economic, military, political, legal and cultural tools.”

♦ “Get them by their balls and their hearts and minds will follow.” (A saying popular among combat soldiers during the Vietnam War who were cynical about US government campaigns to “win the hearts and minds” of the Vietnamese people. In Vietnam the Vietnam War is known as the American War.)

♦ See the Wikipedia entry for “Applied behavior analysis.”

**coercion & motivation: arm / gesture / verb**

**force: arm / gesture / verb**

## nudge (noun)

nudge behaviours  
the ICO is targeting ~ (Snapchat streaks, “likes,” etc.)

nudge technique  
but does the “~” really work (Japan / blue lights / suicide)  
~s are a way of influencing behaviour  
we must put an end to so-called “~s” (kids / social media)  
~s encourage children to make bad choices (social media)

nudge up  
“the ~,” “You have to do this,” helps people get over that little barrier (COVID vaccinations)

behavioral nudge  
the mask acts as a ~ to people for better hygiene (COVID)

*Inclusion Nudges*  
she is the co-author of the ~ *Guidebook*

smart nudge  
lotteries are a '~' to improve vaccination rates (COVID)

get nudges  
you ~ that remind you... (Gmail)

give the stragglers a nudge  
the Delta variant offered a chance to ~ (COVID vaccination)

takes a (gentle) nudge  
sometimes it ~ to get the ball rolling

♦ *Cajole, compel, force, make, mandate, make mandatory, nudge, persuade, require...* (Language used by vaccine advocates about the vaccine reluctant. Other words with similar meaning would include "intimidate," "strong-arm," and "seduce.")

♦ "Is there anything the United States can do to cajole, persuade, or threaten the Gulf States to take a different approach? (Heard on NPR, as if the Gulf States were refractory toddlers.)

♦ See the Wikipedia entry for "Applied behavior analysis."

**coercion & motivation: arm / gesture**

**force: arm / gesture**

## **nudge (communication)**

nudge nudge  
you got it, wink wink nudge nudge

♦ *maryann 03: From CA: Welcome. I highly (wink wink nudge nudge) recommend online ordering and home delivery. Always tip your delivery person. They are your friend. (An ABC "Join the Discussion" comment on "New York legalizes recreational marijuana...")*

♦ "PEN15, write out the title, you'll get it, has begun its second season on Hulu..." (A well-briefed Scott Simon of NPR. This is an example of leetspeak.)

**fictive communication / subterfuge: eye / gesture**

## **nudged**

nudged aside  
he is being ~ (a politician)

nudged down  
life expectancy was ~ again by a surge in overdoses

nudged out  
play has been ~ of many schools

nudged into committing  
whether he was pushed or jumped or was ~ suicide...

nudged towards keeping  
the consumer is ~ their membership (online unsubscribing)

**coercion & motivation: arm / gesture**

**force: arm / gesture**

## **nugget (noun)**

nuggets about what  
the trial could offer a few more ~ Wikileaks planned...

seven nuggets

here are ~ we learned from the interview

key nugget  
the ~ was when he said...

science nuggets  
follow Maddie and Rebecca on Twitter for more ~

**amount / worth & lack of worth: mining**

## **numb (adjective)**

numb with grief  
she and others who knew her best felt ~ (murdered)

became numb  
he ~ to even the most gruesome scenes (a marine)

♦ "I had like basically no emotions, I was just like numb, all I wanted to do was like lay in my bed." (A 16-year-old diagnosed with anorexia.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation**

**consciousness & awareness: sensation**

## **number (number is up, etc.)**

number came up  
my ~ (blown up by a landmine)

**fate, fortune & chance: number**

## **numbered (days are numbered, etc.)**

numbered  
Mubarak's days are ~

**fate, fortune & chance: number**

## **nursemaid (help)**

nursemaid to the bill  
she played ~, shepherding it through

♦ "I ain't got time to play nursemaid to all you people." (The military.)

**help & assistance: baby / person**

## **nursery (noun)**

stellar nursery  
~s where stars are born  
it's a ~ (Carina Nebula)

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant  
creation & transformation: farming & agriculture / plant**

## **nurture (verb)**

nurtured his student's career  
he ~ and became a second father (a coach)

nurtures (militant) groups  
Pakistan ~ in the area

nurtured her iconoclasm  
her parents encouraged her ambitions and ~ (musician)

nurtured her interest  
it was he who first ~ in art

nurture the (infant) market  
~ (e-publishing)

nurtured relationships  
he ~ with members of the faculty (journal editor)

nurtured a reputation  
Japanese companies have ~ for reliability (products)

nurture civil society  
education helps to ~

identifying and nurturing  
we have been ~ feminist writers (a publisher)

tap, feed and nurture  
he wants to ~ this anger (politician appeals to base)

**growth & development: baby / plant / verb**

## nurtured

nurtured by the West  
he is a criminal ~ (an award winner)

nurtured by his father  
his ideas about cooking were ~

nurtured by his mother  
his early interest in poetry was ~

carefully nurtured  
he was ~ by the club (young soccer player)

**growth & development: baby / plant**

## nut (person)

nut case  
is your client a ~ (a flake)

religious nut  
he's a ~ (controversial politician)

♦ "In 2012, Nina Totenberg of NPR was criticized by mental-health advocates for asking the question, "So, is your client a nut case?"

♦ "He's nuttier than a peach-orchard boar."

**mental health: euphemism**  
**character & personality: fruits & vegetables / mental health / person**

## nuts (crazy)

nuts  
but what's really ~ is insisting that...

drives your manager nuts  
don't do whatever ~ ("managing up")

go nuts  
when I think about it, I ~

goes nuts  
Dean ~ (reaction to the Howard Dean Scream of 2004.)

♦ Psycho, wacko, crazy... (Words disliked by mental-health advocates.)

**behavior: fruits & vegetables / mental health**

**mental health: euphemism**

## nuts and bolts

nuts and bolts

take me through the ~ about how this is going to work

nuts and bolts of a gritty industry  
it was an indoctrination into the ~ (garment center)

nuts-and-bolts character  
he was a very ~ (Edmund Hillary helps Sherpas)

**bases: mechanism**

## nutshell (in a nutshell)

in a nutshell  
that's it, ~ (short and sweet)  
this is Atkinson ~ (review of a writer)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: food & drink**

## O

## oak (Royal Oak, etc.)

*Royal Oak*  
the ~ battleship was sunk by a U-boat in Scapa Flow

**proper name: materials & substance / tree**

## oak (strength)

Hearts of Oak  
the British have ~

**strength & weakness: materials & substances / tree**

## Oasis (Oasis of the Seas, etc.)

Oasis of the Seas  
the ~ is the world's largest cruise ship

Oasis Hotel  
the ~ has 8 awards of excellence (Cairo)

**proper name: desert / ground, terrain & land**

## oasis (environment)

oasis  
Somaliland is an ~ in comparison to Somalia

oasis of (relative) calm  
it provides an ~ within Iraq (Kurdish region)

oasis of peace  
it was once an ~ in volatile West Africa (Ivory Coast)

oasis of peace and stability  
Ghana is an ~ in turbulent West Africa

oasis within New York City  
Park Slope, Brooklyn, is an ~ (parks, families, etc.)

oasis for (late-night) customers  
we are an ~ (White Castle)

jungle oases  
a civilization grew near these ~ (cenotes / Mayas)

green oasis

New York City's High Line is a ~ (elevated walkway)

peaceful oasis

Bali was considered a ~ (before Kuta Beach bombing)

spiritual oasis

Cloud Cottage Sangha is a ~ for me (Buddhist)

considered a (peaceful) oasis

Bali was ~ (before Kuta Beach bombing)

♦ The Al-Ahsa Oasis is the largest date-palm oasis in the world, a lovely place that gurgles paradisaically with springs and wells and rejoices in the songs of water. It includes the city of Al-Hofuf with its gorgeous walled fort, also the remarkable Jabal Qara, hills that resemble rock cauliflowers. The whole area is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, deservedly. Go there and watch the trail of a meteor transect the wall of the fort at night. Spend the rest of the night on Jabal Qara, listening to the howls of desert dogs. Just be careful where you step at Jabal Qara.)

♦ "And then, rising from between the closer dunes, their vertical spires contrasting dramatically with the desert realm of the horizontal, are green trees by the thousands. There is water somewhere nearby. This truly is an oasis, a place of refuge and settlement—and among the trees there are buildings that glint as the sun catches them, scores of structures, the upswept eaves of a nest of pagodas, the minarets of a mosque or two, a cluster of hotels." (Dunhuang, China. (From *The Man Who Loved China* by Simon Winchester.)

**environment: desert / ground, terrain & land**

**oats (feel one's oats)**

feeling its oats

China is ~ (booming economy)

**power / strength & weakness: animal / horse**

**Obama (Russia's Obama, etc.)**

Jakarta's Obama

they call him ~ (governor Joko Widodo)

Russia's Obama

Jean Gregoire Sagbo is known as ~

♦ Joko Widodo, the governor of Jakarta, has been compared to Obama for the following reasons. He is hugely popular with the young and the poor, who consider him a hero. He often visits his supporters, listens to them, shows that he cares about them, and gives them a feeling of positivity and hope. He has helped to subsidize healthcare and education for them. He is humble and his reputation is clean. Finally, he is tall and lanky, just like Obama!

**achievement, recognition & praise: epithet / government**

**objectified (groups)**

objectified

othered, ~, exoticized, coerced (Asian women)

Marilyn was ~, scrutinized and judged by males (Monroe)

♦ "I wonder how it feels to complain about being objectified. Yet get roles due to willingness to be objectified. Doesn't that make her a hypocrite?" (A commenter about the actress Sydney Sweeney.)

♦ see also *boy, guy (good guy, etc.), man (big man, little man, etc.), Mister (and Mr., Missus, Mrs.)*

**inclusion & exclusion: objectification**

**obituary (noun)**

obituary of a bank

we bring you the ~ (NPR / Credit Suisse)

political obituary

her ~ was written at least three times (Hillary Clinton)

radio's obituary

we should know better than to write ~

writing (Tony Blair's political) obituary

last week people were ~

♦ See "ABE, Pioneering Robotic Undersea Explorer, Is Dead at 16" by Henry Fountain, *The New York Times*, 2010.

♦ "These death notices were always premature, until the nineteen-eighties and nineties, when they finally weren't." (Door-to-door selling. In the 2020s, door-to-door sellers sell pest control, alarms, roofing, and solar panels.)

♦ Nonhuman and nonliving things can have biographies, autobiographies, obituaries, eulogies, and even be characters.

**condition & status: death & life**

**obsessed**

obsessed with foghorns

my name is Jennifer Lucy Allan and I'm ~ (BBC)

politically obsessed

for those of us who are ~ (pundits)

**enthusiasm: mental health**

**obsession (noun)**

obsession with race

Breareley's ~ must stop, the school has lost its way

**enthusiasm: mental health**

**obviously (contempo-speak)**

obviously (very) happy

I am ~ with the outcome of this case

obviously (super) latchkey

we were ~ (kids growing up)

obviously extremely

see *extremely (contempo-speak)*

obviously, maybe

see *maybe (contempo-speak)*

obviously pretty

see *obviously pretty (contempo-speak)*

obviously really

see *really (and REEE•lee, etc.)*

definitely obviously

not so smart, ~ fake but... (sharing fake news)

I mean I think it ~ motivates you to...

kind of obviously

viewers are ~ going to want...

really, obviously

it's ~, in the hands of the Senate (politics)

♦ Are you sure!?

♦ see also *actually (contempo-speak), basically (contempo-speak), definitely (contempo-speak), really (and REEE•lee, etc.)*

**contempo-speak: adverb**

## ocean (ocean of air, etc.)

ocean of air  
we live submerged at the bottom of an ~ (atmosphere)

ocean of sand  
the Sahara's ~

resemblance: sea

## ocean (amount)

ocean of (digital) information and misinformation  
it's hard to navigate through the ~

amount: sea

## occupy (verb)

occupied that part  
he totally ~ (Marlon Brando / *Godfather*)

occupy a (unique) position  
the river began to ~ in folklore (the Mississippi)

fictive possession: house / verb

## octopus (noun)

“Octopus Doctrine”  
Tel Aviv's new policy is the ~ (attack head *and* arms)

world-strangling octopus  
he saw Victoria's British Empire as a ~

terrorist octopus  
Israel has taken action against the head of the ~

arms of the octopus  
Israel now attacks the ~ (regional proxies)

♦ Anastasia Tsioulcas: “The prosecution asked a defense witness...about an org (organization) chart he had made of Kelly's company. It was illustrated like a cartoon octopus, and, in retrospect, that was a pretty unfortunate metaphor for a man accused of running an enterprise intended to lure victims into sex crimes.” / Noel King: “That's a really vivid image, isn't it.” / Anastasia Tsioulcas: “It really is.” (“A Jury In New York Begins Deliberations In R. Kelly's Federal Trial,” NPR, Morning Edition, Sept. 27, 2021.)

♦ The octopus is a beautiful and amazing creature, and it is hard to understand why it has gotten such a bad reputation as a symbol, especially considering how prized it is as a delicious catch.

pursuit, capture & escape: animal / hunting / predation  
affliction / extent & scope: animal / arm / sign, signal, symbol

## odd couple

odd couple  
this ~ makes for a compelling violin concerto

character & personality: love, courtship & marriage

relationship: love, courtship & marriage

## odds (fate)

beat the odds  
the way I look at it, I ~ (tough upbringing)

fate, fortune & chance: cards / gambling

## ode (praise)

ode to cinema  
his film is an ~ as a whole (Cannes hype)

ode to their domesticity  
Graham's ~, “Our House” (“with two cats in the yard”)

ode to historically black colleges  
her performance was an ~ (Beyoncé at 2018 Coachella)

♦ The greatest invention in human history is not the wheel, and it's certainly not sliced bread. As much of the nation broiled this week in temperatures in the high 90s and beyond, can there be any doubt that our most wondrous piece of technology is the air conditioner? / It was way back in 1902 that Willis Carrier created the Apparatus for Treating Air...” (“An ode to AC” by William Falk, Editor, *The Week Magazine*.)

♦ “Ode to Swearing” by James Parker, *The Atlantic*, March 2023.

♦ “In the salt mines / I saw the salt / in this shaker. / I know you won't believe me, / but there / it sings, / the salt sings, the skin / of the salt mines / sings / with a mouth choking / on dirt.” (The opening lines of “Ode to Salt” by Pablo Neruda, in a wonderful English translation by Philip Levine.)

♦ see also *love letter* (noun), *Valentine* (noun)

achievement, recognition & praise: speech

## Odyssey (Mars Odyssey, etc.)

Odyssey  
the 75-square-foot solar array that powers ~ (Mars)  
so far, ~ is an unqualified scientific success (Mars)

Odyssey of the Seas  
~ (Nassau) is a Royal Caribbean cruise ship

Mars Odyssey  
the ~ (a NASA Mars probe)

proper name: Iliad & Odyssey / journeys & trips

## odyssey (on an odyssey)

on an odyssey  
these girls have been ~ (from Sierra Leone to US)

on a (six-day, 900-mile) odyssey  
he claimed she accompanied him ~ (kidnapper)

led his family on a (diagnostic) odyssey  
the boy's illness ~

development: Iliad & Odyssey / journeys & trips

## odyssey (other)

odyssey of two (likable) women  
the documentary is the ~

Georgia man's odyssey  
a ~ to Europe... (7 flights with XDR TB)

substance-abuse odyssey  
she began a long ~ by sniffing fingernail polish...

personal odyssey  
the documentary is the ~ of two strong, likable women

remarkable odyssey  
her life traces a ~ from her farmhouse in Poland to...

three-decade odyssey  
his trip turned into a ~

♦ "Zola's tale was dubbed the Thotyssey by fans." (A road trip involving sex. "Thot" stands for "that ho' over there." A ho' is a whore or a slut. This combination of contemporary slang and a classical allusion is as astonishing as it is charming.)

**development: Iliad & Odyssey / journeys & trips**

## off (cancelled, postponed, etc.)

off  
the game is ~

**starting, going, continuing & ending: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## off (not right)

off about this story  
something seems so ~ (wonders was attack staged)

**flaws & lack of flaws: prep, adv, adj, particle**

**evidence: smell**

## offbeat (adjective)

offbeat  
she would do things that were ~ (Lizzo)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: music**

## offensive (charm offensive, etc.)

charm offensive  
he refused to be part of the Hollywood ~ (to get Oscar)

**campaign: military**

## offer (offer hope, etc.)

offers audiences a vision  
the latest performance similarly ~ of themselves

offers a sympathetic ear to kids  
he ~ (juvenile offenders)

offer (consumer) feedback  
user-opinion sites ~

offer hope  
it we ~, then the stigma begins to fade (HIV)

offers hope  
a monkey trial ~ (pandemic vaccine)

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: verb**

**fictive communication: verb**

## offspring

offspring of the phone booth  
the ~, referred to as an "enclosure"

abuse's (shamefaced) offspring  
prejudice, abuse, and ~, complicity...

**product / relationship: family**

## offshoot

offshoot of (Shiite) Islam

Zaydism is an ~

offshoot of Dutch

Afrikaans is an ~

Los Angeles offshoot

the Actor's Lab, a ~ of the Group Theater

latest offshoot

stand-up paddling is surfing's ~

**branching system: plant**

## OG (and original gangster)

OG crime junkies

my mom and grandma, they were my ~

OG "motomami"

she's like the ~, you know what I mean...

OG supermodels

she was one of the fashion world's ~ (Tatjana Patitz)

OG Yield Curve Whisperer

"The ~" (NPR, Planet Money, August 9, 2018)

♦ "Well, I fell in love with [the true crime genre] or got interested in it because I would say my mom and her mother before her, they were my OG crime junkies." ('Crime Junkie' host Ashley Flowers talks debut novel," NPR, All Things Considered, December 10, 2022.)

♦ "The OG Yield Curve Whisperer," Stacey Vanek Smith and Cardiff Garcia, NPR, Planet Money, August 9, 2018. (OG stands for "Original Gangster" and is AAVE. The yield curve relates to predictive economics. And the "whisperer" is Campbell Harvey, a finance professor at Duke University! If there is a Hall of Fame for these sorts of headlines, this must surely be in it.)

♦ "[Martirio] is like the OG 'motomami,' you know what I mean? How she sings, [how] she puts her sunglasses on. The energy's crazy." (Rosalia paying respect to Martirio. From "Rosalia is unafraid to pull from every corner of the world," NPR, All Things Considered, April 24, 2022. Rosalia was interviewed by Anamaria Sayre. See also "How Latin identity became fodder for content" by Manuela Lopez Restrepo, NPR, Pop Culture, December 10, 2022.)

♦ "OG, short for "original gangster," is a compliment for somebody who is exceptional or authentic." (AAVE.)

**experience / person: crime**

## ogre (person)

ogre and a tyrant

his employees describe him as an ~

♦ Shrek: My father was an ogre. He tried to eat me. I should have seen it coming.

**character & personality / person: creature**

**oppression: person**

## Oh (and wait a minute, etc. / sarcasm)

Oh hang on

let's sit down over a beer, ~, we can't...

who to blame, ~, Kane missed a penalty (Qatar 2022)

oh hang on

Ye imagine the crying if the ref gave Argentina 2 pens... ~

oh wait

they will hide the data, ~ there is no data (Pfizer)

if only footballers had coaches, ~, they do...

Oh, I forgot  
just ask all her friends. ~...she doesn't have any (snark)

Wait a minute  
with gun control, this wouldn't have happened...~...

Wait hold up  
~, the pandemic started when Trump was president

wait for it  
and essay by aged British critic titled——“Dullness”

♦ “If only footballers had coaches for mental side of things, trainers for fitness, mental well being, personal coaches, personal doctors, the best medical care possible with no waiting, on call even. Oh wait, they do.” (A commenter about “tired, overworked” soccer players at the Qatar World Cup.)

♦ “Lets sit down over a beer and have a chat about it / Oh hang on. We can't...” (Qatar bans the sale of beer at stadiums during the FIFA World Cup.)

♦ “Nice to see Ronaldo show sportsmanship in congratulating his opponents and consoling his team mates. Oh no, that's right, he walked right off crying.” (Qatar FIFA World Cup soccer snark.)

♦ “Who to blame, Ref, French border control, Brexit. Oh hang on, Kane missed a penalty.” (Soccer snark, Qatar 2022.)

♦ “If the Dems were able to pass laws to restrict guns, this horror would have never occurred.... Wait a minute.... (Four college students murdered by knife in Moscow, Idaho.)

♦ “Wait hold up. The pandemic started when Trump was president.” (An online comment to “Why Don't Asian Lives Matter to Joe Biden and his liberal allies?”)

♦ This, and similar, has become a meme. There are “Oh Wait” meme generators online.

♦ “Contributing to the advancement of civilization since...never.” (Sarcasm.)

**contempo-speak: sarcasm**

## O. Henry

O. Henry twist  
the story features an ~ at the end

♦ “One dollar and eighty-seven cents. That was all. And sixty cents of it was in pennies. Pennies saved one and two at a time by bulldozing the grocer and the vegetable man and the butcher until one's cheeks burned with the silent imputation of parsimony that such close dealing implied.” (The beginning of “The Gift of the Magi” by O. Henry. One of the greatest love stories ever written. To this day people put pennies on the grave of its author in Riverside Cemetery, Asheville, North Carolina, the Southern Appalachians, U.S.A.)

**allusion / reversal: books & reading**

## O. Henry-esque (adjective)

O. Henry-esque twist  
it sort of has an ~ at the end (a song)

♦ Or, O. Henry-like....

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## Oh, my! (sarcasm)

Oh my  
is it possible Dems took illegal contributions, ~!

♦ “Lions and Tigers and Bears. Oh, My!” This is an allusion to the beloved 1939 film *The Wizard of Oz*. Dorothy says it just before the Lion leaps into the scene.

**allusion: film & TV**

**contempo-speak: sarcasm**

## oil (pour oil)

poured oil on the fire  
he has ~

**increase & decrease: fire / verb**

## oil (new oil, etc.)

“new oil”  
it's become common to call data the ~

♦ Oil and data are different because oil can only be used once, data many times. But both have to be processed (oil) or analyzed (data) to become valuable. Both can make companies rich (Amazon, ExxonMobil).

♦ “Before oil, there was whale oil.”

**epithet: materials & substances**

**worth & lack of worth: epithet / materials & substances**

## OK (and okay / verb)

ok'd extra doses  
the FDA ~ of Pfizer's original recipe (vaccine)

**sanctioning, authority & con-conformity: part of speech / verb**

## old (of old)

days of old  
in ~

**past & present / time: day**

## old (a year old, etc.)

just a year old  
the song then was ~ (in 1968)

turns 76 tomorrow  
Ebony Magazine ~

♦ “The Archibald Prize is turning 100.” (The Australian portrait prize.)

♦ see also *birthday (creation)*

**growth & development: life span**

**creation & transformation: birth**

## old (traditional)

Old Army  
“How the ~ Died” (by General Smith-Dorrien)

Old Bolshevik  
Mikhail Sidorovich Mostovskoy, an ~ (Vasily Grossman)

Old Corps  
he was a gruff, up-from the-ranks ~ captain (Marine Corps)

old guard  
see *old guard*

old hand  
see *old hand (experience)*

Old Hollywood  
how the ~ became the New Hollywood (1960s)

“Old Navy”

the *Marion*, last wooden ship of the ~ (Asiatic Station)

old school

he wanted to deliver his film on ~ 35mm film

♦ “[T]he old British Army which fought at Mons is but a glorious memory... / I do not know how many are left of that little Army. Their numbers must be very few. Some of the men of Mons are in the trenches to day; but they have become merged in the new armies... / The new Army has been trained in a very short space of time and everything has been concentrated in getting them ready to hold their own in trench warfare, and it is not very probable that they would have been very successful had they been called upon to perform the operation that was imposed on the Expeditionary Force...” (“How the Old Army Died” by General Smith-Dorrien, *Malaya Tribune*, 13 April 1917.)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: death & life**

## Old Boy (Old Boy network, etc.)

Old Boy network

he had a place on the ~ (a political appointee)

good-old-boys

the department was the ultimate ~ (law enforcement)

**group, set & collection / hierarchy / society: school & education**

## old-fashioned (adjective)

old-fashioned (American) swagger

now, let’s show them some ~ (2012 film *Emperor*)

good, old-fashioned

Triple A suggested drivers still carry a ~ map (GPS)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**

**past & present / time: day**

## old guard

old guard

the ~ has yielded the throne (world soccer)

old-guard evangelicals

conflict between ~ and younger evangelicals

Ajan-era old guard

disputes between reformers and a faction led by the ~

evangelical old guard

there’s a lot at stake for the ~ (gender issues)

old guard and its rising stars

we will hear from the party’s ~ (political convention)

old guard and younger, more liberal members

this exposes a divide between the ~ (Democratic Party)

exodus of the old guard

the ~ leaves the team pretty limited (Manchester United)

favorites of the old guard

elections would be open to all, not just the ~ (Cambridge)

avant-garde and old guard

he’s both ~ (rapper Kendrick Lamar)

old guard was being mothballed

the ~ (a Silicon Valley tech company)

rankled (some of alpinism’s) old guard

this new way of climbing has ~ (helicopter to base camp)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: allusion / history**

## old hand (experience)

old hand

5-10 new recruits get killed to every ~ (inexperience)

old (diplomatic) hands

~, emigres, and dissidents relayed stories about...

newcomers (to the research) versus old hands

~ (science)

accepted (as soldiers) by the old hands

we were being ~

♦ see also *hand (work)*

♦ “Forget everything you learned in the academy.” (The standard greeting a rookie police officer receives from his veteran partner.)

♦ “In training camp they filled you full of fancy information on how to be a soldier. We’re going to work hard to forget all that.” (Ernest Borgnine in *All Quiet on the Western Front*.)

♦ “If you want good advice, talk to an old man.”

♦ “There’s no fool like an old fool.”

**experience: hand**

## old school

old school

he is unashamedly ~ (a 68-year-old Montana farmer)

old-school in his approach

he’s as ~ to opponents as he is in the ring

old-school Alabama

Tagovailloa turned ~ into a new-school juggernaut (football)

old-school French bistro

a much loved, ~

old-school discipline

he was famous for his ~ (sports coach)

old-school (American) fighters

the ~, they’re always setting traps (boxing)

old school 35mm film

he wanted to deliver his film on ~

old-school mentality

that’s that ~ (comment on boxer’s work ethic)

old-school reporter

he was an ~ who would challenge anyone

old school (corner) team

AJ needs an ~, get back to basics (boxing)

old-school style

he brings ~ to the sport (auto racer not afraid to bump)

old-school, hard-nosed

Barber was an ~ football player who...

old school and new-school

the broadcast team will have an ~ look (NBC Sports)

from the old school

she is ~, committed to her marriage (military wife)

new school / old school

a classic ~ rift (newer kayaking moves)

♦ "let's get back to old school boxing, flip this soap opera on its head." (A fight fan about the state of boxing today.)

♦ see also *new school*

**past & present / time: school & education**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: school & education**

## olive branch

olive branch

it was an ~ from Bobby Knight to Alford (dispute)

extended an olive branch to South Korea

he ~

offered an olive branch to the Republicans

in the State of the Union, he ~

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: tree**

## Olympian (size)

Olympian scorn

his reactions to the world ran from dismay to ~  
he displayed ~ for the popularity of...

**size: allusion / mountains & hills / religion**

## Olympian (perspective)

Olympian view

he takes an ~ of contemporary politics (George F. Will)

**perception, perspective & point of view: religion**

## Olympics (competition)

oppression Olympics

everyone is tired of the ~ (Trans versus Blacks, etc.)

moral injury Olympics

the ~ (concept inflation / co-option to all groups)

♦ "If conclusion jumping ever becomes an Olympic sport they're a lot of potential team members here." (An online commenter.)

♦ According to the Wikipedia entry, the term "moral distress" originated in the 1980s in reference to health-care workers. Through "concept inflation" or "co-option," the construct has since been applied to soldiers, police, firefighters, EMTs, legal defenders and lawyers, people in child and adult protective services, and even to veterinarians, leading inevitably to the construct's disparagement: "moral injury Olympics."

♦ "Man... knows how to fight and win." (A stirring speech in Olympia, Greece, prior to the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing. See YouTube #Beijing2022 Olympic Flame Lighting Ceremony! Beautiful and inspiring during the COVID period. Full credit to China.)

**competition: allusion / sports & games**

## Olympus (Mount Olympus)

Olympus of sociological research

the University of Chicago was the ~

♦ "When I was in college—not terribly long ago—a life in letters seemed one of the lower ridges of Olympus." (Nathan Heller.)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

**importance & significance: religion**

**superlative: allusion / place / mountains & hills / religion**

## omerta (noun)

omerta from the labs

the money allows it to purchase a lot of ~ it supports  
(EcoHealth Alliance)

code of omerta

clerks are expected to abide by a ~ (the Supreme Court)

**concealment & lack of concealment: crime / speech**

## omnivorous (adjective)

omnivorous

her interests have been ~ (Jia Tolentino)

**consumption: food & drink**

## on (brag on, etc.)

brag on Larkin

I just want to ~ (won an award)

brag on him

I used to ~ all the time (Len Bias)

hate on

see *hate on (something)*

hitting on him

at that point I was really mad, I was ~ (punching him)

love on

see *love on (something)*

love up on

see *love up (and love up on, etc.)*

♦ Ordinarily one would "brag about" something or somebody. As for "hate on" and "hit on," the "on" is redundant.

**language: prep, adv, adj, particle**

**contempo-speak: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## on (it's on you, etc.)

on you

drink, drive, get arrested, it's ~

on (all of) us

it is ~ to hold one another accountable

on them

the government's case didn't pan out and that's ~ (juror)

♦ "This is on ALL involved in his previous arrests, as well as his family." (An online commenter about another mass shooting. Frustration at red flags ignored.)

**relationship / responsibility: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## on (performing)

“on” all the time  
the stress of having to be ~ got to me (actress / eating)

always on  
she is ~ (Wendy Williams)

**behavior / character & personality / performance / starting, going, continuing & ending: theater**

## on (be on, etc.)

on  
stocks kept falling, and the Great Depression was ~

back on  
the summit is ~ (diplomacy)

party is on  
the ~, and nobody is going to call it off (a combat operation)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## on (30 years on, etc.)

30 years on  
~, the veterans face health concerns

eighty years on  
~, how can we balance moving on and the need to remember

**future / time: direction / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## one-size-fits-all

one-size-fits-all approach  
the ~ is not the way to go (retirement plans)  
public health officials concede no ~ exists (pandemic)

one-size-fits-all journalism  
we were offering ~ to very different audiences

one-size-fits-all solution  
there is no ~ (to managed retreat due to climate change)

**creation & transformation: clothing & accessories**

## one-strike-and-you're-out

one-strike-and-you're-out (honor-code) policy  
~ do more harm than good

**punishment & recrimination: baseball / sports & games**

## ongoing (investigation, etc.)

ongoing (security) arrangements  
ensure ~ are appropriate

ongoing (budget) battle  
an ~ between the school system, county

ongoing debate  
the ~

ongoing (intratribal) disputes  
~ (Native Americans)

ongoing effort  
the regulations are part of an ~ to...  
this mission is an ~ to take away enemy sanctuaries

ongoing focus  
there is an ~ on these economic issues (White House)

ongoing investigation  
would compromise the ~

ongoing mission  
we don't comment on ~s (military)

ongoing (contract) negotiations  
~ (pilots union)

ongoing plot  
forcing terrorists to betray the details of ~s

ongoing (management) problems  
the ~

ongoing process  
this is going to be an ~

ongoing studies  
a number of recent and ~

ongoing theft  
the ~ of intellectual property

ongoing violence  
against a backdrop of ~ (Middle East)

ongoing work  
researchers and their ~

ongoing love-hate relationship  
the ~ between...

**condition & status: movement**

**starting, going, continuing & ending / time: movement**

## onion (noun)

layer of the onion  
you notice that for every ~ there's another underneath it

peel back the onion  
what you learn when you begin to ~ (murder)

peels back yet another layer  
a revealing new interview ~ (a politician)

♦ “It's surprising, and shocking, what you learn when you begin to peel back the onion.” (Dateline NBC, “Horror at the Lake.”)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: fruits & vegetables**

## onrushing (future, etc.)

onrushing days  
the ~ ahead (a bus journey)

onrushing future  
the ways in which the ~ impacts the solidity of the past  
he is carried into an ~ he is unprepared to face (train trip)

onrushing (midterm campaign) season  
the public's apprehension about war and the ~ (politics)

onrushing spring  
the full power of the ~ is upon us

♦ Onrushing animals (a hippo), cars, force (of the beat), people (goalie, mob), trains, tsunami, water (hurricane)...

**time: speed**

**future / time: direction / movement**

## onslaught (noun)

onslaught  
another ~ floored Pulev in the ninth (boxing)

onslaught of criticism  
Twitter changed its policy after an ~

onslaught of events  
the idea went quickly by the wayside by the ~

onslaught of globalization  
many countries resist the ~

under the onslaught  
Saudi Arabia melted ~, as Germany... (soccer)

**amount & effect / force: military**

## onwards (from a time onwards)

from 1800 onwards  
and so from ~...

from 1740 onwards  
people were experimenting with spinning machines ~

**time / starting, going, continuing & ending: movement**

## ooze (verb)

oozed confidence  
he was relaxed and ~ (Carlo Ancelotti)

oozes tradition and swagger  
the team ~ (Alabama football)

**leaking: verb / water**

## opacity (noun)

opacity of (Lanier's) criticism  
the ~ may account for...

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: light & dark  
comprehension & incomprehension: light & dark**

## opaque (adjective)

opaque  
it's really very ~ what is happening (revolution)

opaque world  
he offers insights into the often ~ of finance

often opaque  
he offers insights into the ~ world of finance

turned opaque  
the seeming transparency ~ (old allegation of rape)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: light & dark**

**consciousness & awareness: light & dark  
comprehension & incomprehension: light & dark**

## open (honest)

open about her mental health journey  
she has always been so ~

**concealment & lack of concealment / feeling, emotion & effect / mental health / sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: container**

## open (after lockdown, etc.)

open up  
the states are starting to ~ (after pandemic lockdowns)

reopen  
the border will ~ after a thaw in relations (Burma / Thailand)

reopens for business  
as America ~ (pandemic lockdown relaxation)

**amelioration & renewal: doors & thresholds**

## open (open marriage, etc.)

open marriage  
they had an ~

**constraint & lack of constraint: boundary**

## open (in the open / into the open)

into the open  
she has brought the issue ~  
describe your thoughts, get them out ~, you'll feel better

out in the open  
mudslinging between church factions is being waged ~

broke out into the open  
the anger ~ for the whole world to see (pedophilia)  
the cyberconflict ~ (SolarWinds Hack)

brought it out into the open  
the testimonies have really ~ (sexual assault)

came into the open  
all of these things ~ (vicious election debate)

get the feelings (we have about war) out into the open  
artists can ~ (Margaret MacMillan, Reith Lectures)

♦ The story is out there, in the open.

**consciousness & awareness: ground, terrain & land  
concealment & lack of concealment: ground, terrain & land**

## open-and-shut

open-and-shut case  
it wasn't an ~  
it should have been an ~

**certainty & uncertainty: books & reading**

## open-minded (adjective)

open-minded

“I’m ~,” he said softly  
people are more ~ now (race)  
my neighbors are very ~  
we should be more ~  
he had tried to be ~

genuinely open-minded  
Joe Rogan is a ~ host who seeks out all sorts of opinions

extroverted, unpretentious and open-minded  
Tijuana citizens have acquired a reputation for being ~

youthful, open-minded  
he has made a name for himself as a ~ reformer (MBS)

♦ “A person can be so open-minded that his brains fall out.” (A critic, speaking of Thabo Mbeki’s willingness to accept any argument against giving antiretrovirals to South African H.I.V. sufferers.)

**constraint & lack of constraint: container**

## openness (noun)

intellectual openness  
ideological narrowness is a threat to ~

**constraint & lack of constraint: container**

## open up (emotions, speech, etc.)

open up  
we are asking them to ~ all over again (crime podcast)

opened up about her mother  
she finally ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: container / verb**

**speech: container / verb**

## open up (access)

open up the sportscasting world  
~ for women

**access & lack of access: container / verb**

## open up (consciousness)

opened up to me  
a new world ~ (a website)

**consciousness & awareness / mind: doors & thresholds / verb**

## opera (noun)

opera of screeches, shrieks and squawks  
a riotous ~ (tropical birds)

**resemblance / sound: music**

## operatic (adjective)

operatic, dramatic  
his end was pretty ~ (Mussolini and his mistress)

♦ “It’s pretty operatic, it’s pretty dramatic, he was killed on the shores of Lake Cuomo by Communist partisans, with his mistress, Clara Petacci, and dumped in the middle of Piazzale Loreto, in Milan...” (Professor John Foot of Bristol University on the last days of Mussolini, from BBC’s “Great Lives: Mussolini,” nominated by the historian Margaret MacMillan, professor at the University of Oxford, 2018 Reith lecturer, and most recently the author of *War: How Conflict Shaped Us*.)

♦ “Opera has been making art from death for more than four centuries.”

**feeling, emotion & effect: theater**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## opiate (noun)

opiate of the people  
sports, not religion, is the ~

♦ “Dopiate of the Masses.” (A letter in response to “Elixir of Life,” which is about coffee.)

**consciousness & awareness: addiction / health & medicine**

## opium (noun)

opium of the camps  
rumours were the ~ (comforting but false)

opium of optimism  
what saves people then is the ~

♦ “Import of the narcotic (opium) had been made illegal by imperial edict in 1800. Nonetheless, because it was one of the few items for which Western merchants could find a Chinese market, the quantity sent to China from India and Turkey grew steadily... / [T]he Chinese government took a decisive step to end the opium trade early in 1839 by appointing Lin Tse Hsu high commissioner for the Canton region with especial powers to suppress smuggling of the drug. Lin proceeded quickly and effectively by demanding that all opium be surrendered immediately, enforcing his demand by stopping trade, ordering Chinese servants to leave the factories, and detaining sixteen foreign merchants as hostages. Meanwhile, the factories were virtually besieged by thousands of Chinese... / Hong Kong was ceded to Britain outright, and five so-called treaty ports—Canton, Amoy, Foochow, Ningpo, and Shanghai—were opened to British trade. / [Commodore Lawrence Kearny] practiced ‘jackal diplomacy’ to the extent that he requested for his nation a share of the spoils won by the British lion in combat... Kearny had the intelligence to grasp opportunities—he did not create them.” (The Anglo-Chinese conflict popularly known as the Opium War, and the Treaty of Nanking. From *Far China Station: The U.S. Navy In Asian Waters 1800-1898* by Robert Erwin Johnson.)

♦ “Mexico claims proof of Chinese fentanyl smuggling,” the BBC News, Latin America, April 6, 2023.

**consciousness & awareness / fantasy & reality: addiction / health & medicine**

## optics (noun)

optics  
the ~ look bad (politics)  
the ~ are just awful (a newspaper story)

optics of rapprochement  
Kim’s letter played a part in the ~ (Korean leader)

optics of a response  
the ~ like that would be devastating here (protesters)

confrontational optics  
allies might be turned off by the ~ of a street protest

branding and optics  
they’ve spun up an image, it’s just ~ (Silicon Valley)

separate the optics from substance  
we need to ~ (COP26)

♦ “Performative allyship, also known as *optical allyship*...”

♦ “It’s not the optics that are not good, it’s the facts that are not good.” (Colorado Republican Congressman Mike Coffman about an ethics issue.)

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye / tools & technology**

## option (nuclear option)

nuclear option

threatening Medicare funding is the ~ (compliance)

nuclear option for a state

this is the ~ (opting out of federal Medicaid)

considered the “nuclear option”

the move was always ~ (Commerce Dept’s entry list)

employ the nuclear option

employers may be forced to ~ (drop health coverage)

oppose the nuclear option

I oppose the ~ (changing rules in Congress)

opposes the (so-called) nuclear option

he ~ (withdrawal of US from Afghanistan)

♦ “a protection order is the nuclear weapon of divorce to give women an advantage” (An online commenter.)

♦ “Library funding becomes the ‘nuclear option’ as the battle over books escalates.” (U.S. culture wars.)

♦ “Dear God.... If I lose one of my cats to my neighbor’s pit [bull dog], it’s unstoppable immediate scorched earth, full nuclear option response, and they know it.” (A response by “Phoebe Darling” to an article about yet another pit bull mauling.)

**alternatives & choices / coercion & motivation / punishment & recrimination: nuclear energy**

## oracle (person)

oracle of Silicon Valley

he has been nicknamed the ~

oracle on Polar matters

Nansen was by then the undisputed ~

oracle of public taste

marketing experts regarded him as an ~ (Calvin Klein)

♦ The Delphic Oracle was an important priestess in ancient Greece.

**person: religion**

**future / message / time: person / religion**

## oracle (Oracle Corporation, etc.)

Oracle Corporation

the American multinational ~

**proper name: religion**

## orbit (noun)

Trump orbit

he never lost touch, that often happens in ~

campaign orbit

three people in the ~ have tested positive for coronavirus

China’s orbit

Thailand has moved firmly into ~

Moscow’s orbit

once in ~, Moldova has been tilting towards the West

in his orbit

the investigation will look at people ~ (politics)

suspicions are swirling around people ~ (sex trafficker)

he fooled all of those ~ (Jeffrey Epstein)

in his inner orbit

and now that major shakeup ~ (politician’s top aid resigns)

within his orbit

he engaged the respect and affection of all ~

entered the Trump orbit

she first ~ during the campaign

brought him into the orbit

Juilliard ~ of Wynton Marsalis (Lawrence Leathers)

come into Marilyn Manson’s orbit

how did you first ~ (allegations of abuse)

get out of that orbit

he tried to ~, but his dad pulled him back (Charles Koch)

leaving Larry’s orbit

just as Daniel was ~, others were being drawn in (cult)

kept Greece out of the Communist orbit

the US had ~ (after WWII)

**movement: astronomy**

**attraction & repulsion / bases / configuration / division & connection / relationship: astronomy / movement**

## orchestra (as verb)

to orchestra

what it is ~—the verb—as a Black person...

♦ “[We want to be] an advocacy group, a group to speak to the experience of what it is to orchestra—the verb—as a Black person, and how to support that in all of the places that it’s happening, not just professional ranks.” (Alex Laing about the Black Orchestral Network.)

**inclusion & exclusion: part of speech**

## orchestrate (verb)

orchestrated the assassination

no one knows who ~

orchestrated attacks

he has ~, bombings, kidnappings and beheadings

orchestrate a coverup

they tried to ~

orchestrating the game

Luka Modric is ~, he will control it (World Cup soccer)

orchestrated a hoax

he may have ~ (false hate-crime allegation)

orchestrated the whole thing

it’s quite obvious he ~ (*The Power of the Dog*)

**directing: music / verb**

## orchestrated

orchestrated to blame

he was the victim of a political hit job, ~ China

orchestrated campaign

Muslims fear they are the target of an ~ (religion)

orchestrated leaks

~ from the White House have exposed rifts

**directing: music**

## orchid (character)

orchid children

“~” are more sensitive and biologically reactive

orchid or a dandelion

is your child an ~

♦ Terms with similar meanings are *teacup* and *snowflake*. In the old days, such people were compared to plants: a *shrinking violet*; a *pansy*; a *wallflower*.

**character & personality: person / plant**

**resiliency / strength & weakness: person / plant**

## order (get something in order, etc.)

get your house in order

you must ~

get our (fiscal) house in order

we must ~ (debt)

put his life (back) in order

he saw Islam as a way to ~

**amelioration & renewal: hygiene**

## organ (of government, etc.)

organs of law and authority

drug money swept away the flimsy ~ (Colombia)

♦ Justin Chang is a wonderful movie reviewer, and the language he uses is always interesting. In his review of the film *Crimes of the Future*, he uses the following words figuratively: *cut* (v), *heart*, *scalpel*, *visceral*, *anesthetizing*, *mutate*, *sprout* (v), *clinical*, *reshape* (v), *body and soul*, and *organ*. Of course, they all have their *literal* analogues in the gory film! (“Crimes of the Future” is a dystopian thriller that cuts to the heart,” Justin Chang, NPR, Fresh Air, June 3, 2022.)

**operation: government / mechanism**

## orgy (noun)

orgy of demolition

ISIS destroyed the ancient theater in an ~ (Syria)

orgy of patriotic fervour

Norway erupted in an ~ (Nansen, Johansen return safe)

orgy of looting

an ~ followed the collapse of Saddam's regime

orgy of violence

the film re-creates the ~ (Richard Farley case)

orgy of (sectarian) violence

they were the victims of an ~ (Yazidis in Iraq)

**restraint & lack of restraint: sex**

## original sin (groups)

original sin of this country

slavery is the ~

♦ “The way we talk about white privilege is eerily consonant with the way one talks about original sin.” (John McWhorter, author of *Woke Racism: How a New Religion Has Betrayed Black America*.)

**inclusion & exclusion: judgment**

## original sin (other)

original sin

the ~ was what happened in 1953 (Iran-US relations)

torture is the ~ that creates these problems (Guantanamo)

original sin of the Afghan war

the ~ was the failure of American political institutions to...

euro's original sin

perhaps this was the ~ (no penalty for breaking rules)

Roberts' original sin

for conservatives, ~ was his vote... (Supreme Court)

**fate, fortune & chance / origin / punishment & recrimination: religion**

## orphan (noun)

orphan

the issue is an ~

orphans of extinction

endangered plants known by botanists as ~ (baobabs, etc.)

orphan in the world of learning

geography was an ~ (Middle Ages)

“orphan” academies

the school has been caught in the twilight zone of ~

orphan diseases

incentives to develop orphan drugs for ~

orphan drugs

incentives for companies to develop “~”

orphan films

old ~ can be preserved by archivists (copyright issues)

orphan wells

these “~” often sit on farmland (bankrupt oil firms)

♦ Orphan drugs treat rare diseases affecting fewer than 200,000 people.

**division & connection / person / relationship: family**

## orphaned

inactive, abandoned, or orphaned

at least 167,000 wells are ~ (oil)

**division & connection / relationship: family**

## orthodox (adjective)

orthodox conservative

he is the most ~ in the race (politics)

orthodox (Republican) ideas  
~ for boosting business

orthodox (Republican-Democratic) race  
that will be a completely ~

completely orthodox  
Republicans are going to run a ~ race

more orthodox  
even if he becomes a ~ Republican (politics)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## orthodoxy (noun)

orthodoxy of the past  
they're trying to break with the ~ (foreign policy)

orthodoxy at NPR  
the ~ (journalist Juan Williams)

language orthodoxy  
"cancel culture" and "~"

Democratic orthodoxy  
he has broken sometimes with ~ (Bill Daley / business)

Republican orthodoxy  
~ promotes low tax rates and limited government

heresies against Tea Party orthodoxy  
I'd committed various ~ (a Republican politician)

citadels of orthodoxy  
this was only one of Valla's attacks on ~

departure from (Republican) orthodoxy  
that's a ~

break with (Democratic) orthodoxy  
Sanders doesn't represent as big a ~ (politics)

agree with (Republican political) orthodoxy  
she doesn't always ~

questioned (Republican) orthodoxy  
he was accused of being a "liberal" when he ~ (politics)

♦ Type in "Republican orthodoxy" at NPR and you get 48 results (and counting). Do that same for "Democratic orthodoxy" and you get 8 results (and counting).

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## Orwell

Orwell's 1984  
and just like that, we are one step closer to ~, wow...

♦ As W.H. Auden acknowledged, Orwell gave us the terminology to talk about totalitarian society: *1984*; *doublethink*; *Big Brother*. Those allusions to his work are used to this day.

♦ Doublethink; memory hole; unperson; thoughtcrime; Newspeak; Thought Police; Room 101; Big Brother; the Ministry of Truth... (Language from *1984* that is a part of our language.)

♦ "There's a little Philip K. Dick, a little Orwell, a little Kafka in her portrait of powerful bureaucracies ceding control of the most intimate decisions of our lives to hyperempowered computer models riddled with all of our unresolved, atavistic human biases." (A blurb from the *Paris Review* for *Weapons of Math Destruction* by Cathy O'Neil. Everyone should read it.)

♦ "The Ministry of Truth is Facebook, Google, and cable news. We have met Big Brother and he is us." ("Doublethink Is Stronger Than Orwell Imagined: What *1984* means today" by George Packer, *The Atlantic*, July 2019 Issue.)

♦ "In Moulmein, in Lower Burma, I was hated by large numbers of people—the only time in my life that I have been important enough for this to happen to me. I was sub-divisional police officer of the town..." (The opening lines of "Shooting an Elephant" by George Orwell.)

♦ "My wound was not much, but it was a miracle it did not kill me. The bullet went clean through my neck but missed everything except one vocal cord, or rather the nerve governing it, which is paralysed. At first I had no voice at all but now the other vocal cord is compensating and the damaged one may or may not recover. My voice is practically normal but I can't shout to any extent. I also can't sing, but people tell me this doesn't matter. I am rather glad to have been hit by a bullet because I think it will happen to us all in the near future..." (Letter to Rayner Heppenstall, 31 July 1937.)

**oppression: allusion**

**allusion: books & reading**

## Orwellian (adjective)

Orwellian  
this is ~, it's a Ministry of Truth (politics)

Orwellian agency  
the futility of fighting an ~ with an obvious vendetta

Orwellian authoritarianism  
in one view of the future, an ~ prevails

Orwellian dystopia  
*Children of Men*, an ~ (the film)  
an ~ need not be our collective future

Orwellian indoctrination program  
this rather ~ (*White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo)

Orwellian dystopic society  
cancel culture is leading us to an ~

Orwellian (surveillance) system  
exporting such an ~ to other countries

Orwellian name changing  
the road had been renamed in a frenzy of ~ (WWII)

called mandatory vaccination "Orwellian"  
she ~ (a political candidate)

**oppression: allusion**

**allusion: books & reading**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## Oscars (Oscars of surfing, etc.)

Oscars of fashion  
the "~" is no longer what it once was (the Met Gala)

Oscars of surfing  
the Billabong Big Waves Awards are the "~"

French Oscars  
'~' ban anyone accused of sex assault (Cesar film awards)

**achievement, recognition & praise: epithet / film**

**superlative: epithet / film**

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## oscillate (verb)

oscillated between chaos and weakness

Biden's foreign policy has ~

**reversal: direction / movement / pendulum / verb**

**movement: direction / verb**

## ostracized (society)

socially ostracized

if you're truthful, you'll be ~

**acceptance & rejection: society**

## other (the other, etc.)

“the other”

she has had to balance feeling like ~ in her sport (biracial)

the ultimate ‘other’

AA/PI have been so frequently treated as ~

ethnically other

they are ~ and working class (a group of voters / politics)

uncivilized, gendered, and racialized Other

the superstitious, ~

status as “other”

our marginality and ~ (Black Catholic women in the US)

♦ “What has to be done is conversation, it's meeting the other.” (A Jewish rabbi about a Black NBA player.)

♦ “The danger is getting into a kind of ‘oppression olympics’ where...”

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## other (verb / groups, etc.)

othered us

this industry has continuously ~ (women in hip-hop)

“other” and demonize

celebrating a thin white body as the ideal is a way to ~ us

♦ “The thin ideal is definitely a white ideal... So celebrating a thin white body as the ideal body is a way to ‘other’ and demonize Black and brown bodies, bigger bodies, anyone who doesn't fit into that norm. So this is really about maintaining systems of white supremacy and patriarchy...” (Journalist Virginia Sole-Smith. Interview highlights. From “Diet culture can hurt kids. This author advises parents to reclaim the word ‘fat,’” NPR, Fresh Air (Tonya Mosley), April 25, 2023.)

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection / verb**

## othered

othered by how I sound

being ~ is something I always have to be aware of

othered by the world

feeling ~ but still being here (autistic and agender)

othered or erased

they are often ~ in mainstream imaginings (Black voters)

othered, objectified, or exoticized and coerced

these local women were often ~ (Rafia Zakaria)

excluded (from womanhood) and being othered

they are being ~ (“trans women are trans women”)

♦ “There's something about having a place on the spectrum and feeling othered by the world but still just being here, no matter what, that really just like over the years kinda strengthens your skin.” (“Transgender and non-binary people are up to six times more likely to also have autism” by Lesley McClurg, NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, January 15, 2023.)

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## othering

othering of the Asian American

the ~ to always be the untrustworthy foreigner...

Othering & Belonging

the ~ at the University of California, Berkeley

♦ “The opposite of Othering is not ‘saming,’ it is belonging.” (John A. Powell of the Othering & Belonging Institute at the University of California, Berkeley.)

♦ “Appreciate it's hard to find new words to describe Haaland but I'm getting a bit sick of some of the terminology used—cyborg, yeti, robot, alien, etc. / Stop ‘othering’ the young guy...” (A online commenter on Manchester City 6-0 Burnley, during which Erling Haaland scored a hat trick and was substituted early. Another commenter posted, “He has more hat tricks than a magician who specializes in tricks using hats.”)

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## otherism (noun)

fear and otherism

taking a stand against the politics of ~

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## otherize (groups)

otherize one another

CRT causes members of the military to ~

otherize the person

we tend to really ~ (shame her for ethical slip)

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection / verb**

## otherness (noun)

otherness to Dutton's whiteness

he is ‘an ~’ (Kathryn VanArendonk / *Yellowstone*)

aware of otherness

he's now acutely ~...

♦ “For Anders, although his newly brown skin is a constant physical reminder that he's no longer who he used to be, the greatest change may be in his psyche. He's now acutely aware of otherness and being observed, how he moves in the world and how he takes up space. When he returns to work...he's both drawn to and repulsed by the only other dark-skinned employee, who, unlike him, has always known what it's like to be treated as both invisible and hypervisible.” (Cady Lang's *Time* review of *The Last White Man* by Mohsin Hamid, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Exit West*. This paragraph deftly weaves together several tropes relating to inclusion and exclusion.)

♦ “Fortunately for me, I found my own sense of otherness.” (J.K. Rowland, author.)

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## ounce (amount)

ounce of prevention

an ~ is worth a pound of cure

ounce of truth

there's not an ~ in anything he says

amount: weight

## oust (verb)

ousted her

they ~ in a boardroom coup

dismissal, removal & resignation: government / verb

## ousted (removed)

ousted in April

he was ~ and filed a whistleblower's complaint

dismissal, removal & resignation: government

## out (leave somebody an out, etc.)

left an out for Iran

he has ~

pursuit, capture & escape: hunting

## out (nerd out, etc.)

geek out

science-loving teens from Ghana and D.C. ~ together

nerding out

stories that you're like ~ about (NPR's Jasmine Garsd)

rock out

even when we chill, we ~, join us (Alt. Latino)

Saudi women ~ (according to Kelly McEvers)

80-year-olds ~ (World Café / Yeah, sure...)

contempo-speak: prep, adv, adj, particle

## out (exclusion)

out

they voted him ~

acceptance & rejection: container / prep, adv, adj, particle

## out (gay)

out and proud

I'm very ~ (Megan Rapinoc)

NBC Out

~ showcases stories and videos of interest to...

not out

there were plenty of other women who were gay but ~

♦ "I was just like so amazed, like, damn, this boy really don't care, like he really *out* in public, with makeup, lashes, beard...Like I was still kinda you know...I'm doing the same thing, but I'm not as open." (Mitch Copeland about Saucy Santana.)

♦ "Soccer star Megan Rapinoc receives Presidential Medal of Freedom"; Texas trans activist, 11, flees the state after years of advocacy"; "The Crown' star Emma Corrin: 'Gender just isn't something that feels fixed'"; "16 LGBTQ art shows that keep the summer Pride vibe flowing"... (NBC Out, which "showcases feature stories, original videos and other unique content about, and of interest to, the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community.")

concealment & lack of concealment: container / prep, adv, adj, particle

## out (outpace, etc.)

outdueled

see *outdueled*

outgunned

see *outgunned*

outpace

see *outpace (verb)*

outrun

see *outrun (verb)*

outshine

see *outshine (verb)*

outworked and outthought

she ~ male rivals (Pelosi)

superiority & inferiority: affix

## out (fashion)

out this year

short skirts are ~

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle

## out (want out)

wanted out

she ~ (of a marriage)

avoidance & separation / situation: container / verb  
allegiance, support & betrayal: container / prep, adv, adj, particle

## out (reveal)

outed himself (over the weekend) as the owner

he ~ of the Twitter handle... (politician)

out anyone

I don't want to ~, but... (blacks who get black dialect wrong)

concealment & lack of concealment: container / verb

## out (all out, etc.)

all out

Lizzo wears a leotard, she's twerking, she's ~ (compliment)

commitment & determination: container / prep, adv, adj, particle

## outbreak (noun)

earthquake outbreak

is fracking behind Oklahoma's ~ (record number)

tornado outbreak

~ hits the South (30 tornadoes)

typhus outbreak

the ~

occurrence: pursuit, capture & escape

## outburst (noun)

outburst of Iraqi anti-Americanism  
the US airstrike resulted in an ~

emotional outbursts  
there was a rational foundation for these ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: explosion**

## outcast (person)

outcast Hollywood rebel  
he was the ~ (film director Nicholas Ray)

outcast and non-conforming  
Ibiza has long been an island for the ~

social outcast  
he is a ~

outcast, and (sexual) rebel  
the young mistress of H. G. Wells, social ~ (Rebecca West)

grew up as an outcast  
he ~ (his father was hanged for murder)

**society: person / throwing, putting & planting**

**person: society**

**acceptance & rejection / dismissal, removal & resignation:  
person / society / throwing, putting & planting**

## outcome (noun)

outcome  
there was not much doubt about what the ~ would be

realistic outcomes  
when scientists run simulations, they must get ~

**product / relationship: movement**

## outcrop (and outcropping)

outcrop of a (heated) back-and-forth  
the insults were an ~ between the two candidates

outcrops of simplicity  
~ can appear in the worst writing (Orwell)

outcropping from other initiatives  
the new character is a natural ~ (the Julia Muppet)

natural outcrop  
this is simply the ~ of her company's success (complaints)

**bases / occurrence: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills**

## outcry (noun)

outcry  
of course there's going to be an ~ (sportswashing)

sparked an outcry  
his remarks ~ (about racism)

**conflict / resistance, opposition & defeat: sound**

**feeling, emotion & effect: sound**

## outdated (adjective)

outdated argument  
it's an ~ (that women's boxing is inferior)

outdated (and environmentally irresponsible) totems  
big dams are seen as ~, wasteful symbols of pride...

received and outdated  
Nansen did his best to overcome Scott's ~ opinions

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**

**past & present / time: day**

## outdueled

outdueled by Manning  
Romo was ~ (two football quarterbacks)

**conflict: weapon**

## outed (concealment)

outed and shamed  
I hope she's ~ (gold digger accuses athlete)

**concealment & lack of concealment: container**

## outfox (verb)

outfoxed his (political) opponents  
he ~

**behavior / subterfuge: animal / fox / verb**

## outgunned

outgunned and undermanned  
federal antitrust authorities are ~

outgunned, outspent, out-liked  
we're going to be ~ (election)

**strength & weakness: military / weapon**

**conflict: military / weapon**

**superiority & inferiority: military / weapon**

**competition: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## outlet (noun)

outlet for (public) criticism  
the majlis provides an ~ (Saudi Arabia)

outlet for their frustrations  
people need an ~ (Baghdad gyms)

outlet for her grief  
talking about it gave her an ~ (son lost on 9/11)

outlet or hobby  
a creative ~ that fosters a sense of achievement (coping)

creative outlet  
a ~ can do a lot to relieve stress

give people an outlet  
the media ~ (TV and radio in Afghanistan)

**mental health: pressure / water**

**amelioration & renewal / constraint & lack of constraint: infrastructure / movement / pressure / water**

## **overflow (verb)**

overflow

English prisons began to ~ (too many prisoners)

♦ "As soon as the American outlet was stopped up, English prisons began to overflow." (*The Fatal Shore: The Epic of Australia's Founding* by Robert Hughes.)

**movement: water**

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: movement / water**

## **outlier (noun)**

outlier

when it comes to free speech, the US is the ~ (too free)

outlier case

why is an ~ like this getting so much oxygen (hate crime)

outliers out there

there are ~ that are preaching nonsense (vaccines)

**society: center & periphery**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: center & periphery**

## **outpace (verb)**

outpacing the ability

technology is ~ of governments to keep up

outpaced decision-making

clearly, events have ~ (Afghanistan 2021)

**competition: verb / walking, running & jumping**

**superiority & inferiority: verb / walking, running & jumping**

## **outpost (noun)**

outposts at US universities

the language centers provide China with ~

**presence & absence: military**

**survival, persistence & endurance: military**

## **outpouring**

outpouring of aid

the disaster prompted an ~

outpouring of generosity

the ~ has slowed to a trickle (aid)

outpouring of good neighborliness

this ~ went beyond delivering meals (Irish / pandemic)

outpouring of (new) poems

in his 60s the floodgates opened with an ~ (Geoffrey Hill)

outpouring of sympathy

there has been a tremendous ~ from so many...

outpouring of (both) praise and outrage

her film has drawn an ~

tremendous outpouring

there has been a ~ from so many of you

**amount & effect / constraint & lack of constraint / movement: water**

## **outrider (noun)**

hedonistic outriders

he had contempt for modernity and its ~

♦ "The Conservative party and its media outriders have overreached themselves." (The Lineker affair.)

**driving force: horse**

## **outrun (verb)**

outrunning our ability

the virus is ~ to counter it

**competition: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle / sports & games / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## **outset (from the outset)**

from the outset

she had wanted a different approach ~

**starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips**

## **outset (at the outset of 2020, etc.)**

at the outset of 2020

~, we look back on...

**time: journeys & trips**

## **outset (at the outset / career, etc.)**

at the outset of her (newspaper) career

she covered right-wing movements ~ (journalist)

at the outset of the investigation

we said ~ that if the facts and the law...

**starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips**

## **outshine (verb)**

outshines us in health care

Canada clearly ~

outshine the main act

sometimes an opening act will ~ (concerts)

outshine the competition

he continues to ~

outshone everyone else

she ~ onstage (ballet)

outshone his rivals

during the financial crisis, he ~ (a C.E.O.)

he ~ in the first debate (a politician)

**competition: light & dark / prep, adv, adj, particle**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / competition / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence / superiority & inferiority: astronomy / light & dark / verb**

## **outside (outside world, etc.)**

outside world

to the ~, India's riches were always the stuff of legends

**center & periphery: earth & world / container / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## outside (perspective)

from the outside

it's easy to criticize ~ (Afghan withdrawal)

**perception, perspective & point of view: center & periphery / container / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## outsider (person)

outsider

Trump won because he was an ~

they are ~s banging on the doors of city government

byzantine regulations are hard for the ~ to navigate (Egypt)

outsiders to the world

~ of money soon notice... (finance)

outsider art

he is well known to fans of ~

outsider perspective

a fresh, ~ on US politics (*The Guardian*)

outsider's view

an ~

Washington outsider

he is a ~ facing down entrenched insiders

straight-talking outsider

he was a ~

political outsider

he presents himself as a ~ who will not represent K Street

he was a ~ (independent politician Ross Perot)

he is a ~, who wants to change the way Washington works

they are ~s (Petro vs Hernandez / Colombia)

rebellious outsider

he is a ~

weird outsider

he is the ~ who becomes influential (scientist)

buccaneers, outsiders, (political) pirates

they want to be seen as ~ (opposition researchers)

remained an outsider

in China, she ~ (a young woman from Kuytun)

♦ The Japanese refer to foreigners as *gaijin*, literally, "outsider."

♦ "We don't mind people settlin' in the area. Just don't put your house on a ridgetop so you can look down on us, and don't tell us how you did it back home." (A Southern Appalachians woman.)

♦ "Dude should have looked into living there a little better before stepping on locals' toes like that, especially if he took his family—he owed it to them to look out for their welfare..." (A commenter on the article "2 Hawaiian men found guilty of hate crime for attacking white homeowner" by Michelle De Pacina, Yahoo / NextShark, November 21, 2022.)

**person: society**

**power / society: center & periphery / person**

## outweigh (power)

outweigh us in every department

they ~ (war)

**competition: prep, adv, adj, particle**

**power: weight / verb**

**superiority & inferiority: verb / weight**

## outweigh (cost and benefit)

outweighed the bad

the good ~ (in a relationship)

outweigh the deeds

the acts of a few should not ~ of the many (war)

outweigh the risks

the drug is usually safe but benefits must ~

**cost & benefit: scale / weight / verb**

## oven (the Oven, etc.)

Gladiator School, Torture island, the Oven

nicknames included ~ (Rikers Island jail)

♦ Rikers Island jail is nicknamed the Oven because it gets so hot in the summer due to its concrete floors and steel doors.

**epithet: container / fire / heating water / temperature**

**environment: container / fire / manufacturing / temperature**

## over (dominance)

over me

I don't want nobody ~

has an advantage over her

he ~ (politics)

**dominance & submission / hierarchy / superiority &**

**inferiority: position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## over (finished)

over

class was finally ~

the Gilded Age of rock journalism is ~

this won't be ~ anytime soon

the duck face days are ~ (selfie pose)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence / starting, going,**

**continuing & ending: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## over (overshare, etc.)

"over-believes"

it is clear that everybody ~ in recycling

over-celebrated

Arsenal ~ their win over Fulham, critics say

over-charged

the state ~ the case from the beginning (Kyle Rittenhouse)

overdeliver

hopefully, the storm will underdeliver, but it could ~

underpromise, ~ (advice)

overplayed  
they ~ their hand (Google versus EU)

overpromise  
of course he overpromised, all candidates ~ (politics)

overpromised  
Elizabeth Holmes and her company had ~ (Theranos)

overshare  
celebrities routinely ~ on social media

overstretches  
the US ~ the concept of national security

over-thanked  
Maddie ~ the handsome waiter

overpolicing  
the imbalance of ~ and underprotecting (groups)

over-promising  
in Silicon Valley ~, ~ your product isn't unusual

overpromising  
such ~ became a defining feature of Silicon Valley

overthinking  
they may be ~ certain things (too sensitive)

over-promising and under-delivering  
the government blames the industry for ~ (air travel)

over-policed  
what do you mean, ~, and what does that look like  
the community felt ~ yet underserved (Baltimore)  
so, we're ~ and under-resourced (a black woman)  
it's militarized, ~, enslaved (Jackson, MS Capitol)

Over-policed  
Black, Brown and ~ in L.A. Schools (a report)

over-served  
I was ~ at the bar...  
he was ~ (Who's To Blame When You Get Drunk)

oversexed  
a world flooded with ~ modern pop  
the Booty Kings' ~ appeals to women in the club

overpaid, overrated, overhyped  
he is ~ (criticism of a soccer player)

over-sexualization  
she's faced body-shaming and ~ (actress Sydney Sweeney)

♦ "The state over-charged the case from the beginning...to find him guilty of something." (The Kyle Rittenhouse case.)

♦ "I feel like it's militarized, right, over-policed, enslaved—militia... This is a thing of, 'Black folks can't govern. Black leaders can't govern.' So we'll show you how to run, how to move, how to talk..." (A Jackson, Mississippi resident about the Capitol Police and their jurisdiction in her city. The mayor of Jackson likens the control zone to apartheid.)

♦ "City officials are working to combat 'overtourism.'" (The Red Light District, Amsterdam.)

♦ "overhyped, overrated and over" (An online commenter about a boxer.)

flaws & lack of flaws: affix / direction  
contempo-speak / language: affix

sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: affix / direction / prep, adv, adj, particle

## overboard (behavior)

a little overboard  
I admit I went ~ (dispute with store manager)

way overboard  
we have gone ~ (incarceration)

behavior / restraint & lack of restraint: affix / boat

## overboard (throw somebody overboard)

threw the commanding officer overboard  
they ~ without a thorough investigation (military)

allegiance, support & betrayal / dismissal, removal & resignation: boat / verb / violence

## overcome (verb)

overcome  
it was a difficult hurdle to ~  
the lure of the north is hard to ~ (migrants)

overcome a broken heart  
you can ~

overcome its (deep-rooted) problems  
the company must ~

overcame a lot of things  
she ~ in her life, but... (died in pandemic)

overcome a confidence-shattering rookie year  
trying to ~ (basketball)

resiliency / resistance, opposition & defeat: verb  
obstacles & impedance: mountains & hills

## overdose (noun)

overdose of history  
as a child I was poisoned by an ~ (Israeli Amos Oz)

sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: addiction / affix / health & medicine

## overdrive (in / into overdrive)

into overdrive  
it sent the village rumour mill ~

gone into overdrive  
in recent years, those efforts have ~

went into overdrive  
my imagination ~

activity: engine / mechanism

## overflowing (adjective)

overflowing inbox  
problems with an ~

movement / sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: water

## overhang (noun)

overhang of criminal prohibition

once we clear away the ~ (therapeutic psychedelics)

♦ "That was full on, scary, hard." (Passing the Bottleneck on K2. It is overhung by enormous seracs which could fall at any time.)

**dominance & submission: mountains & hills**

## overheated (adjective)

become overheated

she advises him not to get so ~ (an advocate)

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature**

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: affix**

## overinflated (adjective)

overinflated reputations

a critic should prick ~ (poetry)

**increase & decrease: air / atmosphere**

**flaws & lack of flaws: air / atmosphere**

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: affix**

## overlapped

overlapped on a number of occasions

our careers and lives ~

**configuration: cloth**

## overload (noun)

overload of choice

there is a cost to having an ~

information overload

"infobesity," or ~

our research team studies ~ (Semantic Scholar)

**flaws & lack of flaws: burden / weight**

**oppression: burden / weight**

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: burden / weight**

## overloaded

overloaded with spices

the sauce was wildly out of balance, ~

overloaded, bogged down

hospitals are ~ (epidemic)

**flaws & lack of flaws: burden / weight**

**oppression: burden / weight**

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: burden / weight**

## overlook (verb)

overlook less techy remedies

we should not ~ for loneliness

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye**

## overlord (person)

conglomerate's IT overlords

the ~ gathered in Maidenhead, England (NotPetya worm)

**power: history / person / royalty**

## overnight

overnight success

she was an ~ (an artist)

the firm wasn't an ~

collapsed overnight

apple sales ~

come about overnight

the recession didn't ~

solved overnight

the problem will not be ~

**speed: day**

## overplay (verb)

overplayed their hand

they ~ (Google versus EU)

**failure, accident & impairment: cards / sports & games / verb**

## overreach (verb)

overreached

BP ~ (and caused an oil-drilling catastrophe)

**behavior / constraint & lack of constraint / restraint & lack**

**of restraint: affix / arm / boundary / distance / verb**

## overreach (noun)

overreach of his power

this is an ~ (mask mandate / pandemic)

big technology's overreach

~, this unchecked power, is equally frightening

constitutional overreach

this monumental act of ~ (US Prohibition)

**behavior: arm / boundary / distance**

**restraint & lack of restraint: arm / boundary / distance**

**constraint & lack of constraint: arm / boundary / distance**

## overrun (verb)

overrunning the region

tourists are ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military / verb**

## overrun (overwhelmed)

overrun

we must avoid the risk of hospitals being ~ (pandemic)

overrun with calls

911 dispatchers were soon ~

overrun with requests

staff are being ~ for information

overrun by otters

the state has been ~ (Illinois)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military**

## overshadow (verb)

overshadowed the race  
the tragedy ~ (fatality)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / competition / primacy,  
currency, decline & obsolescence / superiority & inferiority:  
light & dark / shadow / verb**

## overstep (verb)

overstepped his authority  
a judge ruled the health commissioner ~

overstep his boundaries  
a journalist should not ~

overstepped his bounds  
he's a creep who ~ (gossip)

overstepping their bounds  
Homeowner's Associations are ~

overstepped a line  
he felt she had ~  
the covert operation probably ~

overstepped the line  
most priests are not predators, but some have ~ (sex)

overstepped his (electoral) mandate  
the governor has ~ (politics)

overstepped his office  
the president has ~ (interfering in local issue)

overstepped its power  
the government has ~

**behavior / constraint & lack of constraint / restraint & lack  
of restraint: boundary / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## overstretch (verb)

overstretches the concept  
the US ~ of national security (criticism by China)

**behavior / constraint & lack of constraint / restraint & lack  
of restraint: arm / boundary / distance / verb**

## over-the-top (adjective)

over-the-top news stories  
most ~ cite anonymous officials (South Korea)

**restraint & lack of restraint: direction**

## overthrow (verb)

overthrew his father  
the emir, Sheik Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, ~

overthrow the government  
he vowed to ~ (Joseph Kony / Uganda)  
its goal is to ~ and install a theocracy (Algeria)

overthrew the government

the military ~ (Fiji / 2006)

vowed to overthrow  
he ~ the government (Joseph Kony / Uganda)

**dismissal, removal & resignation / disruption / primacy,  
currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / equilibrium &  
stability / verb**

## overturn (verb)

overturn the ban  
they will go to court to try and ~  
he is working to ~ (nuclear power / California)  
he led the charge to ~

overturn the (climbing) ban  
the group wants to ~ (Twin Sisters / Idaho)

overturned the conviction  
a French appeals court ~ of six accused of...

overturned (conventional) theories  
he ~ about the origin of autism (Rimland)

overturn his (father's) will  
Leon Hendrix was seeking to ~ and gain control

**dismissal, removal & resignation / disruption / primacy,  
currency, decline & obsolescence / reversal: direction /  
equilibrium & stability / verb**

## overturned

overturned convictions  
unnecessary appeals and ~  
faulty FBI lab work may result in ~s

**dismissal, removal & resignation / disruption / primacy,  
currency, decline & obsolescence / reversal: direction /  
equilibrium & stability**

## overwhelm (as noun)

chaos and overwhelm  
the ~ of it all ("A Letter to College Sports")

multisensory overwhelm  
~ defines her world (every sense always turned on)

♦ People also ask Can Overwhelm be used as a noun? (Google search.)

♦ "The overwhelming overwhelm" by Merrill Perlman is a superb article dealing with cases like these (*Columbia Journalism Review*, June 27, 2017). Perlman includes plenty of examples of usage that include the important collocations and contexts. My "takeaway" (= what I found significant) in her article is this: "Even so, no other major dictionary [other than the OED] includes the noun" and "there's no stopping people who want to improve (or improvise) existing words."

**feeling, emotion & effect: part of speech**

## owe (obligation)

owe people explanations  
you don't ~

owe her everything  
I ~ (my wife, said by a grateful husband)

owe you anything  
the world does not ~

owe you nothing  
your parents ~

owed it to myself  
I ~ to consider the implications...

owe a lot to my parents  
I ~

owe a debt (of gratitude) to my editor  
I ~ (writer / acknowledgments)

owes to Allah  
Hajj is a duty that mankind ~

owe him  
you haven't understood a thing, I ~ (film *Miranda*)

**obligation: money / verb**

## owe (relationship)

owe its existence to fiber optics  
the information superhighway ~

owes its origins to the Phoenicians  
the name Spain (Hispania) ~

owe my (windsurfing) career to him  
I ~ (mentor)

owe a lot to my heritage  
I ~ (Iowa)

**relationship: money / verb**

## own (possess)

owned it  
I accepted my Gemini soul, I ~, in fact I adored it (Kravitz)

owns the past  
who really ~ (looted and smuggled antiquities)

owning her talents  
she is now ~ (victim of sex abuse)

**possession: money / verb**

## own (responsibility)

owns  
she used and sold meth, a mistake she now ~

own some of the decision  
I came to ~ I made, which was hard (a wife)

own the defeat  
he must ~ and be held responsible for it (Labor Party)

owns (a big piece of) the disaster  
I think Biden ~ (Afghanistan withdrawal)

own my mistakes  
I don't hide from anything, I ~ (a thuggish NBA player)

own this

President Biden does not want to ~ (Afghanistan collapse)

♦ She used and sold meth, a *mistake* [italics mine] she now owns. (A MTF / m2f transgender criminal unhappy to be in a prison for males. Brought to you by NPR.)

**responsibility: money / possession / verb**

## own (dominate)

owned the center  
Fury ~ of the ring and dictated the fight (boxing)

"own" Myanmar  
people say China is the "big daddy" and will soon ~

owned the pool  
the US has ~ (at British Olympics)

**dominance & submission: money / verb**

## own (make something one's own)

made it her own  
she ~ (the song "Respect" sung by Aretha)

**possession: money / verb**

## ownership (noun)

ownership and autonomy  
struggle for, occupy, craft, mark space to establish ~

took no ownership  
he ~ of what he's done (criminal case)

♦ "I want them to step up, I want them to take ownership, I want them to explain what went on..." (A grieving mother whose son died at a fraternity hazing ritual that involved alcohol.)

**possession / responsibility: money**

## Oxford (Oxford of China, etc.)

Oxford of China  
Peking University is the ~

Oxford of the East of Europe  
here might be the ~ (Starkie, in 1929, about Cluj)

♦ "He was a paleometeorologist, Dr. Zhu Kezhen, who in 1944 was president of Zhejiang University, called the 'Cambridge of the East.'" (*The Man Who Loved China* by Simon Winchester.)

**knowledge & intelligence: epithet**

## oxygen (fuel)

oxygen  
liberalism is the ~ that his conflagration required (Trump)  
why is an outlier case getting so much ~ (hoax hate crime)

oxygen that fuels  
cryptocurrency like Bitcoin is the ~ this ransomware fire

oxygen for the theory  
the ~ is that...

oxygen for our ambitions  
economic growth is the ~ (Labour Party / 2023)

political oxygen  
underdog candidates gulped much-needed ~ (TV debate)  
with her ~ running out, she heads for the exits (candidate)

the impeachment has been sucking up a lot of the ~  
oxygen has been sucked up  
much of the political ~ by the presidential race (other races)  
provide more oxygen  
if they did that, it would ~ for this controversy (sports)  
give oxygen  
ignoring it will ~ to extremists (ethnic identity of criminals)  
we don't want to ~ to his ideology (suppresses manifesto)  
giving oxygen  
Biden has accused him of ~ to bigotry  
suck up all of the political oxygen  
impeachment going forward is ~ in Congress

♦ "[The government] thought the press was kind of an oxygen and if you choked off the oxygen the confrontation would come to an end. Of course, I don't think that they understood very much about Indian country." (Journalist and filmmaker Kevin McKiernan, about the government's attempts to keep reporters away from the Wounded Knee Uprising in 1973. McKiernan, a rookie reporter at the time, was smuggled onto the reservation by activists.)

♦ The fire triangle is fuel, oxygen and heat. (Wildfires.)

**initiation: air / atmosphere / chemistry / fire**  
**growth & development / increase & decrease: air / atmosphere / chemistry / fire**

## oxygen (life)

oxygen  
for Soviet Russians, his poetry was ~ (Boris Pasternak)  
provide them oxygen  
will prosecution just ~ (of the Oath Keepers group)  
**survival, persistence & endurance: air / breathing**

## P

### Pablo Escobar (of the Middle East, etc.)

"Pablo Escobar of the Middle East"  
Hajji Bashir Noorzai, the ~ (in prison in the US)

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

### pace (at a pace)

at the pace of repairs  
frustrated ~, he traveled to San Jose...

at one's own pace  
and there's more freedom to work ~

at a snail's pace  
moving ~ is the norm above 8,000 meters (climbing)

at their own pace  
the computer program allows students to work ~

at an accelerating pace  
these norms are unraveling ~

at an alarming pace  
but disasters have continued ~ (mine industry)

at an accelerated pace  
lesbian culture evolved ~  
achieving the desired outcome at an ~

at a set pace  
it is not ~ (human growth and development)

at a furious pace  
when national chains were building ~;  
once the snow began, it fell ~

at a glacial pace  
benefits and appeals are decided ~ (veterans)

at a rapid pace  
the polar ice cap will shrink ~ for the next 50 years

at a tolerable pace  
denial allows assimilation of tragic information ~

**speed: foot / walking, running & jumping**

### pace (speed)

pace (of medical research) is glacial  
the ~

dictated the pace  
he has ~ (mixed-martial arts fight)

gathers pace  
as the emergency response ~

♦ "Every word has its own pace." (Peter Sokolowski of Merriam-Webster, answering a question about how long it takes for a word or definition to become recognized.)

**speed: foot / walking, running & jumping**

### pace-setter (noun)

pace-setter  
the US has always wanted to be the ~ (in physics, etc.)

pace setter  
the company is more an efficient imitator than a ~

publishing pacesetter  
the magazine was a ~ of the Internet economy

pathfinders and pacesetters  
jazz venerates its ~ (elders)

**competition / driving force: person / sports & games / walking, running & jumping**

### pacesetting (adjective)

pacesetting bebop pianist  
Tyner was referring to the ~ (Bud Powell)

pacesetting artists  
~ like Samuel Fosso and Pascale Martine Tayou

**competition / driving force: sports & games / walking, running & jumping**

## pack (the Rat Pack, etc.)

### Rat Pack

the ~: Frank, Dean, Sammy, Joey... (see Wikipedia entry)

### Brat Pack

the ~: Demi, Molly, Ally... (See Wikipedia entry)

### Frat Pack

the ~: Jack Black, Owen Wilson... (See Wikipedia entry)

♦ "Christian soon recruited four of his fraternity brothers from Duke... They were later joined by a fifth Duke friend... They rented a house together near the Palo Alto country club and became known inside Theranos as 'the Frat Pack.'" (*Bad Blood* by John Carreyrou. This is a play on the Rat Pack, the Brat Pack, and the Frat Pack.)

**epithet: animal / dog / wolf**

## pack (competition)

### head of the pack

the consensus is that she is at the ~ (a candidate)

### leading the pack

he is ~ but nipping at his heels is Pete Buttigieg (election)

**competition: animal / dog / wolf**

## pack (group)

### pack of riders

on Sunday, he finished in the main ~ (Tour de France)

### packs of youth

~s roamed the streets (Ottawa power outage)

### lead pack

as the ~ approached the third turn on lap 39 (NASCAR)  
he stayed in the ~ (Nascar racer)

### main pack

Armstrong finished with the ~ (Tour de France)

### troop or pack

everyone involved in a ~ (Boy Scouts)

### finished with the (main) pack

Armstrong ~ (Tour de France)

### break free from the pack

~ (ad for a contraceptive)

### separate it from the pack

each translator tries to bring something new to ~ (Dante)

**group, set & collection: animal**

## package (benefits, etc.)

### incentive package

creating ~s

### benefit package

the federal government offers a very generous ~ (jobs)

### settlement package

the company's ~ (for death of worker)

### severance package

the charge will fund ~s (a company)

he got a \$5.5 million ~ (executive of failed company)

### financial aid package

asking for a better ~ (colleges)

### generous (benefit) package

the federal government offers a very ~ (jobs)

**configuration / group, set & collection: container**

## package (commercial)

### package rate

30 percent off the ~ for a ski trip

### hotel's (\$899-a-couple) package

the ~

### dive package

selling ~s

### air and accommodation packages

the lodge offers ~ (Alaska)

### most heavily promoted package

most choose the ~ (buying autos)

### \$899-a-couple package

the hotel's ~

### offers (air and accommodation) packages

the lodge ~ (Alaska)

**configuration / group, set & collection: container**

## pack rat (person)

### pack rat

he is a ~, and kept the original packaging (a CD)

**behavior / character & personality: animal**

## paean (noun)

### paean to the swan

Michael Morpurgo's ~ (BBC 4 Tweet of the Day)

### paean to tolerance

to some it's a ~ (the beloved film *Sound of Music*)

### paean to increasing population

the annual summit is a ~ through birth (vs. immigration)

### paean to fells (hills), becks (streams), and flocks

it is a ~ (*Pastoral Song* by James Rebanks)

### politically correct paean

the book is not a ~ (*The General's Daughter*)

### delivered a paean

John Reid has just ~ of praise for Gordon Brown (politics)

♦ see also *praise* (*sing someone's praises*)

**achievement, recognition & praise: music**

## page (on the same page)

### on the same page

this year, everyone is ~ (successful team)

**unanimity & consensus: books & reading**

## page (turn the page)

turn the page

it's time to ~ and go to the next chapter of my life

turning over a new page

we are ~ in the history of Kyrgyzstan (elections)

turn a new page after two world wars

he went to Germany to ~ (Charles de Gaulle)

turn the page on past events

the settlement is an opportunity to ~ (payment of fine)

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: books & reading**

## page (development)

page has turned

it feels like a ~ regarding sex abuse (stronger sentences)

start a new page

we will ~

**development: books & reading**

## pageant (noun)

pageant of death and rebirth

the primordial ~ of light (solar eclipse)

majestic global pageant

this ~ (migratory birds)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / group, set & collection: movement / walking, running & jumping**

## pain (economic pain, etc.)

pain at the gas pump

the ~ is forcing people to adapt (inflation)

economic pain

many Americas are experiencing great ~ (recession)

there is only corruption, humiliation, and ~

tariffs will just cause us ~

political pain

Trump knows economic meltdown brings ~ (COVID-19)

forecasts of pain

sweeping ~ for the continent (climate report / Africa)

ease the pain

to help ~, the White House will... (high gas prices)

inflict pain

we need to ~ (a tech titan about a competitor)

inflicted (a lot of) pain

it's ~ (Russia cuts off natural gas to Europe)

**affliction / feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / sensation**

## pain (pain in the neck, etc.)

pain in the ass

it's a ~ (doing the job right)

pain in the butt

journalists are a ~ (asking questions, etc.)

pain in the neck

rebuilding it will be a ~ (damaged overpass)

what a ~

pain in my neck

she was often a ~

**affliction / character & personality: health & medicine / neck / person / sensation**

## pain (emotional)

pain of weight stigma

the ~ experienced in childhood

pain and trauma

*Blonde* focuses so narrowly on Monroe's ~

lonely pain

many still struggle with the ~ (of 9/11)

in pain

if Aaron was ~, he took care not to show it (dad died)

leave me in all this pain

don't ~ (emotional pain)

nurse the pain

Salah was left to ~ of another CL final defeat (soccer)

♦ "US conservation group to drop Audubon name or 'pain' caused by slaveholder" by Oliver Milman, *The Guardian*, 25 Oct 2021.

♦ "I remember saying in Sunday school, not that long ago, 'Who am I without Mormonism?'" said Osborne. "This is a feeling of grief and just the pain of change, and the pain of not being naïve anymore. It's hard to know the truth." ("Hulu special 'Mormon No More' offers rare look of two former Mormons exploring faith and LGBTQ+ identity" by Haley Yamada, June 23, 2022. "Two Mormon moms who fell in love." Trendy!)

♦ "*Blonde* focuses so narrowly on Monroe's pain and trauma, that it feels less like a biographical drama than a Passion Play. The film turns her into an avatar of suffering..." (The great movie critic Justin Chang's negative review of *Blonde*.)

♦ "I'd add that concentrating on things like [manipulative asides about Ed Gein and John Wayne Gacy] and reducing most of the victims and their families to their pain is closer to exploiting that pain than honoring any memories." ("*Dahmer—Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story* Review: Ryan Murphy, Netflix, Rinse, Repeat" by Daniel Fienberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, September 22, 2022.)

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

**mental health: health & medicine / sensation**

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / sensation**

## painful (adjective)

painful

this has been very ~ from a balance-sheet perspective

painful to watch

it was ~ (Anthony Joshua's antics after 2<sup>nd</sup> loss to Usyk)

painful chapter

it was a ~ in Indian history (white boarding schools)

painful injustice

~ and ordinary heroism (the film *Women Is Losers*)

painful truth  
here's the ~

painful vigil  
the ~ of a mother

most painful  
the last few years have been the ~...

♦ "There will be more hurt in a year that has already been painful." (The economy.)

♦ "Recently there's been more visibility in the trans community. But being the person that's creating that visibility or that representation can also be really painful. The truth is that every day I experience violence of some kind that makes me feel like it's not safe to be in my body, and not safe to be visible." (Lor Sabourin in the Patagonia film *They / Them: One Climber's Story*.)

**mental health: health & medicine / sensation**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / sensation**  
**paint (characterize)**

paint the entire border patrol with this same brush  
to ~ is irresponsible and unfair (misdeeds of 3 agents)

painted her as an adulteress  
the prosecution ~

painted the North as a promised land  
he ~ (Robert Sengstacke Abbott of *Chicago Defender*)

paint him as an opportunist  
her legal team tried to ~ looking for fame and a buck

paint democrats as extreme  
republicans want to ~

paint alcoholics in harsher colors  
we need to ~ (TV shows)

paint a (bleaker) picture  
there are doctors who ~ than necessary

painted an (ugly) picture  
she ~ of him as a drug user (trial)

paint the accuser as troubled  
his lawyer continued to ~

**characterization: picture / verb**  
**paint (resemblance)**

knead, wax, pluck, rub, and paint  
estheticians ~ people

**resemblance: picture / verb**  
**paint (coat of paint)**

fresh coat of paint  
it's pretty much just NAFTA with a ~ (USMCA)

**appearance & reality / concealment & lack of concealment**  
**/ subterfuge: infrastructure / materials & substances**

**painted (characterized)**

painted as a horrible person  
I was being ~, and I couldn't do anything about it (banned)

**characterization: picture**

**palace (movie palace, etc.)**

Palace of Weddings  
the city's elegant ~ (Krasnoyarsk)

Beckingham Palace  
their country mansion, known as ~ (English soccer star)

corn palace  
the world's only ~ (Mitchell, South Dakota)

ice palace  
in the late 1800s cities built ~s for winter carnivals

movie palace  
the ~s of his youth

pet palace  
Atwood's Pet Resort in SeaTac is a ~

air-conditioned palace  
the Grand Ole Opry moved into its new ~

**resemblance: royalty**

**palatable (adjective)**

palatable to the left  
a way that is ~

**consumption: food & drink / taste**  
**flaws & lack of flaws: food & drink / taste**

**palatial (adjective)**

palatial (Manhattan) loft  
she designed the kitchen in his ~

run from basic to palatial  
river shacks ~ (South Carolina)

♦ "A hut is a palace to the poor man." (Irish.)

**size: royalty**  
**comparison & contrast: affix**

**palette (noun)**

palette of ethnic groups  
the Kachin dominion includes a ~ (Burma)

palette of options  
the government has a ~ it can use to shore up the economy

**alternatives & choices / amount: color**  
**group, set & collection: color**

**palisade (noun)**

palisades of steel  
they are great ~ (container ships)

**resemblance: fortification**

**pall (cast a pall)**

cast a pall on the (peace) process  
the victory by Hamas ~

cast a pall over the Olympics  
the accident ~ (luge death / Winter Olympics)

casts a pall everywhere  
if it ~, there is a special darkness to it here (mass shooting)

♦ A pall is the cloth covering a coffin, hearse or tomb.

**feeling, emotion & effect: burial / cloth / verb**

**oppression: burial / cloth / verb**

## palms (in the palm of one's hand)

in the palm of his hand  
he had everything ~ and it was taken away (arrest)

in the palm of their hand  
they had victory ~ but... (soccer team)

**attainment / possession: hand**

## palpable (adjective)

palpable  
her anger is often ~, the color literally drains from her face  
the pain is ~, and unnecessary (Uvalde school shooting)

palpable in Puerto Rico  
the mental health toll of the hurricane is still ~

palpable anxiety  
his relaxed demeanor had given way to ~

palpable enmity  
there was ~ in the air to begin with (an interview)

absolutely palpable  
the tension is ~ in the stadium (Rio 2016 football final)

nearly palpable  
the tension between them was ~ (politics)

tragically palpable  
a threat to personal space is ~ (police shootings)

excitement (surrounding the team this year) is palpable  
the ~ (Super Bowl LVI / Cincinnati)

fear is palpable  
the ~ on both sides (Kashmir)

frustration was palpable  
but his ~

grief is palpable  
the ~ (9/11 memorial)

regret is palpable  
his ~ (he had to drop out of school)

♦ You can feel something that is palpable through the skin (like an inflamed lymph node), or *seem* to feel it (an emotion, for instance), even if it is invisible.

**presence & absence / feeling, emotion & effect: sensation**

## panacea (noun)

panacea  
the new rules will not be a ~  
blockchain is not a ~, it's not this magical thing

there is no ~ for school shootings (U.S.)

anxiety-relieving panacea  
digital detoxes are touted as an ~

♦ A synonym for *panacea* is *cure-all*. In Greek mythology, Panacea was a goddess of healing.

**amelioration & renewal: allusion / health & medicine / religion**

## Panama Canal (of its day, etc.)

Panama of its day  
the Miracle Canal was truly a ~ (Qin dynasty)

♦ "Los Angeles repeatedly tried to tame and channel the river. A massive flood in 1914 turned Long Beach into an island and increased public pressure on authorities to subjugate the waterway, which only really became possible after the completion of the Los Angeles Aqueduct in 1913. A feat of engineering often compared to the construction of the Panama Canal, the aqueduct brought the Owens River on the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada to the San Fernando Valley..." ("Remaking The River That Remade L.A." by Michael Kimmelman, The New York Times Magazine, November 13, 2022.)

**comparison & contrast / transportation: epithet**

## pancake (verb)

pancaked during the earthquake  
several buildings ~

**configuration: food & drink / verb**

## pancake (pancake ice, etc.)

pancake ice  
~ in the Weddell Sea

♦ "Lake Michigan *ice pancakes* lap against pier." (An ABC video taken near St. Joseph, Michigan.)

**shape: food & drink**

## pancake (noun)

pancake  
the collapse created a ~ on the floors below

**configuration: food & drink**

## pancaked

pancaked  
the plane was ~, it's totally crushed and pulverized  
about half of the parking garage was ~

pancaked floors  
they could see bodies in the ~ (earthquake)

pancaked pile  
crews continue to comb through the ~ of debris

**configuration: food & drink**

## pancake-flat (comparison)

pancake-flat characters  
they are ~ (negative film review)

**comparison & contrast / extent & scope: breadth**

## pandemic (noun)

pandemic of street racing  
one person dies and there is all of a sudden a ~

‘shooting pandemic’  
it could be called a ~ (yet another U.S. mass shooting)

**extent & scope: health & medicine**

## pander (verb)

pandered to their political bases  
the politicians ~

pander (the most) to the far right  
who is going to ~ (French elections)

pander for selfish gain at the expense of truth and justice  
I will not ~ (Aramis Ayala)

♦ Pandarus fought for the Trojans in Homer's *Iliad*. In a different incarnation, he is mentioned by Boccaccio, Chaucer and Shakespeare as someone assisting lovers. He helps the two lovers in Chaucer's *Troilus and Criseyde*.

**speech: Iliad & Odyssey / sex / verb**

## Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.)

Pandora Papers  
they are called the ~ (12 million leaked documents)

Pandora's Box  
this is a ~ and we don't know what will happen (vaccine)

Pandora's box of (menacing) possibilities  
they have opened a ~ (war)

Pandora's box of (legal) troubles  
his plea agreement may have opened up a ~ for Trump

forbidden fruit, a Promethean fire, a Pandora's box  
this is ~, and evil genie

open a Pandora's box of incidents  
an investigation might ~ ignored over the years

opened a Pandora's box of (menacing) possibilities  
they have ~ (war)

reopen the Pandora's box of (ethnic) conflict  
failure to act will ~ (Balkans)

♦ Nathaniel Hawthorne wonderfully tells the story of Pandora's box in *A Wonder Book for Girls and Boys*. His emphasis is on the curiosity that all children have.

♦ In Greek mythology, the myth of Prometheus and the story of Pandora are intertwined.

♦ "I opened a Pandora's box. I released a Frankenstein. People are just breeding for the money... unscrupulous breeders are crossing poodles with inappropriate dogs simply so they can say they were the first to do it." (Wally Conran, the Australian who created the labradoodle in the late 1980s. He now says his creation is his "life's regret." The labradoodle has been called the first "designer dog." His concern is about dogs and their health problems.)

**affliction / concealment & lack of concealment / pursuit, capture & escape / initiation: allusion / container / creature / religion / verb**

## Panglossian (adjective)

Panglossian viewpoint  
it's easy to make fun of his ~

♦ Pangloss was a fictional character from *Candide* by Voltaire. Pangloss was famous for his optimism.

♦ "With all this manure, there must be a pony somewhere!" (This joke is very well researched at: [quoteinvestigator.com/2013/12/13/pony-somewhere/](http://quoteinvestigator.com/2013/12/13/pony-somewhere/) The article contains a link to a 1984 William Safire article in *The New York Times*.)

♦ "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade."

♦ see also *side (bright side)*

**allusion: books & reading**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

**character & personality / flaws & lack of flaws: allusion**

## panhandle (area)

Alaskan panhandle  
every autumn bald eagles flock to the northern ~

Florida panhandle  
he drove through the ~

Idaho Panhandle  
Moscow, an ~ town of 25,000 (near Spokane, Washington)

♦ Nine US states are considered to have panhandles, including Florida.

**shape: cooking**

**area: shape**

## panic (noun)

bisexual panic  
we get to see Harry in a ~ (The Gayly Prophet podcast)

gay panic  
the ~ defense won't work (trial)

moral panic  
see *moral panic (noun)*

Satanic Panic  
the "~" that swept through America in the 1980s & 1990s

♦ "In American history there are these irrational outbursts of moralism, and the death of "Kid" Paret was the occasion for one of these epidemics of piety." (Jack Newfield, boxing journalist. From the documentary film *Ring of Fire: The Emile Griffith Story* 2005.)

**behavior / feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**

## panoply (noun)

panoply of (current) art  
the ~ (an art exhibition)

panoply of (other) agencies  
the FBI and DEA were there, as well as a ~ (investigation)

panoply of incongruities  
the exhibit is a ~ ("Making the Met 1870-2020")

panoply of tools  
social media provides a new ~ to spread disinformation

full panoply  
the ~ of services for long-term care (including hospice)

dealing with the ~ of issues that divide us (diplomacy)

♦ A panoply is a complete suit of armor.

**amount / group, set & collection: military**

## panopticon (noun)

medical panopticon

Thrun envisages a ~ that constantly scans us (AI diagnosing)

♦ This refers to Jeremy Bentham's idea for a circular penitentiary open to hidden view from a central office. The idea was, inmates would control themselves if they knew they were being secretly watched at every moment.

**surveillance: allusion / crime / history**

## pan out (verb)

pan out

the deal didn't ~

if the projects ~... (energy development)

she had a couple of relationships that didn't ~

♦ One dictionary dates the origin of this word to 1868. Famous gold rushes include: California (1848), Australia (1851), the Black Hills Gold Rush (1876), South Africa (1886), and the Klondike (1898).

**success & failure: mining / verb**

**worth & lack of worth: mining / verb**

## pantheon (noun)

pantheon of (past keynote) speakers

he joins a ~ (political conventions)

Blues pantheon

the Chicago ~ (Howlin' Wolf, Elmore James, Magic Sam, and Junior Wells)

pop pantheon

she is part of the ~, for sure (Lana Del Ray)

in an illustrious pantheon

vaccines are ~ (discoveries that saved billions)

in that (same) pantheon

other athletes deserve to be ~ winners)

within the pantheon

~ of great sci-fi from the 190s and 1970s (a movie)

icon in the pantheon

Kirk Douglas will always be an ~ of Hollywood

entered the pantheon

she ~ in 1991 (Tina Turner / Rock & Roll Hall of Fame)

place him in the pantheon

his barrel rides ~ of great surfers (Garrett McNamara)

pantheon (that) speaks to the white patriarchy

it is a ~ (American naturalists / J. Drew Lanham)

♦ In ancient Greek times, a pantheon was a temple dedicated to all of the gods.

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

**importance & significance: religion**

**achievement, recognition & praise / superlative: allusion / place / religion**

## pants (caught with one's pants down)

caught with our pants down

we were ~ (CDC official)

caught with its (tactical) pants down

law enforcement was ~ (Silk Road online drugs bazaar)

**readiness & preparedness: clothing & accessories / verb**

## pants (get in somebody's pants)

get in my pants

they all wanted to ~ (pretty girl vs. high-school boys)

**sex: clothing & accessories / euphemism / verb**

## pants (scare the pants off somebody)

scare the pants off people

it will ~ (lawlessness)

**hyperbole: clothing & accessories / verb**

**courage & lack of courage: clothing & accessories / verb**

## pants (big girl pants, etc.)

put on the big boy pants

he needs to ~ and act as commander in chief

put on our big boy pants

we ~ and get on with it (Robert Page / Welsh soccer)

put his big-boy pants on

the president needs to ~ and acknowledge that he lost

put your big-girl pants on

you need to ~ and deal with it

♦ "You need to put your big-girl pants on and deal with it, pull them up and get out there and show them what you got..."

♦ "Need to" often collocates with this expression.

**growth & development: life span**

**role: clothing & accessories**

## pants (fly by the seat of one's pants)

fly by the seat of his pants

he was very impulsive, very romantic, ~ (Keith Davis)

**character & personality: plane**

## paper tiger

paper tiger

Osama bin Laden believed America was a ~

**substance & lack of substance: animal / tiger**

**strength & weakness: animal / tiger**

**appearance & reality: animal / tiger**

**force: animal / tiger**

## parachute (drop in)

parachute journalism

writers doing the 20th century version of ~ (Appalachia)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: plane**

## parachute (golden parachute)

golden parachute

CEOs got high salaries and generous ~s

lucrative golden parachute

they rewarded him with a ~ (Blatt)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: plane  
achievement, recognition & praise: plane**

## parachute (verb)

parachute into poor countries

college kids ~ for medical missions (malpractice)

parachutes into governor's race

Trump ~ on election eve (Virginia 2021)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: plane  
appearance & disappearance: plane**

## parachuted

parachuted in

he was ~ last year to lead a turnaround of the business

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: plane**

## parade (verb)

paraded him at a news conference

the authorities ~ in Minsk

paraded a scientist around right-wing outlets

as proof, they ~

**directing / performance: theater / verb**

## parade (noun)

parade of suspects

the investigation has seen a ~ over the years (crime)

parade of witnesses

a ~ has corroborated his account (hearings)

after a ~, it was up to the jury

endless parade

the seemingly ~ of principals (troubled middle school)

never-ending parade

a ~ of visits

nonstop parade

a ~ of local heroes carrying the Olympic torch

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / group, set &  
collection: movement / walking, running & jumping**

## paradise

paradise

the place was a ~ compared to Botany Bay (Sydney)

hikers' paradise

Aspen is a ~

bird lover's paradise

Horicon Marsh is a ~ (Wisconsin)

smuggler's paradise

the ~ of Tijuana (drugs)

surfer's paradise

this ~ (Kuta, Bali)

surfers' paradise

Jaws is a ~ (north shore of Maui, Hawaii)

the North Shore of Oahu has long been a ~

skateboarder's paradise

the park is a ~

train lover's paradise

China is a ~ (43,000 miles of operating tracks)

windsurfing paradise

the Columbia River Gorge is a ~

island paradise

the ~ turned into hell by terrorists (Bali)

redneck paradise

rock on through to ~

no one's uptight at ~

natural paradise

they live in a ~ (langurs of Halong Bay)

socialist paradise

he promised Venezuelans a better life in a ~

tropical paradise

in theory this place should be a ~

image of Paradise

Bled Island is an ~ (Slovenia)

♦ The Horicon Marsh in Wisconsin is a bird-lover's paradise with its geese and great blue herons. It is the largest freshwater cattail marsh in the United States.

♦ "After the turmoil [of W.W.II], it looked like heaven." (Military doctor who saw Andrews, western North Carolina and on the spur of the moment decided to settle there. He spent the rest of his life living among and doctoring to the mountain people.)

♦ Bled Island in Lake Bled, Slovenia, has been described as "an image of Paradise." During World War II, Heinrich Himmler wanted to tear down Mary's Church on the island and replace it with a temple dedicated to Odin!

**environment / superlative: religion**

**flaws & lack of flaws: religion**

## Paradise Lost (allusion)

Paradise Lost

this ~ kind of family mythology (formerly rich family)

♦ *Paradise Lost* was the poem by John Milton.

**division & connection: allusion / religion**

## paradisiacal (and paradisal)

paradisaal (Mediterranean) island

a bank manager who goes to live like a peasant on a ~

paradisiacal sounds

fountains provide ~ (Hama, Syria)

paradisiacal time warp

the forests of Bucovina seemed to exist in a ~

♦ Pronounced para-duh-SEE-uh-kul. If you know how to pronounce a word, you will use it. This one deserves more usage.

**feeling, emotion & effect: religion**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## paralysis (noun)

political paralysis

it was a result of the ~ in Washington  
~ may push American off a fiscal cliff

**functioning: health & medicine / movement**

## paralyze (verb)

paralyzed Algiers

the heaviest snow in more than 50 years ~

paralyzed Yaoundé

antigovernment riots ~, Cameroon's capital (2008)

riots paralyzed Yaoundé

antigovernment ~, Cameroon's capital (2008)

snow (in more than 50 years) paralyzed Algiers

the heaviest ~

**functioning: health & medicine / movement / verb**

## paralyzed (feeling)

paralyzed with grief

when I got home I was ~ (Everest 96)

paralyzed by fear

we are absolutely ~ (stuck in a job you don't like)

**feeling, emotion & effect: functioning / health & medicine / movement**

## paralyzed (functioning)

paralyzed by hackers

Baltimore struggles to revive computer systems ~

left (most of) the capital paralyzed

the assault ~ (Baghdad terrorism)

**functioning: health & medicine / movement**

## paramount (adjective)

paramount importance

being ethical is of ~

**importance & significance: height / mountains & hills**

## parapet (noun)

parapets of schism

Catholics, Orthodox hurl insults at each other over the ~

put his head above the parapet

the Ibrox legions need a hero to ~ and voice fan concerns  
he might have to ~ to go and buy provisions (a fugitive)

put my head above the parapet

I ~ and admit that I was wrong (a sports blogger)

raise their heads above the parapet

it's when things fail that allegations of corruption ~

stuck their heads above the (proverbial) parapet

the people who have ~ (groups)

**conflict / protection & lack of protection: fortification**

## parasite (person)

parasite

critics are ~s (literary critics)

tax evaders are ~s to society (Italy)

she is a ~ who exploits her culture for money (a writer)

they are ~s whose work depends on the activity of others

parasite on the economy

the government is not simply a ~

parasite agents

the ~ on a percentage (high prices for soccer players)

parasite and charlatan

Hearn is the biggest ~ Britain has ever produced (boxing)

parasite, a leech

she's a ~ (charges soldiers for river water)

harmful parasites

I can't accept his dismissive characterization of critics as ~

described as parasites

they were ~, socially dangerous and harmful (USSR)

**affliction / insult: animal / person**

**person: animal / insect**

## parasitical (adjective)

parasitical exploitation

young and rich is a recipe for ~ by criminals

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## pare (verb)

pare (back) tax cuts

to pay for it, the president would ~ (huge spending bill)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: knife / verb**

## pared (pared to the bone)

pared to the bone

the delegation has been ~ (government trip abroad)

♦ see also *bone* (cut something to the bone, etc.)

**dismissal, removal & resignation / sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: knife / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## parent (parent company, etc.)

parent company

a revenue-sharing arrangement with its ~

the Washington Post and its ~

taxation of ~s and their subsidiaries

our ~, Gannett, sold our building (a local paper)

parent star  
the brown dwarf orbits around its ~ (astronomy)

corporate parent  
CNN and its ~, Warner Media, is being sold to...

♦ Google parent Alphabet, Facebook parent Meta...

**division / relationship: family**

## parent (cat parents, etc.)

cat parents  
they are ~ to Miko the cat (Miko's owners)

♦ "To our dog parents: Please keep your four-legged children on a leash at all times. / Attention dogs: When nature calls, remind your parents to pick up after you. / Alcohol is not allowed in the Park. It made the ducks too rowdy. Be sure to stop into one of our local restaurants." (Signage at the park in Lake Lure, North Carolina.)

**division & connection / relationship: family**

## pariah (person)

pariah  
the changing political fortunes of a man who was once a ~

pariah of the village  
Tom came upon the juvenile ~ (Huck Finn)

pariahs in their communities  
they have become ~ (girls do sex online controversy)

pariah in the music industry  
the producer has been a ~ ever since...

pariah at that time  
he was a real ~ (Muhammad Ali in 1967)

pariah by association  
he became a ~

pariah state  
Israel is an apartheid ~ (an opinion)  
the Taliban do not want to become a ~ again

pariah status  
Zimbabwe seeks to jettison its ~  
Iran can continue its march towards ~ or...

international pariahs  
they do not want to be seen as ~ (the Taliban)

political pariah  
he went from a pandemic hero to a ~ (Andrew Cuomo)  
by the early 1960s, Oppenheimer was no longer a ~

became a pariah  
he ~ in the late 70s (a Hollywood producer)  
and so Atiyeh ~ (environmentalist George Atiyeh)  
once a popular society figure, she ~ (wife of swindler)

become pariahs  
he said he and his girlfriend had ~ (falsely accused)

becoming a pariah  
he is rapidly ~ (a French author / MeToo)

came to be seen as a pariah  
lionized in the West, he ~ at home (Gorbachev)

made a pariah  
instead of being hailed, he's ~ (*Enemy of the People*)

made him a pariah  
Kennan's dissenting views ~ in Washington (diplomacy)

made himself a pariah  
he ~ at his old studio (an actor)

♦ This word seems to refer to a caste in India and to the British Raj.

♦ "Shortly Tom came upon the juvenile pariah of the village, Huckleberry Finn, son of the town drunkard. Huckleberry was cordially hated and dreaded by all the mothers of the town, because he was idle and lawless and vulgar and bad—and because all their children admired him so, and delighted in his forbidden society, and wished they dared to be like him. Tom was like the rest of the respectable boys, in that he envied Huckleberry his gaudy outcast condition, and was under strict orders not to play with him. So he played with him every time he got a chance..." (*Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain.)

♦ "Frankie was...a wild figure... I had come to join his gang through clause number two (the threat of torture), and had stayed with it for profitable reasons of fun and adventure... When the women of our street could think of no more bad names to call Frankie Buller for leading their children into fights that resulted in black eyes, torn clothes, and split heads, they called him a Zulu, a label that Frankie came to accept as a tribute." ("The Decline and Fall of Frankie Buller" by the great writer Alan Sillitoe.)

♦ "It was an absolutely scary experience. We called up our friends, and they said they didn't know us." (The physicist Victor Weisskopf, speaking to Robert Oppenheimer about his recent experience in the Soviet Union, following the arrest of one of Weisskopf's friends.)

♦ "Lyuda, from now on our contact with people has to be one-sided. If a man's been arrested, his wife can only visit people who've invited her. She doesn't have the right to say: 'I want to come round.' That would be humiliating for both her and her husband. You and I have entered a new epoch. We can no longer write to anyone ourselves; we can only reply to letters. We can no longer phone anyone; we can only pick up the receiver when it rings. We don't even have the right to greet acquaintances—they may prefer not to notice us. And if someone does greet me, I don't have the right to speak first. He might consider it possible to give me a nod of the head, but not to talk to me. I can only answer if he speaks first. You and I are pariahs." (*Life and Fate* by Vasily Grossman.)

♦ "People who have become pariahs have been 'canceled.'"

**acceptance & rejection / society: person**  
**person: society**

## Paris (epithet)

Paris of the East  
Bucharest's historic center was on praised as "The ~"

"Paris of the South"  
attempts to promote Asheville as the ~

Paris of the North  
the historic city once called "The ~" (Viipuri / Vyborg)

Paris of the Middle East  
before 1975, Beirut was known as the ~  
Beirut was once known as the ~

Paris of Java  
Bandung, Indonesia, is known as "The ~" (Dutch heritage)

Paris of the Orient  
the wickedest city in the world, the ~ (Shanghai 1930s)

**superlative: epithet / place**

## park (walk in the park)

walk in the park

people who said it would be a ~ were wrong (Brexit)  
I knew it wasn't going to be a ~ (transgender hormones)  
it should be a ~ (US women should win World Cup)

made it a walk in the park

they ~ for Spain (poor showing by Costa Rican soccer team)

♦ "Argentina could hardly have asked for an easier evening. After a nervy opening half an hour it has been a stroll." (80 mins: Netherland 0-2 Argentina at the World Cup in Qatar. The rest is history.)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: movement / walking, running & jumping**

## park (hit something out of the park)

hit it out of the park

she ~ (a great debate performance)

hit it out of the park a second time

he ~ (second season of a TV series)

smashed it out of the park

today he has basically ~ (Max Verstappen / Formula One)

♦ "Max was quite simply in a league of his own. And not just today; all weekend. He has excelled here in the past and today he has basically smashed it out of the park." (Christian Horner about Max Verstappen winning the Belgian Grand Prix, his ninth win in fourteen races.)

♦ like *home run (success)*

**success & failure: baseball / sports & games**

## parked (movement)

parked over the islands

the storm is ~

parked on the south-west

a high-pressure system is ~ (a heatwave)

**movement: engine / mechanism**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / progress & lack of progress / starting, going, continuing & ending:**  
**engine / mechanism / movement**

## parliament (group)

parliament of creatures

there was little sense of menace in this ~ (Australia)

♦ "There was little sense of menace in this parliament of creatures. The only large meat-eating animal was the dingo... Even the dragon of the bush, a carrion-eating monitor lizard known as a goanna, would rush up a tree when approached and cling there, its throat puffed out in soundless alarm, until the intruder went away. The only universal predator was man." (*The Fatal Shore: The Epic of Australia's Founding* by Robert Hughes. The "parliament of creatures" he mentions includes: birds (Galahs, lorikeets, rosellas, Sulphur-Crested Cockatoos, etc.); wallabies; kangaroos; koalas; brushtailed possums; ringtails; sugar-gliders; platypuses; echidnas (spiny anteaters); and wombats. That's certainly a parliament!)

♦ A parliament of owls...

**group, set & collection: government**

## paroxysm (emotion)

paroxysm of anxiety

the whole culture is caught up in a ~ (the internet)

paroxysms of grief

the loss of the photo sent him into ~ (dead child)

paroxysms of laughter

it sent them both off into ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / movement**

## paroxysm (other)

paroxysms of (racist) violence

the ~ (U.S. history)

last paroxysm

his reign had been the ~ of the System's cruelty

**affliction: health & medicine / movement**

**activity: health & medicine / movement**

## parrot (verb)

parroted the (official) line

he ~ about enemy losses

parrot the Pledge of Allegiance

kids who ~ often say, "I led the pigeons to the flag"

**repetition: animal / bird / sound / speech / verb**

## parry (verb)

parried the attacks with some skill

he ~ (a political debate)

parry both

he was able to ~ (during a political debate)

parried queries

Merkel ~ during "Chancellor's Question Time"

parry Romney

Santorum used humor to ~ (politics)

thrust and parry

election year ~

♦ "Lieutenant-Colonel Dunlop was here wounded when half way up by a *sirdar* of Mysore, who met him scimitar in hand. Parrying a cut with his sabre, the colonel slashed open his antagonist's breast, and mortally wounded him. The *sirdar* made another cut that nearly hewed off the head of the colonel, and falling back into the breach was instantly bayoneted. Dunlop reached the summit, and then fell from loss of blood..." ("Seringapatam, 1799, from *British Battles on Land and Sea* by James Grant.)

**avoidance & separation / resistance, opposition & defeat:**  
**blade / sword / verb / weapon**

## parry (noun)

passive-aggressive parries

the scene is full of ~ (*Succession* dialog)

thrust and parry

election year ~

**avoidance & separation: blade / sword / weapon**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: blade / sword / weapon**

## parse (verb)

parse each of his sentences

let's ~ (radio host / news show)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: speech / verb**

## part (moving parts)

moving parts to this story

there are a lot of ~

a lot of moving parts

there are a lot of people involved and ~ (an investigation)

so many moving parts

there are ~ in terms of the legal issues

**complexity: mechanism**

## partisan (noun)

partisan fever

Washington's well-known ~ (vs. decorum and discretion)

partisan hit job

this is a ~ (political kerfuffle)

partisan lynching

this was just a ~ (impeachment)

partisan papers

correspondents who wrote for ~

partisan rage

~ courses through their veins (Democrats)

partisan saboteurs

school boards are being attacked by ~ (culture wars)

♦ "Russian tactics in their unconventional national war against Napoleon are based on partisan resistance, Cossack raids, and scorched earth." (August, 1812.)

♦ "To kill and to flee. [That] is the essence of the tactical duty of a partisan." (Russian partisan officer Denis Davydov, 1812.)

♦ "A man stood upon a railroad bridge in northern Alabama, looking down into the swift water twenty feet below. The man's hands were behind his back, the wrists bound with a cord. A rope closely encircled his neck. It was attached to a stout cross-timber above his head and the slack fell to the level of his knees..." ("An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge" by Ambrose Bierce.)

♦ "This is a guerilla war not a debutante's ball. There are no rules here." (The great film *Breaker Morant*.)

♦ "Both the German and the Austro-Hungarian armies developed a hard-line culture for dealing with guerrillas, partisans, *komidatschi*, *francs-tireurs* or whatever they may have been called—that is, armed men, who shoot from ambush and fight without uniforms." (*The Beauty and the Sorrow* by Peter England.)

♦ "Pamphil was devoted to [his wife] and loved his children to distraction... With the arrival of his family he had cheered up and begun to recover... But now the news had got about that... [the families] were going to be sent... to winter quarters... Pamphil's spirits fell and his hallucinations came back... / A bleeding stump of a man [lay] on the ground. His right arm and left leg had been chopped off. It was inconceivable how, with his remaining arm and leg, he had crawled to the camp... Fainting repeatedly from loss of blood, the dying man told him ... of the tortures and atrocities perpetrated by Vitsyn's squads. 'As for the children and women—O God!' / Pamphil had been in the crowd surrounding the dying man. He had seen him, heard his words, and read the threatening inscription on the board. His constant fear for his family in the event of his own death rose to a new climax... In his imagination he saw them handed over to slow torture... / In his desperate anguish he

killed them himself, felling his wife and three children with that same, razor-sharp ax that he had used to carve toys for the two small girls and the boy... / The astonishing thing was that he did not kill himself immediately afterward. What could he be thinking of? It was a clear case of insanity... / While Liberius, the doctor, and the members of the army soviet debated what to do with him, he roamed freely about the camp... An obtuse vague grimace of inhuman, unconquerable suffering never left his face. / No one was sorry for him. Everyone avoided him, some people said he should be lynched, but they were not heeded. / There was nothing in the world left for him to do. At dawn he vanished from the camp, fleeing from himself like a dog with rabies." (*Doctor Zhivago* by Boris Pasternak.)

♦ "Partisan detachments must be formed in areas occupied by the enemy, to stir up guerilla war everywhere, to blow up bridges and roads, sabotage telephone and telegraph lines, and to burn forests, stores and transports. We shall create intolerable conditions for the enemy and his supporters, they must be pursued and eliminated at every step." (Stalin's radio broadcast to the Soviet People 3 July 1941. From "Soviet Storm: WW2 in the East.")

♦ "Naturally, the grownups tried hard not to talk about these horrors in the presence of children, at any rate not in Hebrew... But sometime a word slipped through... I could hear the whispering... Nazis, Vilna, partisans, death camps, death trains, Uncle David and Aunt Malka, and little cousin Daniel, who was the same age as me. Somehow the fear got into me..." (*A Tale of Love and Darkness* by Amos Oz.)

♦ see also *reprisal* (noun)

**conflict: military / person**

**person: military**

## partner (noun)

partner in their relationship

the third ~ was his addiction to heroin

**relationship: person**

## party (garden party)

giant garden party

our lockdown is a ~ compared to China and Italy (COVID)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: party**

## party (late to the party, etc.)

late to the party

aren't you rather ~ (entering new market)

we're kinda ~ here (antisatellite warfare)

join the party late

traders who just follow the herd and ~ will lose money

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: party**

## party (invited to the party, etc.)

invited to the party

who is ~, and who isn't (success in America)

not everyone can be ~ (haves and have-nots)

**acceptance & rejection: party**

## party (party is over)

After the party

~ (FTX's failure and SoftBank's struggles / *The Economist*)

party is over

we're coming for you, the ~ (cops versus gang)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: party**

## party (coming-out party)

“coming-out party”

it was Japan’s ~ as a modern naval power (1890)

**inauguration: love, courtship & marriage / party**

## party (celebration)

spoiling England’s party

Germany are used to ~ (soccer / football)

**resemblance: party**

## pas de deux

pas de deux between the nose and the tongue

McGee is interested in the playful ~ (a food scientist)

developmental pas de deux

Wuhan has embarked on a ~ with Hong Kong (building)

intense pas de deux

the intertwining plotlines gain momentum in their increasingly ~

**relationship: music**

## pass (time can pass, etc.)

pass

I hope these times ~ soon (a cop)

passes

every minute that ~ is crucial

**time: movement / verb**

## pass (free pass)

free pass

many thought the press gave him a ~ (politician)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: ticket**

**cost & benefit: ticket**

## pass (cards)

passed

when I offered to talk to him, he ~

**action, inaction & delay / commitment & determination:**

**cards / gambling / verb**

## pass (end)

pass

your problems will soon ~

**starting, going, continuing & ending: movement / walking,**

**running & jumping**

## pass (its time has passed, etc.)

passed

the great wave of trans-Appalachian emigration had ~

passed it by

time had somewhat ~ (a travel route becomes obsolete)

time has passed

it’s a tradition whose ~

the person remains, yet his ~ (*Life and Fate*)

time may have (already) passed

it’s a gimmick whose ~ (augmented reality phone app)

**future / past & present / primacy, currency, decline &**

**obsolescence / time: direction / movement / verb**

## pass (progress)

passed the US

many countries have ~ in healthcare and quality of life

**competition / progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips**

**/ movement / verb**

## pass (die)

passed

he ~ surrounded by loved ones

late yesterday we learned that he ~ (mass shooting)

**death & life: euphemism / movement / verb**

## pass away (verb)

passed away last week

he ~

♦ A “deceased person” who has “passed away” is a dead person who has died.

♦ “Fire Department medic unit Number 4 responded and transported the victim to Temple Hospital, where she was subsequently pronounced at 5:33 a.m.” (A police spokesperson about a murder.)

♦ “Unfortunately, he was found in a pond and he is no longer with us.” (Body found.)

♦ “I was able to hold his hand as he journeyed on.” (With brother when he died.)

♦ His life was tragically cut short. (Murdered.)

**death & life: euphemism / movement / verb**

## passage (passage of time)

passage of time

the curve relates forgetting to the ~

the ~ has been on her mind lately

**time: distance / journeys & trips / movement**

## passage (journey)

passage from reporter to novelist (and poet)

the ~ was the dominant trajectory of writing then

**course / development / experience: journeys & trips /**

**movement**

## pass by (progress)

pass us by

we don’t want to let this ~ (adopting new technology)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence / progress &**

**lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## passing (death / actual)

passing of our friend and brother  
it is with the heaviest of hearts that I tell you of the ~

accidental passing  
her ~ has been so sudden (selfie accident)

**death & life: euphemism / movement**

## passing (death / figurative)

passing and a re-birth  
it may be both a ~ (interest in old cantorial music)

**decline / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: death & life / movement**

## passion (enthusiasm)

passion  
my ~ is skiing

passion in life  
his biggest ~ was climbing (killed by lightning)

passion for basketball  
Spike Lee is famous for his front-row ~ (the filmmaker)

passion for butterflies  
Nabokov inherited his ~ from his parents (the great writer)

passion for chemistry  
his ~ (Richard Smalley)

passion for graffiti  
his ~ was extinguished when... (tagging accident)

passion for (water) sports  
a young man with a ~ (kitesurfing, etc.)

passion for trains  
his life-long ~ (model trains, train spotting, etc.)

passion for acting  
he quit his job to pursue a lifelong ~ (TV, movies)

passion for boating  
he has a love and ~ (a kayaker)

passion for caving  
his ~ and cave diving has taken him around the world

passion for dancing  
an active teen with a ~

passion for sky diving  
he had a ~

passion for gambling  
his ~

passion for caving and cave diving  
his ~ has taken him around the world

passion project  
he is doing this audio idea as a ~ (Ian Urbina)  
the film has been a ~ for Dominik (*Blonde* biopic)  
~s (queer women on their periods / Nolwen Cifuentes)

passion and devotion  
ramen inspires ~ among Japanese and foreigners

passion and talent  
millennials with a ~ for original storytelling

deep passion  
she had this ~ for issues she cared about

grand passion  
chelonians are Eric Goode's ~ (the Turtle Conservancy)

lifelong passion  
he quit his job to pursue a ~ for acting (TV, movies)  
space flight has been his ~ (astronaut)

national passion  
baseball is part of our roots, it's our ~ (a Habanero)

guts, passion and heart  
he plays with ~, he's all in (NFL player)

interest / passions / hobbies  
the return of ~ (after trauma, crisis abroad)

love and passion  
he has a ~ for boating (a kayaker)

secret or (a) passion or (an) issue or (a) decision  
when race is a ~ (people)

with a passion  
I love classical music ~ (Anthony Tommasini)

with passion  
they are playing ~, with heart, they can do it (World Cup)

developed a passion  
he ~ for writing at an early age

followed his passion  
he ~ (a windsurfer)

follow your passion  
that's part of the spirit of mountaineering, to ~

inspires passion  
ramen ~ and devotion among Japanese and foreigners

turn your passion into a profession  
how do you ~ (ad on TV for arts school)

♦ According to Wilfred Funk, Litt. D., *passion* originally meant suffering: the passion of Christ. Then it morphed in the late 14th century (the time of Chaucer) to mean powerful emotions like hatred and rage, including the tender passion of love. In Funk's day, it came to relate to the powerful emotion of sex. Today it commonly means enthusiasm. *Compassion* comes from the same root and literally means, "with suffering," or "I feel your suffering."

♦ "It was hard for family conversations. You couldn't exactly talk about it over Thanksgiving dinner." (Dr. Mark Siddall, who studies and is passionate about leeches.)

♦ "Reporting from France for Beardsley is the fulfillment of a lifelong passion for the French language and culture. At the age of ten she began learning French by reading the *Asterix The Gaul* comic book series with her father." (The brilliant National Public Radio correspondent Eleanor Beardsley, raised in Columbia, South Carolina. From her biography, "Eleanor Beardsley, Correspondent, Paris," at NPR.)

♦ "Some people may say that passion is folly. I think if you haven't followed your passions, you haven't lived. If you haven't lived, you haven't evolved." (John Chao, photographer and founder, publisher and

editor in 1993 of the magazine *American Windsurfer*. In December 2016 he drove a panel truck full of firewood and propane from The Dalles, Oregon, to North Dakota to support the Standing Rock Dakota Access Pipeline activists in their winter camps.)

♦ "Playing video games for a living is a dream for many." (Amazon's Twitch, etc., and online streamers.)

♦ "What if somebody came up with some kind of French term for dodging traffic?" (An unhappy Captain Jerry Miner, with the Indiana University police, after IU's daily paper ran a photo of a *traceur* standing on top of a school arch.)

♦ "The website portrays his work as an innocent and earnest passion." (Rockstar Cheer's Scott Foster, who committed suicide as a tsunami of sexual abuse accusations formed up the bay.)

**control & lack of control / enthusiasm / feeling, emotion & effect: sex**

## passionate

passionate about this case

I was ~ (the great lawyer Johnnie Cochran)

passionate about the (local) people

he was so ~ (a scientist in the field)

passionate about animals, journalism, and the elderly

she was ~

passionate defender

President Jacob Zuma is a ~ of Zulu traditions (S. Africa)

passionate response

she delivered a ~

young, passionate and pissed

I was ~ (climber who lost best friend)

**control & lack of control / enthusiasm / feeling, emotion & effect: sex**

## passionately

feel passionately

but for those of us who ~ about the oceans (preservation)

**control & lack of control / enthusiasm / feeling, emotion & effect: sex**

## passage (nasal passage, etc.)

nasal passage

the standard Q-tip can't bend through the ~

**resemblance: route**

## passage (noun)

passage to adulthood

he writes about his ~

passage into womanhood

her quinceañera, the celebration of a Hispanic girl's ~

passage from ballet student to restaurant apprentice

her rocky ~

**course / growth & development: journeys & trips**

## passed down (by ancestors, etc.)

passed down

their stories have been ~ (vicarious "race-based trauma")

the stories ~ prime us for traumatization (race-based)

♦ see also down (down through the centuries, etc.)

**transmission: direction / hand**

**past & present / time: direction / height / history /**

**mountains & hills / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## pass on (verb)

pass on

which track would you like to ~ (BBC Inheritance Tracks)

**transmission: hand / verb**

## passport (noun)

passport to freedom

education is our ~ (young European Muslim women)

passport to success

Polar adventure was not necessarily a ~ (Hjalmar Johansen)

passport to the world

his camera was his ~ (the photojournalist David Gilkey)

passport out of death row

a low IQ can be a ~

biological passports

~ will be scrutinised (athletes / blood doping)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: document / government**

## past (in the distant past, etc.)

in the distant past

the meteorite was blasted off the surface of the moon ~

the Revolutionary War and Civil War are ~, but...

in the not-distant past

Mormons experienced persecution ~

in the not so distant past

nominees sought bipartisan support ~

lies in the distant past

for most Americans, World War I ~

**past & present / time: distance**

## past (distant past, etc.)

distant past

litigating cases from the ~ can be difficult

Earth's distant past

the documentary looks at the ~

**past & present / time: distance**

## past (in the past)

in the past

this all happened ~

lies in the past

the adventure is finished and our journey ~

♦ Scott Simon: *When is the past past? Ever?* / Chanelle Benz: *Well, I think we can lay the past to rest once we've had some kind of reckoning with it.* ("Chanelle Benz On 'The Gone Dead,'" NPR, Weekend Edition, June 22, 2019.)

**past & present / time: container**

## **pasteurized**

pasteurized version

this very ~ of the story where everyone is heroic (Leningrad)

got (completely) pasteurized

it ~ (Soviet story of Siege of Leningrad)

♦ For a short list of eponyms, see *mesmerizing (adjective)*.

**concealment & lack of concealment: hygiene**

## **pasture (greener pastures)**

searching for greener pastures

many young people are ~ elsewhere (migration)

**attraction & repulsion: color / farming & agriculture**

## **pasture (put something out to pasture)**

put him out to pasture

we need to ~ (a controversial executive)

putting him out to pasture

he felt they were ~ so what the hell (a politician)

♦ see *retire (verb)* for quotations

**dismissal, removal & resignation: animal / horse**

## **pasture (put out to pasture)**

put out to pasture

some think the musical should be ~ (*The King and I*)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: animal / horse**

## **pasture (amount)**

pastures of green baize

the camera surveys the ~ (at a casino)

**amount: ground, terrain & land**

## **patch (and patch up)**

patched up the (contentious) issue with a compromise

they ~ (world leaders)

patched things up

the two eventually ~ (a relationship)

the company has ~ (problems)

patched up their differences

they have ~ (a couple)

patched the (security) flaw

Microsoft has ~

patched his relationship

he has ~ with them

patch the rift

he is trying to ~ (disagreement)

**amelioration & renewal: cloth / verb**

## **patch (patch together)**

patched together an agreement

leaders finally ~ (diplomacy)

patched together a (workable group)

he has ~

**creation & transformation: cloth / verb**

## **patch (rough patch)**

rough patches

you go through ~ in your sport that make you want to quit

**danger / difficulty, easiness & effort / obstacles & impedance / survival, persistence & endurance: forest / journeys & trips**

## **patched**

patched

Windows is full of security holes that can never be ~

patched up

the problems have been ~

**amelioration & renewal: cloth**

## **patchwork (noun)**

patchwork

the system, however ~, works well

patchwork of (different pandemic-era) laws

with a ~ across the country...

**creation & transformation: cloth**

## **path (set out on this path, etc.)**

set out on this path

he ~ in 1997 by writing... (rehabilitated his career)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips / path**

## **path (the right / wrong path, etc.)**

on the right path

I have put Qatar ~ (Sheikh Hamad)

so the economy's ~

on a (sustained) expansion path

the economy now appears to be ~

on a (good expansionary) growth path

the economy seems to be ~

on a downward path

the debt to GDP ratio is ~ (economy)

on a troubled path

when someone you love is ~

down a dangerous path

his unswerving belief in himself led him ~  
down a very dark path  
the post were so awful and almost led me ~ (trolled)  
down the wrong path  
it has taken us ~ (antiterrorism)  
down a moderate and secular path  
lead Pakistan ~  
get back on the path  
we must ~ of prosperity (politics)  
got on the (right) path  
he straightened his life out and ~ (former criminal)  
stray from the path  
a good Muslim must not ~  
stray (too far) from (Saudi Arabia's) path  
but Qatar does not ~  
taken us down the wrong path  
it has ~ (antiterrorism tactic)

♦ "In Japan there has been only one path, and today an increasing number of people are not on it. It's easy to say that academic background is not everything. But the parents cannot suggest another path because they don't know one." (A Japanese psychologist talking about *Hickikomori*, the withdrawal from society by young people.)  
♦ In the Sierra Mountains of California, do you tell someone about the best / easiest / normal path? Or do you keep it to yourself, to teach some kind of lesson? ("Best-Case Scenario" by Joshua Rothman, *The New Yorker*, January 31, 2022.)

### flaws & lack of flaws: journeys & trips / path path (path to / toward something)

path to democracy and freedom  
they are on the ~ (Iraq)  
path to citizenship  
we offer a ~ for 1.8 million illegal immigrants  
path to jihad  
hundreds of Americans have followed the ~  
path to legalization  
immigrants need a ~ (US)  
path to power  
behavior that's admired is the ~ among people everywhere  
path to pride  
his job to help the school find a ~ (troubled high school)  
path to riches  
a marketing wizard who hopes he had found the ~  
path to sainthood  
the Pontiff put him on the ~  
path to success  
negotiations with no clear ~ (Middle East)  
paths to success  
there are many ~  
path to discipline, tenacity, courage

hardship is the surer ~  
path to inner peace  
the Buddhist ~  
path toward a market economy  
the difficult, unguided ~ (Russia)  
path toward peace and prosperity  
putting the continent on a ~ (Africa)  
♦ "Hope is like a path in the countryside. Originally there is no way, but once people begin to pass, a way appears." (The modern Chinese writer Lu Xun.)

### wants, needs, hopes & goals: journeys & trips / path path (path of peace, etc.)

path  
the ~ they follow may not be simple (investigation)  
figure out what ~ will work best for you (education)  
jihad is its ~ ( Hamas motto)

path of Allah  
the ~  
path of peace  
the ~ is still the right path

path of prosperity  
we need to get back on the ~ (politics)

path of (ecological) sustainability  
they follow a ~ (reindeer peoples)

path of reason, justice and dialogue  
adopt the ~ to resolve... (Kashmir)

### course: journeys & trips / path path (tough / easy path, etc.)

clear-cut (career) paths  
not all fields at universities have ~

clear path  
negotiations with no ~ to success (Middle East)

difficult path  
military families walk a ~ in wartime (dissent, etc.)

perilous path  
the military's action puts Myanmar on a ~ (2021 coup)

smooth path  
no candidate will have a ~ to the Democratic nomination

straight path  
we ask Allah to lead the Muslims to follow the ~  
what you do to keep somebody on the ~

surer path  
hardship is the ~ to discipline, tenacity, courage

difficult, unguided path  
the ~ toward a market economy (Russia)

long, tortured path  
it's been a ~ for the international space station

obstacles in the path  
the FAA threw ~ of the Peotone proposal (airport)

path appears clear  
the ~ for Donald Trump to be the Republican nominee

led him down a dangerous path  
his unswerving belief in himself ~

walk a difficult path  
military families ~ in wartime (dissent, anxiety, etc.)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: journeys & trips / path**  
**flaws & lack of flaws: journeys & trips / path**  
**path (alternatives and choices)**

path of least resistance  
he's lazy, he'll take the ~

path of the lesser evil  
we took the ~ (US support of Saddam)

brother's path  
he assured his father he wouldn't follow his ~

father's path  
he eventually followed his ~ (seminarian)

life's path  
her ~ took an unexpected turn (serious injury)

mothers' paths  
often, young prostitutes follow their ~ into the sex trade

Qeis's path  
he vowed he will follow in ~ (suicide bomber)

Saudi Arabia's path  
but Qatar does not stray too far from ~

one path  
in Japan there is only one ~

two paths  
there are ~ now for supercomputing  
you can take one of ~ in high school (boy-crazy or study)

another path  
parents can't suggest ~ (Japan)

different path  
persuade young delinquents to take a ~

divergent paths  
the two sister took extremely ~

many paths  
there are ~ to success

quickest path  
the ~ is not always obvious  
the ~ to raise school's profile is to buy a football team

two paths  
there are ~ now for supercomputing  
you can take one of ~ in high school (boys or academics)

academic path

decide what the best ~ for you may be

Buddhist path  
the ~ to inner peace

spiritual path  
turning to a ~ in their search for answers

adopt the path  
~ of reason, justice and dialogue to resolve... (Kashmir)

chose the path  
another bored child of privilege who ~ of revolution

continue down that path  
it's important that we ~ (environmental cleanup)

continue on the path  
we're going to ~ that we started on last year

continue on this path  
we should let the economy ~

continue on the (same) path  
we will ~ that was laid out by Osama...

find a path  
his job to help the school ~ to pride (high school)

follow a path  
they ~ of ecological sustainability

set me along this path  
my mother helped to ~ (of being a writer)

**alternatives & choices: journeys & trips / path**  
**path (force someone down a path, etc.)**

force your child down a path  
don't ~ you wanted to follow (but didn't)

**oppression: journeys & trips / path**  
**path (cross paths)**

cross paths  
when competitors ~, violence usually follows (prison)

cross his path  
he is a danger to all who ~

crossed paths  
late Monday night, the two men ~ again (cop / felon)

crossed her path  
she left a mark on all of us who ~ (an actor)

cross paths with a stripper  
an accountant might ~ (at an airport)

♦ "The nineteen-year-old student [Gavrilo Princip], a Bosnian recruited by Serbia's Black Hand terrorist movement, could not believe his luck. He had been standing on Franzjosefstrasse, bareheaded in the early summer sunshine, depressed over the failure of a comrade, Nedeljko Čabrinović, to kill the royal couple with a grenade earlier in the day. Then he saw their open-top car take a wrong turn off Appel Quay and pass right by him. The lethal logistics that seem to operate at such moments had transformed error into opportunity. Two point-blank targets presented themselves, and Princip's gun did what it was designed to do." (*Colonel Roosevelt* by Edmund Morris.)

♦ "She was coming directly at us,' Schwieger told Valentiner. 'She could not have steered a more perfect course if she had deliberately tried to give us a dead shot.'" (Captain Walther Schwieger of the U-20. Schwieger had set a new course for home. As far as he was concerned, the patrol was over. When he first noticed the *Lusitania* through the periscope, she was speeding away from him, uncatchable. But then the *Lusitania* changed course. From *Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania* by Erik Larson.)

♦ Distorted shadows fell / Upon the lighted ceiling: / Shadows of crossed arms, of crossed legs— / Of crossed destiny. ("Winter Night," by Boris Pasternak.)

**fate, fortune & chance: journeys & trips / path / verb**

## path (beat a path)

beating a path to China's door  
the world is ~

**eagerness & reluctance: journeys & trips / path / verb**

## path (off the beaten path)

off the beaten path  
even tours of federal buildings ~ are possible

far off the beaten path  
she lives in a place ~

**isolation & remoteness: journeys & trips / path**

## path (a path can turn / development)

step along the path  
a preliminary trial is a ~ to a criminal trial (Colorado)

path took an (unexpected) turn  
her life's ~ (serious injury)

go down paths  
they can ~ that relate to... (investigation)

started down a path  
we have ~ that we won't turn back from (legal action)

take its path  
justice has to ~ (investigation)

walked this path before  
no one has ~ (dealing with pandemic)

**development: journeys & trips / path**

## path (clear a path)

clear the path for Mr. Sanders  
her departure will ~ in particular (election)

clears the path for thousands of Floridians  
this ruling ~ (voting rules)

**amelioration & renewal / difficulty, easiness & effort / obstacles & impedance: journeys & trips / path / verb**

## pathbreaking (adjective)

pathbreaking article  
he wrote a ~ on this subject

pathbreaking filmmaker  
he was a ~ who... (obituary)

pathbreaking ideas  
he garnered admiration for some ~ but also enmity

path-breaking research  
he brought ~ to economics

pathbreaking role  
the museum played a ~ in fostering education

path-breaking study  
he was the primary author of a ~ that found...

pathbreaking work  
his ~ opened a new era in cancer research

**importance & significance: journeys & trips / path**  
**driving force: journeys & trips / path**

## pathfinder (Mars Pathfinder, etc.)

HMS *Pathfinder*  
the ~ was sunk by a German U-boat in 1914

Lisa Pathfinder  
the European Space Agency's ~

Nissan Pathfinder  
he was struck by a ~

**proper name: journeys & trips / path**

## pathfinder (person)

pathfinders and pacesetters  
jazz venerates its ~ (its elders)

**driving force: journeys & trips / path / person**  
**searching & discovery: journeys & trips / path / person**

## pathology (noun)

pathology  
Nazism emerged as a ~ of an inflation-wracked...

symptom of a (much wider) pathology  
he is a ~ infecting the entire system (politics)

**affliction: health & medicine**

## pathway (route)

pathway to citizenship  
illegal immigrants need a ~  
the Dreamers need a ~

pathway from complaint to trial  
the ~ is too long (sex abuse cases)

illicit pathways  
the ~ from Columbia to the US became expressways

**route: journeys & trips / path**

## patient zero

patient zero in the NotPetya plague  
the servers that played the role of ~ (computer worm)

**affliction / initiation: health & medicine**

## patina (appearance)

patina of authority

his background gave a ~ (Harvard Prof Timothy Leary)

**appearance & reality / extent & scope / substance & lack of substance / subterfuge: breadth / materials & substances**

## patrician

patrician father

his ~ disapproved (of marriage to poor girl)

**hierarchy / identity & nature: allusion / history**

## patron saint

patron saint

feminists found in her a sort of ~ (an artist)

if American cuisine has a ~, it is James Beard

patron saint of swamps

Thoreau has been called the ~ (Annie Proulx)

**help & assistance / representation: religion**

## pattern (holding pattern)

coronavirus-induced holding pattern

society's normal activities are in a ~

in a holding pattern

the U.S. Senate is ~ (Senators discuss what to do next)

we're just sort of ~ right now (a relationship)

**action, inaction & delay: plane**

## Patton (the Patton of Asia, etc.)

"Patton of Asia"

Claire Lee Chennault nicknamed him the ~ (Xue Yue)

**military: epithet**

## pause (verb)

paused the (abortion) law

a judge ~ (called it unconstitutional)

paused the use

officials ~ of the vaccine to study...

**action, inaction & delay: mechanism / verb**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism / verb**

## pause (noun)

pause

I am in favor of a ~ (to investigate a vaccine)

on pause

the vaccine is still ~ (safety concerns)

hit pause

they have agreed to ~ on their escalating trade war

a judge has ~ on a major US contract

lifts pause

US ~ on Johnson & Johnson vaccines (COVID)

**action, inaction & delay: mechanism**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism**

## pawn (noun)

pawn of Israel and the West

he is widely seen as a ~

pawn in the Great Game

Azerbaijan was a ~ for territory and power

pawns in a (political) chess game

they use human beings as ~ (hostages)

pawn in this (hollow representation) game

I felt like a ~ (the comedian Julio Torres)

pawns in a (highly profitable) scam

we were ~ (employees at Southern Poverty Law Center)

pawn on the board

they were grasping at straws, I was just a ~ (John Artis)

less a player than a pawn

a soldier is ~

using migrants as pawns

he has accused the Turks of ~

use him as a pawn

both sides will try to ~ for their own purposes (politics)

**control & lack of control / power / strength & weakness: chess / sports & games**

## pay (benefit)

pays to go back

sometimes it ~ and start over (detective / cold cases)

pays to be nice

it ~ to strangers (got free tickets)

**cost & benefit: money / verb**

## pay (pay a price)

pay the price

when it comes to high heels, the feet ~

the Democrats will ~ in 2020 (for impeaching Trump)

you have released the whirlwind and you will ~ (politics)

pay a price

you want the fame but, baby, you ~ (Frank Sinatra)

pay the price (of the war) with their arms and legs

they ~ (injured civilians)

pays the price in fear, suffering and death

society ~ (anti-vaccination fears and causes)

pay a price for his activism

Lenny Pozner would ~ (Sandy Hook shooting Dad)

paid a price for his beliefs

Yusuf Islam has ~... (controversy, etc.)

pays a price for her (burning) righteousness  
she ~ (a play)

pay a (political) price  
these corrupt social media companies must ~ (Trump)

paid a (heavy) price  
he was overconfident throughout and ~ (a goalkeeper)

pay a (huge) price  
celebrities ~ for their fame

paid the (ultimate) price  
she ~ (drug death)

pay the (ultimate) price  
you have to be willing to ~ (surfing)

paid a very high price  
we ~ (military commander, about casualties)

♦ "It is what it was and it's my mistake and I paid for it." (The celebrity  
Jeremy Renner about his horrible snowplow accident.)

♦ No sin without a price.

♦ see also *price* (noun)

**cost & benefit / judgment: money / verb**

## pay (obligation)

paid me a complement  
he ~

paying tribute to our (nursing) colleagues  
~—past, present and future

paid little mind to the outside world  
they ~ (rural isolation)

paid with his life  
he ~ for the people's freedom (terrorist)

pay for their actions  
they must ~ (teen killers)

paid his debt  
he has ~ many times over (44 years in prison)

pays (little) heed  
the program ~ to issues of gender and sexuality

paid (close) notice  
France's minority communities ~ when...

pay the (ultimate) penalty  
they want those guilty to ~ (death)

pay my respects  
I was determined to ~ to Ronald Reagan (on his death)

paid his respects  
the president personally ~ to Sheehan

pay his respects  
he went to the cemetery to ~ (to a victim of terrorism)

pay its respects  
the base was opened for the public to ~ (military deaths)

paid their respects

people ~ to the 12 men who died (coal miners)

paid tribute  
he ~ to the men and women in the armed services

paid a (surprise) visit  
he ~ and was shocked by what he saw (illegal logging)

paid an (unannounced) visit  
Rumsfeld ~ to Iraq (government official)

**obligation: money / verb**

## pay (revenge)

pay  
I'm going to make you ~ (a threat)  
you will ~ for what you did  
whoever did this needs to ~ (murder)

made them pay  
he took on those monsters and he ~ (Alvaro Uribe)

**judgment / revenge: money / verb**

## pay (pay one's dues)

paid my dues  
I've ~ (actor Michelle Yeoh)

**experience: money / verb**

## payback

payback for his reporting  
was his murder a crime or a political ~ (journalist)

payback time  
it's ~

retribution and payback  
he wants ~

**revenge: money**

## pay dirt

pay dirt  
he finally hit ~ (in the 1930 census / genealogy)

movie pay dirt  
the company turns graphic novels into ~

hit pay dirt  
he finally ~ (a researcher)  
on the fourth day, he seemed to ~ (experiment)

**searching & discovery / success & failure / worth & lack of  
worth: ground, terrain & land / mining**

## pay off (verb)

pay off  
what you are doing will ~ (studying / school)

paying off  
the training is ~ (military / counter-IED measures)  
China's strategy is ~ (G-20 negotiations)

pays off

it's a nervy gamble that ~ (Kristen Stewart plays Lady Di)

gamble paid off  
the ~

lessons paid off  
the piano ~ (plays well)

work had paid off  
all our hard ~ (a scientist)

♦ **Honesty is its own reward. The same for hard work, helping others, and doing the right thing.**

**cost & benefit: money / verb**

**worth & lack of worth: money / verb**

## payoff

payoff for a job well done  
it was an incredible ~ (successful medevac)

**cost & benefit / worth & lack of work: money**

## paywall (obstacle)

paywall-free  
access *The Guardian's* ~ journalism

bemoan the paywall  
advocates of open access ~ (academic articles)

paywalls corral readers  
~ like cattle into the subscriber pen

moved all of its sport analysts behind its paywall  
ESPN+ ~

runs into a lot of paywalls  
the road to information ~

sits behind a paywall  
the *Stockton Record* ~ (a newspaper)

trapped behind pay walls  
most academic papers are ~

♦ "You can't do much web grazing of quality content these days without a paywall clanging shut on you." ("Opinion: More Money and Fewer Readers: The Paradox of Subscriber Journalism" by Jack Shafer, *Politico*, 08/21/2021.)

♦ "Democracy Dies in the Darkness." (The motto for *The Washington Post*. Wouldn't it be more truthful to say, "Democracy Dies Behind a Paywall"? It is hard to understand why Jeff Bezos would provide rides to the edge of space for those who can afford it but not subsidize great journalism to those who can't afford the subscription.)

**obstacles & impedance: money / wall**

**computer: money / wall**

## peach (noun)

peach of a shot  
it was a cracking punch, a ~ (Dubois knocks out Dinu)

**flaws & lack of flaws / superlative / worth & lack of worth: fruits & vegetables**

## peak (numbers / verb)

peaked  
his career has ~ and he's on his way down

the coronavirus surge has ~, researchers say  
the pandemic has ~  
the epidemic has ~ and started to subside (Zika)

peaked in 1979  
Union membership ~

peaked in May  
since lumber prices ~, however, demand...

peaked at 102 degrees Fahrenheit  
my fever ~

rose and peaked and (then) fell  
levels ~ again

**increase & decrease: number**

## peak (careers, etc. / verb)

peaked  
meanwhile, the swing era had ~

peaked in the '70s  
his songwriting career ~

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / mountains & hills**

## peak (at the peak)

at the peak of his career  
he disappeared seemingly ~ (an artist)

at the peak of his popularity  
he was ~ (a leader)

at the peak of his powers  
he is ~ (a rugby player)

**achievement, recognition & praise / increase & decrease / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: height / mountains & hills**

## peak (peaks and troughs, etc.)

peaks and troughs  
the regional patterns of ~ could change (rising sea levels)

peaks and valleys  
it's a long season, you're going to have ~  
there are more emotional ~ in the film (than in the book)

♦ "We probably have crested a peak, this seems to be the analogy of the day, a mountaineering analogy, but the reality is, we've only just begun the descent, and we're still at a very very high altitude, and we know that that descent is going to take us months." (Chris Hobson from NHS Providers, speaking about the COVID-19 pandemic.)

**shape: direction / mountains & hills**

**increase & decrease / progress & lack of progress / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: mountains & hills**

## peak (peak temperature, etc.)

peak winds  
with ~ of... (a tornado)

peak (consumption) month

~ (oil)

peak temperatures

we can expect higher ~ (warming)

**increase & decrease: numbers**

**peak (peak experience, etc.)**

peak experience

it was like a ~ to be at Brown (Brown University)

peak hype

~ didn't last long (crypto, NFTs, etc.)

peak moment

the film's ~ of misogyny occurs when...

**superlative: height / mountains & hills**

**peak (peak sexy, etc.)**

peak dollar stores

we are nowhere near ~ (they are proliferating)

peak Michael Bay

*Ambulance* is ~ (the film)

peak white woman behavior

it's ~ (Elizabeth Holmes)

peak Method

he thinks ~ came in the late sixties (acting)

peak Netflix

have we reached ~ (subscriptions go down)

peak phosphorus

the world will reach "~" in a few years (less extracted)

peak Ronaldo

he still thinks he is ~ in his head (soccer snark)

peak Superhero

have we reached ~ (Marvel fatigue)

peak TV

it's the age of ~

peak sexy

~ (a section in the online *New York Post*)

peak (campus) wokeness

we're past ~, the tide has turned and is receding... (2023)

♦ "Elizabeth Holmes Asking Trial Judge To Be Lenient Is Peak White Woman Behavior" by Candace McDuffie, *The Root*, Sat. Nov 12, 2022. On Yahoo.)

♦ "Indeed, 'peak woke' could simply give way to 'plateau woke,' to campuses filled with intimidated students and quiescent faculty." ("Rollback on Campus" by Frederick M. Hess, *National Review*, December 19, 2022.)

♦ "Some researchers say that 'peak phosphorus,' the point at which the amount of phosphorus being pulled from the ground starts to decline, could be reached within the next decade. Others maintain that the time frame is more like centuries." ("Elemental Need: Phosphorus helped save our way of life—and now threatens to end it" by Elizabeth Kolbert, *The New Yorker*, March 6, 2023.)

♦ The Merriam-Webster online definition for this usage is excellent.

♦ see also full (full Sarah Brightman, etc.)

**amount & effect / attainment / superlative: height / part of speech**

**pear (pear-shaped / failure)**

go pear-shaped

how everything could ~ (*Apocalypse How*)

**failure, accident & impairment: shape**

**pearl (Pearl of the Orient, etc.)**

"Pearl of the Adriatic"

the ~, on the Dalmatian Coast (Dubrovnik)

pearl of the Aegean

Naxos has always been the ~

Pearl of Africa

Mogadishu, the ~, is in ruins (Somalia)

"Pearl of the Antilles"

the city was considered the ~ (Havana, Cuba)

Pearl of Asia

when Phnom Penh was known as the ~

Pearl of the Orient

Manila, the ~ (Philippines)

the city that came to be known as the ~ (Saigon)

pearl of Ukraine

the complex has been called the "~" (Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra)

Black Pearl

the Town of Atlantic Beach is known as the "~" (SC)

♦ "The complex has been called the 'pearl of Ukraine' and the 'Vatican' of Ukrainian Orthodoxy. (The Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra complex in Kiev. It is a UNESCO world heritage site.)

♦ "The Indian rivers are pearls, the mountains rubies, and trees perfumes." (Hazrat Oman, a trader.)

**superlative: epithet / materials & substances / sea**

**epithet: materials & substances**

**geography: epithet**

**pearl (string of pearls)**

string of pearls

when the 21 pieces of the "~" comet hit Jupiter

**configuration: sea**

**pearl (clutch one's pearls)**

clutch their pearls

her language made some ~ (a lawmaker)

clutching their pearls over his behavior

they are ~

♦ "Some of Trump's defenders argue he's not really serious, and he's just trying to get people clutching their pearls."

♦ "I was pretty appalled in the moment." (NPR's David Folkenflik.)

♦ "Please, spare us the pearl-clutching faux-outrage." (Politics.)

♦ "Sit down, Jake." YouTube, "Time of My life" (Final Dance")

**feeling, emotion & effect: clothing & accessories**

## Pearl Harbor (Australia's Pearl Harbor, etc.)

Pearl Harbor moment

it was sort of a ~ for America (Fort Sumpter attack)

Australia's Pearl Harbor

the Japanese attack on Darwin is known as ~ (1942)

**history / military: epithet**

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## pecking order

pecking order

there is a ~ based on the players he trusts (soccer starts)

pecking order among the girls

the ~ was clear (sisters in a family)

corporate pecking order

we still have ~s and rigid job categories (lack of change)

above him in the pecking order

the fit-again Erik Lamela is ~ (soccer)

at the bottom of the pecking order

we were ~ (biker club)

fell (even further) down the pecking order

he ~ at Man U (the great Kasper Schmeichel)

**behavior / hierarchy: animal / bird**

## pedal (pedal to the metal)

pedal to the metal

our default in the ER is ~ (a doctor)

press the pedal to the metal

they dropped their work on dengue to ~ on Zika

keep his pedal to the metal

he vowed to ~ in challenging the president (politics)

♦ When it comes to pressing the pedal to the metal, one thinks of the *Fast & Furious* franchise.

♦ see also *gas* (*step on the gas / step off the gas*)

**commitment & determination: engine / mechanism**

## peddle (verb)

peddling AJ as a GOAT

the BBC has been ~ for years as part of their agenda

peddle positivity for likes, clicks and profit

online "wellness" influencers who ~

♦ "Sorry, but I ain't buying what you're selling..."

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: money / verb**

## pedestal (on a pedestal, etc.)

highbrow pedestal

we're watching a genre step off its ~ (documentaries)

climbed down from his pedestal

Canby finally ~, maintaining that... (the critic about a review)

deserve the pedestal

it turned out he didn't ~ (another historical figure cancelled)

put him on a pedestal

they ~ (George Washington)

people who ~ since he took charge

put on a pedestal

he has been put ~ by some and vilified by others (politics)

put on a (high) pedestal

they are ~ (priests in immigrant community)

♦ "I placed myself on a high pedestal, I refused to lower myself and sleep around..." (An immigrant girl in England. See the quote below this one for a different reaction.)

♦ "As a Brown Muslim immigrant...she felt forced to perform her sexuality or be reduced to the usual stereotypes associated with her cultural identity." ('Against White Feminism' Is An Urgent Call To Action For Solidarity And Justice' by Jenny Bhatt. This sounds very much like stereotype threat. Presumably, it meant she slept around.)

♦ "The England team are a great young team but the press and commentators turn people against them just like they do with every sport person. Put them on pedestals then same people knock them down just as quick." (A commenter about the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022.)

**admiration & contempt: height**

## pedestaled

pedestaled notions

the pressure to conform to ~ of female beauty...

**admiration & contempt / sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: height / statue**

## pedigree (noun)

mountaineering pedigree

they have the ~ needed to consider the task (climb K2)

decent pedigree

he never fought anyone with a ~ (boxing talk)

showed his pedigree

he ~ in the ring tonight (Usyk defeats Joshua)

♦ The origin of this word makes me wish I had taken French in high school. It has to do with a crane (the bird) and graphic representation.

**identity & nature: animal / family**

**history: animal / family**

## peek (verb)

peeked through the clouds

the sun ~

peek out from behind morning clouds

the sun is just starting to ~

**appearance & disappearance / resemblance: eye**

## peel (peel back the layers, etc.)

peeled back the layers

as investigators ~, they found more

peels back yet another layer

a revealing new interview ~ (a politician)

peel back the world

he writes with eager curiosity to ~ of...

♦ "My name is Mark Remillard, and I'm a reporter with ABC News. And I've been working with a team within ABC's investigative unit to peel back the curtain on how..."

♦ "You know what, we need to dig in a little bit deeper, so this year we decided to go underneath the covers and peel back some of the layers." (Megan Bigelow, about a survey of Portland, Oregon women in technology.)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: fruits & vegetables / verb**

## Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.)

Pele of Saudi Arabia

Majid Abdullah, the ~ (soccer)

Pele of Brazilian literature

he is the ~ (Paulo Coelho, according to Arnaldo Niskier)

Russian Pele

he earned the nickname, "the ~" (Eduard Streltsov / soccer)

♦ "The Michaelis dictionary, one of Brazil's most popular, added 'Pele' to its online edition Wednesday, defining it as an adjective that can be used to describe 'someone who is out of the ordinary, who or who by virtue of their quality, value or superiority cannot be equaled to anything or anyone.'" ("Pele' now officially means 'exceptional,' a Brazilian dictionary declares" by Emily Olson, NPR, World, April 27, 2023.)

**achievement, recognition & praise / superlative: epithet / sports & games**

## penalty box (noun)

put him in the penalty box with Elizabeth

his prank ~ (workplace)

**punishment & recrimination / situation: sports & games**

## pendulum (reversal)

pendulum is swinging back

now the ~ (from spending to austerity)

pendulum has swung too far

some think the ~ and they want to push it back

pendulum will swing back

the ~ (politics)

♦ "The pendulum is reversing now, hopefully it settle in the middle like it used to be." (Free expression at universities.)

**development / reversal: movement / pendulum**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: movement / pendulum**

## penned (penned into, etc.)

penned into the coastal plain

the British colonists were essentially ~

**constraint & lack of constraint: animal / container**

## pent-up (constrained)

pent-up anger

there's a lot of ~

pent-up energy

all that ~ came bursting out (a filmmaker)

pent-up (civic) forces

the dictator's ouster unleashed a whirlwind of ~

pent-up frustration

~s have flared into violence (Nigeria)

left it all pent up

it's as though the stuttering ~ (talkative person)

**feeling, emotion & effect: container**

**constraint & lack of constraint: container**

## penumbra (noun)

penumbra of privacy rights

the shadowy ~ (the Supreme Court)

my brother's penumbra

I lived in ~ my whole life

lies in the penumbra

this case ~, between clear right doing and wrong

**superiority & inferiority: light & dark / shadow**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: light & dark / shadow**

## people (little people, etc.)

little people

what utter contempt they have for us "~~" (a school board)

hurt the little people

she doesn't care about how she might ~ (a celebrity trial)

**importance & significance: person / size**

**characterization: person**

## pepper (verb)

peppers the body with his combinations

Derek Chisora ~ (boxing / vs. Joseph Parker)

pepper his correspondence

references to his impending doom ~ (Nietzsche)

pepper it with gunfire

with the convoy pinned down, the unit would ~ and retreat

peppered him with questions

she ~

**throwing, putting & planting: food & drink / verb**

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: food & drink / verb**

## peppered

peppered with F-bombs

the song was ~ (Gayle / "abcdefu")

peppered with insights

her book is ~ (a blurb)

getting peppered

he is ~ (boxing match)

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: food & drink**

**throwing, putting & planting: food & drink**

## pepper in (attach)

peppered that in  
we've talked about a bunch of policies, we've ~

**attachment / relationship: cooking**  
**configuration / identity & nature: cooking**

## percent (one hundred and ten percent)

gave it one hundred and ten percent  
I ~ (investigation of child abduction)

**commitment & determination: number**

## perch (verb)

perch on the edge  
people ~ of an unstable cliff (near Seven Sisters)

**configuration: animal / bird / verb**

## perch (noun)

new prime-time perch  
her ~ on MSNBC (Alex Wagner)

**place: animal / bird**

## perch (knock something off its perch)

knock Facebook off its perch  
only the government can ~

“knock Glasgow off their perch”  
Edinburgh want to ~ (rugby)

dislodged Republicans from their congressional perch  
the group ~ (politics)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: animal / bird**

## perched

perched in the rugged hills  
their house is ~

perched on a rock  
the local prison is ~ with fabulous views (Monaco)

perched on a (Danish) sand dune  
for 120 years, it was ~ (Rubjerg lighthouse moved)

**configuration: animal / bird**

## percolate (verb)

percolating  
the debate is ~ in various forms (controversy)

percolating (for years) around the blogosphere  
the argument has been ~

percolated throughout the U.S. Army  
the idea of permanent divisions ~ prior to 1917

**activity: heating water / temperature / verb / water**  
**initiation: heating water / temperature / verb / water**

## perdition (noun)

perdition of survivor's guilt  
the ~ (9/11)

*Road to Perdition*  
film critic Kenneth Turan reviews ~ (with Tom Hanks)

road to perdition  
“petting parties” were neon signposts on the ~ (1920s)

slide to perdition  
give socialism a foothold, and nothing can arrest the ~

lead the Republican Party to perdition  
mean-spiritedness and nonsense will ~ (politics)

**destruction: religion**

## perform (perform values, etc.)

perform our own lives  
social media forces us to ~

perform her interest  
she felt a step behind in knowing how to ~ in the classroom

performed different masculinities  
he ~ growing up (iLoveMakonnen)

perform her sexuality  
she felt forced to ~ (Brown Muslim immigrant)

perform these values  
they chose to ~ (criticism)

♦ “As a Brown Muslim immigrant...she felt forced to perform her sexuality or be reduced to the usual stereotypes associated with her cultural identity.” (‘Against White Feminism’ Is An Urgent Call To Action For Solidarity And Justice’ by Jenny Bhatt. This sounds very much like stereotype threat. Presumably, it meant she slept around.)

♦ “I don’t want to hear one more peep out of them about diversity, equity, and inclusion. I don’t wanna see any more of our C-suite execs recommend books for women’s history month. There were tangible actions they could’ve taken and they chose to perform these values. No thank you.” (An underpaid employee with an Asian name who was repeatedly turned down for a raise. She finally applied for her job as a new hire at a higher salary, and her posts went viral.)

♦ “Knausgard’s creation...reduces the entire world to the size of the author. This is happening everywhere now—as the writer himself, with characteristic insight, recognizes in a long passage about the ways in which the Internet and social media, by forcing us endlessly to perform our own lives, threaten to trivialize the very notion of selfhood... What work more than his deserves to become the great new classic of the age of the blog?” (“Knausgard” by Daniel Mendelsohn, *The New York Times Book Review*, September 24, 2018.)

♦ “[Ashley] Kim concurred. ‘When I first joined the English department, I felt seen, but I also felt, Maybe I don’t belong,’ she said. She’d gone to a magnet public school in New Jersey and felt a step behind the sanguine private-school kids in knowing how to perform her interest in the classroom.” (Harvard. From “The End Of The English Major” by Nathan Heller, *The New Yorker*, March 6, 2023. The conventional verb collocations would be “show” or “display” interest.)

♦ If you don’t enjoy “performing” your sexuality or your life, why don’t you just stop doing it?

♦ MORE CONVENTIONAL USAGE. “She performed the role of Ophelia in *Hamlet*.”

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection / verb**

## performance (groups)

performance of both

issues of gender, race and the ~ (women's studies)

performance of class

the novel is about class, or the ~ (*The Secret History*)

performance of (everyday) life

the ~, everything is a narrative, a script...

performance of love

the ~...

performance of masculinity

male artists whose ~ counters norms (Drake, etc.)

performance of patriotism

as if the ~ frees one from responsibility...

performance of a political view

many viewed wearing a mask as the ~

performance, the role

this would be a ~ of her lifetime (Heard-Depp trial)

politics of performance

the ~ can be rewarding, at least in the short run

♦ "Love Island makes us believe the performance of love leads to the real deal."

♦ "Recall how many Americans, in the grim depths of the pandemic, refused to understand the wearing of masks as anything but 'virtue signaling'—the performance of a political view, rather than a genuine public-health measure." (We're Already In The Metaverse: Reality is blurred. Boredom is intolerable. And everything is entertainment" by Megan Garber, *The Atlantic*, March, 2023.)

♦ "The story delves deep into what Bret sees as the performance of everyday life; the way everything is a narrative, a 'pantomime,' a 'script.'" ("Bret Easton Ellis' first novel in more than a decade, 'The Shards,' is worth the wait" by Gabino Iglesias, NPR, Review, Books, January 19, 2023.)

♦ "We told you that this would be a performance, the role of her lifetime as a heroic survivor of brutal abuse." (Camille Vasquez, in her closing arguments in the Amber Heard-Johnny Depp trial.)

♦ "When you're on set it seems obvious that pornography is a performance, just like a TV show or a choreographed dance. But most people haven't been on a porn set, and so the idea that it is a performance is not that obvious." ("What We (Don't) Talk About When We Talk About Porn" by Kate Lonsdorf, NPR, Let's Talk About Sex, May 25, 2019.)

♦ Old: showing or displaying the American flag... / New: the performance of patriotism...

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

## performative (groups)

performative

how to send an anti-racist message without appearing ~  
some question its value, is it ~ (critical race theory)

performative activism

she disparaged their protest as ~ and called for  
accountability

performative allyship

see *performative allyship*

performative art

politics has become ~

performative-anger

he is calm in a sea of ~ posers (election candidate)

performative demands

having to bear up under endless ~ (Jia Tolentino)

performative events

we are focused on outcome, not the process, or the ~

performative friendliness

our persistent ~ (Courtney E. Martin)

performative nature

it had a ~ to it (politician appears with wife)  
the institution's ~ (Congress / act crazy for cameras)

performative obnoxiousness

the ~ that now pervades Republican messaging (politics)

performative and calculating

he was so full-on, I thought, "what's up?" it was so ~

performative, less than relevant

the advertisement stands out in a sea of ~ nods to diversity

completely performative

this is ~, do more than just posting meaningless words

socially performative

the act of cancellation is still mostly conceptual or ~

conceptual or (socially) performative

the act of cancellation is still mostly ~

fake / performative

some mocked her undoubtedly ~ accent (Bhad Bhabie)

permanent and performative

he said posting on Twitter can feel "~" (can be intimidating)

routine and performative

these statements can be ~ ("land acknowledgment")

♦ "But, yeah, the idea of performative activism is a fine line, I mean, you can't just stay silent. But, it's kind of unethical to use those platforms, those voices, as a way to kind of put a spotlight on yourself." (Colin Meloy, lead singer with the Portland band The Decemberists. From "On His New Song, Colin Meloy Gets Lost In 'Slint, Spiderland,'" NPR, Morning Edition with David Greene, Sept. 2, 2020.)

♦ "The politics are mostly gestural; leftism as fashionable posturing; sanctimony literature; self-promotion and the airing of performatively righteous opinion..." (Criticism of a writer.)

♦ "There was a certain level of performative nature that came from it because I didn't want to be there... I found myself dealing with my own internalized homophobia." (Jussie Smollett, who is Black and gay, about an interview he gave.)

♦ "What resonates is that the female orgasm somehow has to be performative. Because the female orgasm is there to convince the man that he's managed it, he's achieved it, he's done the thing he's supposed to do for the woman." ("Emma Thompson on her new film—and the idea the female orgasm has to be performative," NPR, All Things Considered, June 17, 2022.)

♦ "He couldn't WAIT to pull it out his pocket at the red carpet. This is gross and performative and no matter how well this movie does or doesn't do, him proudly displaying his ownership of a photo of an enslaved man unrelated to him will always be disgusting." / "What a colossally inappropriate thing to do on every level. He shouldn't own it. Shouldn't use the wrong name for it. And definitely should not bring it to

show and tell." ("‘Emancipation’ producer slammed for bringing slavery photo to premiere" by Samantha Ibrahim, *New York Post*, December 2, 2022.)

♦ "Indigenous leaders and activists have mixed feelings about land acknowledgments. While some say they are a waste of time, others are working to make the well-meaning but often empty speeches more useful... They've been parodied on TV, in series like *Reservation Dogs*..." ("So you began your event with an indigenous land acknowledgement. Now what?" by Chloe Veltman, NPR, All Things Considered, March 15, 2023.)

♦ "If it becomes routine, or worse yet, is strictly performative, then it has no meaning at all. It goes in one ear and out the other." (Kevin Gover, about indigenous land acknowledgments.)

♦ "The land acknowledgment gets you to that start. Now it's time to think about what that actually means for you or your institution. What are the concrete actions you're gonna take? What are the ways you're gonna assist indigenous people in uplifting and upholding their sovereignty and self-determination?" (Cutcha Risling Baldy, quoted in "So you began your event with an indigenous land acknowledgement. Now what?" by Chloe Veltman, NPR, All Things Considered, March 15, 2023.)

♦ A plan by four churches on the Cherokee Indian Reservation to apologize to the tribe for a historical failure to recognize traditional Cherokee religion or culture has been greeted with surprise by tribal leaders. / "I don't see what they need to apologize for," said Tribal Council Chairman Bob Blankenship. "But if they feel they've offended us in any way, we'll accept it." / The majority of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians' 13,000 members belong to mainstream Christian churches... / As far as I'm concerned, it's a waste of time," said the Rev. Bo Parris of Big Cove Baptist Church. "There's nothing to apologize for." / Patty Grant, a member of the Eastern Band and one of the event organizers, said understanding intergenerational grief and trauma is an important part of what the churches are trying to do by making the apology. She said trauma from centuries of oppression often manifests itself in drug abuse, domestic violence and depression. / Pastor Steven Phillip...said, "From my perspective as a white male, I see a need for the white church to apologize for the oppression by Christian missionaries of Native American people," he said. "We thought we had to Europeanize them to evangelize. I am not apologizing for the Gospel. But I do apologize for how we perverted the Gospel in the name of Jesus and oppressed God's people. / Principal Chief Leon Jones, the top elected leader of the Eastern Band, doesn't think an apology is necessary. / "Personally, I think the past is history and I don't hold present-day people responsible," he said. "All we can do is live today's life and do the best we can today." ("Churches to offer apology to Cherokee" by Jon Ostendoff and Quintin Ellison in the *Asheville Citizen-Times*, July 22, 2002 A1.)

♦ "It's virtue signalling, but it's not really dealing with the problem."

♦ Acting; (scripted) entertainment; fake; feign; (like playing in a) movie; optics; performance art / politics; photo op; pose; scripted; (for) show; staged; (publicity) stunt; (political) theater... (Commenters about an article entitled, "AOC denies faking being handcuffed." Politics.)

♦ A related term is "virtue signaling."

♦ see also *lip service* (*pay lip service*, etc.)

♦ Linguistically, performative verbs do something by saying it. Performative verbs for sympathy include *to regret*; *to support*; *to be sorry*; *to grieve*; *to sympathize*. And there are many other verbs that are considered performative, like "I sentence you to be hanged" and "I order you to...", etc. "You're canceled" can be considered performative.

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

## performative allyship

performative allyship

she called out the brand for ~ (Victoria's Secret rebrand)

~, also known as *optical allyship*...

~ professes support and solidarity but in an unhelpful way

~ refers to someone from a nonmarginalized group

♦ had to look up "performative allyship" and I still don't get it. crazy. (The online commenter Diogenes.)

♦ If you type in "performative allyship" in Wikipedia, you are redirected to "Performative activism." ("This article possibly contains original research.

Relevant discussion may be found on the talk page. Please improve it by verifying the claims made and adding inline citations...")

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

## periscope (noun)

my periscope

from ~ as a state fire marshal, we're now looking at...

**perception, perspective & point of view: tools & technology**

## perish (verb)

publish or perish software

you can use the free ~

publish-or-perish world

the ~ of academic medicine

**survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / verb**

## permeate (verb)

permeates their lives

the sea ~ (Norwegians)

**absorption & immersion: air / smell**

## perspective (from a perspective)

from the perspective of another culture

see Uluru ~ (Australia)

from the perspective of curators

the arrangements were organized ~

from the perspective of lesbians

discussing social events ~ and gay men

from the perspective of students

but ~ and many staff members, nothing changed

from the perspective of African people

history ~ as subjects, not objects...

from a black man's perspective

~, I expect to be able to... (soccer racism)

from the customer's perspective

we're trying to look at it ~

from the employer's perspective

help them see the barrier ~

from the government's perspective

~, he should have been deported years ago

from the passengers' perspective

~, it was a normal day... (D.C. Metro)

from a pilot's perspective

a look at the flight data from a ~ (crash of...)

from the victim's perspective

murder ~

from a native perspective

if you look at history ~ (Cherokee)

from a classroom perspective

it's important to remember ~ that...

from a cost or time perspective  
when it's infeasible or impractical ~

from a law-enforcement perspective  
things get a little easier ~

from a collecting perspective  
~, there is a huge interest in these dolls

from a marketing perspective  
~, bankers just don't see the possibilities

from the African perspective  
studying ~ (African-American studies)

from a federal perspective  
that is possible ~ in this matter

from their perspective  
~, the future of arctic wildlands... (Greenpeace, etc.)

from your perspective  
and so ~, how do you think about that and...

from an economic perspective  
~, the Strait of Malacca is... (importance)

from a historical perspective  
people teaching ~

from a psychological perspective  
people teaching ~

from a sociological perspective  
people teaching ~

from a strategic perspective  
~, the Strait of Malacca is... (importance)

consider it from a (larger) perspective  
~ that includes... (the town, history, etc.)

look at history from a native perspective  
if you ~ (Cherokee)

look at it from their perspective  
if you ~...

made it from the Japanese perspective  
he ~ (Clint Eastwood / a film)

see the world from a different perspective  
people who ~ (autism)

looked at from a long term perspective  
however if ~... (exploiting ANWR)

**perception, perspective & point of view: position**  
**perspective (in perspective)**

difference in perspective  
the ~ between Western and Arab views of Hezbollah

kept things in perspective  
most importantly, they have ~

keep things in perspective

to ~, these are scary cases but... (stranger abductions)

put the figures in perspective  
to ~, each... (water scarcity / Middle East)

put the interview in perspective  
~ (jobs)

put it (all) in perspective  
what ~ was a woman who came up and said...

put things in (a different) perspective  
you sure ~ when you tell us about...

put things in (their proper) perspective  
if you ~, it doesn't really matter...

put things in perspective  
when we finish grieving and we can ~

put the whole thing in perspective  
old people can better able ~ (memories)

kept in perspective  
the threat needs to be ~ (Al-Shabab in Somalia)

**perception, perspective & point of view: position**  
**perspective (into perspective)**

puts everything else into perspective  
a child's death ~ (on Tour de France)

put it into perspective  
I think you have to ~ (string of skydiving fatalities)

put this into perspective  
to ~, this is... (comparison of pay-per-view fights)

**perception, perspective & point of view: position**  
**perspective (other)**

perspective  
your ~ is welcome (a call-in TV show)

perspective that  
the past ~ they were pastoralists has been corrected

perspective of a historian  
he brought to the subject the shrewd ~

perspectives of the Civil War  
if both black and white ~ are recognized...

perspective on (AIDS) issues  
articulate the public health ~

perspective on life  
articulating the Saudi ~, religion and Sept. 11

perspective on how  
they don't have enough ~ they're being formed (teens)

Parent's Perspective  
a ~ (depression in children)

public health perspective  
articulate the ~ on (AIDS) issues

marketing perspective  
I think in terms of the larger picture, which is a ~

balanced perspective  
it is important to have a ~ (safety and study abroad)

limited perspective  
I had a ~ (status of windsurfing of US vs. rest of world)

3,000-foot perspective  
Carrie, let me get your ~ something, do you think that...

Saudi perspective  
articulating the ~ on life, religion and Sept. 11

another perspective  
~ came from prostitutes... ("John" School)

cultural perspective  
a distinctive ~ that we simply don't have

different perspective  
different groups have ~s  
they can't see that their partner simply has a ~  
~s can produce different outlooks on the war (pilots)

enough perspective  
they don't have ~ on how they're being formed (teens)

historical perspective  
Biological warfare: A ~ (JAMA article)

invaluable perspective  
Glen Mills provided him with ~ (a good school)

new perspective  
it must revitalize itself with new ideas and ~s (college)

fresh, outsider perspective  
we're able to provide a ~ on US politics

sense of perspective  
he has a thick skin and a ~ (homicide detective)

shortcomings of the perspective  
they try to redress the ~ (African-American studies)

objectivity or perspective  
~ are not easy to come by in books generated by the war

reflection or perspective  
calm ~ are not easy to come by (war books)

sympathy and perspective  
~ are not easy to come by in wartime

time, distance, and perspective  
I am able to write about it now because of ~

perspectives differ  
why their ~ (Boomers vs. Gen Xers)

my perspective might have been skewed  
~ (US vs. European attitudes to...)

perspective lends understanding  
~ (history of Dubai)

perspective was shared

Cohan's ~ by a number of Asian-Americans

add my perspective  
I'd like to ~ to the discussion

adds a (fresh) perspective  
the parent's view ~ to their fight (intersexed)

agreed with my perspective  
not everyone ~

changed my perspective  
it ~ on everything...

consider (Native American) perspectives  
federal officials need to ~ when...

depends on your perspective  
so it probably ~ as to where you are (education reform)

gained some perspective  
he professed to have ~ in the ruins of his career

gives you (a little) perspective  
it ~ (reading about industry trends)

gives you a perspective  
it ~ that everyone is not the same (International camp)

gives you perspective  
the institute ~, you see that other people feel...

introduce (new) perspectives into curriculums  
trying to ~ (schools)

keep some perspective about it  
try to ~ (toddlers who throw food)

provided him with (invaluable) perspective  
Glen Mills ~ (a good school in a bad neighborhood)

promote (the proper ethical) perspectives  
commanders ~ (military)

supplied perspective  
David Morrison of NASA ~ (asteroid danger to earth)

take a (global or an American) perspective  
should it ~ (black studies)

♦ see the related *point of view* (*other*)

♦ "Position determines perspective. Or, to put it more simply, what you see depends on where you're standing. I'd been standing in the wrong place. I'd been standing too close to William Kent. I had to step back and see Kent from a different angle." (*The General's Daughter* by Nelson DeMille.)

♦ "Where you stand (on an issue) is determined by where you sit."

♦ "To envision how an ant might see its world, the Norwegian photographer Tine Poppe places her camera in the dirt of a meadow, lens pointing up." ("Looking Up: Photograph by Tine Poppe," *The Atlantic*, April 2021.)

♦ "We're able to provide a fresh, outsider perspective on US politics—one so often missing from the insular American media bubble." ("If you can, please consider supporting *The Guardian* today. Thank you.")

♦ "The Mekong River is the Dza-chu in Tibet, the Lancang (Lancang Jiang) in China, and the Khong (Mae Nam Khong) in Thailand."

♦ In Russia, World War II is known as the Great Patriotic War. In China, it is known as the Second sino-Japanese War. In Vietnam, the Vietnam War is called the American War.

♦ A FUNNY STORY. Nasreddin was lying on the bank of a river, relaxing. Across the water, he saw a man. The man shouted, "Hey, how to I get to the other side of the river?" Nasreddin shouted back to him, "You are on the other side of the river!"

♦ A good school assignment: Tell us about an event, or a period of time, that changed your perspective about something, someone, or everything...

**perception, perspective & point of view: position**

## pest (person)

sex pest

X is a ~ (a sign with pictures of a rat and cockroach)  
a division of the Guardian Angels is on the lookout for ~s

relentless pest

he was a ~ (the stalker / mass murderer Richard Farley)

♦ "A Canadian man nearly blew off his own head while trying to kill a mouse with a rifle..."

♦ "A Japanese man burned his house down while trying to kill a mosquito."

♦ "Police arrested a man who tried to torch a hornets' nest, but instead ended up setting fire to two rented motorbikes." (Cambodia.)

♦ "A New York City woman set off 21 bug bombs inside her apartment, causing an explosion that collapsed her five-story building, injuring 14 people."

♦ "A New Jersey man's over-zealous attempt to eradicate a home cockroach infestation ended in an explosion."

♦ "A California man is currently homeless, after attempting to clear spider webs from his backyard using a propane-powered blowtorch."

♦ "A Seattle man used a can of spray paint and a lighter as a makeshift blowtorch to kill a spider and ended up burning down his house."

♦ "The world record for the longest chain of mini dominoes was... thwarted when a fly triggered the dominoes." (A failed attempt at a Guinness World Record.)

♦ "A Texas woman ended up burning down her home in a heated battle with a snake. When the Texarkana resident spotted the serpent in her garden, she doused it with gasoline and set it ablaze. The flaming snake slithered into a nearby brush pile, igniting it and the house in a conflagration..."

♦ "On the door you're a pest, in the home you're a guest." (Predatory door-to-door salesmanship.)

♦ "The flies plagued Giufa and stung him. He went to the judge and complained about them. The judge laughed at such a simple young man and said, 'Whenever you see a fly you can strike it.' While the judge was speaking, a fly rested on his face and Giufa dealt it such a blow that he broke the judge's nose."

**affliction: animal / insect / person**

## pester (verb)

pester you for sex

they constantly ~ (men at a hotel on Cyprus)

pestered me about it

my brother ~ for years, it was a crazy idea, I told him

**affliction: animal / horse / insect / verb**

## pet (vocative)

my pet

don't worry, ~

**vocative: animal**

## pet (pet cause, etc.)

pet cause

seeking attention for a ~

pet ideas

they want their ~ adopted (conservatives)

pet name

my girlfriend's ~ for it is...

pet phrase

"We shall see" is one of his ~s

pet project

a ~ of Navy Secretary Danzig  
earmarks are ~s that lawmakers insert into giant bills

pet theory

it's hard to let go of a ~  
history can reinforce one's ~s

Fortune's pet

he was now ~ instead of her stepson (change to good)

teacher's pet

I was the ~ (school)

**enthusiasm / relationship: animal**

## Peter Pan

Peter Pan syndrome

the ~, these men never grow up (NYC men)

♦ see also *never-never land*

**growth & development: biology**

**allusion: books & reading**

## petri dish

petri dishes of cafes and storefronts

a new theatrical culture grew in the ~ (NYC)

♦ The petri dish was named after the German bacteriologist Julius Richard Petri.

**growth & development: biology**

## petrified (adjective)

petrified to vote

Blacks were ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: movement**

## phalanx (phalanx of lawyers, etc.)

phalanx of lawyers

the ~ representing him

the figure was announced outside the courthouse by a ~

**amount / protection & lack of protection: military**

## phantom

phantom classes

an academic scandal involving ~ (athletes)

appearance & disappearance / presence & absence:  
creature

## pharaoh (power)

bureaucratic pharaoh

he was a ~ who built monumental works (Robert Moses)

military pharaoh

power has transferred from a ~ to an Islamic one (Egypt)

power: history

## Pharaonic (adjective)

Pharaonic

the scale and ambition of the project are ~ (a book)

Pharaonic effort

the job required a ~ (channelizing L.A. River)

pharaonic-scale

did Ceausescu really care if this ~ was completed (canal)

size: allusion / history

comparison & contrast: affix

## pharmacy (Pharmacy of the World, etc.)

Pharmacy of the World

India is often called “The ~” (drug making)

importance & significance: epithet

## phobe (vaxophobe, etc.)

homophobe

he himself was a ~...

the worse ~s are secretly gay (Pop Culture Happy Hour)

ultraconservatives, bigots, ~s and the like (NPR)

transphobe

the stereotype of the redneck ~

vaxophobe

the ~s are commenting

♦ “Hahaha! I see the vaxophobes are on board today!” (A commenter about the death of a young athlete, no cause of death listed. Many other commenters suggested his death may have been related to vaccine shots.)

♦ DVD-phobe; death-o-phobe; physics phobe; Halloween-o-phobes; New Year’s Eve-o-phobes; cellular commitment-phobe; Trump-a-phobe; conflict-phobe; culture-phobes; vegetable phobe; zucchini-phobes... (And on and on from NPR, a suffix without end. 62,418 results for “phobe.”)

inclusion & exclusion: affix

## phobia (fatphobia, etc.)

‘-phobia’ frame

antagonizing your ideological opponent is built into the ~

biphobia

entrenched societal, institutional and familial ~

~ always comes out extra during bisexual awareness week

bi-phobia

there is a lot of ~ and bi-erasure that exists in society

fatphobia

low-rise waists and ~ in the fashion industry

eating disorders, body dysmorphia, and ~

~, diet culture, parenting and health

homophobia

how ~ sidelined the National Women’s Football League

hot phobia

she believes she’s a victim of ‘~’ (see quote below)

queerophobia

a broad strategy to combat ~ (Germany)

transphobia

homophobia and ~ within the Black community

police violence, racism and ~ (on the island of Bali)

Islamophobia

bullying and ~ focus of new YA novel

how ~ is hurting India’s foreign policy

♦ “An OnlyFans star was kicked out of the supermarket for her skimpy outfit, but she believes she’s a victim of ‘hot phobia.’” (“I was kicked out of a store over my shorts—I’m a victim of ‘hot phobia’” by Adriana Diaz, *New York Post*, April 26, 2023.)

♦ “In 2012, The Associated Press banned ‘social and political’ ‘-phobia,’ from its stylebook, declaring them too charged for use in objective reporting.” (“How ‘-Phobic’ Became a Weapon in the Identity Wars” by Amanda Hess, *The New York Times Magazine*, Jan. 26, 2016. It’s a brilliant article.)

♦ “The gay rights movement turned sharply on the language of medicine to make a cultural point; in turn, advocates for other marginalized groups have borrowed the ‘-phobia’ construction in hopes of replicating the gay rights movement’s success... ‘Phobia’ is now so embedded in our language that it’s easy to forget that it is a metaphor comparing bigots to the mentally ill.” (“How ‘-Phobic’ Became a Weapon in the Identity Wars” by Amanda Hess, *The New York Times Magazine*, Jan. 26, 2016.)

♦ “The ‘-phobic’ suffix has emerged as the activist’s most trusted term of art for pinning prejudice on an opponent.” (“How ‘-Phobic’ Became a Weapon in the Identity Wars” by Amanda Hess, *The New York Times Magazine*, Jan. 26, 2016.)

♦ “Sydney man admits gay hate murder of American 32 years ago.”

inclusion & exclusion: affix

## phobic (transphobic, etc.)

phobic about Islam

a lot of Americans are, like ~ (Mahershala Ali)

bi-phobic

it’s been called ~ (the novel *The Well of Loneliness*)

fat phobic

so-called fat suits are ~ and offensive (Hollywood)

homophobic

I felt that the movie was not ~ (Joe Eszterhas / *Basic Instinct*)

its ~ jokes (Netflix special “The Closer”)

queer-phobic

~ U.S. legislators (‘don’t say gay’ bills / NPR)

a sometimes ~ world (or sexist, or racist, etc.)

Russophobic

hysterical, rabid and ~ (an untrue accusation)

transphobic

she lost her job for ‘~’ tweets (Maya Forstater)

its homophobic and ~ jokes (Netflix special "The Closer")  
protest over '~' speaker (Oxford Union / England)

homo- and trans-phobic

a racist, misogynist, ~ fanbase... (comics)

homophobic, biphobic and transphobic

~ have no place in sport...

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♦ "The '-phobic suffix has emerged as the activist's most trusted term of art for pinning prejudice on an opponent." ("How '-Phobic' Became a Weapon in the Identity Wars" by Amanda Hess, *The New York Times Magazine*, Jan. 26, 2016.)

♦ "Moral panic" and "-phobia" are two good examples of words used by proponents to mischaracterize their opponents.

♦ "Sydney man admits gay hate murder of American 32 years ago."

♦ "Ice-phobic coatings for its boats, so they don't get bogged down by freezing water and sea-spray."

**inclusion & exclusion: affix**

## Phoenix (myth)

Phoenix

we will rise from the ashes like the ~ (town burns)

scientific Phoenix

he was a ~, rising from the ashes of his mistakes (Pasteur)

♦ In Greek mythology, the Phoenix was a bird that periodically was consumed by fire and then regenerated itself from the ashes.

♦ In his notes to Canto XXIV of *The Inferno*, John Ciardi describes the Phoenix thusly: "The fabulous Phoenix of Arabia was the only one of its kind in the world. Every five hundred years it built a nest of spices and incense which took fire from the heat of the sun and the beating of the Phoenix's wings. The Phoenix was thereupon cremated and was then re-born from its ashes." This is close to the story the Egyptians told Herodotus in the 5th century BC.)

♦ In Atlanta, Georgia (USA), a bronze monument of the Phoenix rescuing a woman from a fire commemorates that city's rise from the ashes of the Civil War. Atlanta prides itself on its motto, "The city too busy to hate." Pretty much true today, except for the rappers.

♦ "We both know that if I burnt you down some punk phoenix would rise from your ashes." (Camp dialogue recited by the actor Ray Liotta from *Shades of Blue*.)

**creation & transformation / destruction / origin / survival, persistence & endurance: allusion / fire / sign, signal, symbol**

## photobomb (verb)

photobomb the images

Ms Steinbach denied she had been asked to ~

♦ Kelly Steinbeich (AKA Kelleth Cuthbert) became known as the Fiji Water Girl after she upstaged celebrities on the Golden Globe red carpet while providing that brand of water to them.

♦ "There has been an increase in so-called 'Zoom-bombing.'" (Video conferencing during the Coronavirus pandemic.)

♦ "The Zoom bombing was an attack on free expression." (Brandeis President Ronald Liebowitz.)

♦ "My dead baby photobombed my new wedding photos." (*The New York Post*, "Weird But True.")

♦ "I remember I went down into this hole for another scoop of dirt, and then that's when the bomb hit. I looked at the man I was digging this hole with; half his body was gone. And I looked up at the trees and I could see body parts on the limbs on the trees, and I shook myself out of it and I stood up, and it was so quiet." (Private Manuel Orona, Hill 875, Dak To, Vietnam War. The 500-pound bomb from a Marine plane caused the worst friendly-fire incident of the Vietnam War.)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: picture / theater / verb / weapon**

## pick (pick oneself up)

pick themselves up

they've got to ~ (a losing team)

**resiliency: direction / hand / verb**

## pick apart (analyze)

picking apart the language

opposition leaders have been ~ (Brexit deal)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: cloth / verb**

## pick up (increase)

pick up

demand will eventually ~ (airline industry)

**increase & decrease: number**

**increase & decrease: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## pick up (pick somebody up, etc.)

picked me up

my community of girlfriends ~ during the worst time

**mental health: direction / verb**

**help & assistance: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## picnic (no picnic)

no picnic

Isabelle is ~ herself (needy and insecure)

loving him is ~

the shelter is ~, but he's thankful (disaster relief)

getting Lyme disease is ~

no picnic being a kidney patient

it's ~ even in the best conditions (Gaza Strip)

no picnic for lawmakers

the August recess is ~

**difficulty, easiness & effort: food & drink**

## picnic (other)

picnic

in comparison with Nanda Devi East, Everest is a ~

**difficulty, easiness & effort: food & drink**

## picnic (church picnic)

church picnic  
the rally was more ~ than protest (Tea Party)

**behavior / conflict: religion**

## picture (out of the picture)

out of the picture  
he is ~ (husband who abandoned family)

take you out of the picture  
a mistake will ~ (competition)

wanted him out of the picture  
she ~ (murder)

**involvement / presence & absence: picture**

## picture (in the picture)

put you in the picture  
this will ~

**involvement: picture**

## picture (in the big picture)

in the big picture  
it's not important ~

♦ If you want to know whether a ship is moving, you don't look at the deck, you look over the side... (A quote attributed to the great geologist John Tuzo Wilson, an important convert to and proponent of the theory of continental drift and plate tectonics.)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: picture**  
**context / perception, perspective & point of view: picture**

## picture (big picture / noun)

bigger picture  
you never see the ~, do you (criticism)

big-picture goal  
her ~ is to end the conservatorship

focus on the big picture  
politicians put aside their bickering to ~ (9/11)

get big picture  
let's back up and just ~ for a second (NPR)

♦ NPR's Ari Shapiro once said, "Pull the camera back and explain what you think that says about Mormonism in this moment of the 21st century beyond Mitt Romney."

♦ "She is here to lay out something of a radio map for us, hey there, Diaa, so before we get to the fighting, would you give us the big map? Afghanistan, of course..." (Breezy language heard on NPR.)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: picture**  
**context / perception, perspective & point of view: picture**

## picture (big picture / verb)

big-picture this  
I want you to ~ for me (a sports show / two guys)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / context / perception, perspective & point of view: part of speech**

## picture (view)

picture of the economy  
the conventional ~ is...

picture of their kids  
confused parents have no clear ~

heart-wrenching picture  
the ~ of last week...

complicated picture  
an investigation presented a ~

accurate picture  
present an ~ of the current boom (economy)

better picture  
we need to get a ~ of what's going on

bigger picture  
you never see the ~, do you (criticism)

bleak picture  
it is an amazingly ~ that you present (jobs / adjuncts)

bleaker picture  
there are doctors who paint a ~ than necessary

clear picture  
confused parents have no ~ of their kids  
no single agency has a ~ of who is responsible for what

complete picture  
complaints authorities haven't provided a ~ (epidemic)  
what happens in the lab isn't the ~ (virology)

conventional picture  
the ~ of the economy is...

different picture  
a ~ emerged of the risks...

little-picture (m)  
a ~ trend

pessimistic picture  
they are painting a ~ of her career (an actor)

sordid picture  
the allegations painted a ~ (recruiting violations)

true picture  
disclosure will give a ~ (toxic emissions)

ugly picture  
she painted an ~ of him as a drug user (trial)

whole picture  
you have to look at the ~  
you might not be seeing the ~ (health ad)  
the numbers may never capture the ~ (pandemic)

quite a (gloomy) picture  
he presented ~ of the region

one-sided picture  
the ~ purveyed by the media

favorable picture

suspects want to paint the most ~ possible

picture emerged

a different ~ of the risks...

as the cases accumulated, a common clinical ~ (epidemic)

picture (of what is going on) is getting clearer

more and more the ~ (epidemic)

described a different picture

but he ~... (of a crisis)

drew a (very different) picture

prosecutors ~ (a trial)

get a better picture

we need to ~ of what's going on (diplomacy)

painted an (ugly) picture

she ~ of him as a drug user (trial)

painted a (damning) picture

the report ~ of a culture of coercion (sports camp)

paint a (bleaker) picture

there are doctors who ~ than necessary

add nuance to the overall picture

future research will no doubt ~ (epidemiology)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: picture**

**characterization / evidence: picture**

**picture (picture-perfect)**

picture-perfect

the launch was ~ (Blue Origin's *New Shepard*)

♦ "Not too shabby." / "It was picture-perfect!"

**flaws & lack of flaws: picture**

**pie (apple pie)**

apple pie

nativism is as old as ~

**identify & nature: food & drink / sign, signal, symbol**

**pie (shape)**

"pies"

there are snowdrifts, we call them ~ (ice yachting)

♦ "There are snowdrifts, we call them 'pies.' The small ones are ok, but the big ones are dangerous. I drove into one yesterday. It was not great." (Roman Kopylov, an ice yachting enthusiast, speaking on Lake Baikal.)

**resemblance / shape: food & drink**

**pie (piece of the pie, etc.)**

piece of the billion-dollar pie

they weren't getting a ~ (NCAA athletes)

piece of the revenue pie

students don't get any ~ (the NCAA)

♦ "I don't want a piece of the pie, I want the goddamn recipe!" (The character of singer-songwriter-businessman Sam Cooke from the fine Amazon film *One Night in Miami*.)

♦ "They weren't getting a piece of the billion-dollar pie... but ya know, you can let them go make their own pies." (T.J. Holmes for ABC's *Good Morning American*, about NCAA athletes being allowed to make money on their name, image or likeness.)

**amount: food & drink**

**piece (missing pieces)**

missing pieces

the ~ now are falling into place (police investigation)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: puzzle**

**piece (pick up the pieces)**

pick up the pieces

hopefully, negotiators can ~ and find a way forward

♦ "Investigators are still searching for who planted the explosive device. And residents are left picking up the pieces, literally and metaphorically, after the bombing." (The Georgia Guidestones in Elberton, in the US state of Georgia, were blown up. The Guidestones had been an important tourist attraction for the small town.)

**amelioration & renewal: destruction / verb**

**resiliency: destruction / verb**

**pieces (go to pieces)**

went to pieces

when he was abandoned by his friends, he ~ (politician)

he ~, drank more, gave up...

**mental health: euphemism**

**failure, accident & impairment: mental health**

**piece together (verb)**

piece it together

it took him less than two weeks to ~ (serial rapist)

piecing together (historic) clues

he began ~

piece together what

police are trying to ~ led to the shooting

pieced together where

investigators have still not ~ the money came from

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: puzzle / verb**

**pied piper**

pied piper

he was too charismatic, a ~ leading students astray (Uni)

"pied piper of R&B"

he adopted the nickname, ~ (R. Kelly)

"Pied Piper" of theoretical physics

Oppenheimer had become a ~ (Berkeley the place to study)

Pied Piper in Prada ankle boots

she's a PowerPoint ~

pied-piper meaning

he had a message, a kind of ~ (Charles Manson's lyrics)

♦ "So Charles would be walking, and then thousands would be following him everywhere he went, you know. He was the Pied Piper." (Magic Johnson, about Charles Barkley at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.)

"Chuck" enjoyed strolling the Ramblas at night, attracting great crowds, and at least one sportswriter considered him "America's best ambassador" at the games.)

♦ In a *New York Times* opinion entitled "Pompom Girl for Feminism," Maureen Dowd dismissed Sheryl Sandberg as a "PowerPoint Pied Piper in Prada ankle boots."

**attraction & repulsion: allusion / epithet / magic**

**allusion: books & reading**

## piety (noun)

pieties of the (early) 1990s

liberals have reverted to the ~ (alleged sex harassment)

lazy pieties

she avoids ~ and reactionary forecasts ( a writer)

progressive pieties

bureaucracies enforcing ~ in the workplace (DEI, etc.)

pieties could scarcely survive

these ~ WWII (goodness of man, sentimentality, etc.)

bend to (contemporary progressive) pieties

he refuses to ~

takes aim at the pieties

she is a heretic who ~ of diet culture

**idea: religion**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## pig (insult)

pig

he's a ~

but your bosses can keep coasting along, the ~s

no matter how much lipstick you put on a ~, it's still a pig

♦ "They're looking to have World Cups every two years so they can keep their snouts in the trough financially." (FIFA.)

♦ What do you expect from a pig but a grunt!

**behavior / insult: animal**

## pigeonhole (noun)

resisted this pigeonhole

he ~ (Bruce Chatwin, of a homosexual)

**characterization: animal / bird**

## pigeonholed

pigeonholed

he never wanted to be ~ (Bruce Chatwin and his sexuality)

**characterization: animal / bird**

## piggyback (verb)

piggy-back something partisan on it

one side or the other tried to ~ (legislation politics)

piggybacked on his reporting

other sites ~ to cast aspersions on the company

♦ Originally this meant pitching something onto somebody's back.

**configuration: animal / verb**

## piggybank (noun)

piggybank

they used the group's coffers as their ~

♦ "I will never allow myself to be a piggybank for anyone to shake." (The musician Ed Sheeran about winning his court case.)

**money: purses & wallets / sign, signal, symbol**

## pile (pile of money, etc.)

pile of money

they hoped to make a ~

**amount: pile**

## pile-on (noun)

pile-on on Bernie Sanders

there did seem to be a ~ (election debate)

bipartisan pile-on

it was a ~ (Boeing congressional hearing)

cable-news pile-on

the first accusation, the next accusations, the ~

online pile-ons

even non-public figures have ~

callouts, draggings, and pile-ons

some Y.A. books are targeted in intense social-media ~

joined the pile-on

soon big-named comedians ~ (Instagram problem)

♦ A person who joins a pile-on is a piler-on. The plural would be pilers-on: "She was one of the early pilers-on and she is begging forgiveness."

**unanimity & consensus: pile / sports & games**

**accusation & criticism: pile / sports & games**

**punishment & recrimination: pile / sports & games**

## pile on (gang up on)

pile on

some urged Democrats not to ~ (attacks on Joe Biden)

piled on

national Democrats ~ (calls for resignation)

fans ~ (to criticize Bill Buckner after his 1986 error)

the media ~ (criticism of Bill Buckner after 1986 error)

♦ "Man Utd are a club giving joy to hundreds of millions every week. Just not their fans." (Mish on a BBC HYS. 1037 upvotes. 48 downvotes.)

**unanimity & consensus: pile / sports & games / verb**

**accusation & criticism: pile / sports & games / verb**

**punishment & recrimination: pile / sports & games / verb**

## pile on (increase)

piling on the pressure

he's ~ (politics)

**increase & decrease: pile / verb**

## pile up (verb)

pile up

disturbing details began to ~ (missing child)

distractions can pile up  
~ (while driving a car: kids, music, cellphone, etc.)

evidence was piling up  
the ~ (investigation of missing woman)

**increase & decrease: direction / pile / prep, adv, adj,  
particle / verb**

## **pilgrimage (trip)**

pilgrimage site  
his restaurant is a ~ for foodies

rock 'n' roll pilgrimage  
Australia's annual ~ (the Elvis festival / Parkes)

annual pilgrimage  
they've made the ~ for 12 years (Daytona 500)

act of pilgrimage  
in an ~, he found Amundsen's cairn on Betty's Knoll

make the pilgrimage  
Scandinavians ~ here each year (northern Jutland)  
tourists ~ to see sunrise from Low's Peak (Kinabalu)

makes a pilgrimage  
nearly every day, somebody ~ here (Lake Lure)

♦ "They say they just want to see the site. I'm just stunned. It takes work on their part to find out [the locations] where the movie was shot." (John Cloud at Lake Lure, North Carolina, on people who come looking for where the film *Dirty Dancing* was filmed. The movie, released in 1987, starred Patrick Swayze and Jennifer Grey. Dirty Dancing Cove is the popular name for the place where Swayze and Grey practiced lifts in the water.)

♦ The "devotional crawl" around Kang Rinpoche (Mount Kailas) in western Tibet takes about two weeks. The path starts at an altitude of 15,000 feet, attains an altitude of 18,600 feet at the Drolma La Pass, is 33 miles long, and crosses streams. Most pilgrims walk or crawl in a clockwise direction, but the Bonpos go counterclockwise. Pilgrims spend years and even decades simply getting to the mountain.

♦ "Downtown Jeddah is bustling with the annual post-Haj commercial boom caused by the influx of pilgrims. Many pilgrims are on a shopping spree while others set up stalls to sell items they brought with them to help pay for their journey, and even take a little extra cash home with them... Asian pilgrims can be seen buying Islamic-themed gifts, perfumes, beauty products, henna, and prayer rugs... Tunisians, Indonesians, Pakistani and Egyptians are buying religious books and rugs. African pilgrims are buying gold, electronics, cosmetics, furniture and other products in bulk in order to re-sell these items back home... The Gold Street at Bab Sharif has temporarily turned into a Little Khartoum or Little Nouakchott due to the sheer numbers of Mauritanian and Sudanese pilgrims. Women from Mauritania, Sudan, Somalia and Yemen are buying textiles for clothes." ("Balad bustles as pilgrims trade," by Omaima Al-Fardan and Fatima Sidiya, *Arab News*, 7 Dec. 2009.)

**enthusiasm: religion**

**attraction & repulsion: religion / place**

## **pill (poison pill)**

poison pill  
they included a ~ in the spending bill (to kill it)

poison pill to the Brown's books  
it's a contract that has the potential to be a ~ (NFL salaries)

**destruction / subterfuge: health & medicine**

## **pill (bitter pill, etc.)**

pill to swallow  
getting advice can be a bitter ~  
it was a hard ~ having medalled in the past (track loss)

bitter pill  
the long term solution may be a ~

easily swallowed pill  
the song's humor made its feminism an ~ (You're So Vain)

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**

**consumption: health & medicine**

## **pill (miracle pill)**

miracle pill  
it is not a ~ (a drug)

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

## **pillar (basis)**

pillars of Islam  
pilgrimage is one of the five ~

pillar of the (US) approach  
another ~ is to minimize civilian casualties

pillar of the (Iraq) coalition  
a ~ has collapsed (Spain)

pillar of the community  
the family was a ~  
he has always been a ~ (slain businessman)

pillars of excellence  
black schools that were once ~ fell into decline

pillar of their faith  
a pilgrimage that is a ~ (Hajj)

pillars of our plan  
here are the four ~ (State of the Union address)

pillar of (modern) science  
peer-reviewed journals are a ~

pillars of (Somali) society  
clan elders, the traditional ~ (Somaliland)

EU's (major policy) "pillars"  
the ~ include free movement and Schengen open borders

community pillar  
the ~ became an object of loathing (pedophile)

ideological pillar  
she assaulted the ~s of the system

traditional pillars  
clan elders, the ~ of Somali society (Somaliland)

four pillars  
the AAMDC executes the ~ of Missile Defense

five pillars  
pilgrimage is one of the ~ of Islam

first pillar

the ~ of our framework offers a path to citizenship for...

second pillar

salah, prayer, is the ~ (of Islam)

second (Israeli) pillar

a ~ was the Israeli Air Force (1973 war)

fourth pillar

fasting during Ramadan is the ~ of Islam

fifth pillar

Hajj is the ~ (Islam)

rested on the (three) pillars

victory ~ of intelligence, the air force, and tanks

**bases: infrastructure**

## pillar (Pillar Rock, etc.)

Pillar

the ~ is a mountain in British Columbia

Pillars of Hercules

the northern pillar of the ~ is the Rock of Gibraltar

Pillar Point

we walked to ~ (Hong Kong)

Cape Pillar

~, with its cluster of basaltic columns (Tasman Peninsula)

**proper name: infrastructure**

## pillar (resemblance)

pillar of fire

a ~ rose from the home (plane crashes into home)

pillars of smoke

huge ~ rose above buildings (bombardment)

**resemblance: infrastructure**

## pilloried

pilloried

the same military that was idolized was now being ~

pilloried in the media

he was ~

pilloried by the Trump administration

the former ambassador is being ~

pilloried (by critics) for supporting

he is sometimes ~ the revolutions (Arab Spring)

pilloried by his rivals for his past donations

he has been ~ to Democrats

pilloried after Games fall

skater ~ (on social media after fall at 2022 Olympics)

**accusation & criticism: speech / violence**

**punishment & recrimination: speech / violence**

## pillory (verb)

pilloried the president over (federal) spending

he has ~ (politics)

♦ In *Krakatoa*, Simon Winchester reprints a German soldier's list of punishments in Batavia (present-day Jakarta) in 1676. The soldier mentions beheadings, six unfortunate men who were broken on the wheel, a hanging, whippings, burnings (brandings), two soldiers forced to run the gauntlet, and "A Dutch Schoolmaster's Wife," caught cheating on her husband, who was "put in the Pillory."

**accusation & criticism: speech / violence / verb**

**punishment & recrimination: speech / violence / verb**

## pilot (verb)

piloted the school to (considerable) success

he ~ (a principal)

**directing: boat / verb**

## pin (attach)

pinning its hopes on a new strategy

the company is now ~ (oil leak)

pinning their hopes on the new treatment

they are ~ (leukemia)

pinned their hopes on the report

many Democrats ~ as a game changer (politics)

**attachment: cloth / verb**

## pinball (verb)

pinballed around the box

Joe Allen's deflected shot ~ (soccer)

pinballed from cheerfulness to negative thoughts

she ~

**movement: ball / sports & games / verb**

## pincer (noun)

pincer of (negative) reaction

she faces a ~ (markets and polls / U.K.'s Liz Truss)

pincer attack

the option for a ~ against Peking was possible (1895)

claw of the pincer

he wanted to see the southern ~ on the map (Stalin)

caught in the pincers

Romanians have been ~ of three empires

♦ The three pincers that Romania has been caught between were the Ottoman Turks, the Russians (and the Soviet Union), and the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / hunting / predation**

## pincered

pincered between his hope and his fear

he was ~

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / hunting / predation**

## pinch (pinch of hunger, etc.)

pinch of hunger

to feel the ~ in April and May (Alaska)

economic pinch

what unites them is the ~ and anger at the president

feel the pinch

they don't ~ yet (subsistence farmers and COVID)

feeling the pinch

the economy is bad, and shopkeepers are ~

♦ "Scraping along / In a little shack, / With hardly a shirt / To cover his back, / And a prairie wind / To blow him down, / Or pinching times / If he went to town." ("Nancy Hanks" by Rosemary Benet. The poem is about Abraham Lincoln.)

♦ see biting (adjective)

**feeling, emotion & effect: finger / sensation**

**affliction: finger / sensation**

**survival, persistence & endurance: finger / sensation**

## pinched

pinched by the pandemic

it was a windfall for local governments ~ (relief bill)

**feeling, emotion & effect: finger / sensation**

**affliction: finger / sensation**

**survival, persistence & endurance: finger / sensation**

## ping-pong (verb)

ping-pongs along

as the dialogue ~, the audience... (a play)

ping-pong back and forth

versions ~ between the House and Senate (spending bill)

ping-ponged (around) from music to comics

the conversation ~

ping-ponging between both those identities

you're ~ and neither feels right (not a child, not adult / girls)

ping-pong between institutions

patients often ~ (nursing homes and hospitals)

ping-pong between the two (major) parties

voters ~ (Mexico)

ping-ponged between Los Angeles and New York

he ~

ping-ponged (numerous times) between Syria and Iraq

her family ~

ping-pongs between vulnerable and obnoxious

she ~ (a child in a film)

**movement: ball / direction / sports & games / verb**

## ping-pong (noun)

ping-pong editing

what I call ~ (close-ups toggle between 2 talking people)

ping-pong exchange

the ~ of offer and counteroffer

ping-pong structure

the book's ~ makes for a kinetic read

ping-pong with your emotions

this sport plays ~ (Costello & Bunce / boxing)

budget ping pong

it's a game of ~ between the two parties (spending bill)

game of (legislative) Ping-Pong

it's a ~ (budget dispute)

**movement: ball / direction / sports & games**

## pinkwash (verb)

pinkwashing Palestinian human-rights violations

Israel is ~ by touting its tolerance of gays

♦ Recognized by Wiktionary.

**inclusion & exclusion: subterfuge / verb**

## pinnacle (achievement)

pinnacle of avarice

critics see it as the ~ (presidency of Goldman Sachs)

pinnacle of glory

it was the ~ in a career of already meteoric achievement

pinnacle of her profession

after reaching the ~ on her shuttle mission...

pinnacle of (Scottish) wooden shipbuilding

she really was the ~ (the *Terra Nova*)

pinnacle of success

Tyson reached the ~ at the age of just 20

pinnacle experience

it was a ~ (Creekbound and Down / kayaking)

reached a pinnacle

his popularity ~ when he won the lead in the school play

♦ A pinnacle is a long pointed "cap" on a tower or buttress. They are common on gothic cathedrals. The name comes from the Latin for "little feather."

**achievement, recognition & praise: height / infrastructure**

## pinned

pinned in the (submerged) rock jumble

I saw his boat, ~ (kayaking)

pinned to the ground

the squad was engaged by weapons fire and ~

pinned vertically

his boat was ~ (kayaking)

**attachment: cloth**

## pinned (pinned down)

pinned down on a roof

the two marines were ~ (Falluja)

**attachment: cloth**

## pinpoint (locate)

pinpoint with accuracy

engineers can ~ the areas... (oil)

pinpoint the (relic's) age

but metals experts could not ~ (a watch)

pinpoint (with accuracy) the areas

engineers can ~... (oil)

pinpoint the location

acoustic sensors can ~ of snipers (combat)

pinpoint locations

G.P.S. can ~

pinpoint the (shooter's) position

police used computer software to ~

pinpoint the (tumor's) size and location

a CT scan can ~

difficult to pinpoint

it is ~ a spot in the desert

**location: map / verb**

## pinpoint (accuracy, etc.)

pinpoint accuracy

direct his bombs with nearly ~

pinpoint precision

cops can track a person's whereabouts with ~ (5G)

pinpoint timing

surfers must hit a wave with ~

**location: map**

## pins and needles

pins and needles in her left foot

she woke with ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation**

## pioneer (person)

pioneers of (independent) film

he's one of the ~ (the great Spike Lee)

pioneer of their sport

a fallen ~, Craig Kelly (avalanche / snowboarding)

pioneers of (wilderness) therapy

he is one of the ~

pioneer of tow-in surfing

Laird Hamilton, the ~

pioneer in his field

he is a ~ (psychology)

pioneers in their field

those who become ~s of endeavor

pioneer species

~ like brown sedge colonize disturbed sites

big-wave pioneers

~ such as Greg Noll and Jeff Clark (surfing)

hip-hop pioneer

~s RUN-DMC

the ~ stabbed a homeless man to death

industry pioneer

the National Captioning Institute, the ~

Internet pioneer

an ~

skateboarding pioneer

Andy Kessler, a ~... (1970s / NYC)

snowboarding pioneer

Craig Kelly, a ~ who died in an avalanche

Space Pioneer

Scott Bolton receives NSS ~ award (Juno Mission)

♦ "I think pioneers are very important because I think they set the scene, they show others that they can do it, and they put it on the agenda...and others can take it up." (Zerbanoo Gifford speaking about Dadabhai Naoroji.)

♦ "In the evening I sat by the fire and discussed with Dersu the rest of our journey down the Lefu. I very much wanted to have a look at Lake Hanka, discovered by N.M. Przewalski... /// [The old man] stopped and pointed out an old track overgrown with grass and shrubs. That was the old route, he told us, by which the Ussurians used to go through to Olga Bay. It was by that route that, in the sixties of the last century, Budishchev and Maximovich had come, and at the thought their portraits rose before my eyes and their description of their journey... /// The Tadusha! It was this very river that L. Veniukov was the first to explore, but the Chinese had stopped him and compelled him to turn back. That was in 1857 when he put up a big wooden cross to mark his farthest point, but I could find no trace of it. No doubt the Chinese had destroyed it as soon as the Russians had left. Later there came Maximovich, Budishchev, and Przewalski, all famous men of science... /// The climb up the ridge is stiff near the crest. The pass itself is in the form of a broad saddle, boggy, and covered with burnt-out forest. The altitude is 1584 ft., and it ought really to be named after the pioneer, M. Veniukov, who passed this way in 1857, breaking the way for the men who followed... /// September 27 was given up to a reconnaissance of the Bay of Terney, discovered by the famous La Perouse on 23 July 1767, who then and there gave it its name..." (Selections from *Dersu Uzala* by V. K. Arseniev.)

♦ "The Explorer" (1898) by Rudyard Kipling is a stirring poem about an explorer and the pioneers who followed in his footsteps.

**driving force: journeys & trips / person**

**person: journeys & trips**

**importance & significance: history / journeys & trips / person**

## pioneering

pioneering contribution

their ~s to intelligence testing

pioneering (elephant) researcher

a ~ in Nairobi

pioneering study

his ~, "Sexual Behavior..." (Alfred C. Kinsey)

pioneering work

he has done ~ in this field (neural prosthetics)

importance & significance: history / journeys & trips

## pipe (noun)

narrower pipe

British English comes to us through a much ~

♦ "British English comes to us through a much narrower pipe than the one that floods Britain with our words." ("Even Americans Find Some Britishisms 'Spot On'" by Geoff Nunberg, Fresh Air, Nov. 1, 2012.)

directing / route: infrastructure / water

## pipe (sports)

full pipe

the park has a ~, bowls, vert ramp and fun box

halfpipe

snowboarders catch big air in the ~

quarterpipe

the landing area flows to a 27-foot-tall ~

shape: infrastructure

## pipe (go down the pipes)

went down the pipes

our relationship ~

failure, accident & impairment: infrastructure / verb

destruction: infrastructure / verb

## pipe dream

pipe dream

it's not just a ~ anymore...

just a pipe dream

100,000 people in June is ~ (boxing during pandemic)

remains a pipe dream

democracy ~ in places like the Congo and Sudan

dismissed as a pipedream

restoring function after paralysis can no longer be ~

fantasy & reality: addiction / mental health

## pipeline (Mexican Pipeline, etc.)

Mexican Pipeline

Zicatela Beach is renowned as the ~ surf break

epithet: shape

geography / shape: epithet

## pipeline (Pipeline, etc.)

Pipeline

~ is one of the world's most dangerous surf spots

~ has claimed its victims (fatalities)

~ breaks 30 feet from shore (Hawaii)

♦ "Pipeline is really the ultimate challenge, it's super dangerous... super challenging, super abrupt, it gets very steep...it's really kind of the ultimate tube close to the beach, everyone can see, there's so much energy out there... most of us have lost somebody at Pipeline who has died over the year." (A surfer.)

proper name: infrastructure

## pipeline (shape)

waves, tubes, pipelines and barrels

the ~ of surfing

shape: infrastructure

## pipeline (other)

aviation pipeline

he was in the ~, he was training in aviation (military)

drug pipeline

the ~ that runs through the reservation (border)

iron pipeline

the so-called ~, coming up from the South (guns to NY)

the ~ coming up from Georgia into New Jersey (guns)

money pipeline

the US vowed to shut down the ~ that finances terror

serves as a pipeline

the boarding school ~ to some of the best universities

♦ "The flow of guns from the US into Mexico has been referred to as the "iron river."

directing / route: infrastructure / water

## piper (pay the piper, etc.)

pay the piper

the time to ~ has arrived (pandemic effects on education)

paid the piper

I should have stayed and ~ (murderer who fled to Yemen)

♦ "The piper is coming, the rent is due!" (A former NFL player commenting about contracts, trades, salaries, etc.)

judgment: allusion / verb

## piquancy (noun)

sustained piquancy

it is this which lends the book its ~ (a book review)

consumption: food & drink / taste

## piracy (noun)

Internet music piracy

music executives are trying to end ~

biopiracy

if the tribe does not share in the profits, it's ~ (Brazil)

electronic piracy

do not participate in or encourage ~ of copyrighted materials

taking & removing: crime

## piranha (predation)

piranhas around Britney

the ~ were awful (the pop star)

thousand internet piranhas

a ~ ripped through his every utterance (Jordan Peterson)

character & personality: animal / fish / predation

**affliction / person: animal / fish / predation**

## pirate (person)

pirate server

French police located and dismantled the ~ (botnet)

pirate trade

its perceived benefits have fueled a ~ (tree frog)

music pirate

the industry is pursuing lawsuits against ~s (Internet)

porch pirates

they call them ~ (parcel thieves)

radio pirate

~s get on the bad side of the FCC

buccaneers, outsiders, (political) pirates

they want to be seen as ~ (opposition researchers)

counterfeit, pirate or bootleg (m)

seizures of ~ labels soared (music)

track down the pirates

~ (CDs, computer software, etc. / UAE)

♦ Somali pirates are now capturing ships closer to India than to Africa. Xarardheere is a notorious pirate town on the Somali coast.

♦ "[A] sudden check came in the form of a piratical incursion. A small prau arrived which had been attacked by pirates and had a man wounded. They were said to have five boats, but more were expected to be behind and the traders were all in consternation, fearing that their small vessels sent trading to the "blakang tana" would be plundered. The Aru natives were of course dreadfully alarmed, as these marauders attack their villages, burn and murder, and carry away women and children for slaves... (The Malay Archipelago by Alfred Russel Wallace. Chapter 30: The Aru islands & residence in Dobbo.)

**taking & removing: boat / crime / person / sea**

**person: boat / crime / sea**

**character & personality: boat / crime / person / sea**

## piratical (adjective)

piratical museums

formerly ~ (colonialism)

**taking & removing: crime / sea**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## Pirlo (the Yorkshire Pirlo, etc.)

Yorkshire Pirlo

Phillips has been branded "The ~" by his adoring fans

**superlative: sports & games**

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## pit (bear pit)

bear pit of the House of Commons

she stands tall in the ~

bear-pit atmosphere

a York Hall type of experience, that ~ (a boxing match)

frenzied bearpit

Anfield became a ~ (Liverpool soccer)

loves a bear pit

Dillian ~, he's fought in places smaller... (the great boxer)

transformed the ring into a bear pit

he ~ and bullied his rival (boxing)

♦ see also *bearbaiting*

**environment: hole**

**conflict: animal / blood / hole / predation / sports & games / violence**

## pit (snake pit, etc.)

see *snake pit*

## pit (money pit, etc.)

pitfall

see *pitfall (noun)*

money pit

it's a ~, it's hurting the company (Meta and the metaverse)

snake pit

see *snake pit*

**flaws & lack of flaws: ground, terrain & land**

## pit bull (person)

pit bull

she's a ~, sinks her teeth into a case and doesn't let go

pit bull for the president

he has been a ~ (a lawyer)

pit-bull lawyers

copyright is in the custody of ~

legal pit bull

he is a bookish, ~ with two Ivy League degrees

♦ "Dear God.... If I lose one of my cats to my neighbor's pit [bull dog], it's unstoppable immediate scorched earth, full nuclear option response, and they know it." (A response by "Phoebe Darling" to an article about yet another pit bull mauling.)

♦ "These dogs are all ticking timebombs waiting to go off." (Pit bulls.)

**attachment: animal / dog / teeth**

**character & personality: animal / dog / teeth**

**behavior / coercion & motivation / commitment &**

**determination: animal / dog**

## pitch (promote)

itches the nation's charms

he ~ (tourism)

**enthusiasm: speech / verb**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: speech / verb**

## pitchfork (oppression)

pitchfork-wielding

they are derided as ~ hysterics (sensitivity readers)

pitchforks and torches

it was a mob scene with ~ (perp walk in cuffs)

sharpened its pitchforks

Twitter ~ and came for her (NPR interviews racist)

♦ The oppression of Frankenstein's monster in the sentimental film versions seems irrational and cruel. Less so if you read Mary Shelley's harrowing and creepy novel!

♦ "The pitchforks are changing hands." (The U.S. electorate.)

**oppression: allusion / creature / sign, signal, symbol**

**allusion: books & reading**

## **pitchfork (shape)**

awful pitchfork

that ~ we saw in the sky (Shuttle *Challenger* Disaster)

**shape: tools & technology**

## **pitch in (help)**

pitch in on child's play

the government needs to ~ (no playgrounds, etc.)

**help & assistance: throwing, putting & planting / verb**

## **pitch-perfect (adjective)**

pitch-perfect

his speech was ~ for his audience

**flaws & lack of flaws: music / speech**

## **pitfall (noun)**

pitfalls of capital punishment

the case is an illuminating window into the ~

pitfalls of launching adolescents

it's time to wake up to the ~ into an adult lifestyle (models)

pitfalls in interpretation

~ (seismic data interpretation by geologists)

scams, schemes, and pitfalls

the shadow world of literary ~

pitfalls await

many ~ the new House majority (politics)

avoids the pitfalls

his book ~ that come with its territory (a biography)

♦ "Not far from the rock there is a big pitfall. This is in the form of a stout fence to keep animals away from their watering-place, built up partly of fallen logs and partly of growing trees. Big stakes had been driven in to hold it firmly and prevent the animals from trampling it down. In a few places openings were left with pits dug underneath them, hidden by grass and dry twigs spread over the top. When the deer come down to the water at night, they come up against the fence, and in trying to find a way round, come to the holes and fall into the pits. There are fences like that stretching over a distance of thirty miles and more, with a couple of hundred pitfalls. / This pitfall on the Vangou had been abandoned... / Dersu abused the Chinese terribly for abandoning the pits without filling them in." (*Dersu Uzala* by V.K. Arseniev.)

♦ 27 Nov. To Replee 11 miles. This was formerly an Ass Patrol's Post. It is now broken up and the nearest post is Odha 7 miles further—in this neighbourhood Mr Conway kills immense numbers of deer in pitfalls behind the line hedge—sometimes 19 or 20 are taken in one night in a single pitfall both Antelope and Ravine Deer—the place at which they usually jump the hedge is soon seen & a pitfall is dug just where they alight." (From a diary of Allan Octavian Hume. Quoted in the wonderful book *The Great Hedge of India* by Roy Moxham.)

**danger: hole / hunting / walking, running & jumping**

## **pivot (noun)**

pivot point

Casey saw the Iraq War as a ~, one of history's hinges

pivot (away) from green energy

Ohio's ~ (coal)

career pivot

it's a bit of a ~, from chemical engineer to bookstore owner

botched pivot

the ~ likened to a strip club focusing on chicken wings...

remarkable pivot

this represents a ~ for the State Department (in Iraq)

making a (big) pivot here

we're ~, from no water to too much (rain in California)

♦ Teen speak: "Obviously now our plans have had to pivot" instead of "We have had to change our plans."

♦ "One simple pivot that we could do is to shift our focus away from X to Y." (An author being interviewed about his book.)

**development / reversal: direction / mechanism**

## **pivot (verb)**

pivoted to a more aggressive stance

the group has ~

suspicious (soon) pivoted

their ~ and focused instead on Smollett (detectives)

♦ In a very nice opinion piece, Scott Simon of NPR rightly characterizes this word as a buzzword. ("Politics, Pundits And The Problem With The Word 'Pivot,'" NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, June 11, 2016.)

**development / reversal: direction / mechanism**

## **pivotal (adjective)**

pivotal elections

these are ~ (Zimbabwe after Mugabe)

pivotal (naval) battle

it was a ~ (Battle of Trafalgar)

pivotal day

Friday marks a ~ in the Senate's impeachment trial

pivotal moment

that was a very ~ in the fight ("I put him on his ass")

pivotal people

name five ~ in your life

pivotal (backstage) role

he played a ~ in persuading...

**development: direction / mechanism**

**importance & significance: mechanism**

## **place (resting place)**

resting place

the sub would never move from its ~ (sunk)

resting place for hundreds of cars

the bluff is the final ~ (St Joseph / Lookout Park)

**place: burial / death & life**

## place (destination)

place of common understanding and common sense  
we came to a ~ (compromise)

trusted place  
we're a ~ where people can go (a podcast)

kinder place  
she wants to make the internet a ~

welcoming place  
a more ~ for others who look like them (music industry)

♦ The internet seems to be both a place and a space.

**area: place**

## place (in a dark place, etc.)

place of genuine concern  
it's hard to tell if the criticism is coming from a ~

place of fear  
he is pushing studios to make decisions from a ~

place of (aspirational) thinking and hope  
they come from that ~ (high schoolers / reform)

dark place  
the ~ that I was in (depression)

worst place  
I've been to the ~ anybody could go (depression)

at a bad place  
I think she was ~ in her life (mental issues)

at a good place  
mentally, emotionally, I was not ~

in a very anxious place  
you have to function despite being ~

in a bad place  
she was sobbing uncontrollably, she was ~

in a (really) bad place  
I was ~ physically and mentally

in a better place  
I am ~ mentally (Iraq combat vet)  
your mind is finally ~ (a drug advertisement)

in a dark place  
we don't think we can move forward, we are all ~ (grief)

in a (very) dark place  
I spent Saturday ~ inside my head (a bad memory)

in a (really) dark place  
I was ~, I was 17, it seemed like the end of the world...

quite a dark, dark place  
I descended into ~ (Sophie Gradon, *Love Island* star)

in a good place  
the last time he saw her she was not ~ (suicide)

I was not ~ until I told myself... (mentally)  
he is not mentally well, he's not ~

in the right place  
they key now is that he gets his head ~ (a defeated boxer)

in a (very) weird place  
I feel ~ about this (opinion on a sports issue)

all over the place  
they are ~ (emotionally)

free of that place  
you can only live with resentment for so long, I'm ~

come to a place  
I had ~ accepting that she was probably dead

find a peaceful, happy place  
personally, I want for her to just ~ (manager resigns)

get to a place  
we want to ~ of forgiveness for him (a murderer)

♦ "I understood where he was mentally at that point because I'd been there." (A suicide in prison.)

♦ "I haven't been there myself but I know women who have." (In an abusive relationship.)

♦ "In the last year, I had come to a place accepting that Michaela was probably no longer alive." (Mother of child missing for 32 years and presumed murdered, on arrest of suspect.)

♦ "Our hearts are just in a place that we can't even describe how sad we are." (Murder of a colleague.)

♦ "I've been in a place where it's been dark. And it's been deep, and it's been sad. And I'm like, I need to get out of that place." (Sloane Stephens, tennis player, about mental health.)

♦ "Once again I find myself in a place of shame and regret... / In the heat of the pain I was feeling, I went to dark places." (The actor Johnny Depp, at trial.)

♦ "I know this has been a difficult decision for him. He's shown true courage by acknowledging where he is at and acting on it. We will support him in any way we can..." (Wallabies coach Dave Rennie about Australian captain Michael Hooper, who determined he was not in the right 'mindset' to play and returned home.)

♦ "You've been taking mental-health meds, and your mind is finally in a better place..." (An online advertisement for Ingrezza® valbenazine capsules. Advertising is the final stage in the sanctioning of a cliché.)

♦ see also *space* (in a dark space, etc.)

♦ "Place" seems to have replaced "state" or "status" or "way."

**mental health: place**

**feeling, emotion & effect: container / place**

## place (situation)

at a different place  
we're ~ than we were earlier (vaccines)

in a bad place  
I put myself ~ (decisions, drinking, aggression)

in a better place  
the country is ~ than it was in 2001 (Afghanistan in 2021)

in a (much much) better place  
we are ~ right now than we were a month ago (COVID)

in a very different place  
social media is ~ than when Bebo was first about

in a much different place  
the heavyweight division was ~ on Dec. 1, 2018...

in a difficult place  
the government is sort of in a ~ (COVID 19 vaccine)

in a (really) good place  
the Post is ~, it's time to move on (Marty Baron retires)

in a (much less) privileged place  
other children are ~ than my family (pandemic)

in a (very) solid and stable place  
the NIH is ~

in a divided and disheartening place  
our nation is ~

from a place of privilege  
~, she...

time, place or space  
in a ~... (artists)

going toward a younger and more progressive place  
their fan base is ~ (the NFL)

get to a place  
if we ~ in 2024, if it's worse than 2020... (US elections)

got to this place  
how we ~ is because... (history)  
remind us how she ~, I mean, how was she able to...

put yourself in a place  
if you do these things, you can ~ to be successful (politics)

ratcheted this up to a ridiculous place  
they ~ (a sports controversy / Naomi Osaka)

♦ "It seems like a good place to do that." (Marty Baron retires after many years with the newspaper in good shape. He might just as well have said, "It seems like a good time to retire.")

♦ "Middle age is a good place to be as a writer." (The speaker might just as well have said, "Middle age is a good time to be a writer.")

♦ "The country is in a better place than it was in 2001 and the Taliban have become more open-minded." (General Sir Nick Carter, Britain's Chief of Defense Staff. He might just as well have said, "in a better state.")

♦ For Millennials and Zoomers, *time*, *place* and *space* seem to be synonymous, with a preference for *space*, for some unknown reason.

♦ see also *where* (*situation / development*)

**condition & status / development / situation / time: place**

**place (place where)**

place where  
will our digital century be a ~ our civilization can thrive

at a place where  
we are still ~ black people can't...  
she is ~ she feels she can speak out

at a place (right now) where  
we are ~ our hospitals are overtaxed (pandemic)

in a place where  
we're still ~ we have to talk about equality (women athletes)

in a place (similar to) where  
by next January, they could be ~ the Lions were last year

in a state where  
but we are still ~ supply is nowhere near demand (vaccine)

envisions a place where  
he ~ blacks have power, opportunity

get it to a place where  
it takes time to ~ you can safely take a helmet off (ISS)

get into a place where  
I tend to ~ I'm not filling with self-love... (feelings)

get us in a place where  
eventually he would ~ we were really talking to each other

get back to a place where  
we need to ~ individuals can feel free

seen as a place where  
sports are often ~ all that matters is...

take us to a place where  
I'm all for doing anything that will ~ this can't happen again

♦ see also *where* (*situation / development*)

♦ At times, "a place where" can be substituted perfectly for a "moment / time when."

♦ "So I think this is really more about...[they] are in a place where where where what they are [doing] is... (NPR punditry.)

♦ A figurative *place* seems to mean or refer to, specifically or in any combination: (1) "a situation in which" (2) "in / at a time / moment when" (3) "a stage of development during / in which..." (4) condition & status.

**condition & status / development / situation / time: place**

**plague (verb)**

plague patients with (long hospital) stays  
infections ~

plagued California for years  
blackouts have ~

plagues Vermont all winter  
a remedy for the cabin fever that ~

plagued him for years  
depression had ~

plague Guatemala  
police corruption, lawlessness and drug trafficking ~

plagued Russia  
illegal logging has long ~ (Siberia)

plagues the south  
the lawlessness that ~ (Somalia vs. Somaliland)

plagued him  
injuries ~ (an athlete)

plagued the investigation  
leaks ~ (DC sniper murders)

**affliction: health & medicine / verb**

## plague (noun)

plague of locusts

its worst ~ in nearly 30 years (Afghanistan)

plague of (gold) prospectors

the natives faced a ~

plague of (Western) wildfires

the annual ~ (US)

plague of drugs and prostitution

victim's relatives have worried about the ~

crack plague

the ~ of the late 1980's

cellphone plague

the ~ began in the 1990s (a teacher / schools)

HIV plague

the growing ~

NotPetya plague

the servers that played the role of patient zero in the ~

growing (HIV) plague

the ~

annual plague

the ~ of Western wildfires (US)

sonic plague

the ~ of back-up beepers (Bac-A-Larm)

plague began

the cellphone ~ in the 1990s (a teacher / schools)

faced a plague

the natives ~ of gold prospectors

consider motoboy a plague

ordinary motorists ~ (Sao Paulo)

♦ The great traveler Ibn Battuta recorded that during the Plague of 1348 in Damascus, representatives and members of the three major religions—Muslims, Jews, and Christians—all made their way to the Mosque of the Footprints with their holy books to pray for the end of the sickness. Ibn Battuta recorded that in Damascus deaths reached under 2,000 people a day, while in Old Cairo they reached 24,000 a day.

♦ China has been periodically ravaged by plague, including 1911 and 1917. A. J. Cronin wrote about plague during that period in his novel, *The Keys of the Kingdom*, and so did Mary Ninde Gamewell in *New Life Currents*.

♦ "Plagues always bring moral judgments with them."

**affliction / amount & effect: health & medicine**

## plagued

plagued with violence

Southern Thailand has been ~ for years

plagued with cracks

the monument is ~, leaks and corroding surfaces

plagued by drugs

her life has been ~ and other personal demons

plagued by (sectarian) violence

Karachi has been ~ (Shiites / Sunnis)

plagued by homesickness

he was ~ (student)

plagued by (cost) overruns

the project has been ~ (Big Dig / Boston)

plagued by coups and dictators

Mauritania has been ~ since independence

plagued by faulty elevators, mold, and leaky roofs

the 33-story building is ~

plagued by scandals and intrigue

the Vatican is still ~ (finances)

accident-plagued

accident-plagued 195

corruption-plagued

~ civilian governments (Pakistan)

crash-plagued

the innovative but ~ aircraft

crime-plagued

a ~ neighborhood

deficit-plagued

the ~ Federal Government

injury-plagued

after an ~ season in Europe (sports)

insurgent-plagued

Haditha, a lawless, ~ city in Anbar Province

mine-plagued

African children live on the most ~ continent

mosquito-plagued

Siberia's ~ expanse

scandal-plagued

a ~ program (Alabama football)

the ~ former prime minister

violence-plagued

in ~ Iraq

♦ "Swarms of mosquitoes plagued the travelers. Jack's diary is dotted with such entries as 'mosquitoes thick,' 'Mosquitos make a demonstration in force,' 'Put up netting and fooled mosquitoes,' 'John driven out of bed by mosquitos,' 'Evening burned smudges' (smoky fires to drive the insects away), 'Bite me through overalls and heavy underwear.' The men smeared their faces with clay for protection. (*Gold Diggers: Striking It Rich in the Klondike* by Charlotte Gray. "Jack" is the great writer Jack London.)

♦ "Dense swarms of mosquitoes set in immediately after sunset... a nuisance that can hardly be imagined. No breath of air incommodes those light-winged tormentors. It is quite impossible, for the European at least, to close an eye without the shelter of a mosquito net. Our Indians slept with no covering, only occasionally brushing away the most obtrusive of the little fiends." (*The Amazon and Madeira Rivers* by Franz Keller.)

♦ "Before evening that day there put in its first appearance the curse of the *taiga*, flies. The settlers call them *gnus*, horror or abomination, and they are indeed the plague of the forest. Their bite draws blood and the wound itches desperately, and the more it is scratched the worse it becomes. When there are many biting flies about, it is impossible to expose the head for an instant. The flies blind your eyes, become

entangled in the hair and ears, crawl up your sleeve, and savagely bite your neck. Your face swells up as though with erysipelas." (*Dersu Uzala* by V.K. Arseniev.)

**affliction: health & medicine**

## plain (plain people, etc.)

plain people  
we're ~, just country people

**character & personality: people**

## planet (noun)

planet in the Arab world  
Egypt is a ~

**importance & significance: astronomy**

## plank (noun)

plank of the investigation  
the obstruction charge was a secondary ~

**bases: infrastructure**

## plant (put)

planted a bomb  
he ~ along the route (terrorist)

planted the explosives  
he would not speculate about who might have ~

planted a (political) minefield  
the British colonizers ~ in the 1920s (Sudan)

**throwing, putting & planting: farming & agriculture / plant / verb**

## plant (create)

plant the seeds  
the British helped to ~ of discord in Afghanistan  
Nasser wanted to ~ of revolution on the Arabian Peninsula

planted the seeds  
he ~ that gave principals more autonomy (education)

planted and tended  
as field director, she has ~ chapters across the country

**creation & transformation / growth & development / throwing, putting & planting: farming & agriculture / plant / verb**

## plastered (impression)

plastered across magazine covers  
her face was ~

**impression: materials & substances**

## plate (step up to the plate)

step up to the plate  
it's time to ~ and take responsibility  
we need to ~ and take this issue seriously (climate change)  
I hope the district attorney will ~ and...

stepped up to the plate  
he could have ducked it but he didn't, he ~ (honesty)  
she ~ and advocated for her community (Stella Bowles)

**responsibility: baseball / sports & games / verb**

**commitment & determination: baseball / sports & games / verb**

## plate (on one's plate)

on your plate  
I know that you have an incredible amount of work ~

a lot on his plate  
he has ~ and wants to get back to work (Obama)

have a lot on your plate  
I know you ~ (busy)

**work & duty: food & drink**

## plate (full plate)

full plate of attacks  
they are fighting a ~ from the Republicans (Democrats)

**amount: food & drink**

## plateau (noun)

hit a plateau  
if you slip up or ~, don't beat yourself up (weight loss)

**shape: direction / mountains & hills**

**increase & decrease / progress & lack of progress: mountains & hills / shape**

## plateau (verb)

plateaued  
there was an initial upswing, but it has ~ since (soccer)

slightly plateaued  
she has ~ (decreased need for sex)

**increase & decrease: numbers**

**increase & decrease: mountains & hills / shape / verb**

## platform (as verb)

platform marginalized voices  
she became a music journalist to ~

prioritize, center, and platform  
we must ~ the voices of women (sexual assault)

**contempo-speak: part of speech**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: part of speech / theater**

## platform (noun)

platforms to bloggers  
his show gave ~ like...

platforms of radio, television and digital media  
across the ~

platform and an audience and a community  
building a ~ on Twitter

huge platform

I work at *The New York Times*, I have a ~...

use our platforms

we're not going to shut up and play, we're going to ~

♦ "[In the hill and mountain country of northern India]... inter-village communication is carried on by shouting. Standing on a commanding point, maybe a big rock or the roof of a house, a man cooees to attract the attention of the people in a neighboring village, and when the cooees is answered the message is shouted across in a high-pitched voice. From village to village the message is tossed, and is broadcast throughout large areas in an incredibly short space of time." (The cooees method of communication. From *Man-Eaters of Kumaon* by Jim Corbett.)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater

## platter (silver platter)

on a silver platter

they did not get it handed to them on a ~ (effort)

difficulty, easiness & effort / money: food & drink / materials & substances / sign, signal, symbol

## play (play to the audience, etc.)

play to their base

he expects Republicans to ~ for a time

plays to the gallery

the representation of emotion ~ (anguish, distress, etc.)

performance: theater / verb

## play (play with data, etc.)

playing with different parameters

we're ~ (computer modeling)

analysis, interpretation & explanation: sports & games / verb

## play down (verb)

played down concerns

the Pentagon has ~ over the Chinese fighter (plane)

played down the importance

Democrats ~ of the findings (politics)

played down the incident

he ~

attenuation: prep, adv, adj, particle / theater / verb

attention, scrutiny & promotion: prep, adv, adj, particle / theater / verb

## played (manipulated)

played

are you being ~ (incentives and rewards, etc.)

♦ "The world increasingly feels like a game we can't stop playing." (*You've Been Played* by Adrian Hon.)

♦ like *gamed* (*manipulated*)

behavior: sports & games

## play out (verb)

play out

how do you think this will ~ (a sports scandal)

playing out

all this was ~ in Washington (controversy)

play out along the border

anger and confusion continues to ~

played out (very) publicly

her personal crises ~ in the tabloid press (#FreeBritney)

development: rope / verb

starting, going, continuing & ending: rope / verb

## playbook (noun)

playbook

others are taking a page out of that ~

established playbook

the NRA has a pretty ~ (to explain school shootings)

familiar playbook

politicians and pundits have already rebooted a ~ (guns)

follow the (administration's) playbook

nominees closely ~

script: books & reading / sports & games

## playground (noun)

playground for Westerners

Nairobi, once a favorite ~ in Africa...

summer playground

Lebanon's resorts were the ~s of wealthy Arabs

high-speed playground

street racers have claimed the roads as their ~ (Atlanta)

whitewater playgrounds

the ~ do not freeze in winter (city of Vancouver)

rapids-filled playground

the river is a ~ (paddle sports / the Gauley)

♦ "Deserts and cliffs in western states are not a playground." (Comment about an adult who became separated from a 9-year-old boy. The former ended up falling to his death.)

♦ "The subway system is not a playground." (A city official after yet another 15-year-old dies subway surfing in New York City.)

♦ "Sometimes foreigners don't completely understand that Bali is still a home for people. They see it as just this Disneyland that's there for their enjoyment and their pleasure."

♦ "We're policing somebody else's playground." (A business owner in Miami Beach, about out-of-control out-of-town spring breakers. Many in Miami Beach would like to see the tradition ended.)

environment: school & education

## playing field (uneven playing field, etc.)

uneven playing field

corruption and greed have created an ~ (college admissions)

playing field has been tilted

they claim the ~ in China's favor

♦ "We all should feel comfortable with who we are in our own skin. But... (Michael Phelps about male-to-female transgender swimmers like Lia Thomas.)

**flaws & lack of flaws: sports & games**  
**competition: sports & games**  
**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: sports & games**

## **playing field (level the playing field)**

level the playing field  
the changes will ~ (sex cases on campus)

**amelioration & renewal / competition / sanctioning,**  
**authority & non-conformity: sports & games / verb**

## **plinth (noun)**

plinth in their lives  
their grandmother was the ~ (chaotic upbringing)

**bases: statue**

## **plod (verb)**

plod along  
he expects Republicans to ~ for a time  
her life was just ~ until...

**progress & lack of progress / speed: journeys & trips /**  
**movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**  
**movement: journeys & trips / speed / verb / walking,**  
**running & jumping**

## **plot (noun)**

writing itself out of the plot  
by not being more present, France risks ~ (in Ukraine)

♦ "People who are deluded, we say, have 'lost the plot.'"

**development: theater / books & reading**

## **plot (verb)**

plot new lives  
freed miners in Chile ~

**direction: journeys & trips / map / verb**

## **plot line (development)**

torn up the (division's proposed) plot lines  
Andy Ruiz Jr has ~

**development: books & reading / theater**

## **plow (plow a field, etc.)**

plowing a (very fertile) field  
Donald Trump was ~ (NPR's Mara Liasson / 2016)

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant / verb**

## **plow (plow on, plow through, etc.)**

plowing ahead  
we are ~ (difficult medical research)

plow on  
he remains determined to ~ (Elon Musk after a failure)

plowed through the (review) books  
I ~ (studying for test)

♦ "Keep your hand on that plow, and hold on." (A moving Negro spiritual.)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: prep, adv, adj, particle**  
**difficulty, easiness & effort / starting, going, continuing &**  
**ending / work & duty: farming & agriculture / verb**

## **plow (put)**

plowed their money into gun smuggling  
they have ~ (ex-pirates)

**directing: farming & agriculture / verb**

**throwing, putting & planting: farming & agriculture / verb**

## **plug (verb)**

plug the hole  
the Ministry must find savings to ~ in their budget

**amelioration & renewal: tools & technology / verb / water**

## **plug (pull the plug)**

pulled the plug on the expedition  
the alpinists have ~ after both suffered injuries...

pulled the plug on the project  
homeland security ~ (border towers)

pull the plug on its fall sports season  
Big Ten presidents are ready to ~ (coronavirus pandemic)

pulled the plug on the show  
CBS ~

pulling the plug on its mascot  
the university is ~ (getting rid of it)

pull the plug on the (global) talks  
no one is quite ready to ~ (climate)

pull the plug on hate radio  
we need to ~

time to pull the plug  
it's ~ on the project

decided to pull the plug  
they ~ on their marriage

threatening to pull the plug  
investors are ~

**curtailment: infrastructure / verb / water**

**dismissal, removal & resignation: infrastructure / verb /**  
**water**

## **plugged (fixed)**

holes have been plugged  
the security ~ (computers)

**amelioration & renewal: tools & technology / water**

## **plugged in / into**

plugged in  
he likes to convey the impression he's ~ (radio host)

plugged into politics

people who are very ~

**division & connection: electricity**

## plum (desirable)

plum assignment

the final ~ at the end of a distinguished career

it was a ~ for a young detective

plum (ambassadorial) assignments

giving ~ to big-money donors (*The Foreign Service Journal*)

plum commission

won the ~ for the library (architecture)

plum posting

in return they would give this judge a ~ in Monaco

plum properties

they have snapped up ~ (Londograd)

plum (committee) seats

promises of ~ (politics)

plum spot

relationships and favors guaranteed him a ~ (government)

**flaws & lack of flaws / superlative / worth & lack of worth:  
fruits & vegetables**

## plumbing (noun)

plumbing of the Internet

the copyright legislation messes with the secure ~

plumbing components

the essential ~ are the routers (Internet)

economy's plumbing

financial data centers put much of the ~ in one place

Internet's plumbing

we're now seeing attacks on the ~

he wants to create standards to secure the ~

**bases: infrastructure**

## plume (shape)

plume

~s started blowing off the summit (Everest)

plumes of ash

sending out ~ and three rivers of lava (volcano)

plume of cyanide

a ~ reached to the Black Sea (spill into Danube)

plume of dust

a rockslide sent up a ~

plume of (sarin) gas

blowing up the Khamisiyah dump released a ~ (Iraq)

plume of smoke

the ~ from a rocket-propelled grenade

plumes of smoke

sent up huge ~ (military air strikes)

plume of water

on the left is a huge ~ called "The Thing" (kayaking)

plume altitude

information about ~ (volcanic eruption)

plume bifurcation

~ was visible (volcanic eruption)

ash plume

~s from the two volcanoes

sarin plume

US troops in the path of a huge ~ (Gulf War)

smoke plume

~s streaking diagonally through the sky (shuttle disaster)

vapor plume

traces of water in a ~

classic plume

you can see the ~ blowing off the top right now (Everest)

huge plume

sending a ~ of smoke into a cloudless sky (air strike)

toxic plume

bombing chemical sites could send up ~s

radiological or biochemical plume

evacuation in the event of a ~

path of a (huge sarin) plume

US troops in the ~ (Gulf War)

♦ Many species of birds were nearly driven to extinction by plume hunters eager to make money from adorning women's hats. At one time, cormorants and egrets were mercilessly hunted for their feathers.

**shape: animal / bird**

## plummet (decline / decrease)

plummeted from \$5.9 to \$3.3 billion

spending at the agency ~

plummeted out of contention

the team ~ (sports)

business has plummeted

its advertising ~

levels can plummet

women's testosterone ~ as they age

morale had plummeted

~ (US soldiers / Vietnam War)

price (of gold) has plummeted

the ~

rates have plummeted

crime ~ over the last decade

production plummeted

agricultural ~, leading to growing unemployment

temperature can plummet

the ~

wages plummeted

~, and the black market flourished

blood pressure plummeted

his ~

output plummeted

economic ~ and unemployment rose

♦ "Now, I want to talk to you about, well, this is your phrase, the year you plummeted to stardom. That's a great phrase. You made *The Graduate* in 1967..." (Another brilliant Kirsty Young BBC Desert Island Discs interview, this time with Dustin Hoffman.)

**increase & decrease: number**

**decline / increase & decrease: direction / flying & falling / verb**

## plunder (verb)

plundered intellectual property and trade secrets

it has ~ (economic espionage)

**taking & removing: crime / verb**

## plundered

plundered

had he tapped on the link, the phone would have been ~

**taking & removing: crime**

## plunge (noun / decline)

plunge in the stock price

the ~ was based on reaction to an article...

harrowing plunge

a day after a ~ in the stock market

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction**

**increase & decrease: direction / flying & falling**

## plunge (decline / decrease)

plunged to 38 years

in Zambia, life expectancy has ~ (AIDS, drought, etc.)

plunged by two-thirds

the number of Shinto weddings has ~ (Japan)

plunged 33 percent

new-home sales ~

grades plunged

his ~ (school)

markets plunged

but the ~ (bankruptcy)

sales plunged

but then ~ (the auto industry)

life expectancy has plunged

in Zambia, ~ to 38 years (AIDS, drought, etc.)

**decline: direction / flying & falling / verb**

**increase & decrease: direction / number / flying & falling / verb**

## plunge (plunge into something)

plunge into (dangerous sexual) behavior

newly released prisoners often ~ (H.I.V.)

plunge into the ocean

~ of pleasure (ad for porn Web site)

plunge into my subject

before I ~... (lecture)

plunging into the unknown

we are ~ (new technology)

**involvement: flying & falling / water / verb**

## plunge (involvement)

take the plunge

it was time to ~ (begin dangerous trek)

**involvement: flying & falling / water**

## plus (benefit)

plus to us

he has been a ~ (versus a detriment)

plus for them

if they can get a big project, that's a ~

negative or a slight plus

tariffs might be a ~

**cost & benefit: letters & characters**

## plus-one (boyfriend, girlfriend, etc.)

takes her model boyfriend as her plus-one

she ~ (on a yacht trip / *Triangle of Sadness*)

**contempo-speak: language**

**language: euphemism**

## poach (verb)

poached rival quarterbacks

he ruthlessly ~ (leader of a league)

poached allies from Taiwan

China has steadily ~ in the Pacific (Kiribati, etc.)

poached several employees from Apple

the company ~

poach Allyson Felix from Nike

Gap's Athleta brand was able to ~

**taking & removing: animal / crime / verb**

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / crime / verb**

## poached

poached by (software giant) Oracle

she was ~ (prodigy)

**taking & removing: animal / crime**

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / crime**

## pocalypse (gas-pocalypse, etc.)

apocalypse

see *apocalypse* (noun)

cheesepocalypse

the ~, a national shortage of Kraft Velveeta cheese

chipocolypse

~, a shortage of semiconductors...

gas-pocalypse

this could be the year of the ~ (high prices at the pump)

subscription-Pocalypse

the ~ is about to hit (people cut back on subscriptions)

♦ An online BBC article about a shortage of semiconductors entitled "How will 'chipageddon' affect you" prompted Timbob to snark, "Surely 'Chipocolypse' would have been better than 'Chipageddon.'"

♦ "The Subscription-Pocalypse Is About To Hit" by Brian Moritz, Nieman Lab, Predictions For Journalism 2019. His thought is, there are just too many things to subscribe to, so people will begin to cut back.)

♦ "This could be 'the year of the gas-pocalypse' analysts tell the Los Angeles Times..." ("Pained By Prices At The Pump? They're Likely To Go Even Higher" by Mark Memmott, NPR, The Two-Way, January 6, 2012.)

♦ A national shortage of Kraft Velveeta cheese at the start of 2014 was referred to as a cheesepocalypse.

♦ Poppy Apocalypse; Poppypalooza... (In 2019, a super bloom of desert poppies saw the town of Lake Elsinore, California, descended on by an army of blissed-out tourists equipped with cell phones and selfie sticks and earbuds. They parked alongside an interstate, blocked local roads, trampled everything, climbed trees to get the best photos, and fell down hills. A dog was bitten by a rattlesnake.)

**affliction / destruction: affix / allusion / Bible**

## pocket (deep pockets)

deep pocket

talent is being hired away by ~ companies

deep pockets

the Gulf's ~ beckon (arms sales)

with deep pockets

even hedge funds ~ can borrow money (FED)

with (suitably) deep pockets

if an investor with ~ comes forward

**money: purses & wallets / sign, signal, symbol**

## pocket (in the pocket)

in their back pocket

the NRA has every politician ~

in the pocket of Donald Trump

the Republican Senate is completely ~

sits in the pocket

Europe ~ of the United States and declines (Noam Chomsky)

**control & lack of control: purses & wallets**

## pocketbook (money)

good for the pocketbook

it's ~, too (energy conservation)

hit (more and more) pocketbooks

the strike will ~ the longer it goes on

**money: purses & wallets / sign, signal, symbol**

## pockmark (verb)

pockmark Baltimore's poorest areas

blocks of vacant row houses now ~ (white flight / crime)

pockmark Indonesia's landscape

illegal mines ~

pockmark the dirt road

puddles of icy water ~

**affliction / appearance / configuration / flaws & lack of flaws: health & medicine / hole / mark / verb**

## pockmark (noun)

pockmarks on the wall

he fired a shotgun, leaving ~ of the mosque (Tunisia)

bullet pockmarks

all those ~ were new (Haiti)

splattered (wildly) with pockmarks

the front of the house is ~ (cartel gunmen / Matamoros)

left pockmarks on the side of his house

a grenade exploded in his garden and ~ (Mitrovica)

♦ "For all its pockmarks, there's a reason they call soccer 'the beautiful game.'" ("Three Books To Ignite Your World Cup Fever" by Cord Jefferson, NPR, All Things Considered, May 28, 2010.)

**affliction / appearance / configuration / flaws & lack of flaws: health & medicine / hole / mark**

## pockmarked

pockmarked by disparaging comments

his path to power has been ~ about women

pockmarked with embarrassment

Grammy history is ~ (poor choices, lip-syncing, etc.)

pockmarked with mass graves

the country is ~ (Rwanda)

pockmarked with bullet holes

the buildings are ~ (West Mosul)

pockmarked with abandoned lots

it's an area ~ (Mansfield, Ohio)

pockmarked with deep, abandoned pits

the Iron Range is ~ (northern Minnesota)

pockmarked with shrapnel

a statue of Jesus is still ~ (Negombo, Sri Lanka)

pockmarked with empty lots and dilapidated homes

neighborhoods are ~ (Port Arthur, Texas / poverty, storms)

pockmarked by the trenches

the land is still ~ that once lined the Western Front

pockmarked by police shootings and nationwide protests  
a summer ~

♦ "Oh, where I was born, everyone had this. First, a fly bit you, then you got a sore. After a while it healed and never came back." (A grandfather, originally from southern Turkey, explaining to his American grandson how he got a shallow scar—a papery depression—on his cheek. Cutaneous leishmaniasis is also known as "Oriental sore," "Baghdad boil," and Aleppo evil." In India it is known as kala azar, or black fever.)

♦ "One day I was called into the room of our hostess's younger sister. The room was dark, and only when hot hands gripped mine did I realize that I was standing near her. When my eyes had got accustomed to the darkness, I looked toward the bed and recoiled in a horror which I could hardly conceal. There lay completely transformed by sickness one who two days before had been a pretty healthy girl. Though a layman, I instantly saw that she had smallpox. Her larynx and tongue were already attacked and she could only cry out with thick articulation that she was dying. I tried to tell her that it was not so, and then escaped from the room as quickly as possible to have a thorough wash. There was nothing to be done and one could only hope that an epidemic would not break out. Aufschnaiter also visited her and agreed with my diagnosis... (*Seven Years in Tibet* by Heinrich Harrer, Chapter 4, "The Village of Happiness.")

♦ "For survivors, smallpox was a cruelly fickle disease, leaving many of its survivors blinded or dreadfully scarred, but others unscathed. It had existed for millennia, but didn't become common in Europe until the early sixteenth century. Its first recorded appearance in England was 1518." (*At Home: A Short History of Private Life* by Bill Bryson.)

♦ "I had lots of things to carry me across the river. Sometimes I could use a camel, sometimes I could get a boat. But if I knew there was critical timing involved... I would try to arrange in advance for the elephant. The elephant rides pretty smoothly and it's pretty tall. Usually I got on with a ladder, but you could step on its trunk and it would put you on its back. I was always a little nervous about that." (May Guinan, sent to Uttar Pradesh from the CDC in the campaign to eradicate smallpox, on how she would cross a river to get to her headquarters in Lucknow. Another method involved mounting a bicycle, which was then carried on the shoulders of two men. From *The Invisible Fire* by Joel N. Shurkin.)

**affliction / appearance / configuration / flaws & lack of flaws: health & medicine / hole / mark**

**point (decision point, etc.)**

confusion point

race is not black or white, that's one of the ~s (historian)

data point

one ~ in the report is civilian casualties  
the public will no longer have a key ~ about the war  
COVID rates were one ~, and there were others...  
it's another ~ that illustrates that... (a statistic)  
foregoing the count means we will miss a crucial ~  
the results give researchers a vital new ~ (a test)  
it's the latest grim ~ (number of confirmed COVID cases)

decision point

it's really an enormous ~ which will transform... (sports)  
we reached a ~ to reduce flying to catch up (airline meltdown)

inflection point

(see *inflection point*)

pain point

highly localized surges a ~ for many communities (COVID)  
the "Apple tax," a longtime ~ for app developers

price point

cigars at every price in every ~ (Casablanca Cigar Club)

proof point

the leaked document has provided a "powerful ~"

talking point

~s written by the oil and gas industry (propaganda)  
I'm not interested in the same old tired ~s (politics)  
a few of the big ~s in the world of boxing this week

♦ The use of "data point" can give punditry a scientific sheen and the pundit an aura of scientific knowledge.

♦ Q rating is another term beloved by pundits.

**development: direction / number**

**contempo-speak: language**

**point (sticking / friction point)**

sticking points

so what are the ~ in these talks (tariff negotiations)

**flaws & lack of flaws: mechanism**

**point (tipping point)**

tipping point

we're at that ~ (demand for antibiotic-free meat)  
what was the ~ that made the company say, "Enough"

Syria's tipping point

this could be ~ (pro-democracy protests)

social tipping point

we have passed a ~, we can no longer look away (justice)

passed a tipping point

we have ~, a point of no return (Greta Thunberg)

reached a tipping point

he thinks 3D has reached a ~ (new normal for films)

**development: direction / mechanism**

**importance & significance: mechanism**

**point (pivot point)**

pivot point

Casey saw the Iraq War as a ~, one of history's hinges

**development: direction / mechanism**

**importance & significance: mechanism**

**point (point where)**

in a point where

I was ~ I was ready to be done with it (drugs)

**development: place**

**point (point when)**

point when

Iran's nuclear program is long past the ~ it is...  
was there a low ~ you look back (addiction)

**time: place**

**point (at a point)**

at a point

I don't think I was ~ to be ready then (to give up drugs)

♦ "At a point" in one sentence and "in a point" in the next...

**development: place**

## point (in a point)

in a point

I was ~ where I was ready to be done with it (drugs)

♦ "At a point" in one sentence and "in a point" in the next sentence...

**situation: place**

## point (low point / high point)

lowest point

it was the ~ in the history of the CDC (lab adjudged filthy)

at a low point

the investigation was ~ (of a serial killer)

**progress & lack of progress: height**

## point (low point / emotion)

low point

was there a ~ when you look back (addiction)

hit some (real) low points

I've ~ in my life

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / height**

## point man (and point person)

point man

he is the ~ for the administration's efforts to... (politician)

point-person

the White House's health reform ~ Nancy-Ann DeParle

point person for the Obama administration

Biden was ~ on Ukraine (politics)

point person for all NPR political coverage

Arnie Seipel will be the ~ from across the shows and desks

point person on human rights

the State Department's ~

point person on voting rights

Vice President Harris, who has been the administration's ~

State Department's point person

the ~ on Iran...

the ~ on North Korea...

♦ The point man is the lead man in a column of soldiers. He goes a bit ahead of the column and must look for snipers, mines, and booby traps. He may shoot first and discover to his horror that he has shot a noncombatant or a child, even. The enemy might shoot him dead, or he might set off a trap that kills him outright. Or, the enemy might shoot to wound him and then pick off anyone trying to come to his aid. Or, the enemy may let him pass and shoot up the main column of men, leaving the point man terrified, cut off, and isolated without support...

♦ "Lopinto was a tough mother. Shirtless beneath his flak jacket and slung with an especially heavy load of grenades and ammunition, he moved down the dirt cart trail they called Route 561." From the affecting history *Operation Buffalo: USMC Fight for the DMZ* by Keith William Nolan.)

♦ "There was another AK47 burst and, instantly, an inhuman scream, followed by shouts to Herbert that one of their guys was hit. Herbert sent his superficially wounded corpsman in that direction, but he was shot in

the legs as he ran and sent sprawling. / The next shot was to his head. KIA. / There was a shout to Herbert that it was the point man Lopinto who had screamed. That was Herbert's best friend, and he shouted back to ask how bad he was hit. The return shout was that he was dead. KIA." (From the affecting history *Operation Buffalo: USMC Fight for the DMZ* by Keith William Nolan. "Lance Corporal Herbert, the intelligent, articulate, and very able leader of the 2d Squad of Bravo Two, was right behind the monster erupting around Bravo Three...")

♦ "Bringing up the rear as tail-end-charlie was almost as bad as walking point." (The Vietnam War. In Vietnam, the Vietnam War is known as the American war.)

♦ "All gave some. Some gave all."

♦ Nowadays the "point person" is usually a female who mindlessly parrots the administration or company line, reading from a script.

**driving force: military / person**

**person: military**

## point of view (from somebody's point of view)

from the point of view of concealment

select supply positions ~

from the point of view inside his (climbing) boots

it was written ~ (Boukreev's *The Climb*)

from Abdul Tawab's point of view

~, the marriage helped his position

from the animals' point of view

~ (animal rights, cruelty, eating meat, etc.)

from the destroyers' point of view

Native Americans ~

from the enemy's point of view

consider the traps ~ (military)

from players' points of view

produce content ~ (*Uninterrupted* / LeBron James)

from the male point of view

usually, we talk to females, but these are parenting tips ~

from a spectator's point of view

~, the most interesting match was...

from our point of view

characteristics which are catastrophic ~ (a terrorist)

from your point of view

which country is most promising ~ (Central Asia)

from an Indian point of view

museum exhibitions ~ (Native Americans)

from the Japanese point of view

the film is told ~ ("Letters from Iwo Jima")

he tells the story of Iwo Jima ~ (Clint Eastwood film)

from an intelligence point of view

~, this is a problem

from the policy point of view

another aspect, again ~ (educational establishment)

from a safety point of view

improve things ~ (motor racing)

from a driving point of view  
 ~ you know what's happening (racing)

from a human point of view  
 its scope and setting is horrible ~ (terror)

from a military point of view  
 ~, we don't face any threats (Uzbekistan)

from a pragmatic point of view  
 ~, don't... (monitoring employees)

from a scientific point of view  
 ~, geothermal power is touted as "clean"

catastrophic from our point of view  
 he has 3 characteristics which are ~ (a terrorist)

consider (the traps) from the enemy's point of view  
 ~ (military)

describes an event from two (different) points of view  
 the book ~

imagine it from their point of view  
 ~ (toilet training for toddlers)

told from his point of view  
 the story is ~

told from the Japanese point of view  
 the film is ~ (*Letters from Iwo Jima*)

**perception, perspective & point of view: position**

**point of view (other)**

point of view  
 depending on your ~  
 their parents denied or ignored their ~ (suicidal kids)

point of view of concealment  
 select supply positions from the ~

point of view on tourism  
 a Hawaiian ~

employer's point of view  
 an ~ (on hiring) (job searching)

people's points of view  
 ~ are influenced by their language and culture

each other's point of view  
 it is important to try to understand ~

another person's point of view  
 it is important to understand ~

public health point of view  
 he patiently explained the ~ (an epidemic)

Hawaiian point of view  
 a ~ on tourism

Nez Perce point of view  
 increased emphasis to the ~ (park sites)

minority point of view

the ~

outlaw point of view  
 his affinity for the ~ (teacher in jail)

conflicting points of view  
 good articles tend to be built on ~ (journalism)

differing points of view  
 these ~ (in the "education" community)

opposing points of view  
 the two songs show ~ of the same situation...

clear point of view  
 she has a very ~

different point of view  
 in order to understand a ~

different points of view  
 we seek out sources with ~ (free press)  
 people have ~ (culture, circumstances, etc.)

strong point of view  
 reluctance to offer a ~ on civics (education)  
 excellence often involves taking a ~  
 a ~ can even work against you

two (different) points of view  
 describe the same event from ~

differences in point of view  
 those ~ fueled the debate (Confederate flag)

affinity for the (outlaw) point of view  
 his unconcealed ~ (teacher in jail)

denied or ignored their point of view  
 their mother and father ~ (suicidal kids)

explained the (public-health) point of view  
 he patiently ~ (an epidemic)

understand each other's point of view  
 it is important to try to ~

♦ see the related *perspective (other)*

♦ In Vietnam, the Vietnam War is called the American War. (Point of view and war.)

♦ The French blamed the pestilence on the Neapolitans. The English, Germans and Italians called it the *morbus gallicus* or the 'French disease.' The Polish labeled it the 'Russian disease.' To the Turks it was the 'Christian disease.' It was called the 'Chinese pox' by the Japanese and the 'Portuguese disease' in India and Japan. The Tahitians referred to venereal disease as 'the British disease.' (Names for syphilis, from *Disease, The Extraordinary Stories Behind History's Deadliest Killers* by Mary Dobson. Point of view and public health.)

♦ "I have a special hatred for ice cream trucks. I think they should be outlawed. I have so many traumas from them, and the children hit by ice cream trucks are usually on the small side, so they get head traumas." (Gracie Dinkins, a trauma surgeon. From "Flesh & Blood" by Gracie Dinkins as told to Matthew Segal, Los Angeles magazine. A purely personal point of view, based on occupation.)

♦ "People say it's a peaceful demonstration but I would say that a huge 18-wheeler is not a peaceful thing to have in the middle of your city." ("Health care workers in Ottawa are being harassed protesters [sic] against COVID-19 mandates," NPR, Weekend Edition, Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022.)

♦ "Yeah, they have these belts on with like all these extra bullets and they're like dressed for war." (Leah talking to her Brit producer, Georgia, for their podcast about the militia movement.)

♦ "Next morning I awoke, looked out the window, and nearly died of fright. My screams brought Atticus from his bathroom half shaven. 'The world's ended, Atticus. Please do something.' I dragged him to the window and pointed. 'No it's not,' he said. 'It's snowing.'" (The beloved American novel *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. This is an example of the point of view of a child.)

♦ The Turkana have few food taboos and will even eat fish.

♦ A FUNNY STORY. A city man grew weary of the hustle and bustle, the hubbub and din, of city life, and he decided to visit his relative in the quiet and peaceful countryside. He made a sign that said, "Gone to the countryside," posted it on his door, and set off. He drove through the desert until the road ended. Then he drove off road, following tracks in the sands, until the tracks ended at the edge of a steep valley. He abandoned his truck there, crossed the valley on foot, and then walked for miles over a flat barren empty gravel desert. Finally, in the distance, he saw his relative's stone hut, next to a single tree. In great joy and anticipation he hurried to it, only to find, posted on the door, a note that read... "Gone to the countryside."

**perception, perspective & point of view: position**

## point out (verb)

point out that  
let me ~ I wasn't...

pointed out that  
he ~ murder is illegal in all societies

pointed out  
Chevron Texaco ~ it was already doing a lot... (Nigeria)  
another cause of concern, he ~, are the lack of road signs...

pointed out in the NYT magazine  
as she ~...

pointed out the blunder  
only when he ~ did Hutchison... (Everest)

pointed out the inconsistencies  
liberals have long ~ of conservative support for...

pointed out problems  
media stories have ~ in assisted living...

neglects to point out  
what he ~, though, is that...

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: finger / gesture / verb**

## poised (adjective)

poised on Baghdad's doorstep  
coalition forces are ~

poised to lose  
the party is ~ the elections

poised to write  
he is ~ a triumphant new chapter (Obama)

**readiness & preparedness: equilibrium & stability**

## poison (noun)

political poison  
advocating gun control has been ~  
talk of confiscating guns can be ~ with certain voters

**destruction: materials & substances**

## poison (verb)

poison the atmosphere  
fear and distrust can quickly ~ (epidemic)

poison (everyday) life  
trivialities ~

poison the project  
this academic feud began to ~ (undersea mapping)

poisoned the waters  
his statement ~ for anyone seeking an honest answer

poison the well  
establish a false persona, then ~ of information (Facebook)

♦ Perhaps the worst mass poisoning of a population in history has taken place in Bangladesh. Around 25 million people have been exposed to arsenic through runoff from agriculture and industry into man-made ponds and the water table. Ironically, many of the contaminated ponds and boreholes were dug with the help of international relief organizations to protect villagers from unclean water.

**corruption / destruction: materials & substances / verb**

## poisonous (adjective)

poisonous  
the taint of a bankruptcy can be ~  
the rot in Pakistani society is more ~ than anyone thought

poisonous atmosphere  
a "~" has descended on the Times (firings)  
rumors and gossip can create a ~

poisonous (political and rhetorical) climate  
politics suffers from a ~

poisonous doctrine  
he was an antidote to the ~ of extremism

poisonous mix  
he despises the ~ of religion and politics (an Iraqi)

poisonous situation  
it was a ~ (politics and war)

**feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances**

**destruction: health & medicine / materials & substances**

## poker (game)

high-stakes poker  
this is ~ (a business decision)

**strategy: cards / gambling**

## poker-faced (adjective)

poker-faced  
they were ~

poker-faced chairman  
the ~

**appearance / concealment & lack of concealment / feeling, emotion & effect: cards / face / gambling**

## polar (polar opposite, etc.)

polar opposite of the coach  
he is the ~ he replaces (soccer)

polar opposite (of Fitzpatrick) in play style (sports)  
he's the ~

**extent & scope: earth & world**

## polarizing (adjective)

polarizing figure  
he is a ~ (a football coach)  
his critics say he is a ~ who exploits divisions (politics)

intensely polarizing  
among intellectuals, he is ~

**division & connection: direction**

## police (and cop, etc.)

cops for apps  
Apple and Google are the ~ in our world (app stores)

Cultural Appropriation Police  
where are the ~ when a progressive breaks their rules

behavior police  
the ~ don't just stick to soccer (women in sports)

diversity police  
the ~ have ruined *Lord of the Rings* (*The Rings of Power*)

diversity police officer  
I'm not the ~, policing non-marginalized people (a "sensitivity reader")

fashion police  
I'm not trying to be the ~, but... (sagging pants)

fun police  
we sound like the ~, but... (Gay Pride festival litters beach)  
Musk called regulators the "~" (a Boombox feature)

grammar police  
don't the ~ have better things to do (online commenter)

Karma police  
he boasts about it and two days later this happens, ~

language police  
professional bodies should not act as ~ (psychology / WSJ)

'leftist' language police  
Chapo Trap House offends the sensibilities of ~

mask police  
restaurants don't want to be ~ (COVID epidemic)  
I feel like the ~, and that's not what I signed up for

morality police  
the ~ are working overtime against the sexual agency of...

notability cop  
some ~ cruised past my bio and pulled me over (Wikipedia)

outrage police

the ~ are calling for him to be fired (TV news culture wars)

parenting police  
she has run afoul of the ~ (the marvelous singer Pink)

political correctness police  
the ~ started from twitter

speech police  
given tech companies discomfort in the role of ~...

spelling police  
Oh, look... the ~ are here (BBC HYS sports)

thought police  
he called Facebook "~" (for removing his posts)  
liberals want to call out the ~ and force people to agree

Thought Police  
the intelligent eliminate their own unorthodoxy without the ~

feminist thought police  
I don't want to get into trouble with the ~

vaccination police  
confusing guidance could force workers to become the ~

comment section police  
you don't need to be the ~ (internet bulletin board)

woke police  
the ~ is out there (Chris Harrison)  
the only police that need defunding are the ~

cultural police  
~ punish writers for using their imagination (sensitivity)

role of being a cop  
pharmacists don't want to be placed in ~ (vaccinations)

♦ "[The Olympics] need us more than we need them. See how they poison sports. They're like the secret police or worse, like your parents." (The great snowboarder Terje Haakonsen.)

♦ "If all you have is a good-quality Parmigiano, the cacio e pepe police are not going to come and arrest you!" (Elizabeth Minchilli, quoted in "Cacio e pepe: Italy's beloved three-ingredient pasta dish" by Emily Monaco, BBC, 14 May 2020. The *cacio* is ordinarily sheep's milk cheese, ideally Pecorino.)

♦ "I feel like the mask police, and that's not what I signed up for." (An unhappy Iowa State University RA (resident assistant) during the 2020 coronavirus pandemic. RAs at universities have quit or gone on strike for "danger pay.")

♦ "We didn't want to be the mask police in the early portions of this pandemic and we certainly don't want to be the vaccination police at the end of it." (Marc Perrone, International President of the United Food & Commercial Workers International Union.)

♦ "Are you his teacher or wot? I would of thought that the grammar police had better things to do." (An online commenter on a BBC HYS about a soccer match. The targeted commenter had criticised a poster's use of "would of" versus "would have.")

♦ "Hey word police, wind your neck in and stick to boring your wife." (A BBC HYS about a soccer match.)

♦ "It just means when you go to Rolling Loud, the police are inescapable, they are all over the place, they are there ("day are dare") when you walk in, they're there when you leave, they're there around the barricades, they're there like even in the parking lot, and they're a bunch of them. They line up together, and they're not helpful, either, and so I think there's an ominous aspect to it... that made me uncomfortable." (Jason Buford of the *Rolling Stone* magazine.)

**oppression: justice / person**

**control & lack of control: person**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: person**

**person: crime**

## police (verb)

polices (his kid's gaming) habits

he ~ carefully

police my identity

attacks by people trying to ~ (cultural appropriation)

police language

those who ~ wish to police thought

police his mind

he is now aware of how to ~ (a troubled boxer)

police students' speech

universities should not ~ so carefully

police thought

those who police language wish to ~

police the web

he formed a group to ~ (Lenny Pozner / Sandy Hook)

♦ "You don't actually get to police what I think or do or say or write." (The writer and philosopher Ross Gay.)

**control & lack of control: justice / verb**

## polish (verb)

polished the image

the Klitschko brothers have ~ of the sport (boxing)

**flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances / verb**

**amelioration & renewal: light & dark / verb**

## polished (adjective)

polished professional

there is a vulnerable woman beneath the ~

polished speaker

he is a ~ who hits just the right tone (Beto O'Rourke)

**flaws & lack of flaws: light & dark / materials & substances**

## political correctness (groups)

political correctness police

the ~ started from twitter

political correctness and cancel culture

free speech has been pushed to the wayside for ~

rebel against political correctness

Trump campaigned as a ~

shibboleth of political correctness

"everyone has rights" is a ~

at the altar of political correctness

other Roald Dahl classics have been similarly butchered ~

sacrificed free speech to political correctness

the university has ~

♦ see also *politically correct (groups)*

♦ "It was ironic, it was arch, so it felt like, 'Oh My God! they're using this against us!'" (Ruth Perry, who founded the Women's Study Department at MIT in 1984, about the term "political correctness." From "How Cancel Culture Became Politicized—Just Like Political Correctness," NPR, All Things Considered, July 26, 2021.)

♦ "Our goal is not just to change language but to honor and acknowledge inclusion and reject white supremacy, anti-immigrant and anti-blackness ideologies." (A memo from the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work, announcing that the school had changed the Office of Field Education to the Office of Practicum Education. See "Anti-racist language change causes confusion" by Tomoki Chien, *Daily Trojan*, January 11, 2023.)

♦ "In 2012, Nina Totenberg of NPR was criticized by mental-health advocates for asking the question, "So, is your client a nut case?" Activists dislike words like *psycho*, *wacko*, and *crazy*."

♦ "It's going to be chaos with Republican leadership. And, sadly, the crazy caucus has grown among the Republicans." (Representative Adam Schiff, Democrat-California, on the possibility of losing his position as chair of the House Intelligence Committee after Republicans took control of the House of Representatives.)

♦ "Top of mind to many who care about this topic is getting rid of the phrase 'committed suicide,' says Dese Rae Stage, a suicide awareness activist who holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and is trained in crisis intervention." ("The words to say—and not say—about suicide" by Jessica Ravitz, CNN, June 11, 2018.)

♦ "Around noon, family members called police to report that the father was talking about *dying by suicide* [italics mine] in the woods behind his house." (2022.)

♦ "What is the correct language for suicide?" (Google query, "People also ask.")

♦ Pregnant person; birthing person... (Language for "mother.")

♦ "I call disabled viewing platforms the "cripple pen." (A comment about "After the N-word, the P-word" by Rajni Bhatia, BBC, 11 June 2007.)

♦ "A pidgin English field guide would list buk-buks, pakes, buddaheads, katonks, mokes, titas, popolos, yobos, blalahs, haoles and portagees." (Ethnic and racial labels used in Hawaii.)

♦ "The Home Secretary has blamed political correctness for the failure of authorities to tackle child sexual exploitation." (BBC, Six O'clock News, 02/04/2023. The Home Secretary was Suella Braverman, referencing fears of accusations of racism about investigating and prosecuting British Pakistani males.)

♦ "Hundreds of the author's words have been changed or entirely removed in a bid for 'relevancy.'" ("The rewriting of Roald Dahl" by Ed Cumming, Abigail Buchanan, Genevieve Holl-Allen, and Benedict Smith, *The Daily Telegraph* (U.K.), 17 February, 2023.)

♦ "Some nights at the bar I would descend into discussions with cosmologists and other[s]... and discover that Doctor Seuss meant more to them than a menagerie of imagined animals and a vivid and troublesome cat." ("The Science of Dr Seuss," BBC, Sounds, with Robin Ince. Seven Doctor Seuss books were cancelled in 2021.)

♦ "I think 'hillbilly' is the one epithet people are allowed to use. The rest are politically incorrect. If they want to look down upon us, then that is their problem. The ignorance is one-sided, and in that way I've never had a problem with it." (Fred Chappell, North Carolina poet laureate.)

♦ "It occurred to me that, because the world media establishment had ignored the Balkans for so long..., these people never had to learn, as the Israelis and Arabs did, how to talk in code, so as not to offend Western sensibilities with their racial hatred. In the Balkans, people spoke more honestly than in the Middle East, and therefore more brutally." (*Balkan Ghosts: A Journey Through History* by the superb writer and correspondent Robert D. Kaplan.)

♦ "There is too big a gap between what people say in public and what they believe, when they are just by themselves. And this is you know somehow a collateral effect of this political correctness, which taught people that you are not allowed to say this or that but uh it didn't change what they believe." ("From Romanian director Christian Mungiu on his film R.M.N.," NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, May 6, 2023.)

♦ Old: the homeless... / New: the houseless, the unhoused...

♦ Old: a gay bar... / New: a queer space...

♦ Old: a single mother... / New: an unpartnered mother...

- ◆ Old: a man of his times... / New: a racist...
- ◆ Old: a shark attack... / New: a shark bite / encounter / incident...
- ◆ Old: a drug addict... / New: a person who self-medicates...
- ◆ Old: died of a drug overdose... / New: lost his battle with drug addiction...
- ◆ Old: mental illness... / New: mental wellness...
- ◆ Old: a mentally ill person... / New: a mental consumer (Memphis Police), a vulnerable person...
- ◆ Old: a victim... / New: a survivor, a conqueror...

## **inclusion & exclusion: language / messaging** **politically correct (groups)**

“politically correct”

eventually ~ was turned into a cudgel and mockery

politically correct failure

England under ~ is terrible (World Cup soccer / Qatar)

politically correct paean

the book is not a ~ (*The General's Daughter*)

politically correct views

Abraham-Santos had all the appropriate ~

elitist, rich, politically correct

~ (Harvard University)

◆ see also *political correctness (groups)*

◆ “What is the correct language for suicide?” (Google query, “People also ask.”)

◆ “Top of mind to many who care about this topic is getting rid of the phrase ‘committed suicide,’ says Dese’Rae Stage, a suicide awareness activist who holds a bachelor’s degree in psychology and is trained in crisis intervention.” (“The words to say—and not say—about suicide” by Jessica Ravitz, CNN, June 11, 2018.)

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◆ In 2012, Nina Totenberg of NPR was criticized by mental-health advocates for asking the question, “So, is your client a nut case?” Activists dislike words like *psycho*, *wacko*, and *crazy*.

◆ “England under politically correct failure is terrible!” /// “Oh pipe down Adolf, save it for the daily mail comments page.” (Smart repartee on a BBC HYS about England’s loss to France at the FIFA World Cup in Qatar.)

◆ “I call disabled viewing platforms the “cripple pen.” (A comment about “After the N-word, the P-word” by Rajni Bhatia, BBC, 11 June 2007.)

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**inclusion & exclusion: language / messaging**

## **pollute (verb)**

polluted airwaves

rudeness has ~

**corruption: water / verb**

## **polluted**

polluted with incivility

the airwaves are ~

polluted with sex

our children’s minds are being ~ (YAL, etc.)

polluted with spam

Web searches on health are ~

polluted (political) rhetoric

we must clean up our ~

polluted sea

pop music has become a ~

**corruption: water**

## **pollution (noun)**

visual pollution

these signs are a nuisance, ~, illegal (in rights-of-way)

**corruption: water**

## **Pollyanna**

Pollyanna

not everything goes smoothly, and she is not a ~  
I don’t want to be a ~, but tomorrow is another day  
I am no ~

Pollyanna appeal

the film has a ~

Pollyanna territory

she explores optimism without tipping into ~

feel like (such) a Pollyanna

I ~ here...

sound (too) Pollyanna

do I ~

turned me into a Pollyanna

the awards show has ~

accused of being a Pollyanna

he isn’t usually ~ (a financier, stock-market guru)

◆ Pollyanna was a character from the 1913 children’s-literature novel by Eleanor H. Porter. A Pollyanna is a person who is incredibly optimistic even in the most dire circumstances, and the word is often used in the pejorative sense.

**character & personality: allusion**

**allusion: books & reading**

## **Pollyannaish (adjective)**

Pollyanna-ish (and calming) assumption

it was the ~ of some analysts that while...

Pollyanna-ish notion

he mocks the ~ that nations hate war

seems (oddly) Pollyanna-ish

at times, he ~ about his future

sounding Pollyanna-ish  
I know I'm ~, but...

**character & personality: allusion**  
**allusion: books & reading**  
**comparison & contrast: affix**

## Pompeii (Pompeii of the East, etc.)

“Pompeii of the East”  
the site is known as the ~ (1815 eruption of Mount  
Tambora)

Pompeii of the New World  
Cerén is sometimes called the ~ (El Salvador)

“Western Pompeii”  
scientists hailed the find a ~ (Ozette / Makah village)

♦ Pompeii and the nearby town of Herculaneum were buried by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD. The excavated Pompeii is today a Unesco World Heritage Site and a time capsule for life in the Roman era.

♦ “Due to the suddenness of the [mudslide] and the exceptional levels of preservation, scientists hailed the find a ‘Western Pompeii...’” (“Ozette: The US’ lost 2,000-year-old village” by Brendan Sainsbury, BBC, 6 June 2022.)

**destruction / geography: epithet**

## pontificate (verb)

pontificate on any subject  
he was ever ready to ~ (Thomas Edison)

**speech: religion / verb**

## pony (one-trick pony)

one-trick pony  
you don't want to be a ~ in Hollywood (directing)

♦ “You know what his guy does? Talk. That's what he did in Congress. That's what he does now. And that's it. One Trick Pony.” (Criticism at the Breitbart website for a politician.)

**ability & lack of ability: animal / horse / theater**  
**performance: animal / horse / theater**

## poodle (noun)

UK poodle  
the US government and its ~

**dominance & submission / resistance, opposition & defeat:**  
**animal / dog**

## pool (verb)

pool and share  
enhance the ability of the FBI and CIA to ~ information

**group, set & collection: water / verb**

## pool (people)

pool of (available) brides  
the ~ is scarce... (rural China / Loess Plateau)

pool of candidates  
he'd looked at the entire ~ (government)

pool of (prison-educated) college graduates

the ~

pool of test takers  
the ~ has grown larger

adjunct pool  
spent 7 years in the ~ in Atlanta (Ph.D.)

applicant pool  
the ~ has doubled (entry to a Jesuit boys' high school)

employment pool  
Seattle offered an ideal ~

jury pool  
strike eccentric citizens from ~s  
~s are disproportionately female  
most of the ~ was white

labor pool  
the shrinking ~ will slow growth

media-pool (m)  
a ~ representative in the execution witness room

office pool  
~s for money are generally illegal (sports)

press pool  
and as the ~ left the room

talent pool  
the company's ~ is remarkable

shrinking (labor) pool  
the ~ will slow growth

ideal (employment) pool  
Seattle offered an ~

**group, set & collection: water**

## pool (things)

pools of information  
databases are vast ~

pool of (two- and three-year-old) used cars  
the ~

car-pool (m)  
~ lanes

envy pool  
women are little ~s with one another

**group, set & collection: water**

## pop (bubble popped, etc.)

bubble popped  
the dot-com ~ and the stock market came crashing down

**destruction: water**

## popcorn (noun)

popcorn entertainment  
the series provides audience with pure ~ (*Fast & Furious*)

popcorn sensibilities  
a shift towards broader ~ (*Close Encounters* vs 2001)

bring your popcorn  
~, this has become a show (congressional hearing)

get out your popcorn  
~, get ready for political theater today (hearing)

**superiority & inferiority: film / sign, signal, symbol**

## Pope (Pope of Beaujolais, etc.)

'Pope of Beaujolais'  
the ~ dies aged 86 (Georges Duboeuf)

**representation: religion**

**importance & significance: epithet**

## pop up (verb)

popping up in (third-tier) cities  
writers are ~ (China)

popping up (all) over the country  
coronavirus clusters are ~ (US)

**appearance & disappearance: direction / plant / prep, adv,  
adj, particle / verb**

## porn (food porn, etc.)

dessert porn  
delicious ~ that will make your mouth water

fear porn  
it's not ~, they're reporting what happened (pandemic)

food porn  
food blogs and "~" sites (online)

inspiration porn  
we call it ~ in many disability circles (a disparaging term)

"map porn"  
Reddit's ~ discussion (sharing, discussion, appreciation)

misery porn  
this avalanche of ~ (Will Smith in the film *Emancipation*)

pantry porn  
the TikTok trend she dubbed "~" (organizing pantry, etc.)  
celebrities and influencers are pushing "~" (kitchen, fridges)

poverty porn  
what Bassin calls ~ (images of starving kids / charities)  
is "~" making a comeback (1980s fundraising ads)  
slum tourism is like ~ (2009)

"space porn"  
what some astronomy enthusiasts call ~ (Hubble photos)

"torture porn"  
horror dominated by a ~ aesthetic (*Saw*, *Hostel*, etc.)  
the *Saw*-led ~ craze of the mid-2000s

trauma porn  
it's easy to descend into ~ (the great writer Phil Klay)

debate on whether films like this are '~' (2022  
*Emancipation*)

trauma-porn  
she characterized her former friend as a ~ star (contrived)

victimization porn  
I don't get how ~ helps minorities (NPR)

violence porn  
I did not want *Career of Evil* to become ~ (J.K. Rowling)

war porn  
~ has vulgarized evening news TV footage  
soldiers call these clips "~" ("Watch this!" / snippets)

wealth porn  
culture critics describe it as "~" (shows like *Succession*,  
*Billions*, *Gossip Girl*, etc.)

♦ "For a certain group of people it is hitting particularly hard. For Latinos, seeing the names, the photos of the victims, kids and teachers who look and sound like them, it's added a layer of grief and trauma. And to talk through this we have called... She's a..." ("For Latinos, the Uvalde shooting has an extra layer of grief and trauma," Mary Louise Kelly, NPR, *All Things Considered*, June 3, 2022.)

**attraction & repulsion: sex**

## porpoising (movement)

porpoising  
cars are prone to "~" (FI ground effect)

**movement: animal / fish**

## portal (entrance)

portals to the underworld  
Maya culture long considered cenotes to be ~

portals for discovery  
mistakes are the ~

portal back to the 1960s  
the book offers a vivid ~

♦ "The first thing you do when you wake up, when your eyes are even half open, is you reach and you grab your phone. 'Cause, that's your portal to the outside world, that's how you run your empire." (Andrew Tate, kickboxer and influencer, who was permanently deplatformed by Instagram and Facebook in 2022.)

**portal: doors & thresholds / gate**

## portrait (view)

portrait of life  
he painted a grim ~ in North Korea

pen portrait  
a gossipy memoir shot with vivid ~s

grim portrait  
he painted a ~ of life in North Korea

portrait emerges  
a Jekyll and Hyde ~ of SEAL accused of murder

painted a (grim) portrait  
he ~ of life in North Korea

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: picture**  
**characterization / evidence: picture**

## posse (group)

hang out with their posse  
they ~ after school (high school)

♦ "I don't want to give advice, we have the rights to our fun and my posse..." (An HIV-positive teenage female, interviewed about random needle-sticks in discos and clubs.)

**group, set & collection: crime / horse**

## position (on an issue, etc.)

staking out their positions  
the two sides are ~ on the issue (politics)

**position, policy & negotiation: line / position**

## positive (sex positive, etc.)

positive (body) image  
help primary school children develop a ~

"positive" sexuality  
Blake as a representative of liberation and ~ (2015)

body positive  
her 2016 memoir about being feminist and ~

"sex positive"  
~ libertarians (feminism and porn)

sex-positive  
~ feminism commodifies sexual identities  
~ representations of puberty and adolescence  
Hoang's new romance is ~  
women are grasping the language of ~ feminism  
we need a ~ approach to educating people (monkeypox)

critical-positive  
it would be an easy, ~ change (to Academy Awards)

generous, positive and empowering  
how can parents nurture a more ~ body image (females)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

**resiliency: direction / number**

## positivity (body positivity, etc.)

positivity about being  
it's ~ a proudly nerdy teenage girl

body positivity  
she is an icon of the ~ movement (Lizzo)  
the ~ movement celebrates all shapes and sizes

booty positivity  
her unabashed ~ (Chloe Bailey)

threat to (body) positivity  
Sydney Sweeney's micromini outfit feels like a ~

watch body positivity go down the drain  
~ (Sydney Sweeney rocks a micromini outfit)

♦ "The same formula again and again. I want to post pictures of myself in bathing suits. When I get criticized I'll say I want to do it for others and for

body positivity. When I get criticized for that, I will show sadness that the world doesn't support mental health and I'm a victim, and finally I'll get praised for being so brave for living my own truth." (Bob Loblaw. A BBC HYS about "SI Swim model Natalie Mariduena wants to 'be an example' of 'body normalcy'" by Stephanie Nolasco, August 20, 2022.)

♦ "Just to be able to spend that one-on-one time with the elderly customers and get to talk to them. / They definitely make me laugh. And to just put a little positivity in their lives it makes you feel good." (Courtney Meadows, a cashier at a Kroger in Beckley, West Virginia. From "Grocery Cashier Is 'Putting A Little Positivity' Into Seniors' Shopping Trips" by Camila Domonoske, NPR, April 29, 2020.)

♦ "When everyone is a model, no one is a model." (S197.)

**inclusion & exclusion: positivity**

## possess (verb)

possessed this woman  
I don't know what ~ to think that she could...

**mental health: hand / possession / verb**  
**fictive possession / possession: hand / verb**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: hand / possession / religion / verb**

## possessed (emotion)

possessed by "archive fever"  
he was ~ (cinophile Henri Langlois)

possessed by a certain obsession  
writers are each ~

possessed by rage  
he was ~

**mental health: hand / possession**  
**fictive possession / possession: hand**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: hand / possession / religion**

## post (abandon one's post)

abandon his post  
he will not ~ to run for governor

**allegiance, support & betrayal: military / verb**

## postage stamp (size)

Postage Stamp Mural  
smaller, portable murals are designated ~s  
a ~ shows Champion Paper and Fibre Company (Canton)

♦ "It's got solar cells, batteries, two cameras... computer systems, navigation systems. All of this in a helicopter that's only the size of a chihuahua." (A drone on Mars.)

**comparison & contrast / size: object**

## postcard (and post card)

audio postcard  
he sent this ~ from California's Central Valley (NPR)

**speech: tools & technology / writing & spelling**

## poster (poster child, etc.)

poster boy for everything  
he became a ~ that was wrong with boxing

poster boy for how

he is a ~ to do it well (a fund-raiser)  
poster boy for the sport  
he was considered the ~ (Ray Mancini / boxing)

posterboy for all things Draco  
he has become the ~ (a rapper / the weapon)

poster child for the spoiled athlete  
he's a ~

poster child for ignorance  
he has become a ~ (racist)

poster girl for tennis  
she's going to be a wonderful ~ (Emma Raducanu)

poster child of the unicorns  
the ~ was Uber, the ride-hailing smart-phone app

**representation: picture / sign, signal, symbol**

## post-mortem (analysis)

post mortem  
I'm sure after the ~ people will analyse and... (sports)

postmortem  
the report is a ~ to understand what went wrong (politics)  
~: Netherlands Vs. Cameroon (a soccer match)

post mortem of processes and practices  
the company promised a ~ it followed (internet meltdown)

post mortems on her campaign  
now she has dropped out, ~ have begun (election)

campaign post-mortem  
her book is a ~

election post mortem  
Republican governors perform ~

Grammy Postmortem  
a ~ (Pop Culture Happy Hour)

technical postmortem  
he tweeted that there would be a '~' soon

focus of post-mortems  
the bridge's design will be a ~ (collapsed)

♦ "There's going to be a post-mortem, isn't there, we're going to have to look and see and say, 'What next now for Anthony Joshua?'" (Jeanette Kwakye commentating on the Oleksandr Usyk-Anthony Joshua fight, which Usyk won.)

♦ "Open AI's chief executive tweeted that there would be a 'technical postmortem' soon." (From "ChatGPT bug leaked users' conversation histories" by Ben Derico, BBC News, March 23, 2023.)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: death & life / health & medicine**

## post-traumatic stress disorder (and PTSD)

PTSD  
seeing herself as someone with ~ was odd at first  
many people think ~ is mostly a military problem

veteran with ~ smokes weed, faces deportation  
~ doesn't qualify them for workers' comp  
the recreational drug MDMA looks promising in ~

ptsd  
I have ~, I have panic attacks I go to therapy

PTSD providers  
Texas has a need for more ~ (trafficking, refugees, etc.)

PTSD treatment  
another controversial ~ is eye movement desensitization

forms, face and causes of PTSD  
the many ~

patients with post-traumatic stress disorder  
psychiatrist Dr. Julie Holland uses psychedelics to treat ~

from nightmares to PTSD  
from ~, the toll on Facebook moderators...

treat PTSD  
using virtual reality to ~  
Congress calls on VA to study medical marijuana to ~

trigger PTSD  
VA cautions Ken Burns' Vietnam documentary could ~

♦ "Years later, I have ptsd, I have panic attacks I go to therapy. Finally I'm ready to talk about it and finally heal." (Gabby, about a sexual assault with a Golden Globe nominee.)

♦ "Lady Gaga reveals how she used her PTSD in new role," BBC.

♦ "The push to expand the trained workforce coincides with a growing understanding of trauma's effect. The National Council for Behavioral Health, a nonprofit organization of mental health care providers, calls trauma a "near universal experience" for people with mental and behavioral health issues." ("Not Just For soldiers: Civilians With PTSD Struggle To Find Effective Therapy" by Caroline Covington, NPR, May 20, 2019.)

♦ "Post-traumatic *growth* [italics mine] refers to positive changes that can happen after a life-shattering event occurs, according to Richard Tedeschi, a clinical psychologist with the Boulder Crest Foundation, an organization that offers recovery programs for combat veterans, first responders, and their families." ("What Doesn't Kill You Might Actually Make You Stronger" by Emily Sohn, *Outside Magazine*, 04/05/21.)

♦ "Every culture possesses what Edward Shorter, a medical historian at the University of Toronto, calls a 'symptom repertoire'—a range of physical symptoms available to the unconscious mind for the physical expression of psychological conflict." In parts of India, patients are said to suffer from *dhat* syndrome: they complain of impotence and have the delusion that they are losing their semen. In Nigeria, students who can't retain information and report feeling a burning sensation in their heads are sometimes given a diagnosis of 'brain fog.' The illnesses are reinforced by a local belief that the symptoms are a sign of authentic suffering, worthy of expert attention and care." ("The Apathetic: Why are refugee children falling unconscious?" by Rachel Aviv, *The New Yorker*, April 3, 2017.)

♦ Zar: Spirit possession (Middle East); amok: an episode of murderous rage followed by amnesia (Southeast Asia); koro: the feeling that the genitals are retracting into the body (Southeast Asia); tsog tsuam (sleep paralysis / Hmong in the US); *Digeunton* (pressed on / Indonesia); *Bei gui ya* (held by a ghost / China); Boszorkany-nyomas (witches' pressure / Hungary); the Old Hag and *ag rog* (hag ridden / Newfoundland) ... (Illnesses associated with particular cultures.)

♦ "If you or someone you know has been sexually assaulted, please contact the National Sexual Assault Hotline at..."

♦ Shell shock (WW I), combat fatigue (WW II), operational exhaustion (Korea), PTSD (Vietnam)... (The military.)

♦ "One agency that seized upon Freeman's work was the Veterans Administration. Faced with an influx of shell-shocked World War II GIs that flooded its mental wards, the VA issued a directive in 1943

requesting its neurosurgeons to study and use the Freeman and Watts lobotomy technique. By 1951, nearly 3,000 lobotomies had been performed at VA hospitals, according to agency records." ("D.C. Neurosurgeon Pioneered 'Operation Icepick' Technique" by Glenn Frankel, the *Washington Post*, April 7, 1980.)

♦ Case B2.—DEAF-MUTISM / PRIVATE, 35 YEARS OF AGE. DURATION, 26 MONTHS/ A shell explosion in France resulted in this patient being buried to the neck. He could not remember anything until he arrived in England a few weeks later. While in a London hospital he made several attempts at escaping and was successful on one occasion. Previous to his admission to the National Hospital he had been given strong faradic shocks; tuning forks had been applied to the head; and sudden noises and hypnotism had also been tried, but all without any result whatever. He was dull, depressed, discouraged and suspicious, and in a tremulous condition." (*Hysterical Disorders of Warfare* by Lewis Ralph Yealland, M.D., Resident Medical Officer, National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic, Queen Square, London, with preface by E. Farquhar Buzzard, M.D., F.R.C.P., Lieut.-Colonel, R.A.M.C., 1918.)

♦ see also *shellshocked*

**feeling, emotion & effect / mental health: military**

## **posture (position)**

posture of (ADA) units  
the readiness ~ (military)

posture on the border  
the force has increased its security ~

posture as tough on terrorism  
he seeks to exploit his ~

posture, stance, attitude  
what surprised you most about China's ~ (diplomacy)

assault posture  
the Iraqis were in a classic air-land ~

security posture  
the force has increased its ~ on the border

readiness posture  
the ~ of ADA units (military)

systems posture  
we will review our ~ based on events (White House)

aggressive posture  
put his troops in a more ~  
the guard prides itself on its ~ (Iran)

defensive posture  
destroyed 10 Iraqi T-55 tanks dug in a ~  
the Israeli counterattack has all of Lebanon in a ~

nuclear posture  
the classified ~ review (US government)

protective posture  
it causes us to maintain ~s but doesn't stop us (BW)

**position, policy & negotiation / readiness & preparedness:  
standing, sitting & lying**

## **posture (performance)**

defiant posture  
Iraqi officials struck a ~ (Operation Iraqi Freedom)

tough-guy posture

he hides behind a ~

♦ George Stephanopoulos: "How much of this is real, and how much of this is posturing?" / Dan Abrams, ABC News Chief Legal Analyst: "I think this is real posturing."

**performance: standing, sitting & lying**

## **posturing**

partisan posturing  
after days of ~ by senators, she was confirmed (judge)

political posturing  
a lot of the rhetoric is just ~ (politics)

finger-pointing and (political) posturing  
we must put behind us ~ and solve this problem

**performance: standing, sitting & lying  
position, policy & negotiation: standing, sitting & lying**

## **pot (pot calls the kettle black)**

calling the kettle black  
this is the pot ~

♦ "What was Zaha moaning to Maupay about? I hope it wasn't about his celebration in front of the CP fans. Didn't Zaha do that to the Brighton fans after his pen? Pot calling and all that." (wemarchon about Crystal Palace vs. Brighton & Hove Albion, Mon 27 Sept 2021.)

♦ "That's like me calling the kettle black, I can't talk on no shit like that." (An ex-NBA player on latest NBA sex scandal.)

**accusation & criticism: color / cooking**

## **pot (stir the pot)**

stir the pot  
I didn't want to ~ (he ignored racist comments)

stir the pot about his past  
his creepy older brother shows up to ~

stir the pot and incite  
angry people want to ~ (free speech and right to offend)

♦ "There's the people that love to troll and that love to stir the pot."

♦ "I think with all the craziness that's going on, nobody want to stir the pot, but we gotta make sure that everybody has their justice, man..." (Hip-hop artist Rakim.)

♦ "But most people ignored the whole affair; broach it in conversation, and you were considered a pot-stirrer." (In the modern day, about what happened in Forsyth County, Georgia, in 1912. "Don't be starting things...")

♦ "[W]e can be abruptly de-platformed for stirring up the right-wing media pot." (Black journalists. A Washington Post opinion piece about Tiffany Cross, after her show was not renewed by MSNBC.)

**initiation: food & drink / movement / temperature / verb**

## **potato (small potatoes)**

small potatoes  
I think it's ~ compared to... (politics)

**importance & significance: potato / size**

## **potato (couch potato)**

couch potato footballer  
it's obvious you're just a ~

couch potato or lotus-eater  
are you a ~ (information, misinformation, etc.)

♦ "It's obvious you're just a couch potato footballer and never been involved in any competitive sport. The modern footballers are our gladiators of the past. People like you could never hope to understand this." (Comment on BBC HYS about a football match in which one player headbutted another and was sent off.)

**consciousness & awareness / person: fruits & vegetables**  
**activity: fruits & vegetables / movement / person / potato**  
**potato chip**

equivalent of potato chips  
it is the literary ~ (a VERY interesting book)

**consumption: food & drink**

**potency (strength)**

potency of this  
the ~ is beyond the individual services (aircraft carrier)

**attenuation / force / power: health & medicine**  
**functioning / strength & weakness: health & medicine**

**potent (adjective)**

potent  
the ideology is very ~ (Isis)

potent weapon  
the method of non-violent resistance is the most ~

politically potent  
the Arab community is not as ~

**attenuation / force / power: health & medicine**  
**functioning / strength & weakness: health & medicine**

**pothole (noun)**

public relations potholes  
the film would soon run into a number of ~

**failure, accident & impairment / obstacles & impedance:**  
**infrastructure / journeys & trips**

**potshot (noun)**

potshot  
a few ~s have been aimed at him (criticism of artist)

potshot approach  
I don't like that kind of a ~ (politics and criticism)

gleeful potshots  
Republicans are taking ~ at Democratic opponents

two potshots  
they loved her ~ at the state's Republican governor

take potshots at Harvard  
people like to ~ (elitist, rich, politically correct, etc.)

taken (more than a few) potshots at his home state  
he has ~ over the years

takes potshot at whatever is bothering him  
he takes ~ (comedian)

**accusation & criticism: speech / weapon**

**pounce (verb)**

pounce  
Schmeichel held on to the ball as Aguerro waited to ~

pouncing  
his opponents are ~ (politics)

pounced  
prosecutors, then, ~ (on defendant's testimony)  
Real ~ to win for a 14th time (Champions League)

pounce on him  
for me to ~ now would be cruelty (criticism)

pounced on the story  
British tabloids ~

quick to pounce  
the Obama campaign was ~ (on opponent's gaffe)

censors pounced  
~, removing any mention of her from the internet

♦ "For me to pounce on him now would be an exercise in cruelty, because that brother is not right." (Sports discussion about a troubled NFL player.)

♦ An article about tigers at the BBC states that a tiger can leap forward 33 feet from a sitting position!

**eagerness & reluctance: animal / hunting / movement / predation / verb / walking, running & jumping**  
**movement: animal / hunting / predation / verb / walking, running & jumping**

**pound (amount)**

pound of cure  
an ounce of prevention is worth a ~ (proverb)

**amount: weight**

**pound (snowfalls pounded the Northeast, etc.)**

pounded the Northeast  
record snowfalls have ~

pounding the Northeast  
the hurricane is ~

pound the region  
Hurricane Dorian continues to ~ as a Category 4 storm

**storm: force**

**pound (pound targets, etc.)**

pounding the social media companies  
lawmakers are ~ over their market dominance

pounded targets  
US aircraft ~ in Libya

♦ Allenby: (Pointing to the map.) Pound them, Charley. (Thumping his fist on the chalk board.) Pound them. / (The scene changes. It is night. Artillery flickers on the horizon like the aurora borealis.) / Ali: God help the men who lie under that. / Lawrence: They're Turks. / Ali: God help them. (From the film *Lawrence of Arabia*.)

**destruction: fist / verb / violence**

## **pour (in, into, pour out, etc.)**

poured in

complaints ~

pouring in

casualties from the attack started ~ (to a hospital)

poured out

thousands of protestors ~ of the mosque

the doors opened, everyone ~ and ran (subway shooting)

poured into 911

over 100 calls ~ as the shooting unfolded (at a school)

poured into (neighboring) Turkey

thousands of Syrians ~

pouring into Iraq

terrorists from every group are ~

pouring into Kabul

with rural migrants and refugees ~

pour into the city

thousands of delegates began to ~ for the... (UN)

poured into hospitals

scenes of anguish as civilian casualties ~

pour into his office

messages ~ from disaffected Saudis (dissident)

poured into the slum

police ~ in armored cars (Paraisopolis / São Paulo)

pouring into streets

Jewish worshippers ~ following sundown prayers

aid poured in

international ~ and disaster was averted...

invitations have been pouring in

~ (to speak at colleges / author)

leads poured in

the ~ (70,000 / child abduction)

praise poured in

~ for Carter (Oslo agreement)

tributes are pouring in

this morning ~ for King following his death

**amount & effect / movement: verb / water**

## **pour (put)**

pour fuel on the fire

this will ~ of toxic political warfare

pour fuel on the flames

the documents are likely to ~ of a strained relationship

pour gases into the air

factories ~

poured his heart and soul into the game

he ~ (Reggie Miller speaking of Larry Bird)

poured money into improvements

King Fahd ~ (Hajj)

poured my soul into it

I ~ (singing performance)

poured our hearts into the movement

we really ~ (social justice)

poured (intense) fire into the position

he ~, killing three enemy as...

poured troops into this region

the Kenyan government has ~

poured money into its Web site

the company phased out its catalogue and ~

pour its resources into transit

some question whether the region should ~

poured effort and money into developing

different companies have ~ jets

pour (deadly) fire upon the enemy

Pfc. Lozada continued to ~ (combat)

poured a stream of fire at the enemy

undaunted, he ~ (combat)

pouring on the pressure

he is ~ (a boxing match)

**throwing, putting & planting: verb / water**

**directing: verb / water**

## **pour (resemblance)**

pouring over the mountains

dark storm clouds were ~

pour downhill

boulders ~ in debris flows

**resemblance: verb / water**

## **powder keg**

powder keg

Northern Nigeria is a ~ (sectarian divisions)

the region is a ~, and things could get out of hand

human powder keg

plantation owners knew they were sitting on a ~ (race)

handle (political) powder kegs

he knows how to ~ (president)

light a fuse on a powder keg

the pandemic's end might ~ of frustrated desire

set a spark to a powder keg

I don't want to ~ at precisely the wrong moment

♦ "Far from bringing peace, De Gaul's visit put a spark in the powder barrel." (His visit to Algeria in the 1950s.)

**danger / initiation: explosion / military / weapon**

## **power (power to the people, etc.)**

power

language is agency, language is ~ (Korean girl in U.S.)  
speaking truth to ~ is a dangerous game  
the ~ was not in the hands of the people

power to the people

~ (the 1960s)

power and agency

the tech industry is where US workers have the most ~

power and (my) sexuality

like owning my ~ (Demi Lovato)

gendered power

the everyday negotiations of ~ in relationships

women's power

in a world that continues to decry ~ or black power

my power

from angry to then like owning my ~ and my sexuality

Black power

the ~ movement of the 1960s (U.S.)

flower power

the 70s saw the disco and ~ eras...

'girl power'

the ~ movement of the 1990s and 2000s  
the main selling point will be ~ (an Angelina Jolie film)

female power

the whole feeling of ~ that's in the song (Eurovision)

gender and power

the film deconstructs ~

race and power

challenging the institutionalized construct of ~

♦ "In the 1960s there were the mods and rockers. The 70s saw the disco and flower power eras, while in the 80s, new romantic style had its heyday. Fast forward to the present..." ('Soft Girl': The radical trend millennials love" by Evie Muir, BBC, 4<sup>th</sup> December 2022.)

♦ "black power & intersectional feminism & gender self-determination & solidarity with muslims & indigenous sovereignty & decolonization & disability justice & queer kinship & migrant justice & fat freedom & collective liberation" (A black T-shirt with white lettering worn by Stephanie Lyn Kaufman-Mthimkhulu, Director of Project LETS. "Disability and Mad Justice cultural worker. Community Educator. Organizer. Parent. Conflict Intervention. Facilitator. Care Strategist. Writer... Hire me.)

♦ "Respectability politics never actually liberated the oppressed. Whether you're a creative or an audience member, power can be had in reclaiming the stereotypes that challenge your very existence." (From "Queer villains, erotic noir, 90s pulp. 'Basic Instinct' and the backlash, rewind," NPR, Pop Culture happy Hour, Nov. 13, 2022.)

♦ "I think the superpower of a Black Woman is to occupy the space in the fullness of who she is." (The actress Aisha Hinds.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## **powerhouse (noun)**

powerhouse (investment) bank

the ~ Goldman Sachs

powerhouse (legal) team

he was represented by a ~ (rich pedophile)

powerhouse teams

scouts from ~ like the Florida Gators... (sports)

Nigeria's economic powerhouse

Lagos is ~

global powerhouse

US whalers were a ~ (in the past)

financial or political powerhouse

the N.R.A. is not the ~ that it once was (guns)

ratings and merchandizing powerhouse

it is a ~ (Sponge Bob cartoon show)

**driving force / power / strength & weakness: dam / electricity / river**

## **praetorian guard**

chillingly effective praetorian guard

such men make a ~ (miners break up student protests)

**protection & lack of protection: history / military**

## **praise (sing someone's praises)**

singing his praises

I have been ~ ever since he joined Liverpool (sports)

sang the praises of the contract

the mayor ~ (Chicago teachers' strike ends)

**achievement, recognition & praise: music / verb**

## **pray (verb)**

praying that

Democrats are ~ the case will disappear

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: religion / verb**

## **preach (verb)**

preach about what

my father would ~ we could do and couldn't do

preaches against the evils

Sports Illustrated periodically ~ of steroid use

preach to the choir

see *choir* (*preach to the choir*)

preaching a gospel (of rebirth) to everyone

he is ~ (Detroit mayor)

preaching a gospel

he is ~ of rebirth (Detroit mayor)

preach hate

school textbooks ~

preaching nonsense

there are outliers out there that are ~ (COVID)

preach the virtues  
many ~ of diversity and tolerance, yet...

practices what he preaches  
he ~ by hiking regularly (fitness)

♦ "He doesn't tell us what to think. He's showing us the world, not preaching about it." (The Romanian filmmaker Cristian Mungiu, about his 2023 film R.M.N.)

♦ "We preach and teach coordination of air and artillery, but..." (Marines. Combat.)

♦ Practice what you preach! (Hypocrisy.)

message: religion / speech / verb

speech: religion / verb

### precede (at an earlier time)

preceded the car  
the horse ~

preceded the (boxing) match  
months of trash talking and hype ~

time: direction / movement / position / verb

sequence: direction / movement / position / verb

### preceding (at an earlier time)

preceding days  
in the ~ the soldiers got ready for battle

sequence / time: direction / movement / position / prep,  
adv, adj, particle

### precious (time)

precious time  
~ was wasted  
first responders wasted ~ (Uvalde school shooting)

precious years  
these young men lost ~ (released from prison)

time: money

### precious (life is precious, etc.)

precious  
life is ~

death & life / worth & lack of worth: money

### precipice (at / on the precipice)

at the precipice of (epic) failure  
he stands ~ (politician)

at the precipice of becoming  
it was recorded when he was just ~ a star (music)

at the precipice of the presidency  
he stands ~ (Obama)

on the precipice of a very important election  
we stand here ~

skating at the precipice  
news organizations that are ~ of financial disaster

tottered at the precipice  
she ~ of despair (mother lost her son through death)

danger / fate, fortune & chance / proximity: ground, terrain  
& land / mountains & hills

### precipice (other)

headed for the precipice  
as Britain and the Boer republics ~ (war)

danger / fate, fortune & chance / proximity: ground, terrain  
& land / mountains & hills

### precipitous (adjective)

precipitous deterioration  
their daughter's ~ in the month before her death

decline: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills

### precursor (noun)

precursor to fear  
doubt is the ~ (the great climber Alex Honnold)

initiation: chemistry

### predation (noun)

predations of (unscrupulous) business people  
Africa can defend itself against the ~...

defend themselves against the predations  
young people must know how to ~ of credit

danger: animal / predation

### Predator (the Predator drone, etc.)

Predator  
a Hellfire air-to-ground missile launched from the ~  
the ~ is a medium-altitude, long-endurance drone  
the ~ can linger for 20 hours over a battlefield

Predator drone  
an unmanned ~ (military)

Predator unmanned aerial vehicle  
the ~, a 27-foot-long drone  
the ~ is operated remotely by controllers on the ground

proper name: animal / predation

death & life / military: proper name

### predator (people)

predators on the Internet  
the problem of sexual ~

predators in the chain  
they were the top ~ (Iraqi terrorists)

predator in a white coat  
he is a ~ (doctor accused of sex abuse)

predators and harassers  
this culture that turns a blind eye to ~ (entertainment)

predators and the prey  
in prison, there are the ~

predators and thieves  
they are all ~ (bankers)

penalty box predator  
Erling Haaland, the great ~ (Norway)

online predator  
~s trying to have sex with children  
within minutes, he heard from his first ~ (Webcam)

lethal predators  
~ are psychopathic, sadistic, and sane (evil)

real predator  
he is a ~, he's destroyed many women's lives

serial (sexual) predator  
he was a ~ (pedophile)

sexual predator  
the judge called the former NFL player a "~"  
dealing with ~s (pedophile)  
the problem of ~s on the Internet  
Web cams are a magnet for ~s

sexual-predator  
six states have ~ laws

prey and predator  
he believed people fell into two groups: ~

evolved into a (serial) predator  
how a high-school dropout ~

portrayed him as a predator  
prosecutors have ~ who exploited his fame

♦ "The world is like this: it's eat or be eaten." ("The German Experiment That Placed Foster Children With Pedophiles" by Rachel Aviv, *The New Yorker*, July 19, 2021.)

♦ "It was this Vedic civilization that first developed India's Grand Road. These Indians found the region covered with dense forests, which sheltered robbers and wild beasts." (*To the Ends of the Earth: The Great Travel and Trade Routes of Human History* by Irene M. Franck and David M. Brownstone.)

♦ "In the Ussurian taiga, the most dangerous meeting of all is with a man." (Inhabitants include trappers, bandits, escaped convicts, gold hunters, ginseng hunters, hermits, migrants, tribesmen, etc. From *Dersu Uzala* by V.K. Arseniev.)

**behavior: animal / person / predation**

**character & personality: animal / person / predation**

## **predatory (adjective)**

predatory best  
Harry Kane was back to his ~ (England vs. Ukraine)

predatory business  
Internet gambling is a ~

predatory coach  
~s are some of the most successful (sex abuse)

predatory developers  
fears that ~ will push out poor tenants (urban renewal)

predatory educators  
I view for-profit collages as ~, like predatory lenders

predatory lender  
the poor fall prey to ~s

predatory priest  
the archdiocese is accused of harboring ~s

predatory publisher  
the company is a ~ (fees, no checking, fake lists)

predatory lending  
~ is alive and well (credit cards)

"exploitative" and "predatory"  
the activewear company was branded ~ by a judge

criticize (payday) loans as predatory  
consumer advocates ~ (300 percent annual interest)

**danger: animal / predation**

## **predecessor (go away before)**

predecessor  
the car and its ~, the horse...

Dollar General's predecessors  
the rise and fall of ~ (five and dimes, etc.)

its predecessors  
how does this new *Ben-Hur* compare with ~ (the film)

♦ *prae* = "before" and *decedo* = "go away"

**past & present: direction / movement / position**

**time: direction / movement / position**

**sequence: direction / movement / position**

## **pregnant (adjective)**

pregnant with disaster  
the city was ~ (intercommunal violence)

pregnant with Easter eggs  
it's ~ (the book *D C-T!* by Avillez and Young)

**creation & transformation: birth**

## **prehistoric (adjective)**

prehistoric  
bullfighting is ~

prehistoric (college football) coaches  
~ are killing players (heat stroke, etc.)

♦ "*La corrida est une activité archaïque.*" (A handheld sign protesting the Festival of Pamplona, 2022. Many of the protesters were wearing dinosaur costumes.)

**knowledge & intelligence: history**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: history**

**past & present / time: history**

## **prescribe (verb)**

prescribe fiction  
authors ~ for better understanding

prescribe (healthful) food  
why not ~ (Rx Fruit and Vegetable program)

Prescribe Literature  
"To Cure What Ails You, Bibliotherapists ~" (NPR / Culture)

prescribes drastic measures  
Arne Duncan ~ for schools (underperforming)

prescribing a (harmful and inefficient) medicine  
international lenders are ~ (Greece)

♦ "Ten Hag still has many ills to cure but he is at least prescribing the sort of medication that is returning Manchester United to something like their former health." (Phil McNulty, Chief football writer for the BBC. Five of the words in that single sentence relate to health.)

**amelioration & renewal / script: health & medicine / verb**

## prescription (noun)

prescription  
the diagnosis is wrong, and the ~ is malpractice

prescription to save  
a ~ globalization from itself

prescription for disaster  
it was a ~ (girl wants acceptance, boys like alcohol)

**amelioration & renewal / script: health & medicine**

## presence (groups)

obscure or even erase my presence  
I fear that teaching online will ~ (a black female)

♦ "We are other, different, not expected to be seen." (Blacks outdoors in the woods or hiking on a trail.)

♦ "He is the main penalty box presence because..." (Karim Benzema.)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## present (groups)

visible, courageous and present  
LBGQT folks have been so ~

♦ "Being truly present takes diligence and care." (Emily Ratajowski in her commencement speech at Hunter College.)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## present (up to the present)

up to the (very) last ball  
the match was impossible to call right ~ (tennis)

up to the present day  
she explores his legacy right ~ (Julius Caesar)

continues up to the present day  
the city's tradition as a hotbed of espionage ~

**past & present / time: direction / height / history / mountains & hills prep, adv, adj, particle**

## press (verb)

press him  
I had questions, but I didn't ~

**coercion & motivation: force / pressure / verb**

## pressure (under pressure)

under (relentless) pressure to boost  
schools ~ scores

under (enormous) pressure to succeed  
children are ~ (education)

under the pressure of (battle) conditions  
the unit performed well ~

under pressure from Washington  
Saudi Arabia has come ~ to reform

under pressure from the Vietnamese-Americans  
~, the museum left out...

under pressure from (animal rights) groups  
the business is ~

under pressure from higher-ups  
the recruiters are ~ (military)

under enormous pressure  
children are ~ to succeed (education)

under relentless pressure  
schools ~

come under pressure  
Saudi Arabia has ~ from Washington to reform

plays well under pressure  
the team ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: pressure**

**coercion & motivation: pressure**

## pressure (noun)

pressure  
the ~ leads his colleagues to "blow up" from time to time

pressure to be  
they face strong family ~ dutiful sons

pressure to "get the bird up in the air"  
there was a great deal of ~ (*Challenger* Disaster)

pressure to succeed  
there's a lot of ~ (Chinese athletes)

pressure to open up  
the ~ areas like Badger-Two Medicine and ANWR

pressure of allies  
the ~ who counsel against war

pressures of his job  
feeling overwhelmed and unable to cope with the ~

pressures of sex, drugs and alcohol  
the ~ (adolescents)

pressures (and stress) of everyday life  
escape the ~ (an inn)

pressure from (hardline) Muslims  
Saudi Arabia faces internal ~

pressure from Moscow  
because of political ~

pressure from (the other) players and parents  
she felt ~ (ice-hockey goalie)

pressure from abroad  
~ is responsible for the government's about-turn

pressure from family members  
the relentless ~ (India)

pressure on the adversaries  
diplomatic ~ to seek a diplomatic solution

pressure on (arable) land  
population ~

pressures on Muslims  
the social ~ can be intense (US high schools)

pressure on police  
people are scared and there's a lot of ~ (murders)

pressure on getting  
there's so much ~ good grades

pressure in the Alps  
increasing settlement ~ and avalanche...

pressure along the Appalachian Trail  
growing development ~

pressure and competition  
society is full of ~ (suicide)

pressures and stress  
escape the ~ of everyday life (an inn)

development pressure  
growing ~ along the Appalachian Trail

family pressure  
they face strong ~ to be dutiful sons

government pressure  
~ kept the book under wraps

immigration pressure  
~ on Germany or even Italy

job pressure  
freedom from ~s

population pressure  
~ on arable land

schedule pressure  
I do not think we are being unduly influenced by ~

settlement pressure  
increasing ~ in the Alps and avalanche...

added pressure  
he expected ~ (NASA scientist, after series of failures)

sustained pressure  
~ from the European imperialist powers

academic pressure  
~ and peer pressure in schools

diplomatic pressure  
~ on the adversaries to seek a diplomatic solution  
he faces increased internal and international ~ (a ruler)

intense pressure  
she was under ~ to join the boycott (Olympics)  
teenagers will be under ~ to... (early puberty)

internal pressure  
Saudi Arabia faces ~ from hardline Muslims

political pressure  
because of ~ from Moscow...

relentless pressure  
the ~ from family members (India)  
schools under ~ to boost students' performance

social pressures  
the ~ on Muslims can be intense (US high schools)  
the ~ on middle school girls (acceptance, sex, etc.)

strong (family) pressure  
they face ~ to be dutiful sons

public and political pressure  
~ is growing on the Metropolitan Police (Sarah Everard)

so much pressure  
there's ~ on getting good grades

freedom from (job) pressures  
it's hard to imagine ~

anger under pressure  
he has shown ~ in the past (police chief)

pressure is building  
~ to end the 18-year moratorium on whaling

pressure did not let up  
the ~ (on a politician to resign)

ease the pressures  
~ on common resources (medicinal plants, etc.)

escape the pressures  
~ and stress of everyday life (an inn)

face (strong family) pressure  
they ~ to be dutiful sons

felt pressure  
she ~ from the other players and parents (sports)

put on the pressure  
it's time to ~

come under pressure  
Saudi Arabia has ~ from Washington to reform

crack under pressure

avored competitors have been known to ~ (cycling)

crack under the pressure

some people ~ (stressful, demanding jobs)

keep up the pressure

we need to ~

put pressure on their children

parents ~ to achieve

prevail in the face of (extraordinary) pressures

the boldness that enabled him to ~ (Musharraf)

thrive under (enormous) pressure

some people are able to ~ (jobs)

♦ "When I was talking to our team about this, I suddenly started to think about the pressure I feel under to not miss out, a kind of digital FOMO." (Nihal Arthanayake, presenter of "Information overload: Are we drowning in content?" for the BBC.)

♦ "Consider it a kind of bizarro FOMO but for cultural life." (Nicholas Quah about his need for speed-reading)

♦ "Pressure is for tyres." (James Milner, Liverpool football player, on being asked if he felt pressure when taking penalty kicks. YNWA.)

♦ "Pressure makes diamonds and you learn to deal with it." (The boxer Conor Benn, son of the boxer Nigel Benn.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: pressure**

**pressure cooker (in a pressure cooker, etc.)**

in the pressure cooker of (pandemic-era) health care

~ (a fatal medication error)

in the pressure cooker of the San Siro

he did a good job ~ (a soccer player)

**environment: container / pressure**

**pressure cooker (other)**

pressure cooker

the White House is a ~ that can burn out idealistic aides

despotism is a ~ without a safety valve (protests)

our son graduated from the ~ that is Cornell

he was a ~ who lacked a safety valve (murderer)

pressure cooker of ideas

the California scene in those days was a ~ (art)

pressure-cooker atmosphere

the accusations underscore the ~ in the region

was it a response to the ~ we have been living in (suicide)

pressure cooker environment

high school can be a ~ (bullying, sex, etc.)

reputation as a pressure cooker

M.I.T. is battling a ~ (student suicides)

♦ "The pressure cooker may be about to explode..."

♦ My grandpa had a pressure cooker. He had false teeth, and the pressure cooker softened beef to his liking. Once he shouted that the pressure cooker was about to blow, and ordered me and my small brother to evacuate his shack, while he heroically adjusted something called the "bead." Dinners with grandpa, a World War I veteran, could be wonderfully exciting!

**environment: container / pressure**

**pressured**

pressured to choose

many students feel ~ sides (rape allegation at school)

pressured to cooperate

his client is being ~ in the investigation

feel pressured

many students ~ to choose sides (rape allegation)

I ~ to fit a prescribed mold (work)

**feeling, emotion & effect: pressure**

**coercion & motivation: pressure**

**pressure-filled**

pressure-filled environment

this ~

pressure-filled meeting room

in a ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: pressure**

**prestige (adjective)**

prestige accent

people consider it to be a ~ (received pronunciation / UK)

prestige drama

HBO's immensely popular zombie ~ (*The Last of Us*)

prestige job

the pressure to land a ~ (universities)

prestige TV

~ is prime territory for assholery (writers' rooms)

voyeurism in the guise of ~ (*The Dropout*, *The Crown*, etc.)

**worth & lack of worth: society**

**pretty (adjective)**

pretty

it's not always ~ (discussing race)

**flaws & lack of flaws: eye**

**pretty (contempo-speak)**

pretty appalled

I was ~ in the moment

Actually Pretty

"Psychedelic Cambodian Rock ~ Inspirational" (NPR)

actually pretty

the technology is ~ complicated...

I couldn't believe it, he was ~ good (Fed judge who hoops)

we're ~ closely aligned

it was ~ fun...

a lot of the jokes are ~ funny

AI can ~accurately predict... (health care)

it's ~ heartbreaking...

definitely pretty

it's ~ cool (the NBA's Allie Quigley)  
I'm ~ stressed... (someone at Drexel University)  
I'm ~ OK with my smell ("Men, Listen Up" / NPR)

#### kind of pretty

and so this seems ~ normal (NPR punditry with upspeak)  
they lived in ~ grim, ramshackle conditions  
our first single was ~ big (music)  
two ~ nasty looking men walked in behind us  
we were ~ focused on...

#### obviously pretty

it was ~ well thought-out  
I'm ~ doped up (in ICU)  
so I'm ~ excited about that  
the guy in the song is ~ much me

#### obviously, pretty

it's ~

#### really pretty

I was ~ lost  
it's ~ easy to...  
it's ~ astounding that...  
it's ~ shocking...  
it's ~ incredible  
and it's ~ extraordinary  
it's ~ tame on the "yuck" scale...  
what's going on is ~ sad

#### sort of pretty

it's ~ amazing to find this (an astronomer)  
I was ~ amazed by it (a film / a young Brit)  
you're seeing increases in other ~ important indicators  
the issue was ~ significant (NPR punditry)

♦ "And so this seems kind of pretty normal." (Exquisite political punditry on NPR, with upspeak on "normal." NPR is hellbent on capturing a younger demographic, and the only way it believes it can do that is through the language of contempo-speak, accents, and dialects.)

♦ Are you sure?!

#### contempo-speak: adverb

### prey (prey on something)

prey on (homeless) addicts  
drug dealers who ~...

prey on people's desperation  
doctors who ~ (brain-health products, CTE worries, etc.)

preyed on parents' fears  
he ~ (university admittance fraud)

preyed on his mind  
the matter ~ as he went about his daily routine (Archimedes)

preys on people  
COVID ~ with existing health problems

preyed on the political prisoners  
criminals ~ (gulag)

prey on the sheep  
there are a lot of wolves in here who will ~ prison)

prey on ego and greed

regal-sounding diploma mills ~

**behavior / pursuit, capture & escape: animal / predation / verb**

### prey (fall prey to something)

fall prey to (unscrupulous) agents  
don't ~ (sex trafficking of Nepalese to UAE)

fall prey to (predatory) lenders  
the poor ~

fall prey to traffickers  
older women can ~ (sex trafficking)

fall prey to HIV  
as many as 45 million people will ~ (by 2010)

fell prey to the (voracious) sun  
eight ~ (stranded whales)

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / predation / verb**

### prey (prey and predator, etc.)

prey for terrorists  
subways, shopping centers are easy ~

prey and predator  
he believed people fell into two groups: ~

easy prey  
subways, shopping centers are ~ for terrorists  
their status outside the law makes them ~ (migrants)  
she became ~ for an ex-convict twice her age (14 y.o.)

predators and the prey  
in prison, there are the ~

makes them (easy) prey  
their status outside the law ~ (illegal immigrants)

regard girls as prey  
boys ~

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / predation**

### price (noun)

price to pay  
a little bit of sexism is a small ~ for a lot of attention

price to be good  
he's willing to pay the ~ (an athlete)

price of doing  
the ~ the same old thing is higher than price of change

price of fame  
Hinckley forced Jodie Foster to think hard about the ~

price of freedom  
"the ~ is eternal vigilance"

price of hypocrisy  
the ~ has never been lower (politicians and sex)

price of liberty

eternal vigilance is the ~ (Thomas Jefferson)

price of peace  
the costs of war and the ~ (soldiers)

price of success  
weary but optimistic, he weighed the ~ (a rapper)

price of war  
white tombstones, a reminder of the ~ (Arlington)  
they pay the ~ with their arms and legs (civilians)

price of our inaction  
the ~ will be paid by our kids (unplanned growth)

price for writing  
there is a ~ your mind (journalist in conflicts)

price for his activism  
Lenny Pozner would pay a ~ (Sandy Hook shooting Dad)

price for (their) fame  
celebrities pay a huge ~

price for freedom  
the ~ is high (fight against terrorists)

price for your sins  
Jesus Christ paid the ~

heavy price  
fame came with a ~  
he was overconfident throughout and paid a ~ (soccer)  
they will pay a ~ for these actions (politics)

high price  
we paid a very ~ (military commander, casualties)

huge price  
celebrities pay a ~ for their fame

political price  
he may pay a ~ nevertheless (a senator)  
those corrupt social-media companies must pay a ~

small price  
a little bit of sexism is a ~ to pay for a lot of attention

terrible price  
but Knieval's fame came at a ~ (daredevil / injuries)

ultimate price  
she paid the ~ (drug death)  
you have to be willing to pay the ~ (surfing)

came at a (terrible) price  
but Knieval's fame ~ (daredevil / injuries)

comes with a price  
fame ~

comes at a price  
user-friendliness ~

have a price  
false hope can ~ (unproven treatments)

pay a price  
see *pay (pay a price)*

put a price on that  
you can't ~ (happiness in career)

weighed the price  
weary but optimistic, he ~ of success (a rapper)

- ♦ No sin without a price.
- ♦ Grief is the price of love.

**cost & benefit / judgment: money**

## price tag

price tag  
obsessive attention to the ~ is misleading  
there's no ~ you can put on it (hearing a wolf in the wild)

**cost & benefit / judgment: money**

## prick (verb)

prick (overinflated) reputations  
a critic should ~ (poetry)

**destruction: air / atmosphere / hole / verb**

## prickle (prickle of anxiety, etc.)

prickle of anxiety  
he felt the first ~ (a commander)

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation**

## Pride (groups)

Pride  
kink, cops and corporations at ~  
a popular family friendly event like ~ (Jules Gill-Peterson)

Pride cookies  
the bakery is being inundated with orders for ~ (LGBTQ)

Pride displays  
New York library removes ~ from children's section

Pride event  
it happens at every ~ (LGBTQ)  
they are sending more vaccines after ~s (for monkeypox)

Pride festival  
a new ~ (LGBTQ)

Pride flags  
Black Lives Matter and ~...

pride flag  
Wisconsin school board votes in favor of ~ ban

Pride jerseys  
some athletes refused to wear ~

Pride march  
Philly's ~ returns with new organizers (LGBTQ)

Pride Month  
June marks ~ (LGBTQ)

Pride Parade  
at the start of a ~

Pride and Queer  
~ stories

Black pride  
father teaches daughter to have ~

Brighton Pride  
“Army of volunteers help clean up litter after ~” (ITV)

Chelsea Pride  
~, the London club’s LGBTQ supporters group

gay pride  
what ~ is

Pride has evolved  
since then, ~ (Stonewall uprising)

♦ “More Love, Less Hate.” (LGBTQ.)

♦ “I’m proud of who I am.” (Gay.)

♦ “Love always wins, and unfortunately sometimes it takes hate to prove that. We don’t get rainbows or flowers without the rain.” (“A Texas Bakery Got Hate Mail Over Pride Cookies. Then The Community Rallied Behind It” by Rachel Treisman, NPR, Pride Month, June 11, 2021. Associating rain with hate deserves at least a Thinking Face emoji and perhaps even a Face with One Eyebrow Raised emoji.)

♦ “Chelsea Pride, the London club’s LGBTQ supporters group, described the chanting as a ‘hate crime.’” (The “Rent boy” chant.)

♦ “F--- Clarence Thomas.” (Lori Lightfoot, the Mayor of Chicago, about the Supreme Court Justice, at a Chicago Pride event.)

♦ “You couldn’t even see the beach in places.” (Cleaning up tons of trash after a Brighton Beach “Pride” weekend. Trash included broken glass bottles, cans, plastic bags, food wrappers, disposable barbecues, feather boas, parts of costumes, nitrous oxide canisters, and balloons which can be deadly to wildlife.)

♦ “Check out picks straight off our Rainbow Runway below, including tube socks, a romper and a classic jersey shirt. By clicking on these shopping links, visitors will leave Goodmorningamerica.com. These e-commerce sites are operated under different terms and privacy policies than Goodmorningamerica.com. ABC will receive a commission for purchases made through these links. Prices may change from the date of publication.” (“Celebrate Pride month with looks hot off the ‘GMA’ ‘Rainbow Runway,’ GMA Team, June 23, 2022.)

♦ “President Vucic cannot cancel someone else’s event. The right to hold Pride has been ruled by the European Court of Human Rights to be a fundamental human right.” (President Kristine Carina of European Pride Organizers. From “Serbia’s leader says EuroPride won’t happen due to threats” by Jovana Gec, AP, Aug 27, 2022. In the same article, she mentioned that “Several thousand people recently joined a march in Belgrade against LGBTQ Pride.” See also the Wikipedia entry “Belgrade antigay riot.”)

♦ “No matter where you are in your journey, I see you, we see you, and we celebrate you—Happy Pride!” (Karine Jean-Pierre.)

♦ Pride is generally capitalized when used as a premodifier, and can also be a single word, also capitalized.

♦ The *conventional* sense of “pride” is usually positive but it can also be negative. For example, a person can have too much pride and be stubborn or not ask a question, something can wound one’s pride, “Pride goeth before a fall,” etc.

♦ Pride in one’s appearance / car / lawn / house; pride in one’s country; Hmong American pride (in Sunisa Lee); small-town pride; civic pride; community pride; national pride; with pride (“Infantry is infantry” he says with pride); a badge of pride (working to exhaustion); a point of pride (working hard); a sense of pride; a source of pride (being a veteran); the pride that comes with...; they take pride in...; they pride themselves on... It filled him with pride... (Conventional, non-Gay usages with *pride*.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## priesthood (noun)

priesthood of economists  
he was excommunicated from the ~

♦ “For a few years after World War II, scientists had been regarded as a new class of intellectuals, members of a public-policy priesthood who might legitimately offer expertise not only as scientists but as public philosophers. With Oppenheimer’s defrocking, scientists knew that in the future they could serve the state only as experts on narrow scientific issues.” (*American Prometheus: The Triumph And Tragedy Of J. Robert Oppenheimer* by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin.)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## prima donna (person)

overpaid primadonas  
what a bunch of ~ (Manchester United football club)

overpaid primadonnas  
those ~ (“tired, overworked” players / Qatar World Cup)

self-centered, egotistical prima donna  
he’s a ~ who... (a soccer player)

♦ “Dump Rodgers, she’s a prima donna, and doesn’t get the TEAM culture.” (Shade against the great future Hall of Famer Aaron Rodgers of the NFL Green Bay Packers, using a female pronoun!)

**person: theater**

**behavior / character & personality / performance: person / theater**

## prime (verb)

prime us for traumatization  
the stories passed down ~ (Blacks / race-based)

prime the customer to agree  
questions that elicit a “yes” ~ (salesmanship)

**initiation / readiness & preparedness: explosion / mechanism / verb / weapon**

## primed (ready)

primed for outrage  
we are all so ~ (culture wars)

primed to detonate  
the film was ~ this weekend (open)

primed to love it  
I was so ~ (a Jane Campion film, *Power of the Dog*)

primed to protest  
why are students always ~ (Dartmouth College)

♦ “Priming” a response is a “big thing” in academic experiments, particularly in social psychology, linguistics, etc.

**initiation / readiness & preparedness: explosion / mechanism / weapon**

## prince (epithet)

Prince of Cartography  
John George Bartholomew, called the “~”

prince of surgeons  
Lister, the ~, hugged Pasteur (1892)

**superlative: epithet / royalty**

**epithet: royalty**

## prince (person)

little prince

I got used to being the ~ (first-born Asian male)

**superlative: person / royalty**

**person: royalty**

## princess (person)

princess

she thinks a ~ in a pink gown is kid stuff (Halloween)

princess phase

every little girl goes through a ~ (US / pink)

princess or angel

I want to be Britney Spears, no more ~ (Halloween)

pop princess

teen ~ Britney Spears

**superlative: person / royalty**

**person: royalty**

## prioritize (groups)

prioritized democracy over his political future

Lincoln ~ (NPR's Steve Inskeep)

prioritizes intersectionality

she is a speaker and organizer who ~

prioritize joy

in order to ~, you must... (Emily Ratajkowski)

prioritize her wellbeing

Simon Biles withdraws from Tokyo Olympics to ~

prioritise mental health and happiness

Ellie Downie retires to '~' (the gymnast)

prioritize, center, and platform

we must ~ the voices of women (sexual assault)

**inclusion & exclusion: messaging / verb**

## prism (through the prism)

through the prism of its own ideology

the US sees the world ~

through my own ethnic prism

I view the world ~

looks at Israel through the prism

he ~ of his Christian faith (Bush)

sees his role through the prism

Bush ~ of the war on terror (Middle East)

see the show through the prism

progressive critics ~ of 'white grievance' (*Yellowstone*)

viewed through a (partisan) prism

the past is ~ (US)

**perception, perspective & point of view: tools & technology**

## prism (other)

ethnic prism

my own ~ sometimes distorts my perspective

I view the world through my own ~

ideological prism

his ~ has not changed (Qaddafi / anti-imperialism)

partisan prism

the past is viewed through a ~ (US)

**perception, perspective & point of view: tools & technology**

## prison (constraint)

prison of fat

if you want to lose weight and escape from the ~ (an ad)

unlock the prison

to study the past is to ~ of the present (Jill Lepore)

**constraint & lack of constraint: crime**

## prisoner (constraint)

prisoner

care about people's approval and you will be their ~

prisoner of his determination

he was the ~ (Amundson follows line of longitude to Pole)

prisoners of our own doctrine

we were ~ (Israelis in 1973 war)

prisoner of duty

he could seem like a grudging ~ (President Grant)

prisoner of a preconceived notion

he was the ~

prisoner of her own success

she is a ~ (a Pop diva)

♦ "Keep the tongue in your mouth a prisoner." (Turkish.)

**constraint & lack of constraint: crime**

## prisoner (take no prisoners, etc.)

take no prisoners

we fight hard, we play for keeps, we ~ (gun-rights activist)

take-no-prisoners

the ~ approach to justice

his aggressive, ~ attitude was always on display (a coach)

take no prisoners

her ~ approach got her fired (an educational reformer)

takes no prisoners

this is one reason Sesali Bowen is so powerful, she ~

hard-charging, take-no-prisoners

he's known as a ~ kind of guy (Governor Andrew Cuomo)

♦ This is the same as to give no quarter.

♦ “We fight hard, we play for keeps, we take no prisoners. We’ll get in the trenches and fight dirty.” (Greg Pruett, president of the Idaho Second Amendment Alliance, a gun-rights group.)

♦ “Bowen also calls out the classism and cultural biases even within Black media circles where so many of her colleagues come from privilege and ‘have had to untangle their Blackness from the web of whiteness they were socialized in.’ This is one reason Bowen is powerful; she takes no prisoners. Going against every tide, Bowen’s trap feminism enthusiastically celebrates “ghetto girl culture.” More than reconciling feminism with hip-hop, she marshalls [sic] its power.” (“5 books at the intersection of Black feminist thought, culture, and politics” by Carole V. Bell, NPR, Book Reviews, March 21, 2022.)

**judgment / punishment & recrimination: military**

## privilege (groups / verb)

privilege whiteness

Latinos who historically and contemporarily ~ (colorism)

privileges (scholarly) work

SCA ~ that takes an intersectional approach (university)

**inclusion & exclusion: objectification / verb**

## privilege (groups / noun)

privilege guide

if this ~ upsets you, you’re the reason why it’s needed

Black privilege

~ (Black Wendy’s employee murders old white customer)

caste privilege

“~” and South Asians in the United States

chick privilege

~ (“my mistakes don’t define who I am”)

Christian privilege

if you get a holiday for Christmas, then you have ~

cis privilege

Leelah Alcorn’s suicide led to renewed recognition of ~

male privilege

not having to worry much about where to pee is a ~  
*Men* is a sly take on sexism and ~ (Alex Garland’s film)  
he finds terms like “~” and “the patriarchy” nebulous  
they both participate in a takedown of ~ (*Do Revenge*)

southern male privilege

the private club was once a bastion of ~

thin privilege

~ is a lot like white privilege (you don’t see how you benefit)

~ (“straight” sizes [0 to 14] / buying clothes)

you can be fat and still benefit from ~ (“small fat”)

white privilege

the law seeks to ban any discussion of ~ (education)

“~” is used as a political weapon to bash opponents  
an anti-racism tool to teach those with ~

some gays have access to ~ in America

one of the manifestations of ~ is not having to think about it

earned privilege

what about ~ (Areva Marin vs. David Web)

able-bodied privilege

if you can walk up a set of stairs, then you have ~

heterosexual privilege

if your wife doesn’t raise eyebrows, you have ~

pretty privilege

there’s an ugly side to ~ (Shye Lee, who is “totally hot”)

#~ has attracted more than 300 million views on TikTok

racial privilege

it exemplifies snobbery, stuffiness, and ~ (classical music)

religious privilege

groups that campaign against ~ (National Secular Society)

social privilege

~ denied to dark-skinned Afro-Latinos (colorism)

white companies, white people, white privilege

~ (?)

entitlement and privilege

white skin color equals ~

power and privilege

they were predators who were able to use that ~

they used their ~ to harm countless individuals

3<sup>rd</sup>-graders rank themselves according to their ‘~’ (school)

racism and privilege

the bill limits discussion of ~ in classrooms, workplaces

child of privilege

another bored ~ who chose the path of revolution

place of privilege

from a ~, she...

position of privilege

she frequently mentions her ~ (comedian Amy Schumer)

types of privilege

different ~, including...

discourse around “privilege”

~ (macro and micro discrimination or aggression)

carries some privilege

any white person ~ due to their skin color

cocooned in privilege

a metropolitan elite ~ (Great Britain)

come from privilege

so many of her colleagues ~ (the Black media)

treated with privilege

since she was ~, she wasn’t arrested (a white woman)

use their privilege

white-passing Latinos ~ to distance themselves (colorism)

♦ If you’re confident that the police exist to protect you, you have **white privilege**. / If while growing up, college was an expectation of you, not a dream, you have **class privilege**. / If you can expect time off from work to celebrate your religious holidays, you have **Christian privilege**. / If you can use public bathrooms without stares, fear or anxiety, you have **cisgender privilege**. / If you don’t have to worry about how to get into a store, you have **able-bodied privilege**. / If you don’t have to explain that

your spouse is of the same gender, you have **heterosexual privilege**. / If you don't have to think about it, **it's a privilege**. Check your privilege: White / Male / Class / Cisgender / Able-Bodied / Heterosexual. (A "Leading Practices: Unpacking privilege" information handout.)

♦ "And what I want people to make the connection to is actually white privilege is a part of white supremacy and it upholds white supremacy." (Layla Saad, author of *Me and White Supremacy*.)

♦ "They have ridden their waves of privilege far beyond their own skill levels." (White male writers. All of them.)

♦ "The foreigner tends to ride upon the high though not very reliable horse of privilege." (In Asia. For most European people, "staying too long in the East was tantamount to suicide.")

♦ "Artistic director Patrick Dooley, who's not Native American, said having a land acknowledgment helps remind his theater company and audience of their privileges." ("So you began your event with an indigenous land acknowledgement. Now what?" by Chloe Veltman, NPR, All Things Considered, March 15, 2023.)

♦ "There have been 393 homicides in Philadelphia so far this year, but Dana Pico at First Street Journal notes the 'white privilege' in this case: Philadelphia media seldom name the murder victims in the city, the vast majority of whom are black." ("A Death in Killadelphia" by Robert Stacy McCain, Sept. 24, 2022. The post is about the murder of Everett Beauregard, age 23.)

♦ "You are white privilege. Sit down. You are not my boss. You don't have privilege over me. You have white privilege and it's not here, it's over with. It's 2020. Wake up... You don't have white privilege anymore." (Video: Passenger taken away by police after racial rant on plane in US, *Daily Mail*, Sept 14, 2020.)

♦ "She frequently mentions her position of privilege. 'I get it—white women are the worst,' she recently said on LeBron James's podcast 'Uninterrupted.' 'I hate myself. Trust me.' Depending on your point of view, this is either a welcome emphasis on the structural inequities inherent in American life or a grating form of virtue signalling from a member of the elite." ("Mom Com: Amy Schumer's second act" by Ariel Levy, *The New Yorker*, September 5, 2022.)

♦ "Bowen also calls out the classism and cultural biases even within Black media circles where so many of her colleagues come from privilege and 'have had to untangle their Blackness from the web of whiteness they were socialized in.' This is one reason Bowen is powerful; she takes no prisoners. ("5 books at the intersection of Black feminist thought, culture, and politics" by Carole V. Bell, NPR, Book Reviews, March 21, 2022.)

♦ "'This doesn't happen to people like me' is the most white privilege-iest thing to ever be uttered at an awards show ever for all time." (Sam Sanders of *Vulture*, previously with NPR, about Harry Styles and his Grammy Award for Album of the Year.)

♦ "White privilege, male privilege, cisprivilege... (Terms popularized on Tumblr. From the brilliant podcast "The Witch Trials of J.K. Rowling," Chapter 3: A New Pyre.)

♦ "The stately pace of the motorcade, a royal prerogative..."

♦ Driving is a privilege, not a right. (What most Americans heard growing up.)

♦ Rank has its privilege. (Typical American understanding of the word, which accepts the fact that you earn your rank and deserve whatever privileges that come with it. A better and bigger office with a view. A driver / chauffeur. Not having to wait in line at a club; a VIP room. Same for the airport. Company or military perks. The list goes on and on.)

♦ "Privilege is vile." (A traditional American way to remember how to spell the word correctly that also expresses the traditional, historic, and ingrained American view that *undeserved* [italics mine] privilege is wrong.)

♦ "USC was one of the universities embroiled in an admissions cheating scandal in which wealthy parents sought to get their *undeserving* [italics mine] offspring into college by falsely portraying them as star athletes." ("Former USC dean pleads guilty in political bribery case," AP, September 19, 2022.)

♦ Almost all Americans instinctively despise favoritism, nepotism (nepo babies), and cronyism, unless, of course, those things apply to their own families.

♦ "The way we talk about white privilege is eerily consonant with the way one talks about original sin." (John McWhorter, author of *Woke Racism: How a New Religion Has Betrayed Black America*.)

♦ "Harlem's most opulent apartment house, the Dunbar—honoring the Dayton, O., Negro poet Paul Laurence Dunbar—houses some of the most celebrated of the colored folk. It is an impressive structure, a Rockefeller creation, with all the white folk appointments, even to uniformed elevator operators and hot-cha door flunkies. Bob Robinson lives there. Also Duke Ellington, Cab Calloway, Adelaide Hall and the colored cartoonist E. Simms Campbell." ("New York Day by Day" by O. O. McIntyre, from *The Day*, New London, CONN., Thursday Afternoon, April 1, 1937.)

♦ First he built a fire against a fallen tree trunk... Then he cut a branch of dogwood that forked into three tines, leaving the stem for a handle. On the fork he laid a chunk of his hard corn bread and fastened it in place with limber twigs woven crosswise. He impaled a slice of fat salt pork, on a sharpened stick, broiled it over the coals, and held his bread under it to catch the dripping grease and get warmed through. / Youlus ate as voraciously as a hound, meantime drinking his black coffee without sugar and getting supreme enjoyment from it... If some well-meaning but misguided genii had carried him off on a magic carpet and set him to feast at a king's table, Youlus would have sniffed and growled at every dish placed before him and would have bragged about his 'old corn bread and sow-belly.'" (*Smoky Mountain Magic* by Horace Kephart.)

♦ "Life is very precious and I was lucky enough to be given a second chance and I'm trying to make the most of it now." (Ex-Royal Marine Toby Gutteridge from Poole, Dorset. Shot in the neck in Afghanistan in 2009, spinal cord severed at the C2 level, quadriplegic. White male privilege.)

♦ "Responsibility, not privilege, would be the keyword for battalion leadership when the Second Raiders formed up." (The Wikipedia entry "Evans Carlson," the legendary leader of Carlson's Raiders. His biography is extraordinary.)

♦ In his *Devil's Dictionary*, Ambrose Bierce did not see fit to create an entry for "privilege." A pity! But if he had, it might have been: "Privilege (noun). Every man has the privilege to lay his head down and sleep each night wherever he lies, no matter his circumstances or station in life."

♦ see also *earn* (verb)

## inclusion & exclusion: objectification

### privileged

#### privileged category

it is absurd to see white Americans as a uniformly ~

#### privileged countries

the ~ of the world (vs. poorer ones)

#### privileged (queer vacation) destination

a very ~, Fire Island

#### privileged white family

telling the story of a ~ (*Downton Abbey: A New Era*)

#### privileged immigrant

I am by all means a ~ (Miguel Macias)

#### privileged people

~ who didn't have to think much about race (parenting)

#### privileged white women

~ shouldn't be the only face of breast cancer (Ericka Hart)

#### socially privileged

the compilation also skews toward the ~ (early scientists)

the gay white man is more ~ than his queer peers

#### white, privileged woman

as a ~ (versus underserved populations / health equity)

#### white privileged world

the novel is set in the ~ of Ivy League schools

#### rich, powerful and privileged

that Jews are ~ is an antisemitic trope

♦ "I feel privileged to co-chair the LGBTQ+ ERG and help spread awareness of lived queer experiences." (An official at the Silicon Valley Bank.)

**inclusion & exclusion: objectification**

## prize (noun)

prize

it was their biggest ~ yet in the 18-day old war (airport)  
she has some obstacles between her and the ~ (candidate)

Arctic prize

perhaps the biggest ~ is oil and natural gas

strategic prize

the city is a vital crossroads and a ~ (war)  
An Nasiriya is considered a ~ (Iraqi Freedom)

considered a (strategic) prize

An Nasiriya is ~ (Operation Iraqi Freedom)

**cost & benefit / worth & lack of worth: money**

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: money**

## prized

prized in China

the saiga horn is ~ as a traditional remedy (Mongolia)

prized as an ingredient

the saiga horn is ~ of Chinese medicine

prized (in China) as a (traditional) remedy

the saiga horn is ~

prized as dairy cattle

the kuri are native to the Lake Chad region and ~

prized for their odor

durians are ~ (fruit)

prized for their taste

edible wild mushrooms are ~ (poisonings)

prized by the (local) Bushmen

ostrich eggs are greatly ~ (water containers)

prized by Iran, North Korea and terrorist groups

a stash of weapons-grade uranium that would be ~

prized dish

they're a ~ at restaurants (Cat Ba langurs)

prized fur

llamas and their ~

prized (QB) recruit

Alabama beat Tennessee for a ~

horn is prized

the saiga ~ in China as a traditional remedy

greatly prized

ostrich eggs are ~ by the Bushmen

most prized

sable was the ~ accessory in the courts of Europe

♦ "They arrive with gold and depart with pepper." (An amazed Tamil trader. Europeans prized pepper. From *At Home: A Short History of Private Life* by Bill Bryson.)

♦ "Jade has no meaning for our culture, but we are thankful to Allah that the Chinese go crazy for it." (Yacen Ahmat, a Uighur in Khotan's jade bazaar, in Xinjiang.)

♦ The small corpses of Carolina parakeets were used whole by milliners to adorn women's hats. The last known representative of its species died in February 1918.

**cost & benefit / worth & lack of worth: money**

## process (verb)

processed what happened

I don't think I've really ~ (a building collapse)

process our grief

we ask that the media respect our privacy as we ~

process this (awful) loss

her little sister can hardly ~ (a fatal selfie accident)

**feeling, emotion & effect: manufacturing / verb**

**comprehension & incomprehension: manufacturing / verb**

## procrustean (adjective)

procrustean

requiring rigor from expert and amateur is ~ (data)

procrustean bureaucracy

~ in the name of consistency (education)

procrustean criticism

they faced ~ from rightists and leftists (immigration)

procrustean decisions

film editing sometimes requires making ~

\* This refers to making everyone and everything fit to an arbitrary standard; to ensure conformity. In science, it can relate to tailoring data to fit the hypothesis. It is similar to "one size fits all." Procrustes was a crazy man who stretched people or cut off body parts so that his victims would fit a metal bed.

\* "Perhaps a laudable anxiety to be correct and systematic in making and recording meteorological observations has induced the prevailing idea that extreme precision is all-important, and that observations should be very numerous. Observatories, unquestionably, such should be the case; but to treat all localities, all alike, and to require a similar registration from each, would indeed be Procrustean, while their application of very refined instruments might be like cutting wool with razors." (*The Weather Book* by the great sea captain and scientist Robert FitzRoy.)

**comparison & contrast: affix**

**creation & transformation / oppression: allusion / clothing & accessories**

## prod (verb)

prodged the government to do something

he ~

prodging districts to apply

the government is ~

**coercion & motivation: finger / force / verb**

## product (noun)

product of my environment

I'm a ~ (place, food, friends, speech, etc.)

product of mentorship

I'm a complete ~ (Broadway producer Scott Rudin)

product of its time

the film was a ~ (*Gone with the Wind*)

product of her upbringing

she is the ~ (an Appalachian musician)

product of her (Midwest) upbringing

this is possibly a ~ (an inviting personality)

product of their (life) experiences and their education

they are to some extent the ~ (Supreme Court justices)

**creation & transformation: manufacturing**

**identity & nature / product / relationship: manufacturing**

## professor (noun)

his professors

the Arctic was his university and the Inuit ~ (Amundsen)

**knowledge & intelligence: person / school & education**

## profit (verb)

profit from lessons learned

he was confident that he could ~

**cost & benefit: money / verb**

**worth & lack of worth: money / verb**

## profile (low profile)

low profile

US citizens should maintain a ~ (terrorism)

my company was ~

keep a low profile

Westerners ~ in line with their embassies' advisories

maintain a low profile

Americans should ~ (terrorism overseas)

US citizens should ~ (Saudi Arabia)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: height / target**

**protection & lack of protection: height / target**

## profile (high profile)

high-profile case

~s involving sex

the police are under pressure to solve the ~

high-profile disappearance

it was the nation's fourth ~ of a child

high-profile intellectual

Mr. Ramadan ins not just a professor but a ~

high-profile target

the US is a ~ (terrorism)

highest-profile (soccer) star

he is one of the world's highest-paid and ~s

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: height**

## profile (attention)

profile of atheists

raising the ~ in America (a march)

profile in the US

trying to raise the sport's ~ (table tennis)

profile in the region

the US has raised its military ~ (Korea)

sport's profile

trying to raise the ~ in the US (table tennis)

military profile

the US has raised its ~ in the region (Korea)

profile soared

her ~ spectacularly in 2016 (after interviewing Trump)

raised her profile

the endorsement ~ (a politician)

raise the (sport's) profile

trying to ~ in the US (table tennis)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: height**

## profile (picture)

profile of the killer

he created a ~

profile of the women

construct a reproductive ~ in the tribe

profile of Los Angeles

as the demographic ~ changed (police department)

profile parameters

~ for Arab terrorists

person's (personality) profile

a ~ is a powerful influence

consumer profile

portal sites are doing a lot with ~

credit profile

customers with even riskier ~s (phone companies)

criminal profile

techniques for developing a ~

flight profile

the dangerous potential of the ~ (aircraft crash)

mule profile

he fit the ~ (busted drug courier at airport)

personality profile

a person's ~ is a powerful influence

DNA profile

the law mandates taking a ~ of all criminals

the F.B.I. maintains a national database of ~s

detailed profile

~s that include the donors' health history

criminal profile  
techniques for developing a ~

demographic profile  
as the ~ of Los Angeles changed (police department)

different (homicidal) profile  
he appears to fit a ~

discernible profile  
these victims do not fit any ~ (spree killings)

geographic profile  
~s use crime locations to determine...

homicidal profile  
he appears to fit a different ~

particular profile  
victims usually fit a ~, such as prostitutes...

psychological profile  
construct a ~ of a serial killer  
the FBI is working on developing a ~ of the suspect  
FBI ~s of the Green River killer appear to match him

reproductive profile  
construct a ~ of the women in the tribe

profile had suggested  
an FBI ~ the kidnapper is a predator, and possibly...

profile (also) suggested  
the ~ that the killer... (FBI-created profile)

construct a (psychological) profile  
~ of a serial killer

developing a (criminal) profile  
techniques for ~

fit a (particular) profile  
victims usually ~, such as prostitutes...

fit any (discernible) profile  
these victims do not ~ (spree killings)

fit the (mule) profile  
he ~ (busted drug courier at airport)

**characterization: picture**

## profile (profile in courage)

see *profile in courage* (JFK)

## profile in courage (JFK)

profile in courage

all honor to Liz Cheney, a genuine ~ (Bill Kristol)

profiles in courage

major businesses are not exactly ~ (the bottom line)

♦ The beloved US president John F. Kennedy wrote *Profiles in Courage*, in which he singled out eight senators for their bravery and integrity.

♦ "Look, I never expect a foreign leader I'm dealing with, or a colleague senator, to voluntarily appear in the second edition of *Profiles in Courage*. So you got to think of what is in their *interest*." (Joe Biden speaking to Evan Osnos.)

**allusion / character & personality: books & reading**

## prognosis (noun)

grim prognosis

the ~ was consistent with new figures (world economy)

reliable prognoses

there aren't any ~ of how the Arctic climate will develop

scientific prognoses

grim ~ have come to pass (death of the Amazon)

**condition & status: health & medicine**

**future / time: health & medicine**

## progress (verb)

case has progressed

a lot has happened as this ~

**progress & lack of progress: movement / verb**

**development: movement / verb**

## promethean (adjective)

Promethean Award

the ~ for Headteacher of the Year in a Primary School

Promethean fire

this is forbidden fruit, a ~, a Pandora's box, and evil genie

Promethean hero

the Romantic view of Satan as a ~ (*Frankenstein*)

promethean heroes

a high Romantic vision of authors as ~ of creativity

Promethean individualism

Nietzsche was drawn to Ralph Waldo Emerson's ~

Promethean sins

and for his ~ the next generation was punished (see below)

Promethean task

the scale-up for treating a human is a ~ (growing livers)

♦ This word refers to at least 4 things: (1) great creativity and originality, especially, now, new technology (2) "gifting" something of great benefit to others (3) defiance of authority and disobedience (4) great suffering.

♦ In Greek mythology, the myth of Prometheus and the story of Pandora are intertwined.

♦ "Prometheus unframed: A new type of camera could prove valuable on robots, drones and driverless cars," *The Economist*, January 29th, 2022.

♦ "Their father worked on the Manhattan Project, and for his Promethean sins the next generation was punished." (Graeme Wood's review of Cormac McCarthy's two latest books—*The Passenger* and *Stella Maris*—in *The Atlantic*. Wood does not mention J. Robert Oppenheimer in his review.)

♦ "Paine is the preeminent spokesman of a new class of people who are emerging at just that time. We used to call them the artisans, self-educated working men with a skill... They've taught themselves to read or they've become literate.. And they develop political ambitions. And Paine is the perfect spokesman of this group of people who meet in taverns and coffeehouses and public squares to discuss self-improvement and the improvement of society. And that's why—it's Promethean, I suppose, is the word I'm looking for. It's the desire to share the fire, not just with the gods but with the whole of humanity, so everyone can warm themselves by the flame and see by it, too." ("Hitchens: How Paine's 'Rights' Changed the World," NPR, October 23, 2007. From the special series, "Books That Changed the World.")

♦ “In Greek Mythology, Prometheus was a Titan who loved humans too much. He gave them the gift of fire, and at the banquet with the gods, he would save them the best pieces of meat. That kind of generosity upset Zeus, who condemned him to be chained to a mountain and have his liver eaten by an eagle. Every night the liver would grow again, ready to be devoured the next day. This torment...is the punishment for wanting to outsmart the gods. Giving men fire, Prometheus provided the first important tool, the very first step towards technology, science, and the dominance of humans over nature... It didn't end well.” (BBC, “The curious case of the man with a hole in his stomach,” 17 May 2022. Ambition... Playing God... )

♦ Mary Shelley's 1818 novel was titled *Frankenstein, or The Modern Prometheus*. Frankenstein was Victor Frankenstein, the young scientist who created the monster.)

♦ “At this point if you chained [Erling] Haaland to a rock he would just pick up the rock and score like before. Amazing.” (The online commenter Kalista about the great Norwegian soccer player.)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: allusion / religion**  
**comparison & contrast: affix**  
**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: allusion / religion**

## Prometheus (epithet)

America's Prometheus  
he was ~, “the father of the atomic bomb” (Oppenheimer)

*American Prometheus*  
~: *The Triumph And Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer*

**epithet: religion**

## Promised Land

promised land of Scorie  
their friends and countrymen in the ~ (Mohawk Valley)

bring us to the promised land  
this is the coach that's going to ~ (Cal's Mark Madsen)

painted the North as a promised land  
he ~ (Robert Sengstacke Abbott of *Chicago Defender*)

♦ It's a message we were dying to hear; oh, man, I love it, I like what he said; I'm impressed; he hit all the right notes; music to the ears; he seems like a genuine dude; I think this is the coach that's going to bring us to the promised land... (Comments about coach Mark Madsen, the new basketball coach at the University of California, Berkeley.)

**environment / superlative: allusion / Bible / religion**

## prong (river)

South Prong  
the ~ of the Current River

**branching system: animal / horn**

## prong (part)

two main prongs  
the scheme consisted of ~ (college admissions scandal)

**branching system: animal / horn**

## pronoun (groups)

preferred pronouns  
the Catholic Diocese banned the use of ~ (Des Moines)

uses they/them pronouns  
Sam Brinton ~

♦ “NPR's Juana Summers talks with author Jas Hammond about their book, *We Deserve Monuments*. It's a young adult love story and a family mystery that explores intergenerational trauma and racism.” (NPR.)

♦ “If they don't have something lined up by Feb. 6, Tu faces having to leave the country.” (NPR. “They” and Tu are one and the same person.)

♦ Entire books have been written in the gender neutral unnamed “you.”

♦ “Would I know them [an actor], Tony says. / I think so, you say. / Tony only blinks back at you. / So, they say, is that what you were crying about. / Yeah. / Been there, your driver [Tony] adds... / The two of you lean over your noodles.” (“Arrivals” by Bryan Washington, *The New Yorker*, July 11 & 18, 2022.)

♦ “In ‘Pastoral,’ you use the first person singular and plural as well as the second person...” (Tobias Carroll interviewing Jac Jemc about *False Bingo*. Her name is pronounced “Jack Jams.”)

♦ “France has little patience for American culture-war staples such as genderless pronouns and bathrooms. Even the relatively modest, gender-neutral *ie* was forcefully dismissed by the first lady, Brigitte Macron: ‘Our language is beautiful. And two pronouns are enough,’ she has said, to practically no pushback at all.” (“The French Are In A Panic Over Le Wokisme” by Thomas Chatterton Williams, *The Atlantic*, March 2023.)

**inclusion & exclusion: language**

## pronunciation (language)

adult  
pronounced AH-dult, which can sound like “addled”

Chile  
brayed as CHEEE-laaay / virtue signaling

during  
pronounced DOOR-ing

for  
pronounced “fur”  
written in text as “fir”  
sometimes written in text as fir (typo?)

happen  
pronounced HOP-pen

haul  
pronounced “HAW” videos (NPR)

hundred  
pronounced HUN-nert (with an affected glottal stop)

important  
pronounced im-POR-unt (glottal stop, grunted)

I ran  
the country Iran...

IZZYrock  
~ (Is Iraq...)

Justin time  
(=just in time)

Khartoum  
pronounced “Hartoum” by an NPR reporter born in Nicaragua

Kiev  
pronounced and spelled Kyiv (U.S. State Department edict)

mundering  
he did a lot of ~ money laundering cases... (NPR punditry)

naked  
pronounced NECK-kid by an NPR host

often  
pronounced with the T  
a marker for contempo-speakers

Putin  
pronounced with a *whooping* glottal stop by NPR host

Qatar  
pronounced “CUT-er” (Wolf Blitzer of CNN)

really  
see *really* (and *REEE•lee*, etc.)

REK•ert  
(=record, like the kind you play on a record player)

rectum  
Don King has ~ (“wrecked him” / “Iron” Mike Tyson)

Sikh  
pronounced “Sick” (NPR)

Simon Biles  
~ (pronounced “Bowels” by Ambricht Crutchfield on NPR)

snot  
(=it’s not)

soften  
pronounced with the T (NPR’s David Folkenflik)

stronghold  
Trump has such a ~ on the party (strong HOLD? / an acorn?)

sure  
pronounced the same as “shore”

urine  
~ and year out... (year in and year out)

Zip hole  
~ (actually Zip Poll)

♦ At the Quora site, years ago, Joan B wrote, “Mostly millennials, using glottal stops in place of ‘t’s. First time it caught my ear was Kate Hudson advertising her exercise-wear... Every younger HGTV host is redecorating their ‘t’s.”

♦ Wolf Blitzer of CNN was probably responsible for popularizing the pronunciation of “Qatar” as “CUT-er” during his coverage of the Gulf War.

♦ Tyler Adams, the USMNT captain, graciously apologized to an Iranian journalist for pronouncing *Iran* as EYE-ran at the FIFA World Cup in Qatar, and it is to his great credit. (“USMNT captain Tyler Adams apologizes for mispronunciation of Iran; addresses issue of discrimination in the US” by Ben Morse and Wayne Sterling, CNN, November 28, 2022.)

♦ Britain; certain; Dayton; didn’t; hundred (hun•nert); important; Martin; mountains; not only; Peyton; pollutant; presented; Putin (with a whooping glottal); put in; reportedly; threatened; uncertain; uncertainty; united; what is; written... (Words pronounced with affected glottal stops, all heard on NPR by employees or guests.)

♦ The BBC, and English people in general, tend to retain the anglicization of foreign names. A BBC news reader might pronounce Cape Verde as “Cape Vurd.” To paraphrase Winston Churchill, “Do we really want NPR pronouncing *Paris Pareae*?” Sir Winston’s French pronunciation was not good, but he did not have to rule them.)

♦ “There is still much resistance to the use of the pinyin name *Beijing* for the current Chinese capital. Not only are very few outsiders able to pronounce the word accurately; its use also flies in the face of the more general use in English of ‘English’ names or pronunciations for distant cities or countries. Roma is called Rome, Deutschland is called Germany, Suomi is called Finland, and Zhongguo is called China. Many who accept this logic would like *Peking* returned to common currency, but doubt that it will ever happen.” (Footnote 47. From *The Man Who Loved China* by Simon Winchester.)

♦ “Enough! I can’t stand it anymore!...Competitors are NOT taking part, Alex, in the fencin, rowin, boxin, kayakin, weightliftin & swimmin.” (Lord Digby Jones, in a tweet about Alex Scott dropping her g’s during her Olympics commentary.)

♦ “You can take the boy out of the Bronx,’ murmured one technician as the dubbing proceeded, ‘but you can’t take the Bronx out of the boy!’ In view of the critical notices Pacino’s Scottish/cockney-with-a-dash-of-the-Bronx accent was to receive, it was an auspicious remark.” (*Al Pacino: A Life On The Wire* by Andrew Yule, about the 1985 film *Revolution*, which was savaged by most critics.)

♦ “I’d listen to him read the phone book!” (An admiring comment about the wonderful voice and diction of the great American actor James Earl Jones, who has dealt with a stutter his entire life.)

♦ This sort of language has many possible explanations.

**language: pronunciation**

**proof (bulletproof, etc.)**

bombproof  
see *bombproof* (adjective)

bulletproof  
see *bulletproof* (adjective)

futureproof  
~ body against chronic pain with 12 simple movements

**prop (noun)**

spiritual prop  
he leaned on Wilson as his ~ (Robert Falcon Scott)

**allegiance, support & betrayal / amelioration & renewal:  
infrastructure / mining / verb**

**prophet (person)**

prophets  
some of these ~ had been spectacularly wrong (stocks)

prophets of doom  
we must reject the ~ and their predictions of the Apocalypse

mantle of a prophet  
he increasingly adopted the ~

turned (doomsday) prophet  
the news anchor ~ (the film *Network*)

**message: Bible / person / religion  
future / time: person / religion  
person: religion**

**prop up (verb)**

props up North Korea with aid and trade  
China ~

prop up his government  
foreigners ~ (Venezuela)

prop up (global) growth  
China may not be able to ~

props up Maduro  
the military ~ (Venezuelan leader)

prop up her spirits  
though her body sagged, her doctor helped ~

**allegiance, support & betrayal / amelioration & renewal:  
infrastructure / mining / verb**

### proselytize (verb)

proselytize for his government  
his political allies are expected to ~ (workers)

**message / speech: religion / verb**

### prostrate (verb)

prostrated themselves  
corporate leaders have ~ (to BLMGNF)

**dominance & submission / resistance, opposition & defeat:  
standing, sitting & lying / verb**

### proud (groups)

proud of her body  
Lizzo wears naked dresses to show that she's ~

proud lesbian  
the MP Hannah Bardell describes herself as a ~

out and proud  
I'm very ~ (Megan Rapinoc)

#BROWNandPROUD  
~ (Dr. Vanessa Toolsie resigns from NAACP chapter)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

### proverbial (adjective)

proverbial slow boat to China  
what must have seemed like the ~ (circuitous route)

proverbial parapet  
the people who have stuck their heads above the ~ to  
improve visibility (groups)

proverbial committee-designed racehorse  
collaboration often leads to the ~ becoming a giraffe

**resemblance: allusion**

### prowl (on the prowl)

on the prowl for (naïve) girls  
Internet predators are always ~

**behavior / movement: animal / predation**

### prune (verb)

prune the budget  
they are seeking ways to ~ (government)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: farming & agriculture /  
plant / tree / verb**

### pruned

pruned  
every interview here has been ~

**creation & transformation: farming & agriculture / plant /  
tree**

### Ptolemy (Chinese Ptolemy, etc.)

Chinese Ptolemy  
the ~, Phei Hsui, made a detailed map of China

**importance & significance: epithet**

### public-spirited

public-spirited  
~ citizens  
~ journalists

**character & personality: religion**

### puff (puff piece)

puff piece  
a recent ~ by *The New York Times*...

**substance & lack of substance: food & drink**

### puke

see *retch* (and *puke, vomit, throw up*)

### pull (tidal pull)

tidal pull  
the ~ of Berkeley was strong on her (academic)

**attraction & repulsion: astronomy / sea / tide**

**relationship: astronomy / sea / tide**

### pull (attraction)

pull of the Arctic  
he felt the ~ (Amundsen)

pull of ISIS  
the book explores the ~

gravitational pull  
some felt the ~ of the gold rush in California (migrants)

irresistible (gravitational) pull  
the almost ~ of getting more attention (on the internet)

exerted a pull  
Lake Ohrid has ~ on me since my childhood (Balkans)

felt the pull  
she still ~ of her childhood faith (a scientist)

**attraction & repulsion: astronomy**

**relationship: astronomy**

## pull (pull for someone)

pulling for you  
we're ~

**allegiance, support & betrayal: arm / burden / verb**

## pull (pull yourself together, etc.)

pull himself together  
he would ~ and seem to be under control (troubled)

**mental health / resiliency: verb**  
**amelioration & renewal: verb**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: rope**

## pull back (verb)

pulled back  
he ~ after giving the green light and go order (military)

pulled those ships and planes back  
he ~ (called off military attack)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: verb**

**avoidance & separation: verb**

## pulled in

pulled in by this light  
they are ~ (migratory birds and urban areas)

**situation: container / movement**  
**involvement / attraction & repulsion: astronomy / movement**

## pulled into

pulled into the rabbit hole  
I got ~ (an online feud)

**situation: container / movement**  
**involvement / attraction & repulsion: astronomy / movement**

## pull out (verb)

pull out of the agreement  
they want to ~

**starting, going, continuing & ending: burden / verb**  
**dismissal, removal & resignation: burden / verb**

## pull through (verb)

pull through  
I thought she was strong enough to ~ (died of Covid)

managed to pull through  
some companies have ~ (satellite constellations)

**survival, persistence & endurance: verb**

## pull together (verb)

pull together  
we all ~ (hurricane)  
he asked conservatives to ~ (politics)  
maybe we can ~ to beat this pandemic

but in North Carolina, we're gonna ~, work to clean up  
we will ~ and through this (a disaster)

pull together as a country  
we're going through a time when we have to ~ (pandemic)

pull together as a team  
are we going to be civilized and ~ when there's a crisis

pull together to help  
it's vital that we all ~ weather this crisis (pandemic)

pull together, grieve together, work together  
we will ~, and love one another (high school shooting)

**unanimity & consensus / work & duty: arm / burden / skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

## pulpit (bully pulpit, etc.)

pulpit  
television is the ~ from which they preach (politics)

presidential bully pulpit  
Obama should use the ~ to address entitlements

pulpit and the megaphone  
use the ~ of the office to highlight human rights

♦ "You've got to use the bully pulpit of the mayor's office," Lori Lightfoot said at the MIT roundtable in April as she explained how she runs Chicago... / Lightfoot seems not to understand what Teddy Roosevelt meant when he called the presidency a 'bully pulpit.' Like a lot of Northeastern patricians of his day, he used the adjective 'bully' to mean great, or perhaps jolly good. The bully pulpit is the opposite of what Lightfoot describes. She means the smoke-filled room. And she seems to assume that Roosevelt is referring to *bullying*..." ("The Inequality of 'Equity,'" by Christopher Caldwell, *National Review*, May 17, 2021.)

**message: Bible / religion / speech**

## pulpit (Devils pulpit, etc.)

Devil's pulpit  
the ~ (an outcrop in a gorge)

**proper name: religion**  
**geography: proper name / religion / shape**

## pulsating (adjective)

pulsating contest  
in a ~, Ward produced a composed performance (boxing)

pulsating start  
the fight has a ~ in Leeds (boxing)

**feeling, emotion & effect: movement**

## pulse (noun)

pulse of the planet  
the satellites allow scientists to take the ~ (climate)

pulse of the (Israeli) public  
the polling firm regularly takes the ~

oceans' pulse  
robot subs help to take the ~

on the pulse of the nation

the prime minister does not have his finger ~

pulse (of the city) is (really) pumping  
the ~ again (Chinese nightlife post-pandemic)

got a pulse  
we need to prove that we've still ~ (the film *Maze*)

taken the pulse  
we have ~ of sex in the US today (survey)

keep our finger on the pulse  
help us to ~ (popup survey at a website)

**condition & status / measurement: blood / death & life / health & medicine**

## **pummel (the storm pummeled the island, etc.)**

pummels Midwest with snow  
spring blizzard ~

pummeling the islands with rain and winds  
the hurricane is ~

pummeled Barbados  
the hurricane ~

**storm: force**

## **pummel (verb)**

pummeled him over the cost  
Republicans ~ of the bill (politics)

pummeled the company's earnings and stock prices  
the problem has ~

pummeled her rival  
she ~ (a tennis match)

**accusation & criticism: boxing / fist / speech / verb / violence**

## **pummeled**

pummeled  
the bank's shares have been ~

pummeled in the media  
she has been ~ (a leader)

pummeled for failing  
he has been ~ to solve the problem

pummeled by conservatives  
he was ~ for even broaching the topic (politics)

pummeled by the storm  
the area was ~

pummeled by both sides  
he has been ~ (Obama)

pummeled by drugs and crime  
the neighborhood has been ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: boxing / fist / sensation**

## **pump (direct)**

pumps \$20 million into the (local) economy  
rafting ~ (Summersville, WV)

pumped (new) life into the (martial-arts) genre  
he ~

pumped (more than) \$100 million into (city) schools  
the Gates Foundation has ~

**directing: verb / water**

## **pumped (directed)**

pumped into the facility  
for all the money that was ~...

**directing: pump / water**

## **pumped (feeling)**

so pumped  
others were not ~ (eager to deploy to Iraq)

so pumped to get out there  
I'm ~ (a female teen surfer)

♦ "Last night we got out of strict Level Four lockdown, which hasn't allowed us to surf for five weeks. We're in Level Three now and we can finally surf. I'm so pumped to get out there." (A video showing a female teen surfer in New Zealand on the shore in a wetsuit with her surfboard. She runs to the water.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: air / atmosphere / pump**

## **pump up (verb)**

pump up your confidence  
~ (job hunting)

pumped the rookies up  
having ~, he now deflates them... (NFL camp)

**increase & decrease / feeling, emotion & effect: air / atmosphere / mechanism / prep, adv, adj, particle / pump / verb**

## **punch (punch above one's weight, etc.)**

fight above our weight  
we're going to have to ~ (politics)

punches above its weight  
Hungary ~ in math, it has produced many mathematicians

punched (massively) above our weight  
we ~ (small Wales does great in Rugby World Cup)

**power / substance & lack of substance: boxing / verb / weight**

## **punch (sucker punch / verb)**

sucker punched France  
the US has ~ (scored a goal against run of play)

**behavior: boxing**

**readiness & preparedness / restraint & lack of restraint / subterfuge: boxing / fist / verb**

## punch (pull a punch)

pull any punches  
she didn't ~

pulled no punches  
he ~ when he spoke of the president (cursed him)  
prosecutors ~ (called him a liar, thief, cheat)  
the women wrote the toughest scripts, they ~ (Chris Meloni)

pulled his punches  
he was very direct, never minced his words or ~

pulls its (hard) punches  
*Black on Black* never ~ full of painful truths (Daniel Black)

**restraint & lack of restraint: boxing / fist / speech / sports & games / verb**

**speech: boxing / sports & games / verb**

## punch (punch back)

punching back  
he wants Trudeau to keep ~ (trade war)

**conflict / resistance, opposition & defeat: boxing / verb**

## punch (roll with the punches)

roll with the punches  
you just have to ~ (government shutdown)

**survival, persistence & endurance: boxing / verb**

**resiliency: boxing / verb**

## punch (beat somebody to the punch)

beat Kim to the punch  
it was a way for Trump to ~ (cancel meeting before Kim)

**sequence: boxing / verb**

**readiness & preparedness: boxing / verb**

## punch (the storm packed a punch, etc.)

punch  
Atlantic Beach was feeling Hurricane Isabel's ~

most brutal punch  
the storm saved its ~ for New England

one-two punch  
the ~ has devastated wildlife (algae and red tide)  
the extinction could have been a ~

packed a punch  
the storm ~

**storm: force**

## punch (punch in the gut, etc.)

punch in the face  
he said the defeat was a massive ~ but... (Liverpool)

punch in the gut  
they broke the story and for us that was a ~ (police)

punch in the gut reading

it was kind of a ~ about the case for the first time (racism)

punch-counterpunch  
this kind of ~ makes Canadians nervous (trade war)

gut punch  
historic oil bust delivers a ~ to Texas county  
that is a ~ of a finding from a new study (pandemic deaths)

knockout punch  
he is looking for a ~ (political race)

one-two punch  
the ~ of self-righteous preening and hypocrisy  
the ~ of the pandemic and the oil bust (Texas)

packs an (emotional) punch  
the play ~

landed a (rhetorical) punch  
she ~ (at a political debate)

took a (gut) punch  
we ~ in Iowa (Joe Biden on Iowa caucus results)

**effect: boxing / fist / force / sensation / violence**

**feeling, emotion & effect: boxing / fist / force / sensation / violence**

## punch bowl (shape)

punchbowl waterfall  
it's a ~, the water falls into a wide pool (kayaking)

**shape: food & drink / object**

## punch bowl (Punch Bowl Falls, etc.)

Punch Bowl Falls  
we walked to the base of ~ (Eagle Creek, Oregon)

Punch Bowl Spring  
~ in Yellowstone is about ten feet in diameter

Devil's Punchbowl  
you can leap from cliff to cliff at ~ (Aspen CO)  
the ~ is a naturally formed swimming hole  
the ~ is just 10 miles outside Aspen, Colorado

Devils Punch Bowl  
whales migrate past the ~ State Natural Area (Oregon)

Battle of the Punchbowl  
Bloody Ridge, Heartbreak Ridge, the ~ (Korean War)

**proper name: food & drink / object / shape**

**geography: proper name / shape**

## punching bag (noun)

punching bag for (Russian) cyberattacks  
Ukraine has been a ~ for years

punching bag for politicians  
Facebook has become a ~ on all sides (hearings)

punching bag for their (domestic) politics  
the British must stop using us a ~ (migrants from France)

media's (new) punchbag  
she became the ~ (Meghan, Duchess of Sussex)

industry punching bags  
screenwriters act as ~ (they have much to complain about)

rhetorical punching bag  
Biden wasn't as much of a ~ this time (election debate)

♦ *Punchbag* is British English (BE) for the American English (AE) punching bag, or heavy bag. *The Guardian* spells it as one word. Merriam Webster has it as two words.

**accusation & criticism / punishment & recrimination:**  
**boxing**

## punchline (joke)

punchline  
he is a ~ (athlete who failed, choked, blew it)

**insult: speech**

## punctuate (verb)

punctuate her points  
her hands move emphatically to ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: letters & characters / verb**

## punctuate (configuration)

punctuate the horizon  
huge red-rock walls and pillars ~ (Utah / Indian country)

**configuration: letters & characters / verb**

## puncture (verb)

punctured Slater's aura  
he ~ of invincibility (surfing)

puncture (widely held) beliefs  
the allegations ~ about how he operated

**destruction: air / atmosphere / hole / verb**

## pundit (person)

pundits, twaddle  
I don't need the ~ (World Cup commentators)

presenters, commentators and pundits  
~ (BBC Sports)

♦ From Hindi *pandit*, "a learned man or scholar."

♦ In a very nice opinion piece, Scott Simon of NPR rightly characterizes this word as a buzzword. ("Politics, Pundits And The Problem With The Word 'Pivot,'" NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, June 11, 2016.)

♦ "But what do we know about what that actually means now he actually owns the company? Do we know anything about how he..." / "Yeah, I mean he says he thinks..." (NPR punditry.)

♦ "How much do these 'pundits' get paid for spouting all these clichés and stating the obvious?" / "Well, all the pundits are saying either Brazil or Argentina, so it's obviously going to be either Belgium or the Netherlands." / "I don't need the pundits, build up, half time twaddle or the inarticulate trip over their words, the Aitches and 'he wot done it, like' phrasing—they don't add value, they detract." / "We only need a few pundits, preferably that can speak good English with proper grammar." / "Oh yeah and don't forget the Alex Scott sob story sympathisers..." (Commenters about the BBC commentators at the Qatar World Cup.)

♦ It would be better perhaps if pundits and commentators had term limits: perhaps one time on air only would be best.

**knowledge & intelligence: person**

## punt (verb)

punt to the courts  
the strategy is to ~ and run out the clock (politics)

punted their decision back to him  
they ~ (did not decide themselves)

punted on what to do  
the Supreme Court ~

punted on a major test  
the Supreme Court ~ (gerrymandering)

punt on the year  
you can't ~ it wasn't going to get better (NBA coach fired)

♦ Scott Simon of NPR: Any one or two books you'd recommend for a teen to read this weekend? / Nick Higgins, chief librarian of the Brooklyn Public Library: Oh, huh, huh, yeah, for shore, for, for teens, uh ya know, listen, how 'bout I decide, I'm gonna punt on his one and say, "Listen, teens, read what you want to read. Don't let anyone tell you that the book you want to read is inappropriate or not for you..." ("Brooklyn Public Library makes banned books available to teens for free," NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, August 27, 2022.)

♦ "WADA recommended banning the entire squad. Rather than act decisively, however, the IOC punted, asked individual sports federations to rule on each athlete's admission one by one." (The Olympics.)

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: football / verb**

## punt (noun)

more of a punt than a (long-lasting) decree  
the decision was ~ (Supreme Court)

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: football**

## puny (adjective)

puny (bailout) mechanism  
we must extend the euro's too ~

**strength & weakness: health & medicine / size**

## puppet (control)

puppet  
she was a ~ under his control  
promoters run the shop, the guys in the ring are just ~s

puppet of the Left  
he is the ~ (politics)

puppets on a string  
Scott saw his men as ~ (negative criticism)

puppet master  
some say he is a ~ of the news media (WikiLeaks)  
he is the ~ of a brutal human-trafficking group

puppet rulers  
Nazi ~ in Croatia killed thousands (Jasenovac)

♦ "Puppets behaving badly is not exactly new. Historically, raunch has been the rule, not the exception. / 'Puppetry around most of the world, until the 19th century wasn't for children,' says Eileen Blumenthal, theater professor at Rutgers University and author of the book *Puppetry*:

A World History. 'In fact, a lot if it was pretty shocking... In the Middle Ages, one specialty of puppets became sex and violence.' / The classic Punch and Judy puppet shows were topical, political and very racy. It was a good way, in the 17th century, to poke fun at the crown and the church without getting your head chopped off. / 'Puppets have always been able to get away with things that live actors can't,' Blumenthal says. / Thinking of puppets as something for kids is a recent phenomenon..." ("A New Addition To The Long Tradition Of Puppets Behaving Badly" by Barry Gordermer, NPR, Morning Edition, August 24, 2018.)

**control & lack of control: puppet / theater**

**unanimity & consensus: puppet / theater**

## **puppet (sockpuppet / internet)**

sock

I will not be coming back here as a ~ (Wiki editor)

sockpuppet

a sockpuppet is an online identity used for purposes of deception (Wikipedia)

**computer / subterfuge: puppet**

**concealment & lack of concealment: puppet**

## **puppeteer (noun)**

cast Murdoch as a ~, controlling British politics  
they ~ through is partisan newspapers

**control & lack of control: puppet**

## **purgatory (noun)**

legal purgatory

he finds himself in ~ (waiting to face charges)

period of purgatory

he had been living in a ~ (pilot's crash kills at air show)

remain in purgatory

the refugees ~

stuck in this purgatory

nurses describe getting ~ (applying for state licenses)

**action, inaction & delay / environment / situation: religion**

## **puritanism (noun)**

puritanism versus our Latin culture

American ~ (France)

modern puritanism

his film rebels against our ~ about intoxication (Vinterberg)

rebels against (our modern) puritanism

his film ~ about intoxication (Thomas Vinterberg)

**oppression / sex: history / religion**

## **purity (sex)**

purity culture

evangelical ~, or abstaining from sex before marriage

purity movement

the evangelical ~

♦ "He was criticized—and praised—earlier this year after he had issued a fatwa saying it was permissible for women to have reconstructive hymen surgery before marriage to conceal that they were no longer virgins. He

said that since it was impossible to tell whether a man was a virgin, women should have the same option." (Egypt's grand mufti, Sheik Ali Gomaa, "A Compass That Can Clash With Modern Life," by Michael Slackman, NYT, June 12, 2007.)

♦ "Virginity is a very real issue for Egyptian women, as illustrated in the popular film "The Wedding." It tells the story of Abdullah and Gamila, a young couple who signed their marriage contracts years ago but couldn't afford the marriage ceremony that would, by tradition, allow the union to be consummated. But the couple has been having sex all along..." ("Artificial Virginity Device Sparks Backlash In Egypt," by Peter Kenyon, NPR, Oct. 13, 2009.)

♦ "If they think they can get a pure-hearted girl this way they are really mistaken. To me, the way people are taking virginity as a commodity these days is such a sad thing." (A Chinese woman, on the practice of very rich Chinese businessmen advertising for virgin brides, and then interviewing them.)

♦ "She can be in danger because sometimes it's a matter of traditions and family. I believe we as doctors have no right to decide for her or judge her." (An Arab doctor in Paris who performs hymenoplasty two or three times a week. The operation takes about 30 minutes under local anesthetic and costs 2,000 euros.)

♦ "The editor of Morocco's Al-Ahdath Al-Maghribia daily newspaper, Moktar el-Ghzioui, is living in fear for his life after he expressed support for pre-marital sex during a local television debate. / 'The next thing there was a cleric from Oujda releasing a fatwa that I should die,' he says. / According to article 490 of the penal code, Moroccans can be jailed for having sexual relations outside marriage. / This is based on Islamic law, which bans unmarried people from engaging in sexual activity... / A sociologist at the University of Mohammed V, Abdessamad Dialmy, argues that article 490 needs to be removed because human beings have the right to sex. / He says more and more unmarried couples are having sex because they are getting married much later... / Imam Hassan Ait Belaid who preaches at a mosque in the commercial capital Casablanca says article 490 is part of the culture of a non-Western society. / 'If the code is removed, we will become wild savages. Our society will become a disaster,' he says." ("Morocco: Should pre-marital sex be legal?" by Nora Fakim, BBC, 8 August 2012.)

♦ The boto is a dolphin that can transform itself into a human to impregnate impressionable young virgins. (The Amazon.)

♦ Purity applies to women, but not men.

♦ There is no religion below the navel.

**sex: hygiene / materials & substances**

## **purposeful (adjective)**

purposeful

I make sure my use of technology is ~ (digital mindfulness)

♦ see also *intentional (adjective)*, *mindful (adjective)*

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: target**

**consciousness & awareness: head**

**contempo-speak: language / mental health**

## **purse (money)**

purse of seventeen million dollars

a ~ (boxing match)

total purse

the ~ is at least \$475,000 (New York Marathon)

**money: purses & wallets / sign, signal, symbol**

## **purse strings**

controls the (family's) purse strings

he ~

controls the purse strings

Congress ~

**money: purses & wallets / sign, signal, symbol**

## **pursue (afflict)**

pursue her to her grave

racism and hatred would ~ (Hattie McDaniel)

pursue its lawsuit

the company retained the right to ~ if...

pursued a (ruinous) economic policy

he has ~ (a president)

**affliction: animal / creature / verb**

## **pursue (pursue a dream, etc.)**

pursue it with (great) vigor

I intend to ~ (full investigation)

pursue their (own hidden) agendas

factions ~ outside of the law

pursue (both old and new) approaches

NASA will ~ simultaneously

pursue an (acting) career

he moved to Los Angeles to ~

pursue a (film) career

left her TV show to ~

pursue the case

the Pakistani government vowed to ~ (rape of girl)

pursuing a doctorate

he was ~ in computer sciences at...

pursue her dream

she quit her job to ~ of becoming...

pursue a dream

people who switched courses late in life to ~

pursue an education

it is in his interest to ~ in computers or technology

pursue my education

the thing that will make me happiest is to ~

pursue (higher) education

women who delay marriage to ~ and a career

pursued her goal

she ~ by studying...

pursue your interests

you can certainly find an hour a day to ~

pursue (other) interests

I want to have time to travel and ~

pursue its (own strategic) interests

the US should ~ (vs. high-minded goals)

pursuing (even quadruple) majors

students are ~

pursue these matters

but we'll ~ further to build on... (diplomacy)

pursue (military) objectives

army forces must ~ energetically

pursue opportunity

they left to ~ in California (black Okies)

pursue (new job) opportunities

the ability of workers to ~

pursue (other) opportunities

she resigned, saying the time had come to ~

pursue the opportunity

she encouraged him to ~ (of study abroad)

pursue all possibilities

he said investigators would ~ (blast)

pursue this

I think it's wrong to ~, we should let it drop

pursues his vision

Wangurri clan Elder Timothy Buthimang ~

pursue a film career

left her TV show to ~

whether to pursue

the lawyers will determine ~ further appeals

continue to pursue

and so we will ~ a relationship with Russia that...

aggressively pursued

if it had ~ an investigation (FBI / 9/11 terrorists)

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting**

## **pursuit (in pursuit)**

in pursuit of (economic) development

Native American tribes ~

in the pursuit of their duties

they are overzealous ~ (Saudi religious police)

in pursuit of goals

~ that are political, religious, or ideological (terrorists)

in pursuit of gratification

cybersex addicts risk jobs, marriages ~

in their pursuit of justice

rape victims often find cultural bias ~ (Mexico)

in the pursuit of knowledge

men swear off women ~

in pursuit of (various) objectives

~ (special operations)

in its pursuit of peace

Afghanistan has a long way to go ~

in our pursuit of victory

we will be relentless in our ~ (Iraqi Freedom)

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting**

## **pursuit (other)**

pursuit to satisfy

her ~ the ticking biological clock

pursuit of excellence

it's what the ~ in his field requires (a doctor)

pursuit of happiness

freedom, equality, justice and the ~ (US)

pursuit of revenge

the ~ is a turn-on for men (brain studies)

pursuit of truth

the historian's supposedly disinterested ~

dangerous pursuit

climbing mountains can be a ~

noble pursuit

working for the homeless or some other ~

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting**

## **push (coercion and motivation)**

push you on this

I do want to ~ (a pushy reporter)

pushing players in that direction

the NFL can't mandate it, but they are ~ (vaccinations)

pushed me to do better

he ~ (a teacher)

pushing each other to do things

but it's not like we're ever ~ (2 elite climbers)

push immigrants to drop out

critics say Regents English Tests ~

pushes for (speedy) elections

as the Bush Administration ~ (in Iraq)

push you around

don't let people ~

push myself

I'm a little scared but I'm gonna ~ (Sky Brown)

**coercion & motivation: arm / gesture / force / verb**

**force: arm / gesture / verb**

## **push (push comes to shove)**

when push comes to (political) shove

corporate-led NGOs don't work ~

political shove

corporate-led NGOs don't work when push comes to ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: arm / force**

**force: arm**

## **push (promote)**

pushed the story

prominent right-wing media figures ~ (conspiracy)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: arm / verb**

## **push (force)**

pushed the Bath bombing out of the headlines

Lindbergh's triumphant flight ~

push a breed to extinction

economic forces can ~ (indigenous pigs, cows)

push one's enemy to the point of despair

one should never ~, because...

push them over the edge

just a tiny temperature rise can ~ (coral bleaching)

pushed religion too far

the Islamists ~ (a Somali)

pushing or suppressing

people wonder if the BBC is ~ agendas

**force: arm / verb**

## **push (push against, etc.)**

push (hard enough) against Beijing's attempts

they didn't ~ to cover up its misinformation

**resistance, opposition & defeat: arm / force / verb**

## **push (a number)**

pushing \$500

the price of gold is ~ an ounce

**attainment: arm / number / verb**

## **push (push somebody away, etc.)**

push him away from me

I don't want to ~ (relationship)

**avoidance & separation: arm / verb**

## **push (summit push, etc.)**

push for acceptance

the public ~ of its technology (Microsoft)

push for (Maori) rights

the ~ (New Zealand)

push for the summit

the final ~ began in the evening

summit push

in anticipation of a ~ the next day (K2)

waiting to begin the final ~ (Camp IV / Everest)

final push

the ~ for the summit began in the evening

next big push

the US retrenches for its ~ (Operation Iraqi Freedom)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: arm / force**

## push back (verb)

push back  
they are preparing to ~

pushed back against the military's claim  
he ~ of impropriety (a filmmaker)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: arm / force / verb**

## pushback (noun)

pushback from Congress over the treaty  
do you expect any ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: force / arm**

## pushed around

pushed around  
we will not be ~ (tariff war)

**coercion & motivation / resistance, opposition & defeat:  
arm / force**

## pushed out

pushed out of better paid work into lower paid work  
they were ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation: force / arm**

## pusher (drug pusher, etc.)

world's drug pusher  
they don't want to be seen as the ~ (Fentanyl)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: person**

## pushing (keep on pushing, etc.)

pushing the extremes  
~ of calculational speed (a supercomputer)

pushing a quick pace  
with Heras ~, they passed Jalabert (Tour de France)

pushing for an Islamic state  
~ in Egypt

pushing for a place  
~ in the cell-phone business

pushing yourself into unknown realms  
adventure is ~

**commitment & determination: arm / force**

## push on (verb)

pushed on  
in spite of the insults, she ~

push on to Baghdad  
just waiting for word to ~ (a US soldier)

**resiliency / starting, going, continuing & ending / survival,  
persistence & endurance: force / journeys & trips / prep,  
adv, adj, particle / verb**

## pushover (noun)

no pushover  
the Iraqi Army was no ~

**difficulty, easiness & effort: arm / force**

## pushy (people)

pushy  
knowing how to be encouraging without being ~ (kids)

pushy parents  
the problem of ~ in public schools

pushy people  
don't let ~ affect your decisions

pushy stage mother  
I'm not a ~

come across as pushy  
or you'll ~...

**behavior / character & personality / coercion & motivation:  
force / arm**

## put (put something back together)

put my life back together  
I'm trying to ~

putting his life back together  
he was just ~ after being sexually assaulted

put the talks back together  
negotiators have been scrambling to ~

**resiliency: infrastructure / mechanism / verb  
amelioration & renewal: infrastructure / mechanism / verb**

## put (put something together)

put it together  
nobody ~ (clues leading to a spy)

put these pieces together  
when we ~, we have a better idea about...

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: puzzle / verb**

## put (put somebody through something)

put me and my family through  
I had to forgive the media for what they ~ (Bill Buckner)

**affliction / oppression: mechanism**

## put off (verb)

putting it off  
I've been ~ (making a plan)

**action, inaction & delay: verb**

## putty (noun)

putty in the hands  
students are ~ of all-powerful professors (sex abuse)

**control & lack of control: materials & substances**  
**character & personality: materials & substances**  
**creation & transformation: materials & substances**

## put up with (verb)

put up with it  
they are a nation of terrorists, and we won't ~

put up with this  
enough is enough, I'm not going to ~

putting up with it  
we're not ~ anymore in this country (politics)

**survival, persistence & endurance: verb**  
**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: verb**  
**resistance, opposition & defeat: verb**

## puzzle (problem)

puzzle  
I'm happiest working on ~s (chemist)

puzzle-solving  
there is ~ in all technical climbing

puzzles, riddles and real-life problems  
solving ~ (forensic science)

complicated (racial and political) puzzle  
the hearings presented him with this incredibly ~

piece of the puzzle  
that was the ~ we needed (crime tip)  
the findings are just one ~ and there is still a lot to learn

pieces of the puzzle  
gather as many ~ as possible (investigation)

pieces of a puzzle  
one agency can have ~ that another agency is missing

larger puzzle  
it might be a key piece in the ~ that is emerging

unlock the (whole) puzzle  
a tiny detail can ~ (police investigation)

♦ "There's a puzzle-within-a-puzzle, for the diehard puzzleheads." (The book *D C-T!* by Joana Avillez and Molly Young.)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / complexity /  
comprehension & incomprehension: picture / puzzle**

## puzzling (adjective)

puzzling comment  
not long after hearing this ~...

puzzling details  
investigators were trying to make sense of some ~

puzzling disease  
making some sense of this ~

puzzling news  
this was ~ indeed...

**comprehension & incomprehension: puzzle**

## pygmy (size)

pygmy goat  
visitors pet ~s (at a zoo)

pygmy parrot  
the ~ is so small it fits in a human hand (Madagascar)

**size: person**

## pyramid (the Black Pyramid, etc.)

Black Pyramid  
they traversed the ~, a gauntlet of exposed rock (K2)

**proper name: shape**

## pyramid (hierarchy)

pyramid's apex  
and at the ~ is "self-actualization" (Maslow)

corporate pyramid  
the path to the top of a ~ no longer looks desirable

food pyramid  
apex predators at the top of the ~

tennis pyramid  
it seemed impossible they could regain the tip of the ~

economic pyramid  
those individuals at the apex of the ~

apex of a (complex) pyramid  
he was at the ~ of individuals... (crime)

bottom of the (football league) pyramid  
I've had to start from the very ~ (Vardy)

tip of the (tennis) pyramid  
it seemed impossible they could regain the ~

top of the (English Football) pyramid  
Manchester City have finished ~

at the bottom of the economic pyramid  
new jobs are coming ~ (poorly paid jobs)

at the top of the pyramid  
the people ~ know exactly what they are doing (justice)

**hierarchy: direction / history / shape**

## Pyrrhic victory (figurative)

Pyrrhic victory  
the confidence vote may prove to be only a ~

♦ "If we are victorious in one more battle with the Romans, we shall be utterly ruined." (Attributed to Pyrrhus of Epirus, following the Battle of Asculum.)

♦ Once it could be expected that everyone who read or heard this allusion could be expected to understand it. No longer! Note the brackets in the following quotation, from an article on the BBC website about a Parliament vote of confidence: "I very much fear if Johnson does win tonight it will be a Pyrrhic victory [one that comes at great cost]."

♦ A variation is a *Hannibalic* victory, referring to Hannibal's famous victory over the Romans at the Battle of Cannae during the Second Punic War, which he failed to follow up on. Ultimately, he would be defeated.

♦ You can win the battle and still lose the war.

**allusion: military**

**cost & benefit / resistance, opposition & defeat / success  
& failure: allusion / history / military**

## Q

### quagmire (noun)

quagmire of Vietnam

we're in the ~ (war in Afghanistan)

quagmire of (boxing) negotiations

the two camps are swimming through the ~

Libyan quagmire

Egypt might get sucked into the ~ (military intervention)

legal quagmire

it's a ~ that people are not think through (politics)

fear of a (Somalia-like) quagmire

~ which could have endangered US troops (Rwanda)

digging themselves deeper into the quagmire

they are ~ (an embattled regime fighting to survive)

**obstacles & impedance: ground, terrain & land**

**progress & lack of progress: ground, terrain & land**

### quarantine (verb)

quarantine (suspicious) files into sandboxes

systems ~ (computing)

**computer: health & medicine / verb**

**acceptance & rejection / avoidance & separation /**

**protection & lack of protection: health & medicine / verb**

### quarter (no quarter, etc.)

no-quarter kind of guy

Max is a ~ and Lewis... (F1 racing)

ask for no quarter

I ~ and I bear no malice (Churchill / politics)

♦ This is the same as, "Take no prisoners."

**judgment / punishment & recrimination: military**

### queen (Queen of Soul, etc.)

Queen of method acting

Stella Adler was the ~ (Marlon Brando, etc.)

Queen of the Adriatic

the ~ is no stranger to flooding (Venice)

Queen of the English Channel

Alison Streeter, the "~," has swum the distance 43 times

Queen of Crime

Agatha Christie, the so-called ~ (mystery writer)

queen of the Dolomites

dubbed the "~," Marmolada rises about 11,000 feet...

Queen of Soul Food

Sylvia Woods, the ~ (Sylvia's Restaurant in Harlem)

Queen of the Plata

Buenos Aires, ~

"Queen of Rock 'n Roll

Tina Turner, widely referred to as the ~

"queen of the skies"

the Boeing 747, the ~, was the first jumbo jet

Queen of Soul

Aretha Franklin, the ~ (singer)

queen of her sport

she is the ~ in her country (speedskater)

**superlative: epithet / person / royalty**

**epithet: royalty**

### queen (role)

queen bees

selecting ~ from the most productive colonies

beauty queen

the Georgia ~ is accused of murdering her boyfriend

Coffee Queen

she won the popular title of ~ (Argentina)

drag queen

~ theater

drama queen

see *drama* (and *drama queen*, etc.)

Festival Queen

Nicholas County Potato ~ (West Virginia)

opera queen

gimlet-eyed ~s

soap-opera queen

the ~ Susan Lucci

powwow queen

this year's ~

homecoming queen

she was ~ her senior year (high school)

a gay student who ran for ~ caused a huge stir

students elected their first male ~ (university)

King and Queen

the coronation of a Geek ~ (Geek Prom)

kings and queens

homecoming, the American tradition featuring ~

call María Lionza the queen

devotees ~ (María Lionza religion / Venezuela)

**superlative: person / royalty**

**person: royalty**

## queen (Dairy Queen, etc.)

Queen Elizabeth

the ~ is the third Cunard ship of that name

Queen Charlotte Islands

the ~, or Haida Gwaii (British Columbia)

Dairy Queen

Faisal found a job at ~

**proper name: royalty**

## queen-size (and queen sized)

queen-size

a ~ bed

**comparison & contrast: royalty / size**

## queer (collocations)

queer Americans

~ were emerging... (AIDS)

Queer Appalachia

the artist collective ~

queer appeal

*M3GAN*, murder, and mass ~ (“It’s Been A Minute”)

queer audiences

~ deemed the scenes inauthentic (*Blue is the Warmest...*)

queer canon

why *M3GAN* belongs in the ~ (the film)

queer cinema

~ has come a long way since 1964

queer claim

he has staked a ~ to country music

Queer Commissioner

Germany appoints first ~

*Queer Cosmos*

~: *The Astrology of Queer Identities & Relationships* (book)

‘Queer Ducks’

what ~ can teach teenagers about sexuality (NPR)

queer (birth) experiences

childbirth educators specializing in ~

queer (bird) experts

we got to meet with ~ (Pattie Gonia / drag outdoor activist)

queer eye

~ for home design (Bobby Berk)

queer fiction

a cult writer and pioneer of ~ (James Purdy)

Queer Gym

~ honors queer people’s existence

queer history

he’s passionate about teaching people ~

queer home

in his ~... (Hilton Als writing about the poet Thom Gunn)

queer identity

*Bros* offers laughs and commentary on ~ (the film)

queer (digital) intimacy

her writing is concerned with ecology, desire, and ~

queer joy

I’ll find ~ outdoors, too (drag queen Patti Gonia)

queer kids

Brave Trails is a summer camp for ~

queer liar

a slacker and occasional thief and ~ (Cristina Rivera Garza)

queer luminaries

her relationship to ~

queer pain

~, being left in the South (by Jewly Hight)

queer peers

the gay white man is more socially privileged than his ~

queerophobia

a broad strategy to combat ~ (Germany)

queer poet

Tommye Blount is a Black, ~ from Detroit

queer (Guyanese Indian) poet

what resilience looks like for a ~

Queer (Birth) Project

Ellyn Wyman-Grothem, a member of the ~

queer refugees

hard-nosed Berliners and ~

queer rights

they were pioneers in getting us ~ (drag performers)

queer Seoulites

~ (*Love in the Big City* by Sang Young Park)

queer spaces

Desi ~ (South Asians)

queer storytelling

the future of ~

queer students

~ say they find comfort in the artwork (*middle school*)

queer theorists

~ and ‘crip’ theorists are at the cutting edge

queer visibility

as ~ increased in pop culture (*Basic Instinct*, etc.)

queer women

~ on their periods (Nolwen Cifuentes)

queer competent

it’s basically impossible to find a ~ therapist in Missouri

queer-friendly

Chelsea was a ~ place in the 1960s and 70s (“rent boys”)

queer tastemakers, movers and shakers

how ~ shaped the music of New Orleans

Queer and Trans

the ~ Old-time Music Gathering...

queer and trans

~ youth plan march in the streets in 50 states

queer, questioning, father-haunted

plays featuring ~ protagonists

openly queer

having a drink in a space where it’s safe to be ~

*Semi Queer*

~: *inside the World of Gay, Trans, Black Truck Drivers*

Country Queers

the oral history ~

genderqueer

the voices and presence of ~ folks

invisibility of queers

the wholesale ~

♦ Search for “queer” in “Not-So-Lone Rangers: Out In The Country All Year Long” (by Jewly Hight, NPR, Music, Editors’ Picks, June 11, 2020), and you get 96 hits! Queer experts, queer storytellers, queer...

♦ Astrologer and relationship expert Colin Bedell is the author of *Queer Cosmos: The Astrology of Queer Identities & Relationships*. He is at Colin Bedell @queercosmos. View “Everything you need to know about Mercury going into retrograde in Gemini,” ABC News, May 28, 2021.)

♦ “Reclaiming The Queer Dance Floor” by Shawn Reynaldo, NPR Music, April 12, 2016.

♦ “Having language disputes was an interesting part of working on this story. A big argument I had, in fact-checking and copyediting, was like, ‘Are we allowed to call Ben’s penis a *dick*? Can I call it a dick, or is only Ben allowed to call it a dick? How many times can we say *dick*? When is saying *dick* serving the accuracy of someone’s experience, versus being crass for the sake of being crass? / I err on the side of saying ‘dick’ as much as you want, because it’s funny, and it’s just how people talk. But the magazine said, ‘Okay, you’re going to get a certain number of ‘dicks’—how are you going to deploy them accurately?’” (“Jamie Lauren Keiles Follows the Surgical and Philosophical Journey of Phalloplasty” by Celia Ford, July 26, 2022. Jamie Lauren Keiles’ article, “How Ben Got His Penis,” appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*.)

♦ “She looks like Elizabeth Olsen slash Amanda Seyfried, and she’s very pretty, and she’s like a little bit psychotic and mean, and you’re just like, I don’t know for other people, but I was like, I’m in love.” (Alex Abad-Santos, a self-professed “flagrant homosexual.” From “M3GAN, murder, and mass queer appeal,” NPR, It’s Been A Minute, January 17, 2023.)

♦ “We called ourselves the Gay Liberation Front, the word ‘front’ designed to be offensive. And that was our mood... This was a time when the American Psychiatric Association had just stopped listing homosexuality as a disease.” (*My Own Country: A Doctor’s Story* by Abraham Verghese.)

♦ “I think part of the reason why [Lil Nas X’s] queerness was easier for some audiences to swallow is because his project was ‘queer’ in and of itself: This was a Black guy making a country hip-hop song. I’m talking queer here not in the sexuality context, but taking the literal definition of queer—something that is strange and unusual.” (Author and scholar Mark Anthony Neal. From “Thugs don’t dance: iLoveMakonnen and Drake tested rap’s norms of masculinity, but only one passed,” NPR, Louder Than A Riot Season Two, May 4, 2023.)

♦ MORE CONVENTIONAL USAGE. “They’re queer customers, the Appin Stewarts.” (“Across Morven” from *Kidnapped* by Robert Louis Stevenson.)

♦ MORE CONVENTIONAL USAGE: “Robert was getting very little sleep and, according to Fergusson, he ‘began to get very queer.’”

♦ MORE CONVENTIONAL USAGE: “You’ll have seen Picken’s letter—the man’s going mad...he has been going queer for many months past...”

♦ see also *alphabet (LGBTQ+)*, *LGBTQ+*

**inclusion & exclusion: language / messaging**

**quest (in a quest)**

in our (never-ending) quest to be

~ more, and do more

in the quest for peace

the deal was a necessary concession ~

in their quest for profits

companies often change business strategies in their ~

**pursuit, capture & escape: Middle Ages**

**searching & discovery: Middle Ages**

**quest (on a quest)**

on a (widely publicized) quest to ascend

she was ~ Everest

go on a (vision) quest

~ with the help of a medicine man

**pursuit, capture & escape: Middle Ages**

**searching & discovery: Middle Ages**

**quest (other)**

quest to ascend

her widely publicized ~ Everest ended in disaster

quest to become

she is 2 months into a ~ the youngest person to ...

quest to develop

in their ~ a vaccine effective for HCV

quest to find

the ~ the biggest, scariest wave (surfing)

quest to get

their ~ cheap AIDS drugs (India)

quest to honor

their ~ a man (Rocky Versace, Medal of Honor)

quest to observe

the ~ an extremely young moon is a lifelong one

quest to reach

in his ~ the largest possible audience (film)

quest to land

her ~ at the FBI was still up in the air

quest for answers

an almost three-year ~ (Columbine shooting)

quest for employment

his Ph.D. has not helped him in his ~

quest for Everest

her ~ (climber)

quest for identity  
the ~ is a constant undercurrent in the Middle East

Quest for Immortality  
the ~: Treasures of Ancient Egypt (exhibit)

quest for the moon  
NASA's ~ in the 1960s

quest for peace  
the deal was a necessary concession in the ~  
if the US stays steady in our ~ (Middle East)

quest for profits  
companies will change business strategies in their ~

quest for self-understanding  
transmute the violent impulse into a ~ (prison teacher)

quest for a (separate) state  
the ~ (Uighurs)

quest for a (fourth Tour de France) title  
his ~ (Lance Armstrong)

quest for (some elusive underlying) unity  
our ~

quest for the mountain quail  
my personal ~, a Code-2 bird (bird-watching)

quest for love, lust, adventure  
one woman's ~

NASA's quest  
~ for the moon in the 1960s

woman's quest  
one ~ for love, lust, adventure

airlines' (decadelong) quest  
~ to create frictionless travel

vision quest  
go on a ~ with the help of a medicine man

never-ending quest  
in our ~ to be more, and do more

widely publicized quest  
she was on a ~ to ascend Everest

ceaseless quest  
in the ~ to stake out bigger slices of the market

her quest  
she isn't about to give up ~ anytime soon

personal quest  
he was on a ~ to...

spiritual quest  
jihad can also mean one's private ~

private spiritual quest  
jihad can also mean one's ~

decadelong quest  
airlines' ~ to create frictionless travel

century-long and decade-long quest  
this ~ (genome achievements)

three-year quest  
their ~ to impose dosage restrictions

start of their quest  
the ~ to dethrone the champs (NBA)

exhaustive but fruitless quest  
the ~ for a scientific basis for...

go on a (vision) quest  
~ with the help of a medicine man

give up her quest  
she isn't about to ~ anytime soon

made reliability its quest  
Toyota ~

♦ "To dream the impossible dream / To fight the unbeatable foe / To bear with unbearable sorrow / To run where the brave dare not go." (The musical *Man of La Mancha*.)

**pursuit, capture & escape: Middle Ages**

**searching & discovery: Middle Ages**

## question mark

question mark  
he has got a lot of ~s (an athlete)  
the ~ hovering over their rematch (boxing)  
he left command of the ship with a ~ hanging over him

question mark over the evidence  
so now there is a ~ of... (a criminal trial)

question marks around how  
there are ~ the shoes... (alphaFLY)

question marks about him  
there were a few ~ (a boxer)

♦ "Masks have been a question mark in public health, and now I think that question mark has been removed." ("Lawrence Wright on How the Pandemic Response Went So Wrong," *The New Yorker Radio Hour*.)

**certainty & uncertainty: letters & characters**

## queue (sequence)

time queue  
in the ~, earlier events are before later ones (linguistics)

**sequence: line**

## quicksand (in / into the quicksand)

sentimental quicksand  
but for Hanks, the movie would suck you down into ~

in the quicksand of organized crime  
~, murder is an option for solving disputes

♦ "But for [Tom] Hanks, the movie would suck you down into sentimental quicksand." (*A Man Called Otto*.)

♦ "We reached the river about two in the afternoon. A stiff breeze was blowing off the sea, and the waves were noisily breaking on the beach, sucking back along the sand in a cloud of foam. From the mouth of the river a sand-bank stretched out to sea. Thoughtlessly I walked along it, when suddenly I felt a great weight tugging at my feet. I tried to retreat

but to my horror found I could not stir from the spot. I was slowly sinking. 'Quicksands!' I yelled in an unnatural voice... (*Dersu Uzala* by V.K. Arseniev.)

♦ Famous film "quicksand" scenes include *Lawrence of Arabia* and *Mountain Patrol: Kekexili*.

**obstacles & impedance: ground, terrain & land**

## quiet (adjective)

gone quiet  
the gangs have ~

went quiet  
he left Serbia, we were in touch for a week, then he ~ (a migrant trying to get to the EU)

seek quiet  
Israel does ~, with elections only a week away (fighting)

stay quiet  
are we going to ~ as they turn back the clock (protest)

**activity / conflict: sound**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: sound**

## Quisling (Quisling of China, etc.)

quisling army  
a ~ at the tail of the Japanese (Burma / led by Aung San Suu Kyi's father)

Pétain, the Laval, the Quisling  
he became the ~ of China (Wang Jingwei)

♦ Wang Jingwei escaped his treason trial by dying in Japan in 1944, where he was receiving treatment for an old wound from an assassination attempt. Following Japan's defeat, his tomb in Nanjing was destroyed and his body was burnt.

♦ Benedict Arnold; Wang Jingwei; Vidkun Quisling; Pierre Laval; Philippe Pétain; William Joyce (aka Lord Haw-Haw)... (Notorious traitors.)

**military: epithet**

## quit (as noun)

quit in you  
if you've got the ~, there will always be doubt (boxing)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: part of speech**

## quiver (noun)

quiver  
we carry a whole ~ (of protection while climbing)

presidential quiver  
he will use every arrow in his ~ to get his will

arrows in their quiver  
they have more legislative ~ (politics)

♦ *Arrow*, *bow*, and *quiver* are three words from archery that are used figuratively.

**amount / group, set & collection: weapon**

## Quixote (Don Quixote)

Don Quixote's lance  
he is fighting globalization with ~ (US isolationism, etc.)

**medical Don Quixote**

he became an academic *picaro*, a ~ (Paracelsus)

played Sancho Panza to Scott's Don Quixote  
Wilson ~ (*The Last Place on Earth* by Roland Huntford)

tilting at windmills

he suggested that Trump is ~ (attributed to Xi Jinping)

♦ "Scott seemed as incomplete without Wilson as Don Quixote without Sancho Panza." (*The Last Place on Earth* by Roland Huntford.)

♦ "When Jehu was shot, Wilson noted in this diary, it was 'a good few miles further South than the lat. where Shackleton shot his first pony.' Wilson, playing Sancho Panza, to Scott's Don Quixote, had joined his master in his illusory battle with an imaginary foe." (*The Last Place on Earth* by Roland Huntford.)

♦ "From my childhood I remember Grandpa Alexander standing on the balcony in the early morning in his vest and bedroom slippers, beating the pillows like Don Quixote attacking the wineskins, bringing the carpet beater down on them repeatedly with all the force of his wretchedness or despair." (*A Tale of Love and Darkness* by Amos Oz.)

♦ see also *windmill*

**fantasy & reality: allusion / person**

**allusion: books & reading**

## quixotic (adjective)

quixotic  
the endeavor is, needless to say, "~" (E-Prime / "to be")

quixotic ability  
his ~ to extract himself from peril (James Weddell)

quixotic ambition  
secondarily was this ~ that if... (a music project)

quixotic campaign  
he finally ended his ~ for the GOP nomination this week

quixotic gesture  
in a characteristically ~, he offered them a truce (Mehmet)

quixotic project  
each of them pursued a ~ (two inventors)

quixotic run  
Yang's ~ addressed the challenges of automation (election)

crazy or quixotic  
so maybe he wasn't ~ after all (an explorer)

♦ This adjective comes from *Don Quixote de la Mancha* by Cervantes, a surprisingly modern book for having been written so long ago. Quixote means different things to different people. The phrase "tilting at windmills," especially, can be viewed sympathetically or negatively.

♦ "At times, his attempt to start a farm seems like an act of love or intense passion, and at others, utterly quixotic and self-destructive." ("Lee Isaac Chung Jotted Down Some Family Memories—They Became 'Minari,'" NPR, Fresh Air, March 3, 2021. Presented by Arun Venugopal. It seems to me that Don Quixote embodied all those qualities.)

♦ See "A Gargantuan Error: Quixotic Is Not The Only Word From A Book Character," NPR, All Things Considered, September 10, 2015. With NPR's Robert Siegel and Professor Bruce Conforth of the University of Michigan.)

**fantasy & reality: allusion / person**

**allusion: books & reading**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## quiz (verb)

quiz the heads of Google, Facebook and Twitter  
the US Senate Commerce Committee will ~ about...

**judgment: school & education / verb**

## R

### rabbit hole (fantasy)

rabbit hole

the Percocet could have sent her down a ~

rabbit hole of conspiracy theories

simply typing "federal reserve" led students down a ~

rabbit-hole quality

this obsessive, ~ can make the show feel almost manic (a "deep-dive" podcast)

conspiracy theory rabbit hole

one LA yoga influencer who went down the ~ (Katie Griggs)

populist rabbit hole

the country is diving down a ~ (Czech Republic)

burrowed into an anti-vax rabbit hole

people who have ~

diving down a (populist) rabbit hole

the country is ~ (Czech Republic)

fall down the rabbit hole

how did people like Lopez ~ (bogus COVID cure)

follow Trump down the rabbit hole

when people ~, that's when we lose (a Democrat)

jump down this rabbit hole

maybe I need to ~ (Abby Wendle, *Invisibilia*)

leads him down a rabbit hole

the quest ~ to strange uncanny places (Reply All podcast)

lead people down these rabbit holes

the algorithm can ~ to extremism (YouTube)

pushed her down a dangerous rabbit hole

Instagram ~ (eating disorder leads to teen suicide)

sent me down a rabbit hole

it ~ that lasted for 20 years (Tom O'Neill about his book)

sent you down the rabbit hole

let's go back to the question that ~

went down the rabbit hole

she ~ of the alt-right to embrace an ideology of hate

♦ "I didn't jump in, I got pulled into the rabbit hole." (An online feud.)

♦ "I've been researching and writing and talking about this now for 30 years, and, over that period, I've gone very very deep in the rabbit hole." (David Icke, conspiracy therapist. Presumably he is talking about his expertise and knowledge.)

**allusion: books & reading**

**fantasy & reality: addiction / allusion / animal / books & reading / hole / mental health / person**

### rabbit hole (exploration)

rabbit holes

~ leading to music you won't find elsewhere (bandcamp)

informational rabbit hole

clicking on the links would propel me down an ~ (Title IX)

Internet rabbit hole

following a browser down some weird ~ (surfing)

trapped in that rabbit hole

they have a website and I got ~ last night

♦ "You can go down the YouTube rabbit hole following Carroll Shelby. I lived down there for a while." (Matt Damen talking about his role in the film *Ford v Ferrari*.)

♦ "She intends to take this trial down a number of unnecessarily salacious rabbit holes." (Lawyers for Johnny Depp about Amber Heard.)

**searching & discovery: allusion**

### rabid (enthusiasm)

rabid fans

~ that make for a true sports town

rabid (sports) fans

Philadelphia is full of ~

rabid support

he has the ~ of his base (politics)

**enthusiasm: health & medicine / mental health**

### rabid (behavior)

rabid animals

they are ~ that should all be put down (looting and arson)

rabid crowd

he did not look very comfortable in front of that ~ (boxer)

rabid defenders

he has many ~ (Bill Cosby)

rabid supporters

there are many ~ of death for blasphemy (Pakistan)

♦ Calpurnia: Scout, Jem, come on inside. Come on, come on! (Inside, on the phone.) Mr. Finch, this is Cal. I swear to God there's a mad dog down the street a piece. He's coming this way! (From the beloved film of *To Kill a Mockingbird* starring Gregory Peck. In a very dramatic scene, Mr. Finch shoots the mad dog and Jem learns something about his father that he hadn't known.)

♦ "On a day in October in 1831, a nine-year-old boy ran frightened away from the edge of a crowd that blocked the door of the blacksmith shop of a village in the mountains of eastern France. Above the awed excited whispers of the people at the door this boy had heard the crackling "s-s-s-z" of a white hot iron on human flesh, and this terrifying sizzling had been followed by a groan of pain. The victim was the farmer Nicole. He had just been mangled by a mad wolf that charged howling, jaws dripping poison foam, through the streets of the village. The boy who ran away was Louis Pasteur, son of a tanner of Arbois and great-grandson of a serf of the Count of Udressier... (*Microbe Hunters* by Paul De Kruif. The chemist Louis Pasteur would go on to develop the rabies vaccine.)

♦ "A Norwegian woman has died after contracting rabies from a stray puppy in the Philippines. / Brigitte Kallestad, 24, was on holiday with her friends when they found the puppy on a street, her family said in a

statement. / The puppy is thought to have infected her when it bit her after they took it back to their resort. / She fell ill soon after returning to Norway, and died on Monday at the hospital where she worked. / It was the first rabies-related death in Norway for more than 200 years. / Her family are calling on Norway to make rabies vaccinations compulsory for citizens traveling to the Philippines." ("Norwegian woman dies from rabies after Philippines puppy bite," BBC, 10 May 2019.)

♦ "When I have a mad dog in my yard there is only one solution." (A comment on a discussion board about a heinous murderer.)

**behavior: animal / dog / health & medicine / wolf**

## **rabidly**

rabidly intolerant  
they are ~ of Israel

rapidly opposed  
Republicans ~ the legislation

**behavior: animal / dog / health & medicine / wolf**

## **race (the term raced to its end, etc.)**

raced to its end  
as the term ~ (university)

race toward an election  
as we ~ in November...

**time: movement / speed / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## **race (hurry)**

racing to develop  
scientists around the world are ~ a vaccine (COVID)

racing to take credit  
politicians are ~ for the initiative

**movement: speed / verb / walking, running & jumping**

**competition / speed: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## **race (politics)**

race in Hawaii  
an all-female ~ (for governor)

race for the White House  
the quadrennial ~

all-female race  
an ~ in Hawaii (for governor)

closely fought race  
other ~s just outside Washington

closely watched race  
in the most ~ in Virginia (politics)

quadrennial race  
the ~ for the White House

in the (most closely watched) race  
~ in Virginia (politics)

**competition: government / sports & games / walking, running & jumping**

## **race (arms race)**

arms race  
the ~ and mutual misunderstanding

arms race of fantasy economics  
the ~ is well underway (promises of tax cuts / politicians)

arms race between variants and vaccines  
we have an ~ (COVID)

arms race with spammers  
this has been a bit of an ~ (CAPTCHAS)

arms race to build plush new dorms and stadiums  
Berea College has opted out of the college ~

regional arms race  
Southeast Asia is facing a ~

technological arms race  
the stock market has become a great ~ (electronic)

spark a (technological) arms race  
the Vaporfly shoe could ~ before this summer's Olympics

**competition: allusion / history / military / sports & games / walking, running & jumping**

## **race (competition)**

race between vaccination and the virus  
it's a ~

race to build  
the ~ computer chips out of individual molecules

race-to-the-moon  
the glorious ~ days

arms race  
see *race (arms race)*

♦ "So, in some respects, it's kind of like a race between the potential for a surge and our ability to vaccinate as many people as we possibly can. And hopefully, if you want to make this a metaphorical race, the vaccine is going to win this one. Which I believe it will, if we continue with the vaccine program, which has really been quite successful, at the same time as we don't prematurely declare victory and pull back too much on our mitigation policy." ("Dr. Anthony Fauci Does Not Expect A 4th Coronavirus Wave To Hit The U.S.," NPR, Morning Edition, April 2, 2021.)

**competition: movement / sports & games / walking, running & jumping**

## **race (race to the bottom)**

race to the bottom  
we are engaged in a ~ (two states wooing companies)

**decline: direction / sports & games / walking, running & jumping**

## **race (race against time, the clock, etc.)**

race against time  
saving endangered animals is often a ~  
we are in a ~ (disaster relief)  
*State of Terror* features a classic ~ (against terrorists)

race-against-time  
it's a classic ~ film

in a race with the clock  
we are ~

race against time, it's a race against the clock  
it's a ~ to get these animals refloated (stranded whales)

race is on  
the ~ to save the Gulf (oil spill)

**competition / timeliness & lack of timeliness: sports & games / walking, running & jumping**

## race (groups)

race-hustlers  
the seemingly endless line of ~

### *Race Man*

*Max Yergan: ~, Internationalist, Cold Warrior* (book)  
~: *The Collected Works of Julian Bond, 1960-2015*

race science  
~ isn't going away any time soon (*The Guardian*)

♦ "VII—Relations Between Germans and Japanese. The survivors of *Alsterufer* were scandalized [by how] they had been treated by the Japanese in the Far East... The Japanese considered themselves at war with all the white races... Measures were merely to emphasize the racial superiority of the Japanese... British and American prisoners were treated so abominably that their plight aroused the pity of the Germans... German and Dutch women had been herded into a camp without any means of subsistence [in the hope that] they would eventually agree to enter Japanese brothels... It was the hope of every Japanese officer to keep a Dutch or German mistress so that he might satisfy his race-consciousness... White women and half-castes were reserved for the Japanese [while] visiting Germans had to be content with native girls... The First Mate, a loyal German, [said] he was bitterly ashamed that they were the Allies of his country." (SS *Alsterufer* interrogation Report Transcribed from the National Archives record ADM 186/809. E&OE. The blockade runner was sunk at 46 06 N and 19 10 W on its return trip to France after visiting various ports in the Far East. World War II.)

♦ "They were wrestling and laughing and talking just like normal human beings and yet they gave me the creeps and I wanted a mental bath after looking at them." (Ernie Pyle on seeing Japanese prisoners of war for the first time.)

♦ "As I watched large numbers of surrendered soldiers, I feel like I'm watching filthy water running from the sewage of a nation which derives from impure origins and has lost its pride of race." (A Japanese wartime writer on seeing US prisoners of war for the first time.)

♦ "Admiral Halsey says 'Kill Japs, Kill Japs, Kill More Japs.' You will help kill the yellow bastards if you do your job WELL." (A billboard sign on a hillside on Tulagi Island, the Solomon Islands, July 1943. Admiral Halsey was William "Bull" Halsey, Jr.)

♦ "People used to be defined by 3 things: Race, Creed, and Color... that's what we were taught in the 60's-70's." (An online commenter about Whoopi Goldberg's claim that the Holocaust wasn't about race.)

♦ "As humans, we are obsessed with race." (The actor Idris Elba.)

♦ "No vices are peculiar to any time; this world has been vicious from the dawn of history, and every race has reeked with sin." ("COLUMBUS" by Ambrose Bierce, 1892.)

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## racial (groups)

racial aspects  
the fraught ~ of horse racing in U.S. history

racial bias

the law seeks to eliminate ~ from the justice system (CA)  
~ in the media (unarmed whites killed by cops)

racial disparities  
COVID's ~

racial divides  
LA's ~—and solidarity (NPR / Latinos vs. Blacks)  
the scandal has exposed ~ in this multicultural city (LA)

racial equity  
questions of ~ abound

racial (homeownership) gap  
zero-down payment loans to close the ~

racial hatred  
she likes to stir up ~ (a critic of MSNBC's Joy Reid)

racial heckling  
there is no evident fans engaged in ~

racial issues  
let's face it ~ are trending (the media)

racial justice  
the link between ~ and climate change  
~ activists are upset about...  
readability of healthcare forms is a ~ issue  
the group addresses the intersection of homelessness and ~  
how struggles for ~ liberate everyone

racial (fault) lines  
the scandal highlights the ~ of a very diverse city (LA)

racial makeup  
the ~ of the city changed

racial privilege  
it exemplifies snobbery, stuffiness, and ~ (classical music)

racial slur  
neither the referee nor the on-field officials heard a ~  
videos of him using ~s came to light  
he shouted ~s, fatphobic and sexually explicit remarks

racial weirdness  
the ~ of *Aloha* (the 2015 film)

racial and ethnic  
OMB's standards for ~ data

historical, racial and intergenerational  
the negative impacts of ~ on her mom (Cambodian)

♦ "In *Aloha*, Ema Stone plays Allison Ng, who's supposed to be of Hawaiian, Chinese and Swedish descent." ("Here's What People Are Saying About Racial Weirdness in 'Aloha'" by Maanvi Singh, NPR, Code Switch, June 2, 2015.)

♦ "BYU apologizes to a banned fan, saying it found no proof they yelled racial slurs" by Bill Chappell, NPR, *Race*, September 14, 2022.

♦ "Racial" can be used in two completely opposite ways. One is neutral: racial data, etc. The other is inflammatory: racial justice, racial injustice, etc.

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## racialize (groups)

racialize

when you ~ an issue... (education)

## **inclusion & exclusion: division & connection / verb** **racialized (groups)**

racialized

people who were ~, discriminated against, prohibited...  
how Latinos have been ~ in South Texas, specifically  
the way fatness is ~ (sociologist Sabrina Strings)

racialized (STEM) education  
how ~ stifles innovation

*Racialized Trauma*

*My Grandmother's Hands*: ~ (Resmaa Menakem)

racialized and gendered

the ~ tensions of adolescence (*Poukahangatus*)

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## **racially (groups)**

racially balanced

the show has a ~ (theater)

racially-charged

the ~ slur

racially marginalized

she was ~ by others in the NAACP (South Asian)  
I investigate what it means to be ~ while minoritized...  
people from poor, immigrant, and ~ communities

racially insensitive

the family intends to sue over its “~” handling of the case

racially reductive

the hostile and ~ critique of the show (*Yellowstone*)

racially and sexually

while the supporting cast is both ~... (the 2022 film *Bros*)

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## **racism (groups)**

racism concerns

WHO renames monkeypox over ~

racist conscience

the ~ of America (Eldridge Cleaver, *Soul on Ice*)

racism row

the ~ engulfing Australian netball (an indigenous player)

racism scandal

Los Angeles, where a ~ has engulfed city hall (2022)

racism and linguisticism

the broad impact of ~ on the ELT profession (TESOL)

racism and privilege

the bill limits discussion of ~ in classrooms, workplaces

institutionalized racism

he condemned affirmative action as ~ (academia)

antiracism

decolonization, DEIA, and ~ in ELT (TESOL 2023)

anti-white racism

he had a history of ~ on social media (Darrell Brooks)

space racism

~ associates black neighborhoods, or spaces, with violence

environmental racism

the U.N. called it “~” (“Cancer Alley” / Louisiana)  
advocates say ~ is to blame for Jackson water crisis (MS)

historical racism

figures linked to ~ or oppression

modern racism

the left is the home of ~ (MSNBC, etc.)

royal racism

where is their proof to support their charge of ~

scientific racism

many Nobel Laureates have expressed ~  
~ hasn't gone away (*The Guardian* newspaper)

structural racism

he speaks with Ibram X. Kendi about ~  
~ underpins the US healthcare system (Linda Villarosa)

systemic racism

he pledged to root out ~ (President Biden)  
how ~ shaped George Floyd's life  
state lotteries are the most neglected example of ~ (NPR)

woke racism

linguist John McWhorter on how to combat the harms of ~

accusation of racism

Lady Susan Hussey has stepped down after an ~

acts of racism

nobody should feel guilt for historical ~

experiences of racism

members share ~ (Girl Guides of Canada)

culture of racism

a Black patient bled to death because of a hospital's ~

colorism and racism

~ exist among Latinos from every country

misogyny and racism

*Till* director Chinonye Chukwu calls out ~ after Oscar snub

misogyny, classism and racism

Senator Tiara Mach dismissed criticism as ~ (twerking)

trauma and racism

it's a young adult love story that explores intergenerational ~

violence, racism and transphobia

police ~ (on the island of Bali)

racism exists

so we know that ~ (poet Jillian Hanesworth)

blames racism

'Selling Tampa' is canceled, cast ~ for decision (Netflix)

dismissed some European criticism as racism  
officials have ~ (FIFA World Cup in Qatar)

know racism

we as Black people, we ~ (NBA great Charles Barkley)

♦ "We need you to talk. We need you to stop sitting around the dinner table acting like everything's great because it's not. Just because you aren't experiencing it doesn't mean it's not happening. Your role in this is to help change the system." (Jillian Hanesworth's advice to white people about systemic racism. From "Buffalo's poet laureate calls for change" by Raquel Maria Dillon, NPR, Race, May 17, 2022.)

♦ "John James Audubon's racism is the albatross rotting around the necks of those who would hold him in reverence. It is past smelling foul and beginning to reek." ("What Do We Do About John James Audubon?" by J. Drew Lanham. Which begs the question...)

♦ "The husband of a Black woman who died hours after childbirth in 2016 sued Cedars-Sinai Medical Center on Wednesday, saying she bled to death because of a culture of racism at the renowned Los Angeles hospital." ("Lawsuit says a Black patient bled to death because of a hospital's culture of racism," NPR, Health, by the AP, May 5, 2022.)

♦ A relatively recent trope about racism in the US is the idea of "weathering." That's the idea that racism "weathers" people, affecting their health, etc., in ways that are not equitable. Black Americans "live sicker and die quicker." Arline Geronimus of the University of Michigan coined the term for chronic stress.)

♦ "She doesn't have the complexion for protection." (Black criticism of media coverage of victims of crime.)

♦ John McWhorter's article, titled "The Dictionary Definition of Racism Has to Change" (*The Atlantic*, June 22, 2020), is interesting. In it he says we need a "3.0 definition of *racism* based on "sociopolitics" and "a usage...that one often acquires in college classes in the social sciences." This raises at least three points. (1) There is absolutely nothing in a dictionary that prevents McWhorter or anyone else from expressing ideas about racism; his use of the combining form "socio" with "politics" to coin "*sociopolitics*" proves it. My computer spellchecker marks "sociopolitics" as an error. "Sociopolitics" is not recognized by Merriam-Webster or the online Oxford Learner's Dictionaries. If you type "sociopolitics" into search at Wikipedia, you are directed to a long article at "Political sociology." (2) If such a 3.0 definition is included at Merriam-Webster as a new sense, it should be identified as "aggrieved group," just as lexicographers tag certain words or senses as "biology," "archaic," "colloquial," "substandard," "slang," etc. (3) No person interested in words has failed to note that all the dictionary publishers seem to be in competition to add contemporary, trendy, and often controversial updated senses to new words; the attendant publicity is simply good business.

♦ "E news posted offset [sic] instead of Takeoff when they first reported his death and instead of apologizing they just deleted it. Black people do not all look alike [sic]! Incredibly tacky AF [as fuck]! If you hired educated black people that never would've happened." (Offset and Takeoff are the names of two members of the hip-hop group Migos. Offset's real name is Kiari Kendrell Cephus. Takeoff's real name is Kirshnik Khari Ball or Kirsnick Khari Ball. "Takeoff" was shot and killed at 2:40 a.m. after a dice game outside of Billiards & Bowling in Houston, Texas. Because of the stigma of "snitching," few witnesses have come forward with information.)

♦ "Bad from the *Mirror*, but they corrected their error over two hours before Kwasi Kwarteng tweeted about it." (The *Mirror* published a picture of Kwasi Kwarteng that was a different Black man. The *Mirror* put out the following statement: "This morning a picture in a story about Kwasi Kwarteng was wrongly captioned on the *Mirror* website. This was a terrible error and we apologise to Mr. Kwarteng and all our readers. The *Mirror* has a long history of working against racism and we will redouble our efforts on this." Did the *Mirror* commit an act of racism or was it just a mistake, quickly corrected? You be the judge.)

♦ "Recently, Google processed images of a trio of happy young African Americans and its automatic photo-tagging service labeled them as gorillas. The company apologized profusely, but in systems like Google's, errors are inevitable. It was most likely faulty machine learning (and probably not a racist running loose in the Googleplex) that led the computer to confuse *Homo sapiens* with our close cousin, the gorilla. The software itself had flipped through billions of images of primates and had made its own distinctions. It focused on everything from shades of color to the distance between eyes and the shape of the ear. Apparently,

though, it wasn't thoroughly tested before being released." (*Weapons of Math Destruction* by the remarkable Cathy O'Neil.)

♦ "Racism is not just a netball problem." (Donnell Wallam / Australia.)

♦ "Ex-Virginia Tech soccer player who refused BLM Kneel gets \$100K in settlement." (Kiersten Hening / USA.)

♦ If you search NPR for "historical racism," you will get 10 hits. Search "racism," and you get 16,673 hits (and counting).

♦ "A lot of black people today are wringing their hands and pointing accusing fingers at white doctors from the public health service." (Janie Taylor, "Origins of the Infamous Tuskegee Syphilis Study," NPR, August 7, 1972. It's a seven-part series that was once available in its entirety at NPR.)

♦ "Some people don't want to watch movies about enslaved people..." (The film critic Eric Deggans, about the 2022 film *Emancipation* featuring Will Smith.)

♦ The spin bowler Azeem Rafiq has charged the Yorkshire Cricket Club with "institutional racism." In 2021, Rafiq himself had to apologize for using anti-Semitic language in Facebook messages and a meme relating to African people.

♦ "Racism, at the individual level, can be seen as a predictive model whirring away in billions of human minds around the world. It is built from faulty, incomplete, or generalized data. Whether it comes from experience or hearsay, the data indicates that certain types of people have behaved badly. That generates a binary prediction that all people of that race will behave that same way." (*Weapons Of Math Destruction* by the remarkable Cathy O'Neil.)

♦ "Must I Mentor a White Law Student When I Requested a Black Mentee?" (The Ethicist by Kwame Anthony Appiah, *The New York Times Magazine*, Dec. 4, 2022.)

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

**racist (groups)**

racist

flyers accused the Gibsons of being ~ (Gibson's Bakery)

racist towards another

when one Latino is ~ (colorism)

racist attack

he said he was fending off a ~

racist authoritarianism

so many people vote for ~ (Comptroller Brad S. Lander)

racist city

this is not a ~, it's an open city

racist comments

these ~ by four Latino leaders (Los Angeles)

the suspect made ~ ("kung flu," etc.)

he made ~ to students (arguable)

racist country

we're not a ~ (Republican Hershel Walker of Georgia)

the false narrative that Britain is a ~

racist crackdown

Tunisia's ~ on migrants (NPR)

racist highway

Buttigieg awards grant to dismantle ~ (ABC)

racist incidents

a new system to flag ~ (Emmett Till Alerts)

racist joke

she called out a Knoxville reporter for a ~

## racist label

Levi's jeans from 1880s with ~ sold at auction  
the antique pants are even complete with a vile ~

## racist language

their conversation was filled with ~ (secretly recorded)  
former England Cricket captain cleared of using ~

## racist marginalization

NAACP leader quits over ~ (Dr. Vanessa Toolsie)

## racist (text) message

a ~ ("What do you get when..." / a joke)

## racist mob

my mother was not part of a '~' (Chicago politics)

## racist name

critics say 'monkeypox' is a ~  
Squaw Valley ski resort will retire ~

## racist party

he is accused of holding a ~ (a fireman)

## racist past

how Audubon societies are grappling with a ~

## racist people

some of the most ~ I've met or known have been of color

## racist person

she is the most ~ in all of TV (Megyn Kelly v. Tiffany Cross)

## racist rhetoric

he was condemned for ~ (against race-mixing)

## racist scandal

Latinos caught in a ~ (LA City Council / 2022)

## racist scapegoating

since the start of the pandemic and the ~...

## racist sign

a ~ ("Juneteenth, it's whatever... We're closed.")

## racist slogan

Levi's jeans from 1880s with ~ sold at auction

## racist society

the "weathering" affect [sic] of living in a ~

## racist statements

they claimed they never used ~, only used the word *Haole*

## racist stereotypes

~ of black men as violent (violent rap lyrics)  
people accused her of playing off of ~ (comedian He Huang)  
critics claim the name "monkeypox" plays into ~

## racist stigma

WHO renames monkeypox as mpox, citing ~

## racist things

they were caught saying ~

## racist tweets

she was fired after her old ~ were exposed

## racist views

the Sierra Club apologized for the ~ of its founder (Indians)

## racist and derogatory

the conversation included ~ comments (politics)

## racist and homophobic

posts used ~ slurs (Disney hack)  
the depiction of cops as ~ was incorrect (Dahmer film)

## racist, sexist and ableist

concerns over ~ theories and language (Wellcome Museum)

## Anti-Racist

How to Raise an ~ (by Ibram X. Kendi)

## non-racist

marshal support from ~ fans

## white racists

for you to just wildly label them as ~... (Chicago politics)

## racialized and racist

our ideals of the ultimate body is ~

## accused the Gibsons of being racist

flyers ~ ("Gibson's Bakery v. Oberlin College" / Wikipedia)

## portray Mark Fuhrman as a racist

Bailey attempted to ~ whose goal was to frame O.J. Simpson

## calls the migrant busing strategy "racist"

Chicago mayor ~

- ♦ "Hawaii is nice but there are too many racist Hawaiians for me."
- ♦ "These northerners are lazy. They are nomads. They would rather starve than work." (A southern businessman on a Niger River riverboat in Mali, on why the Niger River isn't the Sahara's greatest oasis.)
- ♦ "Do you think that there are members of the jury that voted to acquit O.J. because of Rodney King?" / "Yes." / "You do?" / "Yes." / "How many of you think felt that way?" / "Oh, probably 90% of them." / "Ninety percent? Did you feel that way?" / "Yes." / "That was payback." / "Uh huh." / "You think that's right?" (No answer, just a clicking sound. A juror on the O.J. Simpson murder trial, interviewed after the verdict. From "Fresh Air Weekend: 'O.J.: Made In America'; Margaret Glaspy's Album; 'Sweetbitter,' NPR, Fresh Air, June 18, 2016. As Jeffrey Toobin said, "Those juror interviews, they just made me so sad. I mean just sad. I mean, I don't think these jurors are idiots...")
- ♦ "This lady actually had the CAUdacity to say black people can be racist too." (DOD official Kelisa Wing, using a portmanteau for "Caucasian audacity.")
- ♦ "So ESPN can have Ime Udoka all over the news but hardly talking about Brett Favre that's [sic] looks and sounds very racist." (A tweet about two contemporaneous controversies involving a white and Black sportsman. See the above quote.)
- ♦ "Having a gorilla mascot is racist." (According to the ex-NBA star Lamar Odom. "Go The Gorilla" is the mascot of the NBA team the Phoenix Suns.)
- ♦ "A Sports Reporter Calls Out a Racist Tweet and Gets Exposed for her Own."
- ♦ "A biracial man who says he was fending off a racist attack on a Georgia highway when he fired a gun into a moving pickup truck and killed a teenage passenger was sentenced Tuesday to 10 years in prison..." ("Georgia man sentenced to 10 years in teen girl's road death," AP, September 20, 2022.)
- ♦ The following two headlines appeared about the same incident: (1) "2 teens charged with hate crimes after allegedly hitting woman on bus, making 'anti-white' statements" by Marlene Lenthag, *NBC News*, July 27, 2022 (2) "Teen girls who said they 'hate white people' charged with

hate crimes after bashing woman on Queens bus" by Elizabeth Keogh, *New York Daily News*, July 26, 2022. The teens were Black.

♦ "Racism is a societal problem, and it is no longer good enough to simply be non-racist, Scottish sport must now be actively anti-racist." (Steward Harris, chief executive of Sportscotland.)

♦ "It is not enough to indicate that you are not racist, instead you must demonstrate that you are anti-racist." (Sophomore volleyball player Rachel Richardson, Duke University. See "Rachel Richardson: Duke player's claim of racist slur denied by university—what we know" by Abe Asher, *Yahoo / Independent*, September 9, 2022. See also, "BYU apologizes to a banned fan, saying it found no proof they yelled racial slurs" by Bill Chappell, NPR, *Race*, September 14, 2022. The saga continues to play out, with members of one sports team charging BYU fans of *historic* racist abuse.)

♦ "There was a lot of language I was unfamiliar with." (A parent about messages he began receiving from his children's elite private school concerning antiracism. He eventually removed his children from the school.)

♦ "Coach Gundy is not, and I repeat is not a racist in any way nor has a racist bone in his body, mind, or soul." (Joe Mixon of the Cincinnati Bengals about the resignation of Oklahoma University Sooners assistant coach Cale Gundy, who read the N-word aloud off a player's iPad. See the red text below.)

♦ "According to Molitor, the incident was escalated when [Joe] Mixon used a homophobic slur towards her friend... [Joe] Mixon claimed that Molitor's friend had directed a racial slur at him and that he responded with a homophobic slur at the friend." (The shocking attack by the athlete on a woman happened on July 25, 2014, a day after [Joe] Mixon turned 18, in Norman, Oklahoma. From the Wikipedia entry, "Joe Mixon." See the red text above.)

♦ "People like AJ, Pogba, Sterling are role models for egotists. Call them on it and you are classified... Take our money and then insult us with racism. It's creating a hellish environment." (A commenter on a BBC HYS about the second Oleksandr Usyk-Anthony Joshua fight, and Joshua's bizarre post-fight antics and rant. The following comment simply said, "I'm just glad Joshua lost. He is an unlikeable character.")

♦ "If you think I'm a racist, go f\*\*\* yourself." (The boxer Anthony Joshua.)

♦ "I suppose he'll now blame the judges for being racist, that seems to be the way of things these days." (A commenter about the bizarre post-fight antics of Anthony Joshua, after he lost a second time to Oleksandr Usyk. Another poster commented, "He'll probably pull out the race card next.")

♦ "Between August 2021 and July 2022, Steinle wrote letters to all 25 Republican members of the Ohio Senate and Jordan. In the letters, he called the lawmakers names like 'pig' and called them racist..." ("Police arrest an Ohio man who is accused of sending more than three dozen letters laced with poop to Republican politicians, including Rep. Jim Jordan" by Yelena Dzhanova, *Yahoo Insider*, August 7, 2022.)

♦ "My mother was not part of a 'racist mob.' (The son of Kathy Osterman, reacting to a comment by Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot.)

♦ "[The] depiction of city police officers as racist and homophobic was incorrect." (Anne E. Schwartz, the journalist who broke the story of Jeffrey Dahmer's crimes, about Netflix's 10-part biopic *Dahmer—Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story*. The series slams police as racist and homophobic.)

♦ "This is not a racist city. This is an open city. If you behave well, you are welcomed and even helped." (Newsstand owner Domenico Giordano of Civitanova Marche, Italy. From "Role of race contested in killing of Nigerian man in Italy" by Colleen Barry, AP, reprinted in *The Washington Post*, August 6, 2022.)

♦ "I'm not a racist, I don't have anything in common with the views of white supremacists." (Nicholas Wade, author of *A Troublesome Inheritance*, to Maryland Democrat Kweisi Mfume at a Congressional hearing in 2023.)

♦ "A label printed on the interior of the pocket declares: 'the only kind made by White Labor'—a racially-charged [sic] slogan used by the company during a time of pervasive anti-Chinese discrimination in the US, the *Wall Street Journal* reported." ("Levi's jeans from 1880s with racist slogan sold at auction for \$76K" by Snezana Farberov, *New York Post*, Oct. 13, 2022.)

♦ the norms of society 100 years ago should NOT be held to today's standards /// We can't condemn our ancestors for doing what was considered the way of life in the past /// How is this any different than saying "support black businesses" /// that label was printed almost 150

years ago, it's a pair of jeans for crying out loud /// And today our government tells us don't buy Chinese, how things have changed (sarcasm) /// the liberal media goes out of its way to make EVERYTHING about race /// Please, the virtue signalling is really getting out of hand these days /// Yes, racist stuff happened, it was a different time, we learn from it, and we move on /// anyone faint after reading that 'vile racist label,' BTW, Chinese isn't a race /// this obsession with race is more racist than the jeans label /// does anyone see the irony in this 'auctioning off racist pants' /// So the 'very woke' Levi's company is the racist in the room, too funny... (Online commenters about the article "Levi's jeans from 1880s with racist slogan sold at auction for \$76K" by Snezana Farberov, *New York Post*, Oct. 13, 2022.)

♦ "How soon before breathing is racist? Seems that today everything is racist in some people's minds. The term has completely lost its meaning which is a shame as true racism is truly evil and statements like 'swimming is racist' dilute the impact of the word 'racism.'" (A commenter about the article "Fetterman's Wife Calls Swimming in America 'Very Racist'" by Ari Blaff, *National Review*, October 27, 2022. At Yahoo. Another commenter on the same article posted: "Swimming is racist. Bridges are racist. Wanting secure borders is racist. Wanting murderers to stay in prison is racist...")

♦ "Don't worry. A Christian politician cannot be racist. So we should never hesitate to heavily challenge our opponents on these issues." (Victor Orban addresses CPAC 2022, in Texas.)

♦ "No soy racista! Soy Argentino." (An Argentinian who overturned a Mexican's food cart that was blocking the sidewalk.)

♦ "Just to clarify a bit and to state it plainly. White folks, conservatives included, are afraid of being called racist by African-Americans." (Jack Tchen, who created NYU's A/P/A Studies program and co-founded the Museum of Chinese America.)

♦ "Jackson and Rao say the claim, 'I am not racist' is 'a statement made by white people that we hear as 'I am very racist.'" ("White women' book that calls all white women racist is a manipulative sham" by Rikki Schlott, *Opinion*, *New York Post*, October 4, 2022.)

♦ "Well, uh, first thing of all ya know, when someone starts out a statement by saying, 'Look, I'm no bigot,' they're probably going to end up saying something bigoted." (Arslan Iflikhar, civil-rights attorney, about NPR's firing of journalist Juan Williams. "Shop Talk: Was NPR Right To Oust Juan Williams?" NPR, *Tell Me More*, October 22, 2010.)

♦ "Dude should have looked into living there a little better before stepping on locals' toes like that, especially if he took his family—he owed it to them to look out for their welfare..." (A commenter on the article "2 Hawaiian men found guilty of hate crime for attacking white homeowner" by Michelle De Pacina, *Yahoo / NextShark*, November 21, 2022.)

♦ Bias; bigot; prejudice; animus... (Less emotional words than *racist* or *hate*.)

♦ "The word racist has been thrown around left and right and is meaningless." (An online commenter.)

♦ In the 1930s, 40s and 50s, a person might be smeared as a "communist."

## inclusion & exclusion: division & connection

### radar (on the radar)

on the radar

he has long been ~ of groups following hate groups

on their radar

he had been ~ for a long time (trafficker)

on our radar

he came ~ when we were looking through footage (riot)

on anyone's radar

it's not really ~ (Pakistan's contribution to warming)

on the (UVA threat assessment) team's radar

he also was ~ (murdered three football players)

on the radar of law enforcement or the school

the teen had never been ~ (a school shooter)

**consciousness & awareness: tools & technology**  
**attention, scrutiny & promotion: tools & technology**  
**presence & absence: tools & technology**

## radar (below / under the radar)

under the (cultural) radar

men-only clubs operating for decades ~

flew under the radar

he ~, at large and unidentified (Golden State Killer)

flown under the (awards) radar

the film has mostly ~ (Academy Award nominee)

passed under the (educational) radar

the NCSS standards ~ completely unnoticed (education)

went below the radar

it really ~ (a piece of news)

work below the radar

they work best when they ~ (ICRC / POWs)

keep him under the radar

we are trying to ~, out of the spotlight (troubled athlete)

**consciousness & awareness: tools & technology**  
**attention, scrutiny & promotion: tools & technology**  
**presence & absence: tools & technology**

## radar (drop off the radar)

dropped off the radar

several of the men have "~" (terrorists)

**appearance & disappearance / attention, scrutiny & promotion / consciousness & awareness / presence & absence: tools & technology / verb**

## radar (under the radar screen)

under the radar screen

girls' aggression often passes ~ (school bullying)

well under the radar screen

flying ~ was a move by Congress to...

passes under the radar screen

girls' aggression often ~

**consciousness & awareness: tools & technology**  
**attention, scrutiny & promotion: tools & technology**  
**presence & absence: tools & technology**

## radar (radar screen)

radar screen

I want this on everybody's ~ (kids need more sleep)

films like "Good Will Hunting" put him on our ~s

Hollywood's radar screen

he popped onto ~ two years ago with...

national radar screen

he disappeared from the ~ 4 years ago (a coach)

blip on the radar screen

Ecstasy is no longer a ~ (the club scene)

fell off the radar screen

both men ~ (terrorists)

disappeared from the (national) radar screen

he ~ 4 years ago (a coach)

popped onto (Hollywood's) radar screen

he ~ two years ago with...

put him on our radar screens

films like "Good Will Hunting" ~ (an actor)

radar screen went dark

then the ~ where Heinrich was concerned (child murder)

**consciousness & awareness: tools & technology**  
**attention, scrutiny & promotion: tools & technology**  
**presence & absence: tools & technology**

## radar (other)

Bear-dar

the ~ is being field tested in Churchill (Canada)

gaydar

~: supposed ability to recognize a person is gay

have (really good) radar

I ~, it was no accident (a perceived slight)

♦ "I'm surprised this is on here lol." (BenjaminUnfried, 30 May 2011, who looked up "gaydar" at the Merriam-Webster site, in the "What made you look up this word?" section.)

♦ "Can you tell us a little more about this Bear-dar, like, how does it work?" (Ayesha Rascoe of NPR wants to know! From "Bear-dar" might help humans keep their distance from Polar Bears," NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, May 1, 2022.)

**consciousness & awareness: tools & technology**

## radioactive (adjective)

radioactive

he is only 24, yet he's currently ~ (troubled athlete)

radioactive in the Arab world

NATO is ~ and seen as a tool of US imperialism

radioactive for them

Democrats have decided the issue is ~ (gun control)

radioactive words

the play contains ~ (relating to race, sexual identity)

find me radioactive

his friends began to ~ (an investigative reporter)

**avoidance & separation / destruction: nuclear energy**

## radius

blast radius

see *blast radius* (noun)

**effect / force: explosion**

## raft (amount)

raft of (op-ed) articles

a ~ debated the issue

raft of books  
there have been a ~ about the case

raft of shell companies  
he set up a ~

raft of new measures  
he announced a ~ (to fight COVID)

raft of (technical) problems  
engineers encountered a ~ during development (Nauka)

raft of research  
there has been a ~ lately that...

**amount: boat**

## rage (verb)

raging in New York City  
the epidemic is ~

raging in the Philippines, France, Brazil  
the virus is still ~...

raging through this country  
Omicron is running wild in Australia, it's ~

debate rages  
police officers become candidates as policing ~

fighting rages  
~ as Taliban attack key Afghan city

**activity / behavior / control & lack of control: force / movement / verb**

## rage (enthusiasm)

become all the rage  
Paris danced the Mazurka, which had ~

**enthusiasm: mental health**

## rage (black rage, feminine rage, etc.)

black rage  
the optics of ~ (versus respectability politics / NPR)  
~ eats away at them...

feminine rage  
Olivia Rodrigo put her own ~ on display (“good4u”)

♦ “Black anger, black rage, black distress over injustice...” (“When Civility Is Used As A Cudgel Against People Of Color” by Karen Grigsby Bates, NPR, Code Switch, March 14, 2019.)

♦ *Eloquent Rage: A Black Feminist Discovers Her Superpower* by Brittney Cooper.

♦ *Rage Baking: The Transformative Power of Flour, Fury, and Women's Voices.* (A book by Kathy Gunst and Katherine Alford.)

♦ “I think people felt that there was no market for feminine rage, and trauma and all that sort of stuff. But then #MeToo happened, and obviously, that was something that people actually were interested in.” (The director Andrew Dominik, speaking about his film *Blonde*, which was widely panned by the critics and ignored by the public. From “Blonde’ director says the unhappiness of Marilyn Monroe should come as no surprise,” NPR, All Things Considered, September 29, 2022.)

**inclusion & exclusion: mental health**

## rage (road rage, etc.)

air rage  
“~” is making the skies unfriendly...

road rage  
teenager’s death puts spotlight on ~

youth sports rage  
now there’s ~ (father killed at son’s hockey practice)

toy rage  
“~” was rife (over Teletubbies / 1997)

♦ “You’ve heard of road rage and air rage. Well now there’s youth sports rage. Last week in Massachusetts, a father of three was killed at his son’s hockey practice during a confrontation with another parent.” (“Violence In Kids Sports,” NPR, Talk Of The Nation, July 18, 2000.)

♦ “Can Rage Hotlines Prevent Some Mass Shootings? Researchers Study The Idea” by Eric Westervelt, NPR, National, July 8, 2021.

♦ “The ‘anti-mask meltdown’ has become its own video genre.”

**behavior / feeling, emotion & effect / mental health: society**

## ragged (adjective)

ragged (red) beard  
he had a shaved head and a ~

ragged roadscape  
a ~ of motels, franchises and big box stores...

ragged, sensitive, elemental  
Joplin’s voice—a ~ howl...

battered and ragged  
the ships left gleaming and laden and returned ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: cloth / clothing & accessories**

## raging (adjective)

raging forest fire  
for the first time in my life I beheld a ~ (V.K. Arseniev)

**activity / behavior / control & lack of control / feeling, emotion & effect: force / movement**

## raggs-to-riches

raggs-to-riches backstory  
his ~, his unvarnished authenticity (boxer Gervonta Davis)

raggs-to-riches journey  
he had a ~

raggs-to-riches story  
his ~ is amazing, but his practices are Machiavellian  
the film is a Dickensian ~

♦ “Boxing has a long history of raggs-to-riches success stories.”

♦ The flip side of raggs to riches is riches to raggs.

**money: clothing & accessories / sign, signal, symbol**

## rail (verb)

railed against the government’s trade policies

he ~

**accusation & criticism: sound / speech / verb**

**speech: sound / verb**

## **rail (off the rails)**

off the rails

it seems like he is ~ (behavior of celebrity)

off-the-rails speech

everyone is talking about his ~

go off the rails

they will not let things ~ (two politicians)

gone off the rails

science has ~, gone astray, many times

went off the rails

he ~ after moving to the big city (Brazil)

**failure, accident & impairment: train**

**behavior / control & lack of control: train**

## **rail (third rail)**

third rail of politics

social security reform is the ~

third rail of (American) politics

this issue was once considered ~ (gun control)

third rail of (Indian) politics

agricultural reform has long been the ~ (avoided)

third rail on this show

so why is race such a ~ (the Bachelor)

third-rail issue

this is one of those ~s (criticism of Israel)

there are certain topics that are ~s (China and Hong Kong)

this was a ~ that the governor didn't want to touch (guns)

embraced the third rail

he has ~ of Republican politics (pro-immigration)

♦ "There are certain topics that are third-rail issues in certain countries, societies and communities. Supporting a separatist movement in a Chinese territory is one of those third-rail issues, not only for the Chinese government, but also for all citizens in China." (Brooklyn Nets owner Joe Tsai, about comments made by the general manager of the Houston Rockets about China and Hong Kong. The general meaning of the phrase is "untouchable.")

♦ "Kanye touched the 'third rail' of public life and discourse in America." (A commenter about the article, "Kanye West Claims He's 'Been Beat to a Pulp' Over Losing Brand Deals, Wants to 'Do Better'" by Miranda Siwak, Oct. 29, 2022. Kanye West was accused of anti-Semitism.)

**danger: electricity / train**

## **railroad (verb)**

railroad the sick into giving up

the healthy could ~ (assisted suicide)

railroaded him into seeking

he claimed the university had ~ publicity (cold fusion)

railroad innocent folks

the judicial system can ~

**coercion & motivation: train / verb**

## **railroaded**

railroaded

he was ~, chosen to be the scapegoat (wrongly convicted)

got railroaded

people say they think he ~ (victim of #MeToo movement)

**coercion & motivation: train**

## **rain (amount and effect)**

rained on (northern) Israel

Hezbollah rockets ~

rained debris for (more than) 10 miles

the explosion ~ (2 trains collide)

raining mud and ash

it is now ~ (eruption of volcano on Rabaul)

rockets rained

Hezbollah ~ on northern Israel

**amount & effect / resemblance: rain / verb**

## **rain (rain down)**

rained down

more than a hundred cruise missiles ~ (Libya)

rain down missiles on Israel

they could ~

rained down on her

boos ~ (an athlete)

cables (of congratulations began to) rain down

the ~ (Amundsen reaches the South Pole)

embers rained down

~ on a nearby highway (California wildfire)

**amount & effect / resemblance: rain / verb**

## **rainbow (searching and discovery)**

end of the rainbow

Chile, to me, is the ~ (Bill Sharp / surfing)

follow every rainbow

~, 'till you find your dream (song)

**searching & discovery: allusion / atmosphere / sky**

## **rainbow (color)**

rainbow sheen

material or ~ on water (pollution incident)

**resemblance: atmosphere / color / sky**

## **rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.)**

Rainbow Falls

~ is on the Wailuku river in Hilo, Hawaii

rainbow trout

~ are predators

♦ Many falls around the world are named Rainbow Falls. This is often because, when the light is right, you can see a rainbow, or even a moonbow, in the mist at the bottom of the falls.

**proper name: atmosphere / color / sky**

**geography: atmosphere / color / proper name / sky**

## rainbow (mixture)

rainbow mix

a ~ of Creole, Garifuna, Mestizo, Spanish, Maya (Belize)

rainbow tribe

they are a ~, black, Asian, white, biracial (kids at a pool)

rainbow nation

what Trinidadians call their "~"

♦ Rainbows occur when it is raining while the sun is shining. To see a rainbow, turn your back to the sun. Look at your shadow on the ground. From the shadow of your head (the antisolar point), measure 42 degrees upwards, or about four fist widths with your arm held straight out in front of you, as if you were holding a stick in your fist vertically. There you may see the top of the rainbow. The sun must be less than 42 degrees above the horizon, so that you will never see a rainbow at noon on a summer day in the US, when the sun is high in the sky. At 51 degrees, you may see a second rainbow above the primary rainbow.

**mixture: atmosphere / sky**

## rainbow (groups)

Rainbow Coalition

the ~ is his personal fiefdom (Jesse Jackson)

Rainbow Runway

celebrate Pride month with looks hot off the GMA ~

rainbow flag

holding a ~

an arsonist set a ~ on fire outside the restaurant in Soho

Rainbow Laces

he is part of the ~ campaign (Jordan Henderson, soccer)

♦ "We had just had a bit of a pause as we have seen someone run on to the pitch holding a rainbow flag." (The 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar. The incident occurred during the Portugal-Uruguay game.)

♦ "Check out picks straight off our Rainbow Runway below, including tube socks, a romper and a classic jersey shirt. By clicking on these shopping links, visitors will leave Goodmorningamerica.com. These e-commerce sites are operated under different terms and privacy policies than Goodmorningamerica.com. ABC will receive a commission for purchases made through these links. Prices may change from the date of publication." ("Celebrate Pride month with looks hot off the 'GMA' 'Rainbow Runway,' GMA Team, June 23, 2022.)

**inclusion & exclusion: color / sign, signal, symbol**

## rainforest (rainforests of the sea, etc.)

rainforests of the sea

coral reefs are often called the ~

**biodiversity, nature & life: epithet**

## rainforest (society is a rainforest)

rainforest

community theater is (like) a ~

♦ "[Community theater is like a rainforest]. And if one species is wiped out, it threatens the whole thing." (Versus competition, which would "kill everything," according to Sarah Bellamy.)

**identity & nature / mixture: forest**

## rainmaker (person)

lead rainmaker

the congresswoman's chief of staff and ~ has resigned

♦ A rainmaker is a lawyer or salesman who makes a lot of money for the company, or a person who can ensure progress and success.

♦ "Last year, religious leaders, including Khoisan leader Ockert Lewies, pictured, gathered at the bottom of Table Mountain to pray for rain." ("Icebergs and empty pools: Five things Cape Town's Day Zero taught us" by Flora Drury, BBC, 12 May 2018.)

**worth & lack of worth: person / rain**

**person: money / rain**

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant / rain / weather & climate**

## raise (attention)

raises

the other question it ~is...

raise awareness

the women will use the Olympic platform to ~ (basketball)

raised (a number of ) issues

we both ~ (diplomacy)

raised objections

they have ~

raises the question

it ~, how can...

raised a (fundamental) question

his firing ~

raised more questions

the few details have ~ (a quadruple murder)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: direction / height / verb**

## raise (feeling)

raised our spirits

she really ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / height / verb**

## raise (your image, etc.)

raise your image

raise your pants, ~, stop the sag (a billboard)

it you don't ~, people look down on you

**behavior / reputation: direction / height / verb**

## raised (reared)

raised to be

I was ~ a good Christian

conceived, born and raised

Nature was ~ to serve polemic purpose (the magazine)

**growth & development: life span**

## rake (destroy)

raking the coast  
the hurricane is ~

**destruction: farming & agriculture / tools & technology / verb**

## rake in (verb)

rake in big money  
lobbyists can ~ (government)

raked in more than \$100 million  
their business model has ~ (Somali pirates)

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: tools & technology / verb**

## rake up (verb)

raking up some horrible memories  
we are ~ (a crime podcast)

**searching & discovery: tools & technology / verb**

## rally (verb)

rallied around her  
her fans ~ (controversy)

rally round the flag  
see *flag* (*rally around the flag*)

rallying around their nominee  
they are ~, falling in line (Trump)

rallied around the reporting  
fellow reporters have ~

rallied behind him  
conservatives have ~ (a minister in trouble)

rallied public sympathies around her  
a new documentary has ~ (#FreeBritney)

rally their faithful  
they climbed the stage to ~ (conservatives / politics)

rallied the troops  
she ~ (an executive of troubled company)

rallying their troops  
conservative luminaries are ~ (against Obama / politics)

**assembling: flags & banners / military / verb**

**allegiance, support & betrayal: flags & banners / military / verb**

## ramp (on ramp and off ramp, etc.)

exit ramp  
Trump provided the ~ (that Biden followed / Afghan war)

off-ramp  
he may want an ~ to back off and try later (confrontation)

on-ramp to misinformation and extremism  
talk radio is the ~

diplomatic “off-ramp”  
there appears to be no easy ~ in this crisis

visible off-ramp  
is there a ~, to get Putin to back down (NPR)

offramps and onramps  
we need ~ for when conditions change (mask wearing)

accept this off-ramp  
he is willing to ~ that Iran is offering (diplomacy)

block whatever off-ramp  
you don’t want to ~ is available to him (confrontation)

hopes he has an off ramp  
the world ~ and de-escalates this crisis (nuclear war)

looking for an off-ramp  
he is ~ (de-escalation of a crisis)

offers (both sides) an off-ramp  
the attack ~ (de-escalation of crisis)

♦ “Maybe there is just a bit of desire to find a way out of this, and an offramp...” (A BBC commentator about a threatened UK rail strike. One “bit of desire” the commentator mentioned was the fact that Christmas was approaching. What man wishes to be unemployed at Christmas, having to worry about money to pay for the heat and buy gifts for his family?)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: infrastructure**

## rampart (protection)

rampart against militancy  
France relied on Ben Ali as a ~

ramparts of flesh and blood  
they were living ~ against barbarity (the Kurds)

**protection & lack of protection: fortification / military**

## rampart (Upper Ramparts, etc.)

Upper Ramparts  
the ~ is a canyon on the Porcupine River (Yukon)

**proper name: fortification**

## rampart (resemblance)

ramparts of the Hindu Kush  
the Wakhan Corridor is cut off by the ~

**resemblance: fortification / military**

## ramp up (verb)

ramping up our efforts  
we are ~ (diplomacy)

ramp up production  
Toyota to ~ after cutbacks due to pandemic  
companies ~ of rapid COVID tests

ramp up (COVID-19) testing  
the US wants to ~

**increase & decrease: prep, adv, adj, particle / tools & technology / verb**

## ranch (enterprise)

dude ranch

~s are still popular (an experience of the West)

surf ranch

yes, there really is a ~ (surfer Kelly Slater's)

♦ see also *farm (enterprise)*

**product: cows & cattle**

## rancid (adjective)

rancid (political) environment

we're now in a ~ (the U.S.)

**corruption: food & drink**

## rank (close ranks)

close ranks

when cops are attacked, they often ~  
the natural tendency for the Arab world is to ~

closed ranks around him

in the past they have always ~ (politics)

close ranks behind him

will the party ~ (politics)

close ranks with Obama

her concession and her call to ~ (politics)

close ranks, (they) circle the wagons

the groups ~ (bands, sororities, fraternities / hazing)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: line / military / verb**

**unanimity & consensus: line / military / verb**

**protection & lack of protection: line / military / verb**

## rank (break ranks)

break ranks

some Democrats will ~

broke ranks

she ~ and told Americans... (pandemic)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: line / military / verb**

**unanimity & consensus: line / military / verb**

## rank-and-file (adjective)

rank-and-file rebels

she has secured her nominations after negotiations with ~  
(politics)

**hierarchy: line / military**

## rape (verb)

raping me all over again

I felt like the system was ~

**destruction: violence**

## rape (noun)

rape of (Indonesia's) forests

the devastating ~

**destruction: violence**

## rapier (noun)

rapier thrust

there is a ~ to Solskjaer's side (BBC hype)

**feeling, emotion & effect: blade / sword**

## raptor (Raptor Technologies, etc.)

Raptor Technologies

~ supplied the alert system (Uvalde school shooting)

**proper name: bird / predation**

## rash (affliction)

rash of (home) burglaries

concern about a ~

rash of cases

a ~ occurred in Puerto Rico (early puberty)

rash of clashes

a recent ~ between bikers (motorcycle gangs)

rash of crime

gun sales are up after a ~s

there has been a ~s against women

Academy officials have no explanation for the ~

rash of drownings

the ~ has tourism officials on the spot (Florida)

rash of abductions and murders

the impression of a ~ of children

rash of accidents and near misses

a ~ had spooked the sailors of the 7th Fleet

recent rash

the ~ of cybervandalism

**affliction / amount / amount & effect: health & medicine**

## rash (road rash, etc.)

river rash

it's just ~ (scratches on used kayak)

road rash

he proudly showed off his ~ (skateboarder)

♦ "I don't have health insurance so I just taped it up." (Kayaking enthusiast, on how he treated a gash in his right eyebrow after a run on the Green River south of Asheville, North Carolina. "No brain, no pain, no problem!")

♦ "It's not broken, it's good." (A moaning Czech Republic guide incapacitated and on his butt after a tower jump.)

**resemblance: health & medicine**

## rash (hasty)

rash decision

he made a ~ (short of money, he shoplifted)

**haste: health & medicine**

## Rashomon (point of view)

Rashomon effect

the ~ refers to conflicting eye-witness accounts of an event

“Rashomon effect”

the unreliability of witnesses is referred to as the ~

Rashomon moment meeting a Rorschach test

this was a ~ (3-group confrontation on D.C. Mall)

♦ In the 1950 film by Akira Kurosawa, four people give radically different versions about how a man ended up dead. In the film, everyone lies, and there is the sense no one will ever know the full truth.

♦ The film *The Last Duel* highlights, “The truth according to X.”

♦ A group of Kentucky teenagers, a Native American, and black Hebrew Israelites all met by accident on the National Mall in Washington, DC. Read “Viral standoff between a tribal elder and a high schooler is more complicated than it first seemed” by Michael E. Miller, *The Washington Post*, Jan 22, 2019. Or “January 2019 Lincoln Memorial confrontation” (Wikipedia).

**allusion: film & TV**

**perception, perspective & point of view: allusion / film**

## rat (lab rat, etc.)

gym rat

he's a ~

he was the quintessential ~ (Larry Bird / basketball)

lab rat

if you weren't such a ~, you would know that

mall rat

my brother is a ~

pack rat

I'm a bit of a ~ (hoarder)

river rat

~s (kayakers, rafters) versus the locals

he has been a ~ since the age of 14 (guide)

"snow rat"

he was a ~ from childhood (a snowboarder)

**enthusiasm: animal / person / rat**

## rat (betray)

ratted him out

his personal chef ~

**allegiance, support & betrayal: animal / rat / verb**

## rat (a snitch)

rat

the other inmates think he's a ~, an informant

**allegiance, support & betrayal: animal / person / rat**

## rat (smell a rat)

smell a rat

I ~ (something suspicious)

I don't know what went on, but I know enough to ~

♦ I smell a rat; I don't buy it; a “version” of events... (Incredulity.)

**evidence / suspicion: animal / rat / smell**

## rat (sinking ship)

rat off the ship

when you're a ~, and you leave early (Miami Heat fans)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: boat / rat**

## rat race

rat race

deep into the ~, far from the finish line of retirement

admissions rat race

it helps in the ~ if you founded a company in high school

corporate rat race

many women drop out of the ~ (competition, etc.)

competitive, driven, rat-race

it's a very ~ culture

drop out of the (corporate) rat race

many women ~ (competition, etc.)

♦ “A rat in a cage pushes a lever so much because it's in a cage. It doesn't have anything else to do.” (Adrian Hon, author of *You've Been Played*.)

♦ The Rat Race is for Rats! (A bumper sticker.)

♦ Even if you win the rat race, you're still a rat. (A bumper sticker.)

♦ “I get away from all that rat-race noise down in the street.” (Carole King, “Up On the Roof.”)

♦ In China, 996 refers to working from 9am to 9pm, six days a week.

**competition / work & duty: animal / rat**

## ratchet up (verb)

ratcheted up its criticism

the State Department has ~ of China on this issue

ratchets up the pressure

this ~ on him (athlete receives sports award)

his arrest ~

ratcheted up the pressure

he has ~ on foreign oil companies

ratcheted up its rhetoric

Iran has ~ too

ratcheted up his (anti-American) rhetoric

he has ~

tensions ratchet up

before a deployment, ~ (military families)

♦ A ratchet is a tool that can be used to tighten cables or metal strips. The pawl of the ratchet, which looks like a Toucan's beak, prevents slippage backwards. Deckhands on riverboats use ratchets to tighten cables that hold the barges together. Warehouse workers often use a ratchet to securely bundle together trash-compacted material, which is then taken away by a forklift.

**increase & decrease: direction / mechanism / prep, adv, adj, particle / pressure / tools & technology / verb**

## rattle (disrupt)

rattled some people

I ~ (female CEO and former athlete)

rattle our cage  
don't ~

rattle cages  
the government is willing to ~ to get things done

rattled neighbors and allies  
the conflict has ~ (within a royal family)

♦ "Justice will be served and the battle will rage / This big dog will fight when you rattle his cage..." ("Courtesy Of The Red, White And Blue (The Angry American") by Toby Keith.)

**disruption: animal / equilibrium & stability / sound / verb**

### **rattled (feeling)**

rattled  
the city is ~ (a series of murders)

**feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability**

### **rave (verb)**

raved about her (smoky gray) eyes  
*Multichannel News* ~

**enthusiasm / speech: mental health / verb**

### **rave (rave review, etc.)**

rave reviews  
her album came out to ~ (Lizzo)

**enthusiasm / speech: mental health**

### **ravenous (adjective)**

ravenous for success  
he is ~

intellectually ravenous  
he was ~ (an academic)

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: food & drink**

**consumption: food & drink**

### **ravenously**

ravenously followed  
the media ~ the story

**consumption: food & drink**

### **raw (emotions, etc.)**

raw  
her emotions are still ~  
the emotions are ~ (Netherlands crash out at Euro 2020)  
emotions were ~, tears flowed (tribute for victims)

raw nerve  
(see *raw nerve*)

still raw  
the war wounds are ~ (between Japan and its neighbors)

rubbed raw  
she was ~ emotionally (newspaper advice columnist)

the battle ~ the country's divides (political, social, etc.)

remain raw  
emotions ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

### **raw (raw recruit, etc.)**

raw novice  
how much work it takes to become a ~ (boxing)

**experience: meat**

### **raw (unrefined, etc.)**

raw data  
the NSA wanted to gobble up as much ~ as it could

raw opium  
Kandahar is a key transit point for ~

**worth & lack of worth: materials & substances**

### **raw nerve (feeling)**

raw nerve in Haiti  
the incident struck a ~ (foreign adoptions)

raw nerve among Democrats  
her epic fail is still a ~ (Hillary Clinton)

Russian raw nerve  
the German report hit a ~ (about Battle of Kursk)

on the raw nerve  
it pressed directly ~ of English society (class anxiety)

struck a raw nerve  
the incident ~ in Haiti (foreign adoptions)

touched a raw nerve  
her comments ~ in this country (Israel)  
the withdrawal touched a ~ (troops give up area)

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

### **ray (ray of hope, etc.)**

ray of hope  
looking for a ~

**amount / evidence: atmosphere / light & dark**

### **razor (razor-thin)**

razor-thin margin  
the election was decided by a ~

**comparison & contrast / size: breadth**

### **reach (secure)**

reached an agreement  
Democrats said they had ~ with the White House

reach your conclusion  
how did you ~

**attainment: movement / verb**

### reach (a number)

reached number one  
his song ~ in the charts

reached 72 mph  
gusts ~ (windy weather)

reached an unprecedented high  
suicide rates have ~

reached a 9-year high  
stabbings have ~

**attainment: number / verb**

### reach (reach an answer, etc.)

reach your answer  
how did you ~

reached its conclusion  
on 22 May the trial ~

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

### reach (a place on a journey)

reached its lowest ebb  
morale had ~ when... (military)

reached an impasse  
we have ~ in the negotiations

reached a point  
we have almost ~ of no return

reached a crisis point  
we have ~ in education funding

reached its lowest point  
her life ~ one morning in a gutter

reached (one of) its most crucial stages  
350 million years ago, evolution ~ (life moves to land)

**development: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

**attainment: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

### reach (the news reached him, etc.)

reached him  
sadly, the good news never ~

♦ "It's a lot of things that went on in the South that never reached the papers, no one wants to talk about it, but they happened, these things happened." (Patsy Rembert about her artist husband's autobiography, *Chasing Me To My Grave*.)

♦ The February 1779 death of Captain Cook, killed by natives on a beach in Kealakekua Bay, Hawaii, during his third Pacific voyage, took over a year to reach London.

♦ Bad news travels fast!

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

### reach (beyond reach)

beyond our reach  
what was once in our grasp is now ~

**attainment / possession / proximity: arm**

### reach (within reach)

within reach  
the president has declared world peace ~

**attainment / possession / proximity: arm**

### reach (extent and scope)

global reach  
our local touch with our ~ (L.A. Times)

gang's reach  
the ~ extends across America

reach was extended  
the paper's ~ by Pullman porters (*Chicago Defender*)

**extent & scope: arm**

### reach out (verb)

reached out to people  
he has ~ who have been looked over (a fashion designer)

reached out to families  
she ~ from the neighborhood (school needs students)

reaches out to his rivals  
he ~ (politician)

reach out to students  
universities ~ from all walks of life

reach out to those  
it is not unusual for the Amish to ~ who hurt them

reach out to us  
we hope he will ~ (cops seek contact with criminal)

reach out to (minority ethnic ) youth  
the government has failed to ~ (France)

reach out to non-Muslims  
~ and educate people about Islam

♦ "Maybe it's their way of you know 'reaching out,' as the Americans say..."

♦ Old: thank you for contacting us about our mistake... / New: thank you for reaching out to us about our mistake...

**division & connection: arm / verb**

### read (read something into something)

read too much into it  
don't ~  
there's no need to ~

read anything into that  
but I really would beg you not to ~

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: books & reading / verb**

## read (analyze)

read between the lines

they fail to listen, observe and ~  
~ and you can see...  
you have to ~ to understand...

read clues

the FBI's failure to properly ~ available before 9/11

read a map

I can't ~ to save my life

read your (electric) meter

how to ~ (utility brochure)

read my mind

you ~

read the (blocking) schemes

they know how to ~ (football players)

reading the skies

as long as people have walked the earth, they have been ~

read the signs

if you can't ~, you won't survive (the taigá)

reads the signs

he ~ like a map ("Shadow Wolves" tracker)

read the sky

they pride themselves on their ability to ~ (hunters)

read a (financial) statement

she learned how to read a ~

read the weather, wind, sun, stars

a sailor must be able to ~ (sailing)

hard to read

Ohio is ~ (elections)

♦ "You are not reading between the lines. He..." (And online commenter about a celebrity's mysterious and undisclosed "illness.")

♦ "The governor is going to read the political tea leaves and make a decision."

♦ You can also read, try to read, or misread a person's face (expression), a situation, etc.

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: books & reading / verb**

## read (the sign read don't enter, etc.)

altimeter read

my ~ 27,500 feet (Mount Everest)

banners read

huge ~ "Allez les Bleus" (World Cup soccer)

card read

his business ~ "Any kinds of Ladies' Tailor and Skin, etc."

decal (on the door) read

a ~ "In the name of Allah we enter..."

label reads

the ~, "Made in England"

map reads

"These islands are rich," the ~

poster read

the ~, "You're Not Good Enough To Be A Marine"

radar read

the ~ 31,500, 25,400, and 18,300 (diving plane)

sign read

a hand-painted ~, "God Bless America"

watch read

my ~ 1:17 P.M. (at the top of Mount Everest)

**fictive communication: books & reading / verb**

## reality (real, truth, lies, etc.)

real doctor

is he a ~

real life

but for me, it's my ~  
but forget football right now, this is ~  
~ isn't a game

real-life

my ~ experiences are rare (Diane Keaton on The View)

real story

the ~ behind...

real time

a war happening in ~ on social media (Ukraine)

real thing

it's definitely a ~ and not just something on TikTok

in reality

this was called a vigil but ~ it was a protest (South Korea)

in real life

~ (IRL / texting)  
we were able to talk to him directly ~ (the *Washington Post*)

in the real world

I'm glad I grew up ~ (a commenter about incels)

in the so-called real world

~ (?)

augmented reality

we'll manipulate objects using ~ (AR)

hyperreality

the realm that the postmodernists call ~

virtual reality

we'll explore ~ (VR) worlds

virtual and augmented reality

many companies have made significant investments in ~

AR and VR

~ will change how we express our identities (digital fashion)

\*\*\* **“Life is but a joke.”**

- ◆ “Don’t expect much truth in the telling here, but do expect some over-the-top fun.” (David Bianculli, from “Never mind that it’s not factual, this Weird Al biopic parody is very, very funny,” NPR, Fresh Air, November 3, 2022.)
- ◆ “This whole story is completely true. Except for all of the parts that are totally made up.” (Netflix.)
- ◆ “Bros’ Flopped, But Did It Fail?” (The gay romcom film. Its marketing roll-out was budgeted higher than the production of the film.)
- ◆ “It’s all true even though it’s not all fact.” (A playwright.)
- ◆ “I’m just messin’ wit ‘cha, man”; irony; mockery; sarcasm; LULZ; 4-Chan; 8-Chan; trolling; catfishing; swatting; queerbaiting; 1 Hacker Way; “Here’s to the Crazy Ones”; “Mission Accomplished”; the Affordable Care Act; QAnon; the okay sign with the fingers...

\*\*\* **Life is a film (script, podcast)**

- ◆ “This sounds like a horror movie.” (A comment about “2022 University of Idaho killings.”)
- ◆ “It sounds like a heist movie.” (Sam Briger on Fresh Air interviewing a writer who wrote a non-fiction account about a historical event.)
- ◆ “He was born into a plotline in a soap opera watched by the whole planet.” (The comedian Laura Lexx about Prince Harry. Her comment ended up being quite sympathetic to Harry.)
- ◆ “It’s like its own little reality show. To each his own.” (An ex-NBA player about the latest NBA sex scandal.)
- ◆ “The ‘screenlife’ category in which everything plays out on computer screens.” (Films. One example is the “screenlife thriller” *Searching* by Aneesh Chaganty.)
- ◆ “WILDEST APPLAUSE to all of you for your unwavering dedication to getting justice for...” (A tweet with a gif of people in a concert venue giving a standing ovation.)
- ◆ “The Coyote was given the nickname ‘Wile E.’ after the Warner Brothers character.” (A coyote that strayed into a California school.)
- ◆ “This is an American crime story that follows what sadly feels like a familiar script. Woman goes missing, husband gets in front of a camera, makes an emotional plea for her return, and that husband is arrested for her murder. This has now happened in the case of...” (“Husband of missing Colorado mom arrested nearly one year after her disappearance,” ABC.)
- ◆ “The same formula again and again. I want to post pictures of myself in bathing suits. When I get criticized I’ll say I want to do it for others and for body positivity. When I get criticized for that, I will show sadness that the world doesn’t support mental health and I’m a victim, and finally I’ll get praised for being so brave for living my own truth.” (Bob Loblaw. A BBC HYS comment about “SI Swim model Natalie Mariduena wants to ‘be an example’ of ‘body normalcy’” by Stephanie Nolasco, August 20, 2022.)
- ◆ “We both in different worlds needed redemption over the same issue. You know, when I look in the mirror I gotta look at the man who let his wife get murdered. You know, at some point, I needed redemption. I needed to be rebuilt into something I could live with. You know, and I see Jeremy in the same light, you know in a different frame, a different story line. You know, he’s the, he’s the, one who put all this into play, you know, he’s the one who’s holding the knife. And so he needs his own redemption. You know what? I thank God for that. I thank God for that because without that I don’t think we ever get to the bottom of it. And very few people know the truth. You know, now there’s a bigger story to tell. Where it goes from here, we’ll see (guitar music).” (Leo Schofield about Jeremy Scott from the podcast *Bone Valley*, Chapter 9 | Coming Clean. Does it sound like a Hollywood pitch written by a film-school graduate? You be the judge.)
- ◆ “He did reference the movies and it’s not hard to understand why. I mean, *Star Wars* was always a fairytale for children, and fairytales are morality tales, of good versus evil, where good is clearly defined, evil is clearly defined, and it’s not hard to extrapolate an evil empire with Russia invading a sovereign nation. So...” (“Mark Hamill on speaking to Zelensky about *Star Wars*,” BBC News, Entertainment & Arts. Sean Penn actually lent one of his best actor Academy Award trophies to Zelensky.)
- ◆ “This isn’t how the movie is supposed to end, you know the good guys are always supposed to ride off into the sunset.”

\*\*\* **Life isn’t a film (script, podcast)**

- ◆ “DART, as we call it, it felt like a movie plot. But this was not Hollywood.” (NASA Administrator Hill Nelson about “Humanity’s first planetary defense test.”)
- ◆ “Not all heroes wear capes, and Chris definitely was a hero to this community. He just didn’t have a cape.” (The cousin of a police officer killed in the line of duty.)
- ◆ “But forget football right now, this is real life, and real life isn’t a game. So we’re hoping the best for everyone involved. (A *New York Post* video about an NFL quarterback and his divorce.)
- ◆ “This is not a podcast for me, this is real life.” (The brother of murdered Hae Min Lee.)
- ◆ “This isn’t some new season of *Happy Valley* or *Prime Suspect*, these are real people with real lives, a real family that is hurting.” (The online commenter Julia Hartley-Brewer about the Nicola Bulley case.)
- ◆ “When classes started, Tahiry found herself struggling to connect with the other students. They came from ‘different worlds,’ she said. It was a complaint I heard from many of the Afghan women, at several schools. Some told me that American students took no interest in them; others said that American students took too much interest in them, and they were tired of explaining what was happening back in Afghanistan. ‘It’s just like a movie for them,’ one woman who ended up at Cornell, who asked not to be named for privacy reasons, told me. ‘People here are always watching dramas and everything.’ She added, ‘But for me, it’s my real life.’” (“Students In A Strange Land” by Maddy Crowell, *The New York Times Magazine*, August 14, 2022.)
- ◆ “Note how many pundits have dismissed well-documented tragedies—children massacred at school, families separated by a callous state—as the work of ‘crisis actors.’ In a functioning society, ‘I’m a real person’ goes without saying. In ours, it is a desperate plea.” (We’re Already In The Metaverse: Reality is blurred. Boredom is intolerable. And everything is entertainment” by Megan Garber, *The Atlantic*, March, 2023.)

\*\*\* **MSM**

- ◆ “Some researchers say that ‘peak phosphorus,’ the point at which the amount of phosphorus being pulled from the ground starts to decline, could be reached within the next decade. Others maintain that the time frame is more like centuries.” (“Elemental Need: Phosphorus helped save our way of life—and now threatens to end it” by Elizabeth Kolbert, *The New Yorker*, March 6, 2023.)
- ◆ “Severe flooding in Italy kills 2; drought persists,” *The Associated Press*, May 3, 2023.
- ◆ “The earliest known documented outbreak of unexplained livestock deaths occurred in early 1606.” (The Wikipedia entry for “Cattle mutilation.” Click-bait stories of mysterious unexplained “animal mutilations” continue to the present day, from Texas, from Colorado, from Oregon... Perhaps you’ve clicked on one. *Plus ça change...*)

\*\*\* **So what is the truth, anyway?**

- ◆ “Is this legal, what Amazon is doing?” “Lawyers and privacy advocates say it’s up for debate.”
- ◆ “It’s not a lie if you believe it.”
- ◆ “A lie you accept becomes a lie you forget.”
- ◆ “But it felt real, and therefore it was real... *Stranger* rhymed with *danger*.” (The so-called “stranger danger” in the US in the 1980s.)
- ◆ “According to her version of events...”
- ◆ “Wherever the truth lies, she...”
- ◆ “The truth lies somewhere in between.”
- ◆ Online commenter #1: MU fans hailed him as the Messiah and because he’s spoken the truth all MU fans turned on him. / Online commenter #2: And by truth I’m assuming you mean his version of the truth. (Online commenters about the great soccer player Cristiano Ronaldo.)
- ◆ “In Mexico it feels like truth exists in a different dimension.” (“In eight years after 43 students in Mexico went missing” by Eyder Peralta, NPR, All Things Considered, January 17, 2023.)
- ◆ “When I read this I really didn’t actually believe it, we weren’t going to go to air with this story till we’d actually spoken to KFC, and they explained what happened. They have something called an “automatic content generator.” And this is attached to a calendar, it detects anniversaries, and then links them to a product, and churns out a promotion. Now, it is supposed to be checked by a human being...”

(Europe Regional Editor Paul Moss on the BBC Global News Podcast, 11 Nov 2022, about a "Treat yourself to more cheese on your tender chicken now at K-F-Cheese" promotion to commemorate Kristallnacht.)

◆ Misinformation; disinformation; malinformation (it has a Wikipedia entry); prebunking ("Google to expand misinformation 'prebunking' in Europe"); truthiness; truther; post-truth (and post truth); alternative facts; fake news; fake posts; false narratives; phony content; propaganda; untrue information...

### \*\*\* Conspiracy theories, culture wars

◆ "She realized that '9/11 truth' has sunk its hooks into her husband." (Architects & Engineers for 9/11, a controlled demolition by the U.S. government, the 23<sup>rd</sup> floor, Japanese gold...)

◆ "The 'election was stolen' is not a debatable issue."

◆ "Fact-checking is a scheme to launder left-wing messaging." (Chris Rufo.)

◆ "It's always a conspiracy until it's true."

◆ "You can't provide evidence to prove something that doesn't exist never happened." (Conspiracy theories.)

◆ "She seems more like she's acting." (An online commenter about a black female teen interviewed after a St. Louis school shooting.)

◆ "This thinking [identity politics] appeals not to reason or universal values but to the authority of identity, the 'lived experience' of the oppressed... [This has led some] to believe that words can be a form of violence; to close down a general argument with a personal truth ('You wouldn't understand,' or just 'I'm offended'); to keep your mouth shut when identity disqualified you from speaking." ("School Shouldn't Be A Battlefield" by George Packer, *The Atlantic*, April 2022.)

◆ "We were left out of these stories." (Carrell Augustus about his photography book *Black Hollywood: Reimagining Iconic Movie Moments*, which replaces white actors and actresses with Black ones or, alternatively, "puts black actors and actresses at the center of some of Hollywood's most iconic movie images.")

◆ *Jay Gatsby: A Black Man in Whiteface.* (Janet Savage, 2017.)

◆ "People doing so-called crime..." (Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah.)

◆ "The state of mind that the Party enforces through terror in 1984, where truth becomes so unstable that it ceases to exist, we now induce in ourselves." ("Doublethink Is Stronger Than Orwell Imagined: What 1984 means today" by George Packer, *The Atlantic*, July 2019.)

◆ A FUNNY CARTOON. Two children, a boy and a girl, are sitting on a mat with their toys: a teddy bear, blocks, a stacking ring, etc. A creepy-looking third child is stalking towards their mat. The first boy is saying to the girl, "He has this crazy conspiracy theory about object permanence." (*The New Yorker*, March 6, 2023.)

### \*\*\* manipulating reality and making money

◆ "Anthony Bourdain doc director admits to using A.I. to fake voice." (*New York Post*.)

◆ "He wants people to know the video is a supercut and doesn't reflect the rest of his live coverage..." (A tweet that went viral.)

◆ "Somebody took LeBron James' name, somebody took former president Bush's name onto their accounts and got them verified..." (Twitter.)

◆ "Okay, this looks pretty cool but, it just didn't feel like reality, and maybe that is because I know that it's not reality, where I'm like, I, I know that's not how I look in person, I know that's... I'm not even going to try to like that..." ("Luong," a 28-year-old who works in management consulting in Toronto, about TikTok's new beauty filter, *Bold Glamour*. From "A new AI-powered TikTok filter is sparking concern" by Bobby Allyn, NPR, Technology, All Things Considered, March 8, 2023. "There are concerns the tools promote unrealistic beauty stands and blurs (sic) the lines of reality.")

"Creepy new AI animates photos to bring the dead back to life" by Joshua Hawkins, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The app Deep Nostalgia from MyHeritage.)

◆ Re-enactors; "the age of the edit"; actor portrayals; scripts; deep fakes; CGI; ChatGPT...

### \*\*\* The everyday lives of ordinary Americans

◆ "IRL' Author Says It's OK That We're Spending So Much Of Our Lives Online" by Noel King, Ryan Benk, NPR, Author Interviews, Morning Edition, December 7, 2020.

◆ "Paid actors, not real clients." (A YouTube advertisement. "Results achieved do not necessarily indicate similar results can be obtained for other clients. Gross recovery amount before fee and cost deductions.")

◆ The answer to a Google query says the average American sees between 4,000 and 10,000 ads in a single day.

◆ NOTICE: Important information enclosed. (Junk mail.)

### \*\*\* War

◆ "The first casualty of war is the truth."

◆ "When the first detachment of American soldiers was sent to France on transports the troopships went under convoy of cruisers and destroyers. The day they landed in France the newspapers carried a thrilling story... of an attempt by submarines to sink the transports in mid-ocean... It was a splendid story, but there was not a word of it true... Naval officers who had gone over with the transports read it in Parisian newspapers and marveled at the generous gifts of publicity agents..." (*A New American History* by W. E. Woodward.)

◆ "They get awfully sick at the big-print headlines in some of the papers—"The Hill 60 Thrill! 'Thrill, indeed! There's nothing thrilling about ploughing over parapets into a machinegun, with high explosives bursting round you,—it's merely beastly,' said a boy this evening, who is all over shrapnel splinters." (*Diary of a Nursing Sister on the Western Front: 1914-1915* by Kate (Katherine) Evelyn Luard.)

◆ "Not only did the Belgian baby whose hands had been cut off by the Germans travel through the towns and villages of Great Britain, but it went through Western Europe and America... Everyone wanted to believe the story, and many went so far as to say they had seen the baby... / [*The Times* Correspondent in Paris reported in an article of August 27, 1914 that] 'One man whom I did not see told an official of the Catholic Society that he had seen with his own eyes German soldiery chop off the arms of a baby which clung to its mother's skirts.' / On September 2, 1914, *The Times* Correspondent quotes French refugees declaring: 'They cut the hands off the little boys so that there shall be no more soldiers for France.' / Babies not only had their hands cut off, but they were impaled on bayonets, and in one case nailed to a door. But everyone will remember the handless Belgian baby. It was loudly spoken of in buses and other public places, had been seen in a hospital, was now in the next parish, etc., and it was paraded, not as an isolated instance of an atrocity, but as a typical instance of a common practice. / In Parliament there was the usual evasion, which suggested the story was true, although the only evidence given was 'seen by witnesses.' / But the most harrowing and artistically dressed version of the handless child story appeared in the *Sunday Chronicle* on May 2, 1915. / 'Some days ago a charitable great lady was visiting a building in Paris where have been housed for several months a number of Belgian refugees. During her visit she noticed a child, a girl of ten, who, though the room was hot rather than otherwise, kept her hands in a pitiful little worn muff. Suddenly the child said to the mother: 'Mamma, please blow my nose for me.' / 'Shocking,' said the charitable lady, half-laughing, half-severe, 'A big girl like you, who can't use her own handkerchief.' / The child said nothing, and the mother spoke in a dull, matter-of-fact tone. 'She has not any hands now, ma'am,' she said. The grand dame looked, shuddered, understood. 'Can it be,' she said, 'that the Germans--?' The mother burst into tears. That was her answer.' / Signor Nitti, who was Italian Prime Minister during the war, states in his memoirs: / 'To bring the truth of the present European crisis home to the world it is necessary to destroy again and again the vicious legends created by war propaganda. During the war France, in common with other Allies, including our own Government in Italy, circulated the most absurd inventions to arouse the fighting spirit of our people. The cruelties attributed to the Germans were such as to curdle our blood. We heard the story of poor little Belgian children whose hands were cut off by the Huns... Mr. Lloyd George and myself, when at the head of the Italian Government, carried on extensive investigations as to the truth of these horrible accusations, some of which, at least, were told specifically as to names and places. Every case investigated proved to be a myth.'" (*Falsehood in War-time: Propaganda Lies of the First World War* by Arthur Ponsonby.)

◆ "The story of babies torn from their incubators was repeated over and over again. President Bush told the story. It was recited as fact in Congressional testimony, on TV and radio talk shows, and the UN Security Council... Following the war, human rights investigators attempted to confirm Nayirah's story and could find no witnesses or other evidence to support it. Amnesty International, which had fallen for the story, was forced to issue an embarrassing retraction." (The 1991 Gulf War.)

◆ Joanna Kakissis: [They] were looking for Inna's 8-year-old daughter, Ulya. [Translator: She's very fond of her. She's very smiley. She's a

blond-haired girl, so positive.] So the bodies of Ulya's grandmother and father had already been found burned so badly that Oksana said that they looked like coal. As she kept holding out hope that Ulya would somehow be found alive. But when we called her last night, she told us Ulya was dead and that her mother recognized the little earrings and necklace on Ulya's body. / Scott Simon [Emotional]: Oh, my. Bless them all... Any idea why Uman was the target?" ("At least 25 people died from Russian strikes in two Ukrainian cities," NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, April 29, 2023.)

♦ "The BBC hasn't been able to verify the pictures or the authenticity of the documents..." (The war in Ukraine. 2023.)

♦ "Real or not, reported Kremlin drone attack unsettles Russia" by Jim Heintz, Associated Press, May 3, 2023.)

♦ "It's hard to, you know, rationalize that a war is happening and we can see it in real time on social media, everyone commenting on it, everyone speaking about it and actually just talking about it. We don't know what to do." (War in Ukraine. Gen Z.)

♦ "Young Ukrainians are spreading joy by organizing cleanup parties." (NPR's Kat Lonsdorf.)

♦ I overtook him, I hit him with a rifle. And he fell down. And I was going to bayonet 'em when he start [pauses to gather himself]... he started calling for his mother. He started going, "Mommy, Mommy, Mommy." I says, uh [in a hard voice] "Why are you calling for your mother?" He says, "I don't want to die." He says, "I want my mommy." I said, "All right, I'll tell you what, I'm gonna make it look like I stabbed ya. [In a firm, clear voice.] Pretend you're dead... when I move away from you." "Okay," he said, "Okay." [Sighing, in a firm voice.] I did it. (Private First Class Ralph Martire—pronounced MAR-tire—after the siege of Bastogne was lifted. The German soldier was a teenage boy. From Oral History Interview with Ralph Martire recorded 2010 Mar. 27, Central Connecticut State University Digital Collections / Veterans History Project.)

### appearance & reality: death & life

### really (and REEE•lee, etc.)

really really really

hey bitch, do you ~ wanna go hard (a song)

it's something I ~ take to heart (Margrethe Vestager)

REEE•lee know

so, does anyone ~... ("A" Martinez, NPR)

really, really challenging

I think it's ~ (Graham Honaker to Ailsa Chang about sports)

REEE•lee, REEE•lee devastating

this is something that is ~ to fat people (Michael Hobbes)

really really hurting

a lot of these guys and gals are ~ (clinical social worker)

REEE•lee, REEE•lee annoyed

suppose you did something that ~ an old friend

really, really bothered

it ~ me (Abigail Disney / a Disney labor practice)

really, really pissed

the people were getting ~ (NPR's Jasmine Garsd)

REEE•lee, REEE•lee contagious

the Omicron virus is ~ (NPR's Selena Simmons-Duffin)

really, really cool

and it's ~ that... (Cari Fletcher, queer)

REEE•lee expensive

this is a ~ rocket (Nell Greenfieldboyce of NPR)

really really hostile

they say the bill creates a ~ environment (Trans)

really really real

these forest fires are ~

really REEE•lee rich

~ customers (Stacey Vanek Smith)

REEE•lee, REEE•lee small

the amount of gas is ~ (Nell Greenfieldboyce)

really really weird

but there's this second ~ thing...

really actually

see *actually* (*contempo-speak*)

really kind of

see *kind of* (*contempo-speak*)

really pretty

see *pretty* (*contempo-speak*)

really sort of

see *sort of* (*contempo-speak*)

really totally

see *totally* (*contempo-speak*)

actually really

his job is to ~ stare at octopus (photographer)

she was ~ criticized, deeply criticized...

I was ~ surprised, pleasantly surprised...

employees ~ honest to God want to be here...

but it ~ is important to people

I was ~ upset... (by the death of Queen Elizabeth II)

actually really, really

people who were ~ ravaged by the war...

actually, really

shaming ~ does some damage and distracts...

kind of really

they're not ~ claiming to be traditional...

kinda really

it ~ depends on my state when...

obviously really

we are ~ happy as...

social media has ~ revolutionized MLMs (marketing)

that promise is ~ attractive to groups who...

I am ~ concerned if this drags out... (stress)

it's ~ difficult to...

she is ~ good at... (an athlete)

you literally have paralysis and that's ~ dangerous,

because...

just kind of really

my mom ~ reiterated how special I was (Dr. Jason Arday)

♦ A marked and extended long e is a feature of "female gushing." Certain types of men, or men who work around women, do it, too.

♦ "And you are an archer, Gina Davis, you are really really good at archery." (Rachel Treisman on NPR.)

♦ "But there's this second really really weird thing that happens... (Geoff Brumfiel, on NPR's science desk.)

- ◆ Type "really really" into search at NPR and you get 7,056 hits and counting...
- ◆ Type "actually really" into search at NPR and you get 912 results, and counting...
- ◆ Type in "obviously really" at NPR and you get 49 results and counting.
- ◆ "Croatia is one of those teams that really, really don't like to lose." (A text comment about the World Cup in Qatar.)
- ◆ "I'm reeeally not liking the medical field these days...sure hope there's some major changes down the road." (A text comment from Kiki\_Bee.)
- ◆ "It really is definitely a pattern." (An NPR pundit.)
- ◆ "When Perhaps You Actually Really Can't Handle The Truth," Pop Culture Happy Hour, Linda Holmes, October 31, 2008.)
- ◆ "There are those who think we're together only because of the film. They're wrong. This is a real love story. With AI it's everything, without him it's nothing. We are really, really, really in love,' she stressed, lingering over each 'really.' / ... Pacino's response was a nervous, positively embarrassed half-smile..." (Marthe Keller, the blond actress, interviewed with Al Pacino. From *AI Pacino: A Life On The Wire* by Andrew Yule.)
- ◆ see also *actually* (*contempo-speak*), *basically* (*contempo-speak*), *definitely* (*contempo-speak*), *obviously* (*contempo-speak*)
- ◆ see also *y* (*pulpy*, etc.)
- ◆ J-K-L-R speech. ("Just," "kind of," "like," and "really.")

**contempo-speak: adverb**

## realm (area)

realm of ideas

now that partisanship infects every corner of the ~

realm of giant peaks

the ~ (Pakistan)

realms of sci-fi and fantasy

he explored the ~ (Rod Serling)

◆ "Crushing pressure, brutal cold and utter darkness; an epic journey into the unknown; alien worlds; bizarre creatures; extraordinary new behaviours; unendurable pressures; savage hordes of Humboldt squid..." (BBC enters the hype realm for Blue Planet II, The Deep.)

◆ "Adventure is pushing yourself into unknown realms, not dying just because the pro sucked." (The great climber Todd Skinner.)

**area: royalty**

## reap (verb)

reaped (vast) sums from (Nigerian) oil

Shell has ~

reap (enormous political) support from the unions

politicians can ~ (education)

reap their (biggest) profits by selling

sex traffickers ~ virgins (Asia)

reaping a (bitter) harvest

teachers are ~ (dislike by public)

reap the (almost immeasurable) rewards

a few corporations ~ of a vast new world (AI)

reap the whirlwind

he who sows the wind shall ~ (Bible)

**product: farming & agriculture / plant / verb**

## reaper (Reaper drone, etc.)

Reaper drone

a Hellfire missile fired from a ~ killed...

**proper name: farming & agriculture / plant**

**death & life / military: proper name**

**death & life: farming & agriculture**

## reappropriate (groups)

reappropriate it

today's challenge is to ~ (nationalism)

Reappropriate Pink

"Is It Time to ~?" (Tania Lombrozo / color, not the singer)

reappropriated words

she ~ from a slut-shaming culture (Megan Thee Stallion)

◆ "Jill Lepore opens with a bravura survey of two and a half centuries of American national consciousness. Today's challenge, she argues, is not to resist nationalism but to reappropriate it." (Gideon Rose, Editor, The New Nationalism, *Foreign Affairs*, March/April 2019.)

◆ Reappropriate, an Asian American-centered race and gender blog.

◆ "In a chorus ringing, 'Hands on my knees, shakin' a\*\*', on my thot s\*\*\*,' the Houston rapper reappropriated words from a slut-shaming culture that are often used to demonize Black women." ("Megan Thee Stallion, 'Thot S\*\*\*' by Gabrielle Pierre, NPR Music, June 11, 2021. The s\*\*\* is NOT "slut." It's the other "s" word: "shit.")

◆ "Mama's boy' is a flex, not an insult." (According to NPR's Neda Ulaby. Neda is a lesbian.)

◆ see also *appropriate* (groups), *appropriation* (groups), *coopt* (and *co-opt*), *misappropriate* (groups), *misappropriated*, *misappropriation* (groups, etc.), *reappropriation* (groups), *reclaim* (groups), *reclaimed* (groups), *take back* (take back one's life, etc.)

**inclusion & exclusion: possession / verb**

## reappropriation (groups)

corporate reappropriation

~, the straight-approved forms of LGBTQ expression

reappropriation or (perhaps) misappropriation

"Columbusing"—the ~ of African-American culture...

◆ "Barbie knows that representation matters and is committed to continuing to increase diversity across collections, so that more people can see themselves reflected." (The trans Barbie doll, a Barbie doll with a prosthetic limb, the Ken doll with vitiligo, a Barbie doll with Down Syndrome who is shorter and has smaller features, etc.)

◆ see also *appropriate* (groups), *appropriation* (groups), *coopt* (and *co-opt*), *misappropriate* (groups), *misappropriated*, *misappropriation* (groups, etc.), *reappropriate* (groups), *reclaim* (groups), *reclaimed* (groups), *take back* (take back one's life, etc.)

**inclusion & exclusion: possession**

## rear (verb)

rearing for a fight

Dees is still ~ (Southern Poverty Law Center)

**behavior / conflict: animal / horse / verb**

## reared (raised)

reared on fiascoes

young Americans have been ~ (war, recession, etc.)

**growth & development: life span**

## rearguard (noun)

### rearguard action

he has been fighting a ~ against criticism (politics)  
the mainstream Left is fighting a pathetic ~ (government)

### rearguard effort

a heroic second-half ~ (Saudi National soccer team)

♦ "One gets the feeling their celebrations will go on long into the night after a heroic second-half rearguard effort." (Andy Cryer, BBC Sport, about Saudi Arabia 2-Argentina 1 at the FIFA World Cup in Qatar, 2022. Mashallah! "Raise our Green Flag!")

♦ The rearguard action of a group of British soldiers at the village of Khig, following the British disaster in the Battle of Maiwand (27 July 1880) during the Second Anglo-Afghan War, was one of the most courageous last stands in military history. It helped allow the bulk of the British troops to safely withdraw to Kandahar. The only survivor of the last stand was Bobbie, a terrier attached to the Berkshires, who made it all the way back to England. Bobbie visited Queen Victoria, who awarded him with a medal. No doubt he got treats, too.

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military**

## rebel (person)

### rebel against political correctness

Trump campaigned as a ~

### Rebel Royal

Princess Margaret: ~

### rebel (Tory) MPs

~ will fail (against Boris Johnson)

### rebel roots

the sport has ~ in southern California (skateboarding)

### rebel, tree sister, earth protector

I am a ~ (Extinction Rebellion)

### rebel or trailblazer

he was asked if he regarded himself as a ~ (LIV Golf)

### outcast Hollywood rebel

he was the ~ (film director Nicholas Ray)

### rank-and-file rebels

after negotiations with ~... (politics)

### world's oldest rebel

he calls himself the ~ (Harry Leslie Smith)

### pop rebel

she plays her part as ~ (Sky Ferreira)

### conservative rebels

~ have attacked plans to extend lockdown powers (UK)

### scientific rebel

this "~" (J. Craig Venter)

### sexual rebel

she was a ~ (the remarkable Rebecca West)

♦ "Here's to the Crazy Ones! / The misfits. / The rebels. / The troublemakers. / The round pegs in the square holes. / The ones who see things differently." (Apple's "Think Different" advertising campaign.)

♦ for first-movers, risk-takers, and change-makers, introducing corporate program for startups [americanexpress.com/startups](https://www.americanexpress.com/startups) AM EX Don't do business without it™ (A four-page ad in *Wired* magazine, January, 2020.)

♦ "I think we really need to shift our thinking. Rebels are people who break rules that should be broken. They break rules that hold them and others back, and their way of rule breaking is constructive rather than destructive. It creates positive change." (Social scientist Francesca Gino. From "You 2.0: Rebel With A Cause," Shankar Vedantam, NPR, Hidden Brain, August 19, 2019.)

♦ "I remember the first time I encountered a pierced eyebrow... / 'But what does it express?' I asked, entirely in earnest... / The high-school punk rejects the culture of the mainstream only to embrace a subculture with norms no less exacting; how different a goth looks from everyone else, and yet how similar to every other goth... / Even the pierced eyebrow achieves its meaning within a web of social conventions... Would Robinson Crusoe bother getting a tattoo?" ("Ego Trip: The early Romantics and their troublesome legacy by Nikhil Krishnan, *The New Yorker*, October 3, 2022. The article is his review of Andrea Wulf's *Magnificent Rebels: The First Romantics and the Invention of the Self.*)

♦ A protruding nail will be hammered down." (Japan.)

**person: military**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military / person**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: military / person**

## rebel (verb)

### rebel

he began to ~ (in school after death of father)

### rebels against our modern puritanism

his film ~ about intoxication (Thomas Vinterberg)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military / verb**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: military / verb**

## rebellion (noun)

### sizable rebellion

the PM is facing a ~ (vote of confidence)

### seeds of rebellion

enforced potty sitting can sow the ~ (toddlers)

### courting rebellion by pushing ahead

he is ~ with his plan (political party)

♦ 1850-1864. The Taiping Rebellion. Led by Hong Xiuquan, who believed he was Jesus' younger brother. A rebellion against the Qing ("Ching") dynasty and its Manchu elite. Ultimately 20-30 million died, most from plague and famine. Sixteen of 18 provinces were affected and at least 600 cities destroyed. It was during this same time period that the *Susquehanna* bore the U.S. flag up the Yangtze to Wuhu (1854), and the side-wheeler *Saginaw* steamed into Tung Ting Lake, 700 miles from that river's mouth (1861). If the *Saginaw* had been a Chinese warship on the Mississippi River, it would have reached the vicinity of Memphis, Tennessee. And it was also during this time that the British and French forced the Second Opium War upon China (1856-1860). / Amazingly, when the rebels tried to take Shanghai in 1860, they were repulsed by a Qing army led and supported by European officers that included Charles George Gordon (Chinese Gordan, Pasha Gordan, Gordan of Khartoum). Frederick Townsend Ward also assisted, a US sailor and soldier of fortune. / The Third Battle of Nanking (Nanjing) in 1864, which ended the Taiping Rebellion, was perhaps the bloodiest battle up to that point in human history. In three days, over 100,000 died. The rebels fought to their deaths or committed suicide rather than be captured. / The Qing Dynasty would last into the 20th century, but essentially the rebellion finished them off. One result of the rebellion was that it made the dynasty realize that it had to Westernize and modernize its military. This is but a part of China's long history that shapes Chinese attitudes to the West to this very day.

**conflict / resistance, opposition & defeat: military**

## rebirth (noun)

### rebirth of (mountain) culture

the ~

gospel of rebirth

he is preaching a ~ to everyone (Detroit mayor)

death and rebirth

the primordial pageant of ~ of light (solar eclipse)

passing and a re-birth

it may be both a ~ (interest in old cantorial music)

**growth & development: birth**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: birth**

**amelioration & renewal: birth**

## reboot (verb)

reboot the series

he is helping ~ (new Twilight Zone)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism / verb**

## reboot (noun)

reboot

Ukraine is ready for a ~ (political change)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism**

## reborn

reborn

Spanish football was ~ (13 Oct 2007 vs Denmark)

reborn in Athens in 1896

the Olympics, born in ancient Greece and ~

reborn career

a ~ as an advertising icon (Jeff Hakman)

**amelioration & renewal: birth**

**growth & development: birth**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: birth**

## rebound (recover)

rebounded in numbers

it's possible the sharks have ~

ability to rebound

resilience is the ~

skin can rebound

~ and look younger (anti-aging creams)

**resiliency: ball / movement / verb**

**movement: ball / verb**

## rebound (verb)

rates never fully rebounded

vaccination ~ (autism fears)

**increase & decrease: ball / movement / verb**

**movement: ball / verb**

**increase & decrease: numbers**

## rebound (on the rebound)

on the rebound

the economy is finally ~

the sick seal appears to be ~

**amelioration & renewal / resiliency: ball**

## rebound (rebound headache, etc.)

rebound headache

it sounds like you're experiencing ~s

drugs can cause ~s

rebound hypertension

abrupt discontinuation may cause ~ (drug)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: ball**

## rebuild (verb)

rebuild their lives

they are trying to ~

**amelioration & renewal: infrastructure / verb**

## recant (verb)

recanted

one of his earliest supporters ~

**allegiance, support & betrayal: religion / verb**

## recapture (verb)

recapture past glories

patience is required as the club tries to ~ (Man U)

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb**

**fictive possession: hand / verb**

## recast (verb)

recast herself as a sexy dancing girl

she ~, and the world went mad (Joey Heatherton)

recast the (university's) image

it is part of a longstanding plan to ~

recast (modern) womanhood

she helped ~ (Helen Gurley Brown / *Cosmo*)

recast as a villain

a guard cast as a hero was ~ (Richard Jewell)

**characterization: manufacturing / verb**

**creation & transformation: manufacturing / verb**

## recast

recast as a villain

a guard cast as a hero was ~ (Richard Jewell)

**characterization: manufacturing**

**creation & transformation: manufacturing**

## received (wisdom, etc.)

received norms

the film does not bridle against ~ (the Cold War)

received opinion

like so much ~, it was fallacious

received wisdoms

I do like to question ~ because they suit somebody

received and outdated

Nansen did his best to overcome Scott's ~ opinions

♦ "She is simply hard, a straight shooter, a woman clean of received wisdom and open to what she sees." (Joan Didion about Georgia O'Keeffe.)

**transmission: giving, receiving, bringing & returning**

## recipe (vaccine recipe, etc.)

original recipe

the FDA ok'd extra doses of Pfizer's ~ (COVID vaccine)

**script: food & drink**

## recipe (for conflict, etc.)

recipe for conflict

in the brutal world of Afghan politics, this was a ~

recipe for controversy

combining sex and religion is a ~ (the arts)

recipe for disaster

this is a ~ (using pig organs for human transplants)

record rain combined with the region's topography was a ~

recipe for success

working together is a ~ (sports)

recipe for a breakdown

I can't let it tear me apart because it's just a ~ (anxiety)

♦ "I don't want a piece of the pie, I want the goddamn recipe!" (The character of singer-songwriter-businessman Sam Cooke from the fine Amazon film *One Night in Miami*.)

**script: food & drink**

## reckoning (groups)

MeToo reckonings

the ~ engulfed NBC, CBS, and Fox News (and now ABC)

nationwide (racial) reckoning

a ~ over the systematic oppression of...

racial reckoning

this is time for a true and steadfast commitment to a ~

moment of (national) reckoning

people who want an attorney general to meet this ~ (BLM)

reckoning has expanded

the MeToo ~ in scope to include workplace bullying

face a reckoning

statues of Hannah Duston ~ (cancelled)

sparks (Australia media) reckoning

Rebel Wilson outing ~

**inclusion & exclusion: judgment**

## reckoning (judgment)

reckoning with it

lay the past to rest once we've had some kind of ~

historical reckoning

the trial was part of a ~ (2010 / Argentina)

moment of reckoning

will "Framing Britney Spears" be a ~ for the media

reckoning is at hand

and so the ~ (a moment in a revenge story)

avoided any (deep) reckoning

Japan ~ with its past (after WWII / many not punished)

**judgment: money / society**

## reclaim (his place, etc.)

reclaim the heights

they have managed to ~ (tennis sisters)

reclaimed his place

he has ~ back at the top of the boxing mountain (Fury)

**possession: boundary / ground, terrain & land / surveying / verb**

## reclaim (groups)

reclaimed

21 words the Queer community has ~

reclaiming their agency

a conversation about women ~

Reclaim America

"~" was written on the back of one shirt

reclaim "Let's Go Brandon"

the White House has attempted to ~ ("Dark Brandon")

reclaiming their culture

Gen-Z Latino-Americans are ~ through language (ABC)

reclaim desire

~ for yourself and take agency (sex / women)

reclaim her (sexualized) image

her sexy selfies allow her to ~ (abused when young)

reclaimed (country and Americana) music

how Black women ~ in 2021

reclaiming the phrase

Rose Brand is ~ 'So Gay' (So Gay Rosé wine)

reclaiming their place

"How Black riders are ~ in cowboy culture" (NPR)

reclaims the (genre) space

the creator ~ for people of color (a horror film)

reclaimed space

she has ~ for the Lumbee of Baltimore (Ashley Minner)

reclaim the story

his work will allow the family to ~ of their ancestor (Black)

reclaim the term

women who ~ ("bitch" / in songs, conversation, etc.)

reclaims a (previously demeaning) term

"Thunder Thighs" ~ (Miss Eaves)

reclaim the word

a new generation of activists are trying to ~ (“slut”)

reclaim and repurpose

~ the rhetorical and aesthetic space of country music (Mali Obomsawin)

Challenging, Changing And Reclaiming

“These 3 Latinx Artists Are ~ Culture” (ALT.LATINO)

♦ “Activists Reclaim Use Of The ‘S’ Word” by NPR Staff, NPR, Tell Me More, Jun 9, 2011. (Slut.)

♦ “Queer theorists and ‘crip’ theorists (those critiquing ‘disabilities’) are at the cutting edge that I believe we need to also be mindful of.” (Jack Tchen, a professor and historian at New York University. “Crip” of course is short for *cripple*, or *crippled*.)

♦ “Respectability politics never actually liberated the oppressed. Whether you’re a creative or an audience member, power can be had in reclaiming the stereotypes that challenge your very existence.” (From “Queer villains, erotic noir, 90s pulp. ‘Basic Instinct’ and the backlash, rewind,” NPR, Pop Culture happy Hour, Nov. 13, 2022.)

♦ “Wherever the truth lies, [the actor Sharon] Stone chose to take back control of an allegedly violating experience and reclaim it, lean into it...” (The interrogation scene in the film *Basic Instinct*. From “Queer villains, erotic noir, 90s pulp. ‘Basic Instinct’ and the backlash, rewind,” NPR, Pop Culture happy Hour, Nov. 13, 2022. According to the podcast, she also “owned” it, joked about it, “embraced the role,” and was “game to talk about it.” According to Paul Verhoeven, “She knew exactly what we were doing.”)

♦ “Mama’s boy’ is a flex, not an insult.” (According to NPR’s Neda Ulaby. Neda is a lesbian.)

♦ “I landed on the flower because of its reclamation—queer reclamation of it. It is a flower that has been used originally as a derogatory term.” (The tattoo artist Cedre Csillagi. From “To raise funds for trans communities, an artist has pledged to do 1,000 pansy tattoos” by Halisia Hubbard, NPR, Culture, Nov. 25, 2022.)

♦ see also *appropriate (groups)*, *appropriation (groups)*, *coopt (and co-opt)*, *misappropriate (groups)*, *misappropriated*, *misappropriation (groups, etc.)*, *reappropriate (groups)*, *reappropriation (groups)*, *reclaimed (groups)*, *take back (take back one’s life, etc.)*

**inclusion & exclusion: possession**

**reclaimed (groups)**

reclaimed by LBGTT people as a self-affirming term

*queer*, originally a pejorative term for *gay*, now being ~

reclaimed by the indie pop music scene

“twec” was ~ in the UK and US

♦ see also *appropriate (groups)*, *appropriation (groups)*, *coopt (and co-opt)*, *misappropriate (groups)*, *misappropriated*, *misappropriation (groups, etc.)*, *reappropriate (groups)*, *reappropriation (groups)*, *reclaim (groups)*, *take back (take back one’s life, etc.)*

**inclusion & exclusion: possession**

**reclaiming (groups)**

reclaiming (African) art

Artists win awards for ~ (Ashley Pointer)

reclaiming their bodies

women are defying the male gaze by ~

Reclaiming (Black) Culture

“~ in ‘Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom’”

Reclaiming One’s Name

“Finding Power In ~” (immigrants / NPR)

reclaiming the word

~ “fat” to fight anti-fat bias

reclaiming—and normalizing—

~ the word ‘fat’

Recovering and reclaiming

“~ Black women’s place in music history” (NPR)

♦ “[W]omen...are pushing back against body policing by reclaiming their bodies, showing them off and making art that defies the [male] gaze.” (“Beauty is in the eye of the male gaze: DreamDoll, DoeChii and Baby Tate,” NPR, Louder Than A Riot, Season 2, Episode 3, March 30, 2023. Sadly, NPR has decided to discontinue this excellent podcast. We can only hope NPR changes its mind.)

♦ “Sole-Smith says parents can combat American diet culture by reclaiming—and normalizing—the word ‘fat.’” (“Diet culture can hurt kids. This author advises parent to reclaim the word ‘fat,’” NPR, Fresh Air, April 25, 2023.)

♦ “Reclaiming The Queer Dance Floor” by Shawn Reynaldo, NPR Music, April 12, 2016.

**inclusion & exclusion: possession**

**recoil (verb)**

recoiled from his comments

fellow Republicans ~

recoiled from (a lot of) positions

he ~ propounded by Miller (politics)

**attraction & repulsion: movement / tools & technology / verb**

**recover (mental health)**

recover

so how does the Uvalde community ~ (school shooting)

♦ “He began to get better. At first he took everything for granted, like a halfwit. He remembered nothing, he could see no connection between one thing and another and was not surprised at anything. His wife fed him on white bread and butter and sugared tea; she gave him coffee. He had forgotten that such things did not exist, and he enjoyed their taste like poetry or like fairy tales, as something right and proper for a convalescent. Soon, however, he began to think and wonder.” (*Dr. Zhivago* by Boris Pasternak, from the section, “The Moscow Encampment.” *Zhivago* was recovering from typhus. His half-brother had provided the luxuries.)

**mental health: health & medicine**

**recycle (verb)**

recycle parts

we hope to ~ of the program

**amelioration & renewal: manufacturing / verb**

**red (red list, etc.)**

red-list countries

travel to and from ~ remains restricted (COVID)

England’s travel red list

England has added Turkey to ~ (pandemic)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: color / sign, signal, symbol**

## red (Red Sea, etc.)

Red Basin

the ~ is *Good Earth* country (China)

Red River

the ~ rises in Yunnan and flows to the Gulf of Tonkin

Red Sea

Jeddah, the bride of the ~

Red Volta

the ~ is a tributary of the Volta River

♦ *Watching the sun set from Jeddah's corniche is a delight!*

♦ *The White Volta's main tributaries are the Black Volta and the Red Volta.*

**proper name: color**

**geography: color / proper name**

## red (politics)

red state

is Iowa at this point a ~ or a blue state

♦ *"Is Iowa at this point a red state or a blue state?" "Iowa is still a purple state." (US politics, as talked about on NPR.)*

♦ *"Red, R, Reagan, that's why we chose red." (A network broadcaster during the 1984 presidential election, explaining why states that had gone for Reagan were colored red on a national map. Democratic states were colored blue.)*

**identity & nature: color**

## red (blood)

bleed red

white, black, brown, yellow, red, we all ~ (the military)

**death & life: blood / color / sign, signal, symbol**

## red (see red)

saw red

he ~ (enraged and violent)

♦ *see also blood (blood in one's eyes), mist (red mist)*

**feeling, emotion & effect: blood / color**

**violence: blood / color**

## red alert (on red alert)

on red alert

all organizations employing Westerners are ~ (terror)

**readiness & preparedness: color**

## red carpet (treatment)

red carpet for investors

lay out the ~

lay out the red carpet for investors

they ~

rolled out the red carpet for Karzai

the White House ~

**superiority & inferiority / welcome: carpets & rugs / color / royalty**

## red flag (warning)

red flags

it raised some ~ to me (ethical question)

the company's disclosure raises a ~ (fraud)

red flags of arson

there are many ~ (arson investigation)

intelligence red flags

a range of ~ signaling terrorist activity (Kenya)

huge red flags

there were ~ nearly three years ago (a building collapse)

warning signs or red flags

there were no ~ (mass shooter)

red flags were piling up

something just wasn't right, the ~

red flags may signal

the following 10 ~ an early problem (children)

makes my red flag wave

her girlfriend ~ (questions about fatal accident)

raised red flags

I ~ at the time the decision was made

♦ *"Not only were there red flags, they were flapping in the wind." (A psychiatrist, commenting on the suicide of a university student.)*

**warning: color / flags & banners / sign, signal, symbol**

## redoubt (noun)

redoubt of independent Russian mass media

the radio station is the last ~

redoubt of (all-male Protestant) privilege

Princeton University was a ~

redoubt for the townies and old-timers

the hotel and its bar is the last major ~

redoubt for carousing

it was a ~ (Sarajevo bar during war)

redoubt in hay loft

the barn cat watched me from its ~

last redoubt

North Korea is the ~ Stalinist isolation

gritty, blue-collar redoubt

Williamsburg used to be a ~ (Brooklyn)

**protection & lack of protection: fortification / military**

## red tape

red tape

rescue efforts got bogged down by ~ (earthquake)

bureaucratic red tape

the ~ required to...

incompetence and red tape

the ~ is amazing (Italian government)

ran into red tape  
the inmate's transfer ~

cut through (all) the red tape  
he ~ to get it done

got bogged down by red tape  
rescue efforts ~ (Kobe earthquake)

**obstacles & impedance: government  
action, inaction & delay: government**

## reek (verb)

reek of euphemism  
words and phrases that ~ (in U.S. English)

**corruption / flaws & lack of flaws: smell / verb**

## reel (verb)

reeling from accusations  
Wall Street is ~ that it is a rigged casino

reeling from the worst attacks (on their homeland)  
Americans were ~ since Pearl Harbor (9/11)

reeling from her diagnosis  
she is ~ (HIV)

reeling from the effects  
the town is ~ of the hurricane

reeling from 3 hurricanes  
Cuba is still ~ in a year last year

reeling from a (citizens') revolt  
the city council is ~ over officials' pay

reeling from a (massive) scandal  
Massachusetts is ~ in its state's crime lab

reeling from a series  
the industry is ~ of scandals

reeling from the shock  
the staff is still ~ of the shootings

economy is reeling  
the ~, and politicians are making it worse

**movement: verb / walking, running & jumping  
disruption / feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium &  
stability / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## reel in (verb)

reel him in  
maybe there's a way we can ~ (investigation)

**pursuit, capture & escape: fish / verb**

## reflected

reflected glory  
they now accepted him and partook of his ~

**transmission: light & dark**

## reflex (noun)

reflex response  
shaming has become the ~ to anything (Twitter)

standard reflex  
when confronted, his ~ is to try and gaslight you

♦ "[T]he simple, elegant, inexpensive almost plebeian swing of the reflex hammer has a cost/benefit ratio that I think no advanced technology will likely ever match." (Dr. Stephen Krieger, an expert on multiple sclerosis.)

**control & lack of control: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## refrain (common refrain, etc.)

common refrain  
there's a ~ among these MeToo stories (relief)

Navy refrain  
"SWOs eat their own" is a common ~ (jealousy)

**repetition: music**

## reframe (characterize)

reframe the narrative  
critical race theory seeks to ~ of American history

reframe it as the 'great upgrade'  
the White House has tried to ~

♦ "Marilyn was objectified, scrutinized and judged—mostly by male writers, biographers and historians..." ('Reframed' revisits Marilyn Monroe's life and legacy, from an all-women point of view" by David Bianculli, Jan 14, 2022.)

♦ "The White House has bristled at the term 'great resignation' and has tried to reframe it as what Bharat Ramamurti, the deputy director of the National Economic Council, calls the 'great upgrade.'" ("Great resignation' reaches White House with staff turnover" by Zeke Miller, AP, June 8, 2022.)

**characterization: picture / verb**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: infrastructure /  
picture / verb**

## refuge (noun)

refuge from bullying  
nowadays there is no ~ (teens and cyber-bullying)

last refuge  
patriotism is the ~ of the scoundrel

seek refuge  
many ~ in delusion, denial and fantasy (Mideast)

**protection & lack of protection: place**

## refugee (person)

"bitcoin refugees"  
China's ~ are scrambling to find a new home (Texas)

**migration: person / journeys & trips**

**person: journeys & trips**

## regurgitate (verb)

regurgitating the bitterness  
they are ~ of the election (politics)

**consumption: food & drink / verb**

## rehearsal (noun)

rehearsal

~s build confidence and improve performance (military)

~s reveal weaknesses or problems (military)

rehearsal of all (critically timed) events

a ~ should be done (ARSOA)

rehearsal for invasion

North Korea calls the maneuvers a ~

rehearsals or reconnaissance

terrorists undertake ~

dress rehearsal

if a full-scale ~ is impossible (military)

mission rehearsals

this plan, along with ~... (military)

plans, SOPs, standards, and rehearsals

integrate measures into ~ (fratricide)

planning, rehearsal, and execution

during mission ~ (military)

reconnaissance and (some) rehearsal

no doubt it required some ~ (attack on Red Cross)

conduct rehearsals

~ on terrain that resembles the actual ground (military)

**readiness & preparedness: theater**

## reheat (verb)

reheating an older idea

they are simply ~ that didn't work (politics)

**amelioration & renewal: cooking / verb**

## rehearse (verb)

rehearse for combat

the maneuvers are a chance for soldiers to ~ (Kuwait)

rehearse on terrain and under conditions

if possible, ~ like those at the operation site (military)

rehearsed your answers

when you have your script and have ~ (interview)

rehearse procedures

~ for evacuation requests (casualties / military)

rehearse the signals

~ to be used on the patrol (military)

rehearses (critical) tasks

the platoon ~

tasks to rehearse

some important ~ include assaulting a bunker

failure to rehearse

short planning time, ~, and leader fatigue... (military)

plan, rehearse, and execute

~ the operation (military)

**readiness & preparedness: theater / verb**

## reign (verb)

reign in Congress

polarization is likely to ~ after the election

reigned supreme

censorship ~ from 1932 to the late 50s (Hollywood)

confusion reigns

~ nationwide amid conflicting coronavirus rules

uncertainty reigns

even with computer models as a guide, ~

unease reigns

~ after North Korean missile test

originality and uncertainty still reign

~ (Black Mirror TV show)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: royalty / verb**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty / verb**

## reign (noun)

reign of Gerald

the ~, an aggressive turkey, is over (relocated)

reign over FIFA

questions have been raised about Sepp Blatter's ~

reign as a terrorist mastermind

his ~ (Palestinian)

championship reign

she took 3 months out of her ~ to do the movie (Valentina Shevchenko)

rise and reign

Amazon and the ~ of Jeff Bezos

reign ends

Klitschko's heavyweight ~ with loss to Fury (boxing)

reign (as the heavyweight champion) lasted

his ~ only...

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty**

## reigning

reigning academics

he battled against the stale works of the ~

reigning champion

as ~, Armstrong... (Tour de France)

reigning (NFL) champions

the ~ led 17-0 at half-time (American football)

reigning champs

we're the ~ (basketball)

reigning monarch

deep learning is the ~ of AI

reigning wisdom

this has become the ~ of the nineties

former and reigning (m)

~ heavyweights (boxing)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty**

## re-ignite (verb)

re-ignite (economic) growth

I'll ~ (commercial for a politician)

**initiation: fire / verb**

## reign of terror / fear, etc.

reign of fear

Iraq's Shiites describe a ~ (Saddam)

reign of terror

a full-scale invasion to end the ~ (Haiti)

stoning is used to extend the ~ (Iran)

reign of terror against (ethnic) minorities

carrying out a ~ (Burma)

reign of terror in Uganda

Idi Amin's ~

reign of terror by (indigenous) Dayaks

a savage ~ (Indonesia)

Idi Amin's reign of terror

~ in Uganda

savage reign of terror

a ~ by indigenous Dayaks (Indonesia)

imposed a reign of terror

foreign militants have ~ in South Waziristan

**oppression: allusion / history / royalty / violence**

## rein (rein in)

rein in (Medicare) costs

he wants to ~ (politics)

rein in (tribal and personal) rivalries

~ (Afghanistan)

rein in the rocket fire

Hamas has been trying to ~

rein in (government) spending

we need to ~

**control & lack of control: animal / horse / verb**

## rein (reins of power, etc.)

reins of Holland

he ran PSV Eindhoven before taking the ~ (coach)

reins of power

he has successfully gathered all the ~ into his hands (crown prince)

reins to the union

he holds the ~

organizing reins

Rose will turn over the ~ to Sunny Ross

hold on the reins

he now has a much stronger ~ (government)

holds the reins to the union

he ~

turn over the (organizing) reins to Ross

he will ~

handed the reins

he has been ~ (new coach for team)

seize the reins

he will probably ~ (football player for a position)

**control & lack of control: animal / horse**

## rein (free rein)

free rein

he was given ~ to loft his jumper (basketball)

the panel has a ~ to look at other areas of his research

have a free rein

weapons inspectors must ~ (in Iraq)

**constraint & lack of constraint: animal / horse**

## reincarnation (noun)

reincarnation of continuity

he is the ~ (German politician Armin Laschet)

reincarnation of hope

American Utopia argues for the ~ in the American project

♦ "But I am still alive / But I am living still / But I am still around / But I will remain, and I'll be back again..." ("The Highwayman," American outlaws, Live at Nassau Coliseum, 1990.)

**creation & transformation / presence & absence: religion**

## reined in

violence has been reined in

the ~ (in a filmmaker's latest film)

**control & lack of control: animal / horse**

## reinforce (verb)

reinforce his claims

candidates who ~ of voter fraud (politics)

reinforces the importance

the research ~ of hand washing (public health)

reinforces racism

CRT ~ (John McWhorter)

reinforced a sense

the tragedy has ~ of community (in a Texas town)

**amelioration & renewal: infrastructure / verb**

## reinvigorate (verb)

reinvigorated the agency  
she has ~

reinvigorates support  
Nike's ad ~ in Kaepernick's corner

**amelioration & renewal: death & life / health & medicine / verb**

## rekindle (verb)

rekindles memories  
it ~ of the bad old days of Suharto

rekindle our relationship  
I'm not looking to ~

rekindling their romance  
Lindsay and Samantha may be ~ (celebrities)

rekindle stereotypes  
he worries the case might ~ of Mississippi

rekindle (these) stereotypes  
CBS comes along to ~ (show on hillbillies)

**initiation: fire / verb**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: fire / verb**

## relation (poor relations, etc.)

appear poor relations  
suddenly, the PGA Tour ~ (to LIV Golf)

**relationship: family**

## relative (relationship)

relative  
anorexia nervosa, or its ~, bulimia nervosa

relative of the giraffe  
the okapi, a ~...

close relative  
chronic traumatic encephalopathy, a ~ of Alzheimer's

**relationship: family**

## relax (relax control, etc.)

relax the (normally strict) boundaries  
a psychiatrist may ~ of the doctor-patient relationship

relax their lockdown measures  
a number of countries are set to ~ (COVID-19)

relaxed some rigid rules  
he has ~ (coach)

**increase & decrease: pressure / verb**

## relax (feeling)

relaxed and drank wine  
in the afterglow of our rafting trip we ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: pressure**

## relic (noun)

relic of a (different) era  
this system is a ~ (governance)

relic of the past  
privacy has become a ~ (Internet, etc.)  
his confrontational approach was rejected as a ~ (coach)  
whooping cough, once thought to be a ~...  
will Covid-19 make handshakes a ~

relic of an earlier time  
the club is a ~ (a social club)

relic of households past  
the iron is a ~

relic of the Cold War  
NATO is not a useless ~

Ottoman relics  
we have no weapons, only old ~

dated relic  
some think the musical is a ~ (The King and I)

obsolete relic  
the book-based world will be an ~ (Internet)

twin relics  
polygamy and slavery, the ~ of barbarism

out-of-touch relic  
she is an ~ with a fossilized understanding of race and gender

♦ "It's a thing of the past, it is almost archaeological, it is humiliating."  
(Bloc Quebecois leader Yves-Francois Blanchet, about the monarchy in Canada. Get over it, buddy. The French lost!)

**past & present / time: Bible / religion**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: Bible / religion**

## relief (in bold relief)

in bold relief  
Battle of the Bulge revealed those intelligence failures ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: height**

## religion (enthusiasm)

religion  
deep in the Bible Belt, here football is ~ (Knoxville)  
football is a ~ and Saturday is the high holy day (South)

religion to many  
barbecuing is a ~ ...

nearly a religion  
Brazil, where football is ~

♦ "In our family, there was no clear line between religion and fly fishing."  
(The opening line of *A River Runs Through It* by Norman Maclean. The book is set in Montana and features the Blackfoot River.)

♦ "Their fellowship went further still. On Sundays, after mass, they took their rods and slipped secretly—lest they shock finer sensibilities—through the back ways of the Sabbath-stricken town, out into the verdant valley of the Whitadder. In his tin, packed with sawdust, were luscious maggots, picked the night before from Mealey's boneyard. Thereafter the day was heady with the sound of the stream, the scent of

meadowsweet,—his father showing him the likely eddies,—the crimson-speckled trout wriggling on bleached shingle,—his father bent over a twig fire,—the crisp sweet goodness of the frizzled fish..." (*The Keys of the Kingdom* by A.J. Cronin.)

**enthusiasm: religion**

## religiously

watches the show religiously  
he ~

**behavior / enthusiasm: religion**

## remain (verb)

remain  
but many questions remain (terrorism)

remaining coy  
most potential candidates are ~ for now (presidency)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / presence & absence / survival, persistence & endurance: movement / verb**

## remedy (verb)

remedy the problems  
we must ~ of the past

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine / verb**

## remedy (noun)

remedy for stress  
a sense of control is the best ~ (living with terrorism)

remedies for violations  
administrative ~ of the statute (Title IX)

remedy for the cabin fever  
a ~ that plagues Vermont all winter

administrative remedy  
~s for violations of the statute (Title IX)

best remedy  
a good mousing cat is the ~ (mice in stable)  
a sense of control is the ~ for stress (terrorism)

legal remedy  
the injustice cried out for a ~  
in some countries marriage is a ~ for statutory rape

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

## remind (verb)

reminds us that  
his life ~ the cutting edge can grow dull (Hugh Hefner)

remind him  
if someone has lost his freedom, the steppe will ~ of it...

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

## remote (past)

remote past  
in the ~, dinosaurs roamed the land

**past & present / time: distance**

## remote (future)

remote future  
alternative scenarios of the ~ (science)  
events set in a ~ (science fiction)

**future / time: distance**

## remove (kill)

remove him from the battlefield  
the president's decision to ~ saved US lives

♦ "President Biden, Vice President Harris and members of the President's national security team observe the counterterrorism operation responsible for removing from the battlefield Abu Ibrahim al-Hashimi al-Qurayshi—the leader of ISIS." (A White House Tweet with a picture.)

**death & life: euphemism / verb**

## renaissance (noun)

renaissance of fable  
the Age of Discovery brought a ~

renaissance era  
its release ushered in Disney's ~ (Little Mermaid, 1989)

renaissance man  
a ~, Morton already had experience as... (anesthesia)  
he was a ~ who just enjoyed a wide range of things

career renaissance  
she is enjoying a ~ (an actor)

something of a renaissance  
documentary has undergone ~ in the last ten years

♦ see also *aissance* (McConaissance, etc.)

**amelioration & renewal / growth & development / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: birth / history**

## renegade (person)

renegade hobby  
skateboarding is still considered a ~

renegade thinkers  
~ like Franz Boas and Margaret Mead

ideological renegade  
he developed a reputation as an ~ (Ishmael Reed)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: person / religion**

**allegiance, support & betrayal: person / religion**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: person / religion**

## repaid (a debt, etc.)

repaid to those men  
a debt has been ~ (blanket men / Maze Prison escape)

**obligation: money**

## repair (verb)

repair the economy  
we need to ~ at home

repaired their relationship  
she and Tom have ~

**amelioration & renewal: mechanism / verb**

## repair (noun)

in need of repair  
their marriage is ~

**amelioration & renewal: mechanism**

## repay (verb)

repaid me with petty insults  
he ~ for having rejected him (#MeToo)

repay the debt of gratitude  
we can never ~ owed to our nation's veterans

♦ "I place a date in your lips, and you spit the pit in my face!"  
(Ingratitude.)

**obligation: money / verb**

## repercussion (noun)

repercussions and reverberations  
fears about the ~ of a targeted killing persisted

shocking repercussions  
her reaction had some ~

crime and its repercussions  
this gruesome ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: sound**  
**effect: sound**

## repertoire (noun)

repertoire of your teaching kit  
jokes may contribute to the ~ (education)

**help & assistance / performance: theater**  
**amount / group, set & collection: theater**

## report card

Report Card for America's Infrastructure  
the 2005 "~" (American Society of Civil Engineers)

nation's report card  
the national assessment is often called "~"

mixed report card  
for Obama, a ~ from Afghanistan

report card gives  
a ~ 29 states an F (health-care price transparency)

gets a bad report card  
when a school ~

issues report cards  
the state department of health ~ on hospitals and surgeons

♦ "Broncos Stock Report: Who's up, who's down after 16-9 win over Houston." (The NFL team the Denver Broncos.)

**judgment: school & education**

## repose (position)

reposed the city  
on its near edge ~ (a plain)

**fictive position: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## represent (groups)

proudly represented  
he ~ his community ("Trouble" AKA Scoob)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence / verb**

## representation (groups)

representation at the Olympics  
I think it's awesome that we're finally getting trans ~

representation game  
I have felt like a pawn in this hollow ~ (comic Julio Torres)

representation and presence  
~ aren't the same thing

Black representation  
he spoke up about ~ (Andre Leon Talley)

Asian representation  
controversies surrounding ~ in *Miss Saigon* (the musical)

deaf representation  
Raven Sutton breaks barriers for ~

female representation  
there's a dearth of ~ in late-night (says Chelsea Handler)

indigenous representation  
the show is groundbreaking for ~ on TV (*Reservation Dogs*)

queer representation  
*Steven Universe* broke barriers in ~

trans representation  
~ onscreen

under-representation  
the ~ and isolation of African American poets (Cave Canem)

more empowerment, more representation  
~, more stories told (PBS versus Beyond Inclusion)

inclusivity and representation  
~ within the Black disabled transgender community

visibility or (that) representation  
being the person creating that ~ can be painful (trans)

visibility, representation and equality  
thanks to increases in ~, more LGBTQ folks can come out

representation matters  
Barbie knows that ~ (the transgender Barbie doll)

♦ see also *diversity (groups)*, *inclusion (groups)*

♦ "For me, it's a catalyst to go harder. It's a catalyst for the next door that I walk into to create a space where we can combine this scholarship and this culture to have more Black girls dominating these academic spaces." (Emani Stanton, 17. At *People*, "Black Female Duo Wins Harvard Debate Competition" by Rachel DeSantis, July 21, 2021.)

♦ “You see a fierceness that’s coming from the girls that are coming up now, that’s because we understand we ain’t got nuttin to lose. I already done lost that job, I already done lost that job.” (Angelica Ross, about Trans representation in media / entertainment. According to her Wikipedia entry, “Her breakthrough role came in 2018, as Candy Ferocity in Rya Murphy’s FX drama series *Pose*.”)

♦ “Barbie knows that representation matters and is committed to continuing to increase diversity across collections, so that more people can see themselves reflected.” (The trans Barbie doll, a Barbie doll with a prosthetic limb, the Ken doll with vitiligo, etc.)

♦ “We don’t have enough representation of people that look like me as non-binary... that are outside the white androgyny.” (Self-described as fat, Black, and non-binary. Dating...)

♦ “I think it had a lot to do with me being a Black woman, period. And having seen how historically, you know, if our stories, you know, have been presented to the world, oftentimes they’re misrepresented or they’re not represented in their fullness or there’s just like a sliver of us being presented. And so, I just felt like this is huge responsibility to not only show, like her—I would say ginormous levels of strength and resilience—but also to provide an audience like a window into the vulnerability.” (Katori Hall speaking about the great American-born Tina Turner, birth name Anna Mae Bullock, a Swiss citizen since 2013.)

♦ “We’ve been silenced and misrepresented. And so, any time you get an opportunity to tell your truth, you are pushing back against so many lies and falsehoods...And being an artist and in demanding that the world just looks at you, you oddly are being an activist.” (Katori Hall.)

♦ “We demanded representation, and not just in gender and race, but in perspective, values and experience.” (Rashad Robinson, president of Color of Change, about Ketanji Brown’s confirmation to the Supreme Court.)

♦ “At issue, is the question of who controls the non-fiction stories told on PBS and which stories—or filmmakers—get the most financial support.” (PBS And Ken Burns Vow To Do Better On Diversity But Critics Aren’t Convinced,” Eric Deggans, NPR, Television, August 12, 2021.)

♦ “It is really important to remember that we have very limited representation and presence isn’t the same thing as representation centered around the Black American person the Black American community and it does not take into account constantly the white gaze.” (Bethany C. Morrow, author of *So Many Beginnings: A Little Women Remix*, speaking with Lulu Garcia-Navarro on NPR.)

♦ “A lot of the festivals that we have, now, overlook hip-hop, they do. I mean, if you look at [?], there’s not enough hip-hop, uh, *representation*, if you look at Coachella, there’s not enough hip-hop *representation*, Firefly, any of those festivals, there’s not enough hip-hop *representation*.” (“Why hip-hop festival Rolling Loud seems to be a hotbed for arrests,” NPR, All Things Considered, Monday, Nov 1, 2021.)

♦ “Once they’re finished, the outdoors will be a more inclusive place, according to their GoFundMe page.” (“A mountaineering group is aiming to be the 1st all-Black team to climb Mount Everest” by Sharon Pruitt-Young, NPR, October 9, 2021.)

♦ “There is a lack of representation of Black people in mountaineering and in high-altitude mountaineering.” (Philip Henderson, leader of the Team Full Circle Everest, an American / Kenyan group, in 2022. Ten Black climbers had, in fact, previously accomplished the feat.)

♦ “I’m no climber, but as a non-binary backpacker and general outdoors lover it was hugely affirming and so wonderful to see a non-binary person being portrayed in such a humanized and beautiful way through their love of climbing.” (Kera Leslie, commenting about *They/Them: One Climber’s Story*.)

♦ “For a while, I have felt like a pawn in this hollow representation game. Because what the hell does Disney’s ‘Coco’ do for Mexican children? Bob Iger gets richer. That’s the climax.” (“Extraordinary Alien: The otherworldly comedy of Julio Torres” by Michael Schulman, *The New Yorker*, December 28, 2020.)

♦ “[My father said to me] ‘Listen son, people like us don’t do things like that...son, I just don’t want you to talk about it anymore...’” (“British Actor Terence Stamp Reflects on London in the Swinging ‘60s,” NPR, Fresh Air, Nov 5, 2021. Originally broadcast in 2002. About what his father had said, Stamp said, “In fact, it didn’t deter me at all.”)

♦ “*Representation, diversity, inclusion*, words that pervade the world we live in.” (If you live online.)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## represented (groups)

underrepresented

all ~ communities must get a seat at the table

misrepresented or not represented

our stories are ~ in their fullness (Blacks)

respected, visible, and represented

a space for students to feel ~ (gay / Yeshiva University)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## reprieve (noun)

reprieve from (intense) colds

with only 20 weeks of ~ every year... (Siberia)

**fate, fortune & chance: justice**

**punishment & recrimination: justice**

## reprisal (noun)

reprisals against opposition politicians and activists  
politically motivated ~

reprisal from their employer

talking about misconduct without fear of ~

bloody reprisals

I suspect the volume will feature ~ (issue among linguists)

fear of reprisal

they could express their feelings with less ~ (secret ballot)

retaliation and reprisal and threats

donors face ~ on the internet (a Supreme Court case)

faces reprisals

she ~ (Gina Carano / for social media posts)

targeted the executives for reprisal

he appeared to have ~ (the CEO of a US agency / politics)

♦ The tragedy of Lipa Village; the Massacre in Velika; the Podhum massacre; the Kriva Reka Massacre... (Awful reprisals against civilians in the Balkans during World War II.)

♦ “All burgomasters and village headmen are responsible for safety in their area. Should the locals fail to ensure this, at least twice the number of dead German soldiers will be taken from the local population and shot. In the event of damage being done to roads, bridges or mines, at least three local people will be shot. Those who give shelter or food to strangers, or render them any assistance without permission of their burgomaster or village headman—will be hanged.” (Byelorussia, World War II. From “Soviet Storm, WW2 in the East.”)

♦ see also *partisan* (noun)

**conflict / punishment & recrimination: military / violence**

## requiem (noun)

requiem for a show

a ~ that deserved better (Outside The Lines cancelled)

apogee and requiem

his painting was both ~ (Bohomazov / Ukraine / modernism)

**decline / starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life / music / sound**

## rescue (verb)

rescued him from a life  
canoe-making ~ of alcohol and obliteration (Palawa artist)

rescue the program from mediocrity  
he promised to ~ (a new coach)

rescue these 78 RPMs, tapes, wax cylinders, everything  
we try to ~ (AMAR Foundation / Mustapha Saeed)

**help & assistance: death & life / verb**

**survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / verb**

## rescue (noun)

come to (America's) rescue  
Franklin's call for history to ~ (John Hope Franklin)

come to their rescue  
people are looking to scientists to ~ (pandemic)

**survival, persistence & endurance: death & life**

**help & assistance: death & life**

## reservoir (amount)

reservoirs of rage  
the loneliness of children and their often unrecognized ~

reservoir of good feeling  
polls show a surprising ~ toward Obama

tap into the reservoir  
the militants can ~ of submerged hatred

**amount: dam / river / water**

## reservoir (source)

viral reservoir  
bats are among the most dangerous ~s on earth

**source: dam / river / water**

## reservoir (group)

reservoir of labor  
the DPs became a ~ (WW II "Baltic Swans," etc.)

**group, set & collection: river / water**

## reset (noun)

reset  
he wants an overall ~ (policy towards Afghanistan)  
our ~, which is not a retreat, will be different (Time's Up)  
the group call this a ~, it could also be called an implosion

in our reset  
we're determined ~ to do better, get it right (Time's Up)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism**

## reset (verb)

reset relations  
Obama promised to ~ with Russia

reset the trajectory

he helped formulate the strategy that ~ of the war

fix or reset

the law's efforts to ~ struggling schools (NCLB)

♦ Steve Inskeep: "This is really interesting, not going to reset. Meaning not gonna look into Putin's eyes as George W. Bush did, not gonna bring a reset button, as Hillary Clinton once did under Obama, not going to look away from Russian election interference, as Donald Trump did. Just try to move forward? (In an incredulous tone.) Is that what they're trying to do?" / Franco Ordóñez: "Yeah, they wanna move forward..." ("U.S. Announces Sanctions On Russia Over Poisoning Of Opposition Leader Alexei Navalny," NPR, Morning Edition, March 2, 2021.)

♦ "We are resetting, we are not retreating, and we are here, we have a vision, we are capable of fulfilling it." (Ashley Judd of Time's Up, responding to criticism of that organization.)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism / verb**

## reshape (verb)

reshape how  
the debate could ~ Americans understand foreign aid

reshaped Hollywood  
the *Jaws* producer who ~ (Richard Zanuck)

reshaping (Indian) society  
westernization is ~

reshaped the (ethnic) landscape  
the brutal violence has ~

**creation & transformation: hand / manufacturing / verb**

## reside (verb)

resides at Goodrich Castle  
Roaring Meg ~ (an English Civil Wars-era mortar)

reside inside of a business or campaign headquarters  
the drop-boxes ~ (the controversial US 2020 election)

♦ see also *live (location)*

**location: house / verb**

**place: house / death & life / verb**

**presence & absence: death & life / verb**

## residence (noun)

taken up residence  
this iceberg has ~ near the coastland (Newfoundland)

**location: house**

**place: house / death & life**

**presence & absence: death & life**

## residue (noun)

residue of shame  
World War II left a ~ around Germany's future military

**presence & absence: chemistry**

## resonate (verb)

resonated around Mexico  
the news ~ (arrest of Garcia Luna)

resonate with students  
his speech will ~ (politics)

resonates with Latin voters  
Bernie's message ~ (election)

resonates today  
the riot still ~ (Attica / 1971)

resonated loud and long  
accounts of the 1963 Everest epic ~

♦ Echo; resonate; reverberate; rhyme...

**feeling, emotion & effect: sound / verb**

**effect: sound / verb**

## rest (laid to rest / death)

laid to rest  
two of the little victims were ~ (school shooting)

**death & life: euphemism**

## rest (put / lay something to rest)

laid to rest any doubt  
she ~ about... (PM Jacinda Ardern of New Zealand)

laid to rest a misapprehension  
Apple ~ that...

put these accusations to rest  
the idea for the interview was to ~ (historical sex abuse)

lay this history to rest  
any trial is unlikely ~ (in Columbia / Alvaro Uribe)

laid the incident to rest  
China appears to have ~ (returns US underwater drone)

put the matter to rest  
Cook had now ~ (no Southern Continent)

put this matter to rest  
we must ~

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion / starting, going,  
continuing & ending: burial / sleep / verb**

## rest (put / laid to rest)

laid to rest  
the issue has now been ~ (a work issue)  
the situation has finally been ~ (authorship dispute)  
Rosetta will be ~ not too far away (from Philae)  
doubts about his birth had been ~  
Adobe Flash is finally ~

**starting, going, continuing & ending: burial / sleep  
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: burial / sleep**

## restlessness

musical restlessness  
that ~ has made her a lightning rod (country music)

**activity: sleep**

## resurface (verb)

resurfaced  
jihadists have ~ to pursue an Islamic state

he went to ground for a few months but then ~ (wanted)  
his self-destructive tendencies have ~

resurfaced concerns  
the debates have ~ about efforts to...

**appearance & disappearance: verb / water**

## resurrect (verb)

resurrect a career  
he was desperately trying to ~ that... (a boxer)

resurrect his career  
after a third loss in five bouts, Joshua now has to ~ (boxer)

resurrect (many of the old) criticisms  
a German defeat will ~ (soccer)

resurrected a killer  
scientists have ~ (reconstructed 1918 flu virus)

resurrecting the Hummer name  
GMC is ~ as a full-electric pickup truck

resurrect performers  
CGI can ~ from another era

**amelioration & renewal: death & life / religion / verb**

## resurrection (noun)

resurrection of the (1918) flu  
the story of the ~ began in 1995...

retrieval, resurrection, and revival  
his ~ (Thoreau / US literary canon)

**amelioration & renewal: death & life / religion  
survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / religion**

## resuscitate (verb)

resuscitated the (fascinating) case  
Michelle McNamara has successfully ~ (Golden State Killer)

resuscitate this (all but abandoned) city  
how can we ~ (Detroit)

resuscitate the middle class  
if only we could ~

**amelioration & renewal / survival, persistence &  
endurance: death & life / health & medicine / verb**

## retch (and puke, vomit, throw up)

puke  
when she says she is spokeswoman for abuse I want to ~

retch  
if education jargon causes you to ~...

throw up  
I want to ~ thinking about voting for either of them

just about throw up  
when I tell this to my kids they ~ (elderly advice)

made him want to “throw up”  
he said watching the video ~ (discipline at school)

make me want to retch  
some of his comments ~ (politics)

♦ “Everytime [sic] she says she is a spokeswoman for abuse I want to puke.” (A comment on the Amber Heard-Johnny Depp trial.)

**acceptance & rejection / consumption / feeling, emotion & effect / hyperbole: bodily reaction / food & drink / stomach / verb**

## retire (verb)

retire the term

it’s time to ~ (LGBTQ+)

it’s time to ~ ‘People Of Color’ (Damon Young)

♦ This simply means to retire someone (or something) and is a benevolent concept. An alternative is, “Time to send him off to the sanctuary.” A less benevolent idea is “Slaughter the donkey when its work is done.” Or “It’s time to send him to the glue factory.” Or, “Put him to sleep.” Or “Take him behind the barn.”

♦ Cats in the Cradle; Imagine; Yesterday; Happy (Pharrell); American Pie; Freebird (Lynyrd Skynyrd)... (“Hallelujah! The Songs We Should Retire,” NPR, All Songs Considered, hosted by Bob Boilen, October 11, 2017.)

♦ Sam Sanders (“Opinion: It’s Time to Put ‘Woke’ To Sleep,” NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, December 30, 2018) argues that the term *woke* has had its day and should be retired.

♦ “Why It’s Time To Retire The ‘Serious Conversation About Race’”, with Damon Young. (1A, WAMU, NPR, July 16, 2020.)

♦ “Author Damon Young Says it’s Time To Retire The Term ‘People Of Color,’” Here & Now, wbur, September 04, 2020.)

♦ “Honestly, I think we should probably retire the phrase ‘cancel culture’ at this point. Because it’s losing its meaning...when people just use it to mean, ‘I resent your drawing attention to my crazy ideas.’” (Mona Charen, the *Bulwark*.)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: verb / work & duty**

## retired

retired

the Chief Wahoo logo is to be ~ (Cleveland Indians)

retired in July

the original Segway will be ~ (the personal transporter)

retired in 2025

Windows 10 will be ~ (Microsoft)

retired planes

Australian Airline selling bar carts from ~

pensioned-off warships

the oak walls of these ~ (English prisoner hulks)

♦ “I’d really like to see “misogynoir” retired someday as something we don’t need to use or only think about in the past because we’ve done the work to create a world where misogynoir doesn’t exist.” (Sociologist Moya Bailey, who coined the term, speaking about the Megan-Tory trial. From “Megan’s Rule: Being exceptional doesn’t make you the exception,” NPR, Louder Than a Riot, Season 2 Episode 1. By Gabby Bulgarelli, Rodney Carmichael, and Sidney Maddon.)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: work & duty**

## retort (speech)

angry retort

the allegations have brought an ~

♦ A retort is a chamber or vessel relating to heat.

**speech: tools & technology**

## retraumatize (verb)

retraumatized

her family would be ~ if she’s executed (Melissa Lucio)

retraumatize our communities

we want to make sure these records do not ~ (Blacks)

retraumatized her

the young woman said a disciplinary hearing would have ~

retraumatize eyewitnesses and family members

multiple trials may ~ (George Floyd)

traumatize or re-traumatize

you really want to not ~ kids (Blacks)

♦ “New Ways of Treating Trauma: Try Some Yoga,” NPR, Here & Now, January 12, 2015. (“wbur: We’re sorry, but we cannot locate the page you requested. Mmmm.)

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine / verb**

## retread (noun)

retread of the original

the sequel is a loud, brash ~ (a film)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism**

## retreat (withdraw)

retreated into himself

he ~ (high-altitude bivouac on Gasherbrum IV)

retreated into a fantasy world

she ~ (9-year-old, father jailed)

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things / feeling, emotion & effect: direction / military**

## retreat (reverse / verb)

retreated from that stand

he has since ~, saying... (politician)

retreated on several points

still, the state has ~ (prisoners’ demands)

retreating on his policy

he is ~ to... (president)

retreated on that

but the EPA ~ (reverses a ban)

♦ “We are resetting, we are not retreating, and we are here, we have a vision, we are capable of fulfilling it.” (Ashley Judd of Time’s Up, responding to criticism of that organization.)

**reversal: direction / military / verb**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: direction / military / verb**

## retreat (reverse / noun)

media retreat

there was a ~ and apology for past invasiveness

**reversal: direction / military**

## retreat (glaciers, etc.)

retreating rapidly

alpine glaciers are ~ (Switzerland)

♦ The Swiss cover sections of the Rhone Glacier with tarps in the summer to prevent melting.

**movement: direction / military / verb**

## retreat (absence)

hasty retreat

an invasion by the national media, followed by a ~

♦ The usual trajectory for mass shooting coverage involved an invasion by the national media, followed by a hasty retreat."

**presence & absence: military**

## return (and return to)

return to normal

coral can recover if conditions ~ (bleaching)

returned to normal

his heart and liver function had ~ (CO poisoning)

returning to normal

things are slowly ~

returned in force

it was still horribly cold and the wind ~ (climbing)

conditions return

coral can recover if ~ to normal (bleaching)

function had returned

his heart and liver ~ to normal (CO poisoning)

wind returned

it was still horribly cold and the ~ in force (climbing)

♦ see also *go back (and get back)*

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / situation:  
direction / movement / verb**

## return (animals, etc.)

return of this (national) symbol

the dramatic ~ (bald eagle)

return of the wolf

the west has seen the ~ (US)

dramatic return

the ~ of this national symbol (the bald eagle)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction**

**survival, persistence & endurance: direction**

## return (point of no return)

point of no return

many see annexation as a ~ in terms of a peace deal

**fate, fortune & chance: journeys & trips**

**development: journeys & trips**

**commitment & determination: journeys & trips**

## return (noun)

return of function

full ~ is common (fracture)

return of cold temperatures

the ~ led to an ice age

return to function

complete ~ is the norm (fracture)

return to the fundamentals

Salafis advocate a strict ~

return to the "old days"

what he really wants is a ~ (Pakistani Christian)

return to traditional foods

the tepary bean symbolizes a ~ (Tohono O'odham)

point of no return

I reached the ~

symbolizes a return

the tepary bean ~ to traditional foods (Tohono O'odham)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: movement**

## reveal (verb)

reveal how

his novels ~ things really got done (spycraft)

reveal a (genetic) bottleneck

blood samples ~ (too few Amur tigers left)

reveal some dirt

critics hoped the report would ~ on the President (politics)

revealed the extent

dawn ~ of devastation

revealed a (deep) fissure

the resignations ~ among Afghan leaders

reveals (many) hidden gems

the road ~ (N7 in France)

reveal gulf

antiwar marches ~ between leaders and people

reveal the hypocrisy

he listed the façade of respectability to ~

reveals a (disturbing) pattern

the data ~ to a trained eye

reveal themselves

secrets always ~ in the light of truth

**concealment & lack of concealment: verb**

**evidence: verb**

## reveal (big reveal, etc.)

reveal (for most of the country) was

the biggest ~ that... (a government hearing)

reveal moment

it's like a real chilling ~ where you realize that... (a film)

gender reveal

at a ~ party (sex of baby)

the couple's ~ ceremony sparked a wildfire

big reveal

when will she make the ~

juicy reveals

candid confessions, ~ (on reality-TV hot mics)

♦ "Should gender reveal parties be reserved for transgender kids when they come out..."

♦ Molly Woodstock, a gender educator and co-host of the podcast Gender Reveal.

**concealment & lack of concealment: part of speech**

**searching & discovery: part of speech**

**reverberate (verb)**

reverberates beyond our own shores

the political dialogue in the US ~ (New Zealand massacre)

reverberate through admission offices

the case is sure to ~ (forged transcripts)

reverberating throughout Kenosha

the acquittal on all counts is ~ (Kyle Rittenhouse trial)

♦ Echo; resonate; reverberate; rhyme...

**effect / feeling, emotion & effect: sound / verb**

**transmission: sound / verb**

**reverberation (noun)**

reverberations across the globe

the attacks in Christchurch have had ~ (mass shooting)

global reverberations

the choices that are made have ~ (world leadership)

political reverberations

the ~ continued to be felt (assassination)

repercussions and reverberations

fears about the ~ of a targeted killing persisted

reverberations haven't died away

that was 150 years ago, yet the ~ (Civil War)

**feeling, emotion & effect: sound**

**effect / transmission: sound**

**reverential (adjective)**

reverential care

the livestock was guarded with ~ (a colony)

**reverence: religion**

**revictimization (or revictimisation)**

re-victimization of what

she felt almost a ~ she went through (rape trial)

revictimization of the survivors

FEMA's complexities amounts to the ~ (of natural disasters)

re-victimization but also a validation

the investigations are a ~ (victims of Catholic sex abuse)

♦ "Victimisation" has a Wikipedia article, which is part of a series on Discrimination. Part of the article is on "revictimisation."

♦ see also *victimization (or revictimisation)*

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

**revictimized (groups)**

re-victimized

our families have been ~ by nonprofits (school shootings)

re-victimised

women are ~ when they come forward (Amber Heard)

♦ see also *victimised (groups)*

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

**revisit (verb)**

revisit that stuff

it's always hard to ~ (a racial murder from 1964)

**past & present / time: direction / journeys & trips / movement / place / verb**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: movement / verb**

**review (noun)**

rave reviews

his new pitch has drawn ~ (a pitcher)

mixed reviews

but his performance got ~ (a lawyer)

**judgment: theater**

**revive (verb)**

revive (computer) systems

Baltimore struggles to ~ paralyzed by hackers

revive hiring

government intervention can ~

**amelioration & renewal / survival, persistence &**

**endurance: death & life / health & medicine / verb**

**revivify (verb)**

revivify the context

creative non-fiction seeks to ~ of events

**amelioration & renewal / survival, persistence &**

**endurance: death & life / health & medicine / verb**

**revolt (verb)**

revolted against the pay

shareholders have ~ awarded to...

revolted against her attempts

many supporters of her party have ~ at austerity

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military / verb**

## revolt (noun)

shareholder revolt  
the aftershocks from the ~ will be felt...

citizens' revolt  
the city council is reeling from a ~ over officials' pay

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military**

## revolution (noun)

revolution in (data) storage  
astronomy faces a ~

communications revolution  
the ~ that is the Web

information revolution  
the impact of the ~

Internet revolution  
helped propel the ~

digital music revolution  
his startup, MP3.com, helped ignite the ~

shortboard revolution  
his board designs helped kick off the ~ (surfing)

lesbian revolution  
her hit song *Wenn die beste Freundin* unleashed a ~

sexual revolution  
living in a country that went through the ~ (US)

aftermath of the (sexual) revolution  
in the ~

igniter of the (3-point) revolution  
he was the ~ in the NBA (the great Stephen Curry)

impact of the (information) revolution  
the ~

path of revolution  
another bored child of privilege who chose the ~

revolution is brewing  
a ~ (against bilingual education)

launched a revolution  
he ~ (astronomer looking at X-ray emitters)

kick off the (shortboard) revolution  
his board designs helped ~ (surfing)

**importance & significance: history**  
**disruption / growth & development: history**

## revolutionary (person)

separating the charlatans from the revolutionaries  
~ is a challenge (Silicon Valley)

♦ "We will make electricity so cheap that only the rich will burn candles."  
(Thomas Edison, December, 1879.)

**disruption: history / person**

## revolutionary (adjective)

revolutionary for biology  
the discovery of DNA was ~

revolutionary for physics  
the discovery of cosmic microwave fluctuations was ~

revolutionary breakthroughs  
~ in armor technology (military)

revolutionary toothbrush  
brush your teeth in less than 10 seconds with this ~ (ad)

**importance & significance: history**  
**disruption / growth & development: history**

## revolutionize (verb)

revolutionized the (retail drug) business  
Mr. Walgreen ~ in the 1950s

revolutionize (health) care  
Holmes' promise that Theranos would ~

revolutionized (medical) care  
the CAT scanner ~ throughout the world

revolutionized women's lives  
the sewing machine ~ (1870s)

revolutionized forensic anthropology  
the body farm ~ (Knoxville, TN)

**importance & significance: history / verb**  
**disruption / growth & development: history / verb**  
**revolve (revolve around something)**

revolves around Mahomes  
the entire offense ~ (injured NFL quarterback)

revolved around heroism  
for many tribes, life ~

revolves around the ocean  
our life ~ (Perth / Australia)

revolved around the sea  
his life ~ (a surfer)

revolved around sports  
his childhood ~

revolved around a (church) youth group  
her social life ~

revolve around personalities and geography  
allegiances ~ (Tuvalu politics)

**movement: astronomy**  
**attraction & repulsion / bases / configuration / division & connection / relationship: astronomy / movement / verb**

## revolving door

revolving door  
her romantic life is a ~  
it has been a ~ and there's been a lot of turnover (politics)

it was a ~, there was a lot of turnover (a company)  
the mental health care system is a ~

revolving door of the Trump administration  
through the ~ goes another high-level departure

revolving door between the DEA and the drug industry  
if you take a look at the ~ (regulators become lobbyists)

revolving door between sickness and health  
many moved constantly in a ~ (preventive medicine)

revolving door of (national-security) advisors  
this has been the ~ (firings, resignations, etc.)

revolving door (at Theranos) continued to swing  
the ~ at a furious pace (Silicon Valley)

**movement: doors & thresholds**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: doors & thresholds / movement**

### rev up (verb)

revved up the debate  
the information ~ over the war

revved up its focus  
the probe has ~ on alleged corruption and fraud (Florida)

**increase & decrease: engine / mechanism / verb**

### revved (revved up)

revved up  
the crowd is ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: engine / mechanism**

### reward (verb)

reward you with its beauty  
whatever the season, the galax will ~ (plant)

reward the winners with certificates  
we ~ of achievement (class project)

rewards loyalty over excellence  
he ~ (president)

reward (or punish) students for their behavior  
grades should not ~

rewards (creative) approaches  
the competition ~ to... (research)

rewards the (personal) loyalty  
the bureaucracy ~ of those at the bottom

reward or punish  
grades should not ~ students for their behavior

**cost & benefit: money / verb**

### reward (noun)

reward  
I think that the risk is part of the ~ (a climber)

rewards of fish watching

introduce recreational divers to the ~

rewards like money, sex and drugs  
the human brain is acutely attuned to ~

rewards for (good) work  
high grades are given as ~ (school)

rewards or other kinds of motivation  
recognize achievement with ~ (job)

rewards and dangers  
developing the Arctic carries ~ for those in the area

cash reward  
the new software is delivering ~s

unpredictable rewards  
~ produce much larger signals in the brain

lion's share of the rewards  
they reap the ~

incentives and rewards  
improve class climate through ~ (teachers)

perils and rewards  
the ~ of the backcountry (Mt. Rainier)

rewards (certainly) justified the effort  
the ~ (hiking)

carries rewards  
developing the Arctic ~ and dangers

delivering (cash) rewards  
the new software is ~

attuned to rewards  
the human brain is acutely ~ like money, sex and drugs

♦ **Honesty; doing the right thing; learning and education; kindness and helping people and animals... (Things that are their own rewards.)**

**cost & benefit: money**

### rewarding

rewarding  
the work is very hard but very ~ (nursing assistant)

rewarding experience  
it's the most ~ I've ever had (adoption)

rewarding thing  
it's the most ~ I've ever done (adoption)

rewarding spiritually  
it's very ~ (paragliding / Hawaii)

fun and rewarding  
wilderness and travel medicine can be ~

**cost & benefit: money**

### rewind (verb)

rewind  
if I could ~ I would (a swatting leads to death of innocent)

rewind to that moment

let's ~ before everything changed... (go back in time)

rewind this film

you cannot ~ (US withdrawal from Afghanistan)

**present & past / reversal / time: film**

**rewritten (changed)**

rewritten

tools that allow the code of life to be ~ (Crispr-Cas9)

**creation & transformation: writing & spelling**

**rhyme (verb)**

rhyme

history doesn't repeat itself, but it can ~

rhyme with the story

it doesn't ~ TV has written for him

make hope and history rhyme

this is our moment to ~ with passion and purpose (Biden)

♦ "A lot of this play it doesn't follow my biography but it rhymes with it." (Tom Stoppard about his play *Leopoldstadt*.)

♦ "Who's listening to this while Americans are evacuating Kabul? History doesn't repeat itself but it sure does rhyme." (A commenter about a haunting Russian song about Afghanistan called "Caravan.")

♦ "And so another Tiger transgression—not a big one, not by far—but another one washed away as it doesn't rhyme with the story TV has written for him and recites every time he plays on TV." (The great sportswriter Phil Mushnik about an incident involving the golfer Tiger Woods.)

♦ "History doesn't repeat itself, but it often rhymes." (Often attributed to Mark Twain. According to the Quote Investigator website, "There is no substantive evidence that Twain who died in 1910 made this remark." Attributing quotes to people is always problematic. And, in many cases, quotes attributed to people are simply untrue, the stuff of posters and T-shirts and the internet.)

♦ Echo; resonate; reverberate; rhyme...

**repetition: sound / verb**

**ribbon (Ribbon Reef, etc.)**

Ribbon Creek

we paddled up ~ (Alberta, Canada)

Ribbon Lake

~ is in Alberta, Canada

Ribbon Reef

we scuba-dive on ~ (Queensland, Australia)

Pabst Blue Ribbon

drink ~ and imbibe some American history

**proper name: cloth**

**ribbon (ribbon of moonlight, etc.)**

ribbon of moonlight

the road was a ~, across the purple moor...

**shape: cloth**

**rich (rich land, etc.)**

rich

the land here is particularly ~

♦ "Better poor with honor than rich with shame." (A point of pride in Kosovo.)

**worth & lack of worth: money**

**rich (plentiful)**

rich in (natural) beauty

the Aisén area of Patagonia is ~ (Chile)

rich in minerals

Guinea, a former French colony that is ~

rich in uranium

the north of Niger is ~

rich in protein, iron and calcium

teff, an easily absorbed millet ~ (Ethiopia)

feature-rich

it is not nearly as ~ or versatile (a camera)

fiber-rich

to avoid hemorrhoids, fill up on ~ foods

fossil-rich

at the ~ site in China...

oxygen-rich

fish need ~ water to survive (pollution)

resource-rich

China and India court ~ counties like Nigeria

target-rich

he flew into a ~ environment (combat)

wildlife-rich

the ~ province of Mpumalanga

**amount: money**

**rich (superlative)**

rich (maritime) heritage

the New York and New Jersey area has a ~

rich (Jewish) legacy

there is a ~ associated with boxing

rich (basketball) tradition

Philadelphia has a ~

rich, sophisticated and varied

Islamic civilization—~

**superlative: money**

**ricochet (verb)**

ricochet

this could ~

**movement / reversal: verb / weapon**

**riddle (noun)**

solve the riddle

their objective was to ~ of COVID-19's origin

- ♦ When I eat I live, when I drink I die. What am I?
- ♦ What has three heads, eight legs, and two wings? (A Bedouin, on a horse, with a falcon.)
- ♦ Four in the morning, two in the afternoon, three in the evening.
- ♦ Which came first, the chicken or the egg?

**certainty & uncertainty: speech**

## riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.)

riddled with bullets  
his car was ~ (assassinated)

riddled with clichés  
the script is ~

riddled with doubt  
he was ~ (Ben-Gurion)

riddled with falsehoods  
the series was a hatchet job ~ (a documentary)

riddled with flaws  
that particular study was ~

riddled with lookouts  
the gang-infested neighborhood is ~

riddled with bugs and glitches  
the game is ~, and is prone to crashes

♦ *Riddled* is generally followed by something that is negative. The following quote of the actor Peter O'Toole is an exception. Speaking about the actors in the film *Becket*, he said, "The place was riddled with first-class people."

**affliction: animal / hole / insect**

**flaws & lack of flaws: animal / hole / insect**

**configuration: animal / hole / insect**

## ride (rough ride, etc.)

ride of my life  
this has been the greatest ~ (graduating basketball star)

rollercoaster of a ride  
I've had a ~ (rugby player Gareth Thomas)

magic carpet ride  
her campaign has become a ~ (Michele Bachmann)

"Magic Carpet Ride"  
~ by Steppenwolf

amazing ride  
I want to thank the organization for an ~ (NFL player)

bumpy ride  
consumers are in for a ~ this year (customer service)

fantastic ride  
we have had a ~ (his team loses in semifinal)

greatest ride  
this has been the ~ of my life (graduating sports star)

rough ride  
we're in for a ~ (new troops in Iraq)

wild ride

it's going to be a ~ (future events)  
his tweets and interviews make for a ~ (President Trump)

easiest of rides  
it hasn't been the ~ (a film's release)

take you along for the ride  
a start-up that's ready to ~ (job)

♦ It looks like we're in for a wild ride, so hang on. (A Wall Street bear market.)

**experience: horse / movement / riding**

## ride (ride on something)

rides on our ability  
the future ~ to adapt

rides on terminology  
much ~ (diplomacy)

riding on this  
a lot of people's jobs are ~ (strike)

hopes are riding  
all ~ on their daughter (immigrant family)

**dependency / relationship: riding / verb**

**fictive transportation: riding / verb**

## ride (ride something to fame, etc.)

rode them to fame  
she was the one who ~ (ideas of fat liberation)

**fictive transportation: horse / riding / verb**

## ride out (verb)

ride this thing out  
we'll just have to ~ (a hurricane)

rode out the hurricane at home  
they ~

ride out his affliction  
he chose to ~ (instead of going to the hospital)

rode out the storm  
the punch hurt him, but he ~ (boxing)

**survival, persistence & endurance: boat / riding / verb**

## rift (division)

rift  
a ~ occurred between the radicals (Seattle mosque)

rift between Hamas and Fatah  
hopes to end the deepening ~

rifts between blacks and whites  
already existing ~ in the South

rifts between the Defense Secretary and the military  
~ (US)

rifts (between blacks and whites) in the South  
already existing ~

rifts in the city  
trying to heal the racial ~ (LA)

rift among Indians  
the movie created a ~ here (Yakama Nation)

rifts over (America's) strategy  
orchestrated leaks from the White House have exposed ~

deepening rift  
hopes to end the ~ between Hamas and Fatah

centuries-old rift  
a ~ has come to the surface (Egyptians in the US)

racial rift  
trying to heal the ~ in the city (Los Angeles)

new school / old school rift  
a classic ~ (newer kayaking moves)

exposed rifts  
leaks have ~ over America's strategy

healed the rift  
the years have not ~ between Shipa and her family

**division & connection: ground, terrain & land**

## **right (right a wrong, etc.)**

right our (fiscal) ship  
we must ~ (budget)

right this wrong  
we must ~

right a (perceived) wrong  
seeking to ~ with a firearm

seeking to right  
~ a perceived wrong with a firearm

**amelioration & renewal: equilibrium & stability / orientation / verb**

## **right (bragging rights)**

claim bragging rights  
Putin's eagerness to ~ is justified (hypersonic missiles)

**competition: sports & games**

## **right (and rights / groups)**

right to disappear  
adults have the ~ (missing person)

right to have  
heat equity is the ~ thermally safe environments

right to live  
Trans' ~ any way that feels authentic and comfortable

right to repair  
originally Apple opposed the ~ movement

right to retire  
the ~ early is part of their culture (the French)

right to travel  
a woman's ~ to seek an abortion across state lines

rights to our fun  
we have the ~ and my posse (a Spanish female teen)

right to privacy  
the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment ~ does not apply to abortion (2022)

right to due process  
the law violates the ~

right to water  
the human ~ was passed in 2012 (California)

right of assembly  
the ~ applies even to groups like the Ku Klux Klan

rights of (adolescent) girls  
Girl Up promotes the ~ around the world (the UN)

right of Israel  
the ~ to exist as an independent Jewish state

rights of nature  
the Florida Democratic Party lists the ~ in its platform

right of parents  
courts generally support the ~ (medical decisions / kids)

right of the people  
the ~ to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed

"right of return"  
all Palestinians should have the ~ to land inside Israel

right of scholars  
the AAS firmly supports the ~ take part in...

rights for animals  
the legal basis to grant ~

rights group  
the human ~ Amnesty International says...

women's rights  
activists hailed the verdict as a victory for ~ in India

no right  
the public has ~ to use beach (Kennebunkport, Maine)  
Florida has ~ to declare them outcasts (Don't say Gay)  
the US has ~ to tell China what to do  
the school has ~ to punish her for off-campus speech

unenumerated rights  
~, freedoms not explicitly written in the Constitution

abortion rights  
can ~ supporters stop the ban in Indiana

animal rights  
the ~ group Toronto Pig Save  
the ~ group Animal Equality  
the ~ movement has an arsenal of tools (drones, cameras)  
he read *Animal Liberation*, the seminal ~ (by Peter Singer)  
Hsiung became a vegan, a Buddhist, and then an ~ activist

Animal Rights

the 2016 ~ National Conference in Los Angeles

civil right  
a fundamental right, a human right, a ~ (housing)

divine right  
the ~ of kings

gun rights  
how Americans feel about ~ versus restrictions

human right  
housing is a ~ (homeless moms)  
housing is a ~, not a commodity (Moms 4 Housing)  
sodomy is not a ~ (Uganda)  
being able to manage your period is a ~ (Marni Sommer)  
family planning is a ~, says U.N. (contraception, etc.)  
health is a ~  
education is a ~ (Maryland teacher Keishia Thorpe)  
she interprets climate protection as a ~ (Germany)  
it is a ~ not to get shot (a gun control activist)  
food is a basic ~  
water is a ~  
the practice of sport is a ~ (Olympic Charter)  
in his view, access to clean water is a ~  
international ~ standards  
~ groups have long complained that...  
the government has been tossing ~ attorneys in jail  
freedom of conscience is a ~ (Pope Francis / same sex)  
he is a ~s lawyer

Human Rights  
the ~ Watch report (prisons)

labor rights  
Uber, Lyft drivers strike over wages and ~

period rights  
period poverty and ~ (menstruation)

queer rights  
they were pioneers in getting us ~ (drag performers)

trans-rights  
~ activism is just another weapon of the patriarchy (TERF)

basic (human) right  
sleep is a ~  
nearly half of humans lack that ~ (access to toilet)  
freedom of speech is a ~ (IOC bans Olympic protests)  
housing is a ~  
in the US health care is not considered a ~

Constitutional right  
our ~s are under attack

constitutional right  
bikini baristas have a ~ to wear G-strings and pasties

digital rights  
~ experts say doxing treads a fine legal line

fundamental right  
access to housing is a ~ (Kamala Harris)

fundamental (human) right  
privacy is a ~ (Apple CEO Tim Cook)

the ~ not to be arbitrarily deprived on one's life (drones)  
the ~ to participate in democratic process (Afghanistan)  
I believe pain control is a ~ (opioids)  
independent journalism is recognized as a ~  
communication is a ~ (cell networks)

inalienable (human) right  
he sees migration as an ~ (novelist Mohsin Hamid)

international (human) right  
abortion is not an ~ (HHS Secretary Alex Azar)

legal rights  
the Nonhuman Rights Project wants ~ for animals  
laws that extend ~ to a fetus in utero  
is it time to give nature ~ and the power to fight back  
New Zealand has given ~ to the Whanganui River

religious rights  
the Supreme Court upheld ~ over LGBTQ rights

reproductive rights  
the law will be challenged by ~ (an abortion ban)

gay and lesbian rights  
a good year for ~ (2011)

gay and transgender right  
he advocates increasing ~ (Joe Biden)

Bill of Rights  
the Lake Erie ~ became law in 2019

protection of (fundamental) rights  
the ~ and freedoms

privilege, but a right  
family planning is not a ~ (U.N.)

award rights  
environmentalists want to ~ to lakes, hills, rivers, etc.

becomes a (human) right  
make sure that health care ~ (Bernie Sanders)

declared happiness a universal human right  
HappinessDay.org ~

declared Internet access a human right  
the U.N. has ~

defends the right  
the NEA ~ of teachers to teach the truth about racism

denies them a (basic) human right  
the ~ (to charter schools, vs. public schools)

exercise my human right  
I'm going to ~ to defend myself (a gun owner)

exercising their (human) right  
they were simply ~ to peacefully protest

expands gun rights  
Supreme Court ~

give convicts the right  
the Constitution does not ~ to test DNA evidence

guaranteed a right

Roe V. Wade had ~ to access abortion (overturned)

had a right

only me, my doctor, and my God ~ to be involved

had no right

the men ~ to claim self-defense (lead prosecutor)

reserve the right

when we don't ~ of self-definition (activist Audre Lorde)

respect the right

we ~ of employees to decide... (unions)

seen as a human right

vacation in France is ~

threatening (human) rights

the Supreme Court is ~ (abortion)

violate our (religious) rights

the restrictions ~ (no church during pandemic)

upheld the right

the court ~ of Arizona voters to try to make...

violates the right

the law ~ to due process

♦ "I don't want to give advice, we have the rights to our fun and my posse..." (An HIV-positive Spanish teenage female, interviewed about random needle-sticks in discos and clubs.)

♦ "Every soul's body is important, no matter what size it is. It is an absolute right for me to feel good in my body." (The plus-size model Emme.)

♦ "Fight For Your Right (To Party)." (The cover by Corey Worthington.)

♦ "Workers at 'bikini barista' coffee stands in Everett, Wash., have a constitutional right to wear G-strings and 'pasties' while serving customers, a federal court has ruled." (*The Week*, "Only in America," November 11, 2022.)

♦ "The only people who had a right to be involved in that decision were me, my doctor, and my God." (A campaign ad for a politician who is pro-abortion.)

♦ "This is a problem with society, with this 'It's my right' selfish attitude. I have given up with cinema because of this." (People who converse loudly in cinemas, answer their cellphones, etc.)

♦ Same-sex marriage is an unenumerated right.

♦ "She said her measure was inspired by Scotland, which last year declared access to menstrual products to be a human right and required public places to provide them free of charge. Ideally, Garcia said, menstrual products would be as common in restrooms as toilet paper and paper towels." ("California Could Soon Require Free Menstrual Products in Public Schools" by the Associated Press, NPR, National, September 10, 2021.)

♦ "A court ruled it Sabau's fundamental right to request euthanasia. (The Romanian "Gunslinger of Tarragona" Marin Eugen Sabau, 46, Spain.) /// "Belgian rapist Van Den Bleeken refused 'right to Die.'" (The rapist and murderer.)

♦ The right to reclaim one's life and have a second chance—whether that reclamation is from illness, from drug recovery or from prison—is a human right, not just a civil right." ("New Film About Life After Prison Was Directed By A Man Who Lived It" by Jon Kalish, NPR, February 11, 2017.)

♦ "Why shouldn't some kid from East LA have access to these things? It's science and it's our human right to work with scent." (Saskia Wilson-Brown, the founder and director of the Institute for Art and Olfaction. From "The Scents And Sensibility of LA's Nosy New Perfume Enthusiasts" by Chloe Prasinos, NPR, Culture, February 22, 2015.)

♦ "This kind of became weirdly enough in this court case, a battle of two amendments. The 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment is about equal protection under the law, and then the First Amendment is about free speech and whether or not a bikini or a G-string qualifies as free speech." (Mike Lewis, from "A return to bikini-clad baristas in Everett, judge rules" by Gee Scott and Ursula Reutin Show, Oct.24, 2022. *The State of Washington*.)

♦ "In 1972 the legal scholar Christopher Stone wrote a paper called "Should Trees Have Standing?" in which he pointed out that courts have long recognized entities that possess rights but require someone to sue on their behalf, from corporations to ships to children." ("Arbor in the Court" by Clive Thompson, *Wired*, January 2020.)

♦ "We strongly defend the right of stand-up comedians to perform on stage without fear of violence."

♦ "Children have a right to school education and a school day that is as carefree as possible. School closures must therefore not be allowed." (Justice Minister Marco Buschmann, laying out Germany's COVID measures for the winter of 2022-23.)

♦ "By what right, then, do royal rulers rule?" (Attributed to a Sir Abednego Bink, quoted in Ambrose Bierce's *Devil's Dictionary*.)

♦ "Poulter told BBC Sport he was 'fighting for his right to play golf' and confirmed he had taken legal action against his ban from the Scottish Open." (Englishman Ian Poulter, a LIV golfer, seeking to play in the Scottish Open. From "Ian Poulter allowed to play Scottish Open after ban lifted—DP World Tour boss 'disappointed,'" Iain Carter, BBC golf correspondent, 4 July 2022.)

♦ "President Vucic cannot cancel someone else's event. The right to hold Pride has been ruled by the European Court of Human Rights to be a fundamental human right." (President Kristine Carina of European Pride Organizers. From "Serbia's leader says EuroPride won't happen due to threats" by Jovana Gec, AP, Aug 27, 2022. In the same article, she mentioned that "Several thousand people recently joined a march in Belgrade against LGBTQ Pride." See also the Wikipedia entry "Belgrade antigay riot.")

♦ Listen to BBC Radio 4, The Reith Lectures, Jonathan Sumption, 2019. There are five lectures: (1) Law's Expanding Empire (2) In Praise of Politics (3) Human Rights and Wrongs (4) Rights and the Ideal Constitution (5) Shifting the Foundations. The lectures are free to all at BBC.

♦ Ambrose Bierce has an entry for this word in his *Devil's Dictionary*, which is available to all online. It begins, "RIGHT, n. Legitimate authority to be, to do or to have; as the right to be a king, the right to do one's neighbor, the right to have measles, and the like..." In the US, we adjudicate rights with lawyers, right up to the Supreme Court. Ambrose Bierce defines a lawyer thusly: "Lawyer, n. One skilled in circumvention of the law."

**inclusion & exclusion: society**

**right (right? / polemical)**

prove them wrong, right?

Black people, we're going to go out and ~

deciding whether they're racist, right?

but the jury isn't ~

inconvenience them as much as possible, right

~ (an activist)

everything became about Black people, right?

in school, all of a sudden, ~ (Karsonya Wise Whitehead)

right? So

we speak a different cultural language, ~ you're always...

♦ "The point of our protest was to inconvenience them as much as possible, right, and to increase the costs of them doing business." (A gay activist.)

♦ "In school, all of a sudden everything became about Black people, right? So you're putting collard greens into the cafeteria..." (Karsonya Wise Whitehead about Black History Month.)

♦ "If you cook that, right, it's super-tender, right." (I *guess* so.)

♦ "You know, as a Black person, when I walk in a room and I spot the Black people in that room, it makes me feel safe and when I spot those Black folk, I can see everybody much more clearly, right? I'm open in a different way, right? I think that's a human thing. And it's no different when it comes to literature." (Jason Reynolds, National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, an award presented bi-annually by the Library of Congress.)

♦ Bobby Allyn: "But, look, it's important to emphasize here that these journalists didn't have some kind of special surveilling powers, right?" / "The journalists were writing about an account that tracked Musk's jets, right. It started and ended with airports." / "It sets a dangerous precedent, right, having this powerful billionaire who controls what's basically the front page of the internet banning journalists based on a personal animus." / "Twitter policy is written at the whim of Elon Musk, right..." / "Maybe one day I'll be caught in the middle and be suspended, right, I mean his rules are arbitrary and constantly moving, they're hard to keep up with..." (From "Twitter owner Elon Musk suspends the accounts of several high-profile journalists," NPR, Business, Morning Edition, December 16, 2022. Bobby Allyn is NPR's tech reporter.)

♦ "I mean this is the whole beauty of like horror movies is that it's such like weird circumstances and there's so much like weird rules about them that it's fun to subvert them and it's also like, the horror movies themselves were doing subverting, were like trying to like, be twisted and do this weird stuff and have these weird commentaries, and this is what makes *Scream* so good, right." (Alex Abad-Santos, a self-professed "flagrant homosexual." From "M3GAN, murder, and mass queer appeal," NPR, It's Been A Minute, January 17, 2023. Just. Weird.)

♦ "If aliens came down from another planet, and they wanted to get to know us, they should go to the movies, right? Then they would understand us." (Umm, okay...)

♦ Type in "right? so" at NPR and you get 9,945 results and counting. Not all of those hits relate to the meaning of "implicant agreement to an assertion." But many do.

♦ Motivational speaker: Is selling good? Say yes. / Audience: Yes! / Motivational speaker: Is getting sold good? Say yes. / Audience: Yes! From "The Hard Sell" by Tad Friend, *The New Yorker*, August 8, 2022. According to the article, "[Q]uestions that elicit a 'yes' prime the customer to agree to a purchase. Encyclopedia salesmen once practiced an 'ascending close' that required summoning forty-two yesses..."

♦ Drill Sergeant: Tell me if I'm wrong. / Recruits: You're right! / Drill Sergeant: Tell me if I'm wrong. / Recruits: You're right! / Drill Sergeant: Sound off. / Recruits: One Two! / Drill Sergeant: Sound off! / Recruits: Three Four! / Drill Sergeant: Bring it on down. / Recruits: One Two Three Four One Two THREE FOUR! (Military cadence, marching in lockstep.)

♦ "Wait; Stop; Hold on; Just a second; What exactly do you mean?; What!; No, you're not right!; Wrong; Negative... (What you can say to interrupt the flow of polemical people who pepper their speech with "Right" in an attempt to bulldoze you.)

**inclusion & inclusion: polemics**

## right (introductory)

Right, so  
see *so (introductory)*

Right, well  
see *well (filler)*

♦ Rob Schmitz: How... / Dr. Dennis Whyte: Right, so... / Rob Schmitz: What... / Dr. Dennis Whyte: Right, so... / Rob Schmitz: So this experiment still took energy off the grid? / Dr. Dennis Whyte: That's correct... / Rob Schmitz: How long... / Dr. Dennis Whyte: Right, well... (A typical exchange on NPR.)

♦ see also *so (introductory)*, *sure (introductory)*, *yeah (introductory)*

**contempo-speak: introductory**

## righted

righted  
finally, a terrible wrong is being ~ (miscarriage of justice)

**amelioration & renewal: boat**

**equilibrium & stability: boat**

## right-hand (right-hand man, etc.)

right-hand man  
he was Mubarak's ~ for decades

**importance & significance: hand / position**

## rigid (constraint)

rigid (religious) beliefs  
he has ~

rigid doctrine  
the group does not have a ~

rigid hierarchy  
teachers should avoid establishing a ~ of groups

rigid routine  
inside, life followed a ~ (a factory)

rigid rules  
he has relaxed some ~ (coach)

rigid (production) schedule  
workers must deal with ~s

rigid versus a flexible  
commanders must weigh the benefits of a ~ plan

rigid and omnipotent  
its caste dynamics were ~

rigid and puritanical  
Wahhabism, the ~ strain of Islam

ideologically rigid  
our political leaders are too ~

less rigid  
the Berbers practice a ~ form of Islam today

**ability & lack of ability / constraint & lack of constraint:  
materials & substances / movement**

## rigid (character)

rigid  
she was not ~, and her views evolved (Ann Landers)  
we are not being so ~ as saying that is the only option  
don't be ~, stay aware of your environment (military)

rigid in his beliefs  
his parents claim he is not ~ (religion)

rigid or extremist  
his parents say he is not ~ in his beliefs

**ability & lack of ability / character & personality: materials  
& substances / movement**

## ring (ring false, etc.)

rang false  
her story ~

rang hollow

his apology ~ (insincere)

ring hollow

promises that the country's best days lie ahead ~

rings hollow

his argument ~ to many

that is an argument that ~ (a bad argument)

ring true

his stinging accusations about EU institutions ~

rings true

his story ~

the message ~ 75 years later (It's a Wonderful Life)

**perception, perspective & point of view: sound / verb**

**ring (ring of truth, etc.)**

ring of truth

his words had the ~ (murder trial)

it doesn't have the ~ (an FBI report)

magical ring

those three letters have a ~ (BBC)

'Vichyssoise' still has a ~ to it (for a chef)

modern ring

his report of the landings has a strikingly ~ (Terceira)

successful ring

it had a ~ (a boxer's boxing name for himself)

**perception, perspective & point of view: sound**

**ring (kiss the ring)**

kiss the ring to get there

he had to ~ (a Supreme Court justice)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: Middle Ages / religion**

**ringed (circled)**

ringed by sand flats

Rabbit Key, a small mangrove hummock ~ (Florida)

ringed by barbed wire

the area is ~ (military post)

ringed by mountains of garbage

neighborhoods here are ~ (Luanda)

ringed seal

the ~ is a chief prey of the polar bear (Arctic)

♦ Animals might be banded, dappled, marbled, mottled, ringed, speckled, spotted, stippled, striped, and even spectacled!

**configuration: shape**

**ring in (the New Year, etc.)**

ring in the Year of the Pig

next month, China will ~

ring in some huge changes

the past 10 years have ~ for television

ringing out 2019 and ringing in the New Year

today we are ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: bell / sound / verb**  
**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / inauguration**  
**/ starting, going, continuing & ending: bell / sound / verb**

**ringmaster (role)**

ringmaster of the (daily) news briefings

he was the ~ (government public-affairs news briefer)

ringmaster of loyalty investigations

he was the ~ (Joe McCarthy)

role of the ringmaster

he is playing the ~ (a crusader and media personality)

turned himself from spectator to ringmaster

he artfully ~ and took control (a mayor)

**directing: circus / person**

**performance: person**

**person: circus**

**ring out (the New Year, etc.)**

ringing out 2019 and ringing in the New Year

today we are ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: bell / sound / verb**  
**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / starting,**  
**going, continuing & ending: bell / sound / verb**

**ring out (voice)**

voice rang out

her ~ with an accusation

**speech: bell / sound / verb**

**ring out (a shot rang out, etc.)**

shot rang out

suddenly, a ~ and a bullet fired from the house struck...

**sound: bell / verb**

**rinse and repeat**

rinse and repeat

one hopes this isn't just ~ (serial shootings of Blacks)

*Men In Black 3* does not just ~, it adds time travel

“rinse and repeat” of the 2018 report

the findings are a ~ (same problem, no change)

rinse-and-repeat treatment

eight bars get the ~ over nine minutes (music)

suspend, apologise, reinstate, rinse-repeat

~ (a government member who made a gaffe / politics)

♦ “You hop off... You pick a new horse, ride it for another 25 miles. Rinse and repeat.” (The Mongol Derby.)

♦ “With protests unfolding almost daily throughout the country, one hopes this isn't just rinse and repeat—lament the dead, demand justice, another cop kills another unarmed Black person, and so on.” (“Pharoah Monch, Styles P Call Fight For Equality ‘Same S\*\*\*, Different Toilet’” by Marcus J. Moore, NPR Music, June 5, 2020.)

♦ "Dahmer—Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story Review: Ryan Murphy, Netflix, Rinse, Repeat" by Daniel Fienberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, September 22, 2022.

♦ "To prepare them, cut off any thick stalks. Submerge in a large bowl of water to loosen the dirt. Drain, rinse and repeat as necessary, then pat dry. Par-boil them..." (A recipe for beets.)

**repetition: hair**

## riot (run riot)

ran riot

they ~ in a 5-0 win (a soccer match)

ran riot at St Mary's

Leicester ~ to win (a soccer match)

ran riot around the streets

he ~ of Holytown as a young lad (Chris Bungard)

mind ran riot

his busy ~ after his success (a troubled boxer)

**behavior / constraint & lack of constraint: crime**

## riot (other)

riot of speculation

everything the police said led to a ~ (Nicola Bulley case)

Riot Girls

~ offers no-holds-barred dramas (BBC Radio 4)

~ offers provocative writing by women (BBC Radio 4)

**behavior / constraint & lack of constraint: crime**

## riot (riot of color, etc.)

riot of wildflowers

spring covers the Rocky Mountains in a ~

riot of life and colour

Southern Africa is a ~ (ocean currents)

**resemblance: crime**

## ripe (adjective)

ripe

the time is ~ to sit down with the Chinese

ripe for a (large) fire

conditions are ~ (dead trees)

ripe for cultivation

the colonists found meadows ~

ripe for rebellion

the city is ~ (Basra)

seemed ripe

the time ~ for a fresh attempt (scientific ballooning)

made conditions ripe

the fronts and temperatures ~ for tornadoes

**growth & development / timeliness & lack of timeliness:**

**fruits & vegetables / plant**

## ripple (verb)

ripple out

all sorts of abuses ~ (from dogfighting)

rippled westward

the tradition may have ~ with the Scythians (art)

rippled through the system

United's flaws ~ (plane transportation)

rippled through Hollywood

a groundswell of cases like hers ~ (MeToo)

rippled through every industry

the effects of the movement have ~ (MeToo)

rippled around the ground

a sense of foreboding ~ (a soccer game)

**transmission: verb / water**

**effect / feeling, emotion & effect: verb / water / wave**

## ripple (ripple effect)

ripple effects

the ~ have affected river access (kayaking fatalities)

ripple effects in all directions

Kazakhstan's policies have caused ~

have ripple effects

weather delays ~ (air transportation)

adds to the ripple effect

every new infection ~ (AIDS epidemic)

**effect / feeling, emotion & effect: water / wave**

## ripple (noun)

ripples

delays can have ~ thousands of miles away (planes)

ripple on the economy

that move, in turn, has had a ~

ripples of Columbine

what were the ~

ripples of the shutdown

travelers everywhere felt the ~ (airport)

ripple in the atmosphere

the smallest changes can have a ~ (tornadoes)

ripples from the drownings

the ~ have affected river access (kayaking)

political ripple

the existence of child workers has made barely a ~ here

barely a ripple

the existence of child workers has made ~

ripples could extend

the ~ beyond the industry (tainted beef)

made (barely) a ripple

the existence of child workers has ~ here  
sending ripples through colleges  
the changes are ~

♦ “Who looks upon a river in a meditative hour and is not reminded of the flux of all things? Throw a stone into the stream, and the circles that propagate themselves are the beautiful type of all influence...” (*Nature*, Chapter 4 (Language), by Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1836.)

♦ “The pebble had been dropped in that water and it started rippling out in waves that nobody could finally control, least of all Timothy Leary.” (“Turn On, Tune In, Drop Out and LSD.”)

**effect / feeling, emotion & effect: water / wave**

## rip through (verb)

ripped through the community  
the virus has ~

**movement: force / verb**

**force: movement / verb**

## rise (prices rise, etc.)

rose 20 percent  
prices ~

**increase & decrease: direction / number / verb**

## rise (increase / noun)

rise in popularity  
the meteoric ~ of the word “bae” (2014)

**increase & decrease: direction**

## rise (rise to the challenge, etc.)

rising to the challenge  
we are ~

rise to the occasion  
can they ~

rose to the occasion  
he ~ like freshly baked dough

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: direction / height / verb**

## rise (rise above something)

rose above party politics  
he was a towering figure who ~ (a politician)

**behavior: direction / height / verb**

## rise (rise and fall / verb)

rise and fall on the believability  
the case will ~ of the accusations (rape)

**fate, fortune & chance: direction / height / verb**

**success & failure: direction / height / verb**

## rise (rise and fall / noun)

rise and fall of a business colossus  
the ~ (Carlos Ghosn)

rise and fall of Dollar General’s predecessors  
the ~ (five and dimes, etc.)

rise and (sudden) downfall  
her ~ captured the nation’s imagination (Theranos trial)

## Rise, Fall, and Return

*The ~ of Michigan Football* (John U. Bacon)

rise, fall, and rise again  
his ~ may have seen a final chapter (a boxer)

**growth & development: direction / height**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / height**

## rise (resist)

rose in revolt  
the people ~

rise up  
no one knows if the people will ~  
people who ~ often get killed (rebellion)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## rise (on the rise)

on the rise  
feed prices are ~ (drought effect on herds of animals)

on the rise in Tajikistan  
Islam is ~

**growth & development: direction / height**

**increase & decrease: direction / height**

## rise (rise of agriculture, etc.)

rise of the Roman Empire  
with the decline of Greece and the ~...

rise of Buddhism  
with the ~ the study of anatomy was prohibited

rise of Christianity and Islam  
the practice predates the ~ (FGM)

rise of China  
if you are worried about the ~

rise of agriculture  
his hypothesis suggests that the ~ led to...

rise of feminism  
this period witnessed the ~

rise of podcasts  
the popularity of audiobooks coincides with the ~

**growth & development: direction / height**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / height**

## rise (achievement)

meteoric rise

she had a ~ and a heartbreaking fall (Whitney Houston)

on the rise

he has been ~ (a politician)

his profile was ~ (Detroit's Kwame Kilpatrick)

**achievement, recognition & praise: direction / height**

## rise (achieve)

rise in the company

he was anxious to ~ (workplace sociopath)

rose to fame

he ~ in 1973 (Ahmed Zaki Yamani)

**achievement, recognition & praise: direction / height / verb**

## rising (rising star, etc.)

rising star

she is a ~ (a singer)

~ Poeti Norac has died (the French surfer)

she was named a ~ (cinematographer Halyna Hutchins)

rising star in the (Lincoln) firmament

General Grant was a ~

rising star in the Democratic Party

he was considered a ~ (Stockton California mayor)

rising star in Democratic politics

Joe Neguse has been considered a ~

rising star in the (progressive) ranks

Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez is the ~

**achievement, recognition & praise: astronomy / direction / height / star**

## rising (upcoming)

rising generation

young women were part of this ~ (CIA post 9/11)

rising politician

reaction to the riots lifted a ~ named Ronald Reagan

rising right

the ~ in Europe (populism)

rising senior

she's a ~ on the UCLA gymnastics team

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / height**

## rite (rite of passage)

rite of passage

it's kind of a ~

wild rite of passage

Las Vegas becomes a ~ for new 21-year-olds (booze)

**growth & development: journeys & trips / religion**

## ritual (noun)

ritual of (village) life

in a ~

rituals and routines

many people have ~ before bedtime (nursing)

concert ritual

~s include "body surfing"

bedtime ritual

follow a nightly ~ (bath, pajamas, story, bed) (kids)

springtime ritual

drinking sap from the maple tree is a ~ (S. Korea)

pre-spring-break ritual

what became a ~ (females diet / eating disorders)

fraternity drinking ritual

his son had taken part in a ~ (died)

personal finance ritual

recording checks is a ~

hazing ritual

it was a ~ (training)

Yale has strict policies barring ~s (fraternities)

~s pushed too far (high school)

mating ritual

cicadas engage in a frenetic ~

annual ritual

the summer sojourn is an ~ (Germans visit Mallorca)

bizarre rituals

elaborate and sometimes ~ (OCD)

nightly (bedtime) ritual

follow a ~ (bath, books, and bed) (toddlers)

superstitious ritual

~s such as wearing the same shirt (sports)

wacky (bedtime) ritual

you learn who's got ~s (sharing a room)

yearly ritual

the start of the ~ (Cancun spring break)

bedtime ritual

follow a nightly ~ (bath, pajamas, story, bed) (kids)

you learn who's got wacky ~s (sharing a room)

follow a (nightly bedtime) ritual

~ (bath, books, and bed) (toddlers)

stop the ritual

colleges have tried various tactics to ~ (alcohol)

engage in a (frenetic) mating ritual

cicadas ~

taken part in a (fraternity drinking) ritual

his son had ~ (died)

♦ "Reading about Larry's exploits in the *Boston Herald* had become a happy ritual." (Larry Bird, the great NBA player and Hoosier from French Lick, Indiana.)

**behavior: religion**

## river (resemblance)

river of (yellow taxi) cabs  
a ~ ebbed and flowed down Broadway and 7th Ave

River of Grass  
the ~ that is the Everglades (Florida)  
the Florida Everglades, the so-called ~  
the subtle, sodden grandeur of the so-called ~

river of (high-altitude) air  
the jet stream, a speeding ~, veered far south

river of ice  
the glacier is broad and grand, like the ~ it is

river of lava  
sending out plumes of ash and three ~s (volcano)  
the volcano sent 200-foot-wide ~ through the town

river of wind  
that ~, called the jet stream

lava river  
the ~ seemed to have widened (Fagradalsfjall)

atmospheric river  
the Pineapple Express is an ~  
you can see the ~ on the satellite here (weather report)  
~s of moisture could fuel megafloods (California)

♦ "The city is in my blood, the ruins of its palaces, the mosques and the river." (An Iraqi, speaking of Baghdad.)

♦ "The Indus brings bread to our table. It is one of the longest rivers in the world, and it is also one of the wildest." (Wajahat Malik, filmmaker and leader of the Indus Expedition 2022.)

**resemblance: river**

## river (river of hogs, etc.)

river of hogs  
this annual migration, this "great ~" (Buncombe Turnpike)

iron river  
the ~ refers to the flow of guns from the US into Mexico

♦ The flow of guns to the East Coast from the South (from Georgia and Tennessee, especially) has been referred to as the "iron pipeline."

♦ "...[B]ehind all this [violence] was constantly present to our eyes and mind the scene of a great stream, a procession, so to speak of human souls on their way to eternity." (*Memoirs of Chaplain Life* by W. Corby. The Civil War.)

**amount & effect: river / water**

**movement: river / water**

## river (sell somebody down the river)

sold football down the river  
FIFA have ~ to fill the pockets of the fat cats

stab us in the back or sell us down the river  
he might ~ (lack of trust)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: history / river / verb**

## riveted

riveted in the (public) imagination

Brandi Chastain is forever ~

riveted on the drama  
the nation's attention is ~ unfolding in Washington

keep you riveted  
this twisty crime thriller will ~ (*No Sudden Move*)

**attachment: tools & technology**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / feeling, emotion & effect:**  
**tools & technology**

## riveting (adjective)

how riveting  
this is a one-sit-down read, that's ~ it is (true-crime book)

♦ "Hard to put down; can't-stop-now reading; a one-sit-down read; unputdownable... (Praise for *I'll Be Gone In The Dark* by Michelle McNamara.)

**attachment: tools & technology**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / feeling, emotion & effect:**  
**tools & technology**

## riviera (Riviera of the Midwest, etc.)

Riviera of the Midwest  
St. Joseph, Michigan, on the "the ~"

Caucasian Riviera  
Sochi is on the ~ (Russia)

Citron Riviera  
the ~ (Santa Maria del Cedro, Calabria, Italy)

Irish Riviera  
the South Shore, referred to as the "~" (south of Boston)  
Scituate, on the "~," was a center of the mousing industry

♦ The Wikipedia entry for this word has a nice list of various riviervas around the world but does not yet include Michigan's "the Riviera of the Midwest," famous for the city of St. Joseph, fondly referred to by locals as Saint Joe. Its ice pancakes in the winter are famous!

♦ Here is another startling epithet from the Midwest: "Put-in-Bay, a village on an island off the northern coast of Ohio (in Lake Erie), is sometimes called the Key West of the Midwest." It has also been referred to as Roofie Island, by at least one Buckeye newspaper. Who knew?

**geography: epithet**

## road (Whale Road, etc.)

Whale Road  
early Icelanders referred to the sea as the ~

**route: epithet**

## road (turn in the road, etc.)

turn in a (troubled) road  
it was one more ~ (personal problems)

**development / direction: journeys & trips**

## road (rules of the road)

rules of the road  
we need to have some basic ~ that we can all abide by

**constraint & lack of constraint: infrastructure**

## road (road from / to something)

road to recovery

she is well on the ~

the economy is on the bumpy ~

road to riches

other companies saw a different ~ (online education)

road to ruin

a doctor's ~ (addiction)

road to space

the ~ is being built today (Blue Origin's *New Shepard*)

road to the truth

the ~ is still a very long one (slave laborers in Siberia)

road to sin and evil

it blocks the ~ (women and non-mahram males)

road to stardom

the ~ hasn't been a superhighway for her (film actor)

road to the White House

his ~ was paved with discretion and loyalty

road to a fit, fabulous body

the ~ isn't short

road from convert to jihadist

the ~ can be remarkably short (terrorists)

road from research to (finished) product

the ~ is long and costly (drugs)

road (to get) from where we are now to impeachment

there's a long ~

♦ "By the time I discovered love, I was no greenhorn. I knew there were different menus. I knew that there was a motorway and a scenic route, and also unfrequented byways where the foot of man had barely trodden... There were so many different ways." (*A Tale of Love and Darkness* by Amos Oz.)

♦ "The dark off-roads of human behavior... (Crime.)

**course: infrastructure / journeys & trips**

**route: infrastructure / journeys & trips**

**progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips**

**survival, persistence & endurance: journeys & trips**

## road (along / on the road)

along the (long) road of parenting

it'll help you ~ (advice about toddlers)

on the road to fame

they were young, just starting ~

on the road to peace

we're still ~ (Palestinian road map)

the negotiations are an important stepping stone ~ (Sudan)

on the bumpy road to recovery

the economy is ~ to recovery

well on the road

she is ~ to recovery

bumps along the road

there have been a few ~

first step on that road

this is a pretty aggressive ~ (to impeachment)

start on the road to e-riches

all eager to ~ (Internet prospectors)

♦ "We're still on the road to peace, it's just going to be a bumpy road, and I'm not going to get off the road until we reach the vision." (President Bush on Palestinian road map, after suicide bombing.)

**course: infrastructure / journeys & trips**

## road (come down the road / pike)

coming down the pike

so a lot is ~ today

♦ "When you don't know what's coming down the pike, you worry." (A businesswoman, speaking about government regulation.)

**future / time: direction / movement / verb**

## road (road ahead, etc.)

on the road ahead

nobody knows what is ~

long road ahead

there is still a very ~ for Ms Warren (running for presidency)

**future / time: direction / journeys & trips**

## road (down the road, etc.)

down the road

but that's ~, right now, people are still...

this will lead to problems ~

it could be indictable ~ (in the future)

the company hopes to make money ~ (in the future)

thank you both so much for your time, we'll see you ~

easier down the road

it'll make your job ~

few years down the road

we don't want to find out a ~ that... (investigator)

further down the road

they hope for improvement in relations ~ (diplomats)

further down the track

and then, ~, Trump will be waiting (election)

ample time down the road

there will be ~ to allocate responsibility

**future / time: direction / distance / journeys & trips**

## road (down a road before)

down this road before

we have been ~

I can tell you've been ~

down that road before

I've been ~ (exploited by girlfriend)

♦ "We've been around this block before in 2018."

♦ "Been there, done that, this is like, I need to get a perm, right, because we're back in the eighties..." (Christie Donner, a leader of the Colorado Criminal Justice Reform Coalition.)

**experience: journeys & trips / movement / place**  
**past & present / time: journeys & trips / movement / place**

### road (go down that road, etc.)

go down that road

let's not ~

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things / eagerness & reluctance: journeys & trips / movement**

### road (end of the road)

the end of the road

a defeat does not necessarily mean ~ for Nigeria

the end of the legal road

they are at ~ (Hillsborough tragedy / YNWA)

hit the end of the road

he has ~ (arrested for murder)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips**

### road (long road)

long road

the ~ we have traveled in the U.S. (desegregation)

it's a ~ when you face the world alone (Mariah)

it's been a ~, and sometimes it has been fun (old rocker)

long road of parenting

it'll help you along the ~ (learn to pick your battles)

long road to an uncertain result

investigators face a ~

long road ahead

there is still a very ~ for Ms Warren (running for presidency)

face a long road

investigators ~ to an uncertain result

traveled a long road

we have ~ (desegregation)

help you along the long road

I'll ~ of parenting (learn to pick your battles)

**course: journeys & trips**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: journeys & trips**

### road (tough / easy road, etc.)

bumpy road

the economy is on the ~ to recovery

dangerous road

it seems like a ~ to go down (a social issue)

difficult road

they team slugged a ~ to qualify for the tournament

hard road

it's been a ~ (a victim of abuse)

rough road

President Obama faces a ~ (politics)

safe road

do I take the ~, or do I venture out

tough road

it's been a ~ for everybody

troubled road

it was one more turn in a ~ (personal problems)

bumps along the road

there have been a few ~

bumps in the road

many families encounter ~ to toilet training

stumbles on the road

there have been some ~ to reform

on a road (that)...

~ is paved with leaks, supposition, speculation (enquiry)

**flaws & lack of flaws: journeys & trips**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: journeys & trips**

### road (the high road / the low road)

low road of impeaching people

this ~ for political speech (politics)

taken the high road

he has ~ and refused to respond to the insults

**behavior: direction / height**

### road (fork in the road, etc.)

come to a fork in the road

the countries involved in the Middle East have ~

when things like that happen, you ~

different road

other companies saw a ~ to riches (online education)

similar road

the six countries all followed a ~ (to democracy)

going down that road

I am not ~

going down a road

you are ~ that will be your undoing

take you down the wrong road

it's a question that can ~ (job interview)

♦ "Two roads diverged in a yellow wood, / And sorry I could not travel both / And be one traveler..." ("The Road Not Taken" by Robert Frost.)

♦ "Finally, sometimes metaphoric mappings are so conventional that they force themselves on readers or listeners even without any overt specification of mappings. In such a case, the author can afford the apparent luxury of underspecification, exactly because it is only apparent. We cannot really call these minimalist—they don't give the reader any special sense of discovery or active participation in the reading. An example is Robert Frost's 'The Road not taken' which says, 'Two roads diverged in a yellow wood / and sorry I could not travel both... I took the one less traveled by / and that has made all the difference.' Despite Frost's own insistence that this poem was about actual choices of paths during country walks (poking fun at a friend who treated these

choices too seriously), generations of readers have consistently and automatically understood it as being about LIFE AS A JOURNEY (within which LIFE CHOICES ARE CROSSROADS). This makes us realize that mappings which are not explicitly labeled may or may not be genuinely left open to the reader." (*Figurative Language* by Barbara Dancygier and Eve Sweetser.)

♦ see also *crossroad* (*Crossroads of the World, etc.*), *crossroad* (*at a crossroad*), *crossroad* (*other*)

**alternatives & choices / death & life: journeys & trips**

## road (push something down the road)

pushed down the road

some of the big decisions were ~ (government)

**action, inaction & delay / confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: journeys & trips / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## road (road to Damascus)

road to Damascus kind of conversion

this can't be a ~ (Al Sharpton on whites getting black electoral support)

**consciousness & awareness: allusion / Bible / journeys & trips / religion**

## road (Silk Road)

see *Silk Road* (*maritime Silk Road, etc.*)

## roadblock (noun)

legislative roadblock

the union headed to Albany to set up a ~ (education)

face some roadblocks

we ~ (better relations with China)

hit roadblocks

Baltimore residents ~ in efforts to combat urban blight

thrown up roadblock after roadblock

Texas has ~ for people (mail-in voting)

**obstacles & impedance: journeys & trips**

## roadkill (noun)

a lot of roadkill

there is going to be a ~, but some will succeed (migration)

see the Jets as roadkill

most other NFL teams ~ honestly (NFL)

♦ "The people who come to California are brave, this is a high-risk, high-reward state. There is going to be a lot of road kill, people are going to get hurt, people are going to get steamrollered, but in the end you have some people who are going to succeed..." ("The California Century: From Hollywood to Silicon Valley," BBC, Sounds, 17 June 2020, wonderfully narrated by Stanley Tucci.)

**destruction: animal / death & life / infrastructure**

## road map

road map toward peace

a ~ in the Middle East

road map to cutting

he has a detailed ~ spending (politician)

roadmap for the Internet

the 13 root servers that provided the ~

road map for what

it's a ~ we must do (plan to save coral reefs)

♦ Ana Castillejos: "It's almost like a roadmap, which makes it really really exciting as it stands to kinda see where she's leading us in all the different songs." / Steve Inskeep: "A roadmap in that it refers back to Swift's older material..." (An interesting NPR exchange. The older Inskeep seeks to "translate" the younger person's metaphor. But does he succeed? From "Taylor Swift breaks a record and sweeps Billboard's top ten spots," NPR, Morning Edition, November 1, 2022.)

♦ "Two Swedish tourists headed for the Italian resort of Capri misspelled the name in the GPS device and ended up in the industrial town of Carpi, 400 miles away, where they were very puzzled by the absence of a beach." (*The Week*, August 7, 2009.)

♦ "Triple A suggested that drivers who use GPS still carry a good old-fashioned map."

**script: journeys & trips / map**

## roar (activity)

roar again

the American economy will ~ (after pandemic)

**activity: animal / sound**

## roar (noun)

roar of the waterfall

he had to shout over the ~

**sound: animal**

**resemblance: sound**

## roar back (verb)

roar back

the job market is starting to ~

usually within a year or two, the disease would ~

it can fade away and then ~ (grief)

but the economy isn't going to ~, it'll be a slog...

roar back in the primaries

he did ~ (a politician)

roared back from (Chapter II) bankruptcy

the company has ~

roar back to life

the winds are expected to ~ by Tuesday (wildfires)

if they would do this, our economy would ~

roar back with a vengeance

inflation will ~ unless...

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / force: animal / sound / verb**

## roaring back (come roaring back, etc.)

bring manufacturing roaring back

he promised to ~ (politics)

came roaring back

sales ~ in the third quarter (cars)

come roaring back

it could ~ (coronavirus)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / force: animal / sound

## Roaring Twenties

Roaring Twenties-type

there could definitely be a ~ deal post-COVID (spending)

behavior / time: history

## roast (verb)

roasted the president

she ~ (White House Correspondents' Dinner)

speech: cooking / fire / verb

## rob (verb)

rob the winds of their moisture

the uplands ~ (valley in rain shadow)

robbed me of my health and vitality

he ~ (a sex abuser)

robbed me of that justice

his death has ~

robbed me of my youth, innocence, and self-worth

he ~ (seduced by older man)

taking & removing: crime / verb

## robbed

robbed of our child

we were ~ (murdered)

taking & removing: crime

## robbery (noun)

highway robbery

it's an outrage, ~ (boxer gets draw instead of win)

taking & removing: crime

## robe (noun)

in her (most exquisite) robes

an aurora is nature ~

appearance / resemblance: clothing & accessories

## Robin Hood

Robin Hood in reverse

this is a transfer of wealth, it's ~ (taxes)

Robin Hood figure

in Mexico, some saw him as a ~ ("El Chapo" Guzman)

Robinhood name

the ~ is a household name now (the stock trading app)

Robin Hood reputation

with this began the ~, totally undeserved (bushrangers)

reverse Robin Hood

Liz Truss, a ~, 'taking from the poor to give to the rich'

taking & removing: allusion / crime

allusion: books & reading

## Robinson Crusoe

Robinson Crusoe winter

a ~ alone in a makeshift hut (Nansen and Johansen)

Arctic Robinson Crusoes

Edible Country diners aren't ~ (Swedish "outdoorsiness")

♦ "Immediately our Pinnacle return'd from the shore, and brought abundance of Craw-fish, with a Man cloth'd in Goat-Skins, who look'd wilder than the first Owners of them. He had been on the Island four Years and four Months... His name was Alexander Selkirk a Scotch Man..." (*A Cruising Voyage round the World* by Woodes Rogers.)

♦ In *The Last Place on Earth*, Roland Huntford tells the tragic story of Hjalmar Johansen. After surviving the "Robinson Crusoe winter" with Nansen in the Arctic, he took to drink, separated from his wife and children, resigned from the army, went bankrupt, and became destitute. Nansen, wishing to help his old companion who had saved his life, convinced Amundsen to take Johansen on his expedition, which Amundsen did, against his better judgement. In Antarctica, Johansen rubbed Amundsen the wrong way. The result was that Johansen fell out of the party that went to the South Pole. Back home, Johansen resumed drinking and ended up committing suicide. He was a man who withstood and overcame harshest nature, but not society.

♦ "There was a frailty in the man himself, and the indoor life of human relationships was something that he found difficult." (Sir Ian McKellen on Sir Edmund Hillary, BBC, Great Lives, 04 Aug. 2015.)

isolation & remoteness: island / sea

society: island / sea

allusion: books & reading

## robot (noun)

robot

he's not a ~, he's got feelings and emotions

I'm not a ~, I get tired (an athlete)

we are human beings, not ~s (faces racist fan abuse)

we're not just athletes, we are also humans and not ~

robot in (pressure-packed) situations

he's a ~ (a coach)

robot kids

in a world of cookie-cutter ~, he was different

translation robots

wide-ranging ~ require large datasets

♦ "You name it, somebody is trying to build a robot for it." (Surgery, sex, window cleaning, etc.)

♦ "Robots have advanced considerably faster than humans in the past decade."

consciousness & awareness / feeling, emotion & effect /

operation: mechanism

## robotic (feelings)

went robotic

I kind of ~ and shut everything out (teen is pregnant)

mental health: mechanism

## robotic (movement)

robotic and stiff

Anthony Joshua often appeared ~ (boxing)

slow and robotic

Joe Joyce's performance was awful, ~ (v. Zhilei Zhang)

**movement: mechanism**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## robust (adj)

robust

our quality-control systems are ~

robust debate

the controversy has ignited a ~ on Web sites

robust response

the threat of terrorism requires a ~

robust suite

the MQ-9 has a ~ of visual sensors for targeting

robust (testing) system

we need a ~ (coronavirus pandemic)

**strength & weakness: health & medicine**

**condition & status: health & medicine**

## rock (verb)

rocked the (scientific) community

the earthshaking experiment has ~

rocked the media

the story ~

rocked the (Japanese) sport

the match-rigging scandal has ~ (sumo)

rocked Silicon Valley

the scam ~ (technology fail)

rocked their world

a fertility-clinic mix-up has ~

rocked New York and the country

his resignation was a major surprise that ~ (a politician)

**disruption: equilibrium & stability / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability / verb**

## rock (Rock of Chickamauga, etc.)

Rock of Chickamauga

his legendary status as "the ~" (Gen. George H. Thomas)

**epithet: materials & substances**

**strength & weakness: epithet**

## rock (support)

rock of a family

Barbara Bush was the ~ dedicated to public service

rock of their family

she was a caring person, the ~ (murdered)

rock of stability

Jordan remained a relative ~ in a terribly rickety region

rock of learning and geniality

he was a solid ~

my rock

I am grateful for Alexi, ~ during this time (bereavement)

our rock

she has been ~ (a soccer player)

how strong a rock

~ Elizabeth was to his life and career (Bruce Chatwin's)

credits his wife for being his rock

he ~ through all this (Alec Baldwin / Rust shooting)

**bases: ground, terrain & land**

## rock (rock-solid)

rock-solid

their ~ case began to crumble (murder)

she was a ~ witness (in murder case)

**strength & weakness: materials & substances**

**comparison & contrast: materials & substances**

## rock (on the rocks)

on the rocks

their relationship is ~

their marriage is ~

Ringwald and James play a couple ~

the ballad describes a romance ~

their relations had been ~ for some time (celebrities)

I think it's ~ (the US-UK relationship)

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's future is ~

Manila's relationship with Washington is ~

*On the Rocks*

~ is a light-hearted romp... (Sofia Coppola film)

~ features a couple living in Manhattan (Sofia Coppola)

♦ "America's Long Love Affair With Beer Is on the Rocks." (*The Wall Street Journal*.)

♦ "At eleven, they saw St. Alban's Head, a mile and a half to the leeward, upon which they took in sail immediately, and let go the small bower anchor, which brought up the ship at a whole cable, and she rode for about an hour, and then drove. They now let go the sheet anchor, and wore away a whole cable; the ship rode about two hours longer when she drove again. / In this situation the captain sent for Mr. Meriton, the chief officer, and asked his opinion concerning the probability of saving their lives. He replied with equal candor and calmness, that he apprehended there was very little hope, as they were then driving fast on shore, and might expect every moment to strike." (*The Halsewell* went on the rocks near Seacombe, on the Isle of Purbeck (a peninsula), South Dorset, in 1786. Rescuers on the cliff above managed to pull seventy-four to safety. One hundred sixty-six perished. From "The Loss of the *Halsewell* East Indiaman," reprinted in *The Tragic History of the Sea* by Anthony Brandt.)

**failure, accident & impairment: boat / sea**

**danger / destruction: boat / sea**

## rock (between a rock and a hard place)

caught between a rock and a hard place

we have been ~

stuck between a rock and a hard place

I'm ~ (too poor to improve situation)

oppression / situation: ground, terrain & land / pressure / weight

### rock (turn over every rock, etc.)

look under every rock  
people then were not prepared to ~ (historical sex abuse)

turn over every rock to see  
we're going to ~ if... (police investigation)

difficulty, easiness & effort / pursuit, capture & escape / searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / verb

### rock-bottom (adjective)

rock-bottom  
the prices for scuba diving are ~ (Belize)

rock-bottom price  
rented at ~s

decline: direction / ground, terrain & land

### rocked (disruption)

rocked by the leak  
the intelligence community was ~ of classified documents

rocked by the sex scandal  
the network was ~ (CBS)

feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability

disruption: equilibrium & stability

### rocket (increase)

rocket to 1 billion  
the number of passengers is expected to ~ by...

rocketing upward  
demand is ~ (for a service)

levels will rocket  
sediment ~ (dam removal)

increase & decrease: number

increase & decrease: direction / flying & falling / rocket / verb

### rocket (speed)

rocketed down the slope on his back  
he ~ (a climber)

rocketed to fame  
she ~ in New York (an actor)

movement / speed: rocket / verb

movement: speed

### rocket (resemblance)

fired a rocket past the keeper  
a moment later, he ~ (soccer)

resemblance: rocket

## Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / war)

“Gibraltar of Africa”  
an attack on the ~ (the Cape of Good Hope)

Gibraltar of America  
the ~ (Quebec)

“Gibraltar of the West”  
Vicksburg, the ~ (state of Mississippi / Civil War)

Gibraltar of the West  
Columbus, the ~, is ours...(state of Kentucky)

“Gibraltar of the Western World”  
Quebec was then named the ~ (1759)

♦ “After weeks of incessant but minor cannonading, the grand attack was made on the 13th of September, 1782... / By evening the ship cannonade began to slacken; rockets, as signals of distress, were seen soaring into the air, while boats were rowed about the disabled men-of-war, in which our artillery must have made the most dreadful havoc, for, during the short intervals of cessation, a strong, indistinct clamour, the mingled sound of groans, and cries, and shrieks, came floating upward to the ears of the garrison... (*British Battles on Land and Sea* by James Grant.)

military: epithet

## Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative)

my Rock of Gibraltar  
Lisa has been ~ (emotional support in a relationship)

♦ “How utterly nauseating—but this is like a puff of wind against the Gibraltar of your great standing in American life.” (David Lillienthal to Robert Oppenheimer in 1950 about the accusations leveled against Oppie by ex-Communists Paul and Sylvia Crouch that appeared on the front page of the *Washington Post*.)

allusion: military

allegiance, support & betrayal: epithet

bases / protection & lack of protection / strength & weakness: fortification / military / mountains & hills

### rocky (adjective)

rocky  
his relationship with his superiors was ~  
their season has been ~ (a women’s basketball team)

rocky (midterm Congressional) elections  
the president faces ~

rocky ending  
he had a ~ to his nine years in Pittsburgh (NFL player)

rocky (on-again, off-again) relationship  
they've had a ~ (a couple)

rocky start  
his NFL career got off to a ~  
their bid for an Olympic title is off to a ~ (soccer)

rocky tenure  
he had a ~ at the State Department (resigned)

rocky year  
it was a ~ for the newspaper (criticism)

**flaws & lack of flaws: ground, terrain & land**

## rod (iron rod, etc.)

rod of iron

they ruled Afghanistan with a ~ (the Taliban)

with an iron rod

in the 1990s the Serbs ruled Kosovo ~

**oppression: materials & substances / weapon**

## rodeo (first rodeo)

rodeo of self destruction

this is not Anne's first ~ (a Hollywood actress)

her first rodeo

Joan made it clear that this was not ~ (adultery)

his first (debate) rodeo

this won't be ~ (a debate moderator / presidential debate)

my first rodeo

I worked on several viruses, this is not ~ (COVID-19)

our first rodeo

this is not ~, we've been through this before (hurricanes)

**experience: animal / horse**

## rogue (noun)

rogue cells

your immune system identifies those ~ and kills them

rogue pharmacists

corrupt doctors and ~ worked hand in hand (opioids)

rogue scientist

a ~ claims to have edited the DNA of twin girls

goes rogue

*M3GAN* imagines a human-like robot doll that ~ (the film)

gone rogue

he has ~

went rogue

they discussed what to do if she ~ (publicity)

**society / control & lack of control: animal**

**behavior / character & personality: animal**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: animal**

## roil (verb)

roiling Canada

the migration crisis is ~ at the moment

roiled (Tibetan) areas

ethnic unrest has ~ of China

roiling the markets

what is ~ is the fact that... (international finance)

**disruption / effect / feeling, emotion & effect: verb / water**

## role (act)

role of her lifetime

this would be a performance, the ~ (a trial)

diva role

she chose to perform her ~ to the hilt (celebrity trial)

played the role

he ~ of a loving husband and doting father (a murderer)

♦ "We told you that this would be a performance, the role of her lifetime as a heroic survivor of brutal abuse." (Camille Vasquez, in her closing arguments in the Amber Heard-Johnny Depp trial.)

♦ "Gwyneth Paltrow's Trial Is Her Best Role in Years" by Naomi Fry, *The New Yorker*. As Fry has said, "Let's not knock breezy distraction." As my mother once said, "Whatever blows your hair back.")

**performance: theater**

## role (function or part)

sport's (starring) role

the ~ in the end of apartheid (South African rugby)

played a role

the investigation into his sexting case ~ in the 2016 US presidential election

**importance & significance: theater**

## roll (on a roll)

on a (pretty good) roll

we're ~ now (basketball coach / win streak)

get on a roll

you ~, you get momentum... (winning streak)

started the year on a roll

the radical right ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: ball / movement**

**progress & lack of progress: ball / movement**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: ball / movement**

## roll (verb)

start rolling

revolutions often ~ when the army refused to shoot

rolling on

the controversy keeps ~

**progress & lack of progress / starting, going, continuing &**

**ending: ball / movement / verb**

## roll (move)

roll across the mountains

some strong thunderstorms ~ (news / weather)

thunderstorms roll

some strong ~ across the mountains (news / weather)

**movement: ball / direction / verb**

## roll (slow-roll)

slow-rolled their requests

opponents claim that he ~ (politics)

constantly slow-rolled

he ~ any sort of military option (politics)

**movement: speed**

**action, inaction & delay: ball / movement / verb**

## roll back (verb)

roll back policies

he has attempted to ~ to address carbon emissions

roll back the (health-care) reform

politicians want to ~

**reversal: ball / mechanism / verb**

## roller coaster (emotional roller coaster, etc.)

roller-coaster

and you talk about emotion, it's been a ~ (soccer final)

roller-coaster ride

culture shock can be a ~ of emotions

it's a ~, a light scene followed by a dark scene (film)

roller coaster of a career

she had such a ~ (Judy Garland)

roller coaster of ups and downs

he really has been through a ~ (footballer Jamie Vardy)

emotional roller coaster

it's frustrating, an ~

an ~, with many tears and goodbyes (deployment)

Carly is an ~ (drama)

rode an emotional roller coaster

the family ~ for months (daughter kidnapped)

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / movement**

## roller coaster (development)

roller coaster

my life is a ~ and this is a down time

roller-coaster

this is a real ~ (attempts to rescue trapped miners)

roller-coaster ride

it's been a ~ ride for investors

rollercoaster week

it's been an up and down, ~ (impeachment trial)

roller coaster (weight) gains and losses

she has a long history of ~

legal roller coaster

the ~ over stem-cell research...

♦ "Businesses are strapping themselves in for a bumpy ride on the new trade deal rollercoaster." (Brexit.)

♦ "Today, the roller coaster is in free fall." (Enrollment in the humanities—English and History—versus enrollment in science and engineering, which is shooting up.)

**movement: direction / sports & games**

**development / increase & decrease: direction / movement / sports & games**

## roll in (verb)

rolling in

donations are ~ (after fire at cathedral)

**movement: ball / verb**

## rolling (movement)

rolling end

the war had a rolling start and will have a ~ (Iraq)

rolling start

what commanders have called a ~ to the war (Iraq War)

the war had a ~ and will have a rolling end (Iraq War)

rolling blackouts

another day of ~ (California)

**movement: ball**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: movement**

## roll on (resiliency)

roll on

roll on, soldier

**resiliency: journeys & trips / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## roll out (verb)

roll out (six) new models

Chrysler will soon ~ (automobiles)

rolled out 17 different initiatives

he ~ to reduce gun violence

rolled out a package

the Party ~ of reforms (China / economy)

rolling out new policy

we are not ~ (politics / election)

roll the (new) settings

we are going to ~ this week (Website)

roll out their new shows

each fall the 3 networks would ~ at the same time (TV)

**inauguration: mechanism / verb**

## rollout (noun)

rollout of new features

he is overseeing a ~ to protect users (bullying / Facebook)

**inauguration: mechanism**

## roll over (verb)

roll over

Watford won't ~ (FA Cup final underdogs)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / dog / verb**

**conflict: animal / dog / verb**

## Rolls Royce

Rolls Royce of medical care  
you would expect him to get the ~ (POTUS)

Rolls Royce of Christmas trees  
Is Balsam Hill really the ~ (very expensive artificial tree)

♦ the guy is a Rolls Royce, absolute quality (An online commenter about the soccer player Kevin De Bruyne.)

♦ "They are the Cadillac of beach chairs." (Amazon Zero-gravity chairs—Set of 2—\$100.)

**superlative: mechanism**

## romance (noun)

romance with the West  
his ~ makes him vulnerable to detractors (leader)

**enthusiasm: love, courtship & marriage**

## Romeo and Juliet (epithet)

Romeo and Juliet of the East  
Layla and Majnun were the ~ (Lord Byron)

♦ "Grit of Women" by Jack London is one of the greatest love stories ever written.

♦ "One dollar and eighty-seven cents. That was all. And sixty cents of it was in pennies. Pennies saved one and two at a time by bulldozing the grocer and the vegetable man and the butcher until one's cheeks burned with the silent imputation of parsimony that such close dealing implied." (The beginning of "The Gift of the Magi" by O. Henry. One of the greatest love stories ever written. To this day people put pennies on the grave of its author in Riverside Cemetery, Asheville, North Carolina, USA.)

♦ "If the story of Daphnis and Chloe still touches people's hearts, it is not simply because their love was born in the shade of vines and under a blue sky. That story is repeated everywhere—in a stuffy basement smelling of fried cod, in a concentration-camp bunker, to the click of an accountant's abacus, in the dust-laden air of a cotton mill. / And now the story was being played out again to the accompaniment of the howl of dive-bombers—in a building where people nourished their filthy sweat-encrusted bodies on rotten potatoes and water from an ancient boiler, where instead of honey and dream-filled silence there was only noise, stench and rubble." (*Life And Fate* by Vasily Grossman. Katya and Seryozha. Stalingrad.)

**allusion: books & reading**

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## roof (a roof can cave in)

roof has caved in on the team  
the ~ (losing)

**failure, accident & impairment: house / roof / ruins**

**destruction: house / roof / ruins**

## roof (through the roof)

going through the roof  
the price is ~

shot through the roof  
prices have ~

**increase & decrease: number**

**extent & scope / increase & decrease: direction / flying & falling / height / house / roof**

## roof (roof of the mouth, etc.)

roof of the cave  
the ~ collapsed

roof of his mouth  
he got peanut butter on the ~

**orientation: direction / house / roof**

## roof (Roof of the World, etc.)

Roof of the World  
the Pamir mountains, which the natives called "The ~"  
Tibet, the ~...

**geography: epithet**

## rookery (noun)

rookery of absconders  
the central Pacific became a veritable ~ (escaped convicts)

"rookery" of the poor  
East London was a warren of tenements, a ~

♦ A rookery is a breeding colony of animals, of rooks, birds in general, and some other animals like seals, etc.

♦ "In the South Shetlands a single ship would expect to take as many as 9,000 seals in three weeks, and there is a record of two ships and sixty men demolishing 45,000 in one season. And since every pelt was worth a guinea—in some markets like Canton in China very much more—there was every inducement for the slaughter to go on to the bitter end. An end, however, there had to be; and by the eighteen-thirties fur seals in the southern ocean were virtually extinct, and sea-lions and sea-elephants were dying out as well. / The main attack was now diverted to the whales..." (*The Fatal Impact* by Alan Moorehead.)

**creation & transformation / growth & development / place: animal / bird**

## room (back room, etc.)

back room of the terrorist attack  
the ~ was exposed (Charlie Hebdo trial)

back-room deals  
private meetings and ~ can pay off

back room deals  
enough with the secrecy and ~ ("health care" costs)  
she uncovered the ~ struck by Rockefeller (Ida Tarbell)

smoke-filled rooms  
the ~ (before the Progressive era / politics)

**concealment & lack of concealment: house / society**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: house / society**

## room (inclusivity)

invited into the room  
they weren't being ~ to discuss policy (women, etc.)

**acceptance & rejection: house**

## room (wiggle room)

wiggle room  
negotiators had very little ~  
he then used the only ~ the law allowed him

wiggle room on wages  
the MTA has hinted at ~ (negotiations with union)

wiggle room for players  
there's no ~ (11-point table-tennis games)

**situation: container / ground, terrain & land**  
**constraint & lack of constraint: container / ground, terrain & land**

## room (war room)

see *war room* (*strategy, etc.*)

## room (space)

room to hide  
thick forests and deep gorges offer ample ~ (Caucasus)

room for a dart game  
a few pool tables and ~

room for wasted space  
no ~ in the apartment

room for 12 coffins  
a mausoleum with ~, 20 cremation niches and...

legroom  
new seats allow more ~

sea room  
a ship with adequate speed and ~

ample room  
thick forests and deep gorges offer ~ to hide (Caucasus)

**constraint & lack of constraint: space**

## room (opportunity)

room for advancement  
his predecessor left because there was no ~

room for compromise  
there is little ~

room for diplomacy  
there is ~ here... (UN issue)

room for error  
there's no ~

room for improvement  
there was ~ in his shooting (basketball)

room for maneuver  
how much ~ do you think he has in Brussels (diplomacy)

room for an additional voice  
there's ~ (new newspaper)

room for slipups  
if you don't allow yourself ~... (dieting)

breathing room  
provide ~ to consider the options  
the rate increase gives the Postal Service "~"  
we have a little ~ to establish alternative energy sources

the Turks are giving the Saudis a little ~ (to reply)

negotiating room  
how much ~ is there on the part of...

allow yourself room  
if you don't ~ for slipups... (dieting)

**constraint & lack of constraint: space**  
**situation: space**

## rooster (person)

crowing rooster  
he was vilified as a ~

♦ "Foreign Minister Erko was vilified as a crowing rooster, a writhing serpent, and a phobic rat." (*Frozen Hell: The Russo-Finnish Winter War of 1939-40* by William R. Trotter.)

**character & personality: animal / bird**

**person: animal / bird**

## root (at the root)

at the root of his desperate act  
the mystery ~

**bases: plant / tree**

## root (tear something out by the roots, etc.)

tearing it out by the roots  
it's like we're trimming the branches of the tree when we should be ~ (drug trafficking in Sinaloa)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: plant / tree / verb**  
**curtailment / destruction: plant / tree / verb**

## root (root cause)

root cause  
nobody is looking at the ~s...

root causes of the conflict  
the accord failed to address the ~ (Darfur)

root causes of jihad  
it's not easy to address the ~

root cause of these problems  
the ~ ...

root causes of global warming  
the burning of coal, oil, and gas is the ~

root cause of Global Dimming  
the burning of coal, oil, and gas is the ~

root cause of why  
that might be the ~... (reasons for a disaster)

root causes or common threads  
in some places, suicides seem to have ~

**bases: plant / tree**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: plant / tree**

## root (root of the problem, etc.)

roots of conflict

the ~ run deep (Sudan)

roots of militancy

the ~ lie in a feeling of intense humiliation

roots of this misery

the ~ are not hard to find (Indian reservations)

root of the problem

once you find out the ~

roots of terrorism

understand and address the ~

roots of the disorder

there is little info about the ~

**bases / origin / relationship: plant / tree**

## root (origin)

roots in Mexico

he is proud of his ~ (son of immigrants)

roots in Virginia

time to research her family ~

roots (deep) in the Jordanian desert

he is of the Beni Hassan tribe, with ~

roots in the (local) culture

he had no ~ (Barak Obama in Hawaii)

NASCAR's (moonshine whiskey) roots

he represented ~ (Junior Johnson)

family's roots

time to research her ~ in Virginia

surfing's roots

I'm stoked to be in Hawaii, back to ~

university's (military-school) roots

the ~

home-town roots

he is stressing his ~ (a Mississippi politician)

military-school roots

the university's ~

reporting roots

it marked a return to his ~ (editor reports on war)

moonshine-running roots

its ~ (NASCAR)

Azeri roots

many Iranians have ~

Catholic roots

the region has never lost its ~ (New Mexico)

Dalit roots

despite his ~, he earned a degree... (Kanshi Ram)

Italian roots

Rico himself has no ~ (mobster)

Jewish roots

he's tried to deny his ~ (politician)

Polynesian roots

he traces the history of surfing back to its ~

Southern roots

as NASCAR grew from its ~ into a national sport

ancient roots

the science of anatomy has ~

biological roots

little info about the ~ of the disorder

humble roots

this learned man from ~ (North Carolina poet laureate)

urban roots

this competition is a tribute to the ~ of street skating

deep historical roots

it's a dispute that has ~ (Greece and Macedonia)

proud of his roots

he is ~ in Mexico... (son of immigrants)

roots run deep

it's a new sport for the Olympics and its ~ (surfing)

deny his (Jewish) roots

he's tried to ~ (politician)

♦ "Our Waters Run Deep, Our Roots Run Deeper."  
([WWW.CROWNSGUAM.COM](http://WWW.CROWNSGUAM.COM).)

**identity & nature / origin / relationship: plant / tree**

## root (take root, etc.)

deep roots

child labor retains ~ (west and central Africa)

Catholicism has very ~ in Ireland

firm roots

Christianity failed to set ~ in Japan and China

shallow roots

his success has ~

a sport with ~ in this country (tennis in China)

many residents have ~ in the city (state workers)

Democracy has ~, it's a fragile flower

roots and wings

the only thing you can give your children is ~

take root

but the colony did not ~ (Australia)

taking (commercial) root

the new generation of nanomaterials is ~

took root

cricket ~ during the colonial era of the Raj (Pakistan)

put down roots

many Canadians have ~ in Florida (home-buyers)

set (firm) roots

Christianity failed to ~ in Japan and China

**growth & development: plant / tree**

**survival, persistence & endurance: plant / tree**

**strength & weakness: plant / tree**

## root (root server)

root server

organizations responsible for operating the ~s  
the ~s serve as a sort of master directory for the Internet  
8 or more of the world's 13 ~s must fail before...  
the 13 ~s that provided the roadmap for the Internet

root server (m)

at the top of the ~ hierarchy is the "A" root server  
the most complex DDOS attack ever against the ~ system

**computer: plant**

## rooted

rooted in authority and integrity

information grounded in science and truth, ~ (*Guardian*)

rooted in (violent) collisions

a sport whose popularity is ~ (NFL / concussion)

deeply rooted

Ethiopia, a country with a ~ Christian identity  
fireworks are a ~ tradition in Peru  
family deer hunts in November are a ~ tradition

**bases: ground, terrain & land / plant / tree**

## root out (verb)

root out crooked cops

the force must ~

root out corruption

the UN must improve its accountability and ~  
he is trying to ~ (a leader)

root out an enemy

the marines are trying to ~ that knows the terrain

root out militants

efforts to ~ inside Egypt

root out (wasteful) spending

we need to ~

root out terrorists

send more troops and ~ (in Iraq)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: plant / tree / verb**

**destruction: plant / tree / verb**

## rope (learn the ropes, etc.)

learning the ropes

she is still ~ (a waiter)

knows the ropes

she ~

**experience: boat / rope / sea**

## rope (at the end of one's rope)

at the (very) end of my rope with him

I think I'm ~ (kid)

**feeling, emotion & effect: rope**

## rope (on the ropes)

on the ropes

many Hawaiian species are ~

got Turkey on the ropes

Italy has ~ now (a soccer game)

♦ "It feels like Arsenal are on the ropes. It feels like they are taking punch after punch. City will be hoping they don't rue these missed chances." (Man City 1-0 Arsenal, BBC Radio 5 Live. The game ended Manchester City 4-1 Arsenal.)

**survival, persistence & endurance: boxing / rope**

## rope (velvet rope)

velvet-rope syndrome

he exploited the ~ ("hard to get in" fraud Bernie Madoff)

puts you inside the velvet rope

"membership" ~ (subscriptions)

♦ In his book *The Velvet Rope Economy*, Nelson Schwartz writes about special privileges for the super-rich—including helicopter rides to the airport, concierge doctors, and elite college counseling—and the impact of growing wealth inequality on society.

**money / superiority & inferiority: cloth / materials & substances / rope / sign, signal, symbol**

## rope in (verb)

rope him in

he stuck to that line no matter how senators tried to ~

**control & lack of control: animal / cows & cattle / horse / verb**

## Rorschach (test)

Rorschach blot

the case became a ~ (Central Park Jogger Case)

Rorschach test

she is our newest human ~ (Alexandria (Ocasio-Cortez))

Rorschach test for people

I think the Black Panthers are a kind of ~ (aid / guns)

living Rorschach test

he is a ~ (Brett Kavanaugh / the Supreme Court)

legal Rorschach

the cases before the Supreme Court are a ~

Rashomon moment meeting a Rorschach test

this was a ~ (3-group confrontation on D.C. Mall)

♦ "We call this case an inkblot. I see what I see, Barb sees what she sees, and you see what you see." (The podcast "Down The Hill: The Delphi Murders," Chapter 7: Madness.)

♦ "Music is like a Rorschach test: People hear what they want to hear." (LL Cool J about criticism of "Accidental Racist," his controversial collaboration with Brad Paisley.)

♦ A group of Kentucky teenagers, a Native American, and a group of black Hebrew Israelites all met by accident on the National Mall in Washington, DC. No, this is not by any means the beginning of a joke. Read "Viral standoff between a tribal elder and a high schooler is more complicated than it first seemed" by Michael E. Miller, *The Washington Post*, Jan 22, 2019. Or "January 2019 Lincoln Memorial confrontation" (Wikipedia).

♦ "The case—in which a twenty-eight-year-old female banker was brutalized and raped and five youths of color were convicted, and then, decades later, exonerated—became a Rorschach blot, with some people (largely white) seeing a city 'systematically ruined, violated, raped by its underclass' and others (largely of color) seeing a city 'in which the powerless had been systematically ruined, violated, raped by the powerful.'" ("The Falconer: What we get wrong about Joan Didion" by Nathan Heller, *The New Yorker*, February 1, 2021.)

♦ "For now, observers are left to speculate about what fundamentally drives Kavanaugh... / If Kavanaugh is 'dangerous,' as his critics contend, it's not because he is part of some brazen right-wing conspiracy. It's because he has managed to ascend to the height of American power while remaining, perhaps even to himself, a living Rorschach test." ("Whose side is Kavanaugh on?" by McKay Coppins, *The Atlantic*, June 2021.)

**perception, perspective & point of view: allusion / picture**

## Rosebud (allusion)

Rosebud sled

whatever her ~ is, she may just be a shell (mental illness)

**allusion: film & TV**

## Rosetta Stone

Rosetta stone for understanding

the article is a ~ Y.A.'s toxic culture (Kat Rosenfield)

psychological Rosetta Stones

people are looking for ~ (to understand alcoholic politician)

♦ "The brilliant victory won by Nelson in the Bay of Aboukir imprisoned the army of France amid the arid sands of Egypt; but, nevertheless, Napoleon led it in 1799 across the desert to Palestine. He took Jaffa by storm, and laid siege to Acre, where, as related, he was repulsed by the British and Turks under Sir Sidney Smith. Subsequent to this, alarming news from France caused him to hurry home and leave his troops in Egypt, when they began to lose heart, about the time our great expedition to that country was projected, with the purpose of driving them out of it." (*British Battles on Land and Sea* by James Grant. A French soldier had found the stone, but the British took it from the French by the Capitulation of Alexandria in 1801 as a spoil of victory, which is why it is in the British Museum, and not the Louvre, never mind the Grand Egyptian Museum.)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / comprehension & incomprehension: allusion / history**

## rot (verb)

rotting from the inside

America is ~

rotted away

inside prison one simply ~

left to rot

the working class has been ~ (US)

**corruption: food & drink / verb**

## rot (computer)

link rot

this article uses bare URLs, which are vulnerable to ~

**computer: food & drink**

## rot (noun)

rot in (Pakistani) society

the ~ is more poisonous than anyone thought (violence)

rot in the system

Shevardnadze sniffed out the ~ (Georgia)

Rot at the Top

the lead opinion piece was entitled, "The ~" (corruption)

rot and corruption

the moral ~ (of the Republican Party)

moral rot

the silence on the issue is an example of ~

spiritual rot

this ~ (Dr. Cornel West vs. Harvard Divinity School)

personification of the rot

she is the ~ that has sickened the party (politics)

sniffed out the rot

Shevardnadze ~ in the system (Republic of Georgia)

stop the rot

the church needed someone else at the helm to ~ (Catholics)

♦ The fish rots from the head. (A proverb about leaders in organizations, governments, etc.)

**corruption: food & drink**

## rotten (adjective)

rotten

your billing system is ~

rotten in gaming culture

he has become a global symbol for all that is ~ (swatting)

rotten administrator

she's a ~ but a nice person

rotten shape

the job market is in ~

**corruption: food & drink**

## rough (adjective)

rough edges

her policies aim to smooth capitalism's ~

rough flight

it was a ~

rough patches

you go through ~ in your sport that make you want to quit

rough ride

we're in for a ~ (new troops in Iraq)

rough road

President Obama faces a ~ (politics)

rough times

develop better coping skills to get you through ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances / sensation**

## roulette (noun)

genetic roulette

we are playing ~ with our agriculture and crops

play roulette

boxers ~ with their brains (Gerald McClellan tragedy)

**fate, fortune & chance: gambling / sports & games**

## round (boxing)

Round One

it's ~ in a prizefight, but the bell hasn't rung yet

round one

this is just ~ (in the budget battle)

15-rounder

it's a long haul, son, it's a ~ (pandemic)

♦ "If it's in the equation, I would love to have a round two." (A text message suggesting sex in the morning following a sexual encounter the night before.)

**development / time / timeliness & lack of timeliness:**

**boxing / sports & games**

## rounded up

rounded up by authorities

they were ~ (opposition figures)

**assembling: animal**

## round up (assemble)

round up groups of black men

RICO was weaponized to ~ (gangs)

rounded up a few things

I've ~ (Cortana internet search)

**assembling: animal / verb**

## route (course)

roundabout route

he had come to painting by a ~

go this route

I'm surprised more people don't ~ (turn down fame)

came (to painting) by a roundabout route

he had ~

**course: journeys & trips**

## rout (defeat / noun)

Biden rout

Sanders assessing campaign after ~

stock rout

Dow falls more than 4% amid coronavirus ~

Old Trafford rout

Spurs embarrassed Manchester United in ~ (1-6)

rout continued

the ~ as... (Man Utd 0-7 Liverpool)

♦ "Thought 4 was a 'thump' not a rout. Hard to keep up" (An online commenter on Barcelona 0-4 Real Madrid)

♦ "Never was a rout and never was a victory more complete!... / Along the whole line of road from Vittoria to the Pyrenees, a distance of one hundred miles, the way was strewn with dead or abandoned horses, dilapidated carriages, clothing of every kind, uniforms, books, rich dresses, laces, veils, gloves, and bonnets torn forth from mails and imperials, by the rude hands of guerillas, *cacadores*, and peasants; letters, orders, and French bank-notes in bundles, too, lay there. / Many unfortunate women—some of them the wives of officers, and others ladies of the court—barefooted, almost naked, and in the most pitiable condition, were overtaken in wild and solitary places, and most barbarously used and then murdered by the merciless Spaniards." (Vittoria, 1813. *British Battles on Land and Sea* by James Grant.)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military**

## rout (defeat / verb)

rout (champions) Arsenal

the Blues scored three times in ten minutes to ~

routed all the experts, pontificators, Arctic authorities

Nansen had ~ by his safe return (*Fram*)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military / verb**

## routed (defeated)

routed

the Gunners were ~ (Arsenal loses soccer game)

routed in Delhi elections

India's ruling party ~

routed in the state

he got the youth vote even though he was ~ (election)

routed during his first run

he was ~ for governor (politics)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military**

## row (row to hoe)

long row to hoe

it's going to be a ~ (a legal challenge to president)

tough row to hoe

he's got a ~ (a boxing match)

without him, the state will have a ~ (prosecution)

**work & duty: farming & agriculture**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: farming & agriculture**

## row (row in the same direction, etc.)

row in the same direction

it's better when we ~

**unanimity & consensus: boat**

## row (row back)

rowed back on his comments

he later ~ (unfounded accusations against Russians)

rowed back on most of them

the Academy tried to make changes, but they have ~

rowed back on its promise  
the company has ~ to...

**reversal: boat / direction**

## royalty (noun)

basketball royalty  
the Lakers are ~ (NBA winners)

boxing royalty  
Eubank Jr has ~ in his corner (coach Roy Jones Jr)

Broadway royalty  
~, and Outer Banks Royalty (William Ivey Long)

Oscar royalty  
the film could make Will Smith ~ (*King Richard*)

US running royalty  
Kara Groucher was ~ (medal winner)

Chicago sports royalty  
~ (Mike Ditka, Richard Dent, Michael Jordan together)

♦ "People are just jealous. Rodgers is NFL royalty. They need to leave Princess Aaron alone." (NFL sarcasm. Most likely a Chicago Bears fan.)

**superlative: royalty**

## rub (rub somebody the wrong way)

rubbing fans the wrong way  
her whining is ~ (an auto racer)

rubbed me the wrong way  
what he said ~ (rationalization)

rubbed a lot of people the wrong way  
she ~ (a poor woman who married money)

♦ "Robert Bly could rub people the wrong way." (The poet.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / verb**

## rubber stamp (noun)

rubber stamps for (special-interest) groups  
we must assure that these forums are not just ~

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: mark**

## rubbish (noun)

rubbish  
she is not ~, she had a life (died of drug overdose)

rubbish army  
it's a ~ (ineffective, ill equipped, conscript, etc.)

day-to-day rubbish  
the ~ of certain administrative tasks (UK)

absolute rubbish  
his claim was ~ (about voting irregularities)

load of rubbish  
he calls their strike "a ~" (UK)  
what a ~ (English World Cup soccer team)

piece of rubbish

it's a pretentious ~ (a film)

weed out the rubbish  
he pushed Barnes & Noble stores to ~ from their shelves

♦ "the guy is finished in boxing, washed up and now today's chip wrappings" (An online commenter about a boxer. His use of the language drew praise and a "thumbs up" from another commenter.)

**worth & lack of worth: waste**

## rubble (in the rubble)

In the Rubble  
Finding a New Economics ~ (financial earthquake)

**destruction: ruins**

## rubble (other)

financial rubble  
regulators sifted through the ~

reduced the country to rubble  
they have ~ (Somalia)

sift through the (political) rubble  
both sides will be left to ~ (impeachment trial)

**destruction: ruins**

## Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)

Rubicon moment  
this was my ~

digital Rubicon  
I had remained on the near shore of a ~ (smart compose)

digital rubicon  
the NFL crossed a ~ (Amazon's Thursday Night Football)

political Rubicon  
impeachment crosses ~ with House vote

crossed my Rubicon  
finally I ~ (author uses Smart Compose)

crossed that Rubicon  
and so we ~ (journalist passes info to police)

cross the Rubicon  
DA Brag to ~ and divide the nation by indicting Trump

♦ The Roman Tribune named Curio encouraged Caesar to cross the Rubicon, saying, "A man prepared is a man hurt by delay." Because he "settled Caesar's doubts that day" Dante put Curio in Circle Eight of hell, as a sower of discord. "Ah, how wretched Curio seemed to me / with a bloody stump in his throat in place of the tongue / which once had dared to speak so recklessly!" (John Ciardi's wonderful translation of the *Inferno*.)

**commitment & determination / fate, fortune & chance:  
allusion / history / journeys & trips / river**

## rub off on (verb)

rubs off on the (local) host  
the factory refutes the idea that foreign technology ~

rubbing off on you  
I guess living with me is ~ a little (father / son)

rub off on Vanessa  
I hope some of her will ~ (better behavior)

**transmission: rubbing & washing / verb**

## rudderless

rudderless in the gathering storm  
the hospital is ~ (deficits)

seemed rudderless  
an isolated political class that has ~, even helpless

**control & lack of control / direction: boat**

## ruffled (feathers)

appeared ruffled  
he rarely ~ (a diplomat)

**appearance / disruption: animal / bird**

**feeling, emotion & effect: animal / bird**

## rug (under the rug)

shoved under the rug  
most of the details were quickly ~ (an investigation)

sweeping their mess under the rug  
politicians are ~ (Greta Thunberg)

swept under the rug  
the whole affair will be ~

♦ "They sweep their mess under the rug and ask children to clean up for them." (Greta Thunberg, climate-change activist.)

♦ see also *carpet* (*under the carpet, etc.*)

**concealment & lack of concealment: carpets & rugs**

## rug (pull the rug out)

pulled the rug out from under him  
the White House ~ (failed to support him)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: carpets & rugs / verb**

## rugged (as noun)

return to rugged  
~, the all-new 2-22 Nissan Pathfinder (advertisement)

**character & personality: part of speech**

## Ruhr Valley (new Ruhr Valley, etc.)

Ruhr Valley  
Hebei Province, China's new ~ (steel)

♦ "Magnitogorsk was the U.S.S.R.'s answer to Pittsburgh."

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## ruin (verb)

ruined our country with corruption  
they have ~ (president and his family)

ruined me professionally  
the accusations ~

ruined the INS

decades of that civil-service mentality have ~

ruined the careers  
the Greenville has ~ of two captains (nuclear sub)

ruin (Bruce's) career  
he essentially tried to ~ (scientists)

ruins the ceremony  
letting white guys or non-Indians in ~

ruin it  
if you overcook kangaroo meat, you ~

ruins kidneys  
life support ~, it ruins brains, it ruins all the organs

ruins (people's) lives  
crystal meth ~ (a cop)

ruined my life  
he ~ and a lot of girls' live (rich pedophile)

ruined his (medical) practice  
the H.M.O.s have ~

ruin his (company's) reputation  
he was determined not to let the hackers ~

ruin the (tourist) trade  
crime could ~

ruins the catalytic converters  
high-sulfur fuel quickly ~ (sour crude)

tried to ruin  
he essentially ~ Bruce's career (scientists)

quickly ruins  
high-sulfur fuel ~ the catalytic converters (sour crude)

endanger or ruin  
I hope this doesn't ~ your career

**destruction: infrastructure / ruins / verb**

## ruin (financial ruin, etc.)

financial ruin  
he faced ~

facing (financial) ruin  
they are in crushing debt and ~

**destruction: infrastructure / ruins**

## ruin (in ruins, etc.)

ruins of their (silly) theory  
they had to sit sullenly amid the ~

in ruins  
my life is ~

economy is in ruins  
the rural ~ (Buryatia)

lay in ruins  
his reputation ~ (a beaten general)

left his life in ruins  
his alcoholism ~

♦ "The timeless allure of ruins" by Paul Cooper (BBC Culture, 16 January 2018) is an article about our fascination with ruins, with artwork.

**destruction: infrastructure / ruins**

## ruin (road to ruin)

doctor's road to ruin  
a ~ (addiction)

**destruction: infrastructure / ruins**

## ruined

ruined by the greed  
the land was ~ of strip-mining

**destruction: infrastructure / ruins**

## rule (verb)

rule  
science is going to ~ (public health decisions / pandemic)

**control & lack of control: royalty / verb**

## ruled

ruled by vice  
my soul was ~

**control & lack of control: royalty**

## rumble (verb)

ready to rumble  
the other Democrats are ~ (political debate)

♦ The boxing announcer Michael Buffer is associated with the catchphrase, "Let's get ready to rumble!" He has been paid up to one million dollars to say it. According to the Internet, he copyrighted the phrase in 1992 and has received \$400 million from others using it at sporting events. "One of the things I really love about my job is enthusiasm," he has said. To quote Don King, "Only in America!"

**conflict: boxing / sports & games / verb**

## run (a road can run, etc.)

runs through the (An Nafud) desert  
the route ~

♦ *Run* is extremely polysemous, as explained in "A Verb for Our Frantic Times" by Simon Winchester, *The New York Times*, May 28, 2011. And Winchester himself can be heard speaking at "Has 'Run' Run Amok? It Has 645 Meanings... So Far," NPR, Talk of the Nation, May 30, 2011.

**fictive motion: verb / walking, running & jumping**

## run (run deep / high / strong)

run (especially) deep  
fears of Moscow ~ in Poland (2009)

runs deep

Wright's admiration for the marines ~ (correspondent)  
the sense of allegiance to the Catholic Church ~ (city)  
resentment of the US ~ (Arabs)  
support for the insurgency ~ (Kandahar)

runs deepest

in places where anti-American sentiment ~ (Iraq, etc.)

run high

as anti-Western sentiment ~ in the Arab world

runs high

envy ~ in the world of art and intellect

run high

emotions ~ with an abandoned infant (ED nursing)

runs strong

the grief and anger still ~ (murder)

admiration (for the marines) runs deep

his ~ (an embedded correspondent)

anger (still) runs strong

the ~

distrust (of the industry) runs deep

~ (an environmental activist)

emotions run high

~ with an abandoned infant (ED nursing)

envy runs high

~ in the world of art and intellect

fears (of Moscow) run deep

~ in Poland (2009)

grief (still) runs strong

the ~

mistrust (of police and courts) runs deep

~ (Blacks)

resentment (of the US) runs deep

~ in the Arab world

stereotypes run deep

these ~ (about women in sports)

tensions (in the area) are running high

~ (Gaza)

tradition and reverence (for the dead) run deep

this is a town where ~ (Puerto Rico)

♦ Melting snowpack will cause a river to run high. If it runs too high, it might burst its banks and cause a flood.

♦ "Our Waters Run Deep, Our Roots Run Deeper." (WWW.CROWNSGUAM.COM.)

**extent & scope / feeling, emotion & effect: river**

## run (run into next week, etc.)

run into next week

the defense's case will ~

**future / time: movement / walking, running & jumping**

## run (run into something)

run into (further) delays

in case the Russians ~ (space station)

running into some hurdles

marine-energy developers are ~

ran into problems

but Zhou's plan to get even ~

ran into (political and financial) problems

the project ~ (museum)

ran into (serious) resistance

she ~... (girls wants to play football)

run into trouble

trail angels figure out where hikers are likely to ~;

the laws have ~ on free-speech grounds (cross burning);

he has ~ with the law before

ran into red tape

the inmate's transfer ~

run into a brick wall

law enforcement has ~

run into stone walls

journalists have ~ with the administration

ran into a hornet's nest

the Apache helicopters ~ of anti-aircraft fire

**obstacles & impedance: crashes & collisions / walking,**

**running & jumping / verb**

## **run (in / over the long run)**

over the long run

our advocacy of human rights ~

happiest in the long run

the thing that will make me ~ is to pursue my education

pay off in the long run

it would ~

**future / time: distance / movement / walking, running & jumping**

## **run (on the run / haste)**

on the run

we had to improvise solutions ~

**haste: movement / walking, running & jumping**

## **run (on the run / retreat)**

on the run

the sheriff's department believed the parents were ~

have our enemies on the run

we ~ (terrorism)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: walking, running & jumping**

## **run (a good run, etc.)**

a good run

the term has had a ~, but we don't need it anymore

it's been ~, but it's come to an end (Blog of the Nation)

paper coupons had a ~, but they ran out of steam

**starting, going, continuing & ending: theater**

## **runaround**

bureaucratic runaround

months of unanswered phone calls and ~s (NYC)

♦ In the wonderful film "Coal Miner's Daughter" there is a funny scene. Doolittle asks Mr. Ted Webb for his daughter Loretta's hand in marriage. Mr. Webb tells him to ask his wife, Clara. Clara tells him to ask Ted. Loretta, who has been waiting expectantly, stops Doolittle on his way back to her father and asks him what is going on. Doolittle explains, and Loretta advises him to wait until Ted and Clara are both in bed, and he can catch them together. And that is just what Doolittle does.

**progress & lack of progress: direction**

## **runaway (control)**

runaway consumerism

some criticized the long lines as a sign of ~ (Ikea)

runaway cycle

events in the Arctic could lead to a ~ of melting

runaway debt

we have to stop ~ (ad for a politician)

runaway rhetoric

we must tone down this ~

runaway success

the ~ of the building

the Ford Model T was a ~ (1908-1927)

runaway spending

the country is headed off a fiscal cliff of ~

**control & lack of control: animal / horse / walking, running & jumping**

## **run away (verb)**

run away on us

we must not let the virus ~ again (Jacinda Ardern / COVID)

♦ "Beyond Yasothon, past Mahachanachai, outside of Village Number 3, a water buffalo had somehow slipped the tyranny of its nose-ring and coursed along the embankment above the green rice paddies like a black torpedo."

**control & lack of control: verb / walking, running & jumping**

## **rung (on the bottom rung)**

on the bottom rung

child molesters are ~ (prison)

informants are ~ (prison)

**hierarchy: ladder**

## **rung (bottom rung)**

bottom-rung job

she landed a ~ there (TV station)

bottom-rung workers

~ in plants, in warehouses, behind counters

**hierarchy: ladder**

## rung (other)

rung of the hierarchy  
trappers occupy the most basic and brutal ~ (fur trade)

rungs of power  
he worked his way up the ~ (government)

rungs of the (Hindu) caste hierarchy  
those on the lowest ~

rung below the main circuit  
the Challenger Tour is a ~ (men's tennis)

rung on the ladder  
it was the pioneers who occupied the highest ~ of prestige

rung on the (corporate) ladder  
their ~

ladder's (lowest) rung  
the socioeconomic ~

bottom rung  
child molesters and informants are on the ~ (prison)

bottom-rung (m)  
she landed a ~ job there (at a TV station)

highest rung  
free speech occupies the ~ of First Amendment values  
they occupied the ~ on the ladder of prestige

lowest rung  
the socioeconomic ladder's ~

## hierarchy: ladder

## running (continuing)

long-running argument  
a ~ about what it means to...

long-running battle  
the ~ over the rights of...

long-running competition  
their ~

long running conflict  
settles a ~ that went to arbitration (business)

bitter and long-running (m)  
the bloody culmination of a ~ feud (cop / citizen)

time: distance / movement / walking, running & jumping  
starting, going, continuing & ending / survival, persistence  
& endurance: walking, running & jumping

## run-of-the-mill

run-of-the-mill offence  
the incident is not a ~ (cheating scandal at West Point)

run-of-the-mill politician  
your ~

run-of-the-mill sinner  
people will realize that he was just another ~

## worth & lack of worth: manufacturing

## run out (of time)

see *time* (*run out of time*)

## run out (of gas, etc.)

running out of excuses  
I'm ~ that sound plausible

ran out of gas  
he ~ (a losing boxer)

run out of ideas  
we've ~

running out of patience  
Iraqis are ~ with foreign fighters

luck (finally) ran out  
their ~ (football team loses)

luck is running out  
I feel my ~ (Marine killed in Falluja)

patience is running out  
my ~

## consumption: walking, running & jumping / verb

## run out (of town on a rail, etc.)

run out of town  
he survived but was ~ (Black newspaper editor)

♦ In the old days, a person might have been run out of town on a rail, after having been tarred and feathered.

♦ "The sheriff should have come with troops and cannon... Simms tells it all: '...sharing with their husbands the belief that they were the objects of oppression...they took the sheriff...and dealt with him according to his deserts... He was knocked down by a blow from the magistrate (Magdalene Zeh), and inducted into various places in that young village where the sow delighted to wallow. After receiving many indignities in the neighborhood of Weisersdorf, some of which he was conscious of receiving, and some not, he was placed upon a rail and rode skimmington through most of the settlements.' After a trip of some six or seven miles on the rail, Sheriff Adams was finally deposited on a log bridge on the road to Albany. Magdalene 'then seized a stake which she carelessly laid over his person, until two of his ribs made four, and his organs of vision diminished by one half.' After a final, and unmentionable, indignity, 'she called off her compatriots, leaving him for dead.'" (*The Mohawk* by Codman Hislop. His wonderful book is about the river in New York State.)

♦ Lynchings and running people out of town on a rail after having tarred and feathered them have been replaced by doxing, swatting, pile ons, and cancellation.

## dismissal, removal & resignation / oppression: walking, running & jumping

## run over (verb)

run over you  
if you aren't dominating, they're going to ~ (protestors)  
don't let anybody ~ (mother's advice to daughter)

let them run over you  
either you curl up and ~ or you defend yourself (protesting)

## destruction: tools & technology / verb

## force: tools & technology / verb

## run over (get run over, etc.)

run over like this

we will not be ~ (Alaska, by the federal government)

get run over

if law enforcement isn't computer-wise, it will ~

got run over by Wall Street Bets

Melvin Capital ~ (the Robinhood affair)

get run over by that

jazz is male-dominated and I think a lot of females ~

**destruction: tools & technology**

**force: tools & technology**

## rupture (noun)

bridge the rupture

US diplomats are trying to ~ (Middle East)

**failure, accident & impairment: mechanism**

**division & connection: mechanism**

## rush (rush to judgment)

rush to judgment

we contended there had been a ~ (defense lawyer)

we don't need a ~ (national-security lapse)

we ask only that people not ~ (a lawyer)

fell victim to a rush to judgment

she ~ by police following the murder

**haste: justice**

## rush (oil rush, etc.)

oil rush

the discovery well set off an ~ (East Texas 1903)

**activity / haste: movement**

## Russian roulette (you could actually die)

Russian roulette

it's ~ (climbing K2 / Adriana Brownlee)

so, it's a ~ when people take these drugs...

playing Russian roulette with your lives

you are ~ if you get critically ill abroad (poor care)

**death & life: weapon**

## Russian roulette

play Russian roulette with my livelihood

I can't afford to ~

**danger / fate, fortune & chance: weapon**

## rust (functioning)

rust

at age 38, the ~ caught up with him against... (boxing)

ring rust

Tyson had ~ after long layoff (the great boxer)

he showed considerable ~ (boxer after a layoff)

**flaws & lack of flaws / functioning: chemistry**

## rust (resemblance)

wheat rust

a fungus causes ~

the disease, ~, caused famines in the past

in the 1950s, ~ devastated crops in North America

**resemblance: chemistry**

## rusty (adjective)

rusty

his skills are ~

the Springbok side is rested, but will they be ~ (rugby)

ring rusty

I was a bit ~, I haven't boxed in a year... (COVID)

a little rusty

after a winter's layoff, every kayaker is ~

math is rusty

in case your high school ~...

**flaws & lack of flaws / functioning: chemistry**

## rut (in a rut)

in a rut

we are ~ and spinning our wheels (financial reform)

stuck in a rut

he is ~, unable to move forward

**obstacles & impedance / progress & lack of progress:**

**ground, terrain & land / movement**

## ruthless (sun, etc.)

ruthless

the calculus behind people trafficking is ~

the katabatic winds off the glacier can be ~ (very cold)

ruthless deadlines

every day brings ~ (an independent contractor)

*Ruthless Sun*

*Beneath a ~* (a book by Gilbert King)

**empathy & lack of empathy: animal**

## S

## saber rattling

calculated saber rattling

it's not the drum beat of war, it is ~

just sabre rattling

is this a serious threat or ~ (military intervention)

**message: military / sound / sword**

## sabotage (verb)

sabotage what

are you trying to ~ we are doing here

sabotaged (progressive) priorities  
she is a corporate Democrat who has ~ (politics)

sabotaged his (attempted) reforms  
conservatives ~ (politics)

sabotage yourself  
I think you're starting to ~

♦ "I think you need to ask yourself why you're doing this, Steven, because I think you're starting to sabotage yourself." (The funny 1996 film *The Cable Guy*.)

**destruction / disruption: military / verb**

## sabotage (noun)

sabotage of the conversation  
what he said was deliberate ~

self-sabotage  
his talent, intelligence and gift for ~ (Val Kilmer)

digital sabotage  
it's been a summer of ~, hype houses, conspiracy theories

**destruction / disruption: military**

## sabotaged

sabotaged by subzero temperatures  
our efforts to force the route were ~ (climbing)

**destruction / disruption: military**

## saboteur (person)

partisan saboteurs  
school boards are being attacked by ~ (culture wars)

kind of saboteur  
he was a ~, he undermined the policy of public health

♦ A female senator who left the Democratic Party to become an Independent has been called a saboteur and a traitor.

**destruction / disruption / person: military**

**conflict: military / person**

## saccharine (adjective)

saccharine propaganda  
Green Book's ~ (Academy Award winning film)

**feeling, emotion & effect: taste**

**consumption: taste**

## sacred (adjective)

sacred to Democrats  
it is a program ~ (low-income heating assistance)

sacred to Cubs fans  
the statue is ~

sacred to a newspaper  
there is nothing more ~ than its credibility

sacred to you  
maybe it's ~, but it's not sacred to me (US anthem)

sad and sacred  
it is a place ~ to many Americans (New York 9/11 site)

**importance & significance: religion**

## sacred cow

sacred cows of the (Israeli) economy  
the defense and high-tech industries are the two ~

sacred cow of (farming) subsidies  
many countries are afraid to touch the ~

American sacred cows  
the film is critical of ~ (Dominik's film *Blonde*)

Victorian sacred cows  
his mordant wit and irreverence for ~ (Lytton Strachey)

sacred cows are slaughtered  
some ~ on the way (educational theory)

destroy the "sacred cow"  
I am not out to ~ of the Kennedy presidency (filmmaker)

**idea / sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: animal / cows & cattle / religion**

## sacrifice (give up something)

sacrifice his career on such a remote altar  
no respectable clergyman would ~ (Norfolk Island)

sacrificed free speech to political correctness  
the university has ~

sacrificed everything for me  
he ~ and the team (Tour de France)

sacrificed himself for the sake of the team  
he ~ (professional foul / soccer)

sacrifice for success  
boomers are generally willing to ~ (careers)

sacrificed his dream  
he ~ of attending college to help finance...

sacrificed his life  
he ~ by throwing himself directly onto the grenade

sacrificed their lives  
the Rangers who ~ (Roberts Ridge)

sacrifice themselves  
thousands will come after us, ready to ~ (terrorists)

sacrifice their personal lives  
they don't want to ~ (for a career)

ready to sacrifice  
thousands will come after us, ~ themselves (terrorists)

willing to sacrifice  
each one of us is ~ himself for... (suicide terrorist)

**sacrifice: religion / verb**

## sacrifice (noun)

financial sacrifice

it takes a ~ to get through the training (nursing)

**sacrifice: religion**

## sacrilegious (adjective)

sacrilegious to suggest

maybe it's ~, but...

sacrilegious for women to smoke

it was once ~ cigarettes

sacrilegious about making

there is nothing ~ a sequel (film)

offensive or sacrilegious

do you worry about being ~

being sacrilegious

I hope I'm not ~ in suggesting that...

considered sacrilegious

athletes who bet on games are ~

felt sacrilegious

it ~ to hear my brother say those words

seemed sacrilegious

it ~ to visit Oxford and not visit Faulkner's house

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## sad (as noun)

sad

the ~ I get from being with you (vs. without you)

**feeling, emotion & effect: part of speech**

## saddle (shape)

saddle between the peaks

he climbed the ~

below the saddle

right side of that peak, right ~ (a sniper speaking)

**shape: horse**

## saddle (acting saddle, etc.)

acting saddle

she got right back in the ~ (after college)

**role: horse**

## saddle (oppress)

saddled him with (derogatory) nicknames

his opponents have ~ (a politician)

saddled America with (high) unemployment

the stimulus merely ~ and more debt

♦ A devious horse, resistant to being saddled and ridden, will fill his lungs with air as the cinch strap is tightened. If this behavior is not taken into account, the saddle will slide off the horse's back, depositing the rider on the ground.

**oppression: horse / verb / weight**

## saddle (Saddle Island, etc.)

Saddle Island

we visited ~ (Yemen)

Saddle Mountain

~ is in Queensland, Australia

Sansan saddle

~ is a double-topped hill, 195 feet high... (China)

**proper name: horse**

## saddle (saddle up)

saddle up

let's ~ (get ready and go)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: horse / verb**

## saddle (in the saddle)

in the saddle

an evil regime, too long ~...

back in the saddle

NATO is ~ (Libya)

he is ~ running Breitbart News (after political job)

firmly in the saddle

president Arroyo is now ~ (following plots against her)

the Scottish Nationalists seem ~

he is ~ as IPL chairman for the next 5 years (cricket)

**control & lack of control: horse**

## saddle (get back in the saddle)

get back in the saddle

if you fall off a horse, pick yourself up and ~

♦ "We've got a story now about how getting back in the saddle, literally, helped save a man's life." ("U.S. Veteran takes on the ultimate riding challenge: the Mongol Derby," wbur, Here & Now, July 25, 2016. This is the rare feel-good story that seems genuine.)

♦ Man's happiness lies in open, empty spaces. (A Mongolian proverb.)

**resiliency: animal / horse / verb**

## saddle (a burr in the saddle)

burr in the saddle of the company

the controversy is a ~

♦ "Maybe learning what happened to the famous old weaving would remove that tickling burr under his saddle, if that figure of speech worked in this case." (*The Shape Shifter* by Tony Hillerman.)

**affliction: horse / sensation**

## saddle (support)

in their saddles

the boilers began to work loose ~ (ship in typhoon)

**configuration: horse**

## saddled

saddled in debt

I was ~

saddled with responsibility  
the government did not want to be ~

**oppression: horse / weight**

## safe (groups)

safe place

we will make sure you are in a ~  
it offers her a ~ to vent frustration (New Teacher Institute)

safe space

~ is always imaginary  
~s have been credited with producing radical identities  
~s are very powerful sites  
create a ~ at home (kids and post-lockdown anxiety)  
it was a ~ so that they could be themselves (Moms' Club)  
this is not a ~ for people of color (sorority disbands)  
programs included a "~" for coming out stories (SV Bank)

safer space

a ~ for athletes to be themselves

safety or security

social spaces that offer a sense of ~

safe and inclusive

a ~ place for anyone to play football (GFSN)

safe and welcome

it was important to create a space where we felt ~

safe, inclusive, respectful, and welcoming

create psychologically ~ environments (DEI)

positive, safe and empowering

our goal is to create a ~ space where... (Morphe cosmetics)

feel safe

I created a space where everyone can ~ (bookstore)

♦ "This is a day that Minnesota says, 'Bring your authentic self. You'll be seen, heard, valued and loved in this state, and we want you to be whoever you are.' We see you, we hear you, and we will make sure you are in a safe place to be who you are." (Gov. Tim Walz.)

♦ "Thank you for creating a safer space for current and future athletes to unequivocally be themselves." (Nastia Liukin, thanking Simon Biles on Instagram.)

♦ "We don't need booing to know we've not played well." (England's Marcus Rashford.)

♦ "Harrison announced that his would be a safe space and also a brave space where everybody could say things that were hard to say, without being judged." ("Guns Down: With the number of shooting deaths rising, Shaina Harrison is teaching kids to turn anger into advocacy," by Ian Frazier, *The New Yorker*, April 5, 2021. Harrison was addressing ninth graders.)

♦ "Recently there's been more visibility in the trans community. But being the person that's creating that visibility or that representation can also be really painful. The truth is that every day I experience violence of some kind that makes me feel like it's not safe to be in my body, and not safe to be visible." (Lor Sabourin, a non-binary rock climber.)

♦ "Been getting a lot of 'why are they placing her body like that in those ads?' Well, I direct the ads. I place myself like that. And it's because of the thousands of unwelcome comments I receive about my body. You've lost the privilege of looking at it until I feel safe again." (A tweet from Milana Vayntrub, AT&T commercial actress.)

♦ "The assertions are strident, and the vocabulary is esoteric ('harm,' 'insurrection') as if it were translated from a foreign language. In a

sense, it is. The language is legalese, and it is designed to build a foundation upon which a company can be held liable under civil-rights law in an American court. This activist tactic has been widely misunderstood... The word 'safe' is carefully chosen. It gestures at certain specific kinds of negligence for which a university could pay dearly in a court of law." ("The Inequality of 'Equity,'" by Christopher Caldwell, *National Review*, May 17, 2021.)

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

## safety (groups)

community, joy and safety

support groups provide ~ (Queer people)

jeopardised their safety

dancers claimed she ~ by publicising her resignation

♦ "Dancers who accused a leading choreographer of transphobia have claimed she has jeopardised their safety by publicising her resignation. / Rosie Kay resigned this week from the dance company she founded in 2004..." ("Rosie Kay: Dancers write open letter to choreographer after gender row" by Katie Razzall, *Culture editor*, BBC, December 10, 2021.)

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

## safety net

social safety net

the ~ is seriously frayed

dismantled the (social) safety net

he ~ (Pinochet / Chile)

♦ "Many veterans are isolated and financially insecure, and the safety nets meant to help them are too small."

♦ While safety nets are associated with circuses, they might also be set up for workers on buildings, to prevent suicides from bridges, to protect spectators at sporting events, etc.

**protection & lack of protection: circus**

## sag (verb)

sag

morale in some parts of the office has begun to ~

sags

a lot is a good time, but too much still ~ (play review)

sags a little bit

the first half of the movie ~

**decline / increase & decrease: direction / verb**

**flaws & lack of flaws / strength & weakness: direction / materials & substances / verb**

## saga (noun)

saga

there is continuing public interest in his ~ (a boxer)

saga of Antonio Brown

the surreal ~ is not slowing down (troubled NFL player)

legal saga

his ~ was far from over

scientific saga

the modern fight against syphilis is a ~

grim, continuing saga

the ~ of clearing up after the storm (Storm Arwen)

**development: journeys & trips**

## Sahara (Sahara of snow, etc.)

Sahara of snow

the homecoming landmark in that rolling ~ (Ross Ice Shelf)

♦ A sea of sand, a Sahara of snow... This comparison is in no ways strange if you think about it.

**environment / resemblance: desert**

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## sail (sail to victory, etc.)

sailed to victory

he ~ (a politician)

sailed (through) to the third round

he ~ (an easy victory / tennis)

sailed through the House and Senate

the bipartisan bill ~ by unanimous voice vote (Hubbard Act)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: boat / movement / verb**

**attainment: boat / movement / verb**

## sailing (smooth sailing)

smooth sailing

after that, it's ~ (job)

it's not been all ~ (marriage)

it's not going to be ~ from now on

**difficulty, easiness & effort: boat**

## saint (superlative)

saint

he was a real ~ (9/11 FDNY chaplain Mychal F. Judge)

he was not a ~ (anger issues / politician)

no saint

Mr Berlusconi has always maintained he is “~”

I'm ~, how about you

not a saint

I'm ~ but I'm not a demon or anything either (acquitted)

revolutionary saint

Lenin, the ~

**behavior / reverence / superlative: religion**

## sainthood (noun)

secular sainthood

his family has mixed feelings about his ~ (Matthew Shepard)

**superlative: religion**

## salad (word salad)

see *word salad*

## salient (important)

salient points

he covered all the ~ in his report

♦ A salient is a projecting part of a fortification. Or it is a bulge on the front line. If the salient is cut off, it becomes a pocket. A salient can form in a number of different ways, and can be defended or used offensively in a number of ways. In World War II, the Kursk Battle and the Battle of the Bulge each developed around a salient. At Kursk the Germans attacked a Russian salient; at the Battle of the Bulge, they used their own salient to spearhead their attack. Both ended up in crushing defeats for them.

**importance & significance: fortification / ground, terrain & land / military**

## salivate (verb)

salivating over the (class-action) lawsuits

lawyers should be ~

salivating at the prospect

consumers are ~ of the new product

salivating to attack

Republicans are ~ the president over...

salivating to build

developers are ~ in the area

**eagerness & reluctance: bodily reaction / mouth / verb**

## salt (flavor)

salt went out

when I 'wrote short' much ~ of the work (R. Kipling)

♦ "Salt is the primordial narcotic."

**character & personality: taste**

## salt (sailor)

old salt

the ~ sent the apprentice off to find Charlie Noble

♦ Hazing inexperienced sailors by sending them off on a fool's errand has a long tradition.

**experience: boat / sea / taste**

## salty (language)

salty response

a ~ from an artist who won't back down (you idiot!)

**speech: taste**

## salty (slang)

salty about it

it's like a bad breakup, that's why I'm ~ (a Patriots fan)

♦ *Salty* can mean bitter, angry or upset. See "A 'Salty' Word With a Promising Future: The American Dialect Society picks its Most Likely to Succeed word" by Ben Zimmer, *the Wall Street Journal*, January 16, 2015.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: taste**

## salty (experience)

salty

he's ~ (has a lot of experience, like an old sailor)

**experience: sea / taste**

## salute (verb)

saluted his efforts  
his colleagues ~ to lower racial barriers (tribute)

salute her timing  
I have to ~ (author produced timely book)

salute you  
we ~ (encouragement to those who stick to their diets)

**achievement, recognition & praise: gesture / military / verb**

## salvage (verb)

salvage a (decent) life from the wreckage  
money to ~ of misfortune

salvage order out of chaos  
we are trying to ~ (East Timor)

salvage his career  
he got a chance to ~

salvage their credibility  
politicians need to ~ (versus corruption)

salvage its season  
the team is desperate to ~ (sports)

salvage a (recently scrapped) summit  
they are trying to ~

**amelioration & renewal: boat / manufacturing / verb**

## salvation (noun)

energy salvation  
the government views the Amazon as Brazil's ~ (dams)

**amelioration & renewal / help & assistance: religion**

## salve (noun)

salve for (racial) rancor  
the only ~ is honesty

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

## salvo (noun)

opening salvo  
the decision was an ~ of the modern civil-rights movement  
it was clearly a rehearsed ~ to try to fluster me (a meeting)

latest salvo  
this is the ~ in the war against plastic straws  
the sports argument is the ~ to prevent equality (trans)

verbal salvo  
they exchanged ~s over this turn of events (enmity)

exchanged (opening) salvos  
the government and the company ~ (antitrust trial)

fired salvos  
a number of generals publicly ~ at each other

**accusation & criticism / conflict / speech: boat / military / weapon**

## sanctuary (noun)

Sanctuary City  
making Tucson a ~ failed (Proposition 205 / 2019)

sanctuary state  
California is a ~ for abortion rights

“Second Amendment sanctuaries”  
counties have declared themselves ~ (to resist gun control)

finds sanctuary  
she ~ in Ranchera music

♦ “Trans Kid’s Family Searching For Sanctuary, organized by Kimberly Shapple.” (@gofundme.com)

**protection & lack of protection: religion**

## sanctum (and inner sanctum)

sanctums of conspiracy  
he founded the project to penetrate the ~ (a Ufologist)

West’s literary inner sanctum  
he saw his role as storming the ~ (Ishmael Reed)

inner sanctum  
the computer’s kernel, the machine’s most privileged ~  
she took one of my tapes into the ~ of the office

penetrate (al-Qaida’s) inner sanctum  
he was able to ~ (a US sympathizer)

**reverence: religion**

## sand (political sands, etc.)

political sands  
the ~ are shifting (diplomacy after the Arab Spring)

**environment: desert**

## sand (stick one’s head in the sand)

kept my head buried in the sand  
I ceded all financial control to my husband, and ~

stick my head in the sand  
I didn’t want to ~ and deny what was going on...

♦ “Allan Pocock, a resident of the Oudtshoorn region of South Africa, where 200,000 ostriches were once reared for their feathers, noted that during the 80-odd years when records were kept, no one had reported a single case of an ostrich burying its head, or even apparently attempting to do so.”

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: animal / bird / desert**

## sandbox (area)

play in their sandbox  
they were curious to see this young girl who wanted to ~

quarantine (suspicious) files into sandboxes  
systems ~ (computing)

♦ "They were very curious to see this young girl who wanted to play in their sandbox." (The remarkable actor Michelle Yeoh, about learning how to do martial-arts stunts from men. She received an Oscar for Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role in 2023. Super!)

**area: school & education**

## sandwiched

sandwiched between Australia and Indonesia  
East Timor is half an island ~

sandwiched between Europe and Central Asia  
Turkey has a strategic role in a region ~ (Caucasus)

sandwiched between Togo and Ivory Coast  
~, Ghana is considered a model democracy

Sandwiched between Romania and Ukraine  
~, Moldova emerged as an independent republic...

**configuration: food & drink**

## sanguine (adjective)

sanguine about the series  
he was ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: blood / color / health & medicine**

## sanitize (verb)

sanitized Mark Twain's masterpiece  
he has ~ by replacing the N-word

sanitize the history  
the Japanese often ~

textbooks sanitize  
~ Japan's wartime atrocities (Japanese schools)

**concealment & lack of concealment: hygiene / verb**

## sanitized

sanitized edition  
the ~ of 'Huckleberry Finn' has caused an uproar

sanitized version  
lawmakers read aloud a ~ of the US Constitution

less sanitized (m)  
reenactors aim for a fun, ~ view of the Old West

**concealment & lack of concealment: hygiene**

## sanitizing

sanitizing language  
military officials used ~ to mask the fact...

**concealment & lack of concealment: hygiene**

## sardine (noun)

sardine seats  
Flyers Rights calls the shrinking seats ~ (airplanes)

♦ "The [BBC], once a shark in the media pond, is now a mere sardine in a media ocean." (Clever writing from BBC Six O'Clock News, 26/05/2022.)

**competition / size: animal / fish**  
**importance & significance / power / strength & weakness:**  
**animal / fish / size**

## sardined

sardined in the settlement  
no more convicts could be ~

**configuration: animal / fish / pressure**

## satellite (noun)

Iranian satellite  
Bahrain could become an ~

**attraction & repulsion / relationship: astronomy**

## satrapy (noun)

satrapy of the right  
the BBC has become a ~ (a liberal critic)

**dependency / relationship: history**

## saturated

saturated with the (television) ads  
the Philadelphia media market has been ~ (politics)

saturated with firearms  
most neighborhoods like mine are already ~

saturated with racism  
the jury heard the factory was ~

saturated with reactions  
now, you can choose to be absolutely ~ (social media)

media-saturated  
the challenge of running fair trials in a ~ age

tech-saturated  
in today's ~ society (recording private conversations)

**absorption & immersion: water**

## saturation (noun)

saturation point  
Starbucks hits ~ (drop in customer visits)  
when a meme has reached the ~

App saturation  
smartphone users might be reaching ~

point of saturation  
we're past the ~ (true-crime stories)

**absorption & immersion: water**

## Saudi Arabia (Saudi Arabia of coal, etc.)

Saudi Arabia of coal  
the US is the ~  
West Virginia has been called the ~

Saudi Arabia of cotton

the South was the ~ (the US Civil War)

Saudi Arabia of lithium

Afghanistan could become the ~ (mineral)  
we know that Bolivia can become the ~

Saudi Arabia of renewables

could Scotland ever be 'the ~' (wind and tidal energy)

Saudi Arabia of clean water

thanks to Lake Michigan, Chicago is the ~

Saudi Arabia of tidal power

Scotland could be the ~ (Alex Salmond / 2008)

♦ "As Saudi Arabia is to oil, the UK is to wind." (Prime Minister Boris Johnson, about Scottish wind power.)

**amount: epithet**

**savage (Savage Mountain, etc.)**

Savage Mountain

K2, the so-called "~," doesn't have much tolerance

♦ The climber George Irving Bell, after a 1953 trip to K2, said, "K2 is a savage mountain that tries to kill you." He was one of the five men saved by Pete Schoening's famous belay.

**epithet / character & personality: animal**

**danger: epithet**

**savage (verb)**

savaged his critics

the president ~

saving him

critics are ~ (a journalist over ethics)

**accusation & criticism: animal / predation / verb**

**speech: animal / predation / verb**

**behavior: animal / predation / verb**

**savage (groups)**

Savage X Fenty

Rihanna's ~ celebrates fearlessness...

Lily Savage

his drag queen persona ~ (the U.K.'s Paul O'Grady)

Most Savage... Bachelorette

the ~ (an advertisement for the TV show)

♦ "Rihanna's Savage X Fenty celebrates fearlessness, confidence and inclusivity." (Lingerie.)

♦ "The Most Savage... Bachelorette." (An advertisement for the TV show showing a fierce young lady walking away fiercely, like definitely obviously really really upset.)

♦ "The Bay Area black metal band perversely blends savagery and accessibility with hints of pop-punk and screamo."

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

**savage (adjective)**

savage day

Antietam was a ~ in American history (the Civil War)

savage humor

his ~ spared no one (Mort Sahl)

savage toll

the Great Lakes can take a ~ on swimmers (drownings)

♦ "But I was aware of what was going on around me in only a disconnected and hazy manner. It seemed as if the weariness and the illness, like ferocious and cowardly beasts, had waited in ambush for the moment when I dismantled my defences, in order to attack me from behind... / I was hoisted on to the cart...together with a load of dying men, from whom I did not feel very different." (*The Truce: A Survivor's Journey Home From Auschwitz* by Primo Levy.)

♦ "From the woods..."

**force: animal**

**savagery (noun)**

savagery of the regime

the ~ (Syria)

savagery of the reviews

the ~ (a film)

savagery of slavery

I grew up not knowing about the ~

savagery of internet trolls

the ~

savagery and prejudice

he wrote with a kind of ~ (V.S. Naipaul)

attackers' savagery

the ~ (Turkish nightclub attack / New Year's Eve)

your savagery

we have suffered from ~ for centuries (see quote below)

bite and (a certain amount of) savagery

there was a real ~ in that performance (Holbrook as Twain)

bitterness and savagery

the ~ of his criticism...

♦ "I went outside of my house, and it was like total savagery." (A Bahamian pastor, about the effects of Hurricane Dorian.)

♦ "We do know what's happening in the global South. They're just refusing to participate... Not ours. Your war. We don't pay any attention to your hypocritical proclamations. We know exactly what they mean, we've suffered from your savagery for centuries, stop lecturing to us." (Noam Chomsky, about U.S. attempts to gain allies for what Chomsky views as the U.S. proxy war against Russia in the Ukraine.)

**force: animal**

**savant (noun)**

heavily travelled savants

(sports) scouts are ~ who value young players

**knowledge & intelligence: person**

**save (verb)**

save globalization from itself

a prescription to ~

save face

dictators always need to ~ (repression)

save "honor"

Pakistani killed daughters to ~ (headline)

save the honor  
men who kill women to ~ of their family

save his own skin  
he was a liar who just wanted to ~ (criminal trial)

save their skins  
executives sold their stock, hoping to ~ (Enron)

save his voice  
he would play music to ~ (early days of radio)

**survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / verb**

**savior (the savior of mothers, etc.)**

Saviour of Poland  
long live Napoleon, the ~

savior of mothers  
today he is known as “the ~” (Semmelweis)

**achievement, recognition & praise: epithet**

**savior (noun)**

savior  
he’s *it*, a lot of people in this town think he’s a ~ (Trump)

Wale’s saviour  
it was always likely Bale would be ~ (soccer game)

wildlife savior  
she is referred to as “India’s greatest ~” (Indira Gandhi)

white saviour  
she was accused of exhibiting a ~ complex (aid worker)

white male saviour  
a ~ teams up with indigenous inhabitants to fight colonialism

environmental savior  
the press made Obama out to be the ~  
managers and bankers pitched themselves as ~s (ESG)

global savior  
NASA doesn't really want the job of ~ (NEOs)

villain to (climate) savior  
mining recast from environmental ~ (“green” minerals)

savior was back  
the Boston Garden erupted, the ~ (Larry Bird, May 5, 1991)

seen as Kosovo’s savior  
Russian President Vladimir Putin is ~ (by ethnic Serbs)

**help & assistance: religion**

**savor (verb)**

savor the benefits  
~ of living a healthier lifestyle (energy, sleep, etc.)

savored the feeling  
I ~ (a massage)

savor the moment

some other voice was telling me to slow down, to ~

savored the moment  
I ~ (a moonlit swim)

**feeling, emotion & effect: food & drink / taste / verb**

**say (a sign can say something, etc.)**

say  
restaurants signs that ~, “Restrooms for customers only”  
what did the letter ~

says  
a street sign that ~ Martin Luther King  
the rumor mill ~ he may have plans... (boxing)

said the San Francisco Chronicle  
US Terrorized by Radio’s ‘Men From Mars,’ ~

♦ “Radio Listeners in Panic, Taking War Drama as Fact,” declared the New York Times. “Radio Fake Scares Nation,” cried the Chicago Herald and Examiner. “US Terrorized By Radio’s ‘Men From Mars,’” said the San Francisco Chronicle. (“The Halloween myth of the War of the Worlds panic” by Professor W Joseph Campbell, BBC, 30 October 2011.)

♦ “The mountain said no.” (Climbers turn around.)

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

**say (say his name, etc.)**

“Say Abortion”  
~ (a hand-held sign for abortion rights at a rally)

‘Say Her Name’  
~: The Latest On Breonna Taylor’s Case  
~: Mahsa Amini (Iranian protestors in Austria)

say his name  
~: five days for George Floyd (PBS)

SayTheirNames  
#~ (#BlackLivesMatter)

“Don’t Say Gay”  
Florida’s ~ law (Parental Rights in Education law)

♦ “#Sayhername,’ the patriots will tweet, delighting in their appropriation of a campaign created for Black women.” (Ashli Babbitt.)

♦ “Say her name. Mahsa Amini.” (Iranian protestors outside a soccer friendly between Senegal and Iran in Vienna, Austria. Protestors outside the stadium used megaphones and loudspeakers to “make their voices heard.” The protest was so loud, Iranian state TV had to broadcast the match on mute. From “World Cup 2022: Iran’s turbulent build-up amid violent anti-government protests” by Pooria Jafereh, BBC Persian, November 17, 2022.)

**inclusion & exclusion: objectification / verb**

**scaffold (verb)**

scaffold instruction  
we need to ~ in mixed-ability classes and materials

**amelioration & renewal: infrastructure / verb**

**help & assistance: infrastructure / verb**

**scaffolding (noun)**

cosmic scaffolding  
strands of dark matter form a kind of ~

**amelioration & renewal: infrastructure**

**help & assistance: infrastructure**

## scale (scales of justice, etc.)

scales of justice

he put his finger on the ~ to exonerate the police

scale of the market

critics say it unfairly puts a finger on the ~ (ESG)

**judgment: justice / scale / sign, signal, symbol**

## scale (put one's finger on the scale, etc.)

put his finger on the scales

he ~ of justice to exonerate the police

puts a finger on the scale

critics say it unfairly ~ of the market (ESC)

put its thumb on the scales

the court has ~ on the side of student free speech

puts his thumb on the scale

in the final pages, Cohen finally ~ (says he is against it)

♦ "The way this issue has been reported, it's as if there is a thumb on the scale in favor of white supremacists. But as I understand this case, that's just not what the judge is doing." ("A look at Bruce Schroeder, the judge in the Kyle Rittenhouse trial," NPR, All Things Considered, Nov. 4, 2021.)

**judgment: scale / verb / weight**

## scale (tip the scales)

tip the scales

this could ~

tip the scales against him

this could ~ (politics)

**development / initiation: scale / verb / weight**

## scale (climb)

scaled the heights of government

he never ~ (MP Sir David Amess)

**attainment / progress & lack of progress: direction / mountains & hills / movement / verb**

## scalp (save one's scalp)

save his own scalp

he is a career criminal trying to ~ (jailhouse snitch)

**survival, persistence & endurance: hair / head / skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

## scalp (noun)

scalp on his record

Wilder would be a great ~ (boxing)

impressive scalp

Usyk would be an ~ for Joshua (boxing)

scalp to hold up

Twitter and Facebook had a high-profile ~ (ban Trump)

claim another (big) scalp

Palace ~ (victory against Tottenham Hotspur in FA Cup)

collected scalps

they issued demands, ~ (students force resignations)

have his name as a scalp

it's great to ~ on my record now (boxing)

needed a scalp

Cuomo ~, a notch on his political belt (Hank Morris)

take scalps

he is looking to ~ at Sony (underperforming films)

thirsting for another manager's scalp

now I see McNulty is ~ (a BBC sportswriter)

♦ "He's a hedge fund guy looking to take scalps at Sony." (The actor George Clooney stands up for Hollywood against big-money investors looking to make a buck.)

♦ "Get (at least one) incumbent establishment scalp to become a credible threat." (An internal document of Justice Democrats. From "The Left Turn" by Andrew Marantz, *The New Yorker*, May 31, 2021.)

♦ "The Bayonet Tree got its name when one of Herkimer's men was crucified on it. George Walter lay beside a spring, pretending to be dead while an Indian ran a scalping knife around his skull, tearing off, finally, hair and skin from the bloody head. The Senecas captured Robert Crouse, the tallest and strongest man in Tryon County. They trussed him up, and then, in order to cut him down to their size, they whittled his legs off below the knees, cut the ropes holding him, and told him to walk." (*The Mohawk* by Codman Hislop. His book is about the Mohawk River.)

♦ See "'Adjusting Appropriately' To Words That Hurt," NPR, Opinion, Language, August 8, 2018. See also the Wikipedia entry, "Scalping."

**achievement, recognition & praise / punishment & recrimination / success & failure: hair / history / violence**

## scape (threatscape, etc.)

Bat-scape

the ~ is pretty well established (*The Batman*)

battle-scape

the brain is the 21st Century ~ (microwave weapons)

cellscape

cryo-EM can help reveal the ~ as it actually is

cityscape

the dramatic ~ of steel and lights (Hong Kong)

friendscapes

as we curate our ~ post-COVID (some fade away)

why we need diversity in our ~

~ change as life's landscape changes

hellscape

flames turned the small town into a ~ (wildfire)

Twitter must not become a free-for-all ~ (Elon Musk)

a free-for-all ~, where anything can be said (no consequences)

the future will be a ~ ("cli-fi" books and films)

landscape

(see *landscape*)

mediascape

he rips into the Internet-juiced ~ (the film *France*)

moonscape  
(see *moonscape*)

*Nightscape*  
*Shanghai ~: A Nocturnal Biography of a Global City*

roadscape  
a ragged ~ of motels, franchises and big box stores...

“sandscape”  
how the ~ has changed (Bacton Beach / North Norfolk)

scentscape  
the ~, the scentsphere... (a *New Yorker* article)

seascapes  
artists fall in love with the area’s ~ (Northern Jutland)

smellscapes  
how transformations have affected people’s ~ (history)

smell-scapes  
as the world faces a pandemic, our ~ are being changed

soundscape  
the unique ~ of Tanzania’s largest city (Eyder Peralta)  
a new field of biology called ~ ecology  
gentle ambient ~s, electronic beats (German music)

streetscape  
the bomb destroyed the facades and ~ of the tourist area

threatscape  
the changing ~ (terrorism)

townscape  
additions to the ~ of Lhasa (drains, etc.)

waterscape  
this ~ is called the four thousand islands (Si Phan Don)

♦ “As the world faces another global pandemic, our smell-scapes are being changed again...” (“What’s That Smell? Researchers Hope to Recreate Historic Scents From Europe’s Past” by Reese Oxner, NPR, Nov. 22, 2020.)

♦ “He called that painting “Bottlescape.” (Winston Churchill, a great amateur painter. His painting consisted of 12 bottles and some large cigar boxes.)

**area / environment: ground, terrain & land / picture**

**area / environment / language: affix**

## scapegoat (noun)

scapegoat  
he was railroaded, chosen to be the ~ (wrongly convicted)

scapegoats of imperialism  
they became the ~ (Indians in East Africa)

scapegoat for California’s drought  
how almonds became a ~

scapegoat for America’s failures  
he accused Trump of making Pakistan a ~ in Afghanistan

government’s scapegoat  
she is the ~ for crimes committed by Epstein

made a scapegoat

he has been ~ for the failings of the Catholic Church  
(Cardinal George Pell)

make Pakistan a scapegoat  
the US is trying to ~ for the war in Afghanistan

chosen to be the scapegoat  
he was railroaded, ~ (wrongly convicted)

use the West as a scapegoat  
Moi sought to ~ for the country’s troubles (Kenya)

used as a scapegoat  
the company is being ~ for America’s opioid crisis

♦ One goat was sacrificed. The scapegoat was driven off into the wilderness to perish with the sins of the community lying symbolically on its horns.

**oppression / punishment & recrimination / sacrifice:  
animal / justice / religion**

## scar (the Scar, etc.)

know the rock formation as “The Scar”  
fishermen and Taku locals ~ (Jaw Point, Alaska)

**geography: proper name**

**proper name: health & medicine / mark / wounds & scars**

## scar (resemblance / noun)

scar on the face  
the slums are a ~ of a beautiful city (Jeddah)

gaping scar  
the open-pit mine has left a ~ two sq miles in size

**resemblance: health & medicine / mark / wounds & scars**

## scar (resemblance / verb)

scar the landscape  
abandoned construction sites ~

**appearance / resemblance: health & medicine / mark /  
verb / wounds & scars**

## scar (psychologically / verb)

scarred me  
the way my grandpa taught me to drive forever ~

**affliction / feeling, emotion & effect / mental health: health  
& medicine / mark / verb / wounds & scars**

## scar (psychological scars, etc.)

deep (psychological) scars  
soldiers are coming home with ~ (from Iraq)

emotional scars  
the ~ he inflicted on his children  
the ~ of modern slavery run deeper than any wound

personal scars  
the political mistakes and ~ that shaped Joe Biden

psychological scars  
~ suffered by the orphan subjects (experiment)

the victims struggle with ~ (town lost to wildfire)

♦ "I heard yesterday that there is a military hospital hidden in the forest for the soldiers who have had their faces shot away. They apparently look so horrific that ordinary people can't even look at them. Things like that make me despair." (Elfriede Kuhr, a young German schoolgirl. From *The Beauty and the Sorrow* by Peter England.)

♦ "A World War One memorial to soldiers whose story has been described as an unresolved 'taboo' is set to be unveiled... / The statue is to be unveiled by descendants of some of the soldiers, at Queen Mary's Hospital in Sidcup, Kent, where many of the men were treated." ("Ending the taboo of soldiers with 'broken faces'" by Sean Coughlan, BBC, 9 November 2019.)

**mental health: mark / wounds & scars**

**affliction / feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / mark / wounds & scars**

### scar (blemish / noun)

scar on the history

the Sand Creek massacre is a permanent ~ of Colorado

economic scars

the longer the recovery, the more long-lasting the ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: mark / wounds & scars**

### scar (blemish / verb)

scar it

this report will not just injure the BBC but ~ (Lady Di)

**flaws & lack of flaws: mark / verb / wounds & scars**

### scarred (afflicted)

scarred by a (harrowing) incident

all of us have been ~ that happened to a friend...

scarred by (childhood) rejection and abuse

an angry young man ~

scarred for life

I was ~ (traumatic incident)

emotionally scarred

if you are half as ~ as I am...

**affliction / feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / mark / wounds & scars**

### scarred (battle-scarred, etc.)

scarred with piles

the open land around Norilsk is ~ of tailings (mines)

battle-scarred buildings

checkpoints and ~ (Middle East)

battle-scarred capital

in Mogadishu, Somalia's ~

battle-scarred country

a ~ divided among warlords (Afghanistan)

battle-scarred air base

American forces based at the ~ (Afghanistan)

**flaws & lack of flaws: mark / wounds & scars**

## scarring

scarring experience

it was a ~ (being bullied)

**affliction / feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / mark / wounds & scars**

### scary (as noun)

amount of scary

the books have just the right ~ (horror for children)

**feeling, emotion & effect: part of speech**

### scathing (adjective)

scathing editorial

in a ~, the newspaper condemned the university for...

scathing portrait

the book offers a ~ of the president

scathing report

the ~ faults Boeing for the deadly crashes

scathing testimony

he lashed out at his former boss in ~

**affliction / speech: health & medicine / mark / wounds & scars**

### scattershot (adjective)

scattershot

his approach can be somewhat ~ (a historian)

scattershot approach

they have taken a ~

**configuration / extent & scope / target: weapon**

### scavenger (noun)

scavengers show up

how quickly the ~ (contested celebrity will)

**character & personality / insult: animal**

### scene (behind the scenes)

behind the scenes

people want to know what goes on ~  
what goes on ~ isn't always known (Man U)

behind the scenes of the arts and sciences

BTM takes a monthly deep-dive ~

from behind the scenes

they will pull strings ~ (politicians)

working (feverishly) behind the scenes

the US is ~ (diplomacy)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: society / theater**

**concealment & lack of concealment: society / theater**

## scene (come onto the scene)

came onto the scene in 2015

he first ~ with a handful of mixtapes (a dead rapper)

**appearance & disappearance / attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater**

## scent (throw somebody off the scent)

threw the Nazis off the scent with subterfuge

she ~ (saved Polish Jews)

throw the investigators off the scent

he tried to ~

throw the press off the scent

he tried to ~

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / smell / verb**

**subterfuge: hunting / smell / verb**

## scent (evidence)

scent of malfeasance

he's a born bloodhound who lives to track the ~ (journalist)

**evidence: smell**

## scepter (authority)

wave your scepter

you can't just ~ and make it so (changing a rule)

♦ "Before the *scepter* [italics mine] of climate change ever reared up..." (Oops! Confusion of the two words *specter* and *scepter*? Misreading a text? An "eggcorn"? Who knows...)

♦ "...and the scepter of race actually raises its head..." ("Black, British And 'Brain Drained': Playwright Takes Charge In Baltimore," NPR, Tell Me More, February 24, 2014. Did the interviewee mean to say *specter*? Did the audio process make *specter* sound like *scepter*? Did the old ears of this compiler mishear *scepter* for *specter*? Who knows...)

♦ "She was greeted with a scepter, tiara and a kiss from the first runner-up, Miss U.S.A." (Miss Colombia Paulina Vega.)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: royalty / sign, signal, symbol**

## schism (noun)

schism between the sides

the ~ has deepened (politics)

cultural and political schism

the region's ~ (Northwest Michigan)

♦ "Better the Sultan's turban than the cardinal's hat!"

**division & connection: religion**

## schizophrenic (adjective)

schizophrenic

the weather is ~

kind of schizophrenic

we're ~ (a musician about music scene)

schizophrenic blend

she encapsulates the ~ of exhilaration and alarm (tech)

schizophrenic issue

it's a ~, in fact (Egyptian attitude to West)

♦ The secondary definition in the OED is "with the implication of mutually contradictory or inconsistent elements." Some see this definition as hurtful to the mentally ill and would like to see it removed.

**behavior: health & medicine / mental health**

## school (verb)

schooled Joshua

Usyk ~, and will do it again (boxing)

**experience / knowledge & intelligence: school & education**

## school (experience)

school of the sea

they were tough men risen in the ~ (ship captains)

suspicious school

having been brought up in a ~, I suspected...

tough school

it's a ~, this... (Scotland beaten by Croatia / Euro 2020)

♦ "A whale-ship was my Yale College and my Harvard." (*Moby Dick* by Herman Melville.)

♦ "The Eskimos were right!" (An excited scientist in a helicopter in 1994, noticing a bow whale swimming with a group of beluga whales. This is but one example of traditional ecological knowledge.)

♦ "What we become depends on what we read after all of the professors have finished with us. The greatest university of all is a collection of books." (Thomas Carlyle.)

♦ "Fredrick August Wilson walked out of his Pittsburgh high school at fifteen when a teacher suggested that his term paper on Napoleon was too good to have been written by a black kid. Afraid to tell his mother he'd quit school, he got up every morning and went to the library instead, later graduating to the rough-and-tumble bars and restaurants of the Hill, the down-on-its-heels black neighborhood where he grew up and most of his plays are set." (Bob Mondello's wonderful tribute to the great American playwright on NPR's All Things Considered, October 3, 2005.)

♦ "A friend of mine, who was deported to the women's Camp of Ravensbruck, says that the camp was her university. I think I can say the same thing, that is, by living and then writing about and pondering those events, I have learned many things about man and the world." ("Postscript: The Author's Answers to His Readers' Questions" by Primo Levy.)

♦ "Ability has no school." (Turkey.)

♦ "Time teaches more than books." (*Po but siklos bersentar sar lilehtar / Roma.*)

♦ Life is the best education."

**ability & lack of ability / experience / knowledge & intelligence: school & education**

## schooled

schooled (at an early age) on how

he was ~ to be a drug dealer

schooled for twelve rounds

he was ~ and nearly KO'd (a boxer)

outclassed and schooled

he was ~ (Oleksandr Usyk beats Anthony Joshua / boxing)

got schooled

AJ ~ in his own yard (by Usyk, in London / boxing)

♦ "Dennis Rodman just went to Larry Bird University for a term."  
(Commentary during a 1986 NBA game.)

**experience / knowledge & intelligence: school & education**

## science (as verb)

science a solution  
the goal was to ~ to...

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: part of speech**

## science (not rocket science)

not rocket science  
heat, drought, it's ~ (resultant wildfires)

♦ "ban guns and sort our your mental health support for young people,  
it's not rocket science" (An online British commenter about the latest U.S.  
school shooting.)

**language: sarcasm**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / knowledge &  
intelligence: rocket**

## scintilla (scintilla of doubt, etc.)

scintilla of evidence  
there is not a ~ against him

scintilla of merit  
there is not a ~ in this claim (of a jailhouse snitch)

♦ This is from the Latin for a spark.

**amount: fire / light & dark**

## scintillating (adjective)

scintillating performance  
she gave a ~

**feeling, emotion & effect / superlative: light & dark  
character & personality: light & dark**

## scissor (resemblance)

scissor kick  
his 94th-minute ~ sent the game to penalties (soccer)

**movement / resemblance: blade**

## scissor (genetic scissors, etc.)

Crispr-Cas9 genetic scissors  
their discovery, known as ~

**creation & transformation: blade / tools & technology**

## sclerotic (adjective)

sclerotic bureaucracy  
businessmen must deal with a ~

sclerotic culture  
she campaigned to change the ~ of Sacramento (election)

sclerotic (judicial) system  
the ~ is in need of reform

sclerotic, authoritarian (m)  
it is not the only country with a ~ political system

unthinking and sclerotic (m)  
they rebelled against ~ traditionalism (filmmakers)

**condition & status: health & medicine**

## scold (verb)

scolded the White House press corps for behaving  
she sometimes ~ like her children (Sarah Sanders)

**accusation & criticism: family / verb**

## scold (person)

moral scold  
he became a ~ (Bill Cosby)

**character & personality / judgment / speech: person**

## scorched-earth (and scorched earth)

scorched-earth approach  
what they see as his ~ (a federal prosecutor)

scorched-earth attacks  
voters want answers to their questions, not ~ (politics)

scorched-earth campaign  
Theranos continued its ~ against my sources (*Bad Blood*)

scorched-earth offensive  
this ~ that we saw from the president (attacks his critics)

scorched-earth politics  
republicans have adopted his slash-and-burn, ~

scorched-earth pursuit  
the senator's ~ of communists (Joe McCarthy)

♦ According to William Safire, this term was first used in the Sino-  
Japanese war during the 1930s. (*Lend Me Your Ears*, "Stalin Commands  
the Soviet Peoples to Scorch the Earth Being Taken by Hitler's Troops.")

**conflict / destruction: military / fire**

## scorching (adjective)

scorching (final) scene  
in the play's ~, she unleashes a torrent of fury at...

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire / sensation / temperature**

## score (settle a score, etc.)

score  
you're gonna pay, 'cause I'm the one who's keepin' ~

settle scores  
there are worries that people may try to ~

♦ Score refers to an account or a bill.

**revenge: money / verb**

## scorecard (noun)

Police Scorecard  
the research organization ~ Project

culture, diversity and inclusion scorecard  
in 2016 the company began using a ~ (hiring)

**judgment: baseball / sports & games**

## **scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.)**

Scorpion

Drake releases his double album, “~”

Scorpion police unit

Memphis’s ~ (Street Crimes Operation to Restore Peace...)

scorpions in a bottle

the justices were known as “nine ~” (US Supreme Court)

HMS *Scorpion*

there have been a number of ~s

♦ Traditional medicine and psychiatry may relate to black magic, the evil eye, an evil spirit, a ghost, magic, muti, sorcery, a spell, voodoo, or witchcraft. In Chad and the Sudan, a hijab is a pouch of goatskin or cowhide containing verses of the Qur’an. Traditionally in the desert, hijabs guard a child against the evil eye and protect against scorpions. A vehicle may be adorned with hijabs. Practitioners of traditional medicine include the inyanga, medicine man, sangoma, shaman, sorcerer, traditional healer, witch, witch doctor, and yerbero.

♦ “Scorpions can survive a year between feedings; some scorpions never drink; scorpions kill over 5,000 people a year; there are over 1,500 species of scorpions worldwide; there are lethal snakes and ants, softball-sized spiders, scorpions, centipedes, giant beetles and disease-bearing ticks (in Kandahar, Afghanistan); poisonous snakes, scorpions, and spiders are common in all deserts; a twelve-year-old West Virginia girl was stung by a scorpion while picking up a seedless watermelon at Wal-Mart (the shipment came from Mexico)... (Things said or written about scorpions.)

♦ “Tuareg mothers put a dab of scorpion poison on their nipples when they are breastfeeding as a form of vaccine for their babies.” (Mark Eveleigh.)

♦ “At Ras Al Gar, the U.S. Marines would pit scorpion against scorpion in a hole in the sand and bet on which scorpion would win.” (Operation Desert Shield, the Gulf War.)

**character & personality: animal / predation**

**identity & nature: animal / predation**

**proper name: animal / predation**

**military: animal / predation / proper name**

## **scour (verb)**

scoured the shops for antiques

they ~

scoured the Earth for (rare) fruit

Bill Whitman ~ (collector)

scoured the area for hours

search teams ~ (Delphi Indiana murders)

scoured the Web

crazed fans ~ (“Blair Witch Project”)

scoured his computer

police ~

scoured the neighborhood

more cops ~

scoured (all) the records

the new team ~ in the case (prosecution)

scoured 46,332 sq miles

the search ~ of sea floor (for MH370)

scoured the streets and homeless shelters

officers ~ but could find no trace of him

**searching & discovery: rubbing & washing / verb**

## **scoured**

scoured by whirlwinds

a scorched moonscape ~ of ash (wildfire)

scoured by wind

the land is ~ and baked by sun

**resemblance: rubbing & washing**

## **scourge (noun)**

scourge of (mass) incarceration

the ~ rips apart poor communities

scourge of (violent) jihad

the ~ has not gone away

scourge of racism

we thought the ~ was a distant memory (soccer)

scourge of the Resistance

Klaus Barbie was the ~

scourge of (modern) technology

car wrecks are a great ~ (Fast & Furious films)

scourge in the black communities

crack cocaine was a ~

self-appointed scourge

he is now a ~ of victimhood and outrage (a writer)

blessings as well as its scourges

celebrity’s ~

**affliction: violence / whip**

## **scout (noun)**

boy scouts

the ~ are shining paragons of American boyhood

sports scouts

~ are heavily travelled savants who value young players

♦ The scout / snipers serve as the eyes and ears of the battalion commander.

**searching & discovery: military / person**

## **scout (verb)**

scout blind drops

please ~ (memorial to kayaker Edward Lee Green)

scout for talent

he came to Bosnia to ~ (KSM / terrorist)

**searching & discovery: military / verb**

## **scramble (verb)**

scramble to get

I had to ~ some money

scrambled (this week) to prevent

attorneys ~ the public release of recorded statements

scrambling to provide

the government is ~ additional security (Olympics)

scrambling to put

negotiators have been ~ the talks back together

scrambling to salvage

they are ~ the treaty (diplomacy)

scrambling to stop

health officials are ~ the spread of the virus (measles)

scrambled for his (political) survival

he has ~ this week (ethics problems)

**activity / difficulty, easiness & effort / haste: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

**movement: verb / walking running & jumping**

### scramble (disrupt)

scrambled the lives

he has ~ of everyone in the news business (president)

scrambled their plans

the impeachment trial has ~ (politicians)

**disruption: mixture / verb**

### scrap (verb)

scrapped (nearly all of) the changes

he has ~ (of the previous regime)

scrapped the idea

the team ~ of...

scrapped (NASA's) plan

the administration has ~ to return to the moon

scrap its plan

the government must ~ to restart the nuclear reactors

scrap that strategy

they should ~ and try something different

scrapped the (color-coded) system

the Obama administration ~ (terrorism alerts)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: manufacturing / verb**

### scrap (noun)

scraps of the (old) economy

young people should fight over the remaining ~

scraps of morale

hunger destroyed whatever ~ may have been left (convicts)

**amount: food & drink**

### scrape (verb)

scrape 500,000 members' private details

the flaw allowed hackers to ~

**computer / dismissal, removal & resignation / searching & discovery / taking & removing: blade / knife / verb**

### scrape by (verb)

scraping by

farmers are just ~

**survival, persistence & endurance: blade / knife / verb**

### scrapped

scrapped by the governor

the project was ~

project was scrapped

the ~

program will be scrapped

he believes the ~ later this year (State Dept.)

tour was scrapped

the ~ (music)

want them scrapped

Americans oppose the bills and ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation: manufacturing**

### scratch (scratch and claw, etc.)

scratch and claw for the maximum

she is going to ~ she can get (politics)

**behavior / conflict / difficulty, easiness & effort: animal / verb**

### scratch (record scratch)

record-scratch effect

her close relationship to her sources did have a ~

♦ This refers the feeling you would have if you were listening to a song on a turntable and the needle abruptly ripped across a record. It is a sound effect used in films.

**feeling, emotion & effect: film / sound**

**sound: film**

### scream (verb)

whine, scream and cry

the Democrats ~ crocodile tears for the child victims (guns)

**conflict: sound / verb**

### scream (scream "premium," etc.)

scream (out to the young people) that

this sentence will ~ you can't drive drunk (prison)

scream "adventure"

the off-road capability of their cars ~ (Jeep Wrangler)

screamed money laundering

from law enforcement's point of view, bitcoin ~

scream maturity

what we saw in Houston doesn't ~ to me (NBA)

screamed the front page

"Raheem shoots himself in foot" ~ of the *Sun* newspaper

scream 'premium'

if there are scratches on the tin, that doesn't ~ (paint)  
 screams "Rob me"  
 the carry case ~ (Apple AirPods Max)  
 scream Washington  
 at first glance the restaurant doesn't ~ (Compass Rose)  
 screams David v Goliath  
 if there's one tie that ~, this is it (Falkirk v Rangers)  
 ♦ "The effect is trashy, hollering sexual availability... (Young American girls who wear short shorts, or Daisy Dukes.)  
 ♦ Fashion that suggests rather than shouts. (Females.)  
 ♦ "I just love the idea that you can listen to a body and it's screaming at you. In this case Ganymede's screaming, 'I have my own magnetic field! That's a very special tale...'" (Scott Bolton, the principal investigator for the Juno Mission, about the moon revolving around Jupiter. The sounds are "data converted to audio, so we could all hear it." From "What does a moon sound like," NPR, Morning Edition, Dec. 24, 2021.)  
 ♦ see also *cry* (verb)

**evidence / fictive communication: speech / verb**  
**scream (scream for action, etc.)**

screaming for action  
 the public is ~ now (Australia / fires / climate change)  
 screamed (out) for an activist investor  
 it is a situation that ~ (tennis reform)  
 scream and holler and carry on  
 people manufacture outrage and ~ like there's no tomorrow

**conflict: sound / verb**  
**screen (split screen)**

split screen  
 South shore is a ~ (rich / poor)  
 split screen of conduct  
 it's a ~ that is required (manufacturing hygiene in India)  
 split-screen day  
 this was really a ~ in the US Senate (2 important events)  
 split-screen messaging  
 there was some ~ (cooperation vs. unilateralism)  
 split-screen moment  
 dueling televised town halls, a ~ (rival politicians)  
 split-screen reality  
 he lived in this ~ all the time (adoration / vilification)  
 chilling split screen  
 it was a ~ (president addresses nation / street protests)  
 worse split screen  
 I can't imagine a ~ (9/11 pile / Osama escapes Tora Bora)  
 series of split screens  
 Trump is hoping to set up a ~ (during impeachment trial)  
 ♦ "The World Trade Center pile of debris was literally still smoking on December 12th, 2001, which is the day Bin Laden escaped from Tora Bora. It's also the same day that Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld was getting briefed about the future Iraq war plans by the Pentagon, and to me that sort of speaks for itself... The split screen on 9/11 (in 2021) will be the Taliban you know taking over chunks of Afghanistan using

American military equipment that they've seized, and reading the names of the victims at the World Trade Center site, and I can't imagine a worse split screen, but I think that is likely what we will see." (The fine journalist Peter Bergen. From "Osama Bin Laden Biography Goes Inside Al-Qaida Leader's Final Hideout," NPR, Fresh Air, with Dave Davies.)

♦ "And here is a split screen 20 years later... (Video of Bush in 2001 announcing attacks in Afghanistan and Biden announcing US exit from Afghanistan in 2021.)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / comparison & contrast:**  
**film**

**screw (tighten / loosen the screws)**

loosen the screws  
 if we ~ on restrictions the economy will return (pandemic)

tightened the screws  
 the judge ~ and... (sentence)

**pressure: tools & technology / verb**  
**coercion & motivation: pressure / tools & technology / verb**  
**screw up (verb)**

screwed up  
 I ~

**failure, accident & impairment: tools & technology / verb**  
**script (to script)**

exactly to script  
 things haven't gone ~ (a boxer's career)

gone (exactly) to script  
 things haven't ~ (a boxer's career)

sticks to script  
 White House ~ (diplomacy)

♦ "This is an American crime story that follows what sadly feels like a familiar script. Woman goes missing, husband gets in front of a camera, makes an emotional plea for her return, and that husband is arrested for her murder. This has now happened in the case of..." ("Husband of missing Colorado mom arrested nearly one year after her disappearance," ABC.)

♦ "The same formula again and again. I want to post pictures of myself in bathing suits. When I get criticized I'll say I want to do it for others and for body positivity. When I get criticized for that, I will show sadness that the world doesn't support mental health and I'm a victim, and finally I'll get praised for being so brave for living my own truth." (Bob Loblaw. A BBC HYS comment about "SI Swim model Natalie Mariduena wants to 'be an example' of 'body normalcy'" by Stephanie Nolasco, August 20, 2022.)

♦ "Will Smith is executing a pretty standard and frankly effective return to the public. You know, he'd been keeping out of media, but with *Emancipation's* release, he appeared for a high-profile interview in a friendly venue, he talked over the scandal last week with *Daily Show* host Trevor Noah, who admitted that he's Smith's friend, and then he hit the red carpet and a few other friendly media outlets, and he emphasized how he hopes that audiences disregard the scandal for the sake of his co-workers. And that's kind of a common strategy for big-name celebrities in trouble, you disappear for a while, you talk over the controversy with a friendly interviewer, and then you return to public events and kind of act as if this situation is mostly behind you..." ("How celebrities work their way back into the spotlight after scandals," NPR, All Things Considered, December 5, 2022. With Eric Deggans.)

♦ "Instead, the Jan. 6 hearings were meticulously choreographed... Unlike typical congressional hearings, these would have a script. 'Every word was intentional,' one senior staff member recalled. 'Nothing was spontaneous.'" ("Inside the Jan. 6 Committee" by Robert Draper and Luke Broadwater, *The New York Times Magazine*, January 1, 2023.)

♦ "That pattern is initially denying there is a problem, sometimes making misleading or obfuscating statements, and making life difficult for those

investigating the issue. Only when external findings eventually show wrongdoing or ineffectiveness by the Met, is there finally an admission of failings. This is usually accompanied by announcements of new actions which the Met claim address the problems and present as if they are fully implemented and effective. / Another part of the pattern is an acceptance of failings only in respect of individual officers, who are termed 'bad apples.' They are seen as distinct from the majority of officers, who do their jobs well and with integrity." (Baroness Casey Review.)

♦ "Same old story—beat some minnows, nation gets hysterical, lose to the first decent team you meet." (A sour commenter about English World Cup soccer.)

♦ "The story delves deep into what Bret sees as the performance of everyday life; the way everything is a narrative, a 'pantomime,' a 'script.'" ("Bret Easton Ellis' first novel in more than a decade, 'The Shards,' is worth the wait" by Gabino Iglesias, NPR, Review, Books, January 19, 2023.)

**development / script: theater**

## script (off script, etc.)

flipping the script

older gymnasts are ~ (gymnasts are usually girls)

go off script

they are so good when they ~ (two quarterbacks)

**development / disruption / script: theater**

## scrub (remove)

scrub campuses clean

some want to ~ of words, ideas, and subjects that might cause discomfort

scrub the video off the internet

he tried to ~

scrub a computer

they made a plan to ~ (criminal investigation)

scrub the record

can you imagine Clinton after impeachment trying to ~

scrub your criminal record

state agencies can ~ (expungements, sealing records)

**concealment & lack of concealment: hygiene / verb**

**dismissal, removal & resignation: hygiene / verb**

## scrubbed

scrubbed in the hours after the fatal raid

his social media accounts were already ~

**concealment & lack of concealment: hygiene**

**dismissal, removal & resignation: hygiene**

## scrum (reporters)

scrum of reporters

we were surrounded by a huge ~

sidewalk scrum

during a ~ with reporters, he was asked why... (politician)

♦ A press gaggle is similar.

♦ Give blood, play rugby; Rugby players eat their dead; Trample the weak, hurdle the dead, play rugby... (Rugby bumper stickers.)

**behavior / group, set & collection: sports & games**

**activity / resemblance: sports & games**

## scum (insult)

scum

you people are just as much garbage as this ~ (TMZ)

wash the scum off the streets

we need to ~ (criminals, etc.)

some day a real rain will come and ~ (film *Taxi Driver*)

**insult / violence / worth & lack of worth: hygiene**

## scupper (verb)

scupper all chances

that might ~ of getting peace talks going again

scuppered the deal

that's what ~ the last time

scupper the (current) recovery

the Federal Reserve does not want to ~

**destruction: boat / sea / verb**

## scuppered

scuppered

the deal was ~

efforts to pass the Law of the Sea Treaty are always ~

scuppered by Wenner

previous attempts at this book were ~ (a biography)

**destruction: boat / sea**

## scuttle (verb)

scuttled an agreement

she headed off a dispute that nearly ~ (diplomacy)

scuttled her plans

she ~ to become a teacher

scuttled its economics program

the university ~

scuttled the talks

no side wishes to appear to have ~

♦ "Indian unity by British rule will swiftly perish... The great ship is sinking in the calm sea. Those who should have devoted their utmost efforts to keep her afloat have instead opened the sea-cocks." (Winston Churchill in a speech in 1946.)

♦ On November 27, 1942, the French scuttled the French fleet in Toulon as the Germans attempted to seize it. Three battleships, 7 cruisers, 15 destroyers, and 12 submarines were sunk. Sea valves were opened, also, demolition charges were set off. The German military was disappointed they hadn't been able to seize the ships intact, but Hitler was pleased because the fleet was destroyed and could not be used against the Axis. The captains of a few ships were able to sail them to the Allies.

♦ On the 21st of June, 1919, German sailors scuttled the interned German High Seas Fleet in Scapa Flow. Arguably, it was the greatest loss of shipping in a single day in world history. Fifty-two of the 74 ships went to the bottom.

♦ "ANNELIESE ESSBERGER – intercepted by the USS MILWAUKEE and scuttled while outbound November 21, 1942, at ØØ-54 N. 22-34 W."

**destruction: boat / sea / verb**

## scuttled

scuttled by the governor  
the project was ~

scuttled show  
the musical was a last-minute replacement for a ~

deal was scuttled  
the ~ (politics)

plan was (later) scuttled  
the ~ was (government)

**destruction: boat / sea**

## Scylla and Charybdis

Scylla of blandness and the Charybdis of confrontation  
like most shows of this ilk, it toggles between the ~

Scylla of negativity and the Charybdis of cheerleading  
how to steer between the ~ (literary criticism, etc.)

Scylla and Charybdis of Yiddish on the one hand  
Hebrew, under threat from the ~ and European languages...

lexicographer's Scylla and Charybdis  
the dictionary steers a sound middle course between the ~  
(prescription vs. description)

between "Scylla and Charybdis"  
their proposals are an unnecessary choice ~ (Greek crisis)

**alternatives & choices: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey**

**danger: allusion / boat / Iliad & Odyssey / sea**

## sea (in a sea)

in a sea of (armed) chaos  
Somaliland is an island of stability ~

in a (rising) sea of (moral) pollution  
they saw themselves as a small archipelago of decency ~

in a sea of sexism  
we existed ~ (Poppy Northcutt of NASA)

in a sea of viruses  
we are swimming ~ (bacteria, viruses, etc.)

in a sea of woes  
a school flailing ~ (title of article)

**environment: sea / water**

## sea (environment)

sea  
it is the ~ we all swim in (the Internet and regulation)

**environment: sea / water**

## sea (at sea)

at sea  
policy makers are ~

**direction: boat / sea**

## sea (amount)

sea of clouds  
I saw a ~ extending miles and miles (fire tower)

sea of data  
the testing mandates had generated a ~ (education)

sea of debt  
a ~ threatens to drown the dreams of a generation

sea of (unfamiliar) faces  
all I saw was a ~

sea of humanity  
the pilgrims formed a ~ (Hajj)

sea of (rights) issues  
the turbulent ~ (copyright)

sea of merchandise  
there's a ~ (department store)

sea of people  
as far as I could see was a ~ (state funeral)

sea of pilgrims  
a seemingly endless ~ (Hajj)

sea of protestors  
a ~ were waving Socialist party flags (Albania)

sea of red  
the stands were a ~ (Seoul World Cup stadium)

seas of squalor  
islands of prosperity within great ~ (Bombay, etc.)

sea of thoughts  
he says his mind is a muddled ~

sea of unknowns  
the oil spill has created a ~

sea of candles and flowers  
a ~ (public memorial to terrorist victims)

sea of (Japanese) flags and signs  
the stands were a ~ (baseball)

sea of (2,000 mostly) Hispanic students  
this ~ (school)

sea of red ink  
keep it from crashing in a ~

♦ "Where had it come from? Had it rained down or sprung from within the earth? Did the townsfolk of al-Hadra, al-Rawdha and the dozens of other places behind the hills know that all this water was here? Why was it here instead of in other places where people needed it? The rainwater and well water were sweet and drinkable, if at times a little brackish, but how had the seawater become so salty and bitter that no one could possibly drink it? How long would it be here—where was it going?" (Bedouins from the interior of the Arabian Peninsula seeing the sea for the first time. From *Cities of Salt* by Abdelrahman Munif.)

**amount: sea**

## sea (sea of sand, etc.)

sea of mud

everywhere is a ~ (after a tsunami)

sea of sand

their way was blocked by an impassible ~ (desert)

dune sea

the great ~s called ergs in Arabic (Sahara)

sand sea

the Eastern Erg, a ~ covering 120,000 square miles

♦ A sea of sand (a desert), a Sahara of snow (Antarctica)...

**resemblance: sea**

## sea legs

fame sea legs

a 19-year-old man finding his ~ (Lil Nas X)

**experience: boat / walking, running & jumping**

**equilibrium & stability: walking, runny & jumping**

## seal of approval

seal of approval

he gave me that grin of his, and that was his ~

mob's seal of approval

a kiss on the cheek was the ~

**sign, signal, symbol: royalty**

**judgment / sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: sign, signal, symbol**

## seam (burst at the seams)

bursting at the seams

a nearby campground is ~

**size: clothing & accessories**

## seamless (adjective)

seamless service

the company delivers ~ to its customers

seamless teamwork

~ can be a potent weapon (epidemiology)

**division & connection: cloth**

**flaws & lack of flaws: cloth**

## seamlessly

seamlessly

they work together ~

**division & connection: cloth**

## search (for truth, cure, etc.)

search for answers

the ~ should start with...

turning to a spiritual path in their ~

search for a cure

the ~ for autism

search for evidence

the ~ of childhood abuse

search for fulfillment

their ~ goes unrewarded (quarterlifer crisis)

search for identity

his adolescence was marked by a painful ~ (racial)

searching for a better life

they were all ~ (migrants to L.A. in 1904)

search for thrills

the ~ can kill (Chilko River rafting disaster)

search for the truth

in the unrelenting ~

search for safety and perfection

all the gear was overhauled ad altered in the restless ~

unrelenting search

in the ~ for the truth

spiritual search

he began a ~ that took him to...

**searching & discovery: hunting**

## search (digital strip search, etc.)

digital strip-searches

critics are unhappy over ~ (cop requests for smartphones)

~ of victims are unnecessary and violate victims' rights

**searching & discovery: clothing & accessories**

**computer: clothing & accessories**

## seared

seared into my consciousness

that period of time was ~ (divorce of her parents)

seared in the Japanese consciousness

Hiroshima and Nagasaki are ~

seared into the national consciousness

their names are ~ (names of World War I battles)

seared in my mind

that's a moment that is ~ forever (disaster)

seared in her memory

her rape is ~

remain seared

the images ~ in our collective memory (9/11)

**impression: fire / mark / sensation**

## searing (adjective)

searing attack

he launched into a ~ on the Republicans (politics)

**feeling, emotion & effect: fire / sensation**

## season (life)

season of our life

in each ~, there are certain tasks which must be accomplished

seasons of our lives  
as the seasons turn, so do the ~ turn

harvest season  
he has a sense that this is his "~" (lifetime awards)

going through a season  
we are ~ right now but we will come out of it (hope of change)

♦ "To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven." (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8.)

### death & life / development / time: season

## season (hunting)

season in Alaska  
the commercial fishing ~

9-day (deer) season  
the ~ is a huge event

bow season  
the start of ~

deer season  
the ~ is a huge event (in Wisconsin and Minnesota)

quail season  
during the ~ they hunted together

fishing season  
for the term of a ~

hunting season  
imposing strict ~s and bag limits (Texas)  
wear brightly colored clothing during ~

honey-hunting season  
during the ~...

squirrel-hunting season  
~ opens this month

♦ *The Deer Hunter, Enemy at the Gates...* (Great films about the military that compare and contrast the killing of animals to the killing of humans. *Deliverance* does the same.)

time: season

## season (sports)

season ticket  
he's a huge fan and a ~ holder (basketball)

climbing season  
this has been one of the mildest ~s in memory (Everest)

racing season  
a month before the new ~ would begin (Winston Cup)

basketball season  
this will be her final ~

hockey season  
the ~ lasts until the end of June

ski season  
high hopes for a strong ~ (weather)

♦ Pre-season; early-season; late-season; post-season; off-season...

time: season

## season (public health)

flu season  
~ runs from December to April  
~ normally peaks in January  
predict the extent and severity of this year's ~  
this ~ will be much worse than in the past

hay-fever season  
many people wear masks during ~ (Tokyo)

malaria season  
the ~ is just starting

♦ "In winter there was typhus and in summer dysentery... the alcohol was suitable for preparing tincture of quinine, which was used in the treatment of typhus when it reappeared at the onset of the cold weather." (Dr. Zhivago by Boris Pasternak, from the section "The Forest Brotherhood.")

♦ "In 1647 yellow fever appeared in Barbados, where some 5,000 people died of 'a new distemper.' From that date on, it regularly visited the ports and cities of the Americas during the summer months—from Quebec in the north to Rio de Janeiro in the south... European ports—including Lisbon in Portugal, St Nazaire in France and Swansea in Wales—also suffered visitations of yellow fever." (*Disease, The Extraordinary Stories Behind History's Deadliest Killers* by Mary Dobson.)

time: season

## season (agriculture)

growing season  
the lack of rainfall during past ~s

harvesting season  
late July and early August is date ~ in Iraq

picking season  
at the height of the various ~s

planting season  
~ is just around the corner  
when times got lean as the ~ approached (CAR / Africa)

plowing season  
during the ~

harvest season  
since the ~ began in early October (olives / Palestine)

strawberry and blueberry season  
the ~ in Michigan

♦ "It is 'Spargelzeit' (asparagus season) in Germany. / There will be wooden huts at thousands of road junctions selling nothing but white asparagus. Every restaurant offers its own specials of asparagus... / There is asparagus soup, asparagus sausage. I have had ham with asparagus embedded in it. Asparagus ice cream is not unknown. / And, or so I am informed by a keen-nosed friend, no toilet at a concert will now be free of the smell that asparagus imparts... / There will be asparagus festivals. Spargel Queens will be crowned, with crowns made of asparagus... The joy is not the food itself, but the idea of seasonality. / The food comes, you eat lots of it, you get a bit tired of it, and then it goes promptly on 24 June...when the industry determines that enough is enough and the stalks of the old have to be hacked ready for the next season. / Who knows what the mixture of phallic symbolism and fertile soil means in the German psyche. All I know is that to eat asparagus is to partake of the country itself." ("Asparagus, royalty and the joys of seasonal eating," by Stephen Evans, BBC, 21 April 2012.)

**time: season**

## season (animals, insects, etc.)

breeding season

the 5-month-long ~ (ostriches congregate in flocks / Kalahari)

calving season

the ~ is just beginning (Colorado cattle, in January)  
~, from now to early April (Colorado cows)

lambing season

during the six-month ~

mating season

October through November is the deer ~

spawning season

during the ~ (walleye)

swarming season

in termite country during ~

locust season

the ~ usually runs from November through May (in Saudi)

mosquito season

there are no plans to spray because it's late in the ~

migratory season

November 4, at the height of the ~ (birds through NYC)

♦ "Radar shows swarms of mayflies over Lake Erie" by Mike Gauntner, WFMJ-TV, June 24<sup>th</sup> 2022.

**time: season**

## season (natural events)

avalanche season

one of the deadliest ~s on record...

fire season

the worst ~ in 30 years (wildfires)  
the nation's worst ~ in more than a decade  
we have a forecast out for the entire ~ (wildfires)

hurricane season

the long ~ of 1999  
Tropical Storm Alex, the first named storm of the Atlantic ~

monsoon season

the South Asian ~ runs from June to September (India, etc.)  
flooding is common during Myanmar's ~  
Myanmar's ~ starts in late May

snow season

the end of summer and the onset of a new ~

tornado season

generally speaking, the ~ tends to be in the spring

dry season

watering holes during the ~  
the wildebeest move west at the end of the ~ (Serengeti)  
next year's ~ (Brazilian Amazon)  
storing water for use in the ~ (the Everglades)  
old trails are visible in the ~, but not the wet season (salt)

in Vanuatu, May to October is the ~

rainy season

the ~ extends from November to May (Serengeti)  
after the ~, people repair and resurface mud walls (Djenne)  
the bird population of the Crater increases during the ~  
in the ~ they are cut off by impassable roads (Dos Rios)  
when the ~ arrives in June (Niger)

♦ The annual rains are a blessing and a curse for the subcontinent. (Flooding in India and Bangladesh.)

♦ "During the rainy season, the Tonle Sap Lake covers nearly 1/5 of Cambodia."

♦ "Take a boat ride up the muddy brown Tonle Sap River and almost all the houses you pass are on stilts, 10 feet high or more. For the monsoon brings flooding. Big floods. At the height of the rainy season, from the air, it seems as if the entire country is underwater. Few here seem to mind, in fact for most the seasonal flooding of the Mekong Basin is a blessing, not a curse." (Cambodia.)

♦ "Concepts like *tornado alley* and *tornado season* no longer apply." (Climate change, and the worry that tornado alley is getting wider.)

**time: season**

## season (other)

cockfighting season

New Mexico's ~ starts in December and lasts through July

marching season

the annual Protestant (Northern Ireland)

college admissions season

the most competitive ~ ever...

Christmas season

retailers make up to 75% of profits during the ~

fashion seasons

between ~

holiday season

the ~ (Thanksgiving to New Year's)

Halloween season

amusement parks are cashing in on the ~

pilgrimage season

mid-May is the high point of the ~ (Darchen / Mt. Kailas)

prom season

the month of May means ~ (high schools)

tourist season

the height of the summer ~

travel season

Thanksgiving marks the final ~ of the year

TV season

the most talked-about show of the new ~

**time: season**

## seasoned (experienced)

seasoned

I'm ~, I've seen a lot of things, but not like this (cop)

seasoned actor

she is a ~

seasoned doctors

~ are likely to be resistant to coaching

seasoned executive

the company needs a ~ with a proven track record

seasoned investigator

he is a ~ who specializes in cleaning house (government)

seasoned (tax) lawyers

even ~ are confounded by the new rules

seasoned observers

the speed of the Taliban takeover startled even ~ (2021)

seasoned professional

she is a ~

seasoned (diplomatic) troubleshooter

he is a ~ (dispatched by president to Egypt)

seasoned and sensible

he is a ~ traveler

young but seasoned

he is ~ (city lobbyist at state capital)

♦ Good firewood has gone through at least four seasons.

**experience: season**

## seat (front seat)

front seat

I have had a ~ to many profound events

front seat to history

it's such a privilege, you have a ~ (Cokie Roberts)

**proximity: theater**

## seat (front-row seat)

front-row seat

as the weather gets weirder, we in Alaska have a ~

front-row seat to the revolution

he had a ~ (a journalist)

front-row seat to the tornado

they had a ~ (storm chasers)

had a front-row seat

he ~ to her surprise loss (advisor to Clinton / 2016)

**proximity: theater**

## seat (in the driver's seat)

in the driver's seat

he continues to be ~ going forward (politician)

the smaller parties are ~ (German election)

he is ~ in terms of the conversation going forward (politics)

in the driving seat

I'm ~, take it or leave it (terms of contract)

firmly in the driver's seat

hip-hop and streetwear are ~ (fashion industry)

puts you in the driver's seat

a good credit score ~

♦ "Now, with a Republican administration in control of Washington, Strauss was in the driver's seat, and his right foot was pressing his political accelerator to the floor." (*American Prometheus: The Triumph And Tragedy Of J. Robert Oppenheimer* by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin.)

♦ "One insider said she and her new leadership group have taken the 'keys to the car' and turned ABC's climate of asking questions into a 'culture of fear.'" (ABC News.)

**control & lack of control / driving force: engine**

## seatbelt (fasten your seatbelt / ironic)

fasten your seatbelts

*firebrand* comes from—*fire* and *brand* (a stick)

**readiness & preparedness: mechanism**

## second-class (adjective)

second-class citizen

comedy has always been a ~ (in films, versus drama)

**hierarchy / superiority & inferiority: ticket**

## second coming (of Steve Jobs, etc.)

second coming of Steve Jobs

her all-consuming quest to be the ~ (Elizabeth Holmes)

**representation: religion**

## secret (secret life, etc.)

secret life

see *life* (*secret life, secret lives*)

secret history

see *history* (*secret history*)

♦ "Secret wars tend not to be so secret in the country where they take place."

♦ "What you see here, what you do here, what you hear here, when you leave here, let it stay here." (*Los Alamos and the Manhattan Project*.)

## seduce (verb)

seduce patrons (of the arts) into parting

he hoped to ~ with some money (backers' audition)

seduce Hollywood

the film has gone on to ~ since being unveiled at Cannes

**pursuit, capture & escape: love, courtship & marriage / sex / verb**

## seduced

seduced by him

authors were often ~ at first but then became disenchanted

seduced by Hollywood

some novelists, like Fitzgerald, are ~

seduced by the French Revolution

Byron, Heine, Goethe, Hegel and Beethoven were all ~

seduced by the siren song  
they've been ~ "college for everyone"

**attraction & repulsion / pursuit, capture & escape: love, courtship & marriage / sex**

### seductive (adjective)

seductive spokesman  
he is a ~ for a new brand of youthful defiance (Han Han)

seductive theory  
it's a ~

sounded seductive  
the pitch has ~ (for an educational fad)

**attraction & repulsion: love, courtship & marriage / sex**

### see (a date can see something, etc.)

saw over 250 climbers  
23 May ~ try to summit (Mount Everest)

**fictive meeting & seeing: eye / verb**

### see (fictive)

seen  
this is some of the hottest air we have ~ in half a decade

see from him  
what do you want to ~ (what do you want him to do)

seeing a reverse brain drain  
the US is ~ as foreign students go home

see fees  
consumers ~ everywhere (phone, credit cards, hotels)

see more responsible government  
we are beginning to ~ (Indonesia)

seen an increase  
the library has ~ in attendance at spoken-word events

seen (angry) protests  
Bolivia has ~ by the country's indigenous majority

seen the return  
the west has ~ of the wolf (US / relocation programs)

seen a series  
the last few years have ~ of political upheavals (England)

seen a 100 degree temperature  
New York City has not ~ in seven years

seen (a series of political) upheavals  
the last few years have ~ (England)

saw Basques ambush  
the battle ~ a part of Charlemagne's army

saw the Scandinavians eliminated  
her goal ~ by the same team that...

**fictive meeting & seeing: eye / verb**

### see (visit / meet)

sees him (maybe) once a month  
his biological father ~

see a doctor  
he had to pay \$95 to ~ (immigrant)  
I advise you to ~

saw a neurologist  
she ~, who diagnosed traumatic brain injury with...

see the (patient's) nurse  
please ~ to obtain a mask (hospital)

see you around  
I'll ~

came to see  
thousands ~ Willy Nelson (concert)

advise you to see  
I ~ a doctor

place to see  
the mall, for many teens, is a ~ and be seen

**social interaction: eye / verb**

### see (refer to)

see [www.nlm.nih.gov](http://www.nlm.nih.gov) / research  
a draft version is available, ~

See Instructions  
~ (product)

**reference: eye / verb**

### see (see action, etc.)

saw action  
she last ~ Jan. 8 against Arizona (basketball)

see combat  
he never expected to ~ (young soldier)

saw combat  
the B-2 stealth bomber first ~ in the air war over Kosovo

see the world  
in his early 20's he set off to ~  
I wanted to ~...

see a great fight  
win or lose, you're going to ~ (with boxer Arturo Gatti)

expected to see  
he never expected to ~ combat (young soldier)

a lot to see  
there is quite ~ within the underwater caves here

set off to see  
in his early 20's he ~ the world

♦ "We know a thing or two because we've *seen* a thing or two." (The tagline for a cute series of ads by Farmers Insurance.)

♦ "I'm just seeing a small piece of this elephant." (A reporter reporting on extensive wildfires on the west coast.)

experience: eye / verb

## see (comprehension)

see

you'll ~...

I ~ (understand)

see your point

I ~ and it's a good one

see for yourself

you'll ~ how you can save (ad for store)

see the potential

don't you ~ for disaster here

sees it as (maybe) the next big thing

Silicon Valley ~ (BeReal vs Instagram)

comprehension & incomprehension: eye / verb

## see (they don't see you, hear you, etc.)

see you

I ~ (acknowledge you, your existence, etc.)

I ~, hear you, understand and love you (a politician)

see Black people

white people don't ~, they look past them (Katori Hall)

see you and we hear you

Lisa and Rhali: We ~ (see quote below)

♦ "When They See Us transforms 'The Central Park Five' into individuals with names and personalities." (Versus most of the victims in *Dahmer—Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story*, according to Daniel Fienberg's negative review of *Dahmer* in *The Hollywood Reporter*, September 22, 2022. *When they see us* refers to Ava DuVernay's documentary.)

♦ "I wrote it at a time when I didn't know what I was going to do with my life, I didn't know how I was going to move forward, I felt unseen, I felt unheard, I felt misunderstood... (Michael R. Jackson, who has a BFA and MFA from the Tisch School of the Arts, about his musical *A Strange Loop*, which won Best Book and Best Musical at the 2022 Tonys.)

♦ "And for readers like me, who can relate to the experience of being a non-binary gestational parent, who are so used to being erased and invisible from conversations around families and parenting, the book looks us dead in the eye and says, unflinchingly: *I see you. I am you.*" ("Labeled 'Mother' When Not A Mother At All: On Being A Non-Binary Gestational Parent" by Britni De La Cretaz, NPR, Review, June 15, 2021. Britni de la Cretaz is a "freelance writer whose work sits at the intersection of sports, gender, culture, and queerness," according to their Website, which is not secure. They describe themselves as an older millennial. See "The woman who refused to have sex..." by Erica Tempesta for *Dailymail*, 10 December 2015.)

♦ "To all trans people who deal with harassment, self-loathing, abuse and the threat of violence every day: I see you. I love you and I will do everything I can to change this world for the better." ("Oscar Nominee Elliot Page Announces He Is Transgender" by Dustin Jones, an intern on NPR's News Desk.)

♦ "We've been silenced and misrepresented. And so, any time you get an opportunity to tell your truth, you are pushing back against so many lies and falsehoods... And being an artist and in demanding that the world just looks at you, you oddly are being an activist." (Katori Hall.)

♦ "How do I become something I don't see?" From this simple question, The Delta Project was born. The Delta Project exists to break the generational cycle of incarceration by reconnecting youth of color and their families to community relationships through mentorship, coaching and storytelling. Help young men see what they can become. Take action. [deltaproject.co/action](http://deltaproject.co/action). (A full-page advertisement for The Delta Project in *The Atlantic* magazine.)

♦ "I just want the people of Florida to know. We see what you're going through and we're with you. We're going to do everything we can for you." (President Joe Biden after Hurricane Ian.)

♦ "No matter where you are in your journey, I see you, we see you, and we celebrate you—Happy Pride!" (Karine Jean-Pierre.)

♦ "This is a day that Minnesota says, 'Bring your authentic self. You'll be seen, heard, valued and loved in this state, and we want you to be whoever you are.' We see you, we hear you, and we will make sure you are in a safe place to be who you are." (Gov. Tim Walz.)

♦ "I want my trans followers to know that I and so many other people around the world see you, respect you and love you for who you are." (Emma Watson, of the Harry Potter films.)

♦ "Lisa and Rhali: We see you and we hear you." (Football Australia (FA) chief executive James Johnson, responding to their accusations of "women protecting women who abuse women," presumably lesbians. From "Lisa De Vanna's allegations highlight tensions in Australia's *complex* [italics mine] football culture" by Samantha Lewis, ABC Australia, Analysis, Sport, 18 Oct 2021.)

♦ "We see you. We have always seen you. We have watched you pretend not to see us..." (The creepily written "We See You, White American Theater" at [weseeyouwat.com/statement](http://weseeyouwat.com/statement). Fifteen accusatory paragraphs begin with "We have watched you..." and end with "We see you." A clever redirection of the trope. #WESEEYOU, of course. NPR's Andrew Limbong referenced the "We see you White American Theater" movement in "Working in theater is a grind. But it doesn't have to be," NPR Morning Edition, October 5, 2022.)

♦ "Let's face it, America is getting bigger, and women want to see themselves instead of the image of what society says they should be." (Plus-size model Ashley Graham.)

♦ "to everyone showing up to @Minions: we see you and we love you." (Universal Pictures @UniversalPics.)

♦ "we 'Heard' you, now just go away." (A Johnny Depp supporter and online commenter during the Amber Heard-Johnny Depp trial.)

inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence

## see (see something coming)

saw it coming

I never ~

they never ~

nobody ~ (boy arrested)

we were caught flatfooted, we never ~ (Uber's success)

saw this coming

well, who ~ (Saudi Arabia 2-Argentina 1 / FIFA World Cup)

see it coming

he didn't ~ (heart attack)

it's a proper shock, I didn't ~ (the suicide of a friend)

see his release from the New England Patriots coming

he didn't ~ (the great Cam Newton)

♦ "He dipped down, he looked low, and he threw the right hand over...Ogawa didn't see it coming." (The Welsh boxer Joe Cordina vs. Kenichi Ogawa.)

♦ "Such a tragedy. They will think this was their victory so this will become an American war. And the end will be the same... except for the numbers who will die before we get there." (Lt. Col. Nguyen Huu An, on the inability of the NLF to overrun Hal Moore's troops in the Ia Drang Valley in 1965, from the 2002 film, *We Were Soldiers*.)

♦ "Who didn't see this coming" (An online comment to "NJ transgender woman transferred from women's only prison after impregnating 2 inmates, report says" by Stephen Sorace, Fox News, July 17, 2022.)

♦ "I never see anything coming, that's why I don't do any gambling." (A sports commentator when asked, about a sports upset, "Did you see that one coming?")

♦ "Five members of the Communist Workers Party, participating in a 'Death to the Klan' rally in Greensboro, North Carolina, were shot to

death by a group of Klansmen and neo-Nazis." (The Greensboro massacre, 1979.)

♦ Steve Irwin died from the barb of a stingray to his chest while filming a series called "Ocean's Deadliest."

♦ Shrek: My father was an ogre. He tried to eat me. I should have seen it coming.

♦ You don't play with snakes and not expect to get bitten.

**consciousness & awareness / development / fate, fortune & chance / future / time: eye / direction / movement / verb**

## see (future)

see

we'll just have to ~ (what will happen)  
but we don't know what the court will do, we'll ~  
when you think about your future, what do you ~

see beyond the next election

many politicians can barely ~

saw the future

he ~ and he set out to build it (Jeff Bezos, Amazon)

remains to be seen

it ~ if he can weather the storm (a politician)  
he claims he will win, but that ~  
it ~, and we just don't know yet, it's too early

**future / time: eye / verb**

## see (perceive)

see Tutsi as (foreign) interlopers

many Congolese ~ (eastern Congo)

see the collapse on the horizon

we can ~ (a resumption of ethnic strife)

sees himself as an ambassador

he ~ for his sport (Tito Ortiz)

see it as a (good) excuse

some ~ not to go to the office (snowfall in London)

seen themselves as the gatekeepers

book publishers have long ~ of literary culture

see immigration as an (invisible) invasion

people ~ (Europe)

saw the Germans as liberators

many Siberian gulags ~ (W. W. II)

see themselves as members

many Congolese Tutsi ~ of a vulnerable minority

see boxing as a ticket

many Indian girls ~ to a middle-class life (India)

see themselves as the victims

Shiites always ~ (said by a US diplomat / Iraq)

see themselves through this male gaze

women are starting to ~ (as sex victims / TV and films)

see the world from a different perspective

people who ~ (autism)

see eye to eye

I don't ~ with my new boss

sees fit

he is determined to live as he ~ (a Native American)

see the best

~ in others (wise advice)

see nothing wrong

many ~ with it

see choice

patients ~ as both a blessing and a burden

saw himself

what mattered was how he ~ (identity)

see us

as others ~, five views of Britain from the rest of the world

see any hope

Palestinians don't ~ in the plan

see it

there's another world out there, you just can't ~

see warmth

the thermal-imaging camera can ~ through walls (cops)

saw different things

people ~ (televised hearings)

continue to see

we ~ strong job growth

hard to see

progress may be slow and ~ (nursing / rehabilitation)

♦ A STORY ABOUT PERCEPTION: An old man lived in a house. His hobby was woodworking. One day a new family moved into the house next to him. The family had a young boy, and the old man watched him through his window: the boy acted like a child, ran like a child, laughed like a child. One day the old man went into his garage and discovered that his hammer was missing. He looked out his window, and now the boy acted like a thief, ran like a thief, laughed like a thief. A few months later, the old man found his hammer in a place where he had put it, absent-mindedly. He looked out his window, and saw the boy. And the boy acted like a child, ran like a child, laughed like a child.

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye / verb**

## see (see through something)

see (straight) through that confidence

I ~ (one boxer talking trash about another)

saw through the (spurious) claims

he ~ of a therapy called... (autism)

seen through the spin

I think people have ~ (of powerful sex abusers)

see (right) through you

I can ~ (to real motivations)

**consciousness & awareness: eye / verb**

**concealment & lack of concealment: eye / verb**

**appearance & reality: eye / verb**

## seed (noun)

seeds of distrust

India's 21-day war with China in 1962 sowed ~

seeds of doubt

plant the ~

seeds of rebellion

enforced potty sitting can sow the ~ (toddlers)

seeds of (sectarian) hatred

the ~ had taken root

seeds of revolt

Facebook helped to blow the ~ across the country

seeds of revolution

Nasser wanted to plant the ~ on the Arabian Peninsula

seed for that (momentous) law

the ~ was planted about 40 years earlier (Title IX)

seeds for (future) unrest

they have planted the ~ (military hangs on to power)

plant the seeds

the British helped to ~ of discord in Afghanistan

planted the seeds

he ~ that gave principals more autonomy (education)

sowing the seeds

he could be ~ of a new disaster (price controls)

sow the seeds

enforced potty sitting can ~ of rebellion (toddlers)

♦ "He planted the seed, and I'm just one of the apples that fell from the tree." (Tribute paid by a black rodeo rider to a pioneer in his sport.)

♦ You don't harvest grapes from planting thorns. (An Arab proverb.)

♦ "He who sows the wind shall reap the whirlwind."

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant  
creation & transformation: farming & agriculture / plant**

## seed money

seed money

the government loans will be ~ (to new businesses)

provided seed money

tech tycoons ~ (for an AI startup)

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / money /  
plant**

## seen (perceived)

seen as modern-day people

we aren't ~ at all (a Native American)

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye**

## seen (future)

remains to be seen

it ~ if he can weather the storm (a politician)

he claims he will win, but that ~

it ~, and we just don't know yet, it's too early

**future / time: eye / verb**

## seen (groups)

seen

when we get older, we aren't ~ (Lola Flash)

the trauma and aspiration and desire to be ~ (Blacks)

*Seen, Heard, and Paid*

~: *The New Work Rules for the Marginalized* (book)

supported, seen and developed

programming that makes us feel ~ (minorities)

feel seen

she wants deaf viewers to ~ (deaf activist Raven Sutton)

♦ "I wanted her to feel seen." (A trans person waving a trans banner in support of a trans swimmer.)

♦ An actor said, "We are literally demanding to be seen," talking about the Oscars, nominations, awards, and people of color.

♦ "This is not just for me, this is for every little girl that looks like me... We want to be seen. We want to be heard." (Michelle Yeoh touting herself on Instagram for an Academy Award.)

♦ "I just feel like black gay ppl have to fight to be seen in this world and even when we make it to the top mfs try to pretend we are invisible." (A Lil Nas X tweet.)

♦ "I would say up to the age of 25 or 26 we're the *it* girls, right? And then after you pass over this threshold of maybe 30, 35, you're put out to pasture. When we get older, we aren't seen." (Lola Flash, who uses she / her and they / them pronouns. From "Photographer Lola Flash is honored for creating images that challenge invisibility," NPR, All Things Considered, December 14, 2021. Told by Allyson McCabe.)

♦ "She made Palestinians feel heard and seen." (A tribute to Shireen Abu Akleh by her niece, Lina Abu Akleh.)

♦ "[Ashley] Kim concurred. 'When I first joined the English department, I felt seen, but I also felt, Maybe I don't belong,' she said. She'd gone to a magnet public school in New Jersey and felt a step behind the sanguine private-school kids in knowing how to perform her interest in the classroom." (Harvard. From "The End Of The English Major" by Nathan Heller, *The New Yorker*, March 6, 2023.)

♦ "Everybody is desperate to tell you who they are, to be seen. Which is sadly or not a reality of our species. We are all desperate to be seen or to be heard." (The Mexican filmmaker Guillermo del Toro, talking with Terry Gross of *Fresh Air* about his film *Nightmare Alley*.)

♦ "Mom's video about once being a 'fun person' has moms feeling seen." (ABC.)

♦ "Everyone deserves to be seen as they truly are." (A Superbowl advertisement for Google's Real Tone software, included on its Pixel 6 phones, with Lizzo singing a new song.)

♦ "Humans want to be seen and to be loved." (A trendy screenwriter and TV producer.)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## seep (verb)

seeps into (neighboring) countries

heroin ~ and then into Russia (from Afghanistan)

seeped into mainstream thinking

it ~

**movement: water / verb**

## seer (person)

play the seer

the temptation to ~ is strong (journalism)

**person: magic / religion**

**future / message / time: eye / magic / person / religion**

## seesaw (noun)

seesaw of emotions

thus began, for him, a violent ~ toward Kevin

seesaw battle

they are locked in a ~ for the strategic city

see-saw classic

they produced a ~ (Champions League soccer)

see-saw (economic) recovery

the ~

seesaw relationship

the ~ between North Korea and the US

legal seesaw

the ~ was part of a protracted battle (environment)

**movement: direction / sports & games**

**development: direction / movement / sports & games**

## seethe (verb)

seething with anger

protestors are ~ (against the US)

**feeling, emotion & effect / initiation: heating water /**

**temperature / verb / water**

## seismic (adjective)

seismic

the impact would be ~ (educational reform)

seismic change

the results are a ~ for Irish politics (nationalists win)

seismic impact

this will have a ~ in the world of athletics (doping bans)

seismic news

this is ~ in the world of sports business (Nike change)

seismic shift

increased female enrollments portends a ~ (education)

we need a ~ in the way maternity care is provided

seismic (life) shift

his ~ (from entertainment to farming)

seismic win

Japan are praised for their ~ against Ireland (Rugby)

terrific Scotland stun Spain in ~

constitutionally seismic

their relationship was ~ (Wallis Simpson and King)

historic and seismic

the coalition government marks a ~ shift (Britain)

♦ "This is seismic." (Mark Chapman, BBC Radio 5 Live presenter, on Saudi Arabia 2-Argentina 1 at the FIFA World Cup in Qatar. Mashallah! Another commentator said, "Saudi Arabi's victory was off the Richter scale.")

♦ "Just as behind the apparently fixed contours of a landscape lie great historic shifts and upheavals in the earth, so behind the seeming permanence of a social order lie the past struggles of classes and other groups negotiating for advantage." (*The Social Transformation of American Medicine* by Paul Starr.)

**amount & effect / extent & scope: earthquake**

## seismically

shifted seismically

power has ~ (Liverpool vs. Manchester United)

**amount & effect / extent & scope: earthquake**

## seize (verb)

seized Dirac

this idea ~ (Paul Dirac / that math was beautiful)

seized hold

a militant consensus ~ of the Austrians (1914)

seized it

with the title within their grasp, Boston ~ (NBA / 1984)

seized me

the story really ~ (an author / camels in US)

seize the moment

he has failed to ~ (a politician and economic problems)

Congress must ~ to legalize... (Democratic politics)

seize the reins

he will probably ~ (football player for a position)

he was seized by a ~ of lurking danger

**fictive possession / possession: hand / verb**

**taking & removing: hand / verb**

## seized (by an emotion)

seized by a (gut) feeling

he was ~ of lurking danger

**feeling, emotion & effect: hand**

**fictive possession / possession: hand**

**taking & removing: hand**

## self (self-love, etc.)

self-soothes

she ~ her dark thoughts with therapeutic optimism

self-coined

author and ~ "Financial Hype Woman" Berna Anat

self-interested

she is semi-hip to her own ~ motives

*Self-Made*

~: *Curating Our Identities* (by Tara Isabella Burton)

self-titled

she has released a new ~ album

self-affirming

it's ~ bop (Lizzo featuring SZA, "Special")

self-acceptance

finding ~ and embracing his changing body (vitiligo)  
she spoke with Laila Fadel about the process of ~ (NPR)  
it's a radical form of ~ and self-expression ("naked" look)

self-awareness  
how journaling can improve ~

self-care  
see *self-care* (and *self care*)

self-confidence  
replace anxiety with ~ (a guide)  
self-connection

self-criticism  
she grew up full of insecurities and ~s (actor Geena Davis)  
you notice you're caught in a cycle of ~

self-discovery  
the book spins a tale of racism and ~

self-doubt  
five more tips on how to ~  
expressions of loneliness and ~ (music)

self-esteem  
all this "zooming" has hurt her ~ (pandemic)

self-exploration  
if ~ is new, be curious and give it time (masturbation)

self-expression  
advocacy and ~ (chalk art and children)  
it's a radical form of self-acceptance and ~ (the "naked"  
look)

self-forgiveness  
the album reflects on loss, addiction, and ~

self-fulfillment  
two writers building careers and ~ through food

self-help  
a ~ influencer for men

self-honor  
Jessie Montgomery, composing from a place of ~ (Black)

self-image  
her ~ warps and contorts as she struggles to figure out...  
substance abuse and ~

self-judgment  
feel better with less ~ this year!

self-love  
Meghan Trainor rediscovers her ~ as a new mom  
mindfulness exercises on ~, growth and healing

self-optimization  
the future of human ~ (biohacks to live centuries)  
our culture of ~ (a criticism)

self-ownership  
discovering ~ helped her break free from The Family

self-reflection  
'CHAOS NOW\*' is an exercise in empathy and ~

self-talk  
tips on quashing negative ~  
how to curb negative ~

self-worth  
a meditation on ~ and healing (a book)

self-referential  
his ~ new novel

authentic self  
see *self* (*authentic self*, *true self*, etc.)

♦ "The embracing arms represent self-love, protection and adoration, not objectification." (Beyonce's illusion bodysuit by Loewe.)

♦ "Goodman is Black, queer, non-binary... Their new book, "You Gotta Be You," is "an ode to shaking off the expectations of others and tossing out the boxes that society nudges us all into. And above all, it asks every person to consider this question—who would I be if society never got its hands on me?" ("Brandon Kyle Goodman embraces their authentic self in new book" with Ailsa Chang, NPR, All Things Considered, September 27, 2022. Mowgli? A "Feral child" (Wikipedia)? A hermit? "Oh! This is no time for conundrums!")

♦ "'Sex Cult Nun' says discovering self-ownership helped her break free from The Family," NPR, Fresh Air with Terry Gross, December 21, 2021.

**contempo-speak: affix**

**self (authentic self, true self, etc.)**

authentic self  
bring your ~, you'll be seen heard, valued, loved (gay)  
to finally love who I am enough to pursue my ~  
she's not really sure how to harness her full, ~  
Kim experiences what life is like as his ~ (a boy)

authentic selves  
I want spaces in sport for trans athletes to be their ~  
when kids are able to be their ~ (reactions to trans kids)

best self  
feel your ~ (mental health program for 1<sup>st</sup> graders)  
he encouraged me to be my ~

best selves  
climbing brings us closer to our ~ (mountains)

better selves  
speak to our ~ (Vice President Kamala Harris)

my authentic self  
to finally love who I am enough to pursue ~

her full, authentic self  
she's not really sure how to harness ~

his authentic self  
Kim experiences what life is like as ~

our true authentic selves  
spaces where we can flourish and be ~ (a Black teen)

their authentic selves  
I want spaces in sport for trans athletes to be ~

your authentic self  
bring your ~

true self  
Shangela reflects on embracing your ~ (drag queen)

Chan's own journey with coming out and embracing his ~  
your ability to participate as your ~ online (queers / Twitter)  
I am so in love right now with my ~ (PornHub)  
"Busty bride convinced to show her ~" (XNXX.COM)

true selves

they can't bring their ~ to their careers (Brown people)  
marriage inequality and people not living their ~ (in the past)

full, authentic self

be your ~

true, authentic self

never be afraid or ashamed or have any fear to be your ~

true authentic selves

spaces where we can flourish and be our ~ (a Black teen)

happy and authentic and our true selves

we transition to be ~ (a trans woman athlete)

brought her very authentic self to work

she was somebody who ~ (committed suicide)

compete as my authentic self

it was such an amazing experience to ~ (Lia Thomas)

do the sport (I love) as my authentic self

I can continue to ~ (a trans woman college swimmer)

embraces their authentic self

Brandon Kyle Goodman ~ in new book (NPR)

live as our authentic selves

more LGBTQ folks can come out and ~

♦ "I want spaces in sport for trans athletes to be their authentic selves and compete at the highest level, and know they are loved and that they belong there." (Chris Mosier, about transgender athletes at the Tokyo Olympics.)

♦ "Everyone should be able to feel safe and be their true authentic selves." (An announcement by the Australian "Socceroos" prior to the Soccer World Cup in Qatar, in support of LGBTQ.)

♦ "This is a day that Minnesota says, 'Bring your authentic self. You'll be seen, heard, valued and loved in this state, and we want you to be whoever you are.' We see you, we hear you, and we will make sure you are in a safe place to be who you are." (Gov. Tim Walz.)

♦ "Starting today, no matter how you identify, you can express your authentic self on Tinder. We haven't had the right tools to serve our diverse community in the past but that changes today." (A Tinder announcement.)

♦ "Thank you for creating a safer space for current and future athletes to unequivocally be themselves." (Nastia Liukin, thanking Simon Biles on Instagram.)

♦ "I've talked to people in the conservative party, brown people, who say that, you know, they feel like they can't bring their true selves to their careers." (Sathnam Sanghera, author of *Empireland*.)

♦ "FLETCHER is unapologetically herself." (The queer Cari Fletcher.)

♦ "Heather has a BS in Psychology and an MS in Criminal Forensic Studies. She aims to use her gifts, talents, experiences, education, and authentic self to help others feel empowered to live as their authentic selves. She wants to normalize mental health struggles and addiction, and let people know that they are not alone. There is help and support just around the corner." (An advertising circular at a public library.)

♦ "I'm buzzing. He gets to live his truth and his authentic self." (Thomas Beattie about Jake Daniels.)

♦ "Her right to fully realize her athletic self now was law." (In 1972. This is a good example of linguistic presentism: using contempo-speak when

talking about historical events. See also *creep* (*mission creep*, etc.) and *neck* (*oppression*).

♦ "Bring your whole self to work,' the office posters say..." (When corporations echo clichés...)

♦ "Every time I met him he seemed he was his best self and he encouraged me to be my best self." (A tribute to Jonathan R. Sugarman, who died on Everest.)

♦ "I was a journalist for 20 years and I can spot marketing rigmarole and a contrived script. You have to be your crude, authentic self to attract your audience." (Azadeh Williams of AZK Media, quoted in an article about LinkedIn and its "new emotional tone.")

♦ "But the reality is, who we are is not one true self and a bunch of other fake selves, but rather a composite of many selves." (Chris Stedman, Interview Highlights. From "'IRL' Author Says It's OK That We're Spending So Much Of Our Lives Online" by Noel King, Ryan Benk, NPR, Author Interviews, Morning Edition, December 7, 2020.)

♦ "The fact of the matter is, there's never one authentic self. There are always *multiple* authentic selves." (Author and scholar Mark Anthony Neal. From "'Thugs don't dance': iLoveMakonnen and Drake tested rap's norms of masculinity, but only one passed," NPR, Louder Than A Riot Season Two, May 4, 2023.)

♦ In the old days, someone might simply have counseled another, "Don't worry. Be yourself."

♦ "Get over yourself."

♦ see also *authentic (groups)*, *authentically (live authentically, etc.)*, *authenticity (groups)*

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

**self-care (and self care)**

self-care

~ can be really hard (girlfriend of FTM trans)

*Real Self-Care*

~: *Bubble Baths, Cleanses and Crystals Not Included* (book)

practice self-care

how do you ~ as an activist

♦ "A conversation I think we've had recently but also a lot is like self-care." (A young woman in a relationship with a FTM trans.)

♦ Self-care is often the obverse of self-harm. Self-harming is a problem afflicting a small but perhaps growing minority in the US, and self-harming is being exported from the US to the rest of the world via the internet.

♦ see also *mental wellbeing* (and mental well-being), *mental health (noun)*, *mental wellness (noun)*, *welfare (mental, etc.)*, *wellbeing (noun)*, *wellness (noun)*

**mental health: euphemism / health & medicine**

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

**self-destructive (adjective)**

self-destructive behaviour

he is known for his ~ (celebrity)

self-destructive tendencies

his ~ have resurfaced

self-destructive habit

most addicts want to kick their ~

**behavior / character & personality: explosion / ruins**

**destruction: explosion / ruins**

**sell (promote)**

sell his (immigration) bill to the public

a trip to ~ (President Bush)

sells women an ideal  
the fashion industry also ~ of beauty (thinness)

sell yourself  
you have to ~ (job interviewing)

selling himself as a dealmaker  
he's ~ who can take on President Trump (Joe Biden)

♦ "This 'active shooter' BS is something that Mr. Binger is trying to sell you people." (The Kyle Rittenhouse case.)

♦ "If you believe that, I've got a bridge to sell you." (Con men, gullible people and even New York monuments like the Brooklyn Bridge. *Caveat emptor!* Merriam-Webster dates that phrase to 1523 and defines it as, "Let the buyer beware.")

♦ Pssst! Hey, buddy. I can sell you a three-legged racehorse. Cheap!

**message: money / verb**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: money / verb**

## sell out (verb)

selling out to big energy  
environmentalists say federal officials are ~ (drilling)

sold out for the money  
he was a great actor, but he ~ (films)

sold out his (progressive) ideals  
he has ~

sold out its members  
some say the union has ~ (contract)

sell out Black people  
did he ~ (coach Deion Sanders / HBCU to PWI)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: money / verb**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: money / verb**

## seminal (adjective)

seminal album  
her ~ "Back to Black" (Amy Winehouse)

seminal (Silicon Valley) companies  
other ~ (Google, Hewlett-Packard, Apple, etc.)

seminal moment  
the bikini's ~ came in the Bond film, *Dr No*  
~s in TV history and Black history (Bill Cosby)

seminal one  
it wasn't just a striking effect, but a ~ (prosthetic makeup)

seminal (animal rights) tract  
he read *Animal Liberation*, the ~ (by Peter Singer)

seminal works  
~ to go on show (sculptures by Henry Moore, etc.)

**creation & transformation / importance & significance:**

**birth**

## send (emotion or effect)

sent her into a tailspin  
the news ~ (light sentence for her stalker)

sent a chill through the academic world

the sentences ~ (arrests)

send a shiver through Congress  
the news will likely ~ (Senators sick from coronavirus)

sent a jolt of anxiety around the city  
the murder ~

sent (racial) tensions to a boiling point  
his death ~ (Amadou Diallo, shot by police)

sent shock waves through French politics  
the poll ~ (strength of right)

sent shock waves through the American psyche  
Tet ~ (Vietnam War)

**feeling, emotion & effect: movement / verb**

## send (transport)

send the Americans to the dustbin  
the Afghans will ~ of history

sent the game to penalties  
his 94th-minute scissor kick ~ (soccer)

**fictive transportation: verb**

## send (transmit)

send (mixed) messages  
schools ~ about cheating

sent mixed signals  
his lawyer has ~ (about what his client might do)

send the wrong message to kids  
the ads ~ (that thin is good)

send messages through their body language  
people ~

**transmission: verb**

## send (cause to move)

sent up a plume of dust  
a rockslide ~

sent up (huge) plumes of smoke  
the military air strikes ~

send up toxic plumes  
bombing chemical sites could ~

sent streams of lava down the mountain  
the volcano ~

sent sand and litter (high) into the air  
a monster dust devil ~

sent a wall of water downstream  
the dam failure ~

**fictive transportation: verb**

## sensitive (feelings)

so sensitive

don't be ~

♦ "Maybe We All Need Some 'Sensitivity' Training" by Geoff Nunberg, Opinion, NPR, Fresh Air, September 7, 2010. Nunberg is *always* interesting.

**character & personality: sensation**

**character & personality: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## sensitive (adjective)

sensitive to their concerns

we must be ~ (diplomacy)

sensitive issue

this is a ~ in Israel

♦ "That was the birth of the modern regime of sensitivity, the age of 'Can't we all just get along?'" (From "Maybe We All Need Some 'Sensitivity' Training" by Geoff Nunberg, Opinion, NPR, Fresh Air, September 7, 2010. Nunberg is *always* interesting.

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## sentence (life sentence)

permanent life sentence

there can't be a ~ on someone who does something wrong

**judgment / punishment & recrimination: justice**

## sentinel (noun)

sentinels of environmental quality

birds are ~

sentinel disease

she calls it a "~" in the era of climate change (CKDu)

**warning: military / person**

## sequel (prequel, etc.)

fivequel

there is some gonzo humour to this ~ (*Scream 2022*)

prequel

"Sopranos" ~ gives Tony a backstory

requel

a "~", a reboot-slash-sequel... (the film *Scream 2022*)

"side-quel"

director Angus MacLane called the film a ~ to the franchise (Buzz Lightyear)

three-quel

what's your favorite "~," and which ones bombed (2007)

♦ Merriam-Webster lists 1958 for the use of *prequel*. *Sequel* is much older.

♦ "In an era of sequels, prequels, reboots, and franchises-within-franchises..." (Aisha Harris, People Culture Happy Hour.)

**sequence: affix**

## Serengeti (Serengeti of the North, etc.)

Serengeti of the North

the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is often referred to as the ~

♦ "The Atchafalaya Basin is a swampy wilderness that is to crawfish what the Serengeti is to lions." (Calvin Trillin.)

**biodiversity, nature & life: epithet / place**

**comparison & contrast / geography: epithet**

## sermon (message)

subject of his sermon

the sinister power of TV is the ~ (the film *Network*)

**message: Bible / religion / speech**

## servant (help)

servant

fear is my ~ (Jost Kobusch, Everest West Ridge in winter)

servants

hold the church accountable for the actions of its ~

servants to us

fossil fuels are enormous ~

civil servants

54% of ~ come to work late (Saudi Arabia)

public servant

he is a ~ in the Russian Forestry Service

**help & assistance / work & duty: person**

## servant (dominated)

servants of foreigners

he made Mexicans the ~ (Porfirio Diaz / revolution)

servant of the Kremlin

he is a ~ and not the Ukrainian people (politics)

servant of private power, wealth, and the corporations

he's a very loyal ~ (politics)

servant to anyone

we are sovereign and independent and won't be a ~

obedient servant

his intelligence was now merely the ~ of his emotions

♦ "We will be your friend, not your slave." (Imran Khan, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, to the United States.)

**dominance & submission / superiority & inferiority: person**

## serve up (verb)

served up another helping

she ~ of her trademark word salad (U.S. Vice President)

serve up red meat

politicians ~ to true believers (a convention)

serves up anti-Obama rhetoric

he ~ every night (a news host)

**consumption / supplying: food & drink / verb**

## set (skill set)

skill set (was perfect) for that show  
his ~ (S.N.L.)

bring a skillset  
women ~ (CIA)

**group, set & collection: tools & technology**

## set back (verb)

set back women by more than 100 years  
the ruling has ~ (abortion)

**progress & lack of progress: direction / movement /  
journeys & trips / verb**

## setback (progress)

setback  
a ~ in their frustrating hunt for the sniper (D.C. area)

setbacks  
he has had some ~  
she knows her ~ will soon be in the rear-view mirror

handed (its first major) setback  
the terrorist group was ~ when...

crises and setbacks  
the heartbreak of constant medical ~

**progress & lack of progress: direction / movement /  
journeys & trips**

## set off (initiate)

set off a domino effect  
this ~ (economic collapse)

set off a (political) storm  
her decision has ~ in the Netherlands

set off a firestorm  
he ~ of opposition when he...

set off a shoot-out  
the request ~ between the two camps

set off a storm  
calls for an investigation ~ between the two countries

set off a (trade) war  
economic sanctions could ~

set off shock waves  
he ~ with his statement

**initiation: explosion / verb**

## set off (feeling and emotion)

set him off  
little things would ~ (a violent man)  
it sounds like that really ~ (anger)

set the president off  
that was the thing that ~ (upset him)

set off a wave of emotions  
the resignations ~ from sadness to relief

set off a wave of fury  
the nominee list ~

set off a wave of pride  
his success has ~ (Japanese ballplayer)

**feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / verb**

## set off (and set out)

set off on a wild rampage  
dozens of teenage boys ~ (Central Park)

set out on this path  
he ~ in 1997 by writing... (rehabilitated his career)

set out to build  
he saw the future and he ~ it (Jeff Bezos, Amazon)

set out to film  
they ~ the city's prostitutes (documentary / Calcutta)

set out to find  
when he ~ his biological father, he never imagined...

set out to master  
I ~ fence-building and brush-clearing

set out to take  
Mr. Marwa ~ revenge (on murderers of his relative)

set out to terrorize  
extremists rejected these terms and ~... (Rwanda)

set out to take revenge  
Mr. Marwa ~ (on murderers of his relative)

♦ see also *embark* (*embark on something*).

♦ "I left Tangier, my birthplace, on Thursday, 2nd Rajab 725 [June 14, 1325], being at that time twenty-two years of age [22 lunar years; 21 and 4 months by solar reckoning], with the intention of making the Pilgrimage to the Holy House [at Makkah] and the Tomb of the Prophet [at Madinah]. (The great traveler Ibn Battuta.)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips /  
movement / verb**

## set piece (noun)

regular weekly media set-pieces  
the ~ are no longer the must-watch sideshows (soccer club)

**performance: theater**

## set sail (verb)

set sail on the seas  
he ~ of his exciting career as a microbe hunter

♦ "We traveled very pleasantly all day; in fact nothing can be more beautiful than the views of this immense river; sometimes as smooth as a mirror, at other times ruffled with a gentle breeze, but at all times sweeping us along at the rate of six or seven miles per hour." (Mungo Park on the Niger River.)

♦ "Beginning is easy, continuing is hard." (A Japanese saying.)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: boat / journeys & trips  
/ verb**

## settle down (verb)

settle down

nobody knows when things will ~ again (shaken)

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: equilibrium & stability / verb**

## sever (verb)

severed it from the world

the Suez Canal ~ (Mauritius)

**division & connection: ax / blade / knife / verb**

## sewn up

already sewn up

Scotland go into the game with a playoff spot ~

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: cloth**

## sew together (verb)

sewn together a (Frankenstein's) monster

Ducournau has ~ from so many disparate ideas

**creation & transformation: cloth / verb**

## sew up (verb)

sewn up the nomination

he has effectively ~ (a politician)

sewn up the support

she has ~ she needs (politics)

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: cloth / verb**

## sexy (as noun)

bring sexy back

Al Yankovic wants to 'sew' to the accordion (Terry Gross)

**attraction & repulsion: part of speech**

## sexy (adjective)

sexy

the hypothesis was ~ (psychology)

pipes are underground, they're not ~ (infrastructure)

as sexy as

Chelsea is ~ a brand can get (football)

smart, sexy, slang-studded

Tayi Tibble's ~ verse (a *New Yorker* book blurb)

described as sexy

the iPhone was ~ (the early days of technology vs. now)

♦ "It's not a sexy job per se, right? It's not a job that is chill..." (Jessica Malaty Riveria's breezy contempo-speak assessment of the legacy of "the elderly" Dr. Anthony Fauci, on NPR. This adjective, used figuratively, seems to lie in the provenance of young women. It would be unusual for a man to say, for example, "Wow, that body armor you're wearing is sexy.")

♦ "Of course some of these are masculine or feminine clichés: the ladies, particularly the younger ones, use the 'exquisite, gorgeous and darling' group to indicate approval of anything from a new dress to a sunset, and few men would dare to follow suit." ("Ten Overworked Words" in the

newspaper *The Day*, New London, CONN., Thursday Afternoon, April 1, 1937. Some things never change.)

**attraction & repulsion: love, courtship & marriage / sex**

## shackle (noun)

break the shackles

we must ~ of an oppressed people's chains

**constraint & lack of constraint: animal / crime**

**oppression: animal**

## shade (verb)

shades (TikTok rival) Breckie Hill

Olivia Dunne seemingly ~ in new video

**accusation & criticism: light & dark / verb**

## shade (noun)

speck of shade

this is not throwing a ~ at LeBron James... (sports talk)

threw some shade at the channel

he congratulated his rival but also ~ (PewDiePie)

throw shade at Florida

people ~ (Florida Man meme)

throw shade at the biggest name

he seemed to ~ in hip-hop

♦ "Let's spill some shade, throw some tea..." (The transgender Natalie Wynn, reversing the collocating verbs. Noticed! Appreciated!)

**accusation & criticism: light & dark**

## shadow (concealment)

in the shadows

killing, interrogating and bribing are done ~ (terrorism)

NSO was created ~ in 2010

in the city's shadows

an underground rock scene ~ (the Leningrad Rock Club)

from the shadows to the spotlight

survivors have moved ~ (sex abuse)

created in the shadows

NSO was ~ in 2010

drive them (further) into the shadows

the law will only ~ (illegal migrants)

draw the undocumented out of the shadows

we need to ~ and into the sunlight of legal status

live in the shadows

many homeless men and women avoid shelters and ~

live life in the shadows

they ~ (CIA agents)

lurking in the shadows

syphilis is a major scourge ~ (public health)

operate in the shadows

spammers ~, relying on botnets (Russia)

returned from the shadows  
the hactivist group Anonymous has ~

stepping out of the shadows  
she is ~ to use her voice to fight hate (victim of crime)

**concealment & lack of concealment: light & dark / shadow**  
**shadow (cast a shadow)**

cast a shadow  
his flaws ~ (Sinatra)

casting a shadow over the campus  
the failure to identify a suspect is ~ (quadruple murder)

cast a shadow over the Oscars  
the war ~ this year (Iraq)

cast a shadow over the (New York) Police  
the case ~

casts a shadow (of suspicion) over all priests  
it ~ (sexual misconduct)

cast a shadow over our (foreign-policy) record  
Rwanda ~

cast a (dark) shadow  
the tragic accident ~ over US-Korean relations

cast a (long) shadow  
the conflict has ~ (Algerian War affects to this day)

**feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark / shadow**  
**oppression: light & dark / shadow**

**shadow (in / under the shadow)**

in the shadow of the gun  
they live ~ (Kashmiris)

in the shadow of terrorism  
many are revitalizing family ties ~ (US)

under the shadow of a boycott  
Algeria voted ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark / shadow**  
**oppression: light & dark / shadow**

**shadow (dark shadow, etc.)**

dark shadow  
the ~ of the tyranny has been lifted (Obama / Libya)

deadly shadow  
the mystique of pole vaulting includes a ~ (fatalities)

horrible shadow  
there has been this ~ over his legacy (child abuse)

**feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark / shadow**  
**oppression: light & dark / shadow**

**shadow (attention)**

shadow of the (previous) coach  
he will never escape the ~ (basketball)

brother's shadow  
he was desperate to emerge from his ~ (Mike Quarry)

in Moscow's shadow  
a city that has always labored ~ (St. Petersburg)

in his shadow  
anything I do is completely eclipsed, I'm ~ (jealousy)

in the shadow of (such a) legend  
was it hard growing up ~ (grandson of famous woman)

break out of his dad's shadow  
he is trying to ~ (Conor Benn, boxer)

escape the shadow  
he will never ~ of the previous coach (basketball)

emerge from his brother's shadow  
he was desperate to ~ (boxer Mike Quarry)

labored in (Moscow's) shadow  
a city that has always ~

step out of the long shadow  
Sarajevo is attempting to ~ of war

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / competition / superiority**  
**& inferiority: light & dark / shadow**

**shadow (proximity)**

shadow  
I'm supposed to be your ~ (follow you and watch you)

in the shadow of Mount Snowdon  
she works as a hill farmer ~

in the shadow of the Ural Mountains  
Magnitogorsk was constructed ~ (1930s)

lives in its shadow  
the volcano shapes the lives of everyone who ~

**proximity: light & dark / shadow**

**shadow (beyond a shadow of a doubt, etc.)**

beyond any shadow of a doubt  
I will convince you ~ (trial)

without a shadow of a doubt  
they knew, ~, that he was guilty

**certainty & uncertainty: light & dark / shadow**

**shadow (devitalized)**

shadow of himself  
he's a ~, of his best times (a chess grandmaster)

shadow of his former self  
Rashford is a ~ (2022 Manchester United soccer)

shadow of its former self  
the company will be a ~  
the group is a ~ (terrorists)  
the once proud newspaper is a ~ (cuts, etc.)

shadow of what it used to be  
in reality the Royal Navy is already a ~

pale shadow  
it was a ~ of their mighty clashes (soccer tie)  
he has looked a very ~ of his former self (a soccer player)

**attenuation: light & dark / shadow**  
**substance & lack of substance: light & dark / shadow**  
**shadow (follow)**

shadow the politician  
she asked to ~ on a 15-hour "ride-a-long" (reporter)

**proximity: light & dark / shadow / verb**  
**shadow (shadow government, etc.)**

shadow governors  
the rebels have named ~

shadow foreign secretary  
Labour's ~ Emily Thornberry

shadow attorney general  
the ~

shadow foreign policy  
they view what he did as a kind of ~ (politics)

Labour shadow  
his ~ questioned why...

**repetition: light & dark / shadow**  
**shadow (shadow boxing, etc.)**

shadow boxing  
jumping rope, ~, hitting the heavy bag (boxers)

**substance & lack of substance: light & dark / shadow**  
**shadow (rain shadow, etc.)**

rain shadow  
the uplands leave the valley in a ~

**configuration: light & dark / shadow**  
**shadowy**

shadowy figure  
he is a ~ whose intentions remain shrouded in mystery

shadowy (extremist) groups  
~ have burned Internet cafes

shadowy (Internet) organization  
the documents were released by a ~

shadowy world  
his arrest provides a lens onto the ~ of computer hackers

shadowy Baluchistan Liberation Army  
the ~, born in the 1970's (Pakistan)

**concealment & lack of concealment: light & dark / shadow**

## shady (adjective)

shady behavior  
they are guilty of some really ~ (a hospital)

shady dealings  
~ made him a rich man  
there were some ~ going on in the Ukraine (US politics)

shady economics  
'stealerships,' the ~ of car buying...

shady (furniture-and-appliance-rental) service  
Rent-T-Own, just another ~ (its real product is debt)

♦ "It's like an orphanage that also has a gruel business on the side."  
(Employer self-dealing with 401(k) options.)

**corruption / subterfuge: light & dark / shadow**

## shake (disrupt)

shaken our community  
this incident has ~ (a quadruple murder)

shaken the university  
the allegations have ~

shakes people from their slumber  
I hope this film ~ (Spike Lee)

shook Hollywood and the country to its foundation  
the murders ~ (Charles Manson)

**disruption: equilibrium & stability / verb**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability / verb**  
**shake (shake something off)**

shake it off  
she's now struggling to ~ (label of calculating)  
it's a step back, but we need to ~ and go again (soccer)

**resiliency: gesture / verb**

## shake (remove)

shake her demons  
she couldn't ~ (singer dies of drug overdose)

shake my depression  
I couldn't ~

shake off the mantle  
they want to ~ of tradition (artists)

shake off the sense  
I couldn't ~ of pessimism and failure I felt

**dismissal, removal & resignation: movement / verb**

## shaken (feeling)

shaken to my core  
I was ~ (by a perceived injustice)

visibly shaken  
~, he admitted mistakes had been made (school shooting)

drained and shaken

I left feeling ~ (tour of Auschwitz)

left him shaken  
the violence ~

leave the movie shaken  
you ~ (a film review)

**feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability**

## shaken (disruption)

shaken but not broken  
the country's will to fight was ~ (Russia / 1812)

**disruption: equilibrium & stability**

## Shakespeare ("hillbilly Shakespeare," etc.)

"hillbilly Shakespeare"  
the man who was called the ~ (Hank Williams)

**superlative: books & reading / epithet**

**allusion: books & reading**

## Shakespearean (adjective)

Shakespearean in scope and grandeur  
the Olympics will be ~ (drama, tragedy, comedy)

Shakespearean proportions  
this is a tragedy of ~ (family murder)

♦ "Makes Fury's meandering rambling seem positively Shakespearean."  
(A snarky comment about Anthony Joshua's bizarre post-fight antics and rant after his second loss to Oleksandr Usyk.)

**superlative: books & reading / epithet**

**allusion: books & reading**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## shake up (verb)

shook up the (immigration) debate  
the president ~ (President Trump)

shook me up  
his story ~ (a suicide)

**disruption: equilibrium & stability / verb**

## shake-up (noun)

shakeup in leadership  
what do you think the ~ indicates

shakeup at the Department of Homeland Security  
what do you think the ~ indicates

sudden shake-up  
the ~ could signal instability in the regime

**disruption: equilibrium & stability**

## shaky (condition)

shaky bank  
~s, volatile markets...

shaky ground

their relationship is on ~

shaky relationship  
they have a ~

shaky science  
the company's claims rest on ~

shaky start  
the spacewalk got off to a ~

shaky truce  
they have reached a ~ in their trade dispute

**condition & status / flaws & lack of flaws: equilibrium & stability**

## shallow (person)

uneducated & shallow  
her detractors are ~

♦ "Still waters run deep."

**character & personality: depth / water**

**person: depth / water**

## shallow (adjective)

shallow analysis  
this is a ~ of a complex problem

shallow book  
it is a ~ from a shallow man

shallow goal  
looking beautiful is a ~

shallow roots  
she has ~ in the state (a politician)

shallow questions  
they are asking very ~

**extent & scope: depth / water**

**substance & lack of substance: depth / water**

## shame (period shame, etc.)

period shame  
to fight "~," women in China demand trains sell tampons

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## shame (body-shame / verb, etc.)

body-shamed  
charges filed against model who ~ woman at gym

kink-shame  
this documentary does not set out to ~ the Falwells

slut-shame  
Alta Vista was trying to ~ Christine

victim-shame  
he has tried to ~ women who've come forward

♦ "This documentary does not set out to kink-shame the Falwells. Spend your money, go party, have consensual safe sex—that's great. The issue is the hypocrisy." (Bill Corben, director of *God Forbid: The Sex Scandal*)

*That Brought Down a Dynasty.* From "A new documentary follows an affair that felled evangelist Jerry Falwell Jr.'s career," NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, October 30, 2022.)

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine / verb**

## shamed (groups)

shamed for being

she was ~ a Black woman who made pop-centric music

shamed and fired

officials who are ~

body-shamed

*Sports Illustrated* swim model recalls being ~  
charges filed against model who ~ woman at gym

job shamed

he was "~" (the actor Geoffrey Owens)

slut-shamed

at school, they are ~ and given a nickname  
I have been ~, harassed, maligned (Rose McGowan)

slut shamed

the modern term is ~ (defense of sexual assault)

victim-shamed

we've been ~ online (gymnast Aly Raisman)

weight-shamed

vivid memories of being ~ by their families (old women)

*Publicly Shamed*

*So You've Been* ~ (book by Jon Ronson)

named and shamed

companies '~' for bad behavior

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## shaming (slut shaming, etc.)

body shaming

the ad has prompted cries of sexism and ~

body-shaming

she's faced ~ and over-sexualization (Sydney Sweeney)

carbon-shaming

is ~ the answer (mega-rich and their planes, yachts, etc.)

fat shaming

fighting ~ and racist trolls  
'~' can fuel depression and increase obesity

fat-shaming

critics have called out Darren Aronofsky for ~ (*The Whale*)

job-shaming

~ and the dignity of work (former celebs in menial jobs)

lunch shaming

"~" in public schools (cold sandwich / overdue lunch fees)

mask shaming

"~" might be caused by wearing or not wearing a mask

mom shaming

the "~" against her... (miscarriage)

parent-shaming

our ~ culture (see Wikipedia entry "Harambe" (gorilla))

prayer shaming

it was a new term to me, ~ (platitudes for mass shootings)

slut shaming

her book takes on ~ (*Unslut: A Diary and a Memoir*)

victim shaming

Biden's ~ of Afghan troops (U.S. flees Afghanistan)

online shaming

the ~ of rally participants ("Yes, You're Racist")

public shaming

some judges prefer ~ to prison (the U.S.)  
the Taliban have revived ~ (Afghanistan)  
debate over ~ of political contributions...  
we condemn the ~ of Amber Heard (130 feminists)

sexual shaming

~ in the evangelical purity movement

♦ "Stop the circadian-rhythm shaming." (Sleeping late. Matthew Cantor.)

♦ "In a chorus ringing, 'Hands on my knees, shakin' a\*\*,' on my thot s\*\*\*,' the Houston rapper reappropriated words from a slut-shaming culture that are often used to demonize Black women." ("Megan Thee Stallion, 'Thot S\*\*\*' by Gabrielle Pierre, NPR Music, June 11, 2021. S\*\*\* is NOT 'slut.' It's the other s-word: "shit.")

♦ Stocks, pillories; amputation of body parts like hands, noses, ears, etc.; branding flesh to identify thieves; the Scarlet Letter... (Shaming in the old days. Nowadays it is all done online.)

♦ As late as the 1960s, judges in the Jackson County Courthouse in Sylva, Jackson County, western North Carolina, might shame a chronic drunk or wife-beater by making him repeatedly run up and down the 100 steps between the courthouse and town, in full view of the public on main street.

♦ "I watched an open lorry drive past, to the accompaniment of boos and catcalls from the French populace, with a dozen miserable women in the back, every hair on their heads shaved off. They were in tears, hanging their heads in shame. While disgusted by this cruelty, I reflected that we British had known no invasion or occupation for some 900 years. So we were not the best judges." (Jock Colville, Churchill's private secretary, in Bayeux, witnessing the humiliation of *les tondues* (shorn women, also referred to as horizontal collaborators) in the aftermath of World War II. From "An ugly carnival," by Antony Beevor, *The Guardian*, Thursday 4 June 2009.)

♦ "Norway's Prime Minister Erna Solberg has issued an official government apology to Norwegian women who were mistreated over World War Two-era relationships with German soldiers. ("Norway apologises to its World War Two 'German Girls,'" BBC, 17 October 2018.)

♦ "Shame has never worked in public-health interventions."

♦ "Shame and blame don't work." (Student behavior and university campuses.)

♦ "A lot of black people today are wringing their hands and pointing accusing fingers at white doctors from the public health service." (Janie Taylor, "Origins of the Infamous Tuskegee Syphilis Study," NPR, August 7, 1972. It's a seven-part series that was once available in its entirety at NPR.)

♦ Where there is no shame, there is no honor. (An Ethiopian proverb.)

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## Shangri-la

my own Shangri-la

I wanted to stay here, ~ among the hills, for always...

mythical Shangri-la

progressive visions of a ~ (Green New Deal, etc.)

vision of Shangri-la

the monastery appeared as the archetypal ~ (Bulgaria)

♦ The novel *Lost Horizon* by James Hilton was set in Tibet and published in 1933. Shangri-la was a fictional place in the Kunlun Mountains.

♦ "The name Kyirong means 'the village of happiness' and it really deserves the name. I shall never cease thinking of this place with yearning, and if I can choose where to pass the evening of my life, it will be Kyirong. There I would build myself a house of red cedarwood and have one of the rushing mountain streams running through my garden, in which every kind of fruit would grow..." (From Heinrich Harrer's *Seven Years in Tibet*, published in 1953. Though Harrer doesn't explicitly mention Shangri-la, for him it seemed to be Kyirong.)

♦ "The scene was unforgettably dramatic. In the background was the immense massif, scoured by three mighty glaciers... She had long pigtailed, and her hair was decorated with amulets made of yellowed amber; on her arms she wore bracelets of braided silver. I thought then I had never seen anything quite so beautiful. There was distant birdsong...and some of the yaks wore bells, which pealed slightly... Tiny puffs of cloud lazed in the summer sunshine, their shadows briefly darkening the grassland. I wanted to stay here, my own Shangri-la among the hills, for always. / But we had to cross the Chola hills..." (*The River at the Center of the World: A Journey Up the Yangtze, and Back in Chinese Time*, by Simon Winchester, published in 1996. The last two chapters are set in western China.)

♦ "[T]he monastery appeared as the archetypal vision of Shangri-la: a rhapsody of warm and sensuous colors, topped by domes, roofs, and a medieval tower, clashing perfectly with the austere, sylvan tones of the landscape. The sunlight shone through dark and towering pine trees as Nadia [whom he later describes as an attractive, intelligent woman] led me up the hillside. Bands of mist, which made me think of high ideals, floated between the peaks. Everywhere I heard the sound of mountain torrents." (From *Balkan Ghosts: A Journey Through History* by the great travel writer, journalist and political analyst Robert D. Kaplan. He experienced his vision of Shangri-la at the Rila Monastery in Bulgaria.)

♦ see also *heaven (environment, food, etc.), paradise (noun)*

**allusion: books & reading**

**superlative: epithet**

**shape (in fighting shape, etc.)**

stay in fighting shape

the report styles STEM as a shot of anabolics to ~

♦ CEO Margaret Low of WBUR, in a staff memo announcing "a significant reorganization" to include layoffs, wrote that that it was necessary to be "in fighting shape to deliver on big ambitions."

**ability & lack of ability / condition & status: boxing**

**shape (form)**

shape of her life

what people want from her has defined the ~ (Britney)

very different shape

harassment takes a ~, this can look like ...

**identity & nature: animal**

**creation & transformation: hand / manufacturing**

**shape (condition)**

financial shape

airlines aren't in ~ to back a new industry (biofuels)

fiscal shape

we are in better ~ now (politics)

in good shape

baseball is ~

**condition & status: health & medicine**

**shape (verb)**

shaped Joe Biden

the political mistakes and personal scars that ~

shape a (desired) behavior

teachers can ~

shaped its course

the First Fleet weighed anchor and ~ for Tenerife

shaped a course

the two ships ~ across the Indian Ocean to Cape Guardafui

shape the future

a battle that could ~ of home cinema (standard)

shaped my life

it was incredible, it ~ (a Norwegian boarding school)

shape our lives

the unseen influences that ~

shapes the lives

the volcano ~ of everyone who lives in its shadow

shape the narrative

TikTok has helped ~ of the election (2020)

shape public perception

he wants his surrogates to ~ (politics)

shaping prices

it's ECON 101, not the white House, that's ~ (gas)

shaped our world

firsthand accounts of events that ~ (BBC witness history)

shape and manipulate

algorithms ~ (filter bubbles)

♦ "We shape our buildings and afterwards our buildings shape us."

(Winston Churchill, urging MPs to re-create the House of Commons—which had been bombed in the war—as an exact replica.)

**creation & transformation: hand / manufacturing / verb**

**shaped (shaped by coal, etc.)**

shaped by coal

the 19th century was ~

shaped by oil

the 20th century was ~

shaped by natural gas

the 21st century may well be ~ (energy)

**creation & transformation: hand / manufacturing**

**shaped (anvil-shaped, etc.)**

anvil-shaped

the Geneva Spur is an ~ rib of black rock (Everest)

doughnut-shaped

a tokamak, the large ~ machine

H-shaped

an ~ piece of medical tape

**comparison & contrast: affix / object / shape**

### shaped (H-shaped, etc.)

H-shaped

an ~ piece of medical tape

**shape: letters & characters**

### shard (The Shard, etc.)

the Shard

~ was designed by Renzo Piano (London building)

**proper name: materials & substances / shape**

### shark (thrown to the sharks)

thrown to the sharks

Alberto has been ~ (unproven allegations of doping)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: animal / shark / verb**

### shark (predation)

loan shark

see *loan shark*

financial shark

he is a ~ who downsizes companies

full of sharks

elite summer basketball is ~ (AAU coaches)

attracts sharks

whenever money is being made illegally, it ~ (drugs)

♦ "Back home I was a big fish in a small pond, but in Miami I'm just a minnow surrounded by sharks." (A model.)

♦ "The [BBC], once a shark in the media pond, is now a mere sardine in a media ocean." (Clever writing from BBC Six O'Clock News, 26/05/2022.)

♦ A FUNNY JOKE. Question: Why didn't the shark eat the lawyer?  
Answer: Professional courtesy!

**behavior / person: animal / predation / shark**

**character & personality: animal / predation / shark**

**affliction: animal / predation / shark / sign, signal, symbol**

### sharp (skills, etc.)

sharp

his skills are still ~

**condition & status / functioning: blade / knife**

### sharp (speech)

sharp words

the officer exchanges ~ with a man

**speech: blade / knife**

### sharpen (verb)

sharpen her concentration

the extreme pressure only seemed to ~ (Wimbledon)

sharpen our instincts

we must ~ for empathy

sharpen their knives

Madrid's media ~ (a soccer controversy)

sharpen his skills

he took a kayaking clinic to ~

sharpen wit

the prospect of death can ~

**amelioration & renewal: blade / knife / verb**

**increase & decrease: blade / knife / verb**

### sharp-tongued

sharp-tongued

she's a ~ woman

**speech: blade / knife / tongue**

### shatter (emotions)

shattered (people's) hopes

they ~ of seeing their country become a democracy

shatter (the enemy's) nerve

the objective is to ~ (shock and violence)

shatter her self-esteem

it will ~

**feeling, emotion and effect / mental health: destruction / materials & substances / verb**

### shatter (destroy)

shattered the (fragile) calm

the attack ~ that had descended on Tel Aviv

shatter our image

it does kind of ~ of Taos (crimes)

shattered stability

the country's first-ever coup in 1999 ~

shatter stereotypes

Tunisia's liberal social policies ~ of the Arab world

shattered the family's life

her daughter's rape and death ~

shatter everyday life

drugs and crime ~

**destruction: materials & substances / verb**

### shattered (mentally, etc.)

mentally shattered

he returned from the war ~

**feeling, emotion & effect / mental health: destruction / materials & substances**

### shattered (destroyed)

shattered by the (Sept. 11) attacks

that illusion was ~

confidence (in United) is shattered  
his ~ (airline delays)

illusion was shattered  
that ~ by the Sept. 11 attacks

**destruction: materials & substances**

## shattering (emotions)

confidence-shattering  
trying to overcome a ~ rookie year (basketball)

**feeling, emotion & effect / mental health: destruction / materials & substances**

## shattering (ear-shattering, etc.)

ear-shattering  
he heard an ~ noise

earth-shattering  
the potential is ~

**destruction: materials & substances**

## shave (removal)

shave billions off their taxes  
companies know how to ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation: blade / hair / verb**

## shed (verb)

shed (36,000) jobs  
the economy ~ last month

shed the pound  
those who are trying to ~ (dieting)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: hair / verb**

## sheep (consciousness)

sheep  
most people are ~

sheep followers  
she just wants to sell a book to her few ~ (politics)

♦ She: And a lot of people had this question, Wait, are other people going? / He: And the families have that kind of fear, what if I'm, you know, if I look around, no one else came with me... So it's a collective-action problem, we all have to step forward at the same time... They would be able to act as a collective." (The angst some parents suffer trying to select the best public grade-school for their kids in New York City and its environs. High schools have open houses to sign-up such parents.)

♦ "What to know about mouth taping, the viral wellness trend that has people taping their mouths shut at night" by Katie Kindelan, ABC, Nov. 7, 2022.)

♦ "There's joy, relief and safety in conformity." (Virtue signalling, MTF / m2f trans people are women, rap music is art, tributes to murdered Black rappers, Blacks are overpoliced, etc.)

♦ "Kevin Durant latest sport star to own pickleball franchise."

♦ "Sheep" + "People" = "sheeple"

**consciousness & awareness / behavior / unanimity & consensus / society: animal / sheep**

## sheep (predation)

sheep  
we won't be ~, we're going to be lions (self-defense)

prey on the sheep  
there are a lot of wolves in here who will ~ prison)

♦ "Death devours lambs as well as sheep." (Infant mortality.)

**strength & weakness: animal / sheep / predation**

**destruction: animal / sheep / predation**

## shelf (Sahul Shelf, etc.)

Sahul Shelf  
the ~, that shallow ledge of ocean floor

Sunda Shelf  
the islands of the ~

**proper name: house / shape**

**geography: proper name / shape**

## shelf (ice shelf, etc.)

ice shelf  
they anchored to the floating ~

continental shelf  
the ~ dives down...

**shape: house**

## shelf life (and sell-by date)

shelf life on coaches  
the ~ has never been shorter (winning and losing)

short shelf life  
rappers seem to have a ~ (murdered)

has shelf life  
he ~, he will last (a philosopher)

rushing past its sell-by date  
he's twenty-eight, and his boyish appeal is ~

♦ "Rappers seem to have a short shelf life for some odd reason." (Message-board snark.)

♦ "They are equally past their sell-by date." (Binyamin Netanyahu and Mahmoud Abbas.)

**survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / food & drink**

## shell (mental health)

shell  
he came back a ~, like a ghost (soldier)

**mental health: container**

## shell (substance)

shell company  
~s for the tax evader and money launderer

**substance & lack of substance: sea**

## shell (shell of his former self, etc.)

shell of his former self

Green returned to the ring, but he was a ~ (boxing)

**attenuation / substance & lack of substance: sea**

## shell (protection)

thick shell

you do have to have a very ~ as a boxer because...

underneath the (granite) shell

~ there was a sometimes unbearable sensitivity

come out of his shell

she encouraged him to ~ during his teenage years

come out of my shell

I was a shy person who needed to ~ (got into boxing)

came out of my shell

that's when my life began and I ~ (gay leaves home)

stayed inside my shell

I ~ for the first two or three weeks (summer camp)

**protection & lack of protection: animal / sea / water**

**isolation & remoteness: animal / sea / water**

## shellshocked

shellshocked

I was so ~, I left the building by the wrong exit (interview)

shell-shocked Barca side

a ~ was unable to fashion any serious response

looked shellshocked

he ~ in court (a celebrity who was arrested for rape)

Liverpool players ~ after that loss (to Newcastle United)

♦ "This man took part in the Mons retreat, battle of the Marne, battle of the Aisne, and the first and second battles of Ypres. He also fought at Hill 60, Neuve Chapelle, Loos and Armentieres... When I saw him nine months later he was mute. Many attempts had been made to cure him. He had been strapped down in a chair for twenty minutes at a time, when strong electricity was applied to his neck and throat; lighted cigarette ends had been applied to the tip of his tongue and 'hot plates' had been placed at the back of his mouth. Hypnotism had been tried. But all these methods proved to be unsuccessful in restoring his voice."  
("DISORDERS OF SPEECH / Case A1—MUTISM / PRIVATE, 24 YEARS OF AGE. From *Hysterical Disorders of Warfare* by Lewis Ralph Yealland, M.D.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / military**

## shelter (verb)

sheltered the terrorist

Pakistan denied that it had ~

**protection & lack of protection: place / verb**

## shelve (verb)

shelved its mascot

the university has ~

shelved the plan

Beijing officials have ~ to redevelop the neighborhood

**dismissal, removal & resignation: books & reading / verb**

## shepherd (verb)

shepherding the (main) bill through the Senate

he is ~ (US)

shepherded me through the medina

he ~ (Fez guide)

**directing: animal / journeys & trips / sheep / verb**

## sheriff (new sheriff in town)

new sheriff in town

this is more of a Biden thing, there's a ~ (diplomacy)

**control & lack of control: film**

## Sherlock Holmes

Sherlock Holmes

I used to call her ~ (journalist Lyra McKee)

SHERLOC

~ will hunt for clues in Martian rocks

~ will work in tandem with WATSON, a camera (Mars)

♦ SHERLOC = Scanning Habitable Environments with Raman & Luminescence for Organics & Chemicals. WATSON = Wide Angle Topographic Sensor for Operations and eNginneering.

♦ "How are you? You have been in Afghanistan, I perceive.' Sherlock Holmes' first words to Dr Watson in "A Study in Scarlet" are among the most famous introductory lines in literature..." ("The REAL Dr Watson: The Victorian army medic who was the inspiration for Sherlock's trusty sidekick" by Annabel Venning, *Daily Mail*, Feb 1st 2012.)

**searching & discovery: allusion**

**allusion: books & reading**

## Sherpa (noun)

'Sherpa' for a Supreme Court nominee

what it's like to be a ~ (NPR)

G20 "Sherpas"

~, officials who do the donkey work on summits...

sobriety Sherpa

he was my ~ (rehab)

Michael Pack and his Sherpa

she boasted that she was "very close to ~"

serves as Trump's G7 "Sherpa"

Larry Kudlow, who also ~ (NPR's Bobby Allyn)

♦ See "Adjusting Appropriately' To Words That Hurt," NPR, Opinion, Language, August 8, 2018.)

♦ STOP. USING. "SHERPA." LIKE. THIS. (The compiler of this work.)

**ability & lack of ability / help & assistance: mountains & hills / person**

## shibboleth (noun)

shibboleths

these are not official regulations, they're more ~

shibboleth of political correctness

"everyone has rights" is a ~

shibboleth of old thinking

heavy tanks are seen as a ~ (the military)

shibboleth in American politics

it's hard to think of any greater ~ (middle class)

educational shibboleth

"learning styles" has become an ~

political shibboleth

the "right of return" has remained a ~ (Palestinians)

liberal and conservative shibboleths

empirical evidence vs ~ (voting patterns)

shibboleths and clichés

the ~ of conventional Washington punditry

shibboleth—a rule—

there is a ~ in the movie business, that...

myths and the shibboleths

the project breaks down the ~ surrounding the Irish famine

abandon another (long held republican) shibboleth

he was ready to ~ (Northern Ireland)

cling to the shibboleths

they ~ that have spelled disaster (South Africa)

jab at the shibboleths

he took a populist line to ~

took root as a shibboleth

this early finding ~

♦ "The contrast between the enormous popularity of the learning-styles approach within education and the lack of credible evidence for its utility is, in our opinion, striking and disturbing." (Quoted in "Forget What You Know About Good Study Habits," by Benedict Carey, *The New York Times*, September 6, 2010.)

♦ "There's no evidence to support the conventional wisdom that kids can be auditory or visual learners." ("Think You're An Auditory or Visual Learner? Scientists Say It's Unlikely," by Patti Neighmond, NPR, Morning Edition, August 29, 2011.)

♦ "One of the biggest surprises from Dr. LeDoux's work is that there may be no such thing as the limbic system—a hypothetical construct of pathways in the forebrain, which contains the hippocampus, amygdala and a few other tiny structures that has been supposed to underlie emotion and motivation." ("Using Rats to Trace Anatomy of Fear, Biology of Emotion," by Sandra Blakeslee, *The New York Times*, November 5, 1996.)

♦ "The brain loves peppermint!" (A North Carolina teacher-trainer and devotee of "brain-based, evidence-based" educational research, encouraging teacher-trainees to hand out peppermint in class to promote learning.)

**idea: religion**

**sanctioning, authority & nonconformity: allusion / religion**

**shield (on one's shield)**

go-out-on-his-shield kind of guy

he's a ~ (the boxer Deontay Wilder)

go out on my shield

I just wish my corner had let me ~ (a boxer / towel)

went out on his shield like a man

Amir Khan ~ (in his fight against "Canelo" Alvarez)

♦ "He got all of our respect... He went out on his shield on this one." (Beterbiev's cut man Russ Amber about Yarde.)

♦ "In Aristophanes' comic play, *Lysistrata*, the women go on sex strike as a way of ending the Peloponnesian War. Do you think we would be as warlike if women were in charge?" [Delighted laughter and clapping from the audience.] / "It's such a good question. My brief answer is no. [Nervous laughter from audience.] You know, the Peloponnesian war, it was the Spartan mothers who said, 'Come back bearing your shield or on it....' I'm not sure that women are by nature kinder or gentler." (Margaret MacMillan, "War and Humanity," the Reith Lectures, BBC.)

**commitment & determination: allusion / history / military**  
**shield (verb)**

shielded your fellow citizens from danger

you have ~ (the military)

**protection & lack of protection: military / verb / weapon**  
**shield (noun)**

shield from the (sun's harmful) rays

ozone provides a protective ~

shield over what

the law provides tech companies a ~ their users post online

Europe's shield

EU chief says Greece is ~ in migrant crisis

missile shield

the first step in deploying a ~

a global ~ won't work

missile defense shield

U.S. testing of a ~

Desert Shield

the ~ buildup before the Persian Gulf War

global (missile) shield

a ~ won't work

human shield

rebels used men, women and children as ~

Saddam's loyalists are using Iraqi civilians as ~

his supporters have offered themselves up as ~

legal shield

Section 230 is a key ~ that protects tech platforms

protective shield

ozone provides a ~ from the sun's harmful rays

human and religious shields

the Iraqis have used ~ (Iraqi Freedom)

sword and shield

the "~-~" version of WWII (de Gaulle and Petain)

testing of a (missile defense) shield

U.S. ~

♦ "Anonymity is often necessary as a shield for victims but opposing counsel has used it as a sword to publicly humiliate our client." (Statement from a lawyer.)

**protection & lack of protection: military / weapon**

## shift (change)

political shift  
there has been a big ~

**position, policy & negotiation: position / movement**

## shifting (adjective)

shifting narrative  
growing frustration over the ~ about the mass shooting

**certainty & uncertainty: movement / position**

## shifty (adjective)

shifty character  
she's a ~, watch out

**behavior / character & personality / subterfuge: direction**

## shine (noun)

a little of the shine  
~ had now been taken off his halo (a politician)

**flaws & lack of flaws: light & dark**

## shining (superlative)

shining examples  
these men stand as ~ of bravery

shining paragons  
~ of American boyhood (scouts)

**superlative: light & dark**

## ship (ship of state, etc.)

ship of state  
the protestors wish to sink the ~

sink the ship of state  
the protestors wish to ~

steer and stabilize the ship  
a government that can ~ through the economic crisis

♦ Longfellow's "The Building of the Ship" is a terrific poem. Franklin Delano Roosevelt wrote out by hand the following lines from it in a message he sent to Winston Churchill, and Churchill used those same lines in a speech broadcast to the English people: "Thou, too, sail on, O Ship of State! / Sail on, O Union, strong and great! / Humanity with all its fears, / With all the hopes of future years, / Is hanging breathless on thy fate!"

**bases: boat / epithet / government / sign, signal, symbol**

## ship (ship of the desert)

"ships of the desert"  
many Australian farmers keep the country's prolific ~

**transportation: boat / epithet**

## ship (tight ship, etc.)

ship of their research  
they caulked up every seam in the ~

run a (very) tight ship

we ~ (a company with many rules)

steering the ship  
some believe he was actually ~ (a vice-president)

**control & lack of control: boat**

## ship (abandon ship / jump ship)

abandon ship  
it's time to ~ (a failing company)

jump ship  
Serge Gnabry is another key player who could ~ (soccer)

jumping ship  
a lot of investors are ~

jumped her party's ship  
she ~ (went from Democrat side to Republican side)

♦ "A North Carolina Democrat reportedly jumped her party's ship Tuesday, cementing the Republican supermajority in the state House of Representatives." (Democrats condemned her as "a traitor," "a spy," and "turncoat Tricia" and her action as "a betrayal" and "deceit of the highest order." She said she switched sides because the Democrats were "close-minded bullies.")

♦ "You must remember he believed, as any other man would have done in his place, that the ship would go down at any moment..." (*Lord Jim* by Joseph Conrad. The *Patna*, of course, did not go down.)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: boat / verb**  
**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: boat / verb**

## ship (sink the ship)

sink the ship  
the protestors wish to ~ of state

**destruction: boat / verb**

## ship (a sinking ship)

Vietnam ship  
Thomas Hughes was on board when the ~ went down...

leave a sinking ship  
what a fool, he had a chance to ~ (sour soccer fan)

♦ "Indian unity by British rule will swiftly perish... The great ship is sinking in the calm sea. Those who should have devoted their utmost efforts to keep her afloat have instead opened the sea-cocks." (Winston Churchill in a speech in 1946.)

**decline: boat / sea**

**failure, accident & impedance: boat / sea**

## ship (right the ship, etc.)

right the ship  
we'll see if the company can ~ (financial problems)

righted the ship  
he ~ (a troubled government agency)  
his polls were shaky, he was sagging, but he has ~

right our (fiscal) ship  
we must ~ (budget)

steady the ship  
even Messi was unable to ~ (loss to Liverpool)

steadied the ship

his performance more than ~ (politician at debate)

♦ "How do you manage risk through both chaos and calm?" (A half-page advertisement for CME Group in *The Economist*, May 1st 2021. It shows a ship, tossing on stormy seas, in the black. It then shows the ship in the blue, on a calm sea. The text goes on to say, "You can't control the changing tide of the markets, but we can help you navigate it... We deliver nearly one billion data points daily, informing the insight you need...")

**amelioration & renewal: boat / verb**

**equilibrium & stability: boat / verb**

**ship (turn the ship, etc.)**

turn the ship around

he is struggling to ~ (a soccer manager)

**reversal: boat / verb**

**ship (ship has sailed, etc.)**

boat has sailed

I think that ~ (that the US can dominate the Pacific)

boat sailed long ago

AJ v Tyson, surely that ~ (a boxing commenter)

ship has sailed

that ~ (no regrets now)

that ~, we've missed the window (to stop global warming)

ship has (long since) sailed

the civility ~ in American politics (2019)

that ~ (that college sports are amateur)

♦ "Your dad loved her very much. If there was one other cat in this world that could have loved her and treated her as well as your dad, then it was me. But, unfortunately, for yours truly, that train has sailed." (Austin Powers to Vanessa Kensington from the film *Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery*.)

♦ Golden\_Nuggets: Joshua, please retire before you embarrass our nation anymore. / Spinoza (to Golden\_Nuggets): That ship has failed unfortunately. (Boxing snark on a BBC HYS about the second fight between Oleksandr Usyk and Anthony Joshua. This may or may not have been a typo. I hope it's not.)

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: boat / movement / verb**

**ship (launched a thousand ships)**

engender a thousand conversations

this acutely argued book will ~ (a blurb)

launched a thousand academic careers

his book ~ and plenty of opaque jargon... (*Orientalism*)

launched a thousand copies

the Chanel jacket that ~...

launched a thousand (magazine) covers

the clean-cut matinee idol who ~ (Dirk Bogarde)

launched a thousand think pieces

it was the song that ~ ("I Kissed A Girl")

launched a thousand takes

the leak ~ (of a cache of nude celebrity photos)

launches 1,000 conspiracy theories

it will be a snafu that ~ (2020 Iowa caucus results)

launched a thousand jokes and memes

this bipartisan hope that has ~ (infrastructure)

sparked a thousand arguments

The Wing: how an exclusive women's club ~

♦ "This is the face and bod that launched a plus-sized bra-haha." (A picture of model Ashley Graham in an article by Jennifer Bain in *The New York Post*.)

**initiation: allusion / boat / Iliad & Odyssey**

**ship (allyship, etc.)**

allyship

see *allyship (groups)*

co-conspiratorship

allyship & ~ as a verb

kinship

queer ~

ownership

see *ownership (noun)*

**inclusion & exclusion: affix**

**ship out (remove)**

ship him out

they wanted to ~, and this was their opportunity (dismissal)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: boat / verb**

**shipwreck (noun)**

shipwreck of my conscience

I would not make a ~ (Paulet, 1587)

**destruction: boat / crashes & collisions**

**failure, accident & impairment: boat / crashes & collisions**

**shirt (lose one's shirt)**

lost their shirts

they ~ when the market crashed

**failure, accident & impairment: clothing & accessories**

**shit (and bullshit / verb)**

bullshit

we don't play games, we don't ~ (windsurfer Poles)

**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty / worth & lack of worth:**

**speech / waste**

**shit (and bullshit / noun)**

bullshit on Everest

it's all ~ these days (Sir Edmund Hillary / 2003)

♦ "a lot of casuals have been coming here lately just talking shit I can't wait for them to fuck off" (A boxing fan on reddit's "post fight thread Anthony Joshua vs Oleksandr Usyk." The opposite of "casual" fans would be hardcore, knowledgeable fans.)

♦ "Boolschidt! This whole thing was scripted." (Politics.)

**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty / worth & lack of worth:**

**speech / waste**

## shiver (noun)

send a shiver through Congress  
the news will likely ~ (Congressmen get coronavirus)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## shoal (noun)

shoals of theology and cosmology  
Lyell had tried to avoid the ~ (*Principles of Geology*)

foundering on the shoals  
he finds himself ~ of issues around race (a politician)

run aground on the shoals  
the promises have ~ of changing sex ratios

**failure, accident & impairment: boat / sea  
danger / destruction / obstacles & impedance: boat / sea**  
**shock (verb)**

shocked the world  
Ireland ~ by announcing... (dispute with Vatican)

shocks and terrifies  
violence ~ even the best-trained troops (combat)

offend, shock or disturb  
those that ~ the majority (freedom of expression)

**feeling, emotion & effect: electricity / force / verb**  
**shock (in shock)**

still in shock  
he was ~ but relieved... (survivor of porch collapse)

**feeling, emotion & effect: electricity / force / health & medicine**

## shock (feeling)

shock  
9/11 was a ~ that should not have come as a surprise

shock of combat  
training can lessen the surprise and ~

shock of losing  
the ~ his dad, there was so much anger (a young man)

shock of prison  
after the ~ wears off

shock for me  
it was a ~ and everyone else

shock for the (previously unbeaten) team  
it was a ~

shock radio  
for those who enjoy ~

shock and delight  
the winners' ~ (MacArthur Award)

shock or horror or outrage or indignation  
I could not show ~ (journalist witness to ethnic strife)

family's shock  
she recalls the ~ when her mother was arrested

culture shock  
reverse culture shock can worse than the classic ~

sticker shock  
bracing themselves for ~ (laptop-computer prices)

absolute shock  
this is an ~ (death of a young athlete)

quite a shock  
it was ~ (mine disaster)

look of shock  
I saw the ~ in his face

state of shock  
we were all in a complete ~ (athlete's sudden death)

anger and shock  
the ~ (to yet another terrorist bombing)

surprise and shock  
training can lessen the ~ of combat

shock (of prison) wears off  
after the ~

lessen the (surprise and) shock  
training can ~ of combat

come as a shock  
I know this may ~ to you...  
it may ~ to people...

reeling from the shock  
the staff is still ~ of the shootings

♦ "Cameroon 1-0 Argentina in 1990 was a shock. Saudi Arabia 2-1 Argentina is an electrocution. Incredible. Congratulations, Saudi Arabia!"  
BBC commentators on Saudi Arabia 2-Argentina 1 at the FIFA World Cup in Qatar. Mashallah! "Raise Our Green Flag.")

**feeling, emotion & effect: electricity / force**

## shocked (adjective)

shocked  
not one of the students in the group looked ~

shocked that  
people are ~ this is so close to home  
they're kind of ~ her parents are white, and she's not  
he said that he is ~ a killing could take place there

shocked to see  
he was ~ so many dead or wounded (combat)

shocked at her appearance  
they were ~ (eating disorder)

shocked at the prices  
they may be ~ (rent for assisted living)

shocked at what

they are ~ is now happening

shocked when

Iraqi commanders were ~ they discovered...

shocked by the attacks

Australians were ~ (bombing on Bali)

shocked by the decision

he was ~ not to renew his contract (job)

shocked by the (gorilla) killings

conservationists were ~ (DR Congo / Virunga)

shocked by the news

they were ~ (favorite restaurant closed)

shocked by the number

she was ~ of Muslims having surgery to...

shocked by these revelations

I was ~ (in the press)

shocked by the (death) toll

people were ~ (climbing disaster)

shocked by the verdict

I'm ~ (jury lets businessman off)

shocked by the viciousness

police were ~ of the attack (hate crime)

shocked silence

through it all she sat in ~

shocked and appalled

we are ~ by this news (plans to shoot tigers)

shocked and baffled

the rap word was ~ by the murder (Jam Master Jay)

shocked and bewildered (m)

the ~ passengers (train crash)

shocked, embarrassed and disgusted

residents are ~ (town government)

shocked and grief-stricken

~ relatives of the victims gathered (bus-truck crash)

shocked and outraged

I was ~

shocked, upset, fearful and angry

the community is ~ (hate crime)

completely shocked

I was just completely shocked

definitely shocked

when I found out, I was ~

genuinely shocked

I was ~

a little shocked

he looked ~ that I wasn't ready to go out

**feeling, emotion & effect: electricity / force**

## shocker (noun)

honeymoon shocker

couples who encounter the "~" (a snoring spouse)

**feeling, emotion & effect: electricity**

## shocking (feeling, emotion and effect)

shocking

the mismanagement and incompetence is ~

the firing was surprising but not ~ (Notre Dame coach)

shocking crime

it was a ~ (a murder)

shocking defeat

they talked about his ~ of Lewis (boxing)

shocking news

the ~ is...

shocking scenes

~ of dead or terrified children (Chechen terrorism)

shocking story

he related a ~

shocking upset

at the conclusion of the ~ (football)

shocking and inflammatory (m)

desecration of the Koran is a ~ act

**feeling, emotion & effect: electricity / force**

## shock wave

shockwave of trauma

this decision has caused a ~ across the church (Methodists)

send shock waves through the market

such a drastic step would ~

sent shock waves through French politics

the poll ~ (strength of right)

sent shock waves through the American psyche

Tet ~ (Vietnam War)

sent shockwaves through the skiing world

his death ~ (Doug Coombs)

the arrests have ~ (blood doping)

sent shockwaves through the sport

their bans ~ (sports doping)

sent shock waves around the globe

the dramatic plunge of the Web site ~

sent shock waves rippling

the discovery of sperm whales ~ through Nantucket

set off shock waves with his statement

he ~

♦ "There is no dearth of prose describing the mass of humanity that made its way to the feet of the Great Emancipator that day; no metaphor that has slipped through the cracks waiting to be discovered, dusted off, and injected into the discourse a half century on. The March on

Washington has been compared to a tsunami, a shock wave, a wall, a living monument, a human mosaic, an outright miracle. / It was all of those things..." (*Behind the Dream: The Making of the Speech that Transformed a Nation* by Clarence B. Jones.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: earthquake / explosion**

**effect: earthquake / explosion**

## shoe (a shoe can drop or fall)

next shoe

what's the ~ to drop, what happens next

the other shoe

people wait for the other ~ to drop (occupation)

a horrifying shoe

there's a sense ~ is just waiting to drop (Mara Liasson)

shoe has fallen

now that the ~, where will he go (fired)

waited for the other shoe

his colleagues ~ to drop (investigation)

**fate, fortune & chance: clothing & accessories / verb**

## shoe (in somebody's shoes)

in her shoes

I'm gay, I've been ~

in their shoes

I should be clear that as a journalist I was not ~

put yourself in his shoes

~ (see it from that person's point of view)

put yourself in the other person's shoes

~, you might be more sympathetic

walking in somebody else's shoes

I can't say I'm ~, but I'm not oblivious to it (race)

♦ "I'd like people to put themselves in my shoes and think what it's like to get threats to my family." (Spain striker Alvaro Morata about fan abuse during Euro 2020.)

♦ "You'll never understand what it's like until you've walked a mile in our brain." (A person commenting on an article about a successful, beautiful young woman and ex-athlete who committed suicide.)

**empathy & lack of empathy: clothing & accessories**

**perception, perspective & point of view: clothing & accessories**

## shoe (big shoes)

big shoes

those were definitely some ~ that I had to fill...

**superiority & inferiority: clothing & accessories / size**

## shoe (the shoe is on the other foot)

shoe's on the other foot

what might happen to you if the ~

**reversal: clothing & accessories**

## shoe (a stone in the shoe)

stone in our shoe

Ecuador's president has described him as a ~ (Assange)

stone in Nato's shoe

Turkey is fast becoming a ~ (over Libya)

**affliction: clothing & accessories / sensation**

**feeling, emotion & effect: clothing & accessories / sensation**

## shoestring (noun)

shoestring budget

NASA supports the ~ to find NEOs

shoestring (\$1 million) budget

its ~ (a film)

**money / sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: clothing & accessories**

## shoot (plant)

shoots of ballet activity

she helped the new ~ that developed (Karsavina)

♦ The term "green shoots" has become trendy lately. See *green shoots*.

**creation & transformation: plant**

**growth & development: plant**

## shoot (speech)

shoot first

he tends to ~ and aim second (a politician)

shoot from the hip

people who ~, who tell it like it is...

**speech: weapon / verb**

## shoot (shoot back)

shot back

he ~, "Of course it's easier..." (to criticism)

**speech: weapon / verb**

## shoot (shoot first)

shoot first and ask questions later

investors are likely to ~ (stocks fall on fears)

**action, inaction & delay / initiation: verb / weapon**

## shoot (shoot oneself in the foot)

shot himself in the foot

he has ~ again (Colin Kaepernick)

shot themselves in both feet

CNN ~ with this crazy rule and enforcement (a scandal)

♦ "She knew she was shooting herself in the foot politically." (A never-Trump Republican.)

♦ "His tell-all is literary self-harm." (Prince Harry.)

**failure, accident & impairment: foot / verb / weapon**

## shoot down (verb)

shoot me down

I do feel like, ~ here if you think it's necessary (argument)

**destruction: plane / speech / verb / weapon**

## shoot-out (noun)

shoot-out between the two camps  
the request set off a ~ (privacy vs. right to know)

**conflict: weapon**

## shoot up (verb)

shot up  
the price of gas has ~  
the price of food has ~  
the price of helium has ~  
after that, his stock in the village ~ (with Balinese people)

**increase & decrease: direction / number / verb / weapon**

## shore (far shore)

left stranded on the far shore  
his system of critical judgment was ~

**society: ground, terrain & land / island / sea**

**division & connection: ground, terrain & land / island / sea**

## shore (resemblance)

shore  
Sahel is the Arabic word for "~"

shore of the Sahara Desert  
the Sahel is the ~

shore of the salt pan  
after reaching the further ~ (Ntsetse in Botswana)

Sahara's southern shore  
the Sahel is a band of dry grassland, the ~

**resemblance: sea**

## shored up

shored up by dubious data  
her books are ~ (Naomi Wolf)

**amelioration & renewal / strength & weakness:  
infrastructure / mining**

## shore up (verb)

shore up their (criminal) case  
the police are working to ~

shore up her confidence  
a victory would ~ (athlete)

**amelioration & renewal / strength & weakness:  
infrastructure / mining / verb**

## short (a short time, etc.)

short time later  
he arrived a ~

**time: distance**

## short-circuit (verb)

short-circuit our expectations  
she knows how to ~ (a writer)

short-circuited the process  
he ~

short-circuited the (traditional campaign) route  
he has ~ (billionaire politician and advertising)

**failure, accident & impairment: electricity / verb**

**disruption: electricity / verb**

## shortcut (verb)

shortcut it  
it's a long process, and we can never ~

**difficulty, easiness & effort: distance / movement /  
journeys & trips / verb**

## shortcut (noun)

shortcut to success  
athletes who take a ~ (doping)

safety shortcut  
~s led to the oil spill

magical shortcut  
joining the military should not be a ~ to hero status

**difficulty, easiness & effort: distance / movement /  
journeys & trips**

## shorthand (noun)

shorthand for a person  
calling someone a Karen has become ~ who...

shorthand term  
the ~ 'illegals' is an insult

political shorthand  
one word that pops up often in ~ is "reform"

take that shorthand away  
I don't want to ~ from them (terms and memes)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: sign, signal, symbol /  
writing & spelling**

## shortsighted

shortsighted to treat  
it is ~ addicts as criminals

shortsighted in the extreme  
this policy is ~ (self-interest vs. collective good)

shortsighted and dangerous  
it would be both ~ to allow...

criticized it as shortsighted  
they ~ (a policy)

**future / perception, perspective & point of view: eye**

## shot (nerves are shot, etc.)

shot

her nerves are ~, she has no confidence (Wimbledon)

**failure, accident & impairment / feeling, emotion & effect:  
skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## shot (shot in the arm, etc.)

shot of adrenaline

his writing is a ~ that awakens us from our apathy

shot in the arm

it's a ~ (the encouragement of a research prize)

shot in the arm for the local economy

this is a ~ (a basketball tournament)

shot in the arm for the MacBook lineup

its own chip has been a ~ (Apple Silicon)

real shot in the arm

this victory is a ~ (union victory)

gave the industry a shot in the arm

Disney's Matterhorn Bobsled Ride ~ in 1959

♦ *To inject new life / fresh blood can be similar.*

♦ "Citizens of vaccination nation, all those shots in the arm, gave a shot in the arm to the box office this weekend..." (Chris Connelly promoting filmgoing for ABC. The is a good example of recontextualization of an old cliché in the age of COVID.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

## shot (attempt, opportunity)

shot at advancement

his son has a better ~ than he faced as a young man

shot at the job

I thought I had a ~ (job interview)

shot at the peak

this was their last ~ (mountaineering)

shot at the summit

helping the other group cost the climbers a ~

shot at the title

a win would keep him on track for a ~ (boxer)

shot at the (world) championship

a ~ (boxing)

shot in Orlando

he knew he had a ~ (to win, at a championship)

title shot

give Tyson a ~ (boxing)

another shot

Tyson might get ~ (to fight for championship)

first shot

Tomaz got his ~ at the Himalayas in 1994

a student reporter will get the ~ (to ask a question)

good shot

I thought I had a ~ at the job (interview)

last shot

this was their ~ at the peak (mountaineering);

a ~ to right a historical wrong (reparations)

one more shot

at least give it ~ (try)

on track for a shot

a win would keep him ~ at the title (boxer)

give him a shot

hopefully somebody will ~ (an athlete)

got a shot

she finally ~ on the Tonight Show

taken a shot

at least 7 expeditions had ~ at Gasherbrum IV

cost the climbers a shot

helping the other group ~ at the summit

**attempt: weapon**

## shot (chance)

one-in-a-million shot

400 times a day, a ~ will occur (probability)

**fate, fortune & chance: target / weapon**

## shot (shot in the dark)

shot in the dark

deciding which MS drug is something of a ~

♦ "Sometimes a shot in the dark hits its mark." (A murder investigation.)

♦ A former California State prosecutor, speaking about a legal takedown, said, "This case was a huge *stab* in the right direction." (Step in the right direction? Stab or shot in the dark? Is this an "eggcorn"? Who knows...)

**fate, fortune & chance: target / weapon**

## shot (criticism)

taking shots at him

everyone is ~ (criticism)

**accusation & criticism / speech: weapon**

## shot (shot across the bow, etc.)

shot over the bow

it was a ~ (penalty against Facebook)

shot across the bow for cruise lines

the incident was a ~ returning to sea (2 Covid cases)

shot across the bow

it was a threat, it was a ~ (the Dickey Amendment)

fired a shot across the bow

he also ~ (he praised, then criticized)

**accusation & criticism / conflict / speech / warning: boat /  
military / weapon**

## shot (call the shots)

calls the shots

he ~ (boss)

calling its own shots

North Korea is ~ and not taking orders from anybody

♦ One who calls the shots might be referred to as a shot caller.

**control & lack of control / directing: weapon / verb**

## shot (opening shot)

opening shot of his campaign

the speech was the ~ (politics)

**conflict / development / sequence / speech: weapon**

## shot (parting shot)

parting shot

as a ~, he said...

parting shot of (barely masked) bitterness

they left with a ~ (royals leave family)

**conflict / development / sequence / speech: weapon**

## shot (warning shot)

fired a warning shot

he ~ at his colleagues (about priorities)

**conflict / development / warning / speech: military / weapon**

## shot (best shot)

best shot

the guys have given it their ~

I have given it my ~ (spots event)

gave it my best shot

I ~ (tried as hard as I could)

**attempt / difficulty, easiness & effort: weapon**

## shot (shot heard round the world)

cough heard round the world

a ~ (the economic impact of the pandemic / *The Economist*)

hug heard round the world

the ~ (BBC / Revisionist History / Malcolm Gladwell)

“scream” heard around the world

Howard Dean’s famous ~ (DEAN GOES NUTS)

shot heard around the world

the day he took the ~ (Paul Caligiuri / US soccer / 1989)

smack heard ‘round the world

it was the ~ (Will Smith slaps Chris Rock at Oscars)

tweet heard around the world

the ~ (crash of Flight 1549 in the Hudson River on Twitter)

♦ “Her husband leapt to the stage and gave the comedian a slap that was heard around the world.” (Will Smith v. Chris Rock.)

♦ “Ain’t you learned nothing from the slap that was heard around the world?” (Christopher Darden calls out Chris Rock about the latter’s 2022 joke that referenced Nicole Brown Simpson. According to Darden’s Wikipedia entry, “Although rumors persisted of a sexual relationship between Marcia Clark and Darden, both have denied such a relationship existed. Both consider their relationship to be extremely close, a result of the intense pressures of the Simpson trial.”)

♦ “It changed everything. Suddenly the world turned its attention because we were the source of news—and it wasn’t us, it was this person in the boat using the service, which is even more amazing.” (Jack Dorsey, about the crash of U.S. Airways Flight 1549 in the Hudson River on Jan. 15, 2009. That person was Janis Krums, who tweeted about the incident with a photo. His was the first report of what would become known as “The Miracle on the Hudson.”)

♦ “It really was like the shot that was heard around the world in terms of hip-hop.” (Reggie Rock Bythewood about the murder of the Notorious B.I.G.)

♦ “By the rude bridge that arched the flood, / Their flag to April’s breeze unfurled, / Here once the embattled farmers stood / And fired the shot heard round the world.” (“The Concord Hymn” by Ralph Waldo Emerson.)

♦ On reaching Concord, the grenadiers executed the object in view by destroying the ordnance and stores... / The loss of the Provincials in this affair, which they pompously styled ‘the battle of Lexington,’ was only sixty men, two-thirds of whom were killed. / An officer who was engaged wrote thus:-- / ‘The rebels fought like the savages of the country, and treated some who had the misfortune to fall like savages, for they scalped them and cut off their ears with the most unmanly brutality. This has irritated the troops to a very high degree...’ / The return of the troops to Boston, though they had fully accomplished the duty on which they had been sent, was represented all over the continent as a defeat...” (*British Battles on Land and Sea* by James Grant.)

**allusion: books & reading**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: allusion / military / sound / weapon**

## shot down (and shot down in flames)

shot down in flames

that theory was quickly ~

the approach was ~ at his conference

its strategy has been ~ (a political party)

shot down in flames by the focus group

their suggestions were ~

got shot down

the idea this was terrorism ~

got shot down in flames

they ~ for criticizing the president (Dixie Chicks)

**destruction: flying & falling / military / plane / weapon**

## shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.)

shoulder the blame

he must ~ for the loss (sports)

shoulder the (financial) burden

the government should ~

shoulder the cost

BP must ~ of the cleanup (oil spill)

shoulder the load

the defense is not yet ready to ~ (sports)

shoulder the responsibility

he must ~ now

**responsibility / work & duty: shoulder / verb / weight**  
**shoulder (shoulder to the grindstone)**

put your shoulder to the grindstone  
you've got to ~ (work harder)

**work & duty: shoulder / weight**

**shoulder (shrug one's shoulders)**

shrugging its shoulders  
even the Supreme Court is ~ and looking the other way

**action, inaction & delay: gesture / shoulder / verb**

**shoulder (stand shoulder to shoulder, etc.)**

standing shoulder to shoulder  
we must make sure we are ~ (US and Britain)

**allegiance, support & betrayal / unanimity & consensus:**  
**shoulder / standing, sitting & lying / verb**

**shoulder (a shoulder to cry on)**

offered him a shoulder to cry on  
she ~

**empathy & lack of empathy: shoulder**

**shoulder (look over somebody's shoulder)**

look over our shoulders  
the government should not be allowed to ~

**surveillance: shoulder**

**shoulder (tapped on the shoulder, etc.)**

tapped on the shoulder  
people were promoted by getting ~

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: shoulder**

**shoulder (oppression)**

shoulders  
it's definitely a weight off my ~

**oppression: shoulder / weight**

**shoulder (rub shoulders)**

rubbed shoulders with them  
the magazine eagerly ~ (celebrities)

**proximity: shoulder / verb**

**social interaction: proximity / shoulder / verb**

**shoulder (fall on the shoulders)**

falls on the shoulders of regular Americans  
the tax burden still ~ (politics)

falls on the shoulders of BP  
that ~ (responsibility)

falls on the shoulders of those  
the burden ~ least able to bear it (the poor)

**responsibility: shoulder / weight**

**shoulder (stand on somebody's shoulders)**

stand on the shoulders of other artists  
artists ~

stand on the shoulders of giants  
we ~ (achievement)

standing on the shoulders of giants  
I really feel as though I was ~ (an author)

stand on the shoulders of those  
we all ~ before us (tweakers of innovation)

stand on their shoulders  
we are proud to ~

**bases / superiority & inferiority: shoulder / verb**

**shoulder (mountain, etc.)**

lower shoulder  
its ~ gives great views of Everest (Kala Patthar / Pumori)

**resemblance: shoulder**

**shout (verb)**

shooting from the rooftops  
he is ~, "Hey, Democrats, we have a problem"

♦ "[In the hill and mountain country of northern India]... inter-village communication is carried on by shouting. Standing on a commanding point, maybe a big rock or the roof of a house, a man cooees to attract the attention of the people in a neighboring village, and when the cooees is answered the message is shouted across in a high-pitched voice. From village to village the message is tossed, and is broadcast throughout large areas in an incredibly short space of time." (The cooees method of communication. From *Man-Eaters of Kumaon* by Jim Corbett.)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound / verb**

**speech / warning: sound / verb**

**shout-out (noun)**

shout-out to southeast Ohio  
his ~ has inspired more than donations

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound**

**shove (noun)**

shove in the back  
the army delivered a very strong ~ when... (coup)

**coercion & motivation / force: arm / gesture**

**show (the data show, etc.)**

shows that  
history ~...

data shows  
new ~ that...  
the city's own ~ that Minneapolis police...

evidence shows  
~ that officers both knocked and announced their presence

evidence will show  
the ~ that officers made 2 calls for emergency help

it shows  
~ that they didn't care (women got smaller weight room)

pandemic shows  
the ~ that you can't wait until the disaster hits to be ready

poll shows  
~ that more than half of Americans...  
a recent NPR / IPSOS ~ that 29% of parents polled...

report shows  
the new ~ that an alarming number of...  
the ProPublica ~ that morale among...

research shows  
but ~ that number is dropping

shooting shows  
the ~ that gun laws don't work

study shows  
a new ~ that women in the U.S. military...

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / evidence / fictive  
communication: picture / verb**

## show (nature, etc.)

moving show  
this ~, this shining and shifting spectacle (Bombay)

put on a show  
at night the stars ~ for free (Carole King)  
the meteor shower could ~ starting...

**performance: theater**

## show (performance)

all (a) show  
the meeting was ~, no substance

just for show  
for the most part the confrontations is ~ (a talk show)

become a show  
bring your popcorn, this has ~ (congressional hearing)

put on a show  
she doesn't try to ~ (favorable reaction to a politician)  
players ~ to get calls (soccer)

♦ A commentator talking about a senate hearing used the words *stunt*, *spectacle*, and *public show*.

**performance / substance & lack of substance: theater**

## show (horror show)

defensive horror show  
they were aided by a ~ by the Hornets (soccer)

**resemblance: film**

## show (the show must go on)

show must go on  
the ~

**starting, going, continuing & ending: theater**

## show (the show is over)

show "Russia" was over  
the ~, everyone was hurrying to get his hat (1917)

♦ "The show "Russia" was over, everyone was hurrying to get his hat and coat." (Viktor Shklovsky, literary critic, on Russia in 1917.)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: theater**

## show (steal the show)

stole the show  
Travis Pastrana ~ (X Games / motocross)  
she ~ at the MLS match (girl belts out national anthem)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / verb**

## showboat (verb)

showboat  
he likes to ~ (an athlete)

♦ A showboat was a river steamboat on which theatrical performances were given. *Show Boat* was a very popular novel and musical.

♦ "From 1919 to 1921. We used to play at the foot of Canal Street during the winter and then we go up the river, all the way up to Davenport, Iowa (EYE-oh-way). That's where I first met Bix Beiderbecke. He was a little kid, he was coming up with the horn, he's come on the boat... We used to sit around and blow a little, that's when I found out he could play that piano—"In the Mist"—a lovely kid." ("Louis Armstrong," BBC, Desert Island Discs, 1968, with Roy Plomley.)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / behavior / character &  
personality: boat / theater / verb**

## show business (performance)

show business  
it's just ~, it's sort of performance art (politics)

**performance: theater**

## showcase (verb)

showcase your talents  
a good resume can ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: container / verb**

## showcase (noun)

showcase of (twisted) psychology  
the trial has been a ~ (murder)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: container**

## shower (verb)

showered the two men with gifts  
she ~

showered him with praise  
they ~

**amount & effect: rain / verb**

**throwing, putting & planting: rain / verb**

## shower (cold shower)

cold shower of power

then came the ~ (Obama faces problem of war)

cold shower for Silicon Valley

these lackluster prices are kind of a ~ (stock prices)

cold shower for them

the match was very much a ~ (Leicester City loses)

cold shower on Everton's ambition

Carlo Ancelotti's departure is a ~ of joining the elite

give them (a bit of) a cold shower

he has been forced to ~ (about investing in Iran)

♦ "She was plunged into a cold bath of Schadenfreude." (A government official who broke a rule.)

♦ "This must have been the coldest of showers for anyone at Old Trafford." (A thumping by Liverpool.)

**eagerness & reluctance: temperature / water**

**enthusiasm: temperature / water**

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature / water**

**consciousness & awareness: temperature / water**

## showered

showered with honors

Wellington was ~

showered with (geographical) medals and awards

he was ~ (Amundsen)

**amount & effect: rain**

## showman (person)

whip-smart showman

he was a ~ who loved the media attention (defense lawyer)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / person**

## show up (verb)

show up

the officials were supposed to testify but didn't ~  
waves don't ~ for surfing contest

showed up to donate

residents ~ blood

showed up in Mozambique

TR4 ~ five years ago (banana fungus)

show up on weather radar

the swarm was big enough to ~ (grasshoppers)

show up for school

neighborhood crime makes it harder to ~

**appearance & disappearance: prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## shrapnel (noun)

emotional shrapnel

the ~ scarred both children (divorce)

**affliction / feeling, emotion & effect: weapon**

## shred (verb)

shredding his (congressional) support

he is ~ (politics)

**destruction: cloth / verb**

## shred (shred of hope, etc.)

shred of evidence

I was unable to find a ~ to show...

shred of kindness

is there a ~ inside her that...

shred of (true) remorse

we have never seen a ~ from him (family of victim)

shred of comfort or hope

the film offers hardly a ~ (*Network*)

**amount: cloth**

## shrine (reverence)

shrine to the Backstreet Boys

her bedroom is a poster-filled ~ (teen girl)

shrines to (excess) capital

these ~ (megayachts)

shrine to NASCAR

the new museum is a ~ (auto racing)

banana shrine

Ann Lovell's house is a ~ (banana memorabilia)

poster shrine

he still had the ~ in his bedroom (of 3 actors)

poster-filled shrine

her bedroom is a ~ to the Backstreet Boys

polar shrine

there she is, a national monument and ~ (the *Fram*)

♦ "When Jeremy Strong was a teen-ager, in suburban Massachusetts, he had three posters thumbtacked to his bedroom wall: Daniel Day-Lewis in 'My Left Foot,' Al Pacino in 'Dog Day Afternoon,' and Dustin Hoffman in 'Rain Man...'" (The opening to the fascinating profile "The Straight Man" by Michael Schulman, *The New Yorker*, December 13, 2021.)

**enthusiasm / reverence: religion**

## shrink (downsize)

shrink its footprint

as the US military begins to ~ in Afghanistan

shrink our (leviathan) government

he wants to shrink our ~ (a politician)

shrink the military

he wants to ~ and reduce its footprint overseas

**increase & decrease: size / verb**

## shrink (decline)

shrank

as Britain's global influence ~ (after WWII)

**decline: size / verb**

## shrinking violet (person)

shrinking flower

Pasteur was no ~ (the great chemist)

shrinking violet

he is not a ~ who will wilt under pressure (a politician)

♦ Terms with similar meanings are *teacup* and *snowflake*. In the old days, such people were compared to plants: a *shrinking violet*; a *pansy*; a *wallflower*. The modern update on that is *orchid* (versus a *dandelion*).

**character & personality: person / plant**

**person: plant**

## shrivel (verb)

shrivel (slowly) to irrelevance

the group could ~

**decline: plant / size / verb**

## shroud (noun)

shroud of mystery

a ~ surrounds him

**cover: cloth**

## shrouded (covered)

shrouded in clouds

the top of the mountain was ~ all day (Mount Hood)

exhaust-shrouded

we walked down ~ Fifth Avenue

fog-shrouded

the helicopter crashed in the ~ Balsam Gap area

a passenger jet overshot a ~ runway, killing 42

snow-shrouded

we walked through the ~ fields

remained shrouded

she ~ in a flowing black abaya (Doha)

**configuration / cover: cloth**

## shrouded (concealment)

shrouded in mystery

the details are ~ (an ancient Swazi rite)

the course of infection in chimps is ~ (SIV)

he is a shadowy figure whose intentions remain ~

Lewis' death was ~ (Lewis and Clark expedition)

the exact origins of the film are ~ (controversy)

the whole Liston story is so ~ (death of the boxer)

its mission has been ~ (X-37B space plane)

shrouded in secrecy

its work is ~ (Saudi Dept. of General Statistics)

this left the review process ~ (virus research)

shrouded in myths and mystery

the origin of the Maasai is ~

shrouded from public view

inmates' lives are largely a mystery, since prison life is ~

**concealment & lack of concealment: cloth**

## shrug (gesture)

shoulder shrug

he has kind of a ~ towards that (politician about spying)

it was a big ~ because it doesn't help us any (murder)

shrugs and eye rolls

the framework was largely met with ~ (virus research)

collective shrug

his lies were met, by many, with a ~ (false resume, etc.)

large shrug

people here reacted to the events with a ~ (Taiwan)

give an exhausted shrug

better to ~ at the noise of the Internet and move on

responded with shrugs

Wall Street luminaries have mostly ~ and dismissals

**action, inaction & delay: confronting, dealing with &**

**ignoring things: gesture / shoulder**

## shrug off (verb)

shrug off

it's nothing that you can just ~ (responsibility)

shrugs off the media's questions

he ~ with his good-natured grin (a politician)

shrugged off his reputation

he ~ as a daring space explorer (Neil Armstrong)

shrugged it off

he ~ (a setback)

Parton shrugged it (all) off

~ (criticism, accusations, memes, caricatures)

**avoidance & separation: gesture / shoulder / verb**

## shudder (verb)

shudder at some of the echoes of the past

he will ~ (a world leader)

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things / courage & lack**

**of courage: bodily reaction / verb**

## shun (verb)

shunned computers

he ~ for years (a journalist)

shunning mainstream press

a lot of Republicans are simply ~ on the campaign trail

shunned the spotlight

he ~ for the rest of his life (astronaut Neil Armstrong)

shunned violence  
the group has ~

shun the 21st century  
they ~ (Mennonite colony in Bolivia)

**acceptance & rejection: society / verb**

### shunned

shunned (by executives) for being (openly) gay  
he was ~

shunned by the world  
he felt ~

**acceptance & rejection: society**

### shut down (verb)

shut them down  
we have to spot them and ~ (Nazi websites)

shut down the discussion  
instead of debating, the left wants to ~ (“woke” colleges)

**curtailment: mechanism / verb**

### shut off (verb)

shut off the comments  
everyone has appealed to the *Harold Sun* to ~ (AFLW)

shut off the spigot  
they are trying to ~ of Russian boar (invasive species)

shut off the (gushing federal) spigot  
many voters don’t want to ~

**curtailment: mechanism / verb**

### shut out (verb)

shut out Huawei  
U.S. makes another move to ~

shut out poor kids  
elite colleges ~

**access & lack of access: doors & thresholds / verb**

**acceptance & rejection: doors & thresholds / verb**

### shut out (adjective)

shut out  
many writers have been ~ (publishing)

shut out of the system  
organizations like ours will be ~

shut out from education  
the women are ~

shut out from the industry  
both artists and fans are ~ (country music)

feel shut out  
many Afghan women ~ of politics

keep them shut out

academic hurdles that ~ of higher education

**access & lack of access: doors & thresholds**

**acceptance & rejection: doors & thresholds**

### shuttered (adjective)

shuttered  
with 90% of the economy ~ (pandemic)

**curtailment: window**

### shy (adjective)

shy of coming  
others are ~ into Pakistan (versus China)

shy about criticizing  
Trump has never been ~

**eagerness & reluctance: love, courtship & marriage**

### shy (and shy away)

shy from daunting texts  
the choreographer Pam Tanowitz doesn’t ~

shied away from focusing  
he has not ~ on abuses in Russia (a Russian journalist)

shy away from making  
the Republicans will not ~ tough proposals

shy away from speaking out  
he did not ~ politically (a cleric)

shy away from (difficult) decisions  
he does not ~ (a politician)

shy away from the fact  
we cannot ~ that...

shied away from the issue  
politicians have ~ (taxes)

shied away from it  
for years I ~, now I’m leaning completely into it

shy away from these priorities  
this is not the time to ~ (politics and the budget)

**avoidance & separation: horse / verb**

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: horse / verb**

### Siamese twins

Siamese twins  
medicine and botany had become ~, neither could advance without the other...

♦ The great Saudi pediatric surgeon Dr. Abdullah al-Rabeeah and his teams have successfully separated a number of *actual*/conjoined twins. The world salutes him and his great patron, King Abdullah.

**relationship: family / health & medicine**

### Siberia (exile)

Siberia for Irish dissidents  
Australia was the official ~ (1790s onwards)

♦ Crimean Tatars (to Kazakhstan as well as to the Western and Far Eastern Arctic); Volga Germans (to Kazakhstan as well as to the Northwestern Urals and Eastern Siberia by the Aldan River); Kalmyks (to the Angara River west of Lake Baikal); Karachais (to Kazakhstan); Meskhetians (to Uzbekistan); Chechen-Ingush (to the Irtys River and Kazakhstan)...(The Soviet deportation of nationalities 1941-1945, from the *Atlas of Russian History* by Martin Gilbert.)

♦ "The forest Evenk lived in bark-covered teepees, and rode reindeer with bridle and saddle."

**dismissal, removal & resignation: society**

**acceptance & rejection: society**

**isolation & remoteness / society: ground, terrain & land**

## sibling

hideous sibling

education's ~, training...

older sibling

Philly soul was its ~ (to Motown)

rebellious and working class sibling

the "Oi!" sub-genre was mainstream punk's more ~

Omicron variant, and its siblings

the super-contagious ~, are the threat

♦ "If Detroit's Tamla (Records) was the sound of young America, Philly soul was its lush, richly orchestrated sophisticated older sibling." (Berry Gordy Jr.'s Tamla Records became Motown Records. BBC Six O'clock News, 23/12/2022. A wonderful tribute by David Sillito, BBC Media and Arts Correspondent, to the songwriter, musician and producer Thom Bell. Well done!)

**relationship: family**

## Sicily (Mexico's Sicily, etc.)

Mexico's Sicily

Sinaloa State is known as ~ (drug lords)

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## sick (condition)

sick

the bond market is ~

Sick Man

our country is the ~ of Europe

sick computers

she fixes ~ (tech worker)

sick (auto) industry

increased new-car sales would help our ~

sick institution

~s should be allowed to die (finance)

sick, failing or unsuccessful

we are not dealing with a ~ industry (oil leak)

**condition & status: health & medicine**

## sick (disgusted)

sick of lawyers

America is ~ (terrorism)

sick of war

Ugandans are ~ (Lord's Resistance Army)

sick of hearing

I'm ~ your complaints

sick of airports and plane

I am ~ (security, poor service, etc.)

sick and tired

see *sick and tired (feeling)*

♦ "Sick of the news? Come look at pictures of baby animals." (The internet.)

**mental health: health & medicine**

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**

## sick (with anxiety, etc.)

sick with anxiety

I was almost ~ (teaching first class)

sick (to my stomach) with dread

I felt ~

sick with envy

one academic ~ over another

worried sick

both were ~ (parents of abducted young woman)

made me sick

her story ~ to my stomach (rape)

felt sick (to my stomach) with dread

I ~ (mother of 1 pound 15 oz baby)

**mental health: health & medicine**

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**

## sick (mentally ill)

sick and a clown

people are saying to ignore him because he is ~

**mental health: euphemism**

## sick (slang)

sick deal

if you want to get a ~ on a jersey... (NFL merch)

So sick

~!! Love this song (Stabby-Kegemusha)

♦ "[Most] of the sickest climbers in the Himalayas are Polish, Russian, Czech, or Slovenian. They're hard-core. Everyone knows that. You can tell when you meet them." (Mark Synnott.)

♦ "How sick was that?" / "Amazing..." (Inspired dialog from the film *Into the Blue*.)

**superlative: health & medicine**

## sick and tired (feeling)

sick and tired of being

I am ~ sick and tired (DC police chief / gun violence)

sick and tired of it

frankly, I am ~

sick and tired of lean times

voters are ~

**mental health: health & medicine / sleep**

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / sleep**

## **sickle (shape)**

sickle cell

he has ~ anemia

**shape: blade / tools & technology**

## **sickle (death)**

put his sickle into this thicket

Death had ~...

♦ "The fire had swept every superficial foot of it, and at every step I sank into ashes to the ankle... Death had put his sickle into this thicket and fire had gleaned the field." ("What I Saw of Shiloh" by Ambrose Bierce, 1881. Both wounded and dead had been consumed by a fire.)

♦ Death traditionally has been associated with reaping, "cutting down," sickles, and scythes. The Grim Reaper, for example, is often shown carrying a scythe.

**death & life: farming & agriculture / sign, signal, symbol**

## **sickness (noun)**

sickness in society

there is a ~ (gun violence)

**affliction / corruption: health & medicine**

## **sickness (enthusiasm)**

disease

it's a bit of a ~ (Jay Leno on collecting cars)

sickness for flight

his wife accused him of having a ~ (Mark Stucky)

**enthusiasm: health & medicine**

## **side (food)**

side of social commentary

*They/Them* is a slasher flick with a ~

**consumption: food & drink**

## **side (conflict)**

two sides

the ~ were on the brink of major fighting

**conflict / division & connection: direction**

## **side (side with)**

see *side with* (verb)

## **side (on one's side / time)**

see *time* (time on one's side)

## **side (on one's side / person)**

on your side

you need someone ~ (ad for lawyer)

on the side of the White House

the public is not really ~ (political issue)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: direction / position**

## **side (on the good side, etc.)**

on America's good side

if they want to be ~

**social interaction: position**

## **side (on the wrong side, etc.)**

get on the wrong side of

this was not a guy you wanted to ~ (a general)

get on the wrong side of him

you don't want to ~ (a workplace sociopath)

getting on the wrong side of people

she has spent a career ~ (Ani DiFranco)

**social interaction: position**

## **side (dark side)**

dark side

this fantastic concept has a ~ (adult family home)

people soon realized he had a ~ (bad temper)

dark side of America's 'green gold rush'

the ~ (marijuana, Native Americans, and immigrants)

dark side of addiction and (emotional) abuse

he had a ~

dark side to America's drinking boom

there is a ~ (drinking during the pandemic)

dark side to him

he had a ~ (a serial killer)

has a dark side

although regarded as genteel, cricket ~ (match fixing)

**flaws & lack of flaws: light & dark**

## **sideline (on the sideline)**

on the sideline of history

I didn't not want to be ~ but rather a part of it (jihad)

sitting on the sideline

hope is not ~ or shirking from a fight (a politician)

stand on the sidelines

Russia will not ~

**involvement: center & periphery / sports & games**

**center & periphery: sports & games**

## **sideline (involvement)**

watches from the sidelines

he now ~ (Iraqi politician)

relegated to the sidelines

the ambassador was ~ (war)

**involvement: center & periphery / sports & games**

**center & periphery: sports & games**

## **sidelined (adjective)**

coronavirus-sidelined  
the ~ aircraft carrier

increasingly sidelined  
she was ~ (a scientist)

**curtailment: sports & games**

**dismissal, removal & resignation: sports & games**

**center & periphery: sports & games**

## **sideshow (noun)**

sideshow  
the Russians didn't see information warfare as a ~ (vs US)

designated the operation as a sideshow  
historians ~ (Dragoon / France / WWII)

- ♦ "[Elon Musk] called crypto a 'side show to the side show.'"
- ♦ "The 1870s and 1880s were the height of the controversial but enormously popular 'side shows' in America. Hucksters like P.T. Barnum attracted huge throngs by booking fire-eaters, sword swallowers, and 'freaks' with assorted medical abnormalities, some bogus, others disturbingly real. There were the 'Wild Men of Borneo' (actually two mentally disabled dwarfs from Ohio), 'Jo-Jo the Dog-Faced Boy' (suffering from hypertrichosis, a profusion of body hair), 'General Tom Thumb' (the world's smallest human), eight-foot giants, bearded ladies, Siamese twins, and people with humongous body tumors attached to their back, face, and scrotum..." (*Bellevue: Three Centuries of Medicine and Mayhem at America's Most Storied Hospital* by David Oshinsky.)

**importance & significance: center & periphery / circus**

## **sidestep (verb)**

sidestepped  
he ~ when asked how he would... (a politician)

sidestepped Congress  
the President ~ and issued an order

sidestep the issue  
the academy is doing its best to ~ (controversy)

sidestepped the (major) issues  
the Supreme Court ~ (gerrymandering)

sidestepped that question  
she has ~ for months (politics)

sidestepped the question  
he ~ entirely, instead discussing citizenship (a politician)

sidestepped questions  
the State Department spokesman ~ about why...  
the supreme court nominee ~ about abortion, the ACA

**avoidance & separation / confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## **sidetracked**

become sidetracked  
it's easy to lose focus and ~ with all the nonsense

got sidetracked

he ~ and ended up talking about...

**failure, accident & impairment / progress & lack of progress: direction / journeys & trips / movement / train**  
**sideways (go sideways)**

go sideways  
from there, things started to ~ (political fortunes)

goes sideways  
if shit ~, who do you think Vought will go after

going sideways  
the balloons aren't falling, everything is ~ (a convention)

started to go sideways  
it was up and down, then things ~ (politician)

went sideways  
and then the arrest ~...

went sideways (very) quickly  
with all the gangs, it ~ (Wood Green)

**failure, accident & impairment / progress & lack of progress: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb**  
**side with (verb)**

sided with Johnny Depp against Amber Heard  
the jury ~ (a trial)

side with celebrities over victims  
the public tends to ~

**allegiance, support & betrayal: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## **siege (under siege)**

under siege  
NBC news executives are ~ after release of the book

under siege from a population boom  
the wilderness is ~

world under siege  
videos depicting a Muslim ~

country under siege  
this is a ~ (by crime / South Africa)

Prime Minister is under siege  
and now to the U.K., where the ~ (Brexit)

wilderness is under siege  
the ~ from a population boom

feel under siege  
Asian Americans really ~ (safety, COVID, racism, etc.)

has (much of) the US under siege  
dangerous weather ~

- ♦ "The fortress of Pondicherry being as strong as art and nature could make it, Colonel Coote was perfectly aware that it could only be reduced by famine... / Lally fell back on the fortress, disputing bravely every yard of ground, until in front of Pondicherry he formed those famous lines, which, with a skill and valour that were admirable, he defended for twelve

weeks, thus giving sufficient time to have the town fully victualled, and also to conclude a treaty with the Rajah of Mysore, who pledged himself to continue a supply of provisions—a pledge he forgot to fulfil... / Failure of provisions now compelled Lally to expel from the town a vast number of native women and children; and as Coote sternly drove them back again, great numbers of these poor creatures were killed or wounded... / The scarcity within the guarded circle of Pondicherry increased daily, till at last the stock of provisions ran out, and the soldiers and citizens were compelled to devour the flesh of elephants, camels, horses, dogs, cats, and even rats." ("Siege of Pondicherry, 1760-1," from *British Battles On Land And Sea* by James Grant. A cenotaph on Clifton Downs is inscribed: "Sacred to the memory of those departed warriors of the 79<sup>th</sup> Regiment by whole valour, discipline, and perseverance the French land forces in Asia were first withstood and repulsed.")

**amount & effect / conflict: fortification / military resistance, opposition & defeat: fortification / military siege (other)**

siege mentality

the ~ (Israel)

the government is showing signs of a ~ (Syria)

the generals are comfortable in their ~ (Myanmar)

siege tactics

traditional ~ used in Himalayan climbing

laid siege to NBC

Weinstein ~ (threats and enticements)

♦ "Right-wing extremists have laid siege to events where drag queens read to schoolchildren..." ("Pride Organizers Try to Keep Marches and Festivals Safe in a Year of Anti-LGBTQ Hate" by Tim Teeman, *Daily Beast*, June 18, 2022.)

♦ "A body of the 89<sup>th</sup> Highland Regiment, which had been raised among the Gordon clan in the preceding year at Badenoch, were landed from the *Sandwich*, East Indiaman, and behaved with their usual gallantry. Pressing onward, they burst from the rear, through Draper's grenadiers, in their eagerness to get at the enemy. Tossing aside their muskets, they raised a wild cheer, and with their bonnets in one hand and claymores in the other, threw themselves upon the soldiers of Lally, and cut many to pieces. They were only fifty in number, and were commanded by Captain George Morrison. From that time the operations of Lally were confined to the ramparts of Pondicherry. Several of his cannon were taken by the brave little band of Highlanders. Seven of these were found to be eighteen-pounders, loaded to the muzzle with all sorts of projectiles—bars of iron, jagged metal, stones, and bottles." ("Siege of Pondicherry, 1760-1," from *British Battles On Land And Sea* by James Grant.)

**amount & effect: fortification / military resistance, opposition & defeat: fortification / military sieve (noun)**

come through the sieve

a lot of the personal Lenin was never allowed to ~ (archives)

**searching & discovery: farming & agriculture**

**scientist (rocket scientist)**

rocket scientist

you don't need to be a ~ to explain this (criminal trial)

take a rocket scientist

it doesn't ~ to understand what they did was illegal

**knowledge & intelligence: person**

**sift (searching)**

sifted the sources

she has ~, examining their reliability (historian)

sift for youth

job requirements in the Valley ~ (Silicon Valley)

sifted the debate for clues

observers ~ about action on carbon legislation

sifted through the returns for lessons learned

both parties ~ (election)

sift through the debris

fans have been left to ~ of a failed season (sports)

sifted through evidence

investigators ~ and interviewed survivors (arson)

sift through the (classified) materials

it could take three months to ~ (investigation)

sift through names

the computer program will help officials to ~ (crime)

sifted through many submissions

she ~ (photo competition)

sift through the (political) rubble

both sides will be left to ~ (impeachment trial)

sift through the results

search engines make you ~ for an answer

sifted through the trash

they ~, looking for anything edible or saleable

sifted down to her

the terrible facts ~ when she heard...

♦ Sieves are found in most any kitchen. Archaeologists also employ them. Workers used sieves to search for human remains and objects from the World Trade Center collapse.

**searching & discovery: tools & technology / verb**

**worth & lack of worth: tools & technology / verb**

**sifted**

sifted for (fresh) clues

the new trove of material was being ~ (terrorism)

sifted for evidence

the report is ~ of subtle changes in policy (China)

sifted, correlated and analyzed

data can increasingly be ~ (online behavior)

wisely sifted

more information, ~, is usually better than less

**searching & discovery: tools & technology**

**sigh (sigh of relief)**

sigh of relief

there's a collective ~ in Florida (hurricane track)

breathed a sigh of relief

Americans ~ and told themselves the system had worked

breathing a sigh of relief

companies are ~

leaders are ~

they are all ~ (health care)

breathing a sigh of relief over the verdict  
we are all ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / breathing**  
**danger: bodily reaction / breathing**

### sight (in sight)

in sight  
relief is ~  
gains are nowhere ~ (progress of war)  
there's no relief ~ (wildfires in California)  
there is still no viable solution ~  
there is no end ~ to this opioid litigation  
the end is ~ (impeachment trial)

**future / time: distance / eye**  
**proximity: eye**

### sight (lose sight)

lose sight that  
do not ~ we are at war (government)

lose sight of the big picture  
don't ~ (advice to teachers)

**consciousness & awareness: eye / verb**  
**sight (in somebody's sights)**

in the SEC's sights for fraud  
the Wall Street firm is ~

had him in their sights  
federal prosecutors ~ (criminal investigation)

have it in our sights  
we ~ (merger)

have you in their sights  
they are unspeakably mean and disingenuous once they ~

**target: weapon**

### sight (in plain sight)

hide in plain sight  
people had to ~ (Jews in Germany in W.W. II)  
his wealth and fame allowed him to ~ (sex abuse)

hiding in plain sight  
make people see what was ~ (sex abuse)  
the structure was "~" (discovered by satellite / archeology)  
edits are all around us, ~ (the media)

made in plain sight  
the plans to storm the Capitol were ~ (on the Internet)

**concealment & lack of concealment: eye**

### sights (weapon)

turned their sights on Joe  
then they ~ (prosecutors in trial)

**target: weapon**

## sights (lower one's sights)

lower their sights  
boxers who lose a fight, lose self-belief, and ~

♦ "We look for songs that mean something. Higher ground. You know, everybody know where the higher ground is. It sure ain't here on earth. It's above us. So we all want to go to the higher ground." (Clarence Fountain of the Blind Boys of Alabama.)

♦ "I will lift mine eyes unto the hills..." (The Bible.)

**attainment: direction / height / mountains & hills**  
**wants, needs, hopes & goals: direction / height / mountains & hills**

### sign (sign of the times, etc.)

in a sign of the times  
~, the retail chain has declared bankruptcy

**evidence: sign, signal, symbol**

### sign (evidence)

sign of allyship  
support for Depp is taken as a ~ with male victims of abuse

larger political signs  
Denison could read the ~ (a government official)

no sign  
there is still ~ of a plan to train new doctors  
the firestorm over his allegations shows ~s of abating

signs point  
all the ~ to her having a breakout year

♦ "Nothing is more formidable than a sign, especially if you ignore it or fail to recognize it in the first place. Signs are fate." (Gold Dust by Ibrahim al-Koni.)

♦ "Tigers, lynxes, bears, wolverines, wapiti, deer, roe, pig, all are resident in this rich *taiga*. / Dersu strode on in silence, serenely seeing everything. I was reveling in the view, but he looked at a twig broken off at the height of a man's arm, and from the way it was hanging knew the direction in which the man had been going. From the freshness of the fracture he judged the time that had elapsed. Whenever I passed by a particularly obvious track, Dersu would chuckle, wag his head, and say: / 'H'm! Just like small boy. Go walk, wag head; have eyes, no-can look-see.' / As we went, I trod upon a thorn..." (*Dersu Uzala* by V. K. Arseniev.)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / evidence: hunting / religion**

### sign (warning sign)

warning sign  
~s include confusion, ashy skin (heatstroke)  
~ that your child may be doing drugs

warning sign of problems  
a ~ ahead

warning signs of psychosis  
spotted the ~ in himself

warning signs of suicide  
public education about the ~

warning signs of an (impending) eruption  
scientists caught the ~

warning signs for stroke  
people should learn the ~

warning signs for violent behavior  
17 ~

warning signs and dangers  
the ~ of huffing (sniffing glue, etc.)

stroke's warning signs  
recognize ~

ample warning signs  
there were ~ (psychotic breakdown)

education about the warning signs  
public ~ of suicide

warning signs or red flags  
there were no ~ (mass shooter)

display (any of) the warning signs  
if they ~ of suicide...

know the warning signs  
~ (depression)

missed the warning signs  
they ~ (son's breakdown)

missed many warning signs  
people ~ (bullied / struggling / isolated)

**warning: sign, signal, symbol**

**sign (verb)**

signed your work  
bloody boot prints, just like a signature, you boys ~

**evidence: verb / writing & spelling**

**signal (verb)**

signal a change  
I don't mean to ~ in policy (government official)

signals danger  
stress is an external stimulus that ~

signals the onset  
ejaculation ~ of puberty in boys

signal the presence  
the green palm trees ~ of water (Egyptian desert)

signal a problem  
the following 10 red flags may ~ (child development)

signal a shift  
gifts can ~ in a relationship

signaled a willingness  
the administration has ~ to be creative with...

signal diabetic coma  
Kussmaul respirations ~ (nursing)

signaled a sucking chest wound

the bubbling blood ~ (ED)

gifts can signal  
~ a shift in a relationship

palm trees signal  
the green ~ the presence of water (Egyptian desert)

red flags may signal  
the following 10 ~ a problem (child development)

**evidence: sign, signal, symbol / verb**

**signal (mixed signals)**

mixed signals about his plan  
the President is sending ~ for the southern border

sent mixed signals  
his lawyer has ~ (about what his client might do)

♦ "I don't think we should be doing this, but, umm... I'm not sure..."  
("Lesbian Reluctance: Mixed Signals," XNXX.COM.)

**message: tools & technology**

**signal (signal and noise)**

sends (multiple) signals  
Iran's action ~ (military deployment)

separate the signal from the noise  
~ (when considering President Trump)

pick out the signal from the noise  
trying to ~ (epidemiology)

**message: sound / tools & technology**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: sound / tools & technology**

**signature (evidence)**

signature  
if he is alive, he's not moving enough to create a ~

signatures of (past or present) life  
organic molecules, possible ~ (Mars)

signature of our submarines  
reducing the acoustic ~

signature of the vehicle  
the smaller the width or track ~

signature of water  
searching for the chemical ~

signatures of unmanned aerial vehicles  
the small thermal ~

artillery's (firing) signature  
the field ~ makes it vulnerable

chemical signature  
searching for the ~ of water  
researchers mine the elaborate ~s of breath

chemical "signature"  
DEA labs are testing the heroin to find a ~

dust signatures  
rapid movement causes dramatic ~ (military)

heat signature  
stationary aircraft have a considerable ~  
screen exhaust systems to reduce ~ (trucks)

lane signature  
increase the ~ to aid passage of larger forces

return signature  
a ~ that indicates a mine (mine detector)

sand (and dust) signatures  
movement is detected by ~ (military)

track signature  
the smaller the width or ~ of the vehicle

aircraft signature  
ensure that the ~ will be minimized

firing signature  
the field artillery's ~ makes it vulnerable

acoustic signature  
reducing the ~ of our submarines

acoustical signature  
the V-22 Osprey flies with a lower "~"

considerable (heat) signature  
stationary aircraft have a ~

criminal signature  
he left his ~ at each crime scene (serial killer)

dramatic (dust) signatures  
rapid movement causes ~ (military)

electronic signature  
it has no ~ (an air-defense weapon);  
the Tactical Operations Center has little ~

infrared signature  
reducing ~s is a passive anti-air consideration

metallic signature  
locate mines by a slight ~ (AN/PSS-12)

operational signature  
its ~ was aggressiveness (L.A. police)

slight (metallic) signature  
locate mines by a ~ (AN/PSS-12)

small (thermal) signature  
the ~s of unmanned aerial vehicles

thermal signature  
the small ~s of unmanned aerial vehicles

track signature  
the smaller the width or ~ of the vehicle

visual signature  
markers provide commanders with a ~

thermal and optical signatures

friendly and enemy ~

footprint or signature  
they don't have a ~ (terrorists)

detected by (sand and dust) signatures  
movement is ~ (military)

**evidence: writing & spelling**

**signature (signature issue, etc.)**

signature affliction  
every age has its ~ (burnout)

signature crusade  
he made health-care reform the ~ of his career

signature issue  
he has made immigration his ~

signature victory  
this was a ~ by Eubank, the best of his career (boxer)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: writing & spelling**

**sign off (on something)**

signed off on the plan  
he ~ (government)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: writing & spelling / verb**

**signpost (as verb)**

signposted her final moments  
a data trail accurately ~ (smartwatch, phone, etc.)

**evidence: infrastructure / journeys & trips / part of speech / sign, signal, symbol / verb**

**signpost (noun)**

signpost as to how bad  
his death was a ~ things were (Liston, boxing, the mob)

signposts of my childhood  
I pass the ~

signposts of (rulers') authority  
Baghdad's bridges are ~

signpost on a road  
the Balfour Declaration was a ~ heading towards a cliff

**evidence: infrastructure / journeys & trips / sign, signal, symbol**

**silence (deafening silence, etc.)**

deafening

Amazon's silence on 'Rings of Power' audience size is ~

♦ "There were no birds singing in the forest. No animals, no wolves or bears. There were not even mice. Nothing. There was nothing there. Perhaps the prisoners had eaten the birds, I don't know. But I never heard a sound." (The Polish schoolgirl Danuta Maczka, describing the Siberian logging camp she was deported to in early 1940. From "A Polish girl's journey across three continents" by Monica Whitlock, BBC, 16 September 2012.)

♦ "The men in the bunkers and command-posts of the 62nd Army felt very strange indeed; they wanted to touch their faces, feel their clothes, wiggle their toes in their boots. The Germans weren't shooting. It was quiet. / The silence made their heads whirl. They felt as though they had grown empty, as though their hearts had gone numb, as though their arms and legs moved in a different way from usual. It felt very odd, even inconceivable, to eat *kasha* in silence, to write a letter in silence, to wake up at night and hear silence. This silence then gave birth to many different sounds that seemed new and strange: the clink of a knife, the rustle of a page being turned in a book, the creak of a floorboard, the sound of bare feet, the scratching of a pen, the click of a safety-catch on a pistol, the ticking of the clock on the wall of the bunker... / Chuykov left the bunker and climbed slowly up to the top of the slope; the wooden steps creaked under his boots. It was dark. Both the east and the west were quiet. The silhouettes of factories, the ruined buildings, the trenches and dug-outs all merged into the calm, silent darkness of the earth, the sky and the Volga. / This was the true expression of the people's victory. Not the ceremonial marches and orchestras, not the fireworks and artillery salutes, but this quietness—the quietness of a damp night in the country... / Chuykov was very moved; he could hear his heart thumping in this breast. Then he realized the silence was not total. From Banniy Ovrage and the 'Red October' factory came the sound of men singing. Below, on the banks of the Volga, he could hear quiet voices and the sound of a guitar..." (*Life And Fate* by Vasily Grossman, Part 3, 17, page 659-661.)

♦ Day is done / Gone the sun / From-the-lake / From-the-hill / From-the-sky / Rest in peace / Sol jer brave / God is nigh And as the last note quivered to prideful silence... (From *Here to Eternity* by James Jones.)

♦ "It's pretty obvious, right from the first moment that the soldiers deploy because... you have this eerie sort of quietness?" (Siobhan Fallon, military wife, speaking about her book, *You Know When the Men Are Gone* on NPR's *All Things Considered* in 2011.)

**evidence: sound**

## silenced (groups)

silenced in my own history [and] experience  
I just felt ~ (Cambodian immigrant)

silenced and misrepresented  
we've been ~ (Katori Hall)

♦ "We've been silenced and misrepresented. And so, any time you get an opportunity to tell your truth, you are pushing back against so many lies and falsehoods... And being an artist and in demanding that the world just looks at you, you oddly are being an activist." (Katori Hall.)

♦ "I couldn't fight back when Jeffrey Epstein sexually abused me, because I hadn't yet found my voice. Well, I found my voice now, and while Jeffrey may no longer be here to hear it, I will not stop fighting and I will not be silenced anymore."

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## silent (fall silent)

fall silent  
the factory will ~

♦ "When the mines were working, there was a *rhythm to life* by what the *whistles* told you, and what the *sounds* were. So there was a *noise* that went on constantly that you were aware of and yet not aware of. And when the mines were gone, there was a *dead silence*... And it was *eerie*." (From the PBS documentary, "Butte, America." The mines operated from 1890 to 1977, and in 1920 over 40,000 people lived in Butte, many of them miners.)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: sound**  
**curtailment: sound**

## silent (silent epidemic, etc.)

silent epidemic  
the ~ of America's problem with guns (suicide)

Silent Killer  
carbon monoxide, the ~

silent killer  
fentanyl has been a ~ in many OD deaths

silent transmission  
the aim is to nip any ~ in the bud (PCR testing booths)

**concealment & lack of concealment: sound**

## Silicon Valley (of China, etc.)

China's Silicon Valley  
Shenzhen, known as ~ (tech startups)

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## Silicon Valley, etc.

Silicon Valley for the new industry  
this is the ~ (Mojave Desert / aerospace / 2007)

Silicon Valley of its day  
entrepreneurs made the Midwest the ~ (auto industry)

Silicon Alley  
the dot com companies of ~ (NYC)

Crypto Valley  
the canton of Zug is now known as ~ (Switzerland)

Hillicon Valley  
~, tech and cyber news from Capitol Hill to Silicon Valley

Lithium Valley  
extraction can turn this area into the ~ (Salton Sea / CA)

Silicon Glen  
the central belt of Scotland was called ~

Silicon Valley  
she was the golden girl of ~ (Elizabeth Holmes)  
failure and reinvention are embraced in ~ (no ethics)

♦ "Whatever happened to Silicon Glen?" by Douglas Fraser, *Business / economy editor, Scotland, BBC, 28 January 2016.*)

♦ "Entrepreneurs in the auto industry and other innovators made the Midwest the Silicon Valley of its day." ("Recovering The Heartland" by Hendrik Meijer, *National Review*, December 19, 2022.)

**place: tools & technology**

**computer: place**

## Silk Road (maritime Silk Road, etc.)

Canada's (6,000-year-old) 'Silk Road'  
~ (see quote below)

Maritime Silk Road  
the UAE is a hub of the ~ of China

♦ "The Silk Road was not one route, but a series of routes."

♦ A BBC link "Canada's 6,000-year-old 'Silk Road' leads to an article entitled "The little-known hiking trail that built Canada" which turns out to be about the Nuxalk-Carrier Grease Trail in British Columbia, which is just 279 miles long!

**proper name: journeys & trips**

**route: epithet**

## silos (verb)

silos information

hospital systems ~ (EHRs)

silos the groups off from one another

she ~ and discouraged them from communicating

**isolation & remoteness: farming & agriculture / verb**

**division & connection: farming & agriculture / verb**

## silos (academic silos, etc.)

silos of information and misinformation

we are getting our news from different ~ (US dysfunction)

silos-busters

leaders should be ~

social-media silos

our filter bubbles and self-reinforcing ~

so many different separate silos

people get info and entertainment from ~ (a divided U.S.)

academic silos

the school wants to break down ~

break down silos

common business challenges, like how to ~

♦ This word is nicely written about in "The Vocabulary: How did 'silos' get to mean something else?" by The Vocabulary, BBC, 30 June 2015.

♦ "This is the problem of spying. You are always in one particular silo within that particular organization in a black hole of information like Afghanistan, so you are really focusing on one area but you are blind sometimes basically to other activities happening around." (Aimen Dean.)

**isolation & remoteness: farming & agriculture**

**division & connection: farming & agriculture**

## silos

silos

Jobs had insisted that departments were ~ (secrecy)

the reality is the funding is ~ (restrictions on how to spend)

"silos" (healthcare system)

the US has a ~ (public, private, fragmented)

silos off

I'm kind of ~, our studios are in Brooklyn...

women are so ~ in this profession (TV directors)

silos and insular

political journalists are even more ~ today (than in 2016)

silos and stereotyped

native people have long been ~ in film (Reservation Dogs)

become (more) silos

the population has ~ (paywalls, premium subscriptions)

**constraint & lack of constraint / division & connection /**

**isolation & remoteness: farming & agriculture**

## silver (noun)

silver platter

see platter (silver platter)

silver (speech)

see silver (speech)

silver-tongued

see silver-tongued

**speech: materials & substances**

## silver (speech)

silver

speech is ~, silence is gold

silver-tongued

see silver-tongued

♦ Speech is silver, silence is gold!

**speech: materials & substances**

## silver-tongued

silver-tongued

a ~ recruiting sergeant

**speech: materials & substances / tongue**

## simmer (verb)

simmered with resentment

he ~

**activity: heating water / temperature / verb / water**

**initiation: heating water / temperature / verb / water**

## simmering (activity)

simmering resentment

~ blossomed into warfare (two politicians)

simmering tensions

this explosion of violence follows weeks of ~ (Jerusalem)

long-simmering debate

the ~ over whether dinosaurs...

long-simmering dispute

his ~ with...

long-simmering event

this ~ in our history

long-simmering tension

~ between the private university and the town

long-simmering (ethnic) tensions

~ have erupted into violence

long-simmering (racial) tensions

the altercation caused ~ to erupt

**activity: heating water / temperature / water**

**initiation: heating water / temperature / water**

## sin (noun)

mortal sin

I'd committed the ~ of voting for... (a Republican politician)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

### **sinew (effort)**

strain every sinew

the government needs to ~ to encourage... (industry)

I will ~ to deliver on my promises (PM Rishi Sunak)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

### **sink (destroy)**

sank the (prosecution's) case

it was the torpedo that ~ (forensics)

**destruction: boat / sea / verb**

### **sink (disappearance)**

sank without a trace

the poem ~ in England (by D'Arcy Wentworth)

**appearance & disappearance: boat / sea / verb / water**

### **sink (behavior)**

sunk to a new low

she has ~

sink to the level

we cannot ~ of our oppressors

sinking lower and lower

broadcasters are ~ to get higher ratings

**behavior: direction / verb**

### **sink (put)**

sink (a lot of) money into their kids' sports

adults ~

**throwing, putting & planting: water / verb**

### **sink (sink into a coma, etc.)**

sank into a coma

he ~

**consciousness & awareness: direction / water**

### **sink (sink into debt, etc.)**

sinking (deeper) into debt

I was ~ (now homeless)

swim or sink

we are going to ~ together (revitalizing Detroit / 2010)

**survival, persistence & endurance: direction / water**

### **sink (sink into despair, etc.)**

sink into despair

she was starting to ~ (losing soccer game)

heart sank

my ~... (news of murder of boy)

spirits sank

my ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / verb / water**

### **sink (sink into the mud, etc.)**

sinking into the mud

the US is ~ of defeat (Iraqi spokesman on war)

sinking into the mud

the US is ~ of defeat (Iraqi spokesman on war)

**failure, accident & impairment / obstacles & impedance:  
direction / ground, terrain & land / verb**

### **sink (sink into obscurity, etc.)**

sank into obscurity

Petra ~ about 1000 AD

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / verb**

### **sink (decline)**

sinks into melodrama

the story ~

sank fast

United ~ after City went ahead (2019 soccer game)

stocks sank

blue-chip ~ Friday (stock market)

**decline: direction / verb**

**increase & decrease: direction / verb**

### **sinkhole (noun)**

sinkhole of shame and self-hatred

stuttering leaves behind an ever-deepening ~

**decline: ground, terrain & land**

### **sink in (verb)**

sink in

it took two days for it to ~

if you let that ~, that's an alarming statistic (police suicide)

sinks in

reality ~

sunk in

has it ~, John (a great boxing victory)

**absorption & immersion: verb / water**

**comprehension & incomprehension: verb / water**

### **sinking (sinking feeling, etc.)**

sinking feeling

I had a ~ that...

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / water**

### **sink or swim**

sink or swim on whether

the LIV Tour will ~ they are able to... (golf)

sink or swim type

it was a ~ type of thing (new bandmember)

survival, persistence & endurance: water

## siphon (verb)

siphon Republicans away  
a “centrist” might ~ from Trump (elections)

siphoned funds to her own pockets  
she ~

directing: verb / water

## siren (siren call / siren song)

siren call of booze  
they cannot resist the ~ (alcoholics)

siren call of fads  
don't give in to the ~ (tattoos you can live with)

siren song of bargains  
the ~ is too irresistible to avoid (outlet malls)

siren call to extremist groups  
the tweet was the ~ such as... (President Trump)

heard the siren call  
he ~ of his former club Real Madrid (Carlo Ancelotti)

heed the siren call  
her book is for all who ~ of the water (swimming)

seduced by the siren song  
they've been ~ "college for everyone"

♦ A Ulysses pact (contract) allows a mentally ill person to stipulate in advance that he be hospitalized during an episode, thus circumventing a legal requirement that he give permission.

♦ Dieter Klose, who made three attempts to climb the 6,700-foot Northwest Face of the Devils Thumb, on the border of Alaska and British Columbia, likened this climb to Sirens who attempted to lure Ulysses to his death.

attraction & repulsion: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey

## siren (other)

siren  
this is the age of Viagra, and Mr. Trink was its ~

siren-voiced  
a ~ singer

♦ "Today's sirens want to charm you with seductive and insistent messages that focus on easy gains, the false needs of consumerism, the cult of physical wellness, of entertainment at all costs. All these are like fireworks: they flare up for a moment, but then turn to smoke in the air." (Pope Francis on his trip to Greece in December, 2021.)

attraction & repulsion: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey

## sister (redneck sisters, etc.)

all my sisters  
here's to ~ out there keepin' it country...

♦ "Here's to all my sisters out there keepin' it country..." (Gretchen Wilson singing "Redneck Woman." Hell yeah!)

♦ "The Diamonds have a 'sisters in arms' mantra." (Australian netball.)

group, set & collection: family

division & connection / relationship: family

## sister (big sister, etc.)

big sister  
I was like a mother hen to them, I was like ~ (skateboarder)

big sister to young rockers  
Judy Collins was a kind of ~ (place to crash, etc.)

help & assistance: family

## sister (sister ship, etc.)

sister  
our ~s the plants, our brothers the animals (a Navajo)

sister building  
concerns about its ~ down the block (building collapse)

sister city  
Asheville's ~, Saumur, France  
China has terminated the ~ relationship with Prague

sister event  
Bike Week and its ~, Biketoberfest (Daytona Beach)

sister organizations  
he described them as “~” (terrorist groups)

sister publications  
the *Los Angeles Times* and its ~

sister ship  
HMS *Queen Elizabeth* and her ~, HMS *Prince of Wales*  
the *Zaandam* and its ~ the *Rotterdam*  
the nuclear sub *San Francisco* and its ~, *Honolulu*

sister science  
natural language processing and its ~, speech generation

sister technology  
Smart Reply is a ~ of Smart Compose

sister virus  
Marburg's ~: Ebola (African hemorrhagic fevers)

smaller sister  
the Mediterranean and its ~, the Black Sea...

ugly sister  
eugenics and its ~, eugenic euthanasia (Nazis)

three sisters  
~ soup, built from beans, squash and corn

she and her sisters  
~ were not very weatherly under sail (a class of 5 ships)

♦ After the nose of the nuclear submarine USS *San Francisco* was crushed in a collision with a seamount in 2005, the nose of its sister ship the USS *Honolulu*—which was due to be retired—was cut off and welded to the *San Francisco*, which continued to serve for another eight years. Now, that's a sister!

relationship: family

## sister (the Seven Sisters, etc.)

Two Sisters  
we sailed to the ~ (Saudi islands off of Jizan)

### Three Sisters

we could see the ~ (mountains in KwaZulu-Natal)  
a group of boulders called the ~ (Stawell, Victoria)

### Seven Sisters

the Pleiades are often called the ~ (stars)  
Assam is one of the ~ (states in India)  
the ~ Waterfall has 7 separate streams (Norway)  
~ schools were still all-female (early 1960s)  
~ alumnae (Ali MacGraw, Jane Fonda, Gloria Steinem...)

### Roaring Sister

the ~ is a rock on the Western Cape of South Africa

**proper name: family**

## sisterhood (noun)

sisterhood, and self-empowerment  
it's about ~ (2017 film *Girl's Trip*)

member of this sisterhood

yet another ~ was Gerdy Troost (female architects)

♦ "The Diamonds have a 'sisters in arms' mantra." (Australian netball.)

**group, set & collection: family**

**division & connection / relationship: family**

## Sisyphean (adjective)

Sisyphean task

it is a ~ (creating a database)  
the ~ of digging out the hut from snow (Antarctica)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: allusion**

**allusion: books & reading**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## sit (a house can sit somewhere, etc.)

sat in a suburb

his house ~ called...

sits on the (northern) edge

the city ~ of the African continent (Melilla)

sits (comfortably) at the top of their group

Italy ~ (soccer)

sitting 2 points above the regulation zone

Manchester United ~ (English soccer)

sits behind a paywall

the *Stockton Record* ~ (a newspaper)

**fictive position: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## sit (sit on something)

sitting on the report

the government is ~

sits on his ideas

so he ~ (Darwin takes his time to publish)

**action, inaction & delay / concealment & lack of**

**concealment: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## sit (sit on one's hands)

see *hand* (*sit on one's hands*)

## sit by (verb)

sit idly by

I couldn't ~ (need to take action against barking dogs)

**action, inaction & delay / confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## sit down (verb)

sit down with the opposition

we need to ~

sitting down with the Taliban

we shouldn't be ~

**position, policy & negotiation: standing, sitting & lying / table / verb**

## sit-down (other)

sit-down with the child

have a serious ~ (a serious talk)

serious sit-down

have a ~ with the child (a serious talk)

**position, policy & negotiation: standing, sitting & lying / table**

## sit out (verb)

sit out this year

he can't afford to ~ (working during pandemic)

sit it out

he could stay in Ulm and ~ until the Russians arrived

**involvement: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

**action, inaction & delay: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## sitting duck

sitting duck

my brother's a ~ (snitch in prison)

the convoys are ~s (Pakistan)

you're a ~, you have no way to defend yourself (sniper)

became a sitting duck

Usyk landed a 5-punch combination, and Joshua ~

**danger: animal / bird / hunting**

**protection & lack of protection: animal / bird / hunting**

## size (and sized / affix)

bus-sized

~ Tundra buggies haul tourists (Churchill / polar bears)

California-sized

Kiribati has declared a ~ marine reserve (Phoenix Islands)

rice-grain-size

a tiny ~ microchip (embedded in a pet)

queen-size

see *queen-size (and queen sized)*

♦ Marble / moth ball (.50); penny (.75); nickel (.88); quarter (1.00); half dollar (1.25); walnut / ping pong ball (1.50); golf ball (1.75); hen egg (2.00); tennis ball (2.50); baseball (2.75); tea cup (3.00); grapefruit (4.00); softball (4.50)... (Converting traditional hail size descriptions. Hail size (in.) / Object analog reported. From NOAA.)

**comparison & contrast: affix / object / size**

## size (one size fits all)

one-size-fits-all policy

can Twitter have a ~ for every country (India, Turkey)

one-size-fits-all strategy

it was a ~, and it didn't work (GOP politics)

cookie cutter, one-size-fits-all

I tried not to develop that ~ home run call (an announcer)

**creation & transformation: clothing & accessories**

## skein (entanglement)

messy skein

he was already tangled in a ~ of indictments

**complexity / involvement: cloth**

## skeletal (adjective)

skeletal

state services for victims are ~ (sex abuse / North Dakota)

skeletal force

the Alaska Defense Command, a ~ of 24,000 (W.W. II)

**comparison & contrast: affix**

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: skeleton / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## skeleton (secret)

skeleton

who knows what ~s he's got in his closet (troubled)

skeletons in our closet

I knew we had ~ (newspaper's lack of coverage of...)

skeletons in its (Communist) closet

Poland exhumes ~

skeletons in the closet

all the ~ are spilling out (Turkey)

he has a few ~ that he doesn't want you to know about

skeletons (in the closet) are spilling out

all the ~ (Turkey's past)

newly revealed skeletons

~ joined old ones in his closet (a politician)

closetful of skeletons

he lied because he had a ~ (Murdaugh murder trial)

exhumes skeletons

Poland ~ in its Communist closet

♦ "If you autopsy anybody's personal life deep enough, everybody's got skeletons." (A police chief under fire.)

♦ "I get that feeling too. It's like we've arrived in a small town and everybody knows everybody's dirty secrets, and we know there are skeletons in the closet, but we can't find the closets." (*The General's Daughter* by Nelson DeMille.)

## concealment & lack of concealment: house / skeleton skeleton (skeleton crew, etc.)

skeleton crew

we are operating with a ~

we were able to open with a ~ (store after hurricane)

a ~ would remain aboard to maintain the vessel (ship)

skeleton staff

schools are operating with a ~ (pandemic)

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: skeleton / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## skeleton (substance)

skeleton

this is just a ~, you need to flesh it out (essay)

**substance & lack of substance: skeleton / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## skeleton (resemblance)

skeleton

she was skin and bones, a ~

charred skeleton

all that was left of the boat was a ~ (burned to waterline)

**resemblance: skeleton / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## sketchy (adjective)

sketchy stuff

there is still some ~ taking place (banks)

a little bit sketchy

details remain ~ at the moment (a criminal assault)

**certainty & uncertainty / flaws & lack of flaws: picture**

## skewer (verb)

skewered the powerful with his cartoons

he ~ (an editorial cartoonist)

skewered Mormonism

the Broadway show ~ (*The Book of Mormon* musical)

skewer (office) life and (business) norms

modern literary fiction often attempts to ~

♦ "These two women are such easy targets, a fingerless chef could skewer them." (A neat line from a book review by the critic Heller McAlpin.)

**accusation & criticism / affliction / insult / speech: cooking / verb**

## skewered

skewered in an (attack) ad

he has been ~ for speaking French (a US politician)

**accusation & criticism: cooking**  
**affliction / insult / speech: cooking**

## ski (over one's skis, etc.)

got out (a little bit) over his skis  
he probably ~ (a premature announcement)

got far out over their skis  
critics of the new law ~ (sanctions, etc.)

♦ see also *far (too far)*

"Critics of the Georgia elections law got far out over their skis."  
(Corporations sanctioned the state, and Major League baseball removed the All-Star Game from Atlanta.)

♦ For some reason this type of phrase gets tossed around a lot at my company. They'll say, "you don't want to get ahead of your skis" and I always have the urge to shout back "actually I don't want my skis to get ahead of me! Lol It's always distracting..." (MissySki, Apr 19, 2021, on "The Ski Diva forum titled "Can you really get "out over your skis"? by SallyCat, Apr 18, 2021.)

♦ See "Where Did the Phrase 'Over His Skis' Come From?" by Noreen Malone, *New York Magazine*, May 31, 2012, and the comment.

♦ Old: we are getting ahead of ourselves... / New: we are getting over our skis...

**behavior / restraint & lack of restraint: distance**  
**failure, accident & impairment: distance**

## skin (feeling)

got under his skin  
I knew I ~ (at a trial)

got under my skin  
she really ~  
this ~, because it touched something that mattered

gotten under his skin  
this has clearly ~ (irritated)

gotten under (NPR's) skin  
the allegation of bias has clearly ~

made my skin crawl  
it ~ (disgust)

**feeling, emotion & effect: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## skin (jump out of one's skin)

jump out of my skin  
loud noises make me ~

**hyperbole: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**  
**feeling, emotion & effect: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

## skin (save one's skin)

save their skins  
executives sold their stock, hoping to ~ (Enron)

save your skin  
it's lucky they're taking you to the boss, that may ~

**euphemism / survival, persistence & endurance: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

## skin (groups)

in her own skin  
today Sullivan is comfortable ~ (autistic, agender)

strengthens your skin  
just being here kinda ~ (autistic, agender)

♦ "There's something about having a place on the spectrum and feeling othered by the world but still just being here, no matter what, that really just like over the years kinda strengthens your skin." ("Transgender and non-binary people are up to six times more likely to also have autism" by Lesley McClurg, NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, January 15, 2023.)

**inclusion & exclusion: objectification**

## skin (outside)

skin  
someone had tended to its guts, if not its ~ (a rifle)

mango skin  
the ~ ripping away from the fruit's flesh...

**orientation: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## skin-deep

skin-deep  
the reforms have only been ~

**comparison & contrast / extent & scope / substance & lack of substance: breadth / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## skinflint (person)

skinflint northerners  
the scheme pits spendthrift southerners against ~ (Europe)

**money: person**

## skinny (adjective)

skinny  
department budgets are already ~ (state government)

skinny on results  
diet books are fat on profits, ~

skinny (coronavirus) bill  
the senate failed to pass even the ~

skinny budget  
believe it or not, this is what they all the ~, Scott

**substance & lack of substance: fatness & thinness / weight**

## skirmish (noun)

skirmishes  
it's important to know which ~ to join and which to ignore

skirmishes with the (New York literary) establishment  
one of his many ~ (Ishmael Reed)

budget skirmishes  
the budget is subject to annual ~

♦ "In every bureaucracy it is important to know which skirmishes to join and which to ignore." (The great film *Citizen X* with Stephen Rea and Donald Sutherland.)

**conflict: military**

## skirt (skirt an issue, etc.)

skirted the issue  
he ~

**avoidance & separation / confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: clothing & accessories / verb**

## skirt (configuration)

skirt Xinjiang and Tibet  
the Kunlun Mountains ~

**configuration: clothing & accessories / verb**

## skirt (woman)

hire a “skirt”  
Weinstein insisted his team ~ (a female attorney / rape trial)

**person: clothing & accessories / sign, signal & symbol**

## skittish (adjective)

skittish  
insurers are ~

skittish about crowds  
audiences are ~ (pandemic)

skittish about Gulf seafood  
consumers are still ~ (after oil spill)

skittish about talking  
many people are ~ openly about race (cancel culture)

skittish bankers  
easing the fears of ~ (marijuana business)

skittish investors  
he could calm ~ and attract foreign capital (an economist)

felt skittish  
she ~ about that (separate bank accounts / marriage)

left some investors skittish  
the coup ~ (Myanmar)

grown skittish  
many businesses have ~ in the face of weak demand

look skittish  
it was important not to ~ (modern hooligans)

makes privacy experts skittish  
the bill ~

remain skittish  
investors ~

♦ “No sex please, we’re skittish,” is the title of a 2021 article in *The Economist* about the porn site OnlyFans. It plays on the title of the 1971 British play, *No Sex please, we’re British*.

♦ “Edison wired a whole district of lower Manhattan, around Wall Street, to be powered in two semi-derelict buildings on Pearl Street. Through the winter, spring and summer of 1881-2 Edison laid fifteen miles of cable and fanatically tested and retested his system. Not all went smoothly. Horses behaved skittishly in the vicinity until it was realized

that leaking electricity was making their horseshoes tingle.” (*At Home: A Short History of Private Life* by Bill Bryson.)

**behavior / eagerness & reluctance: horse**

## sky (the sky can fall)

sky  
the ~ is not falling (fears of attacks on Internet)

sky fell in on Ten Hag’s team  
Gakpo scored and the ~ (Man Utd -7 Liverpool)

**fate, fortune & chance: air / atmosphere / sky**

## sky (a clear blue sky, etc.)

a clear blue sky  
the attack on the politician did not come out of ~

**appearance & disappearance: air / atmosphere / sky**

## sky (blue sky thinking)

“blue-sky thinking”  
~ is a way to tackle intractable issues (conflict)

blue-sky thinking  
now is not the time for ~, new approaches (the Balkans)

**constraint & lack of constraint / idea: sky**

## sky-high

sky-high  
fans were ~ after the win  
emotions were ~ (at a murder trial)

sky high  
costs are ~

**comparison & contrast / extent & scope: atmosphere / sky**

## skyrocket (to attention, etc.)

skyrocketed onto the (national political) scene  
he ~ in 2018

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: direction / rocket / sky / verb**

## skyrocket (increase)

population has skyrocketed  
in Europe’s prisons, where the Islamic ~

price (of helium) is skyrocketing  
the ~

profits skyrocket  
corporate ~ even as the economy remains stalled

unemployment is skyrocketing  
the economy is crashing, ~ (politics)

**movement: rocket / speed**

**increase & decrease: direction / number / rocket / sky / verb**

## skyscraper (tall building)

earthquake-resistant skyscraper  
architects design ~s

4,000 skyscrapers  
a city that already has ~, double New York (Shanghai)

♦ "Shibam is one of the oldest examples of urban planning using vertical construction." (Yemen.)

**size: atmosphere / sky**

## skyway

Cherochala Skyway  
the ~ connects western North Carolina and Tennessee

tunnel and skyway  
Montreal is known for its ~ network  
Toronto and Minneapolis are known for their ~ networks

**route: atmosphere / sky**

## slack (noun)

slack  
she deserves a little ~

**behavior / constraint & lack of constraint: rope**

## slam (verb)

slammed the politician for his hatred and bigotry  
he ~

**accusation & criticism / speech: force / verb / violence**

## slam-dunk (and slam dunk)

slam dunk  
this case is anything but a ~, and whatever the outcome...  
in my mind it's a ~, based on the evidence (guilty)

slam dunk for Chelsea  
it's a ~ (re-signing Lukaku is a good idea)

slam-dunk for him  
this is no ~ (a tough boxing match)

slam-dunk for Republicans  
this should have been a ~ (election)

slam-dunk (positive) drugs test  
the case did not have a ~ to stand upon (sports doping)

slam-dunk variety  
discoveries are unlikely to be of the ~ (Mars mission)

no slam dunk  
there was ~, and the family knew it (a murder conviction)

**certainty & uncertainty / difficulty, easiness & effort:**

**basketball / sports & games**

## slanted (news, etc.)

wanted it slanted  
readers wanted the news, but they ~ (early newspapers)

**perception, perspective & point of view: direction / geometry**

## slap (awareness)

slaps you right in the face  
this reality ~ (weekly death toll during pandemic)

**consciousness & awareness: face / gesture / sensation / verb**

## slap (punish)

slapped them on the face  
last night we ~ (Iranian attack on US)

slaps them on the wrist  
the law just ~and lets them drive again (drunk driving)

**punishment & recrimination: face / gesture / hand / verb**

## slap (slap in the face, etc.)

slap in the face  
the offer was a ~ (to relatives of dead miners)

slap to the prosecutor  
his words were a ~ (judge orders new trial)

slap in the face of the German Army  
the misconduct of some soldiers is a ~ (wild hotel party)

slap in the face of (U.S.) politicians  
a ~ (Saddam's view of nine-eleven)

slap in the face for players  
the NBA's plans are a ~

slap in the face for the US  
the attack was a ~ (by Iran)

slap in the face to Chicagoans  
his actions were a ~ (false accusation of hate crime)

slap in the face to the female students  
it was a ~ (who had been molested at USC)

slap in the face to his victims  
this was a ~ (Markeith Loyd penalty decision)

**insult: face / gesture**

## slash (verb)

slash (state) agencies  
he wants to ~

slash (private and corporate) taxes  
his budget blueprint would ~ (politician)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: ax / blade / knife / verb**

## slash-and-burn (adjective)

slash-and-burn process  
their approach to cutting costs is a ~ (politics)

**conflict / destruction: fire / farming & agriculture**

**dismissal, removal & resignation: ax / fire / farming & agriculture**

## slate (a clean slate, etc.)

wiped my slate clean

I feel like God has ~ (executed for 6 murders)

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: books & reading**

## slaughtered

slaughtered

some sacred cows are ~ on the way (educational theory)

get slaughtered

Democrats are going to ~ in 2022 and 2024

**destruction: animal / violence**

## slaughterhouse (military)

slaughterhouse for the Russian

Taipale was a ~ (the Russo-Finnish Winter War)

become a slaughterhouse

the tiny bridehead had become a ~ (the Neva Patch / WW II)

**military: meat**

## slave (verb)

slaved over this

I really ~ (a project)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: history / verb**

**hyperbole / work & duty: history / verb**

## slave (slave to fashion, etc.)

slaves to the clock

we aren't ~, like the Americans

slave to duty

he did not wish to go, but Scott was always a ~

slave to fashion

she is a ~

slave to laziness

don't become a ~

slave to the past

Turkey is not a ~

slave to the rules

I refuse to be a ~

slave to tobacco

to smoke is to be a ~ (public-health ad)

slave to trends

she is chic, but not a ~

slave to forms and etiquette

Scott was a ~ (Robert Falcon Scott)

debt slave

don't be a ~ to your mortgage

become a slave

don't ~ to laziness

♦ Do a favor for a beggar and you'll be his slave!

♦ Teach me one thing, and I am your slave.

**dependency / dominance & submission: person**

## slave (dominated)

slave

we will be your friend, not your ~

♦ "We will be your friend, not your slave." (Imran Khan, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, to the United States.)

**dominance & submission / superiority & inferiority: person**

## sledding (tough sledding)

tough sledding

it's been ~, but... (progress of war)

♦ "The Yukon lay at his feet, a sea of ice, disappearing around two great bends to the north and south, and stretching an honest two miles from bank to bank. Over its rough breast ran the sled-trail, a slender sunken line, eighteen inches wide and two thousand miles in length, with more curses distributed to the linear foot than any other road in or out of all Christendom." ("The Man With the Gash" by Jack London.)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: snow & ice**

## sledgehammer (noun)

taken a sledgehammer to America's trustworthiness

he has ~ and credibility (politics)

taking a sledgehammer

is he ~ to crack a nut here (overreaction)

**destruction / force: tools & technology**

## sleep (noun)

awakening from (its winter) sleep

nature is ~

**resemblance: sleep**

## sleep (put something to sleep)

put *woke* to sleep

it's time to ~

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion / starting, going, continuing & ending: burial / sleep / verb**

## sleeping (consciousness)

sleeping majority

I was one of the ~, but now I have woken up (Egypt)

**consciousness & awareness: sleep**

## sleeping beauty

regarded as a sleeping beauty

the city was abandoned and ~ (Matanzas, Cuba, revived)

**allusion / consciousness & awareness: books & reading**

## sleeping giant

see *giant (sleeping giant)*

## sleepwalk (verb)

sleepwalking into a level of risk  
it's ~ you don't realize you have (funds cut to Navy)

sleepwalking towards (greatly increased) risk  
we are ~ (end of INF nuclear treaty)

**consciousness & awareness: sleep / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## sleepy (activity)

sleepy backwater  
oil transformed Khartoum from a ~ to a modern city

sleepy community  
the ~ of...

sleepy oasis  
Korla, once a ~, is undergoing an oil boom (Xinjiang)

sleepy (little farm) town  
a ~

**activity: sleep**

## sleeve (on one's sleeve)

with his heart on his sleeve  
he always fights ~ (the great boxer Johnnie Tapia)

wears his heart on his sleeve  
he ~ when it comes to his dad (Ray Mancini / boxer)

wear my influences on my sleeve  
I ~ (a writer)

**concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories**

## sleeve (up one's sleeve)

up his sleeve  
he will have his own little tricks ~ (rugby coach)

♦ "I thought Pep had a trick up his sleeve? Turns out it was just his arm."  
(An online commenter, about the football club Manchester City.)

**concealment & lack of concealment / subterfuge: clothing & accessories**

## sleeve (roll up one's sleeves)

roll up the sleeves  
time to ~ once again and just get the job done (soccer)

rolling up our sleeves  
we are ~ for Canal Istanbul (Erdogan)

roll up their sleeves  
everyone will have to ~ and work collaboratively

rolls up their sleeves  
they want someone who ~, gets things done (politics)

**difficulty, easiness & effort / work & duty: clothing & accessories / gesture**

## sleight of hand

linguistic sleights of hand  
governments propagandize citizens with ~

**subterfuge: magic**

**concealment & lack of concealment: magic**

## slender (adjective)

slender chance  
there was a ~ she would recover (sick)

slender victory  
Uruguay's ~ over Saudi Arabia ensured that...

**size: fatness & thinness**

## sleuth (person)

sleuth  
is not the biographer also a ~

internet sleuth  
armchair detectives and ~s are sharing their own theories

♦ "When my family goes to sleep, I time travel and reframe stale evidence using twenty-first-century technology. I start clicking, scouring the Internet for digital clues authorities may have overlooked, combing digitized phone books, yearbooks, and Google Earth views of crime scenes: a bottomless pit of potential leads for the laptop investigator who now exists in the virtual world. I share my theories with the loyal regulars who read my blog." (*I'll Be Gone In The Dark* by Michelle McNamara.)

♦ "Armchair detectives and keyboard warriors piled on with conspiracies, speculation and fantasy." (*The Nicola Bulley case*.)

**searching & discovery: person**

## slice (piece)

slices of the market  
in the ceaseless quest to stake out bigger ~

**amount: blade / knife**

## slice (road slices, etc.)

slices through the land  
where a creek ~ near the house

slice through the town  
just north of the railroad tracks that ~

slices through the heart of the forest  
the Cuiabá-Santarém road, which ~

road slices  
the ~ through thick pine and spruce forest

**resemblance: blade / knife / verb**

**fictive motion: blade / knife / verb**

## slick (adjective)

slick presentation  
they put together a ~ (impeachment trial)

**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: speech**

**speech: materials & substances**

## **slide (slide to perdition, etc.)**

slide to perdition

give socialism a foothold, and nothing can arrest the ~

arrest the slide

the company is doing everything it can to ~ in its stock price

**decline: direction / movement**

## **slide (verb)**

slid into a depression

she ~ of extraordinary depth and duration

**decline: direction / movement / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / movement / verb**

## **slim (small)**

slim

he knows his odds (of success) are ~

slim chance

there's still a ~ that... (politics)

slim majority

Republicans have a ~ in the Senate

very slim

the chances (of success) are ~ (a cold murder case)

**size: breadth / fatness & thinness**

## **slink (slink in, etc.)**

slunk in through a ship

the deadly flu ~

**subterfuge: animal / movement / verb**

**transmission: animal / movement / verb**

**movement: animal / verb**

## **slip (noun)**

ethical slip

we all have the capacity for these ~s (cheating, lying)

**failure, accident & impairment / flaws & lack of flaws:**

**equilibrium & stability / walking, running & jumping**

## **slip (fail)**

slipping (further) into chaos

the country is ~ (the U.S.)

slips into recession

Italy unexpectedly ~

slipped in the rankings

the U.S. has ~ (corruption)

**decline: direction / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## **slip (sales have slipped, etc.)**

slipping

gun sales have been ~ under Trump

slipped 7 percent

murders ~ last year

**decline: direction / verb**

**increase & decrease: direction / number / verb**

## **slip (permission slip)**

permission slip

the US does not need a ~ to defend its security

the verdict is a ~ that extremists have long sought

complicit in the permission slip

they must disavow him or they are ~ (politics)

**behavior / sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: school & education**

## **slip away (time)**

slipping away

she writes to remember a past that is ~ (Nobel Prize)

**time: movement / verb**

## **slippery (words, etc.)**

slippery

the word itself was ~ (the word *war* and Afghanistan)

slippery state

closure is a ~, not so easily defined

slippery word

that question was wrapped up in another ~: *culture*

slippery, vague

this language has a ~ quality (Silicon Valley hype)

**speech: materials & substances**

## **slippery (difficult)**

slippery

the investigation will be ~ (difficult, problematic)

slippery process

the ~ of counting immigrant jobs (disagreements)

slippery, vexing

*Promising Young Woman* is a ~ (not easy to describe)

prove slippery

predictions of 'peak oil' production ~

**difficulty, easiness & effort: materials & substances**

## **slippery (character)**

"Slippery Jim"

James Blaine was widely known as ~ (bad reputation)

**character & personality: materials & substances**

## **slipstream (in a slipstream)**

in Tyson Fury's slipstream

Anthony Joshua is ~ now (boxing)

competition / superiority & inferiority: direction / movement / plane / position / wind

## slip up (fail)

slip up or hit a plateau

if you ~, don't beat yourself up (weight loss)

♦ "Iran put a banana peel in front of the United States and President Trump put his foot right on it." (Cali Nasir's analysis after an Iranian proxy militia in Iraq killed an American. The resultant US airstrike against the militia resulted in an outburst of Iraqi anti-Americanism, including an attack on the US Embassy in Baghdad.)

failure, accident & impairment: verb / walking, running & jumping

## slip-up (failure)

verbal slip-ups

his ~ don't undermine his judgment (politician)

failure, accident & impairment: walking, running & jumping

## sliver (piece)

sliver of the electorate

this impacts just a small ~

sliver of remorse

he express what seemed to be a grudging ~

sliver of solace

there may be a ~ in the fact that...

amount: blade / knife

## slog (verb)

slogged a difficult road

the team ~ to qualify for the tournament

difficulty, easiness & effort: journeys & trips / walking, running & jumping / verb

## slog (long hard slog, etc.)

slog

the long running time is occasionally a ~ (a film)

in real life, politics is a ~ (victories a long time coming)

slog of lockdowns and death counts

before life turned into this ~ with no definite end (Covid)

easy slog

this is not going to be an ~

lifelong slog

learn a language, getting there needn't be a ~ (an ad)

long hard slog

the fight will be a ~ (war)

the candidates have a ~ to go (election)

the election campaign will be a ~

it may be a ~ to bring about regime change (in Venezuela)

tough slog

it was a ~ to get that done (legislation)

difficulty, easiness & effort / movement: journeys & trips / military / walking, running & jumping

## slope (on a slippery slope)

on a slippery slope

she is ~ (celebrity bad behavior)

danger / fate, fortune & chance / starting, going,

continuing & ending: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills

## slope (slippery slope)

slope

the ~ is slippery in both directions (censorship)

slippery slope towards democracy

this was the start of the ~ (South Africa)

slippery-slope argument

the ~ (relating to precedents)

fear of a slippery slope

the ~ was pervasive (military intervention)

start of the slippery slope

this was the ~ towards democracy (South Africa)

push the state down a slippery slope

this will ~ of prosecuting thoughts (versus acts)

send our country down this slippery slope

nobody wants to ~ (impeachment trial / precedent)

danger / fate, fortune & chance / starting, going,

continuing & ending: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills

## sloppy (adjective)

sloppy display

it was a ~ from Wales (soccer)

sloppy pass

her ~ back almost gifted Cameroon a goal (World Cup)

flaws & lack of flaws: hygiene

## slot (the Slot, etc.)

“the Slot”

the New Georgia Sound was known as ~ by the Allies

the Japanese from Rabaul regularly came down ~

they brought ships through ~ to attack the US (Guadalcanal)

Slot's (narrow siltstone) canyon

it's an easy walk through the ~ (Anza-Borrego park / CA)

slot of doom

“the ~” narrows to a foot at its base (Otago, NZ)

Steamer Lane-The Slot

~ is usually safe and works all year (reef break / surfing)

epithet / proper name: shape

geography: epithet

## slot (shape)

slot canyons  
the area is famous for its ~

**shape: object**

## slow (adjective)

slow to ground  
the FAA was ~ the 737 MAX (after two crashes)

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: movement**  
**action, inaction & delay / speed / time: movement**

## slug (slug something out)

slugged it out  
Obama and Clinton ~ in the primaries

**conflict: boxing / verb**

## sluggish (adjective)

sluggish  
growth has been ~  
tourism is still ~  
sales were ~ in July  
hiring remains ~  
economies range from ~ to staggering (downturn)

sluggish economy  
everyone is feeling the effects of the ~  
he found himself bedeviled by the ~ (president)

sluggish growth  
the report shows ~ (economy)

sluggish pace  
the economy is improving, but at a ~

sluggish response  
the city will investigate the ~ to the storm

remain sluggish  
economies in the US and Europe also ~

remains sluggish  
hiring ~

**movement: animal / speed**

**speed: animal / movement**

**condition & status: health & medicine / movement**

## slumber (noun)

shakes people from their slumber  
I hope this film ~ (the great Spike Lee)

**consciousness & awareness: sleep**

## slump (verb)

slumped  
economic growth ~  
ridership fell as tourism ~ (cabs)

slumping  
manufacturing is ~ in recent months (employment)

slumping (back) into recession  
Ireland is ~ (falling exports)

slumped to (its third) defeat  
the team ~ of the season as...

slumped to a (record) low  
the Syrian currency has ~

**decline / increase & decrease: direction / verb**  
**flaws & lack of flaws / strength & weakness: direction / materials & substances / verb**

## slump (in a slump)

in a (record) slump  
the birthrate is ~ (USA)

remains in a (severe) slump  
the economy ~

**decline / increase & decrease: direction**

## slump (other)

the Slump  
by 1933 ~ had spread like the plague (England)

slump in form  
the club has seen an alarming ~

slump in home sales  
furniture sales have been hit by the ~

“Trump Slump”  
because of the ~, shops have more guns than buyers

team’s slump  
he is adamant he can fix his ~ (a manager)

economic slump  
Russia’s ~ has been good for London

great slump  
the ~ could have turned into a Great Depression (2010)

ongoing slump  
the decline in the U.S. birthrate is an ~

slump is dragging on  
the ~

slump has hit  
the economic ~ the nation’s truckers

slump is worsening  
Miami’s housing ~

broke out of its slump  
the team finally ~ (won)

bucked the retail slump  
the company has ~

get out of their slump  
the team won’t ~ until they start scoring and...

hit a slump  
after years of blockbuster global sales, the iPhone has ~

reverse its (sales) slump  
the company hopes to ~

**decline / increase & decrease: direction**

## slurry (noun)

slurry of bad news  
this year's exceptional ~ (2020)

♦ "In this grim Welsh mining village of 5,000 there is turkey in plenty on the table, but the eyes of bereaved parents turn inevitably to empty chairs." ("Turkey Is Plentiful But Holiday is Sad in Aberfan, Wales," NYT, Dec. 25, 1966. One hundred and sixteen children between the ages of seven and ten, and 28 adults, died when a mountain of coal waste collapsed, hitting a school.)

**amount: mixture**

## slut (enthusiasm)

photo slut  
~s, surfers going big on small waves for the money...

stats sluts  
he abhors the "~" (a football analyst)

♦ "The attention starved, the uncivil, the unsteady or just drunk and disruptive..." (NFL fandom featured by the NFL on TV broadcasts.)

♦ see also *whore* (*attention whore, etc.*)

**attraction & repulsion / behavior / eagerness & reluctance / enthusiasm: sex**

## small-minded

small-minded  
she's ~

**extent & scope / mind: size**

## smart (verb)

smarting from the last couple of weeks  
people are still ~ (a bruising political battle)

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / verb**

## smart (as noun)

putting smart to work  
we're ~ (an ad for a corporation)

**knowledge & intelligence: part of speech**

## smart (technology, etc.)

smart bomb  
~s are less likely to go astray  
~s used to be guided by a laser  
~s hit the target, but rely on good intelligence  
~s and stealth technology won Gulf War I  
"brilliant" bombs are the ~s of the future  
all-weather ~s are guided by satellites  
JDAM ~s are guided by inertial guidance and GPS  
JDAM ~s are unaffected by clouds, dust, smoke  
the stock of satellite-guided ~s is depleted

smart cards  
~ that store data have been routinely cracked

smart devices  
~—smart PCs, smart cell phones...

smart dust  
"~"—tiny digital sensors, strewn around the globe  
~ would monitor, measure and understand the world  
~ remains a ways off  
~ has proved impossible because sensors need power

smart fuse  
a "~" for penetrating warheads uses an accelerometer

smart house  
~s could monitor the elderly  
~ could monitor those with chronic conditions

smart mine  
dumb mines versus ~s (self-destruct / self-deactivate)

smart motorway  
a grandmother died on a ~ which had the hard shoulder opened to traffic

smart munitions  
targeting of assets for attack by ~ (UAVs)

smart power  
~ includes diplomatic, economic tools

smart refrigerators  
~ can alert you to when the refrigerator door is left open

smart tractors  
farmers could use it to keep tabs on autonomous ~ (5G)

smart elevators and window shades  
complaints about ~ (new office building)

"smart" licenses and visas  
~ that incorporate anti-counterfeiting chips

smart crosswalks  
~ flash overhead warnings when you step off the curb

smart ID card  
soldiers will be issued with ~s

smart and scatterable (m)  
~ mines and their delivery vehicles (military)

from dumb to smart to brilliant (m)  
~ bombs (military)

♦ "We call it a smartie, and her name is Ripley." (SpaceX vice president Hans Koenigsmann, about the dummy named Ripley sent into space on March 2, 2019.)

♦ "Smart doorbells becoming more intelligent."

♦ "This message comes from NPR sponsor Smart Water. Smart Water is for the curious drinkers, the ones who are always looking for ways to make things a little bit better. That's why Smart Water created two new ways to hydrate... And now you can order Smart Water by saying, 'Alexa, order Smart Water.' Smart Water. That's pretty smart. (An advertisement on NPR.)

♦ News reader: South Yorkshire's police and crime commissioner has written to the government to say smart motorways should be abandoned. Dr. Alan Billings said they were unsafe. Earlier this week, a coroner at the inquest of two men who died on a smart motorway near Sheffield called for such roads to be reviewed... (From BBC's Six O'clock News, 24 / 01 / 2021, "SNP sets itself on collision course with Westminster.")

♦ **A FUNNY CARTOON.** "The microwave is smart, but the refrigerator is woke." (A real-estate lady showing a kitchen to two potential customers. From *The New Yorker*, March 6, 2017. When a trendy cliché appears in a cartoon, it means that it no longer has any force of meaning. The same if it appears in a commercial. In other words, the term has become utterly conventionalized and lacks any meaning. Smart... anything you are selling to the gullible.)

♦ "Sen. Hillary Clinton said America must use 'smart power'—which includes diplomatic, economic, military, political, legal and cultural tools."

**knowledge & intelligence: mechanism**

**ability & lack of ability: mechanism / tools & technology**

## **smash (smash a record, etc.)**

smash everything

the crossword girl, she's about to ~ (Anna Shectman)

smashed the (previous) record

he ~ (mountaineer Nirmal Purja)

**destruction / disruption: ruins / verb**

**success & failure: fist / force**

## **smear (verb)**

smear my character

I will not let her ~ (politics)

smear my reputation

she tried to ~

smear (Chicago's) reputation

he has ~ (false hate-crime accusation)

smear somebody

information, disinformation, ~ (current state of politics)

smear at will

attack groups can ~ and do it anonymously (politics)

smear (people) casually

don't ~ on a podcast (politics)

**reputation: mark / verb**

**flaws & lack of flaws / speech: mark / verb**

## **smear (noun)**

smear campaign

the allegations are part of a ~ by opponents

the ~ is based on unjustified and groundless allegations

there is no evidence of a ~ (against a film)

smear on conservatives

the Right condemned the report as a ~ (hate groups)

inflammatory and misleading smears

he described warnings over US farming practices as ~

**reputation: mark**

**flaws & lack of flaws / speech: mark**

## **smeared**

smeared as a tool

the SAT has been ~ of white supremacy

**reputation: mark**

**flaws & lack of flaws / speech: mark**

## **smell (suspicion)**

smell right

something doesn't ~ (suspicion)

smells bad

something ~ (suspicion)

smelled funny

it ~ to him and he turned down the deal (music)

♦ "There's something dead up the branch." (A Southern Appalachians expression. A branch is a watercourse like a creek or a stream.)

♦ "Does it smell like an ambush to you?" (From the film *We Were Soldiers*, based on the book *We Were Soldiers Once...and Young* by Lt Gen (Ret.) Hal Moore and Joseph L. Galloway. Book and film are about the Battle of the Ia Drang in 1965.)

**suspicion: smell**

## **smell (evidence)**

smell of disaster

it began to ~ (a public-relations offensive)

small a phony actor

he could ~ a mile away (the filmmaker John Ford)

smell an upset

they began to ~ (a team playing well)

looks and smells

it ~ like an important adaptation (to a virus)

**evidence: smell**

## **smile (verb)**

smiled on him

Lady Luck has ~

smiled on Modi

but fortune ultimately ~ and his colleague

smiled on me

God has ~

fate ~ that day

smile on the Winter Olympics

Mother Nature is finally starting to ~

smiled on (affirmative action) programs

he has ~ from the bench (a judge)

smiled on us

I think today Mother Nature ~ (NASA launch)

**judgment / sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: face / gesture / sign, signal, symbol / verb**

## **smitten (effect)**

smitten by the song

I was ~

smitten by birding

he was ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: fist / force / weapon**

## smitten (afflicted)

smitten by polio  
he was ~...

**affliction: fist / health & medicine / weapon**

## smoke (evidence)

smoke  
where there is ~, there is fire

**evidence / substance & lack of substance: fire**

## smoke (smoke clears)

smoke has cleared  
now that the ~, investigators... (stock-market plunges)

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: fire**

## smoke and mirrors

smoke and mirrors  
this is ~, nothing has changed (politics)  
he has accused ministers of using “~” over its plan...  
the industry is known for ~ (digital media / numbers)  
it kinda sounded like ~ to me, but... (genealogical DNA)  
Crypto was always ~

smoke and mirrors deal  
the government has done ~ with the energy companies

♦ “He described the case as laced with marijuana smoke and mirrors.”  
(Federal case against militia members collapses.)

**subterfuge: magic / theater**

## smoke out (verb)

smoke out the opposition  
he is trying to ~

smoke out the truth  
he decided he would ~ (investigation)

**pursuit, capture & escape: fire / verb**

**concealment & lack of concealment: fire / verb**

## smokescreen (concealment)

smokescreen  
his aggressiveness is just a ~

smokescreen to divert attention  
it was a ~ away from discontent (politics)

**subterfuge: fire / military**

**concealment & lack of concealment: fire / military**

## smoking gun

smoking bat  
they may never find a “~” (SARS-CoV-2)

smoking gun  
the letter is a ~ that shows...  
the document is the ~ (investigation of Boeing)

three smoking guns

they found ~ (forged data / academic paper withdrawn)

find a smoking gun  
prosecutors could not ~

finds no smoking gun  
he ~, no evidence that... (a historian)

provides the smoking gun  
Madagascar ~ for... (impacts from asteroids or comets)

turn up a "smoking gun"  
months of searching failed to ~ (UN / Iraq)

**evidence: fire / weapon**

## smolder (verb)

smolders  
the conspiracy theory still ~ today (spy issue)

tensions smolder  
racial and gender ~ (hiring firefighters)

**activity: fire / verb**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: fire / verb**

## smooth (verb)

smooth over their frictions  
Britain and Pakistan hope to ~

smooth over its (rocky) relations  
the Chinese military wants to ~ with the Pentagon

smooth (capitalism's) rough edges  
her policies aim to ~ (a progressive)

smooth relations  
officials hope to ~ with Beijing

**amelioration & renewal: hardness & softness / sensation / verb**

## smooth (smooth the road, etc.)

smooth the road  
there is no way to ~ to assimilation (forget racial past)

**amelioration & renewal: infrastructure / journeys & trips**

## smooth (speech)

smooth talker  
he is a ~

**speech: materials & substances / sensation / taste**  
**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: speech**

## smooth (character)

smooth and self-assured  
he is ~ (a politician)

**character & personality: materials & substances / sensation**

## smooth (lack of flaws)

smooth ride

the team's season has not been a ~ (sports)

smooth transfer

he seeks to ensure a ~ of power to his son

smooth transition

the new administration has made a ~

smooth and speedy

we should encourage a ~ transition to democracy

**flaws & lack of flaws: hardness & softness / materials & substances / sensation**

### **smorgasbord (noun)**

smorgasbord of sound

the musical festival offers a virtually limitless ~ (SXSW)

smorgasbord of meetings

the annual gathering is a ~ (UN general assembly)

biggest smorgasbord

it's the ~ on TV (Olympics coverage)

veritable smorgasbord

he admitted to a ~ of fraudulent conduct (politics)

**alternatives & choices: food & drink**

**amount / group, set & collection: food & drink**

### **smother (amount and effect)**

smothered her (little) boy with love

she ~ and attention

smothered the trio in hugs and kisses

her grandmother ~

**amount & effect: breathing / verb**

### **smother (cover)**

smothered the grenade with his body

he shouted a warning and ~ (combat)

smothered the ball

the goalkeeper ~ to prevent the own goal (soccer)

sand dunes smother

~ empty homes (desertification / northwest China)

**cover: breathing / verb**

### **smother (oppress)**

smothered me with their rules

they ~ (angry teen about her parents)

campaign to smother

an unsuccessful ~ separatist ambitions

**oppression: breathing / verb**

### **snag (noun)**

technical snag

a ~ aborted the test launch (satellite rocket)

hit a snag

negotiations ~ over...

♦ "Fully to realize the marvelous precision required in laying the great steamer in her marks in that murky waste of water, one should know that not only must she pick her intricate way through snags and blind reefs, and then shave the head of the island so closely as to brush the overhanging foliage with her stern, but at one place she must pass almost within arm's reach of a sunken and invisible wreck that would snatch the hull timbers from under her if she should strike it, and destroy a quarter of a million dollars' worth of steam-boat and cargo in five minutes, and maybe a hundred and fifty human lives into the bargain." (*Life on the Mississippi* by Mark Twain.)

**obstacles & impedance: river**

### **snail (at a snail's pace)**

at a snail's pace

moving ~ is the norm above 8,000 meters (climbing)

moving at a snail's pace

queues are ~ (Passports Department)

**speed: animal**

### **snail (snail's pace / other)**

snail's pace of the investigation

the ~ (murder)

snail's pace of (scientific) publishing

the ~

**speed: animal**

### **snake (insult)**

snake

the guy was a ~ (got her in trouble)

you don't play with ~s and not expect to get bit

snake and a traitor

Sanders loyalists called Warren a ~ (no endorsement)

♦ "Foreign Minister Erkko was vilified as a crowing rooster, a writhing serpent, and a phobic rat." (*Frozen Hell: The Russo-Finnish Winter War of 1939-40* by William R. Trotter.)

♦ "There are no snakes in Vermont, but there are Vermonters."

**character & personality: animal / person / snake**

**insult / person: animal / person / snake**

### **snake (head of the snake)**

head of the snake

he is the ~ (a terrorist leader)

Raqqa is the ~ (IS)

hit the head of the snake

I want to ~ of IS in Raqqa (David Cameron)

described as the head of the snake

he was ~ (a people-trafficking kingpin)

♦ "The jihadist threat in Africa has many heads and tentacles."

**affliction: animal / snake**

### **snake (cut off the head of the snake, etc.)**

cut off the snake's head

if you want to resolve a problem, you should ~ (war)

the Iraqi government has ~ (al-Zarqawi)

cut off the head of the snake  
the King urged Washington to “~”

cut the head off the snake  
they are urging the US to ~ (war)  
you have to ~ if you want to kill it (cricket match-fixing)

cut the head off a snake  
we’re trying to ~, but the body is so damned long (crime)  
it’s better to ~ before it grows and reproduces (Taliban)

taken off the head of the snake  
now we have ~ we’re winning (against terrorism)

♦ There’s a saying that if you cut the head off a snake, two more will grow.

♦ “They cut off the head of the snake, Gaddafi. But now there are hundreds of snakes replacing him. We are still fighting for the same thing—to find a just ruler for Libya.” (Anwar Suwan of Libya.)

♦ “The Asheville School Board of Trustees is the root of the problem. Until the head of the snake goes, the rest is not going to get cleaned up.” (An alumna of a high school supporting a sexual-abuse victim at her alma mater and calling for the resignations of two men.)

**destruction: animal / head / snake**

## snake (a trail can snake, etc.)

snake downward  
the trails ~ (public cave)

snakes (its way) down Pakistan  
the Indus River ~

snaked (its way) eastward  
the road ~

snaked down the streets  
lines of voters ~ outside polling places (Lusaka)

snakes between Boston and Cambridge  
the Charles River ~

snake through the city  
miles of fencing ~ (Washington DC security)

snake through the wilderness  
logging roads ~

snaked through the long hallways  
lines of people ~ (congressional hearing)

snakes (more than) 300 miles  
the Trans-Ecuadorean pipeline ~

snakes from Lago Agrio to the Pacific  
the Trans-Ecuadorean pipeline ~

trails snake  
the ~ downward (public cave)

pipeline snakes  
the Trans-Ecuadorean ~ more than 300 miles

**fictive motion / movement: animal / snake / verb**

**resemblance: animal / snake / verb**

## snake (snake-bit)

snake-bit

I’m ~ (Spike Lee on losing two Oscars to “driving” movies)

♦ This means having bad luck, bad fortune. There are many snakes, but few people get bitten.

**fate, fortune & chance: animal / snake**

## snake oil (noun)

snake oil of climate-change denial  
how Charles Koch sold the ~ (politics)

snake-oil merchants  
~ who promise protection (bogus cures)

vulnerable to snake oil  
people who are desperate are ~ (health)

♦ In the U.S., everything having to do with mental health or wellness is essentially snake oil. Some things never change.

♦ “Her wellness company has been accused of trafficking in overpriced snake-oil-ish self-optimization remedies.” (*The New Yorker’s* Naomi Fry about Gwyneth Paltrow.)

**subterfuge / worth & lack of worth: animal / health & medicine / snake**

## snake pit

snake-pit atmosphere  
the news division is known for having a ~ (ABC)

snake-pit culture  
she was brought in to clean up the ~ (ABC News)

media snake pit  
jump into the ~

♦ Psychiatric hospitals were referred to as snake pits for their chaos, distress and horror.

**environment: animal / hole / mental health / snake**

**conflict: animal / hole / snake**

**danger: animal / snake**

## snap (verb)

snapped  
he had a short fuse and he just ~ (troubled veteran)

♦ “Gwin probably shouldn’t have snapped, but everyone has a breaking point.” (An honest merchant doused an aggressive, mentally ill homeless woman with a garden hose in an attempt to remove her from in front of his shop. His shop was subsequently vandalized by homeless-rights activists.)

**mental health: materials & substances / verb**

**failure, accident & impairment / feeling, emotion & effect:**

**materials & substances / rope / verb**

## snapshot (picture)

snapshot of the epidemic  
the studies were the first to provide a ~ in the US

snapshot of what  
first, just give us a ~ you’ve been seeing... (NPR)

**characterization: picture**

## snare (verb)

snared real people

his website had ~ (fake news)

**involvement: hunting / verb**

**danger / pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb**

## snare (noun)

caught in his snare

once they were ~, he pimped them (Sara Lawrence coeds)

**danger / pursuit, capture & escape / subterfuge: hunting**

## snarl (verb)

snarled travel

the storm ~ (snow)

**obstacles & impedance: rope / verb**

## snarl (impedance)

untangle the (supply) snarls

it could take a while to ~ (the economy)

**obstacles & impedance: rope**

## snarl (speech)

snarled

“Shut up!” he ~

**speech: animal / dog / sound / verb**

**sound: animal / verb**

## snatch (verb)

snatched defeat from victory

athletes who have ~

snatched victory

his late goal ~ (soccer)

**taking & removing: hand / verb**

**fictive possession: hand / verb**

## sneeze (verb)

sneeze

when the Met ~ we all get the cold (policing)

sneezes

if Wall Street ~, Europe gets a cold

when America ~, Europe catches a cold (identity politics)

♦ “The impact of Met failings are often felt nationally by other police forces and other staff and officers working in policing. As one senior officer said, ‘when the Met sneeze we all get the cold.’” (Baroness Casey Review.)

**relationship / transmission: bodily reaction / health & medicine / verb**

## sniff out (verb)

sniffed out a new avenue

he soon ~ for his marketing genius (Southern Poverty Law)

sniff out intelligence

spies ~

sniffed out the rot

Shevardnadze ~ in the system (Georgia)

**searching & discovery: smell / verb**

**evidence: smell / verb**

## snipe (verb)

snipe from the sidelines

tradition dictates former presidents don’t ~

**accusation & criticism: weapon / verb**

**speech: weapon / verb**

## sniping (noun)

Gingrich's sniping

~ has left Romney better prepared for... (politics)

digital sniping

the comment produced more ~ (politics)

♦ “Zaitsev began to tell the story of his battle of wits with a German sniper at the foot of Mamayev Kurgan. It had lasted for days. The German knew Zaitsev was watching him and he himself was keeping watch on Zaitsev. They seemed well-matched; neither could catch the other out...” (*Life And Fate* by Vasily Grossman. The great 2001 film *Enemy at the Gates* starred Jude Law, Joseph Fiennes, Ed Harris, and Rachel Weisz.)

♦ “Early on [Benedict Arnold] realized that an officer on a gray horse was playing a prominent role in maintaining the integrity of the British right. Arnold rode over to Colonel Morgan on the American left and requested that he order a sharpshooter to aim at the British officer. It took three shots, but eventually the Indian fighter Tim Murphy managed to put a rifle ball into the gut of General Simon Fraser, the Scotsman who was Burgoyne's intimate friend and the commander of the British right. The Americans had already begun to overwhelm the enemy, but the felling of Fraser by an American sniper appears to have precipitated the collapse of the British line...” (*Valiant Ambition: George Washington, Benedict Arnold, and the Fate of the American Revolution* by Nathaniel Philbrick.)  
/// “‘Suddenly,’ says the ‘Field-Book of the Revolution,’ the irregular firing ceased, and the solemn voice of a single cannon boomed at measured intervals along the valley, and awakened the responses of the hills. It was a minute gun fired by the Americans in honour of the gallant dead. The moment information was given that the gathering in the redoubt was a funeral company fulfilling the last wishes of the noble Fraser, orders were issued to withhold the cannonade with balls, and render military honours to the fallen brave.” (*British Battles On Land And Sea* by James Grant, “The Funeral of Fraser.” Arguably, Saratoga, 1777, was the battle that won the American Revolution. Benedict Arnold, the “American Hannibal,” would go on to betray his country. The revolution was, of course, also a *civil* war, between the Loyalists and the Patriots, or Americans.)

**accusation & criticism: military / weapon**

**speech: military / weapon**

## snooze (verb)

snooze beside walls and in museum courtyards

cannons ~ (Istanbul)

**resemblance: sleep / verb**

## snout (orientation)

glacier's snout

a ~ can advance or retreat

♦ “Pigs can play video games with their snouts, Scientists find,” BBC, Feb 1, 2021.)

**orientation: animal / direction / nose**

## snow (marine snow, etc.)

plankton and “marine snow”

sea squirts feed on ~ (dead debris and faeces)

**resemblance: snow & ice**

## snowball (verb)

snowball

their problems ~ (newly homeless)

snowballed across the internet

truth pages have ~ (racism in education / Great Britain)

snowballed into beatings

the abuse ~ (school)

snowball into panic

a false alarm can ~

snowball into something

this could ~ much worse (trade war)

snowball into trouble

these trends could ~ for the US (conduct of war)

snowballed from there

it ~ and the interest never died (windsurfing)

snowballed out of control

it was an accident that ~ (murder trial)

snowballed and avalanched

it quickly ~ (late August 2020 sports protest)

continued to snowball

the effects ~

started to snowball

the number of her Instagram followers ~

scandal has snowballed

the ~

**increase & decrease: snow & ice / verb**

**relationship: snow & ice / verb**

## snowball (snowball effect)

snowball effect

entitlements like these always seem to have a ~

chain reaction, a snowball effect

this will create a ~ (falling in a crowd crush)

created a snowball effect

the media and public fascination with serial murder ~

**increase & decrease: snow & ice**

**relationship: snow & ice**

## snowflake (person)

today's snowflakes

Pogba and ~ are an embarrassment (rabid soccer fan)

targets snowflakes

the ad campaign ~ (British Army)

♦ A similar term to *snowflake* is *teacup*. In the old days, such people were compared to plants: a *shrinking violet*, a *pansy*, a *wallflower*. The modern update on that is *orchid* (versus a *dandelion*).

**character & personality / strength & weakness: hardness & softness / person / snow & ice**

**person: snow & ice**

## snuff (verb)

snuffed the rally with an interception

they ~ (football)

snuffed out the movement

a series of high-profile arrests soon ~ (in Syria)

**curtailment / destruction: fire / verb**

## so (introductory)

So,

~ first thing, I think we have...

So basically

see *basically* (*contempo-speak*)

so, like

see *like* (*filler*)

right, so

~ I'm assuming...

Sure, so

~... (in answer to the question, “What’s he done?”)

yeah, so

see *yeah* (*introductory*)

♦ “So, I was among the casualties today at *Sports Illustrated*...” (A text by Howard Beck, who was laid off.)

♦ Ari Shapiro: Why is[that] something to worry about? Allison Aubrey: Sure. So the WHO also... (Heard on NPR.)

♦ Ayesha Rascoe of NPR and Jessica Drun of the Atlantic Council’s Global China Hub had a conversation on air that went like this: Ayesha: What...? Jessica: So... / Ayesha: Why...? Jessica: So... / Ayesha: How...? Jessica: So... / Ayesha: Why...? Jessica: So... / Ayesha: What...? Jessica: The narrative we are seeing... / Ayesha: How...? Jessica: So... / Ayesha: Do you...? Jessica: I think... (“Why China is reasserting its right of control over Taiwan,” Weekend Edition Sunday, August 14, 2022.)

♦ Leila Fadel of NPR and Weihsueh Chiu, a Texas A&M professor, had a conversation on air that went like this: LF: So, what are you...? Is...? WC: So... So... / LF: So what does...? Are...? What does it...? WC: So... / LF: What would...? WC: So... / LF: So, if...? Should...? What should...? How long...? WC: Well, so... / LF: What should...? What is...? WC: So... / LF: How...? WC: I have confidence... (“Scientists find high levels of hazardous chemicals in the air around Ohio town,” NPR, Morning Edition, March 3, 2023.)

♦ Steve Inskip of NPR and Michaeleen Doucleff of NPR had a conversation that went like this: SI: Question / MD: So...; SI: Question / MD: So...; SI: Question / MD: So...; SI: Question / MD: Yeah, so...; SI: Question / MD: Exactly; SI: Question / MD: Yes, of course...

♦ Rob Schmitz: How... / Dr. Dennis Whyte: Right, so... / Rob Schmitz: What... / Dr. Dennis Whyte: Right, so... / Rob Schmitz: So this experiment still took energy off the grid? / Dr. Dennis Whyte: That’s correct... / Rob Schmitz: How long... / Dr. Dennis Whyte: Right, well... (A typical exchange on NPR.)

♦ Type “right, so” into search at NPR, and you get an incredible 10,317 hits and counting! I think like that’s actually / definitely / obviously / REEE•lee, REEE•lee like a lot, right?

♦ see also *right* (*introductory*), *sure* (*introductory*), *yeah* (*introductory*)

**contempo-speak: introductory**

## so (gushing)

so with us

he is ~ in spirit (Peter Coleman of Green Beer Sunday)

so high school

I was ~, so totally into self-loathing (Diane Keaton)

so guilty

I am ~ of that (style competition / young female)

so totally

see *totally* (*contempo-speak*)

actually so

this is ~ scary and disturbing and cringey

Really So

“Is Aging ~Bad” (by NPR/TED Staff, May 22, 2015)

really so

is cheating ~ terrible (adultery)

totally so

he is so hot Oh my God he is ~ hot

just like so

I was ~ amazed...

**contempo-speak: adverb**

## soaked

sun-soaked

the highway runs along ~ Pacific beaches (Hawaii)

**absorption & immersion: water**

## soak up (verb)

soaked up the sun

she ~

**absorption & immersion: verb / water**

## soap opera (noun)

soap opera

it's the greatest ~ of the year (NBA Draft)

this continuing ~ surround his career (Ray Mancini)

~s keep millions of Ethiopians glued to their radios

soap opera with bad actors

I find it a ~ (group stage of Champions League soccer)

Bollywood soap operas

~ are not as steamy as Latin ones

perennial soap opera

Real Madrid is a ~ (conspiracy, intrigue, passion, etc.)

royal soap opera

this is a ~ about members of a royal family...

♦ “let's get back to old school boxing, flip this soap opera on its head.” (A fight fan about the state of boxing today.)

♦ “The league is a soap opera that happens to play basketball.” (An NBA executive about the latest drama surrounding Kyrie “the Earth is Flat” Irving.)

♦ “He was born into a plotline in a soap opera watched by the whole planet.” (The comedian Laura Lexx about Prince Harry. Her comment ended up being quite sympathetic.)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater**

**feeling, emotion & effect: theater**

## soar (verb)

career was soaring

his ~ (an academic)

rents are soaring

~ (in France)

sales and profits soared

~ (a drug company)

toll soars

landslide death ~

**increase & decrease: direction / flying & falling / numbers / verb**

## soar (a heart can soar)

hearts soared

our ~ when we realized that...

**heart: direction / flying & falling**

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / flying & falling / heart**

## sober (verb)

sobered voters about the costs

Iraq has ~ of big wars

**feeling, emotion & effect: alcohol / verb**

## sober (adjective)

sober assessment

the panel has issued a ~ of National Defense Strategy

sober reminder

this report is a ~ of the expensive legacy costs of...

**feeling, emotion & effect: alcohol**

## sobering (adjective)

sobering end

Scotland's dream came to a ~ (Euro 2020)

sobering figures

these are ~

sobering realization

it was a ~ (owners find their cat is obese)

**feeling, emotion & effect: alcohol**

## soft (soft on crime, etc.)

soft on Australia

he does not want to be painted as ~ (Indonesian politics)

soft on crime

he tarred his challenger as ~ (George HW Bush / Clinton)

soft on illegal immigration

he is ~

soft on sleaze

he has been accused of being ~ (Boris Johnson)

**strength & weakness: hardness & softness**

### **soft (soft opening, etc.)**

soft deadline

a ~ can encourage without the negative effects

soft launch

NBC introduced the website with a ~ (NBCBLK)

soft opening

the ~ is a tried-and-true tactic (getting ready, etc.)

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: hardness & softness**

### **softball (noun)**

softball questions

TV interviewers lobbed ~ at him

she's only fielded ~ from her own lawyer (a trial)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: sports & games**

### **soften (verb)**

soften the blow

the program intends to ~ of the economic downturn

soften their image

the rebels are on a mission to ~

soften the impact

the military is trying to ~ (families greet coffins)

soften the law

lawmakers have tried to ~ (marijuana)

softened her stance

she has ~ on the issue

**attenuation: hardness & softness / verb**

### **soften (speech)**

soften his tone

the president appeared to ~ (tariffs)

softened their tone

the US and China have ~ (dispute)

**speech: hardness & softness / verb**

**amelioration & renewal: hardness & softness / verb**

### **softheaded (and soft-headed)**

soft-headed son of a bitch

I'll reform you, you ~ (*O Brother, Where Art Thou?*)

**character & personality: hardness & softness / head**

**insult: hardness & softness / head**

### **softhearted (and soft-hearted)**

soft-hearted woman

she's a ~

**character & personality: heart**

**heart: hardness & softness**

### **soil (fertile soil, etc.)**

fertile soil for the cultivation

Pakistan has proved to be ~ of terrorist activity

perfect soil for a growing insurgency

that chaos was the ~ (Iraq)

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant**

### **soil (on one's soil)**

on its soil

the government will protect foreign diplomats ~

**possession: ground, terrain & land**

### **soldier (noun)**

soldier in a team

I'm a ~, I do what I'm told (a jockey)

soldier in the (culture) wars

if you are a ~

foot soldier

see *foot soldier (duty)*

good soldier

the best way to rebuild her political capital was to be a ~

Laura is such a ~ and good person (her error cost game)

he decided to play the ~ and not make a fuss (a diplomat)

loyal soldier

he was more a ~ (vice-presidential debate)

good little soldier

I need you to be a soldier of God, a ~

♦ "I need you to be a soldier of God, a good little soldier." (Female victim testimony from the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (CICA) / Ryan Commission, which detailed Catholic Church abuse in Ireland. What the priest told a child in Catholic care prior to sexually abusing her.)

♦ "I've always said, 'I'm his soldier.' Jim's this director I'll do anything for, but he's in the trench right there next to me." (Hollywood actor Sam Worthington about *Avatar: The Way of Water* and its director, James Cameron.)

♦ "I mean, I've been in the Twitter war zone for a while, it takes a lot to phase me at this point. You can't take it personally, none of these people actually know you. It's like if you're fighting a war and there's some opposing soldier that shoots at you, it's not like they hate you. They don't even know you. So, just think of it like that. They're firing bullets, whatever, but they don't know you, so don't take it personally." (Elon Musk talking to Joe Rogan.)

♦ "Embracing collaborations...is critical to our shared success, and a *force multiplier* for delivering top-notch journalism across the country." (Senior Vice President of News and Editorial Director Nancy Barnes.)

♦ "We are here to provide you the approved short-term substitute training. I'm sorta the *captain* [italics mine] of today's shift, and I've got a wonderful crew..." (Chicago education.)

♦ Be a good soldier; be a loyal supporter; Don't upset the apple cart; fall in line; don't speak to anyone about this... (Government servants.)

♦ "Yeah, they have these belts on with like all these extra bullets and they're like dressed for war." (Leah talking to her Brit producer, Georgia, for their podcast about the militia movement.)

♦ "Nobody can soldier without coffee." (A Union cavalryman, writing in 1865.)

♦ Who won the war? / The MPs won it. / How'd they win it? / Why, their mothers and sisters laying for Liberty Bonds. (Infantry chant while marching past MPs. From *From Here to Eternity* by James Jones.)

♦ "I weighed one hundred eighty going in, and I came out weighing one hundred fourteen..." (From *Once Upon a Town, the Miracle of the North Platte Canteen* by the brilliant *Chicago Tribune* writer Bob Greene.)

♦ "There's no beer, no prostitutes and people are shooting at us. It's more like Portsmouth." (A British soldier, on hearing that the British defense secretary Geoff Hoon had asserted that Umm Qasr, Iraq, was like Southampton.)

♦ "Camp Lejeune." (A US marine in Afghanistan, who had also served in Iraq, on being asked where he felt the threat was most dire. Camp Lejeune is in North Carolina in the United States.)

♦ "In combat, cleanliness for the infantryman was all but impossible. Our filth added to our general misery. Fear and filth went hand in hand..." (*With the Old Breed* by E.B. Sledge.)

♦ "Saratov greeted Lyudmila rudely and cruelly... / At the tram-stop some young women quietly shoved past anyone who happened to be old or weak. A blind man in a Red Army hat, obviously only recently released from hospital and still unable to cope alone, moved anxiously from one foot to the other, tapping his stick rapidly in front of him... / People were jostling each other as they climbed into the tram-car—while he stood there, weeping and shouting..." (*Life And Fate* by Vasily Grossman.)

♦ "The duke did what he could for his wretched men. He sent urgent appeals to the towns and churches of northern Spain, begging for the immediate dispatch of beds, clothes...for the 4,000 sick survivors ashore. That total steadily increased as further ships limped home. Some were in a terrible state..." (*The Spanish Armada* by Colin Martin and Geoffrey Parker.)

**allegiance, support & betrayal / work & duty: military**

## **soldier on (verb)**

soldiered on

she and her mother ~ (in poverty, after divorce)

soldier on without him

his teammates had to ~ (red-carded)

soldiered on through (the last months of) 1964

as Joni ~ (poor, pregnant, unmarried)

♦ "Roll on, drive on, soldier on..."

♦ "Wiiiiide River! / Wiiiiide River! / River, of Saigon! / River, of Saigon! / Wiiiiide River / Wiiiiide River! / Oh! One more river to cross / Oh! One more river to cross." (Marching cadence, Vietnam War training at Fort Knox. In Vietnam, the Vietnam War is called the American War.)

**resiliency / starting, going, continuing & ending / survival, persistence & endurance / work & duty: military / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## **solid (adjective)**

solid evidence

there is no ~ that...

solid bet

investing in gold is not a ~

solid footing

the company is on ~ (profitable, etc.)

solid foundation

terrorism has weakened the ~ of our democracy

solid performance

she had a ~ (an athlete)

solid (backup) plan

the team has a ~

solid results

the bank has shown ~

rock solid

the case law is ~ (suit should fail)

he said the relationship with France was "~" (UK)

rock-solid

their ~ case began to crumble (murder)

she was a ~ witness (in murder case)

look solid

the economies of Southeast Asia ~

remain solid

the ties between our two countries ~

**flaws & lack of flaws / strength & weakness / substance & lack of substance: equilibrium & stability / materials & substances**

## **Solomonic (adjective)**

Solomonic choice

firefighters had to make a ~ (choose which fire to fight)

Solomonic compromise

supporters of the decision regarded it as a ~ (politics)

Solomonic decision

the three-judge panel made a ~

Solomonic solution

she suggested a ~

they fear her ~ will flood both sides (raising sluice gates)

♦ In 1941, 10-11 May, during the blitz, London firefighters had to make a Solomonic choice: fight the fire in the chamber of the House of Commons or the fire on the roof of Westminster Hall. They chose to save Westminster Hall.

**judgment: allusion / Bible / religion**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## **somebody (a somebody)**

somebody

I went from being a ~ to being a nobody (immigrant)

♦ "To me, being a gangster was better than being President of the United States... To me, it meant being somebody in the neighborhood that was full of nobodies... They did whatever they wanted, they double-parked in front of a hydrant and nobody ever gave them a ticket." (Ray Liotta's opening voiceover for the film *Goodfellas*.)

**importance & significance / power / society: person**

## **son (son of the South, etc.)**

son of the hills

like many a ~, he... (southern Appalachians)

son of the (October) Revolution

I am a ~ (an elderly Russian, born in 1917)

sons of the soil  
we are the ~, we shouldn't leave (Hamid Karzai)

**identity & nature: family / person**

## soothe (sensation)

soothe concerns  
what he said did not ~

**amelioration & renewal / feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / sensation / verb**

## soothsayer (person)

soothsayer  
I'm not a ~, I don't have a crystal ball  
there were some ~s who were saying... (election results)

market soothsayers  
TV allowed the ~ to reach a voracious audience

media soothsayers  
all these ~ are crazy (sports)

stock market soothsayer  
secrets of the ~ (David Schwartz)

**future / message / time: magic / person / religion  
person: magic / religion**

## sore (affliction)

running sore  
Bloody Sunday became a ~ in the body politic (Ireland)

**affliction: health & medicine**

## sore (sensation)

sore loser  
he's just a ~ (boxer complains of decision)

sore spot  
regional rivalries are a particular ~ (Central Asia)

sore subject  
money can be a ~ in any relationship

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## sorely

sorely missed  
she was hugely loved, and she will be ~ by so very many

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## sorrow (China's Sorrow, etc.)

China's Sorrow  
the river is known as ~ (the Yellow River)

**feeling, emotion & effect / geography: epithet**

## sort of (contempo-speak)

sort of even

see even (*contempo-speak*)

sort of like  
see *sort of like* (*contempo-speak*)

sort of pretty  
see *pretty* (*contempo-speak*)

extremely sort of  
that poem I think was ~ reflective of modern anxieties

just sort of  
we're ~ in a holding pattern right now (a relationship)  
you ~ don't want to go there

just really sort of  
I was ~ eyebrow raised (disbelief / *Who? Weekly*)

kind of, sort of  
then he admits, ~, that he got in trouble when...  
~, not really...

kind of sort of  
I found that compelling that these two worlds ~ coexist

kind-of sort-of  
well, ~...

kinda sorta  
*Gourmet Magazine* is ~ coming back  
this might be a way to ~ eliminate them (drag performers)

♦ "Well, so, he based it on an W.H. Auden poem of the same title, and that poem ["Age of Anxiety"] I think was extremely sort of reflective of modern anxieties, of just young people living in cities and..." (Classical music columnist Fran Hoepfner.)

♦ Are you sure?!

♦ see also *kind of* (*contempo-speak*)

**contempo-speak: adverb**

## sort of like (contempo-speak)

sort of like  
at some point it was ~, "Well, I can do that, too"

sort of like passing  
it's ~ the torch to another generation

sort of like saying  
it's ~ you're going to put the foxes in charge of...

sort of like an ice hockey goalie  
I look at my job as being ~ trying to stop bad pucks...

sort of like a magician  
it's ~ where they pull a trick off and it seems so natural

sort of like someone  
she is ~ I could see myself, like, meeting at a party

sort of like a tomboy  
I was ~ growing up

sort of like the wild, wild west  
it's ~ (no rules)

sort of like (doubly) bad  
it's ~

sort of, like, political  
but also ~

felt sort of like  
it ~ being on a race track

feels sort of like  
it ~ the ultimate ticket (aspirational)  
inside, it ~ a basement bomb shelter (exam room)  
it ~ we're in a park, but it's really a roof (condo patio)

looks sort of like  
it ~ a cross between a spaceship and a covered wagon or mill  
it ~ a hairdryer, but...  
it ~ a cello but doesn't sound like it (viola da gamba)

sounds sort of like  
the device ~ a drummer tapping out a beat landline phone)

actually sort of like  
yeah, it is ~ I pictured...

just sort of like  
~ if they want to go softer or more intense...  
I was ~, this feels like something that...  
it was ~ a way for me to connect and communicate...

♦ "You know, HBO is sort of like, in my experience, they're sort of like a cool aunt that is just sort of like, 'As long as you're happy and you seem healthy,' they're like, 'I don't want to, I don't want to pry.'" ("Los Espookys' creator Julio Torres explains his fascination with Barbie dream houses," NPR, Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me!, October 1, 2022.)

♦ see also *kind of like* (*contempo-speak*)

**contempo-speak: filler**

## sort out (analyze)

sort it (all) out  
joining us to ~ is our media correspondent...

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: mechanism**

## soul (bare one's soul)

bare their souls to the authorities  
it is not easy for women to ~ (rape, sex abuse)

♦ "Every soul's body is important, no matter what size it is. It is an absolute right for me to feel good in my body." (The plus-size model Emme.)

**concealment & lack of concealment: religion**

**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: religion**

## soul (heart and soul)

see *heart and soul*

## soul (identity)

soul  
every place has its ~ (Solovetsky Islands)

soul of the dance  
the hand is the ~ (Cambodia)

soul of the Democratic Party  
she has won a critical battle for the ~ (anti-Semitic Somali)

soul of snowboarding  
he was the ~ (Jake Burton Carpenter)

political soul  
a window into the dark corners of our ~ (conspiracies)

**identity & nature: religion**

## soul (sell one's soul to the devil, etc.)

sold its soul  
English football has ~, to greed and corrupt owners...

sell my soul to the devil  
I'd ~ for...

♦ Michelangelo; Jimmie Hendrix; Stevie Ray Vaughan; Erling Haaland...

♦ see also *Faust* (*noun*), *Faustian* (*adjective*)

**allusion: books & reading**

**hyperbole: money / verb**

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: money / verb**

**commitment & determination: money / verb**

## soul (death)

loving soul  
the family says he was a ~... (shot and killed by police)

beautiful soul  
to lose a friend who was such a ~ (a young suicide)  
we will mourn the loss of ~s (victims of campus shooting)

gentle soul  
he was remembered by family as a "~" (lost off cruise ship)

genuine soul  
he was the most ~ (died balcony jumping on Spring Break)

old soul  
he was just such an ~, like, you know (dead 11-year-old boy)  
he had like an ~, like he was beyond his age...  
this singular kid, an ~ (Jennifer Senior / Bobby McIlvaine)

special soul  
you are a ~ that will live on forever (died on Spring Break)

wonderful soul  
he was very vibrant, a ~ (young overdose death)

beautiful human soul  
he was a ~ (murdered by his wife)

beautiful, eloquent, compassionate, courageous soul  
she was a ~ (a 25-year-old suicide)

kind, beautiful and gentle soul  
he was a ~ adored by everyone (lost off cruise ship)

♦ "We are gathered here to honor the eleven souls who were taken from us." (A mass shooting.)

♦ "He had like an old soul, like he was beyond his age." (A 15-year-old who died subway surfing.)

♦ "You are one of the most vibrant, beautiful inside & out, genuine, loving souls." (A young influencer, about another young influencer who died in a car crash that was not her fault.)

♦ "Kubler-Ross once considered a belief in the afterlife a form of denial. But starting in the mid-1970s, she had a change of heart, compiling thousands of testimonies from those who'd had near-death experiences

in order to show that our souls outlast us. / 'I looked at life-after-death books, but they were too faith-based,' Helen says. 'I *wanted* to believe what I was taught in my Catholic upbringing. But what I liked about Kubler-Ross is that she had a science background.' / It was precisely because she was a scientist, of course, that Kubler-Ross's fellow physicians were so dismayed by this strange turn in her interests. They thought it kooky and unrigorous, a stain on her legacy. I tell this to Helen. She laughs. 'Bet they didn't see millions of books.'" ("Twenty Years Gone," also titled "What Bobby McIlvaine Left Behind" by Jennifer Senior. Her essay won a Pulitzer Prize. Senior has turned her essay into a book: *Grief: Love, Loss, Memory*.)

♦ "Eric, I'm sure you've seen a lot of TV deaths, how do you think this show handled mourning and grief." ("Succession' gets one step closer to finding a successor," NPR, All Things Considered, April 10, 2023.)

♦ Requesting privacy while we "navigate our grief" has also become a cliché. The language of mourning and grief is quite interesting, and is changing rapidly, as the old clichés are being replaced by the new ones.

**death & life: cliché**

## soul-searching

soul-searching

after much ~ we decided...

I did some ~, it was a wakeup call to me (athlete)

there will be ~ (boxing champ loses in shock defeat)

career-oriented soul-searching

he did some ~

national soul-searching

the Holocaust memorial is the result of years of ~

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: religion**

## sound (perception)

sound of that

I don't like the ~

**perception, perspective & point of view: sound**

## sound (measure)

sounds (dark comedic) depths

the play ~

**measurement: depth / verb / water**

**extent & scope: depth / verb / water**

## sound (solid)

scientifically sound

their theory isn't ~ (about autism and the brain)

**flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances**

**strength & weakness: materials & substances**

## sound off (verb)

sound off

citizens phoned in to ~

♦ *Sound off. / One-two. / Sound off! / Three-four! / Bring it on down. / One two three four one two...three-four!* (Military cadence.)

**speech: military / sound / verb**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: speech / verb**

## soup (mixture)

soup of pollutants

the fish live in a ~ (tomcod in New York)

**mixture: food & drink**

## sour (verb)

souring on the (administration's) handling  
polls show the public is ~ of the catastrophe

soured many on service

a variety of things has ~ (military reservists)

soured investors

uncertainty over legislation has further ~ (Mexico)

soured relations

the incident ~ between the two countries

sour the relationship

raising the question of human rights could ~ (diplomacy)

soured some

her decision ~ in law enforcement (a district attorney)

relationship soured

but the ~ (between two politicians)

relationship has soured

the ~ between museums and archaeologists

**corruption: food & drink / taste / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: food & drink / taste / verb**

## sour (adjective)

sour taste

the whole experience left a ~ in my mouth

gone sour

her perfect marriage had ~

turn sour

when did the relationship ~

so soon had victory begun to ~ (Amundsen)

turned sour

his life in England ~

went sour

a series of business ventures ~

**consumption / corruption: food & drink / taste**

## sour (personality)

sour person

she's a ~

**character & personality: food & drink / taste**

## south (numbers)

went south

crop prices ~ (worries of trade war)

**direction: numbers**

## south (go south, etc.)

heading south

the lifeless Gunners are ~ (failing Arsenal football team)

going south

she knew things were ~ when he locked the door (rape)

going south quick

things were ~ (California wildfire)

went south

that's when things ~ (runaway locomotive)

then, things ~

things ~ pretty quickly

crop prices ~ (worries of trade war)

the economy ~ and jobs dried up

something ~ in the prosecutor's case, perhaps a witness

there was hope of an agreement, but things ~

went (seriously) south

something ~ in the prosecution's case (charges dropped)

♦ Michele Kelemen: "... [B]ut, you know, these promises could be hard to keep if things go south quickly for this Afghan government. / Audi Cornish: *Not just south*, I mean, if there's a threat that the government could collapse, what are you, what are you as diplomats doing to try and head that off?" (A very interesting and very odd conversation. Interesting because Audi Cornish seems to react sharply to the use of the cliché "head south" and very correctly restates the meaning as, "if there's a threat that the government could collapse..." But odd because Michele Kelemen does *not* represent the State Department, she is NPR's diplomatic correspondent. Were the two of them "acting out" a script? From "Biden To Meet With Afghanistan Leaders As Sept. 11 U.S. Troop Withdrawal Nears," All Things Considered, June 25, 2021.)

♦ See *direction (symbol)* for quotations about the cardinal directions as metaphors.

**failure, accident & impairment: direction / verb**

**decline: direction / verb**

**sow (verb)**

sowed farmlands and fields with mines

combatants ~ (Balkans)

sown grief here

they have ~, they are destroying us (warfare)

sowed violence across the region

extremists have ~ (Northern Caucasus)

sow chaos

Assad's fall could ~ in Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon

sowed (such) confusion

he and his legal advisers ~ that... (a general)

sowed discord

the act ~ that lasted for years

sow fear

they use terrorism to ~ and undermine security

snipers ~ (combat)

sowed fear

the killings have ~ and apprehension (sniper murders)

sow goodwill

you can ~ by referring them to competitors (business)

sow instability

the drug war has helped ~, particularly in Bolivia

the insurgents seek to ~ (Iraq)

sow malware

they ~ that cripples networks (criminals / ransomware)

sow the seeds

enforced potty sitting can ~ of rebellion (toddlers)

sowing the seeds

he could be ~ of a new disaster (price control)

sown the seeds

this successes may have ~ of his demise (business)

sow terror

shooting and carjacking rampage ~ through city (news)

sow doubt and defeatism

a psy-op to ~ (military)

sowed fear and apprehension

the killings have ~ around the area (sniper)

sow fear and distress and anger

terrorists know that headlines ~

♦ "The BBC's mission, Reith decided, was to 'inform, educate and entertain.' The verb 'to broadcast' should hew to its Biblical and agricultural origins: seeds of knowledge and culture were to be dispersed far and wide, on rocky places and on fertile soil. 'The Sower,' a modernist stone sculpture, by Eric Gill stands in the lobby of the BBC's current headquarters, which was built in 1932." (From "London Calling: The power—and vulnerability—of the BBC" by Sam Knight, *The New Yorker*, April 18, 2022.)

♦ "He who sows the wind shall reap the whirlwind."

**creation & transformation / growth & development /  
throwing, putting & planting: farming & agriculture / plant /  
verb**

**sown (planted)**

sown in (such) a field

antipersonnel mines should not be ~ until...

**throwing, putting & planting: farming & agriculture / plant /  
verb**

**sown (mine-sown, etc.)**

mine-sown

a ~ strip of earth (border)

**configuration: farming & agriculture / plant**

**space (in a dark space, etc.)**

headspace

see *headspace (frame of mind)*

some dark spaces

looking back at ~ in his life (cocaine addiction)

♦ It's rare nowadays to hear, "A couple of years later, when I was in a better *spot* [*italics mine*] (mentally)."

♦ see also *place (in a dark place, etc.)*

**mental health: place**

**feeling, emotion & effect: container / place**

**space (in a space, etc.)**

in a space where

anytime I'm ~ I'm scared (a teen debater)  
the assault happened at a time and ~ I was vulnerable

in spaces with people  
in 2021, more robots will coexist ~

in spaces like that  
I'm used to ~ fighting for air time (a Zoom meeting)

in this space  
companies that play ~ are... (semiconductor fabrication)  
she is a thought leader ~ (modifying boy's identities)

in these spaces  
Black people are ~ (safe access to nature / Black birders)  
so many people have to live ~ (basement apartments)

in the media space  
tech giants collect the lion's share of revenue, profits ~

in the mental health space  
most people ~ think it's a real issue (secondary trauma)

in those social-media spaces  
followers ~ (on the internet)

in educational spaces  
whiteness ~ (title of session at teachers' conference)

in a fragile space  
the state of our relationship has been ~, we were both at fault

in the same space  
there are people ~ as me... (came out as gay)  
they were just there ~ sharing life (students in school)

♦ "There are people out there in the same space as me that may not feel comfortable revealing their sexuality." (Jake Daniels.)

**situation: container / space**

## space (personal space)

their own space  
you have to let people have ~ (ignore bad behavior in ghetto)  
you just look past it, because everyone deserves ~ (ghetto)

personal space  
a threat to ~ is tragically palpable (police shootings)

space and privacy  
as a family we ask to be given ~ to mourn...

ask for space  
we appreciate all the love and support but ~ as we grieve

back down or give her space  
French officials didn't ~, they threatened her (Naomi Osaka)

give her the space  
it's important that we ~ and time she needs (troubled)

given yourself space  
once you've ~, approach the person who harassed you...

give more space  
native English speakers can talk less to ~ to non-native speakers

invading their space  
women felt he was ~ and it was unwanted (a politician)

respect my space  
please ~, you do not have a mask on (noncompliant Black woman to a policeman)

♦ "The first day I was there, everyone tried to do everything for me. But now they give me space. This is a place I can study and achieve my goals." (Mary Bailey, the only female in a welding course with 18 males students.)

♦ "Back off; get out of my face; get your hands off me; I don't need your help..." (Common reactions to those who violate a person's space.)

♦ "If approached by a bear, park officials recommend slowly backing away to put distance between yourself and the animal, creating space for it to pass." (Great Smoky Mountains National Park.)

♦ "When a large animal such as a bison is near, the National Park Service advises people to 'give it space.'" (Woman gored.)

**constraint & lack of constraint: boundary**

## space (groups, etc.)

space where  
we created a ~ it's okay to criticize Israel (BLM)  
anytime I'm in a ~ I'm scared... (a teen debater)  
social media is a ~ authors can... (an advertisement)  
President Trump has opened a ~ people are emboldened

spaces where  
when there are ~ we can flourish... (Black debaters)  
the dearth of ~ you can hear people speak honestly

space of their own  
they made a ~ (opened a lesbian club)

space of the strange  
she hardly the first musician to occupy the ~

space of remembrance and healing  
the Gun Violence Memorial Project is a ~

spaces of employment and education  
our ancestors fought to occupy ~ (a Dunghutti woman)

space of empathy, of love, of understanding, of safety  
we always will work together to create ~ (University of Chicago)

space for (rebellious) artists  
"Political Art" show provides a ~ (Poland)

spaces (in sport) for trans athletes  
I want ~ to be their authentic selves (a trans athlete)

space for honest chats  
it was a ~ (a podcast)

space for cooperation  
we must confront, compete but also leave that ~ (China)

space for people  
I want to contribute to creating a ~ to be heard

space for fiction to develop  
I'm interested in thinking about families as a ~ (V.V. Geneshanathan)

spaces for them to make friends

there aren't a lot of ~ (young gays / exploited on Grindr)

spaces in the 1980s  
lesbian and queer ~ (gay bars)

space racism  
~ associates black neighborhoods, or spaces, with violence

spaces and actors  
misinformation originates from ~ (on the internet)

space and opportunity  
our goal is ensuring ~ for potential protestors (a mayor)  
Banned Books Week provides ~ to talk about censorship

spaces and opportunities  
the demand for "proper" English can be used to shut people out of ~

space and place  
freedom and slavery, ~ (social and cultural analysis)

space and time  
it's important that we give her the ~ she needs (troubled)  
ibogaine can give addicts the ~ they need to make changes

women's spaces  
men's intrusion into ~  
advocating the exclusion of trans women from ~ (group)

our spaces  
women must not allow men into ~ (Women's Movement)

their own space  
you have to let people have ~ (ignore behavior in ghetto)  
you just look past it, because everyone deserves ~ (ghetto)

no space  
there should be ~ for them (mushers who abuse dogs)

so little space  
there is ~, there's such scarcity (a Korean America)

anti-hunger space  
those of us who work in the ~ (director of food pantry)

arts space  
the storied Lower East Side ~ (the Nuyorican Poets Café)

burial spaces  
these cemeteries and ~ are precious black spaces (Burr Oak)

climate-change space  
Good Energy supports movie and TV production in the ~

community space  
for 50 years the store has been that ~ for Chinatown

crypto space  
China has for some time been putting pressure on the ~

drug-treatment space  
people who work in the ~ in Puerto Rico...

fan spaces  
make all Harry Potter ~ safe and welcoming (Gayly)

information space  
the ~ is full of noise (fakes, disinformation, theories)

lesbian spaces  
we honor the history of ~ in the US (lesbian bars)

locker room spaces  
ensure ~ and sports facilities are less homophobic

online space  
TikTok has enabled a lot of people to jump into the ~

possibility space  
climate modelers frame the future as a "~" (vs. apocalypse)

queer spaces  
Desi ~ (South Asians)

white-majority spaces  
some blacks code-switch when entering ~

workspace  
Black people in the ~  
as people return to the ~ (vaccination requirements)

brave space  
the term ~ was first popularized in 2013

civic spaces  
traditional ~ like schools, colleges or workplaces (Gen Z)

commemorative spaces  
less than 1% of our ~ tell Latinx, indigenous stories...

cool spaces  
many are affected by the lack of access to ~ (heatwave)

digital spaces  
~ where the far-right gather...

Digital Spaces  
Performing Arts Education in ~

educational space  
whiteness in ~s (title of session at teachers' conference)  
it also feels like an ~ (lesbian bar with older and younger)

elite spaces  
these kind of microcosms, in these very ~ (a private school)

"free space"  
the term ~ was first used by Harry C. Boyte

geopolitical space  
the Arctic, a new ~ (Kathleen Hicks)

gracious spaces  
~ in school (kids sit knee to knee, discuss concerns)

greenspace  
it is a vital ~ for all New Yorkers (Central Park)

new spaces  
Knight Lab wants to push journalism into ~ (Northwestern)

non-essential spaces  
the mayor has threatened to close all ~ (pandemic)

bipartisan spaces  
veterans' health appears to be one of the few ~ (politics)

political space

being outrageous lets you occupy the ~

powerful spaces  
policymakers and others in ~ (*The Root* online magazine)

public spaces  
recontextualize the country's current ~ and add new ones  
protestors have taken over ~  
attempts to bar Blacks from celebrating in ~ (Juneteenth)  
he's been stopped for skateboarding in ~ before  
removing dangerous explosives from ~ (munitions depots)

sacred space  
he had to reimagine what a ~ looks like (architect)

safe space  
~ is always imaginary  
~s have been credited with producing radical identities  
~s are very powerful sites  
create a ~ at home (kids and post-lockdown anxiety)  
it was a ~ so that they could be themselves (Moms' Club)  
this is not a ~ for people of color (sorority disbands)  
you think you're in a ~ at work (fatal accident on film set)

same space  
you have two national movements competing for the ~  
(Israelis and Palestinians)

smaller space  
to be female is to exist in a ~, to take up less room

social spaces  
~ that offer a sense of safety or security

virtual space  
in a place called Clubhouse, a ~, an app that launched...  
there will be ~a for black and Latino creators (Sundance)

white space  
a ~ that expects her to perform whiteness (high school)

white spaces  
what it means to occupy predominantly ~ while black  
(University of Chicago)

important and fascinating space  
women athletes have carved out an ~ in the podcast  
landscape

large urban space  
Paris is a city with the challenges of any ~

majority white spaces  
misidentifying people of color in ~ (work, media, etc.)

perilous cultural space  
a powerful treatise on the ~ occupied by Black women...

safe and supportive space  
I provide a ~ and a gentle approach (inhabithealingarts)

positive, safe and empowering space  
our goal is to create a ~ where... (Morphe cosmetics)

precious black spaces  
these cemeteries and burial spaces are ~ (Burr Oak crime)

rhetorical and aesthetic space

reclaim and repurpose the ~ of country music (Mali Obomsawin)

tranquil, multi-generational female space  
the ~ of Afsoon's beauty salon (Afghanistan)

virtual digital space  
"inhabiting a black persona" in ~ (digital blackface)

welcome and safe spaces  
~ to students of color (high schools)

2,500-acre space  
20 more elephants are expected at the ~ (Yulee refuge)

representation in all the spaces  
so that we have that ~ (black teen debaters)

dearth of space  
given the ~ where you can hear people speak honestly  
(Clubhouse)

disappearance of lesbian spaces  
the slow ~ (lesbian bars)

intrusion into (women's) spaces  
men's ~

much space left  
there isn't ~ to say you support Israel in the liberal camp

holding space  
I've said ~ without knowing what that means (relationships)

providing a space  
it's about bringing people together, ~ (Chinatown store)

claiming and protecting space  
~ has always been fundamental in anti-racist protest

places and spaces  
an unapologetic focus on Black Folx in these ~

space is shrinking or (in many cases just) evaporating  
their ~ (Blacks in Los Angeles versus Latinos)

access (queer) spaces  
before the pandemic, I could ~ (gay bars)

allow men into our spaces  
women must not ~ (Women's Movement)

arrived at this space  
I wish that I would've ~ in my earlier years (contriteness?)

breach a space  
trying to ~ (2021 riot at Capital)

build spaces  
I wanted to ~ where women could be free and shine (an  
Afghan beauty parlour)

create a space  
I wanted to ~ where everyone can feel safe (bookstore)

create a (safe) space  
~ at home (kids and post-lockdown anxiety)

create spaces

~ for artists, especially LGTBQIA communities of color

dominates that space  
the US ~, whether it's Instagram, Facebook

engaged in that space  
the players, the media and all of those ~ (media / tennis)

gave ourselves the space  
we never really ~ to ask that question (Muslim women)

get into spaces  
DJing or trying to ~ to DJ, I felt very unwelcome (female)

give her the space  
it's important that we ~ and time she needs (troubled)

give the Senate and Congress some space  
he wants to ~ to have that conversation (Biden / guns)

given us space  
the conversation has ~ to say, "I don't agree with..."

grant space  
it's important to ~ to women (a male feminist)

had the space  
we haven't ~ to politically organize (young Palestinian)

held the space  
my dear friend Shameka ~ at Injustice Square for 120 days

learn your (garden) space  
it takes 5 years to ~ (growing a garden)

leave some space  
the ruling seemed to ~ for future lawsuits

make a space  
there is not space for much in the South, so you just have to  
~ (two Black women start a lesbian bar)

made spaces  
these artists ~ where women could share thoughts, feelings

make space  
women shrink to ~ (vs. men, who take space)

negotiate this space  
how to ~ and develop a "cyberspace literacy" (internet)

occupies space  
she unapologetically ~, literally and figuratively (Aidy Bryant)

occupy space  
men spread, utilize and ~ (vs. women)

occupy the (political) space  
being outrageous lets you ~

occupy that space  
I had to research him before I could ~ (actor about a role)

occupy predominantly white spaces  
what it means to ~ while black (University of Chicago)

opening up this space

her case is ~ to have these conversations where... (mental health and tennis)

putting pressure on the (crypto) space  
China has for some time been ~

reclaims the (genre) space  
the creator ~ for people of color (a horror film)

reclaiming space  
Ashley Minner, ~ for the Lumbee Indians of Baltimore

share a space  
figuring out how to ~ with predatory people (artwork)

take (their own) space  
black characters leisurely ~ (the artist Elizabeth Colomba)

take up space  
seeing ourselves, it creates the momentum to ~ (blacks)  
men are not ashamed to ~ in the world  
white women have always been allowed to ~ in Black music

take up (less) space  
women have been taught to ~ in a patriarchal world (be quiet, be small)

take up (more) space  
I try to cry quietly so that I don't ~ (Robin DiAngelo)

take up (too much) space  
they are supposed to be contained, docile and not ~ (girls)

shut people out of spaces  
the demand for "proper English" can be used to ~ and opportunities

struggle for, occupy, craft, and mark space  
~ in order to establish ownership and autonomy

♦ "I have said 'holding space' to my friends without even fully understanding what that means." (Rebecca Fishbein. From "Therapy speak' is everywhere, but it may make us less empathetic," NPR, All Things Considered, April 13, 2023.)

♦ "When you're in a position in which you are a distinct minority, then there is a sense in which within a majority white culture you do start to see other people of color as rivals rather than as allies. Because there is so little space for you, there's such scarcity, and so you fight with other people who are of your same identity in order to get the spoils." (Korean American author Julia Lee, author of *Biting the Hand: Growing Up Asian in Black and White America*. From "'Biting the Hand': Korean American author calls for weaponizing invisibility," NPR, Morning Edition, April 19, 2023.)

♦ "[H]ow you choose to cultivate and represent that space—whether real or imagined—matters." ("21 Hip-Hop Albums That Reflected The Politics Of Race, Space And Place in 2017" by Rodney Carmichael, Bobby Carter, Jenny Gathright, Sidney Madden, Mosi Reeves, and Steffanee Wang, NPR, Best Music Of 2017, December 28, 2017.)

♦ "That was a direct result of her uplifting our space during her conversation." (Fawn Pochel, who identifies as First Nations Ojibwe, about a speech by Cutcha Risling Baldy at Dominican University that resulted in \$200 in "unexpected" donations to the First Nations Garden.)

♦ "Space is a feminist issue."

♦ "Orchestras have traditionally been a pretty white space." (Diversity, equity and inclusion / DEI.)

♦ "I'm wondering how can [sic] a shared sense of space be created in places where Black and brown people are literally sharing the same physical space. I mean sharing being economically marginalized, overpoliced, unrepresented in big issues that affect both of them..." ("What the city council scandal reveals about LA's racial divides—and Solidarity," NPR, Morning Edition, Oct 14, 2022.)

♦ “I try to cry quietly so that I don’t take up more space.” (Robin DiAngelo. She coined the term “White fragility” which has been characterized as silence, defensiveness, argumentation, certitude, and pushback.)

♦ “For Anders, although his newly brown skin is a constant physical reminder that he’s no longer who he used to be, the greatest change may be in his psyche. He’s now acutely aware of otherness and being observed, how he moves in the world and how he takes up space. When he returns to work...he’s both drawn to and repulsed by the only other dark-skinned employee, who, unlike him, has always known what it’s like to be treated as both invisible and hypervisible.” (Cady Lang’s *Time* review of *The Last White Man* by Mohsin Hamid, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Exit West*. This paragraph deftly weaves together several tropes relating to inclusion and exclusion.)

♦ “I want spaces in sport for trans athletes to be their authentic selves and compete at the highest level, and know they are loved and that they belong there.” (Chris Mosier, about transgender athletes at the Tokyo Olympics.)

♦ “The space of play, playing with dolls, the space of creating worlds with dolls is that space of dreaming. And now kids get to dream with a Laverne Cox Barbie, the first transgender Barbie—that is a beautiful space of dreaming and possibility.” (“Laverne Cox honoured as first transgender Barbie, BBC, 26 May, 2022. That’s a lot of space!”)

♦ “Harrison announced that his would be a safe space and also a brave space where everybody could say things that were hard to say, without being judged.” (“Guns Down: With the number of shooting deaths rising, Shaina Harrison is teaching kids to turn anger into advocacy,” by Ian Frazier, *The New Yorker*, April 5, 2021. Harrison was addressing ninth graders.)

♦ “We’ve given them the flexibility to kind of determine what their spaces look like...you know, do they want to do rows...?” (Qynne Kelly, Associate Principal at Lincoln High School, Des Moines, about the guidelines teachers have for setting up their classrooms during the pandemic.)

♦ “We feel very proud to be Asian here, and we want to share kind of culture and space with each other but also with the rest of the city.” (Joanne Kwong, President, Pearl River Mart.)

♦ “People have become accustomed to more car-free spaces during the pandemic.” (Cities block streets so restaurant patrons can dine in the road, socially spaced. Ordinarily, this would be express as “car-free zones.”)

♦ “It’s so unfortunate that marginalized communities are in competition for the tiny allotment of space that society gives them.” (Ani DiFranco.)

♦ “Watts (2001) has made the argument that to have a voice an agent must find a space where the voice can be concretized... The connection between voice and space becomes particularly critical when such a space is denied in the real world through marginalizing forces and a new space needs to be carved out.” (“Voices of the Marginalized on the Internet” by Ananda Mitra.)

♦ “Black folk have always been aware that we’ve been excluded and othered. Even in spaces we’ve managed to create for ourselves, [non-Black] people violently infiltrate and occupy these spaces with no respect to the architects who built it.” (Eric Louis, age 21, a Black TikTok “creator” who helped to organize the #BlackTikTokStrike, to protest cultural appropriation and preferential treatment.)

♦ “I think the superpower of a Black Woman is to occupy the space in the fullness of who she is.” (The actress Aisha Hinds.)

♦ “The industry caught up to my ambitions and created space for me to have my voice.” (“Faces of NPR HBCU Edition: Kia Miakka Natisse,” Sommer Hill, NPR, February 16, 2022.)

♦ “It really is an unusual space in which we can come together and socialize and it doesn’t feel anything like Zoom.” (The 2021 virtual Sundance Film Festival.)

♦ “NPR arts editor Nina Gregory was an early adopter of Clubhouse—which she calls the ‘third space’ during the pandemic. The third space isn’t home or work, she says, but rather acts as the coffee shops, bars, parks and other places where we connect with other people.” (“What Is Clubhouse? The Popular Audio-Based Social Media App, Explained” by Tonya Mosley and Allison Hagan, WBUR, Feb. 10, 2021. Clubhouse is based around voice communication.)

♦ “Yeah, you’re in a world, right, I mean, you’re in something like a fantasy or a dream, and we all have that interior space all the time, but to

get to go into someone else’s interior space, how incredible is that?” (Miranda July.)

♦ Lulu Garcia-Navarro: Before we get to your new music, uh, I do want to talk to you about this meme about listening to *Girl in Red*. What does it feel like, sort of holding this space in LGBTQ and Gen Z culture? / Marie Ulven: Uh, I think it’s really dope because... (“Marie Ulven Talks TikTok Fame, Sexuality And Her New Album,” NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, May 2, 2021.)

♦ “I studied theater, but I was focused on being an actor, and I noted that people seemed to have a very narrow view of what kind of space my body could occupy on stage—and I found that really frustrating. I decided to write plays.” (The playwright Aleshea Harris.)

♦ “This girl in jean shorts standing in her house with eleven men. Like the female body in that space was what drew me to this for sure.” (Tina Satter, theater director, about *Is This a Room: Reality Winner Verbatim Transcription*.)

♦ “I wanted to create a safe space not in the sometimes trite sense we see the term used, but a true and sacred space for all our queer family to feel safe enough for freedom, fun, and cathartic self-expression. I wanted to build an antidote for the Trump era. I wanted to build all of us a home.” (Frankie Sharp, who is suing his former partners at The Q, one of New York City’s largest LGBTQ nightclubs. So much for “a true and sacred space for all our queer family.”)

♦ “The assertions are strident, and the vocabulary is esoteric (‘harm,’ ‘insurrection’) as if it were translated from a foreign language. In a sense, it is. The language is legalese, and it is designed to build a foundation upon which a company can be held liable under civil-rights law in an American court. This activist tactic has been widely misunderstood... The word ‘safe’ is carefully chosen. It gestures at certain specific kinds of negligence for which a university could pay dearly in a court of law.” (“The Inequality of ‘Equity,’” by Christopher Caldwell, *National Review*, May 17, 2021.)

♦ “Area; the public *domain*; a safe and secure *environment*; the school is a safe *haven*; public *place* (Wikipedia entry); a gathering *place* (like a high-school cafeteria, bars, coffee houses); the *workplace*; a parking *place*; the public *realm*; give the bear plenty of *room*; I don’t have any *room* in my life for...; a *crawl space* under the house; office *space*; floor *space*; a tight *space* in a cave; a *space* (compartment) inside a ship; personal *space*; not enough *space* in the car or in the trunk of the car; a *space* of time; “He stole *space* in the penalty area”; “he controlled the ring *space* / boxing); outer *space*; public *sphere* (Wikipedia entry); a parking *spot*; he was in a bad *state* mentally; a car-free *zone*... (Conventional, ordinary uses of *area*, *domain*, *environment*, *haven*, *place*, *realm*, *room*, *space*, *sphere*, *spot*, *state*, *zone*, etc.

**inclusion & exclusion: possession**

**contempo-speak: language**

**space (space of time)**

bittersweet space of time

she lived her dream if only for a ~ (Madalyn Davis)

**amount: space**

**time: amount**

**spade (in spades)**

provides them in spades

sport ~ (so-called culture-war controversies)

♦ Merriam-Webster says this relates to the suit of cards, NOT shovels, and Merriam-Webster is a dictionary you can trust! It means a large quantity or a high degree.

♦ “Morocco have brought back the beautiful game to the world in spade loads.” (An online commenter about the Qatar World Cup. An eggcorn? A mangling of a cliché? A non-native English speaker? Who knows?)

**amount / amount & effect: cards**

**spaghetti (snarl)**

“Spaghetti Junction”

the notorious ~ is a 4-level stack interchange (Atlanta)

spaghetti plots  
these are the ~ (storm approaches coast / weather report)

bowl of spaghetti  
it's a ~, it's difficult to untangle (competing interests)

**complexity / configuration / resemblance: food & drink**

### span (lifespan, etc.)

life spans have declined  
~ due to COVID

♦ The distance between the thumb and little finger.

**measurement / time: distance**

### span (verb)

spanned five decades  
his career ~

**extent & scope / measurement: distance / hand**

### spar (verb)

sparred over education and immigration  
the candidates ~ (politics)

Republicans and Democrats sparred  
~ during the third day of impeachment hearings

**conflict: boxing / verb**

### spare (a minute to spare, etc.)

see *time (a minute to spare, etc.)*

### spark (verb)

sparked attention  
the "frog vaccine" has ~ among foreign researchers

sparked a (land) boom  
the lure of cheap homesteads and easy money ~

sparked a (wild) celebration  
his winning penalty kick ~ (soccer)

spark conflicts  
fences could ~ over access to water (nomads)

spark conversation  
it will ~ and educate people (Aboriginal flag on bridge)

sparked a conversation  
his death has ~ around the treatment of sumo wrestlers

spark conversations  
the shootings should ~ about mental health, violence...

sparked his imagination  
reading science fiction ~

spark (media) interest  
parental kidnappings do not ~ (of kids)

sparked a (major) inquiry  
her death ~

spark interest

these clouds continue to ~ (Noctilucent Clouds)

spark a new interest  
sometimes learning will ~

sparked an outcry  
his remarks ~ (racism)

sparked outrage  
the killing ~ around the world  
the shooting was captured on video, and ~ across the city

sparking outrage  
the Israeli raid is ~ around the world

sparked a recall  
ignition problems ~ (automobile company)

sparked resentment  
Chinese investment has ~ in Karachi (Sind)

sparked an (intense) search  
her disappearance ~ that ended when...

sparked an uproar  
his dismissal ~ on campus (popular coach Bobby Knight)  
her transgender talk ~ (a Canadian feminist)

spark (widespread) violence  
elections could ~ (Ivory Coast)

sparked a war  
the border dispute ~ (Eritrea and Ethiopia)

sparked a wildfire  
a single protest ~ (1848)

sparks the wildfire  
Virginia will be the match that ~ of change (politics)

spark or reinforce  
these stores can ~ the "Hillbilly" stereotype

**initiation: fire / verb**

### spark (noun)

spark  
the taunts were the ~, underlying resentment the fuel

spark for his comeback  
the rivalry was the ~ (a rapper)

small spark  
the clash showed how a ~ could ignite another war

signs of a spark  
her campaign never caught fire or even showed ~

sparks erupted  
those ~ into a bonfire of civic rage

sparks flew  
they had different ideas about money, and ~ (a couple)  
~ during the debate

keep the spark alive  
the dreams of what were ahead helped ~ for me (love)

put that spark in me  
he ~ that made me want to be a scientist

created a (much-needed) spark  
his visit ~ and drew the world's attention to the Bronx

♦ "My question was surely just a spark but the response was an earthquake." (The Italian journalist Riccardo Ehrman about his role in the fall of the Berlin Wall.)

**initiation: fire**

## spark (spark of hope, etc.)

spark of hope  
the ~ is getting smaller, but it hasn't gone out

**amount: fire / light & dark**

## sparkling (superlative)

sparkling form  
the Watford keeper was in absolutely ~ against West Ham

**superlative: light & dark**

## spark plug

team's spark plug  
he's the ~

**initiation: electricity**

## sparring partner (role)

verbal sparring partner  
she is his ~ and confidant

**help & assistance: boxing / person**

## Sparta (Sparta of the North, etc.)

Sparta of the North  
Prussia is often called the ~ (a militaristic society)

♦ "This small black Sparta..." (The Victorian traveller Richard Burton, about Dahomey, which he visited in 1863. From "War: How Conflict Shaped Us by the historian and Reith Lecturer Margaret MacMillan.)

**military: epithet**

## Spartacus (the Black Spartacus, etc.)

Black Spartacus  
the ~ died in the Swiss mountains (Toussaint Louverture)

**military: epithet**

## Spartan (Spartans of Australasia, etc.)

Spartans of Australasia  
by 1876 the ~ were extinct (Tasmanians / Mark Twain)

**comparison & contrast / military: epithet**

## spartan (adjective)

spartan  
my room was very ~

spartan way  
the Marine Corps, true to its ~s...  
Fox News reported it, very briefly, in a sort of very ~ (NPR)

spartan and claustrophobic  
the Schwartz's flat was ~

♦ Dressed in rags; boots held together by medical tape; not enough food; not enough water; not enough rest or sleep; not enough ammunition; severely depleted ranks; outnumbered by enemy; outgunned by enemy; not enough space for them inside a firebase; too few medals awarded... (US marines defending the DMZ in 1967, the Vietnam War.)

**size: allusion**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## spasm (noun)

spasms of bloodshed  
~ continue (violent drug gangs)

convulsed in a spasm  
for 3 minutes the casino ~ of violence (biker riot)

**affliction: health & medicine / movement**

**activity: health & medicine / movement**

## spasmodic (adjective)

spasmodic (sectarian) slaughter  
during the ~ of 2006-2007 (Iraq)

**activity / affliction / starting, going, continuing & ending:  
health & medicine / movement**

## spawn (verb)

spawned controversy  
the agency has ~ (Darpa)

spawned a generation  
tanning beds ~ of tanning addicts

spawned a series of memes  
Kim Kardashian's look ~ on social media (Met Gala 2021)

spawned a (TV) miniseries  
the book ~

spawned an (Oscar-winning) movie  
her book ~ (*To Kill a Mockingbird*)

spawned (a great wave of) philanthropy  
Carnegie, Rockefeller and Mellon ~

spawned QAnon  
the site ~, the conspiracy theory (an internet website)

spawned terrorism  
the Taliban's militancy has ~ inside Pakistan

spawned three tornadoes  
severe weather ~

spawn (real-world) violence  
hate speech and incitement can ~

spawned (monster) waves  
the hurricane ~ that toppled beach houses

**creation & transformation: animal / birth / fish / verb**

## spawned

spawned by the war

the terrorism ~ in Chechnya

**creation & transformation: animal / birth / fish**

## **speak (the people have spoken, etc.)**

spoke

people in Massachusetts ~ (elections)

spoken

the people of this nation have ~ (election)

**judgment: speech**

## **speak (carry a message)**

speaks truth to power

he ~

speaks to people

she ~ (Lizzo)

speak louder

actions ~ than words

internet has spoken

once again, the ~ and *Pretty Little Liars* is trending

let the bones speak

my job is to ~ (a forensic anthropologist)

**message: speech / verb**

## **speak (NASA-speak, etc.)**

FAA-speak

nicknamed, in typical ~, “Flow Control” (panes aloft)

I.S.A.-speak

it is referred to in ~ as the Area (Intl. Seabed Authority)

NASA-speak

entry, descent and land, or EDL in ~

PR-speak

it sounds like ~ (reason for downsizing cereal)

PR speak

what we saw was the real AJ stripped of his ~ (boxing)

TESOL-speak

for a roasting of ~, read... (see below)

corporate speak

a shift away from ~ (LinkedIn’s “new emotional tone”)

“chatspeak”

what Geoff Nunberg calls ~ (texting)

doublespeak

see *doublespeak* (noun)

leetspeak

the title of PEN15, the Hulu series, is an example of ~

newspeak

see *newspeak* (noun)

prosecutor-speak

usually “inspection” is ~ for a shakedown (Russia)

therapy speak

~ is everywhere, but it may make us less empathetic

this kind of clinical sounding ~ language...

is ~ making us selfish (Rebecca Fishbein / *Bustle*)

waterspeak

Dressel is fluent in ~ (the swimmer Caeleb Dressel)

bureaucratic-speak

turning obtuse ~ into plain language (journalism)

contempo-speak

the gentle interrogative is ~ (written in 2008)

corporate-speak

Kendall’s buzzword-laden ~ (TV series *Succession*)

feminist-speak

the new ~ (“her large dose of Woman Truth” / 1972)

new speak

“abs” is ~ for buttocks, right? (see below)

political speak

turning ~ into plain language (journalism)

social speak

corporate ~ all sounds the same (culture wars)

upspeak

see *upspeak* (*contempo-speak*)

♦ For a first-rate roasting of “TESOL-speak,” read “Gobbledygook: The proliferation of jargon in English language teaching” by Joshua D. Bernstein, *tesol journal*, surprisingly not (yet) hidden behind the TESOL / WILEY paywall.)

♦ “This kind of clinical sounding therapy speak language is all over the place in the U.S. these days, including personal relationships.” (“Therapy speak’ is everywhere, but it may make us less empathetic,” NPR, *All Things Considered*, April 13, 2023.)

♦ “So I interviewed a lot of people for this story, and some of the people that I interviewed said, you know, I’ve also done this, and it’s not even intentional it’s just when you’ve been saturated with some of the phrases—either you’re in therapy or you watch a lot of therapy TikTok—it can come out in your conversations with your friends. I have said “holding space” to my friends without even fully understanding what that means. But it’s not that people are intentionally being cruel to their friends or trying to sound like a therapist, it’s trending, it’s in the lexicon.” (Rebecca Fishbein. From “Therapy speak’ is everywhere, but it may make us less empathetic,” NPR, *All Things Considered*, April 13, 2023. Rebecca notes that therapy-speak might be picked up from a mental health professional, social media to include therapy TikTok, or from talking to one’s friends.)

♦ “I certainly would not say that we won’t see another test article dramatically and excitingly disassemble.” (Space industry analyst and BryceTech CEO and founder Carissa Bryce Christensen, speaking to NPR’s “A” Martinez. From “Why SpaceX staff cheered when the Starship rocket exploded,” NPR, *Morning Edition*, April 21, 2023.)

♦ “PEN15, write out the title, you’ll get it, has begun its second season on Hulu...” (A well-briefed Scott Simon of NPR. This is an example of leetspeak.)

♦ “I’m digging those abs. “Abs” is new speak for buttocks, right?” (A funny “What do you think?” comment by James on a picture of EmRata wearing a tiny giraffe-print string bikini. Cheeky!)

♦ “A tale of two pandemics’ (October 22<sup>nd</sup>) abbreviated life expectancy as LE. This is an example of today’s trend towards too much abbreviation (TMA). This makes it harder to read (HTR) than if you were to spell everything out (SEO). Please get off the TMA bandwagon and just SEO to make your writing ETR. TYVM.” (Richard Taylor, the Woodlands, Texas. Printed in the Letters section of *The Economist*, November 19, 2022, under the title “Capital idea.”)

♦ Old: the spacecraft blew up in flight... / New: the spacecraft experienced a rapid unscheduled disassembly...

♦ see also *boilerplate* (noun), *buzzword* (noun), *ese* (legalese, etc.), *funny language*, *language* (types), *lip service* (pay lip service, etc.), *supersizing* (linguistic supersizing), *talk* (mediator talk, etc.), *word salad*

**speech: affix**

**language: speech**

## **Speak for (speak for itself, etc.)**

speak for itself

we hope the evidence will ~  
the crime scene appeared to ~ (murder-suicide)

speaks for itself

the subpoena ~  
our work ~ (World Health Organization)  
the video ~ (of an arrest by police)  
the verdict ~ (no broader MeToo implications)  
the video ~, the video's not going to change (police shooting)

speak for themselves

the test results ~  
he expected his deeds to ~ (Roald Amundsen)  
the evidence and the facts ~

spoke for themselves

his results ~ (the surgeon Harvey Cushing)

spoke for itself

his silence ~ (politician loses electoral vote)

♦ "Volcanoes like to speak in low-frequency sounds that humans can't perceive called infrasound. So we developed sensors that we can deploy to listen to the volcanos talk to us." (Dr. Jeffrey B. Johnson, Boise State volcanologist and National Geographic Explorer, about the Masaya Volcano in Nicaragua.)

**evidence: speech / verb**

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

## **Speak out (verb)**

speak out against (perceived) injustices

she feels compelled to ~

spoke out with a (contrary) opinion

we ~

speak out and be heard

it is time for the Aboriginal community to ~ (*Koori Mail*)

♦ "People wrote about women speaking out with prayerful reverence, as if speech itself could bring women freedom." (Jia Tolentino.)

♦ For proverbs about the dangers of speech, see *tongue* (danger).

**resistance, opposition & defeat: speech / verb**

## **Speak to (speak to something)**

speaks to our anxieties

the film ~ about AI (M3GAN)

speak to anyone

the film will ~ who ever wanted to board a train and escape

speak to the imagination

lighthouses ~

speak to this moment

the film doesn't ~ in history

speaks to the women

Emirates Woman is a magazine that ~ of today

speak to anyone, anywhere, at any time

the questions ~ (philosophy)

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

## **Speak up (verb)**

speak up

they were too scared to ~ (a corporation)  
a manager warned her not to ~

spoke up

he ~ and said, "This man is not qualified"  
she was glad that she ~

speaks up and amplifies

the *Koori Mail* ~ Black voices (Australian newspaper)

courage to speak up

the importance of having the ~ (military)

♦ "Each and every one of us has to step up, speak up, stand up, do something." (Arnitia Holliman, director of the Milwaukee Office of Violence and Prevention.)

♦ For proverbs about the dangers of speech, see *tongue* (danger).

**resistance, opposition & defeat: speech / verb**

## **Spear (tip of the spear)**

sharp end of the spear

the EOD team is the ~ to suppress roadside bombings

"tip of the spear"

they will be the ~ if America invades Iraq

tip of the spear of the armored column

the ~ (7th Cavalry Regiment)

tip of the spear of fighting

these two agencies are supposed to be the ~ this pandemic

tip of Iran's spear

he was the ~ in the Middle East (Qasem Soleimani)

♦ "The best way to keep the blade sharp is to use it."

**driving force: military / weapon**

## **Spearhead (verb)**

spearhead the Orange Revolution

Ms. Tymoshenko helped ~ (Yulia)

spearhead a campaign

he called on radiologists to ~ to reduce dosages

spearheading the drive

she is ~ to get him elected

spearheading the initiative

Brazil, France, Mexico and Norway are ~

spearhead the project

he helped ~ (downtown revitalization)

looking to spearhead  
we are ~ a major shift...

**driving force: weapon / verb**

## spearhead (noun)

spearhead of a (new) economy  
energy is the ~

spearhead of globalization  
the W.T.O. is the ~

spearhead of the (democratic) movement  
Solidarity was the ~ in Eastern Europe

spearhead for (Islam's) advance  
the Sufis were the ~ into South Asia

**driving force: weapon**

## special (as noun)

special happens  
when you take a chance, that's when ~

**characterization: part of speech**

## species (type)

different species  
these heavyweights these days are a ~ (size and weight)

birth of a new species  
we're living through the ~ of skyscraper (supertalls)

♦ "These heavyweights these days are a different species." (Comment by a boxer about the new bridgerweight / Bridger-weight division.)

♦ "As a species, apps are hard to trust."

**taxonomy & classification: animal**

## species (vanishing species)

vanishing species  
he's a ~ (moderate Republican)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: animal**

## speck (amount)

speck of shade  
this is not throwing a ~ at LeBron James... (sports talk)

**amount: mark**

## speckled (configuration)

speckled with ships  
the harbor of San Francisco was ~

speckled with copses and farmhouses  
rolling fields ~

speckled trout  
the ~ (brook trout)

♦ Animals might be banded, dappled, marbled, mottled, ringed, speckled, spotted, stippled, striped, and even spectacted!

**configuration: mark**

## specter (noun)

specter of Sept. 11  
he is haunted by the ~

specter of defeat  
incumbents face the ~ (elections)

specter of war  
the ~ is rising

ugly specter  
the deal raises the ~ of conflict of interest

specter (of the past) lingers  
the ~

specter (of eating disorder) haunts  
the ~ many dancers

confront the specter  
once again, Americans ~ of impeachment (politics)

confronts the specter  
he ~ of mortality (aging)

facing the specter  
he is ~ of death

raises the specter  
rising crime ~ of the bad old days (Newark)  
rising corn prices ~ of higher prices for beef and pork...

haunted by the specter  
he is ~ of Hurricane Katrina

♦ "Before the *scepter* [italics mine] of climate change ever reared up..." (Oops! Confusion of the two words *specter* and *scepter*? Misreading a text? An "eggcorn"? Who knows...)

**affliction: creature**

## speed (up to speed)

up to speed on the details  
I'm sorry, I'm not ~

up to speed on that  
I'm not ~

time to get up to speed  
new hires need ~

bring him up to speed  
his advisors will ~ on the details (president)

get new workers up to speed  
experienced employees can help ~ quickly

keep its algorithm up to speed  
he has struggled to ~ (YouTube)

**functioning / speed: mechanism / movement**

**condition & status: mechanism / movement**

## speed (full speed ahead)

full speed ahead  
it will be ~ but not in a rushed way (vaccine rollout)  
the hype train chugged ~

**speed: boat**

## speed (supersonic speed, etc.)

*Speed of Light*

*Life at the ~* (a book by Craig Venter)

lightning speed

Omicron is spreading at ~

supersonic speed

jetpack technology has been evolving at ~

**speed: movement / plane**

## spell (spell disaster, etc.)

spells disaster

this ~ for urban peace (unemployment, guns, etc.)

spell disaster

unattended daily challenges could ~ (Velux 5 race)

spells doom

contact with outsiders often ~ for isolated tribes

spell trouble

four of these symptoms could ~ (panic disorder)

spells trouble

I think the whole thing ~ for the president (investigation)

spell (job-search) woes

bad credit can ~

♦ *The writing is on the wall...*

**fate, fortune & chance: writing & spelling / verb**

**future / time: religion / writing & spelling / verb**

## spell (under a spell)

under her spell

she brought employees, investors and journalists ~ (fraud)

under the (nonconformist) spell of Thoreau

he fell ~ (Andrew Martinez)

falls under its spell

everyone ~ (a panda)

fell under its spell

I quickly ~ (a book)

fell under Kelly's spell

she ~ (sex abuse)

fell under Frederick's spell

other former students who ~ (Bennington College)

**feeling, emotion & effect: magic**

**attraction & repulsion: magic**

## spell (cast a spell)

cast a spell on a ball

he seemed to ~ (Juninho / soccer)

cast a spell over the (rapt) audience

he ~ (a pianist)

**feeling, emotion & effect: magic / verb**

## spell (in a dry spell)

in a dry spell

I was ~, lacking imagination and incentive (an artist)

six-month dry spell

having been in a ~... (dating)

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant / rain / weather & climate**

## spell (into a dry spell)

fell into a (long) dry spell

he ~ (athlete)

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant / rain / weather & climate**

## spell (throughout a dry spell)

throughout that dry spell

~ he showed composure (golfer)

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant / rain / weather & climate**

## spell (dry spell / other)

dry spell ended

and then the long ~ (investments and buying)

ended his dry spell

the goal ~ (sports)

**growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant / rain / weather & climate**

## spellbinding (adjective)

spellbinding story

the play was the concluding chapter in a ~ (series)

spellbinding mug shot

we look at his ~ and wonder why he did it (murder)

**attachment / feeling, emotion & effect: magic**

## spellbound (adjective)

spellbound

I watched her, ~

she listened ~ to his account

spellbound by (Old English) poetry

he was ~ (Auden)

stunned and spellbound

he confessed all he had done to a ~ courtroom

held us spellbound

she ~ (an actor's performance)

kept the crew spellbound

the aurora ~ for hours (the Far North)

**attachment / feeling, emotion & effect: magic**

## spelled out

spelled out in the handbook  
the policy is ~ distributed to every....

policy is spelled out  
the ~ in the handbook distributed to every...

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: writing & spelling / letters & characters**

## spelling (language)

Cheifs'  
Patrick Mahomes throws during the ~ Super Bowl win

jolt's  
earthquake ~ California's Humboldt County (ABC)

Caucuses  
small communities remain in the ~ (in Azerbaijan)

course  
we had some rather ~ and agitated people... (Bostonians)

dear  
antlers shed by ~ near Humboldt, Kansas (ABC)

do  
with all do respect

steps  
in the ~ of Kazakhstan (NPR transcript)

tale  
Sanderson slipped that rope over the fish's ~ (NPR transcript)

Trial  
the Appalachian ~ (trail / an eggcorn?)

week  
it was already ~ (his ankle / *New York Post*)

probably cause  
the ~ affidavit sheds light on... (probable cause)

tow the line  
trying to ~ (toe the line)

♦ "Trying to tow the line." (See "Johnson Death nails and foul swoops," *The Economist*, July 17th, 2021. See also "Politics and the English Language" by George Orwell, 1946.)

♦ "It's Boston after all, so we had some rather course and agitated people who were willing to voice their displeasure in a colorful way." (An eggcorn? "Par for the course?")

♦ Archway (to Ryan). And the word you were looking for is spelled "you're," Cletus. / Ryan (to Archway). And *you're* still a weakling suburban white nerd who got shoved in lockers. (*Cletus* is a derogatory term for a yokel.)

♦ What do we want? *Spellcheck!* When do we want it? *Cow!*

♦ DYSLEXICS OF THE WORLD UNTIE!

♦ This sort of language has many possible explanations.

**language: spelling**

## spell out (verb)

spells out what

nothing in the law ~ to do with a student like her

spell out fees  
contracts that don't ~ or... (assisted living)

spell it out  
do I have to ~ in every ugly detail

spells (all) this out  
the contract ~....

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: writing & spelling / letters & characters / verb**

## spend (time)

see *time* (*spend time*)

## spend (spend energy, etc.)

spent a lot of energy  
they ~ in the search

**cost & benefit: money / verb**

## spendthrift (person)

spendthrift southerners  
the scheme pits ~ against skinflint northerners (Europe)

**money: person**

## spew (speech)

spewed venom  
she ~ (neurotic woman)

hate-spewing  
~ crazies rarely care about the facts

**speech: bodily reaction / verb**

**throwing, putting & planting: bodily reaction / verb**

## sphere (cryptosphere, etc.)

blogosphere  
see *blogosphere*

cryptosphere  
institutions that act as gatekeepers for the ~

manosphere  
navigating the ~ (incels)

mediasphere  
the Chinese ~ has become more pro-Russian

picklesphere  
Tom Dundon's takeover of the PPA rocked the ~ (sport)

scentosphere  
the ~, scentscapes, the "osmocism" (*New Yorker* article)

**area / environment / language: affix**

## sphere (in the sphere)

in the economic sphere  
~, things don't look good (pandemic)

in the informational sphere  
we must clamp down on criminal activity ~ (ransomware)  
♦ see also *space*, which seems increasingly more popular.

area / environment: earth & world

## sphinx (noun)

sphinx of Washington  
the silent ~ finally spoke at length (Robert Mueller)

Washington sphinx  
for two years he was a ~, silent and mysterious (Mueller)

♦ His years as a senior member of the president's cabinet, facing down threats like the Soviet Union at the height of the Cold War, had made him a cipher..." (*Bad Blood* by John Carreyrou.)

♦ "Hurbinek was a nobody, a child of death, a child of Auschwitz... Henek...sat beside the little sphinx... / Hurbinek died in the first days of March 1945, free but not redeemed. Nothing remains of him: he bears witness through these words of mine." (*If This Is A Man* by Primo Levi.)

character & personality: creature / statue

## spice up (verb)

spice up your sex life  
10 ways to ~

amelioration & renewal: food & drink / verb

## spicy (adjective)

spicy  
Khan vs. Brook, it's going to be ~ (boxing)

spicy comedy  
why do you choose that brand of ~ (Sommore)

spicy stuff  
she didn't know a lot about sex, the "~" (pastor's daughter)

spicy trends  
~ (Ad / internet clickbait)

consumption: food & drink / taste

## spider (Eljif "the Spider" Elmas, etc.)

known as the Spider  
he is ~ for his long legs (Eljif Elmas, North Macedonia)

epithet: spider

resemblance: epithet / spider

## spider (Spider Rock, etc.)

Spider  
they climbed "the ~," the snow-filled cracks (the Eiger)  
the "~" towers above Upper Pine Lake (Colorado peak)

Spider Cave  
~ contains a pictograph of "Spiderman" (Michigan)

Spider Rock  
~ is associated with Spider Woman (Canyon de Chelly)

♦ Spider Rock is a spire in the Canyon de Chelly on the Navajo Nation in Arizona, near the town of Chinle. It is associated with the Spider Woman. In one legend, she eats misbehaving children and leaves their bones scattered about. If you visit, be sure and tell your children not to misbehave or litter, and why...

proper name: animal / insect / spider  
geography: animal / insect / proper name / spider  
**spider hole (military)**

spider holes  
the ~ in which snipers may still be hiding (Vietnam)

military: insect / place / hole

## spigot (open / close, etc.)

cash spigots  
his Iowa performance won't open any ~ (election)

loan spigot  
lenders opened the ~ (home loans and foreclosures)

gushing (federal) spigot  
many voters don't want to shut off the ~ (deficit)

spending spigot  
the ~ must close (government spending)

man at the spigot  
Yamani was the ~ (Saudi oil / 1973)

open the (military-spending) spigot  
the Cold War helped to ~

shut off the spigot  
they are trying to ~ of Russian boar (invasive species)

♦ "We should put money into the economy. The question is how much. If your bathtub isn't full, you should turn your faucet on. But that doesn't mean you should turn it on as hard as you can and as long as you can." (Lawrence Summers, speaking about economic stimulus during the COVID pandemic. Not for nothing is economics referred to as "the dismal science.")

supplying: infrastructure / water

constraint & lack of constraint: water

## spike (increase)

spiked last week  
gun and ammunition sales ~

increase & decrease: shape / verb

## spike (spike in business, etc.)

spike in business  
dollar stores are seeing a ~

spike in demand  
we can expect a ~ (housing market)

spike in its traffic  
the new ~ began early Sunday in the US (a hashtag)

increase & decrease: number / shape

## spill (and spill out, etc.)

spilled out  
US special forces troops ~ of C-130s...

spilled out into their back yard  
trash ~ (hoarders)

spilled into the streets  
outrage ~ (protests)

spilled (out) into the streets  
people ~ (earthquake)

spill across the border  
problems from Somalia ~ (into Kenya)

spilled over the border into Chad  
the Darfur conflict has ~

spill over into other countries  
he believes this trend will ~, including...

spill over onto MSRs  
take action to ensure refugees do not ~ (military)

spilled over the border  
its forces opened fire when the fighting ~ (Thailand)

spilled into Virginia  
none of the protests ~ (from D.C. / IMF / World Bank)

**amount & effect: water / verb**

**leaking / movement: water / verb**

**spill out (speech, emotions, etc.)**

spilled out  
she pauses briefly before the words ~

spills out  
her indignation ~, but soon she calms down and...

♦ "I heard myself say to him, 'Could you tell me something about your mother?...' And he said, 'It's funny that you should ask me that... I remember...!' Out of him spilled and tumbled the essence of what is now in the first chapter of the *Autobiography of Malcolm X*." (Alex Haley, speaking to Terry Gross about Malcolm X.)

**speech: container / verb / water**

**feeling, emotion & effect: container / verb / water**

**spin (spin out of control)**

spinning out of control  
digital downloading and copying is ~  
his personal life seemed to be ~  
Nairobi is ~ (crime)

spun out of control  
the argument ~

**control & lack of control: movement / plane / verb**

**spin (message / verb)**

spinning this in a way  
they are ~ that looks good for them

spin the data  
they are trying to ~ that plays to their narrative (politics)

**message / subterfuge: movement / verb**

**spin (message / noun)**

spin  
where does the science end and the ~ begin (COVID)

political spin  
all the ~ in the world won't change that...

put an alarmist spin on the story  
the reporter ~, as though the company were in bad shape

seen through the spin  
I think that people have ~ (of powerful sex abusers)

**message / subterfuge: movement**

**spin (spin control)**

international spin control  
official attempts at ~

attempts at (international) spin control  
official ~

**message / subterfuge: movement**

**spine (courage)**

America's spine  
we have seen the steel in ~

steel in (America's) spine  
we have seen the ~

grow a spine  
~ and fight for our rights (the Welsh government)

have (enough) spine  
some Republicans ~ to stand up to the president (politics)

show (a bit of) spine  
politicians must ~ (to unsympathetic audiences)

stiffened his spine  
he showed signs of going wobbly, but Pelosi ~ (politics)

**courage & lack of courage: back**

**strength & weakness: back**

**spine (branching)**

spine of South America  
the Andes, the great ~

spine of the Roman Empire  
the highway that formed the ~ (the Appian Way)

spine of the Pyrenes  
behind us we have the ~ (on the French coast)

agricultural spine  
in the landlocked Central Valley, the state's ~ (California)

**bases / branching system: back**

**spineless (courage)**

whiny spineless  
to hell with this ~ generation

**courage & lack of courage: back**

**strength & weakness: back**

## spin-off (noun)

spin-offs from (space) experimentation  
the medical and technological ~

medical and technological spin-offs  
the ~ from space experimentation

**creation & transformation / product: movement**

## spin up (verb)

spin up (late) at night  
a lot of the protests we have seen ~... (street protests)

spun up an image  
they've ~, it's just branding and optics (Silicon Valley)

**creation & transformation / initiation / occurrence:  
movement / verb**

## spiral (death spiral)

“death spiral”  
~ is quite a dramatic phrase, but the post office lost...

in a death spiral  
American newspapers are ~ (declining circulations)

on a death spiral  
I would suggest that we are ~ (the Postmaster General)

part of the death spiral  
going back to America was ~ (Marvin Gaye / Belgium)

**condition & status / destruction: death & life / direction /  
flying & falling / movement / plane / shape**

## spiral (spiral out of control, etc.)

spiraled out of control  
Rye's junior prom ~ (drunk teens)  
events quickly ~ (Bosnian war)

spiraling out of control  
in danger of ~

spiral out of control  
medical expenses can often ~  
his life seemed to ~ (drug addict)

spiraling out of control in the Caucasus  
violence is ~

life spiraled out of control  
his ~

prom spiraled out of control  
Rye's junior ~ (drunk teens)

expenses can (often) spiral  
medical ~ out of control

violence (in Iraq) spiraled  
as ~ beginning in 2003

violence is spiraling  
~ in Russia's North Caucasus

**control & lack of control: movement / plane / verb**

## spiral (spiral downward, etc.)

spiraled downhill  
at home, he ~ (troubled soldier back from Iraq)

spiraled downward  
the economy of Detroit has ~

**decline: direction / flying & falling / verb**

## spiral (downward or upward)

spiral upwards  
the reported tanker attacks caused oil prices to ~

**increase & decrease: direction / plane / verb**

**movement: shape / verb**

## spiral (in a spiral)

in a death spiral  
American newspapers are ~ (declining circulations)

**decline: direction / flying & falling**

## spiral (into a spiral)

plunged into a spiral of drug use  
he ~ in his early teens

**decline: direction / flying & falling**

## spiral (on a downward spiral)

on a downward spiral  
the team is ~ (sports)  
he has been ~ over the past 6 months (alcohol, etc.)

**decline: direction / flying & falling**

## spiral (downward spiral, etc.)

downward spiral  
sexual addiction is an ugly ~  
her ~ began years ago when...

**decline: direction / flying & falling**

## spiral (other)

spiral of depression  
the downward ~, which can lead to death

death spiral  
the avalanche ~ is likely to continue

**decline: direction / flying & falling**

## spiraling (increase)

spiraling costs  
the ~ of a college education

spiraling (health care) costs  
how to cover the uninsured and control ~

spiraling (suicide) rates  
~ sound a warning bell

spiraling violence  
~ in the Middle East

**increase & decrease: number / direction**

## spirit (feeling)

spirit of the hajj

the ~, where all stand equal before God

spirit of adventure

wilderness education instills the ~ (high school)  
safaris are antithetical to the ~ (luxury / Zambia)

spirit of camaraderie

developing a ~

spirit of the carnival

some say the true ~ is being lost (Rio / commercialism)

spirit of defiance

what I appreciate about Bonds is his ~ (baseball player)

spirit of the (American) military

the honorable and decent ~

spirit of the Olympics

taking controversial judging decisions in the ~

spirit of reconciliation

work together in a ~ (Vietnam, US)

spirit of religion

violence and terrorism are incompatible with the ~

spirit of the sport

what violates the ~ (doping, etc.)

spirit of wilderness

Windy Falls embodies the ~ to me

spirit of exploration and adventure

for centuries, the North Pole has inspired a ~

spirit of amateur competition

supposedly this violated the ~ (1920s)

spirit of sisterhood

encourage the true ~ (sorority)

spirit competition

the annual Cheerleading Worlds—the Super Bowl of ~s

spirit, courage and talent

a man of indomitable ~ (Mayor Giuliani)

NASA's spirits

the success lifted ~

city's spirit

Rocky Balboa has come to symbolize the ~ (Philly)

company's (fighting) spirit

no one questions the ~

festival's (innovative) spirit

the ~ (San Sebastian International Film Festival)

group's (enterprising) spirit

the ~, anti-drug message

people's spirits

the wet weather has dampened ~ (France)

state's (independent) spirit

the ~ (Nevada)

Christmas spirit

~—goodwill toward men

Ramadan spirit

local Muslims complain of a lack of ~ (Dubai)

St. Patrick's Day spirit

get in that ~

community spirit

unprecedented level of ~ (after tragedy)

holiday spirit

share some ~

pioneer spirit

the ~, the cowboy spirit

school spirit

bonfire, and the ~ it inspires...

team spirit

they hold hands in a show of ~ (high-school football)  
that magic moment when you feel the ~ coming together

cowboy spirit

a latter-day extension of the ~  
names that evoked the ~

start-up spirit

a corporate culture that maintains the ~

can-do spirit

its ~ has given way to a civil-service culture (NASA)  
NASA's original sense of mission and ~

enterprising spirit

the group's ~, anti-drug message

fighting spirit

no one questions the company's ~  
she attributes her ~ to her father (singer with pink hair)  
his exemplary ~ in the face of... (military)

uplifting spirit

it retains its ~ (film into a musical)

American spirit

he is an outstanding example of the ~ (hero bus driver)

adventurous spirit

she's an ~  
she has always had an ~

civic spirit

Buffalo residents met the blizzard with ~

competitive spirit

the ~ (Ping-Pong players)

entrepreneurial spirit

the ~ that built America lives on in Dubai  
 there is a deep ~ and a highly ambitious workforce  
 he spoke of their ~ and effort (Somali immigrants)  
 America's open frontier and ~... (bail bond companies)

free spirit  
 she was a ~ who played the flute

good spirits  
 she was in ~, but hungry and in pain (rescued POW)

independent spirit  
 the state's ~ (Nevada)

indomitable spirit  
 a man of ~, courage and talent (Mayor Giuliani)

innovative spirit  
 the festival's ~ (San Sebastian International Film Festival)

patriotic spirit  
 people show their ~ (Veterans Day)

true spirit  
 encourage the ~ of sisterhood (sorority)

level of (community) spirit  
 unprecedented ~ (after tragedy)

show of (team) spirit  
 they hold hands in a ~ (high-school football)

honorable and decent spirit  
 the ~ of the American military

band and spirit (m)  
 the ~ squads (college football)

body and spirit  
 an ordeal of ~ (high Himalayan bivouac)

compassion, spirit, (even) gallantry  
 residents show ~ (nursing home)

courage, spirit and (selfless) devotion to duty  
 his ~

minds and spirits  
 a place to renew our ~ (creative retirement center)

name, spirit and tradition  
 the ~ of the school (Saint-Cyr)

Opportunity and Spirit  
 NASA's durable twin rovers, ~ (Mars)

spirit changed  
 her ~, she wasn't the same (after being beaten)

spirits sank  
 my ~

boosted my spirits  
 it ~

break my spirit  
 no matter how long they keep me here, they can't ~ (jail)

dampened (people's) spirits

the wet weather has ~ (France)

embodies the spirit  
 he ~ of moderate Islam...

inspired a spirit  
 for centuries, the North Pole has ~ of exploration  
 for centuries, the North Pole has ~ of adventure

lift our spirits  
 the best thing to ~ is a sexy photo (man's magazine)

lifted (NASA's) spirits  
 the success ~

symbolize the (city's) spirit  
 Rocky Balboa has come to ~ (Philly)

violated the spirit  
 supposedly this ~ of amateur competition (1920s)

prop up her spirits  
 though her body sagged, her doctor helped ~

keep their spirits up  
 they sang and prayed to ~ (illegal migrants on boat)

get in that (St. Patrick's Day) spirit  
 it's not hard for her to ~

getting in the spirit  
 we are ~ (Halloween)

♦ "When Younghusband reached Lhasa, he was greeted by hordes of clapping Tibetans. He took it as a gesture of welcome, not realizing that clapping was a traditional way of warding off evil spirits..." (The 1904 British invasion of Tibet.)

♦ "When the drum is made, before you cut the tree down, there is a spirit in the tree. Then the skin that is put on the drum, the skin is never dead because you will never get a sound out of a dead skin. Then, with the spirit of the person playing it, it becomes what...three...three spirits. It becomes an irresistible force against any, any immovable object. (Babatunde Olatunji.)

♦ "This is where my daughter's spirit was last. I'm more drawn to this spot than I am even to the cemetery where we keep her remains." (A bereft mother, clearing trash away from the roadside memorial where her daughter had died in a car crash eight years earlier.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: religion**

**spirited**

spirited competition  
 a ~

free-spirited  
 the ~ girlfriend

mean-spirited  
 ~ defenders of traditional values

**character & personality: religion**

**spit (spit in the face / noun)**

spit in the face of Turkey and the UN  
 the Ukraine denounced it as a ~

♦ I place a date in your lips, and you spit the pit in my face! (Ingratitude.)

**insult: face / gesture**

## spit (spit down)

spat down rain  
the sky ~

**resemblance: bodily reaction / mouth / verb**

## spit (verb)

spit you out  
the river will ~ like a pumpkin seed (enders / kayaking)

spit (tons of) lava  
Mount Nyiragongo ~ onto this central African border...

**resemblance: bodily reaction / mouth / verb**

## spit out (verb)

spit out  
high-tech machinery can ~ 400,000 lobster traps

**throwing, putting & planting: bodily reaction / verb**  
**creation & transformation: bodily reaction / verb**

## splash (effect)

big splash  
why did we make a ~ about it (arrest of a spy)  
she made a ~ in her visit to the state (candidate)

major splash  
he made a ~ early on (a writer)

felt the splash  
when the Internet bubble popped, every Web site ~

made a splash  
the book ~  
he ~ when he accused...

make a (big) splash  
why did we ~ about it (arrest of a spy)

♦ "Who looks upon a river in a meditative hour and is not reminded of the flux of all things? Throw a stone into the stream, and the circles that propagate themselves are the beautiful type of all influence..." (*Nature*, Chapter 4 (Language), by Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1836.)

**effect / feeling, emotion & effect: water / wave**  
**attention, scrutiny & promotion: water / wave**

## splashy (effect)

splashy new name  
Facebook is about to come out with a ~

**effect / feeling, emotion & effect: water / wave**  
**attention, scrutiny & promotion: water / wave**

## split (noun)

generational split  
the contest represents a ~ within the Democratic party

cause splits  
they seek to ~ between the citizens and the government

**division & connection: materials & substances**  
**failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances**

## split (verb)

splitting the party  
the issue is ~ (politics)

**division & connection / failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances / verb**

## split (split apart / up, etc.)

split families apart  
our immigration policies ~

split up  
Connie and Ivy ~ (marital problems)

**division & connection: materials & substances / verb**  
**failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances / verb**

## spoil (verb)

spoils it for everyone else  
one bad apple ~

spoil it for the rest of us  
don't let a few bad apples ~

♦ "A name doesn't spoil a man, but a man can spoil a name." (A Finnish proverb.)

**corruption: food & drink / verb**

## spoiled (spoiled child, etc.)

spoiled athlete  
he's a poster child for the ~

spoiled child  
Israel is the West's ~

**behavior / character & personality / corruption: food & drink**

## spoils (of war, etc.)

spoils of victory  
Usyk is being draped in the ~ (3 championship belts)

walk away with the spoils  
Usyk would ~ (championship belts / boxing)

♦ "He practiced "jackal diplomacy" to the extent that he requested for his nation a share of the spoils won by the British lion in combat; had Britain or China opposed his request, he was powerless to do more." (Commodore Lawrence Kearny in China, from *Far China Station: The U.S. Navy in Asian Waters 1800-1898* by Robert Erwin Johnson.)

♦ The French found the Rosetta Stone in Egypt but had to give it up to the British as a spoil of war. The rock and its inscriptions, which provided the key to a writing system that had puzzled people for 2,000 years, has been in the British Museum ever since.

**worth & lack of worth: animal / military**

## sponge (noun)

sponge  
he's a ~ (a coachable tennis player)  
he called her his ~ because she asked so many questions  
he is a ~ when it comes to soaking up information  
Emma is a ~, she learns so quickly (Emma Raducanu)

sponge of culture

it's a ~ (headquarters of an artists' collective)

sponge for ideas

she was a ~ (a cook with thousands of recipes)

sponge for (musical) ideas

he is a ~ from a great variety of sources (composer)

sponge for information

I'm a ~ (an arts organizer)

human sponge

he's a ~ (a comedy writer who collects words, ideas)

**absorption & immersion: animal / water**

**spook (verb)**

spooked the sailors

a rash of accidents and near-misses had ~ of the 7th fleet

spook them

horses know what to do if you don't ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: creature / verb**

**spooked (feeling)**

spooked

financial markets are ~

current bondholders would be ~

got spooked

he ~ (a suspect under police surveillance)

has people spooked

the new mutation ~ (coronavirus pandemic)

**feeling, emotion & effect: creature**

**spool (spool back)**

spool back

but let me ~ very quickly (to review the past)

**past & present / reversal / time: film**

**sport (team sport)**

ultimate team sport

aviation safety is the ~ (regulators and manufacturers)

**unanimity & consensus: sports & games**

**sportswash (verb)**

sportswash their (deeply tarnished) image

they are trying to ~ (foreign investment in EPL)

sportswash its appalling (human rights) record

the country must not be allowed to ~

**concealment & lack of concealment: hygiene / verb**

**appearance & reality: hygiene / verb**

**inclusion & exclusion: subterfuge / verb**

**sportswashing (noun)**

sportswashing

sportswashing is nothing new (in British colonies)

~ is a new word for an old business

~ allows tyrannical regimes to launder their reputation

sportswashing stain

the ~ is obvious

sportswashing in action

fans' defense of repressive policies is ~

sports washing, financial doping...

~ (soccer fan criticizes English Premier League)

oil sportswashing

the EPL is beginning to look a bit like ~

accused the country of sportswashing

Amnesty International has ~

**concealment & lack of concealment: hygiene**

**appearance & reality: hygiene**

**inclusion & exclusion: subterfuge**

**spot (tight spot, etc.)**

in a tight spot

we're ~ with very little wiggle room

in a (very) difficult spot

this outcome puts him ~ (failed negotiations)

wriggled out of tight spots

he's ~s before (terrorist)

♦ A "fat man's squeeze" is the name for a narrow spot in a cave.

♦ "Damn, we're in a tight spot." (*O Brother, Where Art There?* The film is loosely based on the *Odyssey*.)

**constraint & lack of constraint / situation: container / ground, terrain & land / movement / place**

**spotlight (in / under the spotlight)**

in the spotlight since high school

she has been ~ (college basketball player)

in the spotlight for the way

police are ~ they handled the case

in the national spotlight

the reporter put the case ~ (murder)

in the spotlight

how do you handle having your love life ~ (a celebrity)

under an (international) spotlight

its every move is ~ (a political group)

sport is in the spotlight

the ~ after the death of...

put the case in the (national) spotlight

the reporter ~ (murder)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / light & dark**

**spotlight (into the spotlight)**

dragged into the spotlight

they had been ~ by...

thrust into the spotlight

I was ~ (Miss USA and the Haiti earthquake)

from the shadows to the spotlight

survivors have moved ~ (sex abuse)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / light & dark**

### spotlight (out of the spotlight)

out of the (public) spotlight

he is now ~

keep him out of the spotlight

we are trying to ~, under the radar (troubled athlete)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: spotlight / light & dark**

### spotlight (shine a spotlight)

shine a light on the abuse

what he did was ~ (prison guard)

shined a spotlight on (racial) tensions

an attack that has ~ here (Long Beach)

shines a spotlight on the practices

he ~ and beliefs of the Mormons

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / light & dark / verb**

### spotlight (steal the spotlight)

steal the spotlight

any team can ~ in the early stages of the Tour de France

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / light & dark / verb**

### spotlight (other)

additional spotlight

new revelations have put an ~ on the incident commander

international spotlight

the ~ is bringing the country down (social media)

grab the spotlight

this gives China a chance to ~

shunned the spotlight

he ~ for the rest of his life (Neil Armstrong)

shift the spotlight to the president's handling

we need to ~ of the economy (politics)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / light & dark**

### spout (speech)

spouting all these cliches

pundits ~ (sports)

spout dialogue

they ~ from the playbook of sitcom cliches (bad review)

spouts (tin-eared political) lines

he still ~ (politics)

♦ "How much do these 'pundits' get paid for spouting all these cliches and stating the obvious?" (An online commenter about the Qatar World Cup.)

**speech: water**

### sprawl (noun)

sprawl into every corner

reality TV was just beginning its ~ of consciousness

**extent & scope / size: standing, sitting & lying**

**configuration: standing, sitting & lying**

### sprawling (adjective)

sprawling city

Aleppo is a ~ of 3 million people

sprawling compound

he has retreated to his ~ (a dictator facing protests)

sprawling (criminal) investigation

Carson Block learned that he was a focal point of a ~

sprawling (intelligence) leviathan

9/11 helped to create a ~

sprawling (computer) networks

as we grow more dependent on ~, we grow vulnerable...

**extent & scope / size: standing, sitting & lying**

**configuration: standing, sitting & lying**

### spring (Arab Spring, etc.)

Arab Spring

the series of revolts represent an ~

**epithet / growth & development: season**

**amelioration & renewal: epithet**

### spring (spring into action, etc.)

sprang into action

scientists in Germany ~ to develop a test for the virus

spring into action

when a disaster hits, local responders ~

**eagerness & reluctance: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping / verb**

### springboard (noun)

springboard to the sacred

she uses nature as a ~ (a poet)

**initiation: mechanism / water**

**throwing, putting & planting: mechanism / water**

### Springsteen (epithet)

Bruce Springsteen of chat

Joe Rogan is the ~ (New Jersey, T-shirts, no BS, etc.)

**achievement, recognition & praise: epithet**

### spring up (verb)

sprang up

many new housing developments ~

**appearance & disappearance:** plant / prep, adv, adj,  
particle / verb

### sprinkle (verb)

sprinkled (nonscientific) rulers throughout the agency  
she ~ (C.D.C.)

**configuration:** rain / verb

### sprinkled (configuration)

sprinkled with the names  
Antarctica is ~ of explorers and scientists

sprinkled among the crowds  
~ were far-right extremists

**configuration:** rain

### sprint (noun)

final sprint  
we are getting ready for this ~ (preparations for Olympics)

**speed:** walking, running & jumping

### sprint (verb)

sprinted through seven hearings over five days  
Republicans ~ (impeachment hearings)

**speed:** verb / walking, running & jumping

### sprout (verb)

sprouting next to slum communities  
you see high-rises ~ (Bangkok)

sprouting all around  
condos and office buildings are ~

**appearance & disappearance:** plant / verb

### spun up

spun up (very) quickly  
both trauma teams were ~ (hospital after mass shooting)

**creation & transformation / initiation / occurrence:**  
movement

### spur (verb)

spurred the international community to threaten  
the atrocity ~ the Serbs with Nato airstrikes (Bosnia)

spur growth  
the government is trying to ~

**coercion & motivation / initiation:** horse / verb

### spur (shape)

spur ridge  
as we snowshoed up a ~

spur track  
trains roll in and out on the network of ~s

bone spur  
he removed a ~ that had developed (in elbow)

**branching system / shape:** horse

### spur (Geneva Spur, etc.)

Geneva Spur  
we slowly made our way up the ~ (Everest)

Mummery Spur  
they were swept away high up on the ~ (Nanga Parbat)

Snake Spur  
~ twisted before us (Queensland, Australia)

Sunrise Spur  
~ is in Queensland, Australia

Half Moon Spur  
we looked up ~ (New Zealand)

**proper name:** horse / shape

### spur (spur of the moment)

spur-of-the-moment  
the ~ brawl

on the spur of the moment  
it was not uncommon for them to go stargazing ~

**haste:** horse

### spur (earn one's spurs, etc.)

earned his spurs on the battlefield  
he ~ (General "Mad Dog" Mattis)

♦ "Spur" exercises and ceremonies are still held in the US military. This is similar to "earn one's stripes."

**achievement, recognition & praise:** horse / military

**experience:** horse / military

### spurn (verb)

spurned fizzy drinks  
Coke's earnings down as global consumers ~

spurned calls  
his rivals ~ to quit (politics)

spurned the chance  
Real Madrid ~ to go back above Barcelona (lost game)

**acceptance & rejection:** love, courtship & marriage / verb

### spurned

spurned by anyone  
bamboo bows are ~ who can afford a compound bow

gift spurned  
it was a ~ (soccer player misses easy goal)

**acceptance & rejection:** love, courtship & marriage

### spurred

spurred to speak out

he has been ~ out (environmental activist)

spurred to action

he has been ~, to speak out (environmental activist)

**initiation: horse**

## **sputter (verb)**

sputtering

the economy is ~

**sound: engine**

**condition & status / failure, accident & impairment /  
functioning: engine / mechanism / sound / verb**

## **square (public square, etc.)**

de facto town square

Twitter has become kind of the ~ (Elon Musk)

modern public square

Twitter is a ~ (lawsuit against Twitter)

modern town square

Twitter is not merely a website, it is a ~

♦ "Unfortunately with these public squares, these forums where people can speak, you're going to get rifferaff." (The owner of a Web-hosting service, about hosting a controversial website.)

**society: infrastructure / sign, signal, symbol / speech**

## **square off (verb)**

square off in the general election on 6 November

the two men ~

**conflict: boxing / verb**

## **square one**

at square one

after Pearlman's arrest, van der Wilt was ~ (career)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: sports & games**

## **squash (verb)**

squash it

Facebook is taking this new step, hoping to ~ (Q-Anon)

**destruction: verb / weight**

## **squeal (protest)**

squealing

downstream industries are ~ (steel tariffs)

**speech: animal / sound / verb**

**sound: animal / verb**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / sound / verb**

## **squeeze (fit)**

squeeze (5,500) inmates into a space

prison officials, trying to ~ built...

squeeze the subject in

he cajoles teachers to ~ (civics)

squeeze their experiences onto one page

many try to ~ (resumes)

**configuration: pressure / verb**

## **squeeze (squeeze something from / out of something)**

squeeze some good from his pain

he began talking about it, hoping to ~

squeeze out a living from this terrain

parents who ~ (mountains)

squeeze (so much) power out of engines

how it was able to ~ so small

squeeze sales out of (fewer) resources

helping businesses ~

**creation & transformation: pressure / verb**

## **squeeze (coerce)**

squeeze apologies from corporations

~ (slavery)

squeeze settlements from corporations

~ (slavery)

squeezed Kosovo for concessions

he ~ (a US diplomat)

**coercion & motivation / oppression: hand / pressure / verb**

## **squeeze (put the squeeze on something)**

put the squeeze on a rival gang

he ~ (Al Capone)

putting the squeeze on the economy

the pandemic is ~

**coercion & motivation / oppression: hand / pressure / verb**

## **squeeze (pressure / noun)**

squeeze of 8.6% inflation

he is feeling the ~ (a businessman)

squeeze from the outbreak

hourly wage earners who are feeling the ~ (COVID)

financial squeeze

the city is feeling the ~

feeling the squeeze

the Florida orange industry is ~ (disease, weather, etc.)

**affliction: hand / pressure**

## **squeezed (oppressed)**

squeezed

if the growers are ~, the banana workers feel the pain

**coercion & motivation / oppression: hand / pressure**

## **squeezed (fitted)**

squeezed into a maze

families are now ~ of vertical slums (Kabul)  
squeezed onto 550 acres  
Dharavi is home to a million people ~ (Mumbai)  
squeezed between Tajikistan, Pakistan and China  
the Wakhan Corridor is ~

**configuration: pressure**

## squirreled away

squirreled away at his house  
he still had the gun ~ (a cold-case murderer)

**behavior: animal**

## stab (stab somebody in the back)

stab each other in the back  
how we like to ~ (blacks)

stabbed her in the back  
he ~ (was unfaithful to his wife)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: back / knife / verb**

## stab (stab of pain, etc.)

stab of love  
she feels a ~ so fierce (mother for husband, kids)

stab of pain  
I felt a ~ in my ribs

stab of shame  
a nocturnal ~ at the thought of someone you once wronged

felt a stab of pain  
overwhelmed, she ~ in her stomach (in trouble)

**feeling, emotion & effect: knife / sensation**

## stab (stab in the dark)

stab in the dark  
it was a ~, but...

take a stab in the dark  
go ahead and ~ (make a prediction)

♦ This is like a shot in the dark. Any doubtful scenario can carry the equivalent idea, if the phrase is short and obvious and entails a target: "Go ahead, throw a dart at the dartboard with a blindfold on, and tell us what you think will happen..."

♦ A former California State prosecutor, speaking about a legal takedown, said, "This case was a huge *stab* in the right direction." (Step in the right direction? Stab or shot in the dark? Is this an "eggcorn"?)

**fate, fortune & chance: blade / knife / weapon**

## stab (attempt)

stab at Everest  
Chantal Mauduit was making her seventh ~

stab at boxing  
many of my friends also took a ~

seventh stab  
Chantal Mauduit, who was making her ~ at Everest

making her (seventh) stab at Everest  
Chantal Mauduit, who was ~ without oxygen

took stabs at boxing  
many of my friends also ~, some for the workout...

take a stab at TV  
sometimes filmmakers ~ (Bruckheimer, Spielberg, etc.)

**attempt: knife**

## stabbing (stabbing pain, etc.)

stabbing pain  
I felt a ~ in my side

**feeling, emotion & effect: knife / sensation**

## stability (noun)

restore stability  
in the latest effort to ~ after a military coup...

**functioning: equilibrium & stability**

## stabilize (verb)

stabilize the situation  
US officials are trying to ~

**amelioration & renewal: equilibrium & stability / verb**

## stable (noun)

stables of (blockbuster) authors  
the two publishers have impressive ~

stable of (young) fighters  
he has a ~ at the James Shuler Memorial Gym (Philly)

stable of stars  
M-G-M's ~ (Hollywood)

stable of wrestlers  
he may run his own ~ in the future (Hakuho)

♦ "I've been a Pats fan for years. Okay, Okay! I like the Giants and Jets too. A girl's gotta have a stable to pick from ya know?" (An online commenter who goes by the name of Miss Demeanor. Drag queen?)

**group, set & collection: animal / horse**

## stack (blow one's stack)

blew my stack  
I finally got fed up and ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: boat / explosion / verb**

## stage (verb)

staged the abduction  
police do not believe the missing girl ~

staged an (impromptu) parade  
a million people ~ (French World Cup victory)

staged protests  
angry citizens ~ against the government

staged an (unauthorized protest) rally

they ~ near Red Square

staged tests

he ~ under simulated combat conditions

staged a (phony) kidnapping

he ~ to cover up his crime

**directing / performance: theater / verb**

**stage (set the stage, etc.)**

sets the stage for a confrontation

this ~

sets the stage for (further) violence

the incident ~

stage has been set

the ~ for another week of violence in Hong Kong

**development: theater / verb**

**stage (center stage)**

center stage

Clinton's next opportunity to take ~

take center stage

Clinton's next opportunity to ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater**

**center & periphery: theater**

**stage (attention)**

national stage

this was his debut on the ~ (a politician)

burst onto the stage

he was one of several poets who ~ in the 60s (Russia)

returning to the world stage

China is ~

have the stage

they ~ now, and are forcing people to listen and understand

has the stage all to himself

he ~ (a controversy others can't comment on)

held the stage

for three weeks, Amundsen ~ alone (success at S. Pole)

leave the stage

Boris Johnson is leaving office but won't ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater**

**center & periphery: theater**

**stage (life is a stage)**

stage

all the world's a stage (*As You Like It*)

♦ "All the world's a stage / And all the men and women merely players; / They have their exits and their entrances; / And one man in his time plays many parts..." (William Shakespeare, *As You Like It*.)

♦ "The stir is over. I step forth on the boards... / And yet, the order of the acts has been schemed and plotted, / And nothing can avert the final curtain's fall..." ("Hamlet" by Boris Pasternak, translated by Bernard

Guilbert Guerne, from the great translation by Max Hayward and Manya Harari.)

**death & life: theater**

**staged (directed)**

staged

the famous photo was not ~

there was nothing faked, nothing planned, nothing ~

staged by the government

the confessions were ~ for domestic consumption

staged by an ethnic group

the blockade is part of a strike ~ (Nepal)

staged for the auditor's benefit

the lesson was clearly ~ (school)

staged appearance

his ~ was an official show for the media (a dissident)

staged reading

their ~ of the Constitution was cynical (politics)

organized or staged

the accident has not changed how the event is ~ (race)

**directing / performance: theater**

**stage-manage (verb)**

stage-managed visits

the military ~ to troops (Afghanistan in 2006)

**directing / performance: theater / verb**

**stage-managed**

stage-managed referendum

Russia had pulled off a hastily organized, ~ (Crimea)

**directing / performance: theater**

**stagger (verb)**

staggered the (scientific) community

he ~ (11-year-old William James Sidis)

**disruption: equilibrium & stability / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability / verb**

**stagnant (adjective)**

stagnant

wages are ~, jobs scarce, and credit tight

stagnant economy

employers are reluctant to add jobs in a ~

Republicans are to blame for the ~ (NYT)

**decline: movement / water**

**stagnate (verb)**

stagnated under his rein

the office ~

**decline: movement / water / verb**

## stain (verb)

stained everyone  
he has ~ (cyclist denies doping, then confesses)

**reputation: mark / verb**

**flaws & lack of flaws: mark / verb**

## stain (noun)

stain on our history  
this is a ~ (lynching of blacks in the US)

stain on the honor  
it is a ~ of the US military (anti-gay policy)

stain on (Illinois) politics  
he is a ~ (jailed governor)

stain on the profession  
he is a ~ (nurse who killed patients)

stain on his reputation  
the ban lingered as a ~  
the second ~ involves... (a US general)

great stain  
the incident was a very ~ on the reputation of the Army

indelible stain  
doping left an ~ on his record (sports)

reputational stain  
the ~ is greater in these cases (sex abuse)

bore the stain  
the city ~ of what had happened (Philadelphia, MS)

remove this stain  
we must ~ from the laws of our nation (gays in military)

put a stain on her record  
this could ~

**flaws & lack of flaws / reputation: mark**

## staircase (Devil's Staircase, etc.)

Devil's Staircase  
the ~ Wilderness is named after a waterfall (Oregon)

**proper name: house / shape / stair**

## stairstep (noun)

stairstep progression  
the percentage began an upward, ~

**resemblance: stair**

## stairway (Stairway Falls, etc.)

Stairway Falls  
~ is in Queensland, Australia

Grand Staircase  
the ~ rises from the Grand Canyon (geological layers)

**proper name: house / shape / stair**

## stake (importance)

stakes  
the ~ are high

raised the stakes  
the pope's opponents have ~

♦ This word relates to potential for gain or loss.

**importance & significance: gambling**

## stake (high stakes)

high-stakes test  
teachers prepare students for ~s

**importance & significance: gambling**

## stake (pull up stakes)

pulling up stakes  
it isn't ~, just shifting gears (Conan O'Brien leaves show)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: surveying / verb**

## stakeholder (interest)

stakeholders in education  
there are many ~

♦ In the old days, stakeholders held the money of bettors.

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: money**

## stake out (verb)

staking out their positions  
the two sides are ~ on the issue (politics)

stake out (bigger) slices  
in the ceaseless quest to ~ of the market

stake out (new) territory  
as Microsoft tries to ~

**possession: surveying / verb**

## stale (adjective)

stale  
there's nothing ~ about the new retail concept

stale manager  
he is a ~ in charge of a stale squad (soccer)

stale news  
this is ~ being recycled by those with personal agendas

stale trope  
the mixing of the mournful and the clownish is a ~

stale work  
he battled against the ~s of the reigning academics

feel stale  
he started to ~ and underachieving

grown stale  
the company's offerings have ~ (mobile phones)

went stale

the relationship finally ~ (coach and team)

**corruption / flaws & lack of flaws: food & drink**

## stalemate (noun)

political stalemate

infrastructure projects are at risk due to the ~

**progress & lack of progress: chess**

## Stalingrad (Stalingrad of the East, etc.)

Stalingrad of the East

the campaign is often described as the ~ (Kohima / Imphal)

Stalingrad of Italy

Mussolini spoke of turning Milan into the “~” (Wikipedia)

Syria’s Stalingrad

the once thriving city was now known as ~ (Homs)

dubbed the mission “Sangingrad”

some soldiers ~ (Sangin, Helmand, Afghanistan)

turn Sloviensk into a “Stalingrad”

he threatened to ~ (War in Donbass in 2014)

♦ “In 2008, the U.S. Marines deployed to Sangin, reinforcing American Special Forces and U.K. soldiers. Britain’s forces were beleaguered—a third of its casualties in Afghanistan would occur in Sangin, leading some soldiers to dub the mission ‘Sangingrad.’” (“The Other Afghan Women” by Anand Gopal, *The New Yorker*, September 13, 2021.)

♦ “Wuhan has been praised for its sacrifice in the service of the nation, turning it into a sort of Stalingrad in China’s war against the virus, commemorated in books, documentaries, TV shows and florid panegyrics from officials including head of state and leader of the Communist Party Xi Jinping.” (“Wuhan returns to normal as world still battling pandemic” by Emily Wang Fujiyama, AP, 22 Jan 2021.)

♦ [A] long dismal wail from steamship hooters and factory sirens. This cry, prophesying death and disaster, hung in the air, as if conveying the anguish of all the city’s inhabitants. It was the voice of the entire city—the voice not only of people but also of stone, of buildings, of cars, trucks and machines, of telegraph poles, of the grass and trees in the parks, of electric cables and tram rails; it was a cry let out not only by living beings but also by inanimate objects. All now sensed their coming destruction. Only a rusty iron throat could have engendered this sound, which expressed in equal measure animal horror and the anguish of a human heart. / It was followed by silence—Stalingrad’s last silence. / Planes were coming from every direction... / Only people on the east bank of the Volga, ten or fifteen kilometres away...could see the fire as a whole and grasp the extent of the disaster...” (*Stalingrad* by Vasily Grossman, translated by Robert and Elizabeth Chandler.)

**military: epithet**

## stalk (verb)

stalk the refugee camps

malnutrition and disease ~ (Darfur)

stalks their every move

death ~ (soldiers in Afghanistan / IEDs)

stalked the residents

tragedy ~ of Maple Street

♦ “Marinesko stalked his quarry for more than an hour.” (The sinking of the MV *Wilhelm Gustloff* in the Baltic, 1945.)

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / hunting / movement / predation / verb / walking, running & jumping**

**movement: animal / hunting / predation / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## stalking-horse (noun)

stalking horse

the company was the system’s ~ (sued)

♦ Hunters discovered that if they hid behind a cutout of a horse, they would not frighten their prey.

**subterfuge: horse / hunting**

**concealment & lack of concealment: horse / hunting**

## stall (verb)

stalled

negotiations have ~

the economic recovery has ~

stalling over the Gulf Coast

the hurricane is ~, dropping dangerous amounts of rain

**movement: engine / mechanism / verb**

**condition & status / failure accident & impairment / functioning / progress & lack of progress / starting, going continuing & ending: engine / mechanism / movement / verb**

## stalled (progress)

stalled talks

a breakthrough in ~ on a bill that... (lawmakers)

remains stalled

the economy ~ in a deep recession

the governor’s controversial plan ~ (by opposition)

**movement: engine / mechanism**

**condition & status / failure accident & impairment / functioning / progress & lack of progress / starting, going continuing & ending: engine / mechanism / movement**

## stalwart (noun)

stalwart of the club

he has been a ~ for 40 years (cricket supporter)

stalwart of the (country) club

he was well educated, a friend of the Bushes, a ~

stalwart of (modern) jazz

Joe Mudele, a ~, died this week aged 93

conservative stalwart

he faced ~ Ted Cruz (Beto O’Rourke)

Ireland stalwart

~ McCay set to win 300th Ireland cap (hockey)

**strength & weakness: health & medicine / person**

## stamp (impression)

stamp of our experiences

our faces bear the ~

put a stamp on a great career

his performance ~ (athlete)

put its stamp on the national character  
nature has ~ (Norway)

**impression: mark / tools & technology**

### **stamp (stamp of approval)**

government stamp of approval  
the label is the ~ for energy saving (EnergyStar)

privacy stamp of approval  
the company gives a ~ to Web sites

societal stamp of approval  
it is doubtful the practice will ever win a ~

gave his company a stamp of approval  
the government ~ (regulators)

gave its stamp of approval to the plan  
the board ~

put its stamp of approval on the negotiations  
the Arab League has ~

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: mark**

### **stamped**

stamped on the nation's conscience  
the murders were ~ (Philadelphia, MS / civil rights)

**impression: mark / tools & technology**

### **stamp out (verb)**

stamp out "criminal machismo"  
he has vowed to ~ (abuse of women)

stamp out racism  
we must ~ (in the sport of soccer)

stamp out superstition  
Mao tried unsuccessfully to ~ (China / numbers, etc.)

stamp out many traditions  
the ruling mullahs sought to ~ (Iran / Nowruz)

stamp out their way of life  
Saddam drained the wetlands to ~ (marsh Arabs)

sought to stamp out  
the ruling mullahs ~ many traditions (Iran / Nowruz)

vowed to stamp out  
he has ~ "criminal machismo" (abuse of women)

**destruction: foot / verb**

### **stampede (noun)**

crowd stampede  
a thousand people drowned in a great ~ (Lagos)

**behavior: animal / cows & cattle / horse  
movement: animal / cows & cattle / horse**

### **stance (take a stance)**

take a stance on abortion  
we would never ~ (editor of small paper)

take a (strong) stance against North Korea  
China is under pressure to ~

took an assertive stance  
he took an ~ (diplomacy)

take a strong stance  
China is under pressure ~ against...

**position, policy & negotiation: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

### **stand (resist)**

stand against Hollywood  
it's futile to ~ when... (film dispute)

stand our ground  
we must ~ on education and health care (budget cuts)

stood their ground  
the mayor and the police chief both ~ (criticism)

stood firm  
he ~ and got his way and it is good he did

stand fast  
the US will ~ against violence at its diplomatic missions

stand together  
we're going to ~ and take a stand on behalf... (a protest)  
Uvalde must ~ (after school shooting)

"Still Standing"  
his podcast is called, ~

futile to stand  
it's ~ against Hollywood when... (film dispute)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

### **stand (position)**

stand on the issue  
where does he ~

**position, policy & negotiation: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

### **stand (stand as one, etc.)**

stand as one  
we ~ (on policy issue)

**unanimity & consensus: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

### **stand (stand firm)**

stand firm for social justice  
we will ~

**commitment & determination: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

### **stand (stand and fall / fate)**

stand or fall by the expedition  
I ~ (Robert Falcon Scott / Terra Nova expedition)

♦ This is like, "live and die."

**fate, fortune & chance: death & life**

**survival, persistence & endurance: death & life**

**stand (stand behind something, etc.)**

stand behind their product

they ~ (satisfied J.C. Penney shopper)

stood by his decision

he ~ to fire her

stand tall

he will ~ for you (ad for politician)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: standing, sitting & lying /**

**prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

**stand (stand in the way)**

stand in the way

just a few contract details ~ (boxing)

never ~ of a person's dream

he has made it clear he will not ~ (investigation)

stand in their way

nothing is going to ~

**obstacles & impedance: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

**stand (endure)**

stood up for thirty-five years

the book has ~ (a success)

stand the test of time

see *test (test of time)*

stood or fell

the government ~ by its alliance with...

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence / survival,**

**persistence & endurance: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

**stand (last stand, etc.)**

her last stand

her senate appearance may prove to have been ~ (Rousseff)

last stand for Ted Cruz

is Indiana the ~ (republican presidential primary)

last man standing

Donald Trump is the ~ on the Republican side (2016)

♦ "We are resetting, we are not retreating, and we are here, we have a vision, we are capable of fulfilling it. I mean, this is the hill on which I'm willing to die." (Ashley Judd of Time's Up, responding to criticism of that organization.)

♦ "It's quite obvious that Amber Heard is lying and it is making it harder for women who are victims of domestic abuse or sexual violence to be taken seriously; but apparently these Cretans are going to die on this hill with her! I can't say that I'm surprised." (Melissa Wiggins, who signed the "Fire Raven Smith From Vogue" petition at change.org.)

♦ The rearguard action of a group of British soldiers at the village of Khig, following the British disaster in the Battle of Maiwand (27 July 1880) during the Second Anglo-Afghan War, was one of the most courageous last stands in military history. It helped to allow the bulk of the British troops to safely withdraw to Kandahar. The only survivor of the last stand was Bobbie, a terrier attached to the Berkshires, who made it all the way

back to England. Bobbie visited Queen Victoria, who awarded him with a medal.

♦ The Battle of the Alamo is well known to Americans, as is Custer's last stand. Less well known is the fact that there was one survivor at Custer's last stand, Comanche, the favorite mount of Captain Myles Keogh. The horse was found wandering the battlefield, badly wounded. Comanche was transported by ship to Fort Lincoln, and then to Fort Riley, Kansas, to live out his life in peace, never ridden again, allowed to eat the flowers from the flower gardens, and called upon only to participate in "riderless horse" ceremonies.

♦ Another famous rear-guard action was the Battle of Thermopylae in Greece in 480 BC, against the invading Persians, who were eventually defeated. No evidence of the pass currently exists. It is now a plain, and the only bodies are those of trucks drivers who have pulled over and are sleeping under their trucks.

♦ "Marcus ['Get up, let's go'] Luttrell...was the lone survivor." (Operation Red Wings. The great American hero.)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: flags & banners / military /**

**standing, sitting & lying**

**stand (a tough stand, etc.)**

stand on abortion

people want to know his ~

tough stand

his ~ could create instability (a world leader)

united stand

a ~ on African development

window-dressing public relations stand

he took a ~ on the coronavirus crisis (EU official)

stand reflects

his new ~ more politics than principles (politician)

take a stand

FIFA must ~ on fan racism

taken a stand

athletes have ~ by taking a knee (NFL)

**position, policy & negotiation: standing, sitting & lying**

**stand (a lamp can stand, etc.)**

stands tall

the Palace of Westminster ~ on the left bank (Thames)

**fictive position: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

**standard-bearer**

standard bearers of (American) tennis

they are the ~ (Williams sisters)

standard-bearer for women's issues

she is a ~ nationwide

standard-bearer for his issues

he has been a consistent ~ for decades (Bernie Sanders)

Party's standard-bearer

he was anointed as the ~ (Hubert Humphrey)

less controversial standard bearer

some Democrats might vote for a ~ (primary election)

losing its standard-bearer

the company is ~ (Starbucks)

♦ In the notes to his translation of Canto XXXII of Dante's *The Inferno*, John Ciardi writes, "At the battle of Montaperti [Bocca degli Abbati] hacked off the hand of the Florentine standard bearer. The cavalry, lacking a standard around which it could rally, was soon routed." And so Bocca degli Abbati ended up in the 9th circle of hell, "The Treacherous to Country," deserving completely his boot to his head.

**representation: flags & banners / military / person**

**person: flags & banners / military**

### stand by (verb)

stand (idly) by

we cannot ~ while the dictator kills his people

**action, inaction & delay: movement / standing, sitting & lying / verb**

### stand by (support)

stood by him

he thanked the fans that had ~ (scandal)

standing by me

I know he is ~

stood by his story

his bosses ~ (a reporter)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

### stand down (verb)

stand down

planes were in the air when word came to ~

stood the military down

the operation was in the early stages when Trump ~

ordered them to stand down

news executives ~ ("catch and kill")

make me stand down

threats, bullying and blackmail will not ~ (Ruby Rose)

♦ "You can't challenge another great player and expect him to stand down." (The National Football League / NFL.)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: military / standing, sitting & lying / verb**

**action, inaction & delay: military / standing, sitting & lying / verb**

### stand for (verb)

stand for

what does he ~ (a candidate)

stand for nothing

his politics ~ (a critic of a politician)

**representation: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

**position, policy & negotiation: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

### stand for (not stand for something)

won't stand for it

they are desperately trying to erase the past, and we ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

### standing (reputation)

standing with the US

they try to increase their ~ (some countries)

in good standing

he is a doctor ~

standing will fall

our ~ because of our performance (the US / pandemic)

**reputation: height / standing, sitting & lying**

### standing (continuing)

standing order

the ~ was to take them out if... (combat)

she had a ~ for refills (birth control pills)

longstanding

see *longstanding* (adjective)

### standoff (noun)

standoff

there's a ~ here and somebody has to blink (politics)

standoff between the US and Israel

the diplomatic ~

standoff between a tribal elder and a high schooler

viral ~ is more complicated than it first seemed

standoff over the North's (nuclear) activities

the ~ (Korea)

standoff distance

a 62-meter ~ from launcher to detonation point

hostage standoff

a ~ ended early yesterday

destabilizing standoff

US officials scrambled to defuse the ~ (in Iraq)

diplomatic standoff

the ~ between the US and Israel

75-minute standoff

after a ~

71-day standoff

the ~ (Wounded Knee II)

standoff is continuing

that ~ (Twitter vs. the Indian government)

♦ A group of Kentucky teenagers, a Native American, and black Hebrew Israelites all met by accident on the National Mall in Washington, DC. Read "Viral standoff between a tribal elder and a high schooler is more complicated than it first seemed" by Michael E. Miller, *The Washington Post*, Jan 22, 2019. Or "January 2019 Lincoln Memorial confrontation" (Wikipedia).

**conflict: standing, sitting & lying**

## stand on (verb)

stand on  
my faith was all I had to ~ (mental health issues)

**bases: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## stand out (attention)

stand out  
two main courses ~ (restaurant review)

stands out  
she really ~

stood out  
some things ~ (murder investigation)

stand out from the crowd  
a good cover letter will help you to ~

stands out from the crowd  
one man ~

stood out among her (immediate) peers  
she ~ (investment banker)

stands out as something special  
the Ponzi scheme still ~

stand out in my mind  
there are so many images that ~ from that time...

stand out in the (reality-show) cesspool  
it's hard to ~ (TV)

stood out to me  
the thing that ~ was... (a reporter about gifted athlete)

♦ "If it has a crew working aboard, it's a yacht. If it's more than ninety-eight feet, it's a superyacht. After that, definitions are debated, but people generally agree that anything more than two hundred and thirty feet is a megayacht, and more than two hundred and ninety-five is a gigayacht. The world contains about fifty-four hundred superyachts, and about a hundred gigayachts. / For the moment, a gigayacht is the most expensive item that our species has figured out how to own." ("The Floating World" by Evan Osnos, *The New Yorker*, July 25, 2022.)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / superlative: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## standout (noun)

standout on the (basketball) team  
he is a ~ (high school)

standout in a regime  
Ali Hassan al-Majid was a ~ of criminals (Iraq)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / superlative: standing, sitting & lying**

## standpoint (perspective)

standpoint of manufacturing  
from the ~, America is a basket case

Monday morning quarterback standpoint  
we're all looking at this from a ~ (officer-involved shooting)

historical standpoint

from a purely ~, there is no comparison between...

**perception, perspective & point of view: position / standing, sitting & lying**

## stand still (time)

time can stand still  
time can move and ~

time stands still  
this is a place where ~ (Tibet)

time seems to have stood still  
~ (Mocha Island)

time was not standing still  
but ~...

**past & present / time: movement / standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## stand still (progress)

standing still  
his friends were moving ahead while he was ~

**progress & lack of progress: movement / standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## stand still (development)

language doesn't stand still  
~ (it constantly changes and evolves)

**development: movement / standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## standstill (noun)

standstill traffic  
he spends 10 minutes on average in ~

at a standstill  
with politics ~... (lack of government action)  
his acting and singing careers appear to be ~ (disgraced)  
tourism has been ~ during the last year (pandemic)

brought Beijing to a standstill  
the vacation exodus ~ (Autumn Festival)

came to a standstill  
the main port in Chittagong ~ (Bangladesh)

come to a standstill  
life as we know it has ~ (pandemic)

**progress & lack of progress: movement / standing, sitting & lying**

## stand up (stand up for something)

stood up for  
if Joe believed in something, that's what he ~

stand up for what  
they are proud to ~ they believe in

stands up for what  
he ~ is right (ad for a politician)

stand up for (other) people  
she taught him to ~

stand up for students  
teachers admitted that they did not always ~

stand up for themselves  
children must learn to ~ (during abductions)

stand up for the students  
and we've had straight teachers who ~ (gay)

stand up for (all the) women  
I hope she will ~ in the world (father of abuse victim)

stand up for the little guy  
he isn't afraid to ~

♦ "Each and every one of us has to step up, speak up, stand up, do something." (Arnitta Holliman, director of the Milwaukee Office of Violence and Prevention.)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## stand up (stand up to something)

stand up to aggression  
we must ~

stood up to the (schoolyard) bully  
he ~ (student vs. record-industry lawyers)

stand up to bullies  
we are supposed to ~, not follow them (politics)

stand up to a bully  
you have to ~ (political demagogues)

stand up to employers  
employees must ~ (unions)

stand up to (religious) fundamentalists  
he was brave enough to ~ (assassinated)

stand up to the government  
it took a brave man to ~

stand up to (scientific) scrutiny  
she has no figures which would ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## stand with (support)

stand with the victims  
we ~ of injustice

**allegiance, support & betrayal: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## star (shape)

star dune  
~s have a high central column  
~s have 3 or more arms radiating outwards (deserts)

starfish  
the ~, or sea star...

star quilt  
a traditional ~ (Sioux style)

five-pointed star  
a Wiccan religious symbol, a ~ inside a circle  
Wicca's symbol, the pentacle, is a ~ inside a circle

**shape: astronomy / star**

## star (Silver Star, etc.)

gold star  
she awards a ~ for good work (teacher)

Silver Star, Bronze Star  
he won a ~, and Purple Heart (World War II)

**achievement, recognition & praise: astronomy / proper name / sign, signal & symbol / star**  
**proper noun: astronomy / star**

## star (rock star)

rock star of the culinary world  
he was the original ~ (Bourdain)

rock star among advocates  
he is a ~ for decriminalizing drugs (Dr. Carl L. Hart)

rockstar cinematographer  
she was a ~ who will be missed (Halyna Hutchins)

rock-star mathematician  
~ Cedric Villani

rock-star roster  
this ~ of NPR women

Democratic rock star  
he went from ~ to political rock bottom (Beto O'Rourke)

♦ "The pilots were the rock stars and he was definitely the best-looking of them all." (Cheryl Agin about the great pilot Mark Stucky. They married in 2011.)

**person: astronomy / star**

**achievement, recognition & praise / superlative: astronomy / person / star**

## star (person)

star of the climbing world  
a 16-year-old ~ has died (Luce Douady)

star of the sitcom  
the ~ (TV)

star of mixed martial arts  
Tito Ortiz, a ~, trains in gyms at Big Bear Lake

stars in show business  
some of the biggest ~ were there (a party)

stars in Major League Baseball  
international ~

star on the (acoustic music) scene  
she's a fast-rising ~

star at the academy

she has been an academic ~ (Naval Academy)

star's ego  
massaging a ~ is a necessary indignity

star athlete  
a top student, a ~, and a caring girlfriend

star performer  
recognize our ~s (customer service)

star power  
the film hardly lacks for ~

star professor  
~s move from one university to the other

star quality  
youth, ~ and idealism  
the ~ that very few people have

star scorer  
she was a ~ (basketball)

star turn  
the case was full of dramatic ~s

star case agent  
~s fabricated reports (CIA)

Harvard's (rising academic) stars  
he had been one of ~

movie's star  
the ~

child star  
she is a Hollywood ~ gone bad

movie star  
it was my first experience with celebrities and ~s

pop star  
Youssou N'Dour, the Senegalese ~

rap star  
one of the first female ~s

rock star  
fans of the Croatian ~ Marko Perkovic (Thompson)

soccer star  
a ~ at J.E.B. Stuart High School  
David Beckham, the ~  
one of the world's highest-paid and highest-profile ~s

television star  
writers, politicians, ~s...

basketball star  
Len Bias was a ~  
the ~ Michael Jordan

country-music star  
a guitar signed by various ~s

gangsta-rap star  
he is better known as the ~ DMX

Hollywood star  
a biography of a ~  
his client list once included many ~s (PI)

martial arts star  
he looked up to the ~ Bruce Lee as a role model

rising star  
the 25-year-old ~ (film actor)  
Sgt. Murad is a ~ in this effort (Arabic speakers)  
Ocasio-Cortez is the ~ in the progressive ranks  
Joe Neguse has been considered a ~ in Democratic politics  
~ Poeti Norac has died (the French surfer)  
he is regarded as a ~ in the Democratic Party  
she was once Silicon Valley's fastest ~

rising (Hispanic) star  
the GOP has a ~ in Texas (politics)

rising (academic) star  
he had been one of Harvard's ~s

fast-rising star  
she's a ~ on the acoustic music scene

widely known and highly paid stars  
~ (network-news anchors)

academic star  
she has been an ~ at the academy (Naval Academy)  
he had been one of Harvard's rising ~s

international star  
~s in Major League Baseball

political star  
Pakistan's new ~ is bad news for the US

superstar  
she evolved from star to ~ (an actor)  
he is one of those ~ authors

nationally famous stars  
from local acts to ~ (music)

25-year-old (rising) star  
the ~ (films)

biography of a (Hollywood) star  
the ~

star was born  
a ~ (Tom Daley at Beijing Olympics)

make her a (Silicon Valley) star  
Holmes' bold claims helped ~  
♦ Listen to: [YouTube Charles Mingus-The Clown 1957](#)

**person: astronomy / star**  
**achievement, recognition & praise / superlative: astronomy**  
**/ person / star**

**star (achievement)**

star  
his ~ continued to rise  
Napoleon now became the idol, his ~ in the ascendant

star in the (neoconservative) firmament  
Bloom had become a ~

Obama's star  
~ is still rising

shooting star  
Gale Sayers was football's ~

star is still rising  
Obama's ~

star rose  
he won his first contest and his ~ quickly

star never quite rose  
his ~ (an actor)

star continued to rise  
his ~

**achievement, recognition & praise / primacy, currency,  
decline & obsolescence / superlative: astronomy / light &  
dark / person / star**

### star (decline)

falling star  
it looks as if you boys have hitched your wagon to a ~

star was (clearly) dimming  
his ~ (a baseball player)

star has dimmed  
the trailblazing 87-year-old's ~ in recent years (politician)

star (of Lucy Lunsford) has dimmed  
how the ~

star was fading  
her ~ fast (head of corporation)

star will fall  
if he doesn't make significant achievements, his ~

star has fallen  
his ~ (a teen idol)

star had (already) set  
his ~ long before his death

star had wobbled out of the heavens  
in the end, her ~ (Whitney Houston)

**decline / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence:  
astronomy / light & dark / star**

### star (five stars, etc.)

five stars  
he gave the restaurant ~

**achievement, recognition & praise / judgment: astronomy /  
sign, signal, symbol / star**

### star (north star)

north star is the proper role  
my ~ of a judge

north star is to build  
my a St. Louis where all can succeed (Tishaura Jones)

NPR's "North Star"  
he has called diversity ~ (John Lansing)

company's new "North Star"  
Zuckerberg has described the metaverse as the ~

our North Star  
equity is ~ (Health Equity Task Force)

**direction: astronomy / star**

### star (fate)

lucky stars  
he needs to thank his ~, because...

stars align  
sometimes the ~ and we're treated to an artist...  
every song is a roll of the dice, but sometimes the ~ (a hit)

stars rarely align  
the ~ to produce a winner (music)

stars are aligning  
he feels ~ (timing)

stars aligned  
the ~ when he was given a chance to direct his first film

stars have aligned  
the ~ for Lopez Obrador (election)

stars are aligned  
all the ~ in the wrong place (dire pandemic prediction)

stars aligning  
it was just perfect timing with the ~ (boxing promotion)

stars lined up  
the ~ (John Paul Stevens joins the Supreme Court)

stars have to align  
a lot of ~ for those tax increased to pass (politics)

♦ "This was written in the stars, a million miles away. Before I was ever born I was destined to do what I did..." (The great boxer Tyson "The Gypsy King" Fury after his victory over Deontay Wilder.)

♦ "Oppenheimer, of course, knew Los Alamos well. Perro Caliente was a forty-mile horseback ride across the plateau. He and his brother had explored the Jemez Mountains on horseback over many summers. / Oppenheimer got what he wanted—a spectacular view of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains—and General Groves got a site so isolated there was only a winding gravel road and one phone line into the place..." (*American Prometheus: The Triumph And Tragedy Of J. Robert Oppenheimer* by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin.)

♦ Nina Totenberg: [John Paul] Stevens' rise was, to some extent, a fluke... / Clifford Sloan: It was an accident of history, and the stars lined up in a way that could not have been possible before that precise moment and probably could not have been possible after that precise moment." (John Paul Stevens had no political ties and was known as a judge's judge. Gerald Ford, who only became president after Nixon resigned, and who was vice president only because Spiro Agnew had resigned, suddenly had the appointment to fill, at a time after Watergate when people were sick of politics. Ford appointed Stevens to the Supreme Court. and he was swiftly confirmed with bipartisan support, 98-0 in the Senate. The confirmation of Supreme Court judges has been quite different since.)

♦ "The result of collaborative efforts and compromises often leads to the proverbial committee-designed racehorse becoming a giraffe. This

process is inherent in the motion-picture business and will never change. / Sometimes, however the moons, the planets, and the stars all line up... / My Hollywood experience may be atypical, and I may not be as lucky or fortunate on my next close encounter with Hollywood, but this time, the heavenly bodies did align." ("Author's Foreword: The General's Daughter, The Book & The Movie" by Nelson DeMille.)

♦ "You couldn't line up all the stars and moons the right way to get that scenario to play out." (A murder mystery.)

**fate, fortune & chance: astronomy / star**

## star chamber (noun)

star chamber of (peculiarly) American character  
in this ~ (the so-called Gray Board / April 1954)

♦ "Strauss was relieved when the hearing board finally convened ...in Building T-3, a dilapidated two-story temporary structure built during the war on the Mall near the Washington Monument at 16<sup>th</sup> Street and Constitution... / The opposing teams of lawyers sat across from each other at two long tables positioned to form a 'T.' On one side sat the AEC's lawyers... Facing them were Oppenheimer's defense team... At the bottom of the 'T' was placed a single wooden chair, where the defendant or other witnesses sat facing the judges. When Oppenheimer was not testifying, he sat on a leather couch against the wall, behind the witness chair." (*American Prometheus: The Triumph And Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer* by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin.)

♦ "Such a wrong can never be righted; such a blot on our history never erased... We regret his great work for his country was repaid so shabbily." Henry DeWolf Smyth, about Robert Oppenheimer being stripped of his security clearance and having his reputation smeared in 1954.)

♦ The courtroom scenes in the great 1980 film *Breaker Morant* are quite affecting. The entire film can be seen as the contrast between the vibrant, vivid and complex scenes of life, love, duty, honor, and death outside the courtroom and the rigid formalism and predetermined verdict of the scenes inside.

**oppression: allusion / history / violence**

**judgment: allusion / history / violence**

## star-crossed (adjective)

star-crossed affair  
she had a ~ with the man of her dreams

star-crossed (Cuban) initiative  
Grant reviewed the ~

**fate, fortune & chance: astronomy / star**

**success & failure: astronomy / star**

## stare (stare at defeat, etc.)

staring at defeat  
she was ~ at 4-1 in the second set (tennis)

**fictive meeting & seeing: eye / verb**

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: eye / verb**

## stare down (verb)

stared down his (personal) demons  
he ~

staring down Iran  
the US is ~ (diplomacy)

stared down his opponents  
he ~ (a politician)

staring down the regime  
protestors are ~

stare down risk  
skiers ~ (crashes, fatalities, etc.)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / eye / verb**

## stare-down (noun)

stare-down over (budget) issues  
they got into a ~ (ruling party and opposition)

stare-down with the police  
some protestors stayed behind for a ~

stare-down contest  
we had a ~, and he won (conflict)

stare-down game  
in a kids' ~, you lose if you laugh or giggle

had a stare-down  
he and the coyote ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / eye**

## start (running start)

running start  
he's off to a ~ (politician runs for presidency)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: sports & games**

## startling (adjective)

startling announcement  
it was a ~ (diplomacy)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## starvation (noun)

starvation budget  
scientific agencies on ~s

♦ "Starvation budgets; skeleton staffs and crews; bare-bones care for seniors; the need for budgetary "belt-tightening"; "I'm famished, let's eat!"; "I could eat a horse!"...

♦ "Just as our hunger is not that feeling of missing a meal, so our way of being cold has need of a new word. We say 'hunger,' we say 'tiredness,' 'fear,' 'pain', we say 'winter' and they are different things. They are free words, created and used by free men who lived in comfort and suffering in their homes. If the Lagers had lasted longer a new, harsh language would have been born; and only this language could express what it means to toil the whole day in the wind, with the temperature below freezing, wearing only a shirt, underpants, cloth jacket and trousers, and in one's body nothing but weakness, hunger and knowledge of the end drawing nearer." (*If This Is A Man* by Primo Levi, Chapter 13, "October 1944.")

♦ "The fear of starvation is always hanging over the Indian peasant. For several centuries, at recurrent intervals, famine has thrown its withering shadow over India, but in recent years the pace has quickened. One of the severest crises, the great Bengal famine of 1943, is still frighteningly fresh in the minds of the peasants... In 1943 the roads and railroads served the Indian people even less than usual, because of the prior claims of the military. While the outside world was losing its hundreds of thousands of lives on the battlefield, India was losing them from starvation... When more than a million dead clogged the streets of Calcutta and other millions of bodies lay strewn over the fields of several provinces, censorship within India kept the world outside from appreciating the ghastly extent of the tragedy." (*Halfway to Freedom* by Margaret Bourke-White.)

♦ "Grit of Women" by Jack London is one of the greatest love stories in world literature.

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food**

## starvation wages (noun)

starvation wages

sweatshop workers endure ~, dangerous conditions

♦ The dictionary I use dates this phrase to 1898.

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food / work & duty**

## starved

starved for attention

he is ~ (a boy)

starved for cash

the army has been ~ since the cold war's end (Iraq)

starved for originality

audiences ~ in copycat Hollywood

starved for sex

Meagan complained she was ~ (on national TV)

cash-starved

~ budgets

love-starved

visits a ~ wife in her house

sex-starved

we find ~ girls (Internet porn site)

sports-starved

our ~ nation's hunger for baseball (during pandemic)

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: food & drink**

## Star Wars (film)

Star Wars bar scene

London was the ~ of jihad (1999)

Star Wars cantina

European Football is a ~ of leagues (2021 proposed EFL)

**allusion: film & TV**

**fantasy & reality: allusion / film**

## statement (statement victory, etc.)

Statement (1981) Thong Panty

Calvin Klein Women's ~

statement victory

England battled hard to earn the ~ (vs. Germany)

made a statement

Santana's debut album ~ about Latin music

John Carlos ~ at the 198 Olympics (raised his fist)

make a statement

he wanted to ~ (a 15-year-old school shooter)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / message: speech**

## statesman (elder statesman, etc.)

elder statesman

Jon Steward, the ~, has returned to television...

jazz ~ Anthony Braxton continues to defy expectations

hip-hop's ~ dies young (Guru)

Sonny Rollins, ~ of jazz

♦ "I'm the young guy with the elder statesmen. These old guys, they got arthritis, they can't stand in one spot for too long." (Michael Jordan talking good-natured trash about his older teammates on the Olympic Dream Team of 1992.)

**achievement, recognition & praise: government / person**

## stateswoman (elder stateswoman, etc.)

elder stateswoman

Billy Eilish, the ~ of anti-pop

**achievement, recognition & praise: government / person**

## static (noun)

static of statistics

a story can dart through the ~ into people's hearts and minds

oceans of static

locating kernels of truth within ~

chaos and static and negativity

his ~ (politics)

♦ This word is similar to *noise*.

**activity / worth & lack of worth: sound**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: sound**

**obstacles & impedance: sound**

## stay (stay of execution)

stay of execution

an increase to the yearly budget meant a ~ (project)

"stay of execution" on tree removal

the petition called for a ~ in the city

stay of execution until 2035

plug-in hybrid vehicles will probably get a ~ (before ban)

year-long stay of execution

the new plan gives library services a ~ (budget cuts)

get a (vital) stay of execution

renters will ~ (a temporary eviction ban during pandemic)

given a stay of execution

the couple ordered to pull down their eco-house was ~

**fate, fortune & chance: justice**

**punishment & recrimination: justice**

**action, inaction & delay: justice**

## stay (what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas, etc.)

what happens in Europe doesn't stay in Europe

but ~ (oil and gas needs)

♦ "What you see here, what you do here, what you hear here, when you leave here, let it stay here." (World War II. The Manhattan Project.)

**transmission: movement / verb**

## stay around (verb)

stay around

we don't know how long it will ~ (coronavirus)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: verb**

## stay away (verb)

stay away from being arbiters

they deliberately ~ of the truth (social media)

**avoidance & separation: verb**

## stay out (verb)

stay out of the drama

the US should ~ unfolding in Egypt (protests)

stay out of it

we don't want controversy, we try to ~ (Hallmark)

**avoidance & separation: container / verb**

**situation: container / verb**

## steal (steal the show, etc.)

stole the show

Travis Pastrana ~ (X Games / motocross)

she ~ at the MLS match (girl belts out national anthem)

steal headlines

we aren't here to ~ (cold-case detectives)

steal the spotlight

you can ~ in the early stages (Tour de France)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: crime / verb**

**taking & removing: crime / verb**

## steal (steal customers, etc.)

steal customers from convenience stores

Kmart hopes to ~ like 7-Eleven

stole a (close) decision

Trinidad ~ (against De La Hoya / boxing)

stole the round

he ~ at the end (a boxer)

steal the vote from Gbagbo

he was toppled when he tried to ~

**taking & removing: crime / verb**

## steal (steal dreams, etc.)

stolen my dreams and my childhood

you have ~ (Greta Thunberg)

♦ "He stole my body, virginity and power over my body." (Passed out at a Baylor frat party.)

**taking & removing: crime / verb**

## steal (steal a life)

steal a life

see *life* (steal a life)

## steam (verb)

steaming

they said, "let's go," they were just ~ (angry)

steaming over this

I'm ~ and ready to explode (angry)

**feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / pressure / temperature / verb**

## steam (blow / let off steam)

blew off steam

he ~ in the Kamnik Alps (troubled climber)

blow off (a little) steam

on Fridays after work I like to ~

let off steam

if your child is high-spirited, let her go outside to ~

let out steam

I've been running since law school, just to ~

**amelioration & renewal: pressure / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: pressure / verb**

## steam (pick up steam, etc.)

gathering steam

job growth is ~

it looked like PMS as a defense was ~

pick up steam

it looks like it's starting to ~ (firefighter on wildfire)

picking up steam

the US job market is ~

♦ "They seem almost like beasts, don't they? You stand close to one, and it gives off heat. The compressors pant. When it's going up a steep grade, the rods are going back and forth in a cyclic motion and the thing strains and grunts. To my mind, there is nothing more romantic. You can hear them from afar, and they speak to us of the ability to travel to different places and feel mystical things." (Gary Hunter, about the steam locomotives on the Jitong railway.)

**force: train / verb**

## steam (full steam, etc.)

head of steam

Biden needs a ~ heading into Super Tuesday (election)

full steam ahead

prosecutors are moving ~

♦ "Steam under high pressure is dangerous, of course. People were killed (140 in a gigantic boiler explosion in Charleston in 1838, for instance). Cassandras denounced what they saw as a troubling new American tendency to recklessness and blind ambition: 'Go Ahead!' seemed to one diarist of the time to be the watchword of the age, 'regardless of the consequences and indifferent to the value of human life.'" (*The Men Who United The States* by Simon Winchester.)

**force: train**

## steam (lose steam)

losing steam

the campaign was ~

ran out of steam  
she ~ in the home straight (800-meter race)

**force: train / verb**

## steam (take the steam out, etc.)

take the steam out of the protests  
the president is trying to ~ (France)

**force: train / verb**

**amelioration & renewal: pressure / verb**

## steamroll (verb)

steamrolled his way to titles  
he ~ in 2014 and 2015 (a wrestler)

steamrolling her way through the division  
she is ~ (UK boxer Caroline Dubois)

steamrolled to victory  
the Americans ~ (sports)

steamrolled into Iraq and Syria  
the group ~ in 2014 (Isis)

steamrolled through the playoffs  
the Detroit Pistons ~ (basketball)

steamrolled (rival) Bernie Sanders  
Joe Biden has ~ in primary elections

steamroll the (traditional studio) system  
streaming companies are going to ~

steamroll Siberia and the Far East  
if the economy doesn't improve, China will ~

**destruction / force: tools & technology / verb**

## steamrolled (and steamrollered)

steamrolled by a (billionaire) bully  
I will not allow our food community to be ~

steamrolled by Ovechkin  
Luongo is fine after being ~ (hockey collision)

steamrolled (here) by the pandemic  
we were ~ but now infection rates are low (NYC)

get steamrollered  
people will get hurt, people are going to get ~ (migration)

♦ "The people who come to California are brave, this is a high-risk, high-reward state. There is going to be a lot of road kill, people are going to get hurt, people are going to get steamrollered, but in the end you have some people who are going to succeed..." ("The California Century: From Hollywood to Silicon Valley," BBC, Sounds, 17 June 2020, wonderfully narrated by Stanley Tucci.)

**destruction / force: tools & technology**

## steamroller (noun)

fearless steamroller  
his well-cultivated image as a ~

**force: tools & technology**

## steamy (adjective)

steamy  
Bollywood soap operas are not as ~ as Latin ones

steamy (sex) movie  
I watched this ~

steamy (Australian) videos  
tourists will want to buy ~

got steamy  
our phone conversation ~ (sex talk)

**sex: temperature**

## steel (strength)

steel  
you have been baptized in fire and come out ~ (combat)

ring of steel  
Times Square will be a ~ (New Year's security)

**strength & weakness: materials & substances**

## steep (verb)

steeped myself in classics  
at Oxford, I ~

steep myself in the (subject) matter  
I try to ~ (a famous film editor)

steeped himself in the theories  
at Oxford, he ~ of Richard Dawkins (scientist)

**absorption & immersion: verb / water**

## steeped

steeped in blood  
he is so ~ as to be beyond redemption (a Rwandan)

steeped in the (French Revolutionary) heritage  
he was ~ (Napoleon)

steeped in history  
this rivalry is ~ (Man U vs. Liverpool / soccer)

steeped in turmoil  
the team is ~ (sports)

**absorption & immersion: water**

## steer (verb)

steered contracts to cronies  
he ~ (political corruption)

steered money to his mistress' husband  
he ~ (a politician)

steer money to a program  
the tried to ~ that... (controversy)

steer patients towards abortion  
counselors may ~ (genetic diseases)

steer them in the right direction

you have to ~ (training elite athletes)

steer mothers in the right direction  
we need to ~ (breastfeeding)

steered people into returning  
the recession has ~ to school

steer him from bad influences  
some who worried did try to ~ (troubled football player)

steered away from describing  
he ~ his injury (an athlete)

steer people away from generics  
drug companies may hype expensive products to ~

steers the talk away from gay issues  
she ~ (marriage)

steer the author away from stereotypes and clichés  
the goal is to ~ (“sensitivity readers”)

steers us off course  
sometimes life ~

steers the conversation  
he ~ (group therapy)

steered a middle course  
he ~ (Abraham Lincoln)

**directing: boat / mechanism / verb**

**direction: boat / mechanism / verb**

### **steer (steer clear of something)**

steered clear of controversy  
he has ~ (an ex-politician)

steer clear of drugs  
programs to help students ~

steers clear of (clothing) styles  
he ~ favored by Hispanic gangs

**avoidance & separation: boat / mechanism / verb**

### **steering wheel (control)**

steering wheel of the Republican Party  
there is a fight to grab control of the ~

at the wheel  
the deputy attorney general will be ~ for the final weeks...  
new bus driver ~ of Man Utd coach, same result (soccer)

put his hand on the wheel at the Justice Department  
Trump tried to ~ and control the investigation

grab hold of the industry’s steering wheel  
Washington can no longer just ~ (auto making)

have two hands firmly on the steering wheel  
I’ll ~ (PM Netanyahu’s latest coalition)

**control & lack of control: mechanism**

### **stellar (adjective)**

stellar (boxing) ability  
Mayweather is honing De La Hoya's already ~

stellar (young) boxer  
Dmitriy Salita is a ~ and an Orthodox Jew

stellar (job) candidate  
she seems like a ~

stellar (employment) record  
he was denied partnership despite a ~ with the firm

stellar (performance) reviews  
he had ~ (a policeman)

stellar views  
the house has across the Anacostia to the Capitol

stellar year  
the company had a ~ (profits)

stellar body of work  
she has a ~ (a biologist)

**superlative: astronomy / star**

### **stem (from stem to stern)**

from stem to stern  
the book is anti-religious ~

**extent & scope: boat**

### **stench (noun)**

stench of corruption  
he has begun to remove the ~ (brave Newark mayor)

survive the stench  
will this institution ~ that this creates (US court decision)

**evidence: smell**

### **step (shape)**

step pyramid  
Djoser’s ~ at Saqqara (Egypt)

step waterfall  
a cascade or ~ isn't steep, doesn't plunge

**shape: stair**

### **step (first step, etc.)**

good first step  
the repeal is a ~ (politics)

first step toward stability  
housing is only the ~ (homeless)

first step towards keeping  
the measure is a ~ a campaign promise

first step in limiting  
EPA takes ~ aircraft emission

first step to repeal

this is the ~ Obamacare (politics)

**sequence: walking, running & jumping**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: walking, running & jumping**

### **step (step ahead / pursuit)**

one step ahead of him

I'm trying to stay ~ (woman being stalked)

one step ahead of them

but every time he was ~ and he got away (hunt for KSM)

one step ahead of us

he was ~ (a criminal)

**pursuit, capture & escape: walking, running & jumping**

### **step (a step ahead / competition)**

one step ahead of her daughter

she tries to stay ~ (a 13-year-old / dating, etc.)

one step ahead of their teachers

it's easy for students to stay at least ~ (cheating)

one step ahead of our kids

we've got to stay ~

at least one step ahead

cheaters are always going to be ~ of the testers

remained a step ahead

AOL has ~, first with chat and email...

stay one step ahead

she tries to ~ of her daughter (a 13-year-old / dating)

**competition: walking, running & jumping**

### **step (a step away)**

step away

he's just a ~ from success (a singer)

**proximity: walking, running & jumping**

### **step (a step closer)**

one step closer to Orwell's 1984

and just like that, we are ~, wow...

one step closer to a second term

he is ~ (Hawaiian politics)

one step closer to being

he is ~ back in the NFL (Kaepernick)

**proximity: walking, running & jumping**

### **step (every step of the way)**

every step of the way

he was there ~ (supporting us)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: walking, running & jumping**

### **step (a step in the right direction)**

step in the right direction

from what I hear, it's a ~

the decision is a small ~

this is a ~, but there is still a long way to go

♦ "Rev Al Sharpton, the civil rights activist, said the decision was 'a step in the right direction but not the end of the walk.'" (President elect Biden nominates Lloyd Austin as his Secretary of Defense.)

♦ A former California State prosecutor, speaking about a legal takedown, said, "This case was a huge *stab* in the right direction." (Step in the right direction? Stab or shot in the dark? Is this an "eggcorn"?)

**progress & lack of progress: direction / journeys & trips / walking, running & jumping**

### **step (a step in the wrong direction)**

step in the wrong direction

this is a ~

**failure, accident & impairment: direction / journeys & trips / walking, running & jumping**

### **step (a step forward)**

step forward

they are trying to take things a ~

one step forward

it's been ~, one step back (USMNT / soccer)

big step forward

this is an opportunity to take a ~

bold step forward

the commission has taken a ~

tremendous step forward

we think this is a ~ (a conference)

step forward from the ideological dark ages

this is a ~ (education issue)

taken a (giant) step forward

our nation has ~ on the issue of race

**progress & lack of progress: direction / journeys & trips / walking, running & jumping**

### **step (a step back / backwards)**

a step back

the team has taken ~ (regressed)

a step back for us

it's ~ today, but we need to shake it off and go again

a step backwards

this is a ~ to the bad old days (homeless policy)

the game was ~ (disappointed soccer coach)

a step backwards to the bad old days

this is ~ of the 1980s (policy)

a (massive) step backward for the state of Iowa

this bill is ~ (a Trans issue)

two steps back

it's been one step forward, ~ (USMNT / soccer)

**progress & lack of progress: direction / journeys & trips / walking, running & jumping**

### **step (not one step back)**

not one step back

the time has come to finish retreating, ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: direction / walking, running & jumping**

### **step (in step)**

in step with New Yorkers

her views are more ~ (politician)

in step with the times

he is not ~

in step with voters

she is ~ (a politician)

more in step

his conservatism is ~ with Republicans (politics)

marched in step

his career has ~ with the growth of the field

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity / unanimity & consensus: military / walking, running & jumping**

### **step (out of step)**

out of step with his colleagues

he is ~ (a politician)

out of step with the consumers

the company seems ~ (autos)

out of step with the nation's

his priorities are ~ (president)

out of the step with the times

he may be ~, but... (songwriter)

out of step with the values

he is ~ of the modern Democratic Party (Joe Biden 2019)

out of step with the voters

his views are ~ (politics)

out of step with the (state's) values

his views are ~ (politician)

out-of-step, against-the-grain, different-drummer  
~ types

stay out of step

politicians can only ~ with their political base for so long

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity / unanimity & consensus: military / walking, running & jumping**

### **step (baby steps, etc.)**

baby step in a complex number of steps

this is one ~ (a web site concerning COVID vaccines)

toddler steps towards equality

we have made some ~, and then we fall back

take baby steps

on the ridge leading to the Hillary Step I could only ~  
let's ~ without rushing (post-COVID concerts, etc.)

**progress & lack of progress: baby / walking, running & jumping**

### **step (watch one's step)**

watch their step

foreigners must ~ (Egyptian nationalism)

**danger: walking, running & jumping**

### **step aside (verb)**

step aside for a younger man

it is better that he ~ (boss)

♦ "[We] saw Chris Harrison, the host, step in that controversy, then step aside, now he has stepped down." (Clever scripting on ABC.)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: walking, running & jumping / verb**

### **step away (verb)**

stepped away from boxing

he ~ because of the politics of the sport (Quartey)

step away from our devices

it's harder than ever to ~ (smart phones, computers, etc.)

step away from them

I didn't want to ~ (a film directors speaks of themes)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: walking, running & jumping / verb**

### **step back (perspective)**

step back

it's a good time to ~ and think about the future (NASA)

it's important to ~ and see the big picture

♦ "Some of us must say, 'Let's step back for a moment...and think through the implications of our actions today so that this does not spiral out of control...'" (Congresswoman Barbara Lee, the only person to vote against the congressional mandate for the war in Afghanistan following 9/11.)

**context: picture / position / verb**

**perception, perspective & point of view: picture / position / verb**

### **step back (sequence)**

step back

we are going to ~ now to explore another issue

**sequence: walking, running & jumping / verb**

### **step back (step back from something)**

step back

they plan to ~ as senior members of the Royal Family

step back from the brink

they must ~ (rioters battle soldiers)

**avoidance & separation: walking, running & jumping**

## stepchild (and stepson, etc.)

stepchild position

the ~ of intelligence officers...

her stepson

he was now Fortune's pet, instead of ~ (change to good)

bad stepchild

he portrays Sony management as the ~ (activist investor)

♦ "He was now Fortune's pet instead of her stepson." (Change in fortune to good fortune from awful fortune.)

♦ "The menstrual cycle is like the stepsister that gets ignored. It's considered unimportant in the grand scheme of things, but it actually really is important to people day-to-day." (Dr. Alison Edelman, quoted in "COVID vaccines may briefly change your menstrual cycle, but you should still get one" by Geoff Brumfiel, NPR, Morning Edition, January 6, 2022.)

**relationship / person: family**

**worth & lack of worth: family / person**

## step down (verb)

step down

protestors are calling on the King to ~

stepping down as the chief executive officer

she is ~

steps down as the coach

Klinsmann ~ of Germany (World Cup soccer)

steps down as (Cuban) leader

Castro ~ (headline)

♦ "[We] saw Chris Harrison, the host, step in that controversy, then step aside, now he has stepped down." (Clever scripting on ABC.)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: direction / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## step forward (verb)

step forward

victims are reluctant to ~ in these cases (harassment)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: walking, running & jumping**

## step in (verb)

step in

the grownups must ~ and clean up the mess (finance)

the president could ~ to fire people (politics)

step up and step in

I am begging parents to ~ (school shootings)

♦ "[We] saw Chris Harrison, the host, step in that controversy, then step aside, now he has stepped down." (Clever scripting on ABC.)

**involvement: verb / walking, running & jumping**

## step into (verb)

stepped into the breach

ordinary citizens have ~ (disaster relief)

stepping into his truth

he is rebooting his life and ~ (gay who had wife, kids)

♦ "he is a man who is basically rebooting his life and stepping into his truth and embracing the fact that he's a gay black man in the South." (Katori Hall.)

♦ Step in / lean in and embrace it...

**commitment & determination: gesture / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## stepmother (cruelty)

heartless stepmother

the EU is a ~ trying to drive Greece out of the family

**relationship: family**

## stepping stone

stepping stone

she characterized the deal as a "~" (to peace)

stepping stone to get

migrants see Italy as a ~ them to France

stepping stone to the EU

they are here to use Belarus as a ~ (refugees)

stepping stone on (South Sudan's) path

the polls are an important ~ to nationhood (2010)

stepping stone event

this is seen as a ~ ahead of next year's event (COP25)

important stepping stone

the negotiations are an ~ on the road to peace

using college basketball as a stepping stone

he went prep to pro, rather than ~ (LeBron James)

saw the job as a stepping stone

she ~ (modeling)

saw it as a stepping stone

Shackleton ~ (job with RSGS)

use Belarus as a stepping stone

they are here to ~ to the EU (refugees)

**help & assistance: bridge / journeys & trips / river**

**division & connection: bridge / journeys & trips / river**

## step up (increase)

stepped up their courtship

both India and China have ~ of Africa

stepped up their drills

the marines have ~, a Pentagon adviser said

stepping up enforcement

officials are ~ of anti-discrimination laws in education

stepped up our game

we've ~ since 2016 (protecting US elections)

stepped up (naval) patrols

Italy and Libya have ~ to reduce the flow of migrants

stepped up the punishments

he ~ for food theft, which were already draconic

step up the tempo  
NASA believes it can ~ of launchings (shuttle)

**increase & decrease: electricity / verb**

## step up (rise to the occasion)

step up  
great leaders ~ and take responsibility  
be a patriot, ~, do the right thing (Covid mask wearing)

stepped up to help  
his colleagues ~ him (sick wife)

step up to their challenge  
who among you will ~

step up to the plate  
parents have to ~ (having "sex talk" with teen kids)

step up and step in  
I am begging parents to ~ (school shootings)

step up and deal with it  
we saw law enforcement ~ (Austin serial bomber)

step up or let down  
you can ~ your colleagues

♦ "Each and every one of us has to step up, speak up, stand up, do something." (Arianna Huffington, director of the Milwaukee Office of Violence and Prevention.)

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things / responsibility:  
walking, running & jumping / verb**

## steroids (on steroids)

AI on steroids  
Amazon can deliver in two days because of ~

hang-glider on steroids  
they are a ~ (hypersonic weapons)

Pizzagate on steroids  
the theory is kind of a ~ (conspiracy)

Reaganomics on steroids  
Trump's policy is ~

put it on steroids  
racism didn't start with him, but he ~ (politics)

♦ "The report styles STEM as a shot of anabolics our workforce needs to stay in fighting shape." (Education. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.)

♦ "There's a lot of different factors that contribute to absenteeism in a normal year and they're all put on steroids with the pandemic." (FutureEd Associate Director Phyllis Jordan in 2023.)

♦ "Over the past few decades, new combinations of materials like microsilica and fly ash...have made concrete steroidal strong...and steel has gotten sturdier too..." ("Can A Building Be Too Tall?" by Bianca Bosker, *The Atlantic*, January / February 2023.)

**force / increase & decrease / power / strength &  
weakness: health & medicine**

## stew (mixture)

stew of chemicals  
workers breathed a ~ (9/11)

stew of (caustic political) commentary  
the documentary film is a ~

stew of (energizing) contradictions  
it is a ~ (Game of Thrones)

stew of (inhaled) particles  
the burning ~ was composed of many things (9/11)

stew of religion, politics and (anti-immigrant) feeling  
the case involved a ~ (attempt to build mosque)

stew of (disappointed) separatists and Islamists  
the country is a seething ~

chemical stew  
sewers are ~s

toxic stew  
the broken well produced a ~ of gas and chemicals

♦ *Roumeli* is a stew in which the ingredients, delicious as many are, never quite blend." ("The End of the Road" by Daniel Mendelsohn.)

**mixture: food & drink**

## steward (role)

stewards of the Earth  
we are ~

stewards of the environment  
native people as ~

stewards of the land  
native residents are better ~ than newcomers

**help & assistance: boat / person / plane / train**

## stick (stick by / stick with somebody)

stick by him  
we will ~

**attachment: materials & substances / verb  
allegiance, support & betrayal: materials & substances /  
verb**

## stick (adhere to, follow)

stick to the evidence  
people in traditional medicine said he did not ~

stick to our plan  
let's ~...

stuck to that principle  
and he ~ (Abraham Lincoln)

stick to the rules  
leaders tell citizens to ~ (coronavirus pandemic)

stuck to my story  
and I ~ (interviewed by FBI)

sticking to a (proven) strategy  
he was ~ (Tour de France)

stick to its (newly aggressive) strategy  
how long the US can ~ (in Iraq)

stick to Islamic values and traditions  
she urged women to ~ (Saudi royal)

stick with their given names  
many immigrants ~ (Takero, Quirino, etc.)

stick with the rules  
he must ~ of the game

**attachment: materials & substances / verb**

### stick (persist)

stick  
the allegations of child abuse didn't ~ (messy divorce)  
there is uncertainty whether the recovery will ~  
the deal might not ~ (diplomacy)

stuck  
he threw policies at the wall and saw what ~ (FDR)

stuck at it  
he ~ (medical experiments)

stuck with me  
it has ~ ever since  
it was something that has ~ (bad memories from prison)

sticks to you  
it is stunning, and it ~ (the movie *A face in the Crowd*)

sticks in your mind  
it ~ forever (a combat memory)

throw something at a wall and see what sticks  
see *wall (throw something at a wall)*

**attachment: materials & substances / verb**

**survival, persistence & endurance: materials & substances / verb**

### stick (noun)

stick to hit Kennedy with  
this is an easy ~ (Chappaquiddick / Mary Jo Kopechne)

♦ "And certainly, if you're a Republican, this is an easy, you know, stick to hit Kennedy with, and he deserves it." (Jon Ward, on Ted Kennedy, Chappaquiddick, and Mary Jo Kopechne.)

**coercion & motivation: speech / violence / weapon**

**oppression: speech / violence / weapon**

### stick it to (stick it to somebody, etc.)

stick it to her  
~, that's what she was trying to do to you (lawsuit)

♦ "You should stick a pig," said Ralph fiercely. "They always talk about sticking a pig." (*Lord Of The Flies* by William Golding.)

**punishment & recrimination: violence / verb**

### stick together (verb)

stick together  
we women should ~

**attachment: materials & substances / verb**

**allegiance, support & betrayal: materials & substances / verb**

### sticky (a sticky situation, etc.)

sticky situation  
even the most independent women face ~s

get sticky  
getting involved in the rumor mill at work can ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances**

**situation: materials & substances**

### stifle (verb)

stifled her mother  
his father ~

stifle speech  
big tech companies continue to ~ (de-platforming, etc.)

**oppression: breathing / verb**

### stifling (adjective)

stifling  
the byzantine regulations are ~

**oppression: breathing**

### stigma (noun)

stigma of adoption  
we must break down the ~

stigma of AIDS  
the ~ is still a heavy burden

stigma, marginalization and discrimination  
~ against the communities hit hardest (monkeypox)

STI stigma  
we need to fight ~ (formerly known as STD)

rape stigma  
TV appearance of teen victims suggests the ~ is fading

weight stigma  
the pain of ~ experienced in childhood  
~ poses direct and significant consequences

severe social stigma  
there is a ~ attached to depression

discrimination and stigma  
the ~ they could face (coronavirus patients)

prejudice and stigma  
why do heroin addicts face so much ~

shame and stigma  
he wants to remove ~ around hoarding

stigma is fading  
the TV appearance of teen victims suggests the rape ~

break down the stigma  
we must ~ of adoption

erase the stigma  
they seek to ~ of "so gay" (So Gay Rosé wine)

reduce the stigma

the changes are intended to ~ of being in jail (language)

♦ "New York has amended several state laws to remove 'inmate' and replace it with 'incarcerated person' to refer to people serving prison time. / The changes...are intended to reduce the stigma of being in jail. Prison reform advocates have said the term 'inmate' has a dehumanizing effect. Prisoners say it can feel degrading..." ("New York scraps word 'inmate' in state law" by Maysoun Khan, AP, August 12, 2022.)

♦ "Do you know the stigmatism of Alabama education?" (Kayvon Thibodaux, a football player.)

♦ "This is my truth. I am not a stigma. I'm a person that walks their life." (Selena Gomez, quoted in *People* magazine, and again on a GMA feature story touting Gomez's new mental-health platform WonderMind.)

♦ "STIGMA: *literally a brand*. While a *stigma* with us is an unpleasant mark of disgrace it used to be a lot more painful than that. When the officials *stigmatized* a petty criminal in 17<sup>th</sup>-century England, they actually branded him with a red-hot iron...The word *stigma* in Greek meant a brand made by a pointed instrument." (*Word Origins And Their Romantic Stories* by Wilfred Funk, Litt.D.)

**characterization: fire / mark**

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## stigmatization (oppression)

weight-related stigmatisation

~ and bullying

avoid stigmatization

many wore face masks to ~ (Pride Parade)

**characterization: fire / mark**

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## stigmatize (and destigmatize / verb)

destigmatize mental illness

a crisis hotline, a campaign to ~... (veterans)

stigmatize the mentally ill

people still ~

clarify and destigmatize

my goal was to help ~ autism (Julia / Sesame Street)

♦ In the 1600s in England, a thief would be stigmatized, or branded, with the letter T.

♦ "Bakhtiar said that too often stories like theirs will come out 'in a scandal.' / 'But we're openly showing it and proud of it,' Bakhtiar, 34, said during a video interview, as Brown and Al-Khayyal sat on either side. 'It should be destigmatized. It's a very valid familial structure that people should embrace.'" ("Georgia lawmaker comes out as nonmonogamous: 'I'm in love with two wonderful people'" by Jo Yurcaba, NBC, Sept. 28, 2022. Yurcaba's story reads like fiction and is the urtext for these sorts of things.)

♦ see also *normalize (groups)*

**characterization: fire / mark / verb**

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection / verb**

## stigmatizing

less stigmatizing

"infection" is more accurate and ~ than "disease" (STD / SIT)

**characterization: fire / mark**

**inclusion & exclusion: division & connection**

## stillborn (adjective)

stillborn

his only ever band was ~ (he refocused as solo artist)

stillborn effort

he documents a ~ to develop new antiviral agents

**growth & development: baby / birth / death & life**

**survival, persistence & endurance: baby / birth / death & life**

## sting (noun)

take the sting out of giving and getting

five tips to ~ advice

**feeling, emotion & effect: insect / sensation**

## stinging (adjective)

stinging accusations

his ~ about EU institutions ring true

stinging article

she wrote a ~ criticizing...

stinging blow

the jury's decision was a ~

stinging criticism

officials unleashed ~ at the Fed

stinging defeat

it was a ~ for the Democrats (elections)

stinging rebuke

the elections were a ~ to the Democrats

the Vatican delivered a ~ to American nuns

his comments are a ~ of Obama (diplomacy)

**feeling, emotion & effect: insect / sensation**

## stink (verb)

stinks

this situation ~

stank

their football team ~ (an NFL team)

stink to high heaven

this thing's gonna ~ (political impeachment)

stinks a mile away

the prejudice ~ (partisanship)

**corruption / flaws & lack of flaws: smell / verb**

## stink (noun)

stink

how big of a ~ does he make (a NFL quarterback)

**conflict / resistance, opposition & defeat: smell**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: smell**

## stink (raise a stink)

raising a huge big stink  
I'm ~ because it's wrong

raising a stink about the article  
no one is ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: smell / verb**  
**conflict / resistance, opposition & defeat: smell / verb**

## stir (effect)

stir in the (national news) media  
it created a ~

stir among the (general) public  
the issue has caused little ~

huge stir  
a gay student who ran for homecoming queen caused a ~

caused a stir  
the antiwar statements of a few Oscar winners ~

causing such a stir  
why Beto O'Rourke is ~ in 2020 race

created a stir  
it ~ in the national news media

**effect / feeling, emotion & effect: cooking**

## stir (verb)

stirred passions across North Africa  
the unrest in Tunisia has ~ (2011)

stirs the drink  
he's the straw that ~ in Congress

stirred fears  
the attacks ~ that...

stirred the (public) imagination  
the killer's ability to avoid capture has ~

stir the pot  
see *pot* (*stir the pot*)

**initiation: cooking / verb**

## stir up (resemblance)

stirred up a (great) dust  
all of the activity ~ above the village (powwow)

**resemblance: cooking / verb**

## stir up (verb)

stir up controversy  
he tries to ~ (college Republican)

stirred up a critical storm  
the novel ~ (Thani Al-Suwaidi)

stir up gossip  
this will ~

stir up (racial) hatred  
she likes to ~ (a critic of MSNBC's Joy Reid)

stir up indignation  
we hope to ~ and stimulate action (MSF)

stir up (Democratic) turnout  
they sent leaders across the country to ~

**creation & transformation / initiation: cooking / verb**

## stitched together

stitched together  
it's a plethora of individual mini-storylines ~ (a film)

♦ "Her videos were subsequently stitched by people who were shocked that a prisoner..." (See the Wikipedia entry "image stitching.")

**creation & transformation: cloth**

## stitch together (verb)

stitched the dispatches together into a story  
he ~ (a journalist)

stitched together a community  
we have ~ of nations

♦ "When American public schools macramé'd together the words *language*, *arts*, and *English*, starting in the 1970s, they created a tangle: ELA."

**creation & transformation: cloth / verb**

## stock (worth)

stock  
his ~ is surely set to soar (boxer after fight)  
his ~ was high in the early weeks of the season (a coach)  
his ~ has fallen so much (boxer loses championship)

stock has risen  
his ~ steadily in the West Wing (vice-president)  
his ~ even though he lost tonight (a boxer)

stock (in Ubud) shot up  
after that, his ~ (*East of Home* by Santha Rama Rau)

**worth & lack of worth: money**

## stoic (adjective)

stoic about the lockdown  
she was ~ (a boutique manager in Italy)

stoic (Norwegian immigrant) farmers  
he grew up in a family descended from ~

stoic, tough, and American  
the pressure to be ~ (an athlete with CTE)

remained stoic  
he ~ as the verdict was announced

**feeling, emotion & effect: allusion**

**character & personality: allusion**

## stoke (verb)

stoke (racial) animosity

the flag issue has helped to ~

stoke a debate  
the incident seemed likely to ~ about...

stoked (furious) discussion  
the issue has ~ at the Website

stoking fears  
the government blames the media for ~ (Sri Lanka)

stoke the fire  
increasing his punishment will only ~

stoking the (racial) fires  
he is ~ (a politician)

stoked the fires  
the issue has ~ of sectarian violence

stoked hysteria  
the media have ~ (public health)

stoked (local) outrage  
the company's policies have ~ (mining)

stoked protests  
the acquittal of the soldiers ~

stoke (racial) resentment  
the right is trying to ~

stokes resentment  
she ~ of elites (a politician)

stoking their wrath  
the state media have been ~

**initiation: fire / verb**  
**increase & decrease: fire / verb**

**stoked (increased)**

stoked, fueled, and manipulated  
hatred can be ~ (Bosnia)

**increase & decrease / initiation: fire**

**stolen (taken)**

stolen  
their lives were ~ (school shooting)

stolen from you  
you can have the election ~ (Hillary Clinton about 2016)

**taking & removing: crime**

**stolen (stolen generation, etc.)**

‘stolen generation’  
her father was part of the ~ (Australian aborigines)

had their childhoods stolen  
these young women ~ (abuse of gymnasts)

♦ “The property was stolen from us because it was bringing Black and white people together to preserve democracy. The land should be repatriated, back to the Highlander Folk School, which is now the Highlander Research and Education Center.” (Ash-Lee Woodard Henderson. From “Fight over future of library that sparked civil rights

ideas” by Travis Loller, AP, September 3, 2022. A very interesting article.)

♦ “Melina Abdullah, a friend of Patrisse Cullors and co-founder of Black Lives Matter Los Angeles, described the focus on narcotics as an ‘assassination of Keenan’s character after they’ve already stolen his body.’” (“A cousin of a prominent Black Lives Matter founder died after being tased by police” by Emily Olsen, NPR, January 14, 2023.)

**inclusion & exclusion: possession**

**stomach (accept)**

stomach being  
I can no longer ~ a part of this (computer engineer quits)

stomach injustice  
she could not ~ (Madeleine Albright / Kosovo)

hard to stomach  
it’s ~ (sudden death of young athlete)

**consumption: food & drink / stomach / verb**  
**acceptance & rejection: food & drink / stomach / verb**

**stomach (food)**

stomach  
an army marches on its ~

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: food & drink**

**stomach (eagerness)**

stomach to plunge into endless war  
the American people don’t have the ~

stomach for battle  
an Iraqi Army unit showed little ~

stomach for the (entitlement) fight  
the president clearly has no ~

stomach for what’s ahead  
it’s not clear that the American people have the ~ (war)

stomach for boxing  
his heart and ~ are no longer there

stomach for fighting  
he has no ~

stomach for tackling  
politicians have no ~ the issue (immigration)

heart and stomach  
his ~ for boxing are no longer there

have the stomach  
do the American people ~ for what’s ahead (war)

**eagerness & reluctance: food & drink / stomach**

**stomach (turn one’s stomach)**

turned my stomach  
I saw some stuff that ~ (combat in Iraq)

**feeling, emotion & effect: stomach / verb**  
**acceptance & rejection: stomach / verb**

## stomach (the pit of one's stomach)

pit-of-the-stomach

fear, dread, that ~ feeling when the news broke...

in the pit of my stomach

it was pretty much dread ~ (pandemic)

I had a bad feeling ~ in the ninth inning (baseball)

in the pit of her stomach

she woke with a bad feeling ~ (wildfires)

♦ "I feel that same pit in my stomach as so many of you today do."  
(Governor Jared Polis of Colorado, expressing grief at a mass shooting at a gay bar in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Is this an eggcorn? Word salad? The reading of a poorly written teleprompter? A performance / competency error? Who knows? American English grows increasingly more unstable.)

♦ "If you have a feeling in the pit of your stomach, you have a tight or sick feeling in your stomach, usually because you are afraid or anxious."

**feeling, emotion & effect: stomach**

## stomping grounds (and stamping grounds)

stomping ground of icons

Chicago is the formative ~ (Michael Jordan, the Obamas)

stomping ground of South Boston

the FBI brought him back to his old ~ to be tried (mobster)

Whitey Bulger's old stomping ground

South Boston, ~

her dependable stomping ground

the dance floor was ~

his old stomping ground

he returned to Seattle, ~

his old stamping grounds

this was ~ (a red-light district)

**area: animal**

## stone (throw stones, etc.)

stone throwing

it's time to call a halt to all the ~

casting stones

if all you're doing is ~, you probably won't get that far

throw stones

people in glass houses should not ~

**accusation & criticism: ground, terrain & land**

## stone (turn over every stone, etc.)

no stone

~ has been left unturned (a criminal investigation)

**difficulty, easiness & effort / pursuit, capture & escape / searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / verb**

## Stone Age

Stone Age

the very early days of the internet, Web 1.0, AKA the ~

colithic in outlook

*The Times* leaders on 'motor-cars' were ~

take society back to the Stone Age

they want to ~ (suppression of media)

**growth & development: history**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: history**

**past & present / time: history**

## stone-faced (adjective)

stone-faced

he was relatively ~ at the hearing (charged with murder)

**appearance: face / materials & substances**

**concealment & lack of concealment / feeling, emotion &**

**effect: face / materials & substances**

## stone-hearted

stone-hearted world

this ~

**heart: materials & substances**

**empathy & lack of empathy: heart**

## Stonehenge (America's Stonehenge, etc.)

America's Stonehenge

it was known as ~ (Georgia Guidestones, Elberton, GA)

♦ **Manhattanhenge; Chicagohenge; Baltimorehenge; Torontohenge...**  
(Setting sun lights up urban canyons.)

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## stone's throw

stone's throw from the JFK airport

a ~ is a Portuguese neighborhood

**proximity: arm**

## stonewall (Operation Stonewall, etc.)

Operation Stonewall

~ interdicted Axis blockage runners from the Far East

**proper name: materials & substances / wall**

## stonewall (verb)

stonewalled the Swiss

the CIA ~ (investigation)

stonewalling

he was ~ very successfully (expert witness at trial)

the White House is ~ so aggressively

**obstacles & impedance: infrastructure / wall / verb**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: infrastructure / wall / verb**

## stoop (behavior)

stooped to

this is something no self-respecting senator has ever ~

stoop to that

why would you ~ (behavior)  
I won't call him names, I won't ~ (politics)

stoop to his level  
don't ~

stoop to that level  
it is not necessary to ~ (racial insults)

stoop so low  
who would have thought people could ~ (discrimination)

**behavior: direction / height / verb**

## stop (stop at nothing)

stop at nothing  
he will ~ to silence the truth  
they are so desperate to win they will ~  
they will ~ to destroy the president (politics)

stops at nothing  
Candi Station ~ to create

**behavior / restraint & lack of restraint: distance / verb**

## stop (pull out all the stops)

pull out all the stops  
we're going to ~ to get our arms around this (vaccination roll-out)

pulled out all the stops  
we ~ (investigation of child abduction)

♦ This idiom relates to a pipe organ.

**commitment & determination: music / verb**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: music / verb**

**restraint & lack of restraint: music / verb**

## stopped up

stopped up  
the flow of convicts to North America was ~

♦ "As soon as the American outlet was stopped up, English prisons began to overflow." (*The Fatal Shore: The Epic of Australia's Founding* by Robert Hughes.)

**obstacles & impedance: infrastructure / movement / pressure / water**

## storm (verb)

stormed the (park) gates  
the kids ~

stormed back to win  
the team ~ (sports)

stormed the barricades  
he ~s (to hold church accountable)

**amount & effect / force: storm / verb**

## storm (by storm)

by storm  
she took Hollywood ~  
she has taken the music world ~ (Lizzo)

what started as a joke has taken the web ~  
he took the whole music world ~ ("Sexual Healing")

taken the world by storm  
her *Table Manners* podcast seems to have ~ (Jessie Ware)

♦ "The fire from the walls never checked the soldiers of the 3rd division for a moment—they reached them in perfect order, and, rearing their ladders, began to escalate; but for that the foe were fully prepared. Enormous beams of timber, huge stones, loaded shell, cold shot launched from the hand, grenades, and missiles of every kind, were rained upon their devoted heads, crushing to death all who planted foot on the foremost ladders; while a murderous discharge of musketry dealt destruction on the centre and rear of the columns...[O]ur intrepid soldiers still strove to reach the walls. By one ladder at last they were won." (Badajoz, 1812, from *British Battles on Land and Sea* by James Grant.)

**amount & effect / force: storm**

## storm (Desert Storm, etc.)

*Storm King*  
the USS ~ was commissioned in 1943 (a ship)

Storm King  
14 firefighters died on ~ Mountain (Colorado)

Desert Storm  
he participated in direct-action missions during ~

Winter Storm  
Operation ~ (Battle of Garfagnana)

**proper name: storm**

## storm (weather the storm)

weather the storm  
it remains to be seen if he can ~ (a politician)

weather this (economic) storm  
cities need help to ~

♦ Restaurant Owner: I am really scared of the future. I thought that we'd weathered the storm [COVID] for the last two and a half three years. I felt I'd never experience something like that again, but this is very very frightening [ongoing inflation getting worse with no end in sight]. / Presenter: With more storm clouds gathering on the horizon, small businesses and families will be hoping for a swift downpour, rather than the extended rainy season. (BBC Six O'clock News, August 17, 2022. The figurative language read by the presenter struck me as contrived. On the positive side, the metaphor is not crazily mixed, as it would be in the U.S. The casual, breezy, informal, "Hear Every Voice" language of NPR is driving more and more Americans to the BBC.)

**survival, persistence & endurance: boat / storm / verb**

## storm (in the storm)

in the gathering storm  
the hospital is rudderless ~ (deficits)

**conflict: storm**

## storm (eye / center of the storm)

in the eye of the storm  
the man ~ is its cofounder, Julian Assange (Wikileaks)  
Solskjaer is now the man ~ (Man U / criticism)

at the center of the storm  
~ is Ayaan Hirsi Ali (Holland)

at the center of a (diplomatic and political) storm

he was ~

**century & periphery / conflict: storm**

### storm (perfect storm)

perfect storm

it's really a ~ (shortage / online rental-car scams)

perfect storm of challenges

the team is trying to weather a ~ (sports)

perfect storm of events

a ~ caused the die-off (of dolphins in the Gulf)

perfect storm of risks

the world economy faces a ~

perfect storm of screwups

he called the death a ~ (Jeffrey Epstein's suicide in jail)

perfect storm of depression, concussion, overtraining

her father described a ~ (daughter commits suicide)

fiscal perfect storm

states have sailed into a ~ (debt)

created a perfect storm

the pandemic has ~ for eating disorders (children)

looking at the perfect storm

we are ~ (allergies and allergy season)

**amount & effect: storm**

### storm (amount and effect)

storm of accusations

a ~ of sexual abuse (Catholic Church)

storm of controversy

the ~ that has blown up around him over...

storm of criticism

the ~ helped prompt NASCAR to...

the president returned home to a ~

storm of controversy

his solo ascent of Delicate Arch caused a ~ (Dean Potter)

storm of protest

the decision produced a ~ (government)

storm in a teacup

this might sound like a ~ but... (Oxford prof harassed)

oh, dear, another twitter ~...

this small-town saga might seem like a ~

he described the rumors as a ~

tweet storm

President Trump's latest ~ on immigration (NPR)

Kristof's column was slammed in a ~

Hilary Clinton unleashed a ~ Saturday

Twitter storm

I was right in the middle of the ~ (a writer)

Twitter Storm

~ What did Gary Lineker tweet (*The US Sun*)

social media storm

he caused a ~ (the Spanish TikTok star Naim Darrechi)

literary, legal and cultural storm

she is causing a ~ in France (tell-all book)

unleashed a storm

congressmen ~ of patriotic rage

♦ A **tweetstorm** is a great number of tweets in a short period of time.

**amount & effect: air / atmosphere / storm / wind**

### storm (conflict)

Gathering Storm

"Rising above the ~" decries our loss of competitiveness

passing storm

this may be just a ~ (politics)

diplomatic storm

the Prime Minister's stance triggered a ~

economic storm

cities need help to weather this ~

political storm

her decision has set off a ~ in the Netherlands

the report has caused a ~ in Rwanda (genocide)

they are waiting for the ~ to pass over (NRA / shootings)

worst of the storm

the ~ is over (employment rises from historic lows)

storm was brewing

outside, the ~ (protests against the government)

storm is gathering

a ~ (US lack of innovation, competitiveness)

provoked a storm

the article ~

quiet the storm

the league issued a statement to ~ (controversy)

rode out the storm

the punch hurt him, but he ~ (boxing)

set off a (political) storm

her decision has ~ in the Netherlands

weathered (all sorts of) storms

the Catholic Church has ~ across the centuries

**conflict: storm**

### storm (calm before the storm)

calm before the storm

this is likely to be the ~ (lull in computer hacking)

this is still the ~ (pandemic cases)

**activity / development: storm**

### storm (immune-system storm, etc.)

cytokine storm

the virus can ignite a ~ (cytokine release syndrome)

immune-system storm  
an ~, anaphylactic shock, which can be fatal

**resemblance: storm**

## stormy (adjective)

stormy marriage  
his ~ to...

stormy relations  
the Shinnecocks have long had ~ with local authorities

stormy relationship  
she divorced and began a ~ with...  
he has had a ~ with management (network host)

♦ *The hardy sailor comes from stormy seas.*

**flaws & lack of flaws: storm**

## story (horror story)

horror story  
we've all heard ~s (bad landlords)

"horror stories" about methamphetamine  
the press is full of ~

horror stories about family breakdown  
all the ~

restaurant horror story  
~s are on the rise

health-care horror story  
a ~

managed-care horror story  
another ~

**resemblance: books & reading**

**flaws & lack of flaws: books & reading**

## story (war story)

their war stories  
their podcast focuses on ~ (two heroin junkies)

recounts his war stories  
as he ~ (about the film industry)

**experience: books & reading / military**

## story (Just-so story)

just-so story  
he reaches for a kind of ~ that... (origin of patriarchy)

'just-so stories' about the present  
it appropriates the past to support their ~ (1619 Project)

♦ *Wikipedia has two entries. The first entry is "Just So Stories," which describes the *Just So Stories for Little Children* written by Rudyard Kipling and published in 1902. The stories explain animal characteristics, such as how the leopard got its spots, or how the rhino got its skin, or how the camel got its hump. Those are the actual "Just So Stories." The second Wikipedia entry is the figurative "Just-so story," which discusses something called the "anthropological sense."*

**allusion: books & reading**

## story (success story)

success story  
the business had grown into a ~ (a winery)

**success & failure: books & reading**

## story (groups)

story  
the ~ knits together many threads of Muslim grievances

stories  
marginalised voices are telling ~ that need to be heard  
women whose ~ we didn't get to hear (the past)

story of a young girl  
*Fierce Little Thing* is the ~

Black stories  
white people controlled how and when ~ have been told

neglected origin stories  
the ~ of Black America (Annette Gordon-Reed)

propaganda story  
the ~ feeds into the white manifest destiny thing

'just-so stories'  
their ~ about the present (1619 Project)

appetite for stories  
the ~ about Black trauma

voices and stories  
the antiquated mentality that our ~ aren't profitable enough

stories have been passed down  
their ~ (vicarious "race-based trauma")

stories (passed down) prime us  
the ~ for traumatization (Blacks)

share stories  
~ that will move people to take action (Lisa Sherman)

speak my story  
I tried to ~ (Gabby Hanna, aka "the Trauma Queen")

tell their stories  
they have waited years to find their voice and ~ (abuse)

tell these stories  
it's important to ~ now (Antoine Fuqua / *Emancipation*)

tell (historic civil rights site) story  
who gets to ~ (Highlander Folk School Library)

tell people my story  
I feel like I'm ready to ~ (Jake Daniels comes out as gay)

write their own stories  
a website for players to ~ with ghost editors (sports)

♦ *"You have to be authentic, I want you to be authentic, your story matters." (Maimouna Youssef to young artists about social-justice music and the new Grammy merit award for "Best Song for Social Change.")*

♦ *"Dirks lives in Oakland and believes all stories are stories about power." (Sandhya Dirks, Lead Producer of *On Our Watch*, NPR.)*

- ◆ “At a moment in American culture when seemingly every issue is polarized, it’s more important than ever to share stories that will move people to take action.” (“How the Power of Collaborative Storytelling Inspires Action” by Lisa Sherman, Ad Council, August 22 2022.)
- ◆ “I think it had a lot to do with me being a Black woman, period. And having seen how historically, you know, if our stories, you know, have been presented to the world, oftentimes they’re misrepresented or they’re not represented in their fullness or there’s just like a sliver of us being presented. And so, I just felt like this is huge responsibility to not only show, like her—I would say ginormous levels of strength and resilience—but also to provide an audience like a window into the vulnerability.” (Katori Hall speaking about the great American-born Tina Turner, birth name Anna Mae Bullock, a Swiss citizen since 2013.)
- ◆ “Politics is story-telling, and politics hopefully is about persuasion, about winning people’s hearts and minds.” (Senator Ted Cruz.)
- ◆ *Stories Are What Save Us: A Survivor’s Guide to Writing About Trauma.* (By David Chrisinger, Johns Hopkins University Press.)
- ◆ “We were left out of these stories.” (Carrell Augustus about his photography book *Black Hollywood: Reimagining Iconic Movie Moments*, which replaces white actors and actresses with Black ones or, alternatively, “puts black actors and actresses at the center of some of Hollywood’s most iconic movie images.”)
- ◆ “It also does matter who is telling the story, because that can be directly tied to how the story is platformed and received.” (From “Queer villains, erotic noir, 90s pulp. ‘Basic Instinct’ and the backlash, rewind,” NPR, Pop Culture Happy Hour, Nov. 13, 2022.)
- ◆ “There are no sides of a story,” Marco says. “There are just different stories. People either believe yours or the other one. Usually the other one.” (“My Apology” by Sam Lipsyte, *The New Yorker*, July 5, 2021.)
- ◆ “And if we’ve learned anything from Joe Biden, it’s that you make your own story and live your own truth.” (“Happy Warrior: The Fabulous Hero” by David Harsanyi, *National Review*, May 17, 2021. Sarcasm.)
- ◆ “The Gender Cool Project, a youth-led organization surfacing positive trans stories...”
- ◆ “Bakhtiar said that too often stories like theirs will come out ‘in a scandal.’ / ‘But we’re openly showing it and proud of it,’ Bakhtiar, 34, said during a video interview, as Brown and Al-Khayyal sat on either side. ‘It should be destigmatized. It’s a very valid familial structure that people should embrace.’” (“Georgja lawmaker comes out as nonmonogamous: ‘I’m in love with two wonderful people’” by Jo Yurcaba, NBC, Sept. 28, 2022. Yurcaba’s story reads like fiction and is the urtext for these sorts of things.)
- ◆ “For some, this is where their Keytruda® story begins. (An advertisement targeting cancer patients.)
- ◆ “Let us listen together to unique stories told by water.”
- ◆ Michele: Hey, can I ask you a question. How come you don’t have any stories? I’ve go lots of ‘em and you don’t have any...” (The 1999 film *American Pie*.)
- ◆ In “Bookshop Memories,” George Orwell wrote, “Modern books for children are rather horrible things, especially when you see them in the mass. Personally I would sooner give a child a copy of Petronius Arbiter than *Peter Pan*, but even Barrie seems manly and wholesome compared with some of his later imitators.”
- ◆ “The Rollo books, in fourteen volumes, were popular tales of moral instruction, playful and severe, by a prolific children’s author, Jacob Abbot.” (Anthony Lane. NOT the Young-adult fiction touted nowadays by schools and publishers.)
- ◆ “That’s my story, and I’m sticking to it!”

**inclusion & exclusion: messaging**  
**storybook (storybook romance, etc.)**

- storybook career  
he delivered the biggest throws of his ~ (college football)
- story-book ending  
Oates simply had to have a ~ (*The Last Place on Earth*)
- storybook moment  
it was a ~ (glass-carriage royal wedding)

storybook romance  
baby, won't you be my sweetheart, we could share a ~

storybook season  
it's been a ~ for us (a basketball coach)  
Baylor ended Gonzaga's ~ (NCAA basketball)

storybook tale  
he came back to win in a ~ (Tiger Woods)

storybook victory  
the validity of the ~ was questioned (sports)

◆ “T.M. Landry school has become a viral Cinderella story, a small school...whose predominantly black, working-class students have escaped the rural South for the nation’s most elite colleges. A video of a 16-year-old student opening his Harvard acceptance letter las year has been viewed more than eight million times.” (“Louisiana School Made Headlines for Sending Black Kids to Elite Colleges. Here’s the Reality” by Erica L. Green and Katie Benner, *The New York Times*, Nov. 30, 2018.)

**resemblance: books & reading**  
**flaws & lack of flaws / superlative: books & reading**  
**storytelling (groups)**

Storytelling Unit  
NPR’s Enterprise ~ (products and launches)

*Collaborative Storytelling*  
“How the Power of ~ Inspires Action” (Lisa Sherman)

original storytelling  
millennials with a passion and talent for ~

power of storytelling  
the healing ~ can change patients’ lives (medicine)  
the healing ~ (the film *News Of The World*)

◆ “After receiving a multiple sclerosis diagnosis, Dr. Anne Brewster found that writing about her story put her back into control of her narrative and her healing.” (“How ‘The Healing Power of Storytelling’ can change patients’ lives,” wbur, Here & Now, June 01, 2022.)

◆ “How do I become something I don’t see?” From this simple question, The Delta Project was born. The Delta Project exists to break the generational cycle of incarceration by reconnecting youth of color and their families to community relationships through mentorship, coaching and storytelling. Help young men see what they can become. Take action. thedeltaproject.co/action. (A full-page advertisement for The Delta Project in *The Atlantic* magazine.)

◆ “Storytelling can be a powerful tool to convey information, even in the world of science. It can also shift stereotypes about who scientists are. We talked to someone who knows all about his—Liz Neeley, the Executive Director of Story Collider, a nonprofit focused on telling ‘true, personal stories about science.’” (“The Science Behind Storytelling” NPR, Short Wave, August 19, 2020.)

◆ “A lot of Jewish anarchists have been bringing these storytelling practices as rituals into spaces that aren’t just Jewish. We’ve been creating a lot of our own spaces...” (Cindy Milstein, a diasporic queer Jewish anarchist, activist, and writer, in an interview at Oberlinreview.org.)

**inclusion & exclusion: messaging**  
**straddle (connect)**

straddles the line between news and entertainment  
he ~ (TV personality)

straddled the worlds  
he ~ of mainstream and alternative medicine

division & connection: leg / line / standing, sitting & lying / verb

## straddle (configuration)

straddles the border  
the community library ~ (between US and Canada)

straddles the border of China and Pakistan  
the gleaming, glacial monolith ~ (K2)

straddles West Texas and Southeast New Mexico  
the vast Permian that ~ (oil)

configuration / fictive position: horse / leg / line / standing, sitting & lying / verb

## straight (honest)

straight story  
give us the ~ on how common they are...

morally straight  
I want somebody physically fit, culturally astute, ~ (SOF)

set some people straight  
he ~

set the record straight  
I wish to ~

character & personality: direction  
sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: direction

## straight (the straight and narrow)

walked the straight and narrow  
he has ~ for 14 years (defense asks for bail at trial)

behavior / character & personality: direction

## straight arrow (person)

straight arrow  
she didn't drink or do drugs, she was a ~

♦ A straight arrow is a person who is proper and conventional.

behavior / character & personality: direction / person

## straighten out (verb)

straighten out the (financial) mess  
the act appointed a trustee to ~

amelioration & renewal: direction / rope / verb

## straightforward

straightforward approach  
her ~ startles many (on pediatric safety)  
Carroll's rah-rah style and Stoop's more ~ vary sharply  
we take a ~ to business (honesty, integrity)

straightforward style  
others liked his ~ (a coach)

honest, truthful, straightforward, ethical  
you can't always expect ~ behavior from recruiters

character & personality: direction

## straight shooter (speech)

straight shooter  
I'm a ~, very candid

speech: direction / person / weapon

sincerity, insincerity & honesty: direction / person / speech

## straight-talking

straight-talking outsider  
he was a ~

speech: direction

sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: direction / speech

## straightwash (groups)

Straightwashed Queer Lives and AIDS Activism  
"How Rent ~" (the article)

inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence / verb

## strain (type)

strain of Islam  
Wahhabism, the rigid and puritanical ~

strains of Islam  
with radical ~ percolating through Europe (prisons)

strain of (Sunni) Islam  
the mainstream, Turkish-influenced ~ (Balkans)

radical strain  
with ~s of Islam percolating through Europe (prisons)

rigid and puritanical strain  
Wahhabism, the ~ of Islam

taxonomy & classification: health & medicine

## strain (verb)

strained power grids  
the heat wave ~

failure, accident & impairment / work & duty: burden / skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb

## strain (pressure)

strains of (military) life  
the unique ~ (problems)

strain on our relationship  
it put a ~ (husband into motorcycle club)

strains among the (Western) allies  
intervention could create ~

under strain  
I was ~ at work

feeling, emotion & effect / flaws & lack of flaws: rope / skin, muscle, nerves & bone

## strained

strained

his relationship with his parents was ~  
the supply chain is ~ (Clorox wipes / pandemic)

strained by demand

logistical elements can be ~ for ammo, etc.

strained relations

the ~ between our two nations (US / France)

strained relationship

he wanted to improve his ~ with his father

strained social compact

an already ~ grow yet more frayed

badly strained

relations were ~ in March (between 2 countries)

relations are (more) strained

~ than ever (between talent and the studios)

**feeling, emotion & effect / flaws & lack of flaws: rope / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## strait (dire straits, etc.)

dire financial straits

contrary to the report, the company was not in ~

♦ "These are the straits that *Ulysses* asks us to navigate." (Desire and love, control and submission. From a review of a biography of James Joyce.)

♦ The Bab el Mandeb, the Gate of Tears...

♦ According to Wikipedia, *The Aeneid* links Scylla and Charybdis to the Strait of Messina. That strait, with its natural whirlpool and view of Mount Etna and Fata Morgana, and its location between the Tyrrhenian Sea and the Ionian Sea on a great flyway for migratory birds, would be a wonderful place to look over!

♦ "It was in 1888, when in command of a ship loading in Sydney a mixed cargo for Mauritius, that one day, all of a sudden, all the deep-lying historic sense of the exploring adventures in the Pacific surged up to the surface of my being. / I sat down and wrote a letter to my owners, suggesting that, instead of the usual southern route, I should take the ship to Mauritius by way of Torres Strait... / I passed out of Torres Strait before the dusk settled on its waters. Just as a clear sun sank ahead of my ship I took a bearing of a little island..., an insignificant crumb of dark earth, lonely... But to me it was a hallowed spot, for I knew that the *Endeavour* had been hove to off it in the year 1762 for her captain, whose name was James Cook, to go ashore for half an hour. What he could possibly want to do I cannot imagine. Perhaps only to be alone with his thoughts for a moment... It may be that on this dry crumb of the earth's crust... he had tasted a moment of perfect peace." ("Geography and Some Explorers" by Joseph Conrad.)

♦ A strait, like a river, can divide, but it also can connect. The land equivalent is an isthmus.

**situation: boat / breadth / container / sea**

**danger: boat / breadth / container / sea**

## straitjacket (noun)

straitjacket of stress

a ~ shut me down (stuttering)

policy straitjacket

they put themselves in a ~ (euro zone)

chemical straitjacket

psychotropic drugs are a ~ (the mentally ill)

intellectual straitjacket

I began to realize my faith was an ~

absolutist and dogmatic straitjacket

they are confined in an ~ (Supreme Court justices)

escape the straitjacket

he could never ~ of the church

free the museum of the straitjacket

the museum is trying to ~ of ethnicity (MoMA)

puts nations into a straitjacket

targets ~

broken free from a straitjacket

he has ~ of his own making (a leader)

**constraint & lack of constraint: mental health**

## strand (noun)

strands of Christianity

the focus of the day differs within the ~ (Epiphany)

strands of thought

these comments represent two ~

**taxonomy & classification: cloth**

## strand (connection)

strand

the crisis ruined every ~ that knitted the country together

four strands

there are ~ to the novel

**division & connection: cloth**

## strand (strand of hair, etc.)

strand of hair

needles that are smaller than the diameter of a ~

strands of hair

she collects ~ (of famous people)

strands of lights

people decorate their houses with ~ (holidays)

strands of razor ribbon

there are five ~ on the inner fence

miles-long strand

longlines—~s with hundreds of baited hooks

**resemblance: cloth / line**

## stranded (separated)

left stranded

his system of critical judgment was ~ on the far shore

**society: ground, terrain & land / island / sea**

**division & connection: ground, terrain & land / island / sea**

## stranger (and no stranger)

stranger to fear

Joan was a ~

no stranger to death

like most climbers, Anker was ~

no stranger to (difficult legal) disputes

the judge was ~

no stranger to flooding

the Queen of the Adriatic is ~ (Venice)

no stranger to (verbal) miscues

he is ~ (a politician)

no stranger to snowfall

the city is ~ (Boston)

no stranger to (catastrophic) storms

the state is ~ (Louisiana and hurricanes, etc.)

no stranger to conspiracy theories

America is ~

no stranger to war

Jaffna is ~ (Sri Lanka)

no stranger to wealth

her family was ~

**experience: person**

## stranger (other)

*Strangers in Their Own Land*

~: *Anger and Mourning on the American Right* (book)

♦ "We miss a lot by being afraid of strangers."

**society: person**

**person: society**

**acceptance & rejection: person / society**

## strangle (verb)

strangling Iraq

the embargo is ~

strangle companies

I've seen government bureaucracy ~ (a politician)

strangle the experiment in its cradle

if nobody watches, it will ~ (TV show)

**destruction / oppression: breathing / verb**

## strangled

strangled in its cradle

Bolshevism must be ~ (Winston Churchill / Russia)

strangled by poverty

they are ~ (Gazans)

**destruction / oppression: breathing**

## stranglehold

stranglehold on America

the monopolies had a ~

stranglehold on the transport

Iraq has a ~ of oil from Iraqi Kurdistan

stranglehold over the app stores

Apple and Google have a ~ (apps and data collection)

virtual stranglehold

a ~ on...

break their stranglehold

he set out to ~ (a ruler versus elites)

had a stranglehold

the monopolies ~ on America

**oppression: breathing**

## strangulation

strangulation of Iraq

the ~ (embargo, etc.)

**destruction / oppression: breathing**

## strap yourself in

strap yourself in

get ready, ~ (intro to eventful boxing podcast)

**readiness & preparedness: rocket**

## stratosphere

put his career into the stratosphere

the song ~ (Michael Jackson's Thriller)

**extent & scope: atmosphere**

## stratospheric (adjective)

stratospheric

such profits are ~, over the average (academic publishers)

stratospheric reaches

the ~ of the entertainment world

stratospheric rise

her ~ was brought low by personal tragedies (actor)

stratospheric success

despite her ~, she continues to express her fears (B. Eilish)

stratospheric trajectory

how long can he keep Apple on its ~ (Tim Cook)

went stratospheric

she ~ in America (Miriam Makeba)

♦ "As [US Secretary of the Treasury Janet] Yellen noted, a lot of those goods prices have since come back to earth." (High inflation.)

**extent & scope: atmosphere / direction / height**

**increase & decrease: atmosphere / direction / height**

## straw (last straw / final straw)

straw that breaks the camel's back  
see *camel (break the camel's back)*

final straws  
he posted two tweets that the company cited as the ~

last straw  
the ~ was the hike in the price of electricity (riots)

last straw scenario  
all these things have created this ~ (vote to censure)

♦ An inconsequential event, after a series of indignities, causes an extreme reaction.

♦ "This for me was like the one drop that made the bucket overflow."  
(Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp, after receiving a red card for berating a referee's assistant.)

♦ The following online comment seems to conflate "the straw that broke the camel's back" and the related "the last / final straw": "It appears that the threat of taking her child using child protective services was the last sanity straw that was broken."

♦ see also *camel (break the camel's back)*

**development: weight**

## straw man (noun)

"straw man" issues  
Ryan assails Obama for ~ (politics)

**speech / subterfuge: farming & agriculture**

## stray (behavior)

strayed  
women whose husbands have ~ (been unfaithful)

stray (so far) from the limits  
kids will disobey, but they won't ~ you set

**behavior: animal / direction / verb**

**failure, accident & impairment: animal / direction / verb**

## stray (direction)

strayed into the (restricted) airspace  
the small aircraft inadvertently ~

stray out of sector  
navigation problems can cause units to ~ (military)

strayed from its (intended) mission  
Wall Street has ~ (to raise money, versus betting)

stray from the path  
a good Muslim must not ~

stray (too far) from (Saudi Arabia's) path  
but Qatar does not ~

strays from its route  
we can disable a truck by remote control if it ~

stray from tradition  
the younger generation has begun to ~

stray from the tenets and the values  
black magic encourages people to ~ of Islam

strayed off course  
it appeared the sub had not ~ (hit seamount)

stray even the slightest  
his refusal to ~ from the Code of Conduct

stray too far  
but Qatar does not ~ from Saudi Arabia's path

refusal to stray  
his ~ even the slightest from the Code of Conduct

**direction: journeys & trips / movement / verb**  
**failure, accident & impairment: animal / direction / verb**

## streak (series)

streak of success  
her latest achievement continues a ~ (ballet)

streak of severe weather  
a ~ has swept the South and the Midwest

winning streak  
Republicans have been on a real ~

**occurrence: mark**

## streak (violent streak, etc.)

streak of intolerance  
he had a ~ toward his political foes (a politician)

streak of violence  
someone who has a ~ (homeless veterans, etc.)

alpha-dog streak  
he retained a bit of that ~ (high-school athlete in college)

evil streak  
he has an ~ to him (arrested)  
she has an ~ through her

mean streak  
he's got a ~ an acre wide  
you could call it a ~, he'd consider it tough love (a father)

violent streak  
he showed a ~ early (murderer)

**character & personality / identity & nature: mark**

## stream (tears stream, etc.)

streamed down her face  
tears ~

streamed down his face  
blood ~ (a boxer)

**resemblance: water / verb**

## stream (direct)

stream video  
what hardware is recommended to ~ on broadband

stream, burn, beam, buy or subscribe  
should you ~ (Internet)

**transmission: water / verb**

## stream (move)

streamed to the polls  
Iraqis ~ (election)

streamed into Sydney  
sex workers who have ~ (for the Olympics)

streamed into the Good Shepherd Chapel  
people of all walks of life ~ (to honor Mychal Judge)

stream through town  
about 15,000 tourists ~ hoping... (Churchill / bears)

stream (in) through the windows  
light would ~ as she...

stream in  
light would ~ through the windows as she...

streams in  
another picture ~, this one of a Chinese teen (Internet)

**movement: water / verb**

## stream (amount & effect)

stream of casualties  
the attacks are causing a steady ~

stream of contributions  
fundraisers and a steady ~

stream of customers  
a steady ~ (an electronics-repair shop)

stream of pilgrims  
a ~ jammed the Via della Conciliazione (Vatican)

stream of preachers  
the issue brought a ~ to the mike

stream of reports  
a steady ~ that Israel has been providing

stream of residents  
a ~ headed out of town (huge Colorado wildfire)

stream of text  
one long, continuous ~ (e-book)

stream of tips  
police are following up on the steady ~

stream of traffic  
a constant ~ (city / vehicles)

steady stream  
police are following up on the ~ of tips  
the attacks are causing a ~ of casualties  
a ~ of customers (an electronics-repair shop)

stream (of jihadists into the country) has been cut  
the ~ to a trickle

endless stream  
he saw an ~ of wounded and dead (Vietnam War)

♦ "Many different streams of migrants were to make their confluence in the future United States. But the British stream flowed first and remained foremost. From the beginning its leaders were out of sympathy with the Government at home. The creation of towns and settlements from the wilderness, warfare with the Indians, and the remoteness and novelty of the scene widened the breach with the Old World. During the critical years of settlement and consolidation in New England the Mother Country was paralysed by civil war. When the English State again achieved stability it was confronted with self-supporting, self-reliant communities which had evolved traditions and ideas of their own." (*A History of the English-Speaking Peoples*, Volume 2, "The New World," by Winston S. Churchill.)

♦ The trailhead for the Noland Creek Trail in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park is almost at the end of The Road to Nowhere out of Bryson City, western North Carolina. In a little over a mile you will cross four wooden bridges. On the first, look to your left, and the current is going away. On the second, coming towards you. On the third, going away. On the fourth, coming towards you. Now that's twisty! It's a wonderful walk, in every season.

**amount & effect / movement: water**

## stream (resemblance)

streams of excrement  
the route to her hut is a path stinking with ~ (Kabul)

stream of fire  
he continued his deadly ~ until... (battle)

streams of lava  
the volcano sent ~ down the mountain

stream of urine  
stopping the ~ is hard for many people (specimen)

urinary stream  
difficulty initiating the ~ (medical)

jet stream  
the Everest peak is in the ~  
the ~, a speeding river of high-altitude air  
that river of wind, called the ~  
the ~ veered far south  
the ~ blows at around 30-36,000 feet  
the ~ wanders between 30° and 60° in both hemispheres  
commercial airlines often hitch a ride in the ~ (eastward)  
the Germans first discovered the ~ in the 1930s  
high-altitude winds of the ~ (climate, weather)

**resemblance: water**

## stream (bloodstream, etc.)

arrival stream  
a new runway will allow O'Hare three independent ~s

bloodstream  
a blood clot can break loose and travel through the ~

funding stream  
you've got to put together all of these ~s

mail stream  
introduce new technology into the ~ (post office)  
the Postal Service is adjusting to a new type of ~  
the anthrax letters entered the ~ from a mailbox

revenue stream  
another ~ is needed for public schools (state lottery)  
ecommerce is tomorrow's ~

online advertising is yesterday's ~  
cable TV's dual ~s: subscribers plus advertisers

wastestream  
the elimination of mercury from hospital ~s

waste stream  
food waste in the residential ~ (recycling)

reporting streams  
the quantity of intelligence from multiple ~ (terrorism)

independent (arrival) streams  
a new runway will allow O'Hare three ~

multiple (reporting) streams  
the quantity of intelligence from ~ (terrorism)

♦ "A great Indian river, at low water, suggests the familiar anatomical picture of a skinned human body, the intricate mesh of interwoven muscles and tendons to stand for water-channels, and the archipelagoes of fat and flesh inclosed by them to stand for the sandbars. Somewhere on this journey we passed such a river, and on a later journey we saw in the Sutlej the duplicate of that river. Curious rivers they are; low shores a dizzy distance apart, with nothing between but an enormous acreage of sand-flats with sluggish like veins of water dribbling around amongst them; Saharas of sand, smallpox pitted with footprints..." (*Following the Equator: A Journey Around the World* by Mark Twain. Of course, he is talking about a braided river.)

**branching system / route: river / water**

## streamed (digital)

streamed into the kiosks  
the music is ~ via the Internet

**transmission: water**

## streaming (digital)

streaming technology  
as ~ improves

download or streaming  
Walk Away Renee .mp3 is available for ~

**transmission: water**

## streaming (streaming media)

streaming media  
~ delivers audio & video over the Internet

streaming media for video conferences & meetings  
use ~

streaming media advertisement  
a ~ plays before the video

streaming-media division  
the Microsoft Corp. ~ division

streaming-media player  
ever improving ~s

streaming-media traffic  
~ is of growing concern

**transmission: water**

## streamline (speed up)

streamline the (permitting and approval) process  
we must also ~ (for building infrastructure)

**speed / timeliness & lack of timeliness: shape / verb**

## street (society)

street  
the ~ is not afraid of governments any more (protests)

Arab street  
the ~ reacts to rumors  
the ~ has risen up (Egyptian protests)  
Iran's leaders play to the ~  
the ~ sympathizes with the Palestinians

mood on the street  
the ~ should be watched (protests in Egypt)

**society: infrastructure / sign, signal, symbol**

## street (cloud street, etc.)

cloud street  
~s can indicate thermals (hang gliding)  
~s are rows of cumulous clouds

**resemblance: infrastructure**

## street (two-way street)

two-way street  
trust is a ~

**social interaction: direction / infrastructure**

## Streisand (Streisand effect)

Streisand Effect  
The ~: When censorship backfires (BBC News)

reckoned without the Streisand Effect  
they ~, which saw the photo ban make headline news

♦ The Streisand Effect is an attempt to censor that results in greater publicity.

♦ "Nice Streisand effect going on here." (An online commenter about Aaron Sorkin's criticism of Michael Jared Schulman's profile in *The New Yorker* of the great actor Jeremy Strong.)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion / concealment & lack of concealment: allusion**

## stretch (verb)

stretch (limited) resources  
the costs will ~ (defense budget)

**failure, accident & impairment / flaws & lack of flaws: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

## stretch (extent)

stretches from Hollywood to the halls of academe  
the scandal ~ (admissions scandal)

stretched away  
the immense plain ~ into dim distances

**extent & scope: materials & substances / verb**

**fictive motion: materials & substances / verb**

### **stretched (stretched thin, etc.)**

stretched thin in Louisiana

health-care workers are ~ (COVID)

**failure, accident & impairment / flaws & lack of flaws: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

### **stride (in stride)**

take it in my stride

it's no pressure, I just ~ (darts championship)

taking things in stride

most people are ~ (terrorism fears and alerts)

took the high water in stride

residents ~ (a flood)

**equilibrium & stability: walking, running & jumping**

### **stride (progress)**

great stride forward

the bill is a ~

made giant strides

the city has made ~ in the last decade

made great strides

Blacks have made ~ in all areas (desegregation)

made (giant) strides in the last decade

the city has ~ in the last decade

made (great) strides in all areas

Blacks have ~ (desegregation)

**progress & lack of progress: walking, running & jumping**

### **stride (hit one's stride)**

hit its stride

it has ~ and keeps on gaining momentum (movie series)

hit his stride

he seemed to ~ when he talked about... (politics)

**movement / starting, going, continuing & ending: verb / walking, running & jumping**

### **stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.)**

knock them off stride

dealing with something just before kickoff didn't ~ (team)

**disruption / failure, accident & impairment: equilibrium & stability / horse / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

### **strike (preemptive strike, etc.)**

called the mandate a "preemptive strike"

the mayor ~ (COVID restrictions)

**destruction: military / weapon**

### **strike (his hour had struck, etc.)**

his hour had struck

when the job was announced, he knew that ~

my time will come

~ (a defeated boxer, looking to his future)

♦ Zhivago goes on a house call to treat a sick woman. Her husband tells Zhivago that a broken clock had suddenly rung just before his wife collapsed. She was convinced that her last hour had struck, and her husband thinks she is suffering from nervous shock. Zhivago diagnoses typhus. Zhivago returns home, and Tonia tells him a broken clock had suddenly chimed. "My hour for typhus has struck," Zhivago laughs. Four paragraphs later, he is delirious with typhus... (*Dr. Zhivago* by Boris Pasternak.)

♦ see also *time (the time can arrive or come, etc.)*

**fate, fortune & chance: day**

### **strike (affect)**

strike you

so how did the two events ~ (politics)

strikes some collaborators as impressive

his dedication ~ (an actor)

**feeling, emotion & effect: force / sensation / verb**

**effect: force / sensation / verb**

### **strike (strike a deal, etc.)**

struck a deal

in 1994, we ~

**creation & transformation: manufacturing / verb**

### **strike (forces of nature)**

strike Mexico

the hurricane was expected to ~ early Tuesday (Yucatán)

struck with a (13.9-foot) storm tide

Hurricane Audrey ~ (1957)

struck Monday

the storm ~ with little warning... (tornado)

struck at 1:34 p.m.

the quake ~ local time (Greece)

struck a church

a tornado ~ just as the minister said, "Be prepared..."

struck an (oil storage) tank

lightning ~ and set it on fire

struck (two of the) trees

lightning ~

earthquake struck

a powerful ~ off the Solomon Islands, causing a tsunami

a powerful ~ here Monday night (Afghanistan)

lightning struck

~ two of the trees

they were under a tree when ~, killing them...

monsoon (in 1942) struck

the ~ on the 13th of May (Burma)

quake struck

the ~ at 1:34 p.m. local time (Greece)

storm struck

the ~ Monday with little warning (tornado)

tornado struck

a ~ without any warning siren being sounded  
warnings were delivered 11.5 minutes before a ~

tsunamis strike

catastrophic ~ less often (than major earthquakes)

typhoon struck

the ~ the coast at 3:50 p.m. in Fujian Province

landslide struck

the ~ late Saturday in Olongapo city

rainstorm struck

a freak desert ~ (Moltsog Els / Mongolia)

**force: fist / storm / verb**

**occurrence: fist / storm / verb**

**strike (tragedy, etc.)**

adversity strikes

when ~, Mormons roll up their sleeves

catastrophe struck

then, ~ (accident)

disaster strikes

his parents have told him what to do if a ~

disaster struck

~ and the men found themselves drifting... (fishermen)

tragedy struck

~ motor racing hard in 1999

**occurrence: fist / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: fist / verb**

**strike (a road can strike a river, etc.)**

struck the Ohio River at Louisville

the road ~ (the Wilderness Road)

**fictive motion: verb**

**strike (three strikes, etc.)**

three strikes policy

he violated YouTube's longstanding ~

**judgment: baseball / sports & games**

**strike down (verb)**

struck down the law

a judge ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation: direction / verb**

**strike out (verb)**

strike out

if you ~ at the source, work the edges (an investigation)

struck out

I ~ (failed to accomplish something)

struck out

law enforcement had ~ (child murder)

**failure, accident & impairment / success & failure: baseball / sports & games / verb**

**strike out (start)**

striking out on her own

she is ~ with a solo album

**starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

**striking (adjective)**

find it striking

I ~ that...

**feeling, emotion & effect: fist / force / sensation**

**string (pull strings)**

pull strings

I can't ~ and make them perform (a teacher)

pull the strings

politicians ~ and make the policies

he believes insiders ~ (the so-called deep state)

many believe malevolent powers ~ (conspiracy theories)

pull strings to get

he had his father ~ him out of the draft

pull strings from behind the scenes

they will ~ (politicians)

pulled strings in high places

she ~ to get her access to...

tried to pull strings

he ~ to secure an officer's commission

♦ "The Americans are the ones pulling the strings, and Moreno their puppet dancing to the tune of money." (Kristinn Hrafnsson of Wikileaks.)

**control & lack of control: puppet / verb**

**string (sequence)**

string of murders

he was guilty of a ~

**sequence: line / rope**

**string (attachment)**

with strings attached

"free" credit reports often come ~

with no strings attached

there are few "free" deals ~

no-strings-attached  
we were both looking for ~ sex  
~ handouts sap incentive (welfare)

**attachment / involvement: rope**

## strip (verb)

stripped him of his security clearance  
the government ~

stripped him of command  
the Navy ~ of the aircraft carrier

strip unions of their (bargaining) rights  
he wants to ~ (politics)

**taking & removing: clothing & accessories / verb**  
**dismissal, removal & resignation: clothing & accessories / verb**

## strip (strip something down)

strip it down to its core  
if we ~ (music)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / substance & lack of substance: clothing & accessories / verb**

## stripe (earn one's stripes, etc.)

earn your stripes  
you've got to ~ (stock-car racing)

**achievement, recognition & praise: military**  
**experience: military**

## stripe (of all stripes)

politicians of all stripes  
~ say they want to lower prescription-drug costs

**taxonomy & classification: animal / cloth**

## strip-mine (verb)

strip-mine public assets  
they ~ for their private interests (politicians)

♦ "People at my age don't like to move to a new place. But we have no choice. We have no water. The earth is sinking. The air is poisoned. And there's that big man-made mountain." (An elderly Shanxi Province villager in Shangma Huangtou, which is surrounded now on three sides by the An Tai Bao open-pit coal mine. From "The Not So Good Earth," by David Barboza, *The New York Times*, June 23, 2006.)

**taking & removing: crime / mining / verb**

## stripped

stripped of her rights  
she was and wants them back (a conservatorship)

stripped of his titles  
he was ~ (for doping)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: clothing & accessories**

## stroke (stroke of midnight, etc.)

stroke of half-time

he cut the lead to one on the ~ (soccer)

**time: clock**

## stroll (stroll to success, etc.)

stroll to victory  
Manchester City looked like they would ~ when...

♦ "Argentina could hardly have asked for an easier evening. After a nervy opening half an hour it has been a stroll." (80 mins: Netherland 0-2 Argentina at the World Cup in Qatar. The rest is history.)

**attainment / difficulty, easiness & effort: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## strong (language, etc.)

strong language  
there might also be ~ in the videos you are about to see

strong words  
these are ~ (appalling, makes me physically sick, etc.)

♦ "Human rights are where law and politics meet. It can be an unfriendly meeting. A few years ago the then Prime Minister, speaking to the House of Commons, described a recent Supreme Court judgment about human rights as appalling. The same Prime Minister, on a later occasion, said about another human rights decision, that it made him physically sick. These are strong words." (Jonathan Sumption, Human Rights and Wrongs, The Reith Lectures.)

**strength & weakness: speech**

**speech: force**

## strong (after tragedy, etc.)

Buffalo Strong  
~ (a sign after mass shooting)

Kentucky Strong  
#~, #PrayforKentucky (flooding)

Vandal Strong  
we will remain ~ (University of Idaho quadruple murder)

♦ "We don't need 'Buffalo Strong.' We need for this to never happen again." (A member of the Buffalo community after a mass shooting, on the inadequacy of the "Buffalo Strong" slogan.)

♦ "She takes issue with the social media hashtag #BuffaloStrong, because it could trick people into thinking that survival is the goal, when they really deserve to exist and thrive without the fear of being hunted down in a grocery store." ("Buffalo's poet laureate calls for change" by Raquel Maria Dillon, NPR, Race, May 17, 2022.)

**mental health: materials & substances**

**resiliency / strength & weakness: materials & substances**

## strong-arm (verb)

strong-armed subjects  
he ~ to get them to lie (a prosecutor)

strong-arm him into joining  
his strict father tried to ~ the family's business

strong-armed members into voting  
the leadership ~ with the president

strong-armed rather than cajoled  
he ~, he intimidated rather than seduced to get his way

♦ “Cuomo strong-armed rather than cajoled; he used intimidation rather than seduction to get his way.” (“New York After Cuomo” by Michael Greenberg, *The New York Review*, October 7, 2021.)

♦ Cajole, compel, force, make, mandate, make mandatory, mandate, nudge, persuade, require... (Language used by vaccine advocates about the vaccine reluctant. Words with like meaning include: “intimidate,” “strong-arm,” and “seduce.”)

♦ “Sen. Hillary Clinton said America must use ‘smart power’—which includes diplomatic, economic, military, political, legal and cultural tools.”

♦ “Get them by their balls and their hearts and minds will follow.” (A saying popular among combat soldiers during the Vietnam War who were cynical about US government campaigns to “win the hearts and minds” of the Vietnamese people. In Vietnam the Vietnam War is known as the American War.)

♦ See the Wikipedia entry for “Applied behavior analysis.”

**coercion & motivation: arm / crime / verb / violence**

## **stronghold (noun)**

stronghold of apartheid sympathy  
the Limpopo Province is a ~

stronghold in (eastern) Saudi Arabia  
Qatif, a Shiite ~

stronghold for tigers  
India is the world’s greatest ~

Ibo stronghold  
Nigeria with its Yoruba heartland, ~s and Hausa north

Shiite stronghold  
Qatif, a ~ in eastern Saudi Arabia

salmon stronghold  
Kamchatka, one of the last ~s on earth

Democratic stronghold  
Philadelphia is a ~ (politics)

lost control of (some of) its former strongholds  
the party ~ (Mexico)

**protection & lack of protection: fortification / military**

## **strongman (power)**

“strongman” image  
his ~ many not win him votes (Narendra Modi)

strongman leader  
he is a ~ in the mold of Erdogan and Putin (Narendra Modi)

military strongman  
Khalifa Haftar is Libya’s ~

**character & personality: military / person**

**person / power: government**

## **struck (affected)**

struck by how long  
I was ~ it took him...

**effect / feeling, emotion & effect: fist / force / sensation**

## **struck down**

struck down by the lower courts

the travel ban was ~ but upheld by the Supreme Court

struck down or neutered

the Supreme Court has ~ the Voting Rights Act (NPR)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: direction**

## **stubborn (non-human)**

higher and more stubborn

inflation has been ~ than forecasters expected

**survival, persistence & endurance: force**

## **stuck (adjective)**

stuck

without any other job prospects, he is ~

stuck with (obsolete) equipment  
they are ~ (Philippine military)

stuck in a (forgotten) corner  
Siberians no longer feel ~ of the globe

stuck in a (vicious) cycle  
she’s ~ (eating to relieve depression)

stuck in the doldrums  
the economy is ~

stuck in the middle  
we’re ~, so we hide indoors (Afghan civilians)

stuck in the past  
we can’t be ~, we have to move forward (Middle East)

stuck in place  
animals can move, but trees are ~

stuck in the same place  
we’re all ~, going nowhere (futility)

stuck in the trailers  
the refugees may be ~ for years (Katrina)

stuck in the (Vienna) airport  
most of his gear got ~ (climber)

stuck in a civil war  
the Central African Republic has been ~ (2009)

stuck between adolescence and adulthood  
he is ~ (a young snowboarder)

stuck between its past and its future  
Haiti is ~

stuck between a rock and a hard place  
I’m ~ (too poor to improve situation)

stuck between the underground and the mainstream  
he is ~ (a young snowboarder)

stuck between his unit and the enemy  
he was ~ (a moral issue)

stuck in aging schools  
children ~ without air conditioning

feel stuck

Siberians no longer ~ in a forgotten corner of the globe

get stuck

we all ~ in bad beauty habits (cosmetics)

you don't have to ~ in that cycle (a gang)

got stuck

most of his gear ~ in the Vienna airport (climber)

**obstacles & impedance / progress & lack of progress:**

**ground, terrain & land / movement**

**situation: container / movement**

## stud (male)

stud

he thinks he's a real ~ with the women

♦ "You blow me out of the water, and I'm a cerebral stud." (Silly dialogue from the film *21* with Kevin Spacey. This usage is similar to "mathlete," which combines *math* and *athlete*.)

**person: animal / horse**

**behavior / character & personality / sex: animal / horse / person**

## study (noun)

study in contrasts

he is, in many ways, a ~

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: school & education**

## study (quick study)

quick study

he's a ~, but he has a lot to learn

**ability & lack of ability: school & education**

## stuff (content)

stuff of headlines

he was the ~ (Nansen returns safe)

stuff of legends

to the outside world, India's riches were always the ~

**content: object**

## stuff (like vampires and stuff, etc.)

and stuff

people told me that I should get into it ~

I started modeling and booking gigs ~

bats are associated with like vampires ~

so he was there like in his wheelchair ~ (a writer)

talk about this stuff

it is traumatic for her to ~ (Ronan Farrow)

♦ Type in "and stuff" into search at NPR, and you get 3,567 results. Not every usage represents this inarticulate usage, but many do.

♦ MR: Getting into sort of X Y or Z newest wellness fad can for some folks kind of put them on this track, kind of filter them or funnel them closer and closer to anti-vax stuff, closer and closer to QAnon stuff, and QAnon itself is like closer and closer to organized white supremacy. AG: Yes. ("The Wellness to QAnon Pipeline," Maintenance Phase podcast.)

♦ "This shit, it doesn't faze me too much, only because like I've seen like, like... I'll just say human life to me, the way I look at it if I don't know you

if I don't know you is meaningless it's meaningless I'm just keeping it straight up but... Yeah, he's dead what can we do now?" (Alex Bodger aka GoraPakora on TikTok. He stood by and filmed the murder of Paul Stanley Schmidt on his cellphone.)

**contempo-speak: filler**

## stumble (verb)

stumbled offensively

they have ~ (sports team)

stumbled out of the gate

her campaign ~ but has since found its footing

economy is stumbling

the ~

strategy stumbled

that ~ when the group rejected...

talks have stumbled

~ repeatedly over efforts to... (climate change)

**failure, accident & impairment / flaws & lack of flaws:**

**equilibrium & stability / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## stumble (noun)

stumbles on the road

there have been some ~ to reform

string of stumbles

her ~ changed that calculus (that she could win easily)

suffered a stumble

his campaign ~ before it began, when he... (politics)

**failure, accident & impairment / flaws & lack of flaws:**

**equilibrium & stability / walking, running & jumping**

## stumble (stumble across / on / upon)

stumbled across (skeletal) remains

a game agent ~ (human)

stumbled across (an amazing) break

we ~ (surfers)

stumbled across something

but then she ~ that would change her life (chat rooms)

stumbled on a (major meth) lab

authorities ~

stumbled on her story

he ~ when he... (a journalist)

stumbled on a (new) way

he ~ to do it

stumbled upon a (major) cache

police ~ of weapons

**fictive meeting & seeing / searching & discovery: walking,**

**running & jumping / verb**

## stumble (stumble into a situation)

stumbled into a civil war

Tajikistan quickly ~

**involvement: walking, running & jumping / verb**

### **stumble (stumble over one's words)**

stumbling over my words

I tried to explain, but I was ~

**speech: verb / walking, running & jumping**

**flaws & lack of flaws: speech / verb / walking, running & jumping**

### **stumbling block**

stumbling block in the negotiations

the issue proved to be a major ~

major stumbling block

the issue proved to be a ~ in the negotiations

proved a stumbling block

immune-enhanced disease ~ in developing a vaccine

**obstacles & impedance: walking, running & jumping**

**progress & lack of progress: walking, running & jumping**

### **stun (verb)**

stunned the (Cardiff City) Stadium into silence

Azerbaijan's goal ~ (soccer)

stunned authorities

some of the incidents have ~ (youth violence)

stunned the nation

the crime ~ (Central Park "wilding")

stunned visitors

the death ~ of the community (animal attack)

stunned (U.S.) delegates

the vote ~

stunned France

when Senegal ~, 1-0 (soccer)

stunned Norfolk

the killings ~

stunned many Russians

the death toll ~ (military crash)

**feeling, emotion & effect: force / sensation / verb**

### **stung (feeling)**

stung by their breakup

he was ~ (relationship)

remains stung

she ~ by how she is being portrayed in the press

**feeling, emotion & effect: insect / sensation / verb**

### **stunned (feeling)**

stunned

the mountaineering world was ~ (by Tomaz Humar)

I stood there, ~ (kayaker after near-death experience)

doctors were ~ (new epidemic disease)

stunned to discover

he was not the only one ~ they were drug traffickers

stunned to hear

he was ~ that...

she was ~ him say... (pedophile)

stunned to learn

he was ~ about the Air Force's use of amphetamines

stunned at the number

they were ~ of jihadists heading overseas

stunned by Cameroon

Argentina was ~ 1-0 (soccer)

stunned by the ferocity

commanders were ~ of the ambush (Afghanistan)

stunned by the hostility

she was ~ (gender discrimination)

stunned by the (general's) murder

he is still ~

stunned by what I saw

I was ~ (effects of windstorm)

stunned bystanders

entire houses floated by ~ (flash flood)

stunned mourners

~ gathered (after Kurt Cobain's suicide)

stunned reporter

the ~ kept repeating, "Oh, my goodness..."

stunned silence

there was a brief, ~ (birders see rare bird)

stunned survivors

he gathered the ~ into a defensive perimeter (combat)

stunned travelers

the airport was thronged by ~ (after Bali bombing)

stunned courtroom

no one in the ~ seemed prepared for...

stunned and helpless

they watched in ~ awe (flash flood)

stunned and hurt

her teammates were ~ (racist chants at sports event)

truly stunned

I was ~ (UN decision to allow genocide to continue)

**feeling, emotion & effect: fist / force / sensation**

### **stunning (adjective)**

stunning news

his arrest was ~ in the NHL (hockey)

he summoned his staff and delivered the ~

stunning performance

his ~ in the Alps and the Pyrenees (Tour de France)

stunning twist

it was a ~

stunning victory

he won a ~ Monday night (elections)

**feeling, emotion & effect: fist / force / sensation**

## stunt (noun)

political stunt

the mayor called it a ~ (action by federal government)

PR stunt

critics say it is an unnecessary ~ (politics)

♦ In 2020, the illusionist David Blaine soared four miles above the Arizona desert while holding on to 52 helium-filled balloons.

**performance: theater**

## stunted

stunted as a force

we must not let the Internet be ~ for invention

**corruption / growth & development: size**

## stupendous (adjective)

stupendous victory

it was a ~ (sports)

**amount & effect: size**

## stupid (as noun)

fix stupid

you can't ~, but you can laugh at it  
photos proving you can't ~ (clickbait)  
photos proving you can't ~ (Promoted: Upbeat news)

pay a price for stupid

sometimes you ~

pay for your dumb

did you ~, you seem to have an abundance (snark)

♦ "Did You Have A Big Fat Bowl Of Stupid For Breakfast This Morning?" (R. Lee Ermey meme.)

♦ "Why does stupid both persist and even grow?" (Phil Mushnick, sports columnist.)

♦ "We live on Planet Stupid." (An online commenter about something or other.)

**knowledge & intelligence: part of speech**

## stutter (verb)

stuttered a bit

Liverpool has ~ in terms of scoring goals recently

economy stutters

meanwhile, the pandemic accelerates, while the ~

markets stutter

as global ~ over the trade war between...

**failure, accident & impairment: sound / verb**

**progress & lack of progress: sound / verb**

## stuttering (adjective)

stuttering career

she has since endured a ~ (MMA)

**failure, accident & impairment: sound**

**progress & lack of progress: sound**

## succumb (die / actual)

succumbed to his injuries

he was taken to Montefiore Medical Center where he ~

succumbed to the injury

he was given the best care possible but he however ~

♦ This has the sense of lying down to a superior force.

**death & life: euphemism / position / standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## succumb (verb)

succumbed to neglect and disrepair

the city ~ (Matanzas, Cuba, now revived and vibrant)

♦ This has the sense of lying down to a superior force.

**resistance, opposition & defeat: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

## sucked in / into (involved)

get sucked in

do we want to ~ here even further (Middle East)

get sucked into the (Libyan) quagmire

Egypt might ~

get sucked into the (Fortnite) vortex

kids who ~

get sucked into trends and challenges

children who ~ (girl dies doing TikTok pass out challenge)

**involvement: verb / water**

## suffer (groups)

suffer the most

low income and marginalized students will ~ academically

♦ "*Blonde* focuses so narrowly on Monroe's pain and trauma, that it feels less like a biographical drama than a Passion Play. The film turns her into an avatar of suffering..." (The great movie critic Justin Chang's negative review of *Blonde*.)

♦ "Every culture possesses what Edward Shorter, a medical historian at the University of Toronto, calls a 'symptom repertoire'—a range of physical symptoms available to the unconscious mind for the physical expression of psychological conflict." In parts of India, patients are said to suffer from *dhat* syndrome: they complain of impotence and have the delusion that they are losing their semen. In Nigeria, students who can't retain information and report feeling a burning sensation in their heads are sometimes given a diagnosis of 'brain fog.' The illnesses are reinforced by a local belief that the symptoms are a sign of authentic suffering, worthy of expert attention and care." ("The Apathetic: Why are refugee children falling unconscious?" by Rachel Aviv, *The New Yorker*, April 3, 2017.)

♦ "We can control our heartbeat, which in cold, drawn-out bivouacs is preferably as slow as possible. It is necessary to disconnect the arms and the legs and draw most of one's blood into the core of the body and the head. We switch to other dimensions. We become insensitive to

pain, cold, wind, homesickness, thirst, hunger. Instead of having dinner we separate from the physical world. But the further you go into the world where there are no reasons or consequences, points of the compass, time points like yesterday or today, where you only are—the harder it is to return. The reentry into the body is usually accompanied by pain." (*No Impossible Ways* by the great Slovenian climber Tomaz Humar.)

♦ "John J. Hardin, an Indiana volunteer, found it 'dreadful...to see the poor soldier just thrown in a ditch and covered over without any box.' / Burials like these dehumanized the dead and appalled many of the living. A Union chaplain observed that in pit burials bodies were 'covered over much the same as farmers cover potatoes and roots to preserve them from the frost of winter; with this exception, however: the vegetables really get more tender care...' Frequently, corpses were quite literally naked... Soldiers desperate for clothing robbed the dead... and thieves and scavengers appeared on battlefields immediately after the end of hostilities... / Soldiers worried that the piles of dead might include those still living, unable to speak..." (*The Republic of Suffering, Death And the American Civil War* by the great American historian Drew Gilpin Faust.)

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine / verb**

## suck up (verb)

suck up information

the F-35 can ~ and pass it to other aircraft

sucking up all of the political oxygen

impeachment going forward is ~ in Congress

♦ Or, *hoover up...*

**absorption & immersion: verb / water**

## suffocate (verb)

suffocate

the economy will ~ without new-jobs creation

suffocate every (natural) instinct

her parents tried to ~ in her (sex)

**oppression: breathing / verb**

## suffocated

suffocated by this deluge

the coral reefs are slowly ~ of refuse (trash, nets, plastic)

**destruction: breathing**

## suffocating

suffocating

the feeling of isolation is ~ (an island off of Chile)

♦ **WARNING:** to avoid danger of suffocation, keep this plastic bag away from babies and children. Do not use this bag in cribs, beds, carriages or play pens. This bag is not a toy." (Wantdo.)

**feeling, emotion & effect / oppression: breathing**

## sugarcoat (and candy-coat)

sugarcoat

he would give a sober assessment, he would not ~

candy-coat it

I ain't gonna ~, I deserve to be executed (death row)

sugarcoat history

lawmakers should not ~ or try to rewrite it (Armenians)

sugarcoat that

what she did was a crime, there is no way to ~

**appearance & reality / concealment & lack of concealment / sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty / subterfuge: materials & substances / taste / verb**

## sugarcoated

non-sugarcoated assessment

the president asked for a ~ of the situation on the ground

**appearance & reality / concealment & lack of concealment / sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty / subterfuge: taste**

## sugarcoating (noun)

sugarcoating

no ~, no cheerleading, just the truth (a sports report)

**appearance & reality / concealment & lack of concealment / sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty / subterfuge: taste**

## suggest (indicate)

suggest

what it does ~ is that...

suggest that

we don't have any evidence to ~... (investigation)

suggest about how

what does this ~ this position is viewed by the president

suggest one bacterium over another

the character of the sputum may ~

suggest (overt political) bias

these cases ~ at the Department of Justice

suggest another diagnosis

these symptoms are uncharacteristic and should ~

suggests fracture

gingival bleeding at base of tooth ~

suggest the possibility

certain clues ~ of a struggle

suggest violence

pattern injuries ~

suggest abuse or battering

contusions that are circular or linear ~

suggested poisoning

his symptoms ~

advisory suggested

the ~ climbers descend... (bad weather)

analysis has suggested

matched cohort ~ a lower mortality rate in...

analyses suggest

similar ~ that whales evolved from land animals

data suggest

the ~ that mothers who smoke... (study)

new census ~ that there are far more...

~ that insignificant contact with bats may...  
 recent ~ that captopril may play a unique role in...

documents suggest  
 the ~ that the U.S. was eavesdropping on...

edema (also) suggests  
 the peripheral ~ deep vein thrombosis

estimates suggest  
 government ~ the strike has cost over...

evidence suggests  
 that idea is not quite right, ~  
 anecdotal ~ that most users are males under 40  
 a growing body of ~ that even brief bedrest is...  
 but some new ~ this one might be different  
 the overwhelming ~ that we eat too much salt

experience suggests  
 his own ~ that a typical corporate network suffers...

findings suggest  
 the following physical ~ a focal infection  
 the ~ that...

forecasts suggest  
 the administration's own economic ~ that... (jobs)

history (of vaginal discharge) suggests  
 a ~ that... (ED)

injuries suggest  
 pattern ~ violence (ED)

models (of ARDS) suggest  
 adult and infant animal ~ that...

profile had suggested  
 an FBI ~ the kidnapper is a predator, and possibly...

profile (also) suggested  
 the ~ that the killer... (FBI-created profile)

recommendations suggest  
 recent ~ treatment for 60 days with... (anthrax)

reconstruction (of this crash) suggests  
 as a ~, some accidents may be "normal" (plane crash)

reports suggested  
 preliminary ~ rough seas overwhelmed the boat

research suggests  
 but new ~ that even...

researchers suggested  
 some ~ that the study might have understated...

scores suggested  
 and test ~ that 70% of Fremont's students didn't...

signs suggest  
 nearly all ~ Armstrong is ready (Tour de France)

statistics suggested  
 that risk was, ~, far higher than... (shuttle)

studies suggest

some ~ that prolonged bedrest...  
 although ~ a greater prevalence in developed nations  
 current ~ that four or five times a week is best;  
 molecular ~ that SIV entered chimpanzees long after...  
 other ~ that 3-10% of elders are abused or neglected

surveys suggest  
 recent ~ that 36% of under-29-year-olds in Britain...  
 national ~ that 94% of parents acknowledge...

symptoms suggest  
 contraindicated in children whose ~ Reye syndrome

theory suggests  
 this ~ that elder abuse is caused by...

common sense suggests  
 ~ that at some point...

vital signs may suggest  
 the ~ sepsis even if fever is absent

testing suggested  
 shuttle ~ that the wings were vulnerable...

evidence to suggest  
 there is no ~ that he informed school officials...

nothing to suggest  
 there was ~ the action was in any way related to...

reasons to suggest  
 there are plenty of ~ that...

fair to suggest  
 it isn't ~ that the Central Asians are...

strongly suggests  
 the evidence ~ that...

strongly suggest  
 pink frothy sputum and dyspnea ~ pulmonary edema

♦ How many English as a Foreign or Second Language teachers teach this sense? We generally teach this as a grammar lesson focused on the modals "should" and "ought to" (advice) as opposed to necessity ("must" and "have to." "You should / ought to brush your teeth every day," etc.

**evidence / fictive communication: speech / verb  
 analysis, interpretation & explanation: speech / verb  
 suggestion (evidence)**

suggestion of foul play  
 there was no ~

**evidence / fictive communication: speech  
 suicide (career suicide, etc.)**

suicide by a thousand cuts  
 the company is committing ~ (failing)

suicide pact  
 the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment is becoming a ~ (Gov. Gavin Newsome)

career suicide  
 they have decided to risk ~  
 he's committing ~ (prosecutor refused to drop case)

## commercial suicide

not to use the engine would have been ~ (Boeing)

## political suicide

investigating our own agency would be ~

it's ~ for the Democrats... (politics)

it would be ~ to return to combat operations (Afghanistan)

## committed (political) suicide

he ~ by announcing that...

♦ "I just watched the clip of her barreling down the street. Seems like she may be...trying to hurt herself in a permanent way (since I can't use the S word thanks to Yahoo censorship)." (An online commenter about the death of Hollywood celebrity Anne Heche. The S word is *suicide*.)

♦ "Top of mind to many who care about this topic is getting rid of the phrase 'committed suicide,' says Dese'Rae Stage, a suicide awareness activist who holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and is trained in crisis intervention." ("The words to say—and not say—about suicide" by Jessica Ravitz, CNN, June 11, 2018.)

♦ "Around noon, family members called police to report that the father was talking about *dying by suicide* [italics mine] in the woods behind his house." (2022.)

♦ "Unfortunately, [she] lost her long battle with depression and passed away." (A *suicide*.)

♦ "A top Bed Bath & Beyond executive has died after falling from an NYC building" by Joe Hernandez, NPR, Business, September 4, 2022. Within the article, it clearly states, "The New York City Medical Examiner's Office told NPR on Sunday that it had determined the death was a *suicide*."

♦ "Images released by investigators show him lying on a blood-stained classroom floor after he *turned one of his weapons on himself* [italics mine]." (Artyom Kazantsev, school shooter at school number 88 in Izhevsk, central Russia.)

♦ "The subject is deceased due to a self-inflicted gunshot wound."

♦ "Officials say he *completed* [italics mine] *suicide* Tuesday." (A WYMT report about Lance Preston Storz, Kentucky.)

♦ "Yet another case of a Black man committing suicide by police." (An online commenter.) /// "suicide by cop is suddenly reaching down towards a gun..." (An online commenter about the death of Chase Allan in Farmington, Utah.)

♦ "The pain doesn't go away. It's just transferred to someone else." (A random commenter on an article about a successful, beautiful young woman, a former athlete, who "inexplicably" committed suicide. Another commenter wrote, "You'll never understand what it's like until you've walked a mile in our brain." A common "pop psychology" response to suicide nowadays is that it is "a permanent solution to a temporary problem." Consider the case of mental health blogger and sailor Beth Matthews of England.)

♦ "Just a few of these fallen artists, all modern, make up a sad but scintillant roll call: Hart Crane, Vincent van Gogh, Virginia Woolf, Arshile Gorky, Cesare Pavese, Romain Gary, Vachel Lindsay, Sylvia Plath, Henry de Montherlant, Mark Rothko, John Berryman, Jack London, Ernest Hemingway, William Inge, Diane Arbus, Tadeusz Borowski, Paul Celan, Anne Sexton, Sergei Esenin, Vladimir Mayakovsky—the list goes on..." (Artistic types who committed suicide, mentioned in *Darkness Visible: Memoir of Madness* by William Styron.)

♦ The Yangtze River Bridge (Nanjing); the Golden Gate Bridge (San Francisco); the Pancevo Bridge (Belgrade); two main bridges over the Han River (Seoul); the Aurora Bridge (Seattle); the Aokigahara Forest (on the northwestern flank of Mount Fuji); the Hussain Sagar Lake in Hyderabad; The Gap (Sydney); the Vessel (Hudson Yards, New York City)... (Suicide magnets.)

♦ "Duncan Gordon Boyes, Royal Navy, Midshipman of Her Majesty's Ship *Euryalus*... He carried a Colour with the leading company, kept it in advance of all, in the face of the thickest fire, his colour-sergeants having fallen, one mortally, the other dangerously wounded...The Colour he carried was six times pierced by musket balls." (From the citation, in the *London Gazette*, for Boyes' Victoria Cross, for his actions at Shimonoseki, Japan, in 1864. Born in Cheltenham, Glos., England, Boyes joined the Royal Navy at the age of 14. He received his VC at the age of 17. Later, he was kicked out of the navy for ill-discipline and went

to New Zealand. Suffering from depression and alcoholism, he committed suicide at the age of 22.)

♦ In Dante's *The Inferno*, the souls of suicides are encased within trees and vegetation in the Forest of the Suicides. "[The violent spirit] falls into the wood, and landing there, / wherever fortune flings it, it strikes root, / and there it sprouts..." (From the great translation by John Ciardi.)

♦ "A warning. This episode contains discussion of suicide and domestic violence." (NPR's Pop Culture Happy Hour.)

♦ "Warning: Post contains mention of contemplated suicide." (BuzzFeed Community.)

## destruction: death & life

## suit (person)

### suits and decision-makers

we walked into the room with all the ~ (two actors)

♦ "Yeah, let's get real emotional and pass laws based on emotion rather than common sense. Trey Gowdy is an empty suit. He got rich in Congress while doing nothing." (Criticism of the politician at Breitbart.)

### power: person / sign, signal, symbol

## suit (follow suit)

### follow suit

states feel pressure to ~ (gambling policy)

### uniformity & consensus: cards / verb

## suitcase (lived in a suitcase, etc.)

### lived in a suitcase

I've ~ for two years (a chess player chasing the dream)

### travel: sign, signal, symbol

## suite (suite of tools, etc.)

### suite of (terrorism) statutes

there are a ~ in the federal criminal code

### suite of tools

the rover has a ~ (Mars Science Lab)

### robust suite

the MQ-9 has a ~ of visual sensors for targeting

### amount / group, set & collection: infrastructure

## suitor (noun)

### suitors for Lehman Brothers

the ~ weren't really serious

### a lot of suitors

but there are ~... (Sri Lanka and geopolitics, diplomacy)

### suitors have been lining up

following his demand for a trade, potential ~ (an NBA star)

### attract suitors

they will inevitably ~ in the summer (2 soccer players)

### seeking suitors

the E. W. Scrips Co. is ~ for the *Rocky Mountain News*

♦ "Liverpool's Brazilian forward Roberto Firmino is not short of suitors..." (Soccer teams who want to sign him.)

### person: love, courtship & marriage

**pursuit, capture & escape: love, courtship & marriage / person**

## **sully (verb)**

sullied their relationship  
the loan might have ~ (two naval officers)

sullied my reputation  
the incident ~

♦ **Dirtied...**

**accusation & criticism / flaws & lack of flaws: verb**

## **summit (at the summit)**

at the summit of her achievement  
the work stands ~ as an artist

at the summit of his fame  
he turned his back on Hollywood ~

at the summit of his power  
he died ~

**achievement, recognition & praise: direction / height / mountains & hills**

## **sun (currency and obsolescence)**

moment in the sun  
he had his ~ (rock star)  
I think they have had their ~ (team in World Cup)

new day in the sun  
the research is having a ~ (on attention)

sun was (rapidly) going down  
the ~ for the Empire of Japan (a W.W. II documentary)

sun has set  
the ~ on the Kennedy era

sun is setting  
the ~ on the dirty energy of the past

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day / sun**

## **sunk in**

sunk in  
it's over, and that hasn't ~ yet

**comprehension & incomprehension: water  
absorption & immersion: water**

## **sunlight (concealment)**

sunlight  
behind closed doors, without any ~ whatsoever (hearings)

sunlight of (open) debate  
he exposed them to the disinfecting ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: light & dark / sun  
concealment & lack of concealment: light & dark / sun**

## **sunny (adjective)**

sunny side

look on the ~ (advice to parent of toddler with problem)

sunny smile  
a ~ seemed the antidote to adversity

danceable, sunny  
the group wrote ~ lyrics

♦ **SAD stands for seasonal affective disorder. It goes away in the spring.**

**feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark / sun**

## **sunset (ride into the sunset)**

riding into the sunset  
after tomorrow, I'm going to be ~ (vote)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: day / film / horse / sun**

## **sunset (sunset years, etc.)**

sunset years  
the ~ of tranquil retirement... (before death)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day**

## **super (superlawyer, etc.)**

supercharge  
*see supercharge (verb)*

supersize  
*see supersize (verb)*

supercharged  
*see supercharged*

supersized  
*see supersized (adjective)*

supersizing  
*see supersizing (linguistic supersizing)*

Super Bowl  
*see Super Bowl*

superhighway  
*see superhighway*

supernova  
*see supernova (achievement), supernova (attention)*

superpower  
*see superpower (groups)*

super-spreader  
*see super-spreader*

superyacht  
if it's more than ninety-eight feet, it's a ~

super bold  
I thought it was ~, I mean I could not believe... (NPR)

superrich  
New York's supertalls serve as homes for the ~  
(skyscrapers)

supertalls

New York's ~ serve as homes for the superrich (skyscrapers)

super uncommon  
and actually, you know, this is not ~

super viral  
her tweet went ~

super-hyper-mega-uber  
this ~ French entry (Barbara Pravi / Eurovision Contest)

obviously super  
see *obviously* (*contempo-speak*)

♦ "We've never witnessed buildings rise so much, so quickly. From high-rises, we've stretched to supertalls and even megatalls (double the height of a supertall), and engineers are already discussing 'ultratalls' that would take us higher still." ("Can A Building Be Too Tall?" by Bianca Bosker, *The Atlantic*, January / February 2023.)

♦ "If it has a crew working aboard, it's a yacht. If it's more than ninety-eight feet, it's a superyacht. After that, definitions are debated, but people generally agree that anything more than two hundred and thirty feet is a megayacht, and more than two hundred and ninety-five is a gigayacht. The world contains about fifty-four hundred superyachts, and about a hundred gigayachts. / For the moment, a gigayacht is the most expensive item that our species has figured out how to own." ("The Floating World" by Evan Osnos, *The New Yorker*, July 25, 2022.)

♦ "Everyone is super involved and engaged and supportive of each other, but not in a networky feeling way, in a way that's just really like uhh..." (Jac Jemc—pronounced Jack Jams—about her fellow Chicago writers.)

♦ "It's super, it's heavy, it's superheavy." (An inspired commentator about the booster of a SpaceX Starship.)

♦ Much in U.S. society is and always has been and always will be commercial, promotional, and self-promotional. And our language reflects it: *big, super-, trendy, performative, curated, boutique*, "throw it all on the wall and see what sticks," *artisanal, craft, custom, heirloom, designer, bespoke, bedazzled* (or is it *bejazzled?*), *uber, meta, hyper, upcycled, -forward, -informed, -driven, -ized, reinvented, pop-up, verb-up, kinetic, fluid, deep, massive, generational, transactional, intersectional, insanely cool*, "try this genius hack to..." In warfare, bombs and missiles have gone from *dumb* to *smart* to *brilliant*.

♦ see also *supersizing* (*linguistic supersizing*)

language / superlative: affix

## Super Bowl

Super Bowl of spirit competitions  
the annual Cheerleading Worlds—the ~

Super Bowl of the canines  
the ~ (Westminster Dog Show)

Superbowl of church suppers  
the ~ (Wild Game Supper in Bradford, Vt.)

akin to the Super Bowl  
in the mountainous nations, the *Hahnenkamm* is ~ (skiing)

gearing up for their Super Bowl  
florists have been ~ (Valentine's Day)

♦ "This is our Super Bowl, absolutely, for entomologists, we've been looking forward to this." (An excited Michael J. Raupp, professor emeritus at the University of Maryland, about an emergence of periodical cicadas, Brood X. He is also known as "the Bug Guy.")

superlative: epithet / football / sports & games

## supercharge (verb)

supercharged each other  
the two communities ~ with their online conflict

supercharges the storm  
climate change ~ (hurricanes)

increase & decrease / power / speed / strength &  
weakness: engine / mechanism / verb

## supercharged

supercharged identity  
his background in law enforcement gave him a bit of a ~

increase & decrease / power / speed / strength &  
weakness: engine / mechanism

## superhighway

superhighway  
the road to stardom hasn't been a ~ for her (actor)

shipping superhighway  
the Strait of Malacca is a ~

information superhighway  
popular culture now rides on the ~  
he mines the ~  
the railroad was the original ~

♦ "Social media is quickly becoming pay to play... It's no longer an information highway that connects people...it's starting to become a toll road."

route: infrastructure

## supernova (achievement)

tech supernova  
she was a ~ who said she had an amazing invention

pitching supernova  
Dwight Gooden was a ~

achievement, recognition & praise / growth & development  
/ primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence / superlative:  
astronomy / light & dark / star

## supernova (attention)

went supernova  
the conflict ~ in the pages of *The New York Times*

attention, scrutiny & promotion: astronomy / light & dark /  
star

## superpower (groups)

superpower of a Black Woman  
I think the ~ is to...

race, queerness and superpowers  
~ (NPR / Code Switch)

discovers her superpower  
a Black feminist ~

♦ *Eloquent Rage: A Black Feminist Discovers Her Superpower* by Brittney Cooper.

♦ "I think the superpower of a Black Woman is to occupy the space in the fullness of who she is." (The actress Aisha Hinds.)

♦ "Living a life of mental illness, they call it—I like to say mental superpowers—you know, basketball was always my escape." (Former NBA player Delonte West, bipolar disorder.)

♦ "Zero is the nickname of Omar, the lead character, a young Black Italian delivery worker who is more or less ignored by the white society around him. But his metaphorical invisibility turns into a magical power when he discovers he can actually make himself invisible. He becomes a superhero, helping save his neighborhood..." ("In New Italian Netflix Series 'Zero,' A Black Hero Makes Invisibility His Superpower" by Sylvia Poggioli, NPR, May 27, 2021.)

♦ "By far and away I think Charlie is the most heroic man I have ever played. His superpower is to see the good in others and bring that out of them." (Brendon Fraser about his role in the film *The Whale*, in which he plays Charlie, a 600-pound-man who rarely leaves his couch. The article goes on to read, "Hunter, who also wrote the screenplay, said his play is personal. He started it 12 years ago when he was teaching a mandatory expository writing course at Rutgers University that no one wanted to take and everyone resented. He also pulled from his own background, setting the play in his hometown of Moscow, Idaho, and weaving in his history of being depressed, self-medicating with food and going to a fundamentalist religious high school as a gay teenager." (From "Brendon Fraser celebrated for a comeback role in 'The Whale'" by Lindsey Bahr, AP Film writer, Sept 4, 2022.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## supersize (verb)

supersize itself

everything seemed to just ~ (criticism of Harry Potter)

supersized all those policies

the president ~ (border control)

supersizes the truth

the story often ~ (history)

♦ "As we crossed over into the year 2000, suddenly everything seemed to just supersize itself." (Criticism that the Harry Potter books promoted satanism and witchcraft to children, etc.)

♦ "The story often supersizes the truth and comes with a side order of fibs." ("American History's Biggest Fibs," BBC Select, with historian Lucy Worsley.)

♦ According to Wikipedia, "the phrase was particularly used by McDonald's restaurants to upsize their French fries and soft drinks."

**increase & decrease: food & drink / size / verb**

## supersized (adjective)

supersized (personal) mandate

Boris Johnson's premiership rests on a ~

**size: food & drink**

## supersizing (linguistic supersizing)

linguistic supersizing

~ is everywhere (hyperbole / wretched excess)

♦ Afraid (terrified); agreement (landmark agreement); bad (hideous); all-too-believable (unbelievable); clever (genius); flavour (flavour bomb); hero (superhero); hot (sweltering); hungry (starving); nice (awesome); sad (tragic); storm (Frankenstorm); tired (shattered); tragedy (terrible / horrific tragedy); weather (weather bomb); uber; ova-; mega... ("The extreme language of extroverts," BBC Reel, 13 May 2021, an excellent script and narration by Susie Dent. But is this actually the "language of extroverts" or simply bad language?

♦ Absolutely anything; absolutely perfect; absolutely palpable; all kinds of brave (a female politician); completely awestruck; crazy delicious;

endlessly refreshed; endlessly shocked; extraordinarily brave; fabulously wonderful; fundamentally horrific; incredibly brave; lushly illustrated (a blurb for some book), mad funny; magnificently researched (a blurb for some book); particularly heinous; profoundly saddened; REEEE•ly, REEEE•ly contagious (NPR); truly dire... (Linguistic supersizing.)

♦ Ferocious achievements (a woman); huge bravery (a woman); an invaluable contribution (a blurb for some book), tragic passing; unimaginable horror; an unspeakable tragedy... (Linguistic supersizing.)

♦ "It takes huge bravery to say what she's saying. (Simon Biles withdraws from Tokyo Olympics event to prioritize her wellbeing.)

♦ Horrid (adjective); horrible (adjective); horrific (adjective); horrifically; horrifying (adjective)... (A group of Black lady golfers was kicked off a golf course for playing too slowly. One of them described it as a "horrific" experience.)

♦ "He has admitted to a huge, horrible mistake." (Watched porn on cellphone.)

♦ "Unimaginable horror has somehow even gotten worse." (A millennial war correspondent reporting from a café for NPR.)

♦ "So this number of tables is very very extremely limited..." (A *Fresh Air* interview with a prissy *maitre d'*.)

♦ "Our life was running at 150,000 miles an hour" (the husband about his marriage to a pop celebrity, which ended badly); "We as a society refuse to address the 9,000 pound gorilla in the room" (guns); "Maybe you have to look at things from 20 billion miles up to get this kind of perspective"... (Linguistic supersizing with numbers.)

♦ "On March 25, about 2,400 miles away [from Portland, Oregon] in a Tennessee courtroom..." (Portland to Nashville is 2,349 miles driving and 1,970 miles as the crow flies. The United States is approximately 3,000 miles across.)

♦ "Police tracked him thousands of miles." (From Pullman, Washington, to Albrightsville, Pennsylvania. About 2,500 miles if driving. The United States is approximately 3,000 miles across. A more reputable source said, "more than 2,000 miles.")

♦ "The crucible of anxiety..." (College admissions.)

♦ "How to see the 'Super Flower Blood Moon'..." (BBC. Uh, look up?)

♦ A person who commented on an ABC article about a "Super Flower Blood Moon" lamented, "Can we please just go back to the days when it was just a 'full moon'?"

♦ "And astronomers tomorrow will witness a clash [dramatic orchestral music]. After creeping towards each other, Venus and Jupiter will seem to touch as they glow in the pre-dawn light... To us on earth, they will align in what is called a planetary conjunction." (BBC "Science Reporter" Regina Reinhard. Such a conjunction happens every year.)

♦ "The Milky Way devours its neighbors, cannibalizing dwarf galaxies."

♦ "Scientists think they've found a big, weird moon in a far-off star system." / "Astronomers at Britain's Durham University have found an ultramassive black hole" (Stellar "Space" reporting from NPR. The latter report last 27 seconds.)

♦ "New telescope catches dead suns smashing together." (BBC 2022.)

♦ "...dialogue that sounds unpremeditated but has a *neutron-star density* of drama and emotion." ("Sally Rooney Addresses Her Critics" by Caleb Crain, *The Atlantic*, September 2021.)

♦ Climatic change or climate change or global warming has morphed to "the climate crisis" or the "climate emergency." ("Word of the Week: 'Emergency'" by Nicholas Clairmont, *Washington Examiner*, December 7, 2021.)

♦ "These forest fires are really really real."

♦ "The Omicron virus is REEEE•lee, REEEE•lee contagious." (Selena Simmons-Duffin of NPR. Type "really really" in the search box at NPR and you get 6,794 hits and counting.)

♦ "Crushing pressure, brutal cold and utter darkness; an epic journey into the unknown; alien worlds; bizarre creatures; extraordinary new behaviours; unendurable pressures; savage hordes of Humboldt squid..." (BBC enters the hype realm for *Blue Planet II*, *The Deep*.)

♦ "It's the biggest myth in the history of myths." (John Madden, the bombastic sports broadcaster, reacting to comments about something or other that he had allegedly said or done. Sports broadcasters are often bombastic, flamboyant, and known for hyperbole.)

♦ “Ah, the word *genius* is passed around rather generously, isn’t it... Russians assign the thinner term *TAL•ant*, talent... It is a bizarre example of semantic discrepancy, the same word [*genius*] being more substantial in one language [Russian] than in another [English]. Although my Russian and my English are practically coeval, I still feel appalled and puzzled at seeing *genius* applied to *any* important storyteller... *Genius* still means to me in my Russian fastidiousness and pride of phrase a unique, dazzling gift, the gift of James Joyce, not the talent of Henry James.” (Vladimir Nabokov, BBC Author Archive Collection, “James Mossman talks to Russian writer Vladimir Nabokov in this 1970 interview.”)

♦ “WOW! Why do they always call these nor’easters “Dangerous”! Have they never had one before?” (TiredProgrammer.)

♦ Hot weather = a “heat apocalypse.”

♦ The twindemic (flu + COVID) is now a “tripledeemic” (flu + COVID-19 + RSV), according to NPR. A “quadrupledeemic” is next!

♦ “In the time it took me to type two words into my resume, I was a newly proclaimed Data Scientist, ready to plunge into the Internet economy. I landed a job at a New York start-up called Intent Media.” (*Weapons Of Math Destruction* by Cathy O’Neil.)

♦ Much in our society is and always has been commercial, promotional, and self-promotional. And our language reflects it: *big*, *super-*, *trendy*, *performative*, *curated*, *boutique*, “throw it all on the wall and see what sticks,” *artisanal*, *craft*, *custom*, *heirloom*, *designer*, *bespoke*, *bedazzled* (or is it *bejazzled?*), *uber*, *meta*, *hyper*, *upcycled*, *-forward*, *-informed*, *-driven*, *-ized*, *reinvented*, *pop-up*, *verb-up*, *kinetic*, *fluid*, *deep*, *massive*, *generational*, *transactional*, *intersectional*, *insanely cool*, “try this genius hack to...” In warfare, bombs and missiles have gone from *dumb* to *smart* to *brilliant*.

♦ see also *buzzword* (noun), *boilerplate* (noun), *doublespeak* (noun), *ese* (legalese, etc.), *funny language*, *language* (types), *lip service* (pay lip service, etc.), *newspeak* (noun), *speak* (NASA-speak, etc.), *talk* (mediator talk, etc.), *word salad*

**hyperbole: food & drink / size**

**language: speech**

## super-spreader

super spreaders

“~” perpetuate conspiracy theories on social media

super-spreader of disinformation / hate

social media has been a ~

**transmission: health & medicine**

## supine (adjective)

supine relationship

he embodies his party’s rather ~ to this president (politics)

supine and silent

Congress has been ~

remains supine

the press ~ (the mainstream media / politics)

♦ “Don’t expect me to take this lying down!”

**dominance & submission / resistance, opposition & defeat: standing, sitting & lying**

## supinely

accepted supinely

physicians ~ this crucial flaw in Galen’s material (anatomy)

**dominance & submission / resistance, opposition & defeat: standing, sitting & lying**

## supple (adjective)

supple

artificial intelligence can be as ~ as a human’s

supple intelligence

her ~ distinguished her (a political advisor)

supple sensitivity

he performs the songs with ~ (Sinatra)

supple voice

her ~ can caress and shock (a singer)

his ~ constantly transforms itself

supple (pop-jazz) voice

she has a ~

supple and durable

radio is a ~ technology

**ability & lack of ability / constraint & lack of constraint: materials & substances / movement**

## Supreme Court

Supreme Court of (Facebook) enforcement

the Oversight Board is sort of a ~

French language’s Supreme Court

the Académie Française, the ~

**judgment / punishment & recrimination: justice**

**judgment: epithet**

## supremacist (white supremacist, etc.)

white supremacist

the ~ origins of exercise...

♦ “The White Supremacist Origins of Exercise, and 6 Other Surprising Facts About the History of U.S. Physical Fitness” by Olivia B. Waxman, *Time Magazine*, Dec. 28, 2022. (The author may or may not have written the title.)

**inclusion & exclusion: objectification**

## supremacy (white supremacy, etc.)

white supremacy

the term “~” is a rhetorical weapon

language of white supremacy

Southern elected leaders spoke the ~ (after reconstruction)

flames of white supremacy

he has fanned the ~ in this nation (politics)

tool of white supremacy

I never heard before that math was a ~

the SAT has been smeared as a ~

racism / white supremacy

I remember a time before the left cried ~ over every issue

reject white supremacy

~, anti-immigrant and anti-blackness ideologies (USC

memo)

♦ “Our goal is not just to change language but to honor and acknowledge inclusion and reject white supremacy, anti-immigrant and anti-blackness

ideologies." (A memo from the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work, announcing that the school had changed the Office of Field Education to the Office of Practicum Education. See "'Anti-racist' language change causes confusion" by Tomoki Chien, *Daily Trojan*, January 11, 2023.)

♦ "And what I want people to make the connection to is actually white privilege is a part of white supremacy and it upholds white supremacy." (Layla Saad, author of *Me and White Supremacy*.)

♦ MR: Getting into sort of X Y or Z newest wellness fad can for some folks kind of put them on this track, kind of filter them or funnel them closer and closer to anti-vax stuff, closer and closer to QAnon stuff, and QAnon itself is like closer and closer to organized white supremacy. AG: Yes. ("The Wellness to QAnon Pipeline," Maintenance Phase podcast.)

♦ "We have 100+ statues and portraits in the Capitol. Almost all of them are of white men. The erasure of women & BIPOC from American history is a feature of white supremacy." (A tweet attributed to Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez by *The New York Post*.)

♦ "White Supremacy is banning Sha'Carri Richardson for smoking weed while Megan Rapinoe gets praised for her use of CBD."

♦ "The thin ideal is definitely a white ideal... So celebrating a thin white body as the ideal body is a way to 'other' and demonize Black and brown bodies, bigger bodies, anyone who doesn't fit into that norm. So this is really about maintaining systems of white supremacy and patriarchy..." (Journalist Virginia Sole-Smith. Interview highlights. From "Diet culture can hurt kids. This author advises parents to reclaim the word 'fat,'" NPR, Fresh Air (Tonya Mosley), April 25, 2023.)

♦ "What is white supremacy? It's a viral phrase that quickly infected our political lexicon while allowing each host to change the definition as he or she sees fit—but a definition that applies to everything ultimately means nothing." ("Democrats' latest attempt to use a 'white supremacy' scare to crush their opposition" by Adam G. Coleman, *New York Post*, 2023.)

♦ "Why is white supremacy bad and black supremacy good? (Adam B. Coleman.)

♦ "I never heard before that math was a tool of white supremacy. I just can't keep up!" (An "exhausted" online commenter.)

## inclusion & exclusion: objectification

## sure (introductory)

Sure

~, what I mean by that is...

Sure, so

see *so (introductory)*

Sure, well...

see *well (filler)*

♦ This is often pronounced "shore" nowadays, like the shore of a body of water.

♦ To hear a lot of introductory "Sure's," listen to "A new book explains how QAnon took hold of the GOP—and why it's not going away," NPR, Fresh Air, March 2, 2023. Terry Gross asks. Journalist Will Sommer answers, "Sure, (so) (well)..."

♦ see also *right (introductory)*, *so (introductory)*, *yeah (introductory)*

## contempo-speak: introductory

## surefire (a surefire investment, etc.)

surefire investment

I thought it was a ~

surefire recipe

this is a ~ to ruin the economy (politics)

surefire replacement

the team has no ~ for either player (sports)

surefire solution

there is no ~ for this

surefire technique

another ~ is to...

surefire way

it's a ~ to make money

no one has yet found a ~ to do that

showing some flesh is a ~ to get talked about (naked dress)

seems surefire

a scene that ~ in rehearsal can fall flat

flaws & lack of flaws: weapon

certainty & uncertainty: weapon

## sure-footed (adjective)

sure-footed

he came off as defensive, not so ~ (a politician)

♦ "No one knows how many mountain goats fall to their deaths."

flaws & lack of flaws: equilibrium & stability / walking,

running & jumping

## surf (computers)

surf the Internet

she likes to ~

♦ Hitting a log the size of a telephone pole (Teahupoo); broken femur, neck, nose, burst eardrum, knee dislocation, getting your thigh ripped open by a surfboard fin; being stripped of your flotation vest, rash guard and trunks in the whitewater and left naked... (Just a few of the many surfing hazards.)

♦ "For the storm to be right here, it should be a lot better." (A disappointed surfer in North Carolina, remarking on the smallish waves generated by Hurricane Earl.)

♦ "They provide themselves with a thin board, on these they swim off shore to meet the Surf... [They] manage so as to get just before it or rather on the Slant or declivity of the Surf & thus they lie...laying hold of the fore part of the board which receives the force of the water on its under side, & by that means keeps before the wave which drives it along with an incredible Swiftness to the shore... We saw with astonishment young boys & Girls about 9 or ten playing amid such tempestuous Waves that the hardest of our seamen would have trembled to face..." (David Samwell describing the scene at Kealakekua Bay, January 22, 1779.)

♦ "Eddie Aikau, Shane Dorian, Andy Irons, Bruce Irons, Kelly Slater, Sunny Garcia..." (The great Makua Rothman listing just some of his influences. "Eddy would go!")

♦ 2009, 2004, 1998, 1983, 1974, and the Big One in 1969... (Years for legendary surf on the North Shore of Oahu.)

computers: sports & games / verb

## surface (intransitive)

surface

the truth may never ~ (rumors in the news)

surfaced on (several) gossip blogs

the video clip ~ last week

surfaced in Canada

they disappeared and then ~

surfaced in the Hollywood Reporter

allegations of sexual assault ~

eventually surface

the truth will ~ (disappearance of college coed)

evidence has surfaced  
no new ~ in the case

name surfaced  
his ~ during the investigation (terrorist)

**appearance & disappearance / concealment & lack of concealment / searching & discovery: verb / water**

### surface (as transitive verb)

surfaced (upsetting) footage  
he ~ of catastrophe and corruption (Spike Lee / *Epicenters*)

surface the basic, fundamental ideas  
they did ~ (a discussion of abortion rights)

surfacing that for them  
how are we ~ (good articles on cellphone / NYT editor)

surfaces content  
TikTok ~ based on a variety of factors (search)

♦ "The Gender Cool Project, a youth-led organization surfacing positive trans stories..."

**contempo-speak: part of speech**

### surface (on the surface)

on the surface  
~, it looks bad

**appearance & reality: water**

### surface (under the surface)

under the surface  
but ~, the sectarian divisions remain (Lebanon)  
there is anger ~ ready to erupt at any time

bubbling (just) under the surface  
conflict is ~

**appearance & reality: water**

**concealment & lack of concealment: water**

### surface (scratch the surface)

scratch the surface  
these findings just ~

scratches the surface  
even this huge number barely ~ (microbes in gut)

**extent & scope: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

### surface (bring to the surface)

brought the (bitter) rift to the surface  
the incident ~ (between military and government)

**appearance & disappearance: verb / water**

**concealment & lack of concealment: verb / water**

### surge (noun)

surge in violence  
there has been a ~ (Chicago gang violence)

**amount & effect / movement: tide / water**

### surge (surge of anger, etc.)

surge of anger  
he felt a ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: force / water**

### surge (intransitive verb / increase)

membership surged  
gang ~

numbers surging  
why are the ~ (for testing accommodations)

**increase & decrease: direction / movement / tide / water / verb**

### surge (intransitive verb / effect)

surged across the Americas  
the disease ~ (dengue fever / 2019)

surging across the southern border  
migrants are ~

**amount & effect: tide / verb / water**

**movement: tide / verb / water**

### surge (transitive verb)

surging (more than) 500 officers  
the mayor is ~ to fight subway crime (NYC)

surged their (national) resources  
the ATF ~ (serial bombings in Austin, Texas)

**directing: tide / verb / water**

### surgery (noun)

botched surgery  
the ~ they've carried out (Puffin Books / Roald Dahl)

drastic surgery  
~ seems the only answer (to cure ills of soccer team)

radical surgery  
France is resisting such ~ (austerity)

♦ "Drastic surgery seems the only answer, amputate before infection spreads." (An unhappy Manchester United fan.)

♦ "The editors at Puffin (Books) should be ashamed of the botched surgery they've carried out on some of the finest children's literature in Britain." (Laura Hackett, deputy literary editor of London's *Sunday Times* newspaper, about revision made to the works of Roald Dahl. The revisions relate to such things as weight, mental health, gender, and race.)

♦ "There is not a surgery that comes without risks."

♦ "Surgeons kill more people than we know about."

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

### surgical (adjective)

surgical approach  
for a century, the Supreme Court has used a more ~

surgical clarity  
he tells his story with a ~ (short story collection)

surgical fashion  
we are fighting this in very ~ (Israel vs. Hamas)  
the assassination was carried out in a ~ (M. Fakhrizadeh)

surgical precision  
lawmakers wrote the election law with ~ to exclude Blacks

surgical strike  
the killing was a ~ (an assassination)  
a ~ on a car carrying the commander of...  
a brilliantly executed ~ by Israeli jets (in Syria)

surgical way  
we are prosecuting this war in the most ~

♦ "Drone strikes are supposed to be precise, *surgical* is the word most often used..." ("U.S. air strikes have killed thousands of civilians, NYT Magazine investigation finds," NPR, Weekend Edition Saturday, December 25, 2021.)

♦ BBC "Austria: Doctor fined for amputating wrong leg of patient," Europe, 1 December 2021.

**flaws & lack of flaws: health & medicine**

## surprise (sarcasm)

surprise, surprise  
we don't actually know that, Ari, ~ (NPR's Nina Totenberg)

language: sarcasm

## surreal (adjective)

surreal  
what's happening on reality TV is ~

'surreal' dream  
Welsh teenager Lewy Williams living his ~ (darts)

surreal (televised) interview  
he was forced to confess in a ~

'surreal' (January) wildfire  
~ shuts California highway (unseasonable)

♦ Meriam-Webster cites first usage as 1937. It comes from the name of the post-WWI 1924 Surrealism movement, associated with Rene Magritte and the melting clocks of Salvador Dali.

**fantasy & reality: allusion**

## surrender (verb)

surrender their seats to (pregnant) women  
some refuse to ~ (New Yorkers)

surrendered his (medical) license  
he has ~ and can no longer practice

surrender (unlicensed) firearms  
the Interior Ministry appealed to citizens to ~

surrendered its artistic freedom  
criticism the opera house had ~

**possession: military / verb**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: military / verb**

## survivor (groups)

survivor

he's a ~ who always gets back up (a politician)

survivor of (childhood) trauma  
as a ~... (unspecified)

Survivor Corps  
Diana Berrent, Founder, ~ (Long COVID)

survivor credibility  
questions surrounding ~ (Megan Thee Stallion criminal trial)

COVID-19 survivors  
what survivor's guilt looks like for three ~ (NPR)

Hurricane Laura survivor  
~ among hundreds of thousands without power

heroic survivor  
a ~ of brutal abuse (Amber Heard vs. Johnny Depp)

sexual assault survivor  
NPR's Ailsa Chang talks with ex-football player and ~

police shooting survivor  
the family of a ~ is speaking out...

black survivors  
the lack of services for many ~ (crime)

cancer survivor  
~ Hayley will be the youngest American to visit space  
the 63-year-old ~ leaves the foundation with a...

stroke survivor  
she give voice to ~ in debut novel

trauma survivors  
her mural explores themes of healing for ~

boarding school survivor  
the ~s, and the spirits of the children... (Denise Lajimodiere)  
my mother was a ~ (native American)

political survivor  
she is a shrewd ~ (German Chancellor)

21 million (male) survivors  
the estimated ~ (abuse by Catholic Church, Boy Scouts)

millions of survivors  
~ have been living with the impacts (domestic abuse)

♦ see also *victim (groups)*

♦ "Survivor" has almost completely replaced "victim" in the context of medical illnesses like cancer and in the context of natural disasters. A cancer "survivor" might also be referred to as a cancer "conqueror."

♦ *Surviving the White Gaze*. (A memoir by Rebecca Carroll.)

♦ "The director, a Katrina baby himself, and his subjects, other Black survivors of both the storm and the government's opportunistic response to the storm..." ("Lost Youth: Two new documentaries on HBO Max and Netflix" by Doreen St. Felix, *The New Yorker*, September 12, 2022.)

♦ "*The New Yorker's* article on Long COVID, in which I was a central subject, was a profound affront to everyone suffering the long-term sequelae of even mild and asymptomatic cases of COVID-19." (Diana Berrent.)

♦ "Nassar abuse survivors reach \$380 million deal with USA Gymnastics, Olympic committee" by Joe Hernandez, NPR, updated December 13, 2021."

- ♦ “FBI opens settlement talks with gymnasts who survived abuse by Larry Nassar,” Carrie Johnson, NPR Law, July 28, 2022.
- ♦ “For Centenarian Survivor Of 1918 Flu Pandemic, Coronavirus Is Just Another ‘Problem,’” NPR, All Things Considered, April 15, 2020. The “survivor,” who was five years old in 1918, did not actually get the flu during that pandemic.
- ♦ “She said for years...she didn’t identify as a survivor because she had not personally witnessed the carnage that occurred...” (A school-shooting survivor who “sees herself” as a survivor now.)
- ♦ “She is a *survivor* [italics mine] of Amache.” (From “A rosebush, which hasn’t bloomed in decades, adds color to a dim chapter in history” by Ryan Warner, NPR, Morning Edition, May 30, 2022. See the next quotation.)
- ♦ “You know, they had a roof over their head, and they were getting meals, and that was not something they had any assurance of on the outside. And so, paradoxically, the War Relocation Authority really had to sort of *put the screws to the community to get them to leave* [italics mine]. They had to start shutting operations down, they had to start shutting down mess halls, they had to start eliminating employment...” (APM Reports, “Order 9066, Chapter 7: Leaving Camp,” June 25, 2018.)
- ♦ “One thing we need to better understand is intergeneration trauma and history. All the research shows the survivors have no parenting skills. Now, there’s something called Boarding School Syndrome—it’s basically post-traumatic stress disorder. They have intrusive memories, flashbacks, nightmares, attachment disorder, personal shame—they’re ashamed of being Indian—trouble sleeping, poor anger management, deficient parenting skills and the tendency to abuse alcohol. It’s also called ‘disenfranchised grief’ because it can’t be publicly mourned. Some call it a ‘soul wound.’” (Denise Lajimodiere. From “Q & A with Denise Lajimodiere,” *National Catholic Reporter*, July 22-August 4, 2022.)
- ♦ “Miller’s attorneys called him the ‘only living execution survivor in the United States.’” (“Alabama ‘execution survivor’ reaches settlement with state” by Kim Chandler, Nov. 29, 2022. Officials were not able to establish an intravenous line to the 351-pound inmate. The “settlement” is that Miller will be executed by another means, to be determined.)
- ♦ “[W]e take a look at why *Survivor* has been a staple of TV conversation for 20 years.” (“Idols, Islands, Snakes & Rats: 20 Years Of ‘Survivor’ by Linda Holmes and Stephen Thompson, NPR, Review, Pop Culture Happy Hour, April 15, 2020.)
- ♦ NPR’s Michel Martin: Thank you so much for talking with us. I imagine this just has to be exhausting. / Aly Raisman: Thank you for having me on. You know, this is one of the moments where right now I’m definitely, I’m definitely feeling it, I’m definitely exhausted, but that’s that’s what surviving and healing looks like. You know, there are some moments where I feel okay and then other moments.....”
- ♦ “We told you that this would be a performance, the role of her lifetime as a heroic survivor of brutal abuse.” (Camille Vasquez, in her closing arguments in the Amber Heard-Johnny Depp trial.)
- ♦ “How are we expected to survive without this!” (A bearded millennial man at an airport holds up a cellphone in a T Mobile advertisement. “Travel with T-Mobile. Whether it’s across the country or across the globe, your phone just works.”)
- ♦ “Another Los Angeles-based Ben survivor named Raven...” (#TheBenStage.)
- ♦ “The first Russian patrol came in sight of the camp about midday on 27 January 1945. Charles and I were the first to see them: we were carrying Somogyi’s body to the common grave, the first of our room mates to die. We tipped the stretcher on to the defiled snow, as the pit was now full, and no other grave was at hand: Charles took off his beret as a salute to both the living and the dead. / They were four young soldiers on horseback, who advanced along the road that marked the limits of the camp, cautiously holding their sten-guns. When they reached the barbed wire, they stopped to look, exchanging a few timid words, and throwing strangely embarrassed glances at the sprawling bodies, at the battered huts and at us few still alive...” (*The Truce* by Primo Levi.)

**Inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

**suspended**

suspended between modernity and the Middle Ages  
Casablanca is ~

**configuration: pendulum**  
**division & connection: pendulum**  
**suspended animation**

entered suspended animation  
the Democratic primary season ~ (pandemic)

stuck in suspended animation  
his campaign is ~ (shut down by pandemic)

**activity: death & life**  
**starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life**  
**sustenance (noun)**

kind of sustenance  
words were a ~ (NBA speech)

**consumption: food & drink**  
**Svengali (allusion)**

Svengali effect  
he’s got this ~ on people (suicide bombers)

Svengali-like  
Vicky Page seemed to be the victim of the ~ Lermontov

Holmes’s Svengali  
Balwani was ~...

♦ “One school of thought is that she became captive to Balwani’s nefarious influence. Under this theory, Balwani was Holmes’s Svengali and molded her—the innocent ingenue with big dreams—into the precocious young female startup founder that the Valley craved and that he was too old and too male to play himself... But to place all the blame on his shoulders is not only too convenient, it’s inaccurate.” (*Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup* by John Carreyrou.)

**character & personality / subterfuge: allusion**  
**allusion: books & reading**  
**swagger (noun)**

swagger and hustle  
~ are expected (in Silicon Valley / Fake it till you make it)

swagger and (unexpected) sensitivity  
Rivera brought ~ to the character (*Glee*’s Santana)

99% swagger  
after *Iron Man* he’s ~ (Jill Lepore about Elon Musk)

plenty of swagger  
she plays with ~ (Iowa basketball player Caitlin Clark)

economic swagger  
gone is the ~ (Australia)

tradition and swagger  
the team oozes ~ (Alabama football / Roll Tide!)

put the “swagger” back in the department  
he wants to ~ (US government)

♦ “Now, let’s show them some good old-fashioned American swagger.” (Tommy Lee Jones in the role of General Douglas McArthur, biting down with an audible click on his long-stemmed corncob pipe, from the 2012 film *Emperor*.)

**character & personality: walking, running & jumping**

## swagger (verb)

swagger

this culture rewards people who ~, until it doesn't...

**character & personality: verb / walking, running & jumping**

## swallow (accept)

swallow

take as much sovereignty as you can ~ (Yeltsin)

a "conflict" is easier to ~ than a war (terminology)

swallowed his story hook, line and sinker

I ~ (army recruiter)

hard to swallow

the results of such a study are ~

tough (one) to swallow

I'm gutted, it's a ~ (Conor McGregor loses to Poirier)

pill to swallow

getting advice can be a bitter ~

it was a hard ~ having medalled in the past (track loss)

♦ "If it means swallowing some humble pie, and it means eating some of your words, I can't think of a more excellent diet." (Prime Minister David Cameron, on his coalition government formed with the Liberal Democrats.)

♦ "I can get it out of my craw, it's stuck in it." (Skip Bayless, about a point of disagreement with Shannon Sharpe, on their wonderful sports show "Skip and Shannon: Undisputed.")

**consumption: food & drink / stomach / throat / verb**

**acceptance & rejection: food & drink / stomach / throat / verb**

## swallow (disappearance)

swallowed him up

the streets ~ real quick (Detroit crime)

the sea just ~, queer... (*Moby Dick*)

swallowed (two unoccupied) cars

a sinkhole ~ in Seattle (broken main)

swallow huts

sand dunes threatened to ~ (desertification in Niger)

swallowed her life

the cult quickly ~ (a sex cult)

swallowed them

always the jungle rose and ~ (villages, civilizations)

sinkhole swallowed

a ~ a sewer-repair truck (Portland)

a ~ two unoccupied cars in Seattle (broken water main)

**appearance & disappearance: bodily reaction / verb**

**consumption / resemblance: bodily reaction / verb**

## swallowed

swallowed whole

the company's promises were ~ by the tech press (fraud)

**acceptance & rejection: stomach / throat**

**consumption: food & drink**

## swamp (verb)

swamp Tibet with (Chinese) migrants

our main concern is that the railway will ~ (Qinghai-Tibet)

swamped the (entire) industry

the economic downturn ~ (journalism and newspapers)

**amount & effect: boat / verb / water / wave**

**movement: boat / verb / water / wave**

## swamp (fever swamp)

fever swamp of the alt-right

this is sort of the ~ (books of a conspiracy theorist)

online fever swamps

they dredge up wild beliefs from ~ (a podcast)

**environment: ground, terrain & land / swamp / water**

**corruption: ground, terrain & land / swamp / water**

**fantasy & reality: health & medicine**

## swamp (drain the swamp)

drain the swamp

he promised to ~ of Congress

Twitter tries to ~

"drain the swamp" strategy

the Trump's campaign ~

**amelioration & renewal / corruption: ground, terrain & land**

**/ swamp / verb / water**

## swamp (swamp of cliches, etc.)

swamp of cliches

sadly, he is trapped in a ~ (Will Smith in film *Emancipation*)

♦ "This game has all the qualities of a neglected pond, turgid, stagnant and honking." (A disgruntled fan, about a Champions League final.)

**environment: ground, terrain & land / swamp / water**

**corruption: ground, terrain & land / swamp / water**

## swamped

swamped by criticism

BP has been ~ as the oil leak gushes (in Gulf of Mexico)

swamped with patients

the VA is ~ with hearing problems

get swamped

you can ~ on every single issue (government)

**amount & effect: boat / water**

## swan (black swan)

see *black swan* (rarity)

## swan song

swan song

it was the restaurant's ~ (celebration of bankruptcy)

swansong as James Bond

Daniel Craig's ~ (the film *No Time To Die*)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: allusion / theater**

## swarm (verb)

swarming

lawyers are ~

swarm around foreigners

children and grown men ~ (Cox's Bazar)

swarms with pilgrims

during the week before Christmas Lalibela ~ (Ethiopia)

swarming the city

security guards are ~ (Olympics)

swarmed the playground

the children ~ (opening ceremony)

♦ In a delightful "Talk of the Town" article in *The New Yorker*, Michael Schulman points out that New Yorkers "swarm" for things like "flash mobs, Occupy Wall Street, the cronut line." His article, however, is about *actual* swarms and how New York City's finest deal with them. ("Law and Order: Bee Cops," September 17, 2018.)

**activity / behavior: animal / insect / verb**

**amount & effect / movement: animal / insect / verb**

## swarm (noun)

swarm of (citizen) complaints

the noise has prompted a ~

swarm of earthquakes

authorities recorded a ~ (Taal Volcano erupts)

swarms of particles

the comet sheds ~ as it nears the sun (Leonids)

swarms of protestors

the meetings of the World Bank have drawn ~

swarms of shoppers

the nation's malls opened to ~ (holiday season)

swarm of tornadoes

a ~ and powerful thunderstorms belted the area

a devastating ~ left four people dead (Texas)

"swarm" of tremors

a ~ were felt last year (earthquakes in Surrey)

"swarm tactics"

~ will be used to overrun the enemy (Iraqi Freedom)

swarm technique

the ~ is where multiple officers use their body weight to...

earthquake swarm

in 1989, an ~ began west of Fugen-dake (Unzen eruption)

♦ The wonderful science writer Carol Kaesuk Yoon has reported that in 1875 a swarm of Rocky Mountain locusts formed the largest recorded locust swarm in recorded history, 1,800 miles long and 110 miles wide... Just twenty-eight years later, the Rocky Mountain locust was extinct. The last live locust was collected in 1902, and today the only way scientists can study them is to examine the carcasses of those locusts blown off course and preserved in glaciers.

**activity / behavior / amount & effect: animal / insect**

## sweat (feeling)

made to sweat

the US side was ~ by the French (close US soccer victory)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction**

## sweat (work)

blood, sweat and tears

he gave the franchise 20 years of his ~ (Kobe Bryant)

breaking a sweat

nobody is ~ over this work (progress bars on devices)

**work & duty: bodily reaction / sign, signal, symbol**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: bodily reaction / sign, signal, symbol**

## sweeping

sweeping change

the report called for ~ (shuttle safety)

there is not yet a groundswell of support for ~

sweeping curve

the ~ directly upstream of the falls (river)

sweeping impact

the ~ of fire on the sagebrush plains

sweeping (U.N.) resolution

a ~ against terrorist financing

**extent & scope: movement / pendulum**

## sweepstakes (win the sweepstakes)

temperamental sweepstakes

if you are impervious to self-doubt, you have won the ~

won the (temperamental) sweepstakes

if you are impervious to self-doubt, you have ~

**success & failure: gambling**

## sweet (personality)

sweet personality

her ~ has made her a lot of friends (exchange student)

sweet-charactered

a suitable and ~ girl

sweet-faced

a TV show filled with ~ young men

sweet-tempered

a ~ boy

cute, sophisticated and sweet

fashion to make her feel ~ (adolescents)

**character & personality: taste**

## sweet (sweet dreams, etc.)

sweet dreams

you hug her and kiss her and wish her ~

**consumption: food & drink / taste**

## sweet (exclamation)

how sweet

Ohhh, ~ (Foxy Cleopatra to Mini-Me)

♦ "And I was like, "sweet." (Ironic. A bikini barista in Seattle, Washington, telling a videographer about serving a customer who was masturbating.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: exclamation / food & drink / taste**

## sweetheart (vocative)

sweetheart

hey, ~

**vocative: heart / taste**

## sweetheart (other)

sweetheart

baby, won't you be my ~

sweetheart couple

they were the media's ~ before they split in 2002

sweetheart deal

China for so many years has had a ~ (politics)

America's sweetheart

see *America (America's sweetheart, etc.)*

high school sweetheart

she wed ~ Bobby

high-school sweetheart

they had been ~s

kiss of my sweetheart

the tender ~ on my cheek

**attraction & repulsion / heart: person / taste**

**person: heart**

## sweet spot

sweet spot on sleep

so how do we hit the ~ (too much, little, etc.)

hit the sweet spot

he ~ with two hits (a writer-director)

hits the sweet spot

Pennsylvania maple ~ (best wood for baseball bats)

looking for a sweet spot

a happy medium, something in between, they are ~

**flaw & lack of flaws: taste**

## swell (verb)

swollen in South Carolina

welfare rolls have ~

swelled enrollment from 1,500 to 2,100

a marketing push that has ~ (school)

swelled to (nearly) 8,000

by the 1940s, the number of fire lookouts had ~

swelled to (more than) 1 million

the population ~ (Everglades alligators)

swelled by (another) 1 million

the capital of 1.3 million had ~ (Kabul)

swelled beyond (official) estimates

struggling to help a group that has ~(immigrants)

numbers swelled

as their ~ to 437,000 (adjuncts)

numbers have swollen

police ~ in Sydney's west and southwest (pandemic)

population swelled

the ~ to more than 1 million (Everglades alligators)

ranks swell

their ~ out of sympathy (radicals)

staff swells

its ~ to 400 with the approach of summer

♦ "Inflation is swelling like a pustule."

**increase & decrease: health & medicine / size / verb**

## swept away (emotion)

swept away

he's ~ (drummer on a giant elk-skin drum)

**feeling, emotion & effect: river / sea / water / wave**

## swept away (removal)

swept away

the old order was ~ (Russian revolution)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: river / sea / water**

**destruction: river / sea / water**

## swim (verb)

swim or sink

we are going to ~ together (revitalizing Detroit / 2010)

**survival, persistence & endurance: water / verb**

## swine (behavior)

absolute swine

he was an ~ to him (a film director to an actor)

just swine

these pundits are ~, gorging themselves at the trough

♦ "These pundits are just swine, gorging themselves at the trough of greed." (Commenter about BBC coverage of Qatar World Cup.)

♦ You can take a swine to the Rhine, but he'll still be a swine. (Higher education, junior year abroad programs, etc.)

**behavior / insult: animal**

## swing (take a swing)

took a swing at BP

the President ~ (oil slick)

got in one more swing  
the Sander's campaign ~ against his opponent (politics)

**conflict: boxing / verb**

## swing (in full swing)

in full swing  
the economic recovery is ~  
the fire season is ~  
the coronavirus crisis is ~

**activity / extent & scope: movement / pendulum**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: movement / pendulum**

## swing (swing around)

swung around  
this thing has ~ (losing boxer wins round)

**reversal: movement / pendulum**

**development: direction / movement**

## swing (development)

swing state  
Iowa is a ~

**development: movement / pendulum**

## swing (swing and a miss)

swing and a miss  
intelligence reports were a “~” (Afghanistan)

swing and a miss for the Democrats  
the hearings were a ~

**success & failure: baseball / sports & games**

## swirl (verb)

swirl  
new questions ~ over the downing of the plane

swirling  
questions are ~, “What happened” (murder of woman)

swirled around his death  
conspiracy theories ~ (Adrian Lamo)

swirl around him  
allegations continue to ~ (cheating, etc.)

swirled around Mulholland  
those scandals ~, he ducked and dived... (Los Angeles)

swirling for two years  
these allegations have been ~ (politics)

swirled for decades  
rumors have ~ (assassination)

continue to swirl  
questions ~ around Boeing after two deadly air crashes

continues to swirl  
the mystery ~ about exactly what happened (crime)

**activity / initiation: movement / verb / water**

## Swiss cheese (noun)

Swiss cheese model

something known as the ~ (epidemiology)

♦ “No single intervention is typically enough to stop an epidemic. And the way I like to think about this and the way many epidemiologists think about this is something known as the Swiss cheese model. So imagine you have pieces of Swiss cheese that you’re stacking up, and each of them have some holes in it, and they’re random pieces of Swiss cheese, like you’re making a sandwich, and you’re piling up pieces of Swiss cheese, if each piece of Swiss cheese represents a defense, a layer of defense, for example, one piece is wearing masks, and another piece is closing schools, and another piece is banning gatherings, and another piece is washing your hands, and another piece is you know restricting travel or something, if each of those pieces represents some intervention, and each of the holes is sort of randomly positioned in each slice, by the time you’ve stacked up two or three or four slices, none of the holes overlap, and so a virus can’t get through. It can’t penetrate all the layers of defenses...” (Nicholas Christakis, “Denial And Lies Are ‘Almost An Intrinsic Part Of An Epidemic,’ Doctor Says,” NPR, Fresh Air, Oct. 29, 2020.)

**flaws & lack of flaws: hole**

## switch (kill switch)

kill switch

is there a ~, a way to shut the whole thing down (GPT-4)

♦ “We pressed the big button with rescue helicopters, rescue dogs, the Red Cross, the civil defense, fire, health and police.” (A Norwegian, speaking in Norwegian, about eight homes that were swept into the sea by a mudslide. His speech was translated by the BBC, which showed the video of the astonishing event. Amazingly, nobody was injured in the disaster.)

**curtailment: mechanism**

## swoon (verb)

swooning over the (new) products  
retailers are ~ (trade fair)

swoon over the (artistic) renderings  
architects still ~ (an eco-city)

swoon for him  
Romney will never get voters to ~ (election)

caused critics to swoon  
the band has ~

**attraction & repulsion / feeling, emotion & effect: love, courtship & marriage / verb**

## swoop (verb)

swooped on the men  
the R.O.S. ~ in Rome on Tuesday evening (spying)

**movement: animal / bird / flying & falling / predation / verb**

## sword (Sayf Allah, etc.)

bestowed on him the title *Sayf Allah*  
Muhammad (PBUH) ~

**judgment: epithet**

## sword (swordfish, etc.)

swordfish  
tuna, ~, and marlin are almost gone (overfishing)

**resemblance: sword**

## **sword (violence)**

sword

the pen is mightier than the ~  
he who lives by the ~, dies by the sword

sword and shield

the “~” version of WWII (de Gaulle and Petain)

used it as a sword

opposing counsel has ~ (statement from a lawyer)

♦ “Anonymity is often necessary as a shield for victims but opposing counsel has used it as a sword to publicly humiliate our client.” (Statement from a lawyer.)

♦ “I never see a pen but I think of a snake.” (Nathan Bedford Forrest, quoted by the great Civil War historian Shelby Foote. According to Foote, Forrest was “A true, native-born genius... All his gifts were natural.”)

♦ “Live by the sword, die by the sword.” (Trap music, drill music, gangsta rap, etc.)

♦ Live by the tweet, die by the tweet. (WAPO infighting leads to suspension, firing.)

♦ The ink of the scholar is more precious than the blood of the martyr.

**violence: sword**

## **sword (cross swords)**

crossed swords with the (US) administration on Iraq

he ~ (an Egyptian leader)

crossed swords with rights campaigners

he ~ (a country's leader)

cross swords over this

did you ever ~ (become antagonistic)

**conflict: sword / verb**

## **sword (at swords' points)**

at swords' points

they are ~

**conflict: sword**

## **sword (fall on one's sword)**

fell on his sword

he ~ right away (admitted guilt)

fall on our swords

we don't need to ~ for this principle (practicality)

fall on my sword for expressing

if I have to ~ an opinion, so be it (Piers Morgan / ITV)

**judgment / responsibility: sword / verb**

## **sword (double-edged sword)**

double-edged sword

but early fame proved to be a ~ (Boris Becker / behavior)

double-edged sword of biotechnology

the ~ (germ warfare)

**effect / feeling, emotion & effect: blade / sword**

## **sword (two-edged sword)**

two-edged sword

it's a ~ (injuries during football practices)  
freedom of choice can be a ~ (too many choices)

**feeling, emotion & effect: blade / sword**

## **sword (fate)**

sword

the whole agency has a ~ hanging over it (INS)

**fate, fortune & chance: blade / sword**

## **Sword of Damocles**

Sword of Damocles

it's a ~, and it's hanging over our head  
there's a ~ hanging over lawmakers (reform)

♦ “As he raised his glass, he almost had faith in what he was peddling, and it was only out of the corner of his eye that he caught a flash of the sword that swung above him.” (“Shelter” by Nicole Krauss, *The New Yorker*, October 3, 2022.)

♦ “It's like a sword of Damocles, you don't know when it's going to drop, you don't know what's going to happen...”

**fate, fortune & chance: allusion / blade / sword**

## **symphony (resemblance)**

symphony of frogs

the sound of thunder competes with a ~ (Yucatán)

symphony of croaking, grunting, barking, chirping

we listened to a spectacular ~, and squeaking (rain forest)

**sound: music**

**resemblance: music / sound**

## **symphony (identity)**

symphony of brotherhood

transform the jangling discords into a beautiful ~ (MLK)

♦ “With this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood.” (Martin Luther King, Jr., from the “I Have a Dream” speech.)

**mixture / identity & nature: music**

## **symptom (noun)**

symptom of changing times

another ~

symptom of a (much wider) pathology

he is a ~ infecting the entire system (politics)

**evidence: health & medicine / sign, signal, symbol**

## **synch (in synch)**

in synch with the president's

his hawkish ideas are ~

**unanimity & consensus: tools & technology**

## syndrome (noun)

‘Avatar’ Syndrome

~, or Post-Pandoran Depression...

Trump derangement syndrome

he accused Democrats of suffering from ~ (TDS)

Boarding School Syndrome

there’s something called ~, it’s basically PTSD...

Missing White Woman Syndrome

~ (coined by the journalist Gwen Ifill)

post-abortion syndrome

the unproved malady of “~” (pro-life activism)

♦ “One thing we need to better understand is intergeneration trauma and history. All the research shows the survivors have no parenting skills. Now, there’s something called Boarding School Syndrome—it’s basically post-traumatic stress disorder. They have intrusive memories, flashbacks, nightmares, attachment disorder, personal shame—they’re ashamed of being Indian—trouble sleeping, poor anger management, deficient parenting skills and the tendency to abuse alcohol. It’s also called ‘disenfranchised grief’ because it can’t be publicly mourned. Some call it a ‘soul wound.’” (Denise Lajimodiere. From “Q & A with Denise Lajimodiere,” *National Catholic Reporter*, July 22-August 4, 2022.)

♦ “The condition went by different names: ‘Avatar’ Syndrome, Post-Pandoran Depression, or PADS (Post-‘Avatar’ Depression Syndrome). It was marked by despair and suicidal ideation, brought on by the insurmountable gap between real life and Cameron’s C.G.I.” (“Into the Blue” by Jamie Lauren Keiles, *The New York Times Magazine*, December 4, 2022.)

♦ “I decided to call it Ataxic Neurodegenerative Satiety Deficiency Syndrome. So ataxic, meaning you don’t walk that well. And neurodegenerative means your brain stops working so you degenerate neurologically. Satiety is the sense that you’re full and that’s not working, so it’s deficient. (Dr. Steven Schlozman of the Harvard Medical School, a lover of zombie movies.)

♦ “Stiff-person syndrome (SPS), also known as stiff-man syndrome (SMS), is a rare neurologic disorder of unclear cause...” (The Wikipedia entry “Stiff-person syndrome.” Celine Dion has announced that she suffers from this syndrome.)

♦ Dr. Hiroaki coined the term Paris Syndrome in the 1980s.

♦ Odd syndromes listed in Wikipedia include the Stendhal syndrome and the Jerusalem syndrome.

**affliction: health & medicine**

## system (circulatory system)

circulatory system of the global economy

companies like Maersk underpin the ~ (NotPetya worm)

**branching system: blood**

## T

## table (on the table)

on the table

is the offer still ~ (employment)

all options are going to be ~ (diplomatic and military)

all of this needs to be ~ and part of the discussion

what kind of deal might be ~ (litigation)

everything is ~ (response to virus)

**position, policy & negotiation: table**

## table (under the table)

pay employees under the table

some employers ~ to escape taxes

**subterfuge: direction / table**

## table (head of the table)

at the head of the table

she has earned her place ~ (daughter controls business)

**superiority & inferiority: position / table**

**hierarchy: position / table**

## table (bring something to the table)

brings a lot to the table

she ~ (employee)

**worth & lack of worth: table / verb**

## table (bring everything to the table)

brought everything to the table

I ~ (the boxer Bobby Czyz)

**commitment & determination: table / verb**

## table (come back to the table)

back at the table

Biden say ‘America is ~’ as he wraps up G-7 summit

come back to the table

so is your company ready to ~ (negotiate)

**position, policy & negotiation: table / verb**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: table / verb**

## table (loudest seat at the table)

loudest seat at the table

science and data did not have the ~ (pandemic)

we have to give science the ~ (pandemic response)

♦ “Having a seat at the table matters, but also having a voice at the table matters.” (Management women in tech.)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound / table**

**position, policy & negotiation: sound / table**

## table (off the table)

off the table

freedom of speech is ~

take it off the table

there are good reasons not to ~ (to not use a chemical)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: table**

**position, policy & negotiation: table**

## table (set the table)

set the table for you

I’ll be with you for 3 hours to ~ (MMA pre-show)

“set the table” episode

this is the ~ (Mike Tyson Part 1 *Crime in Sports*)

**development / sequence: food & drink / table**

## **table (turn the tables)**

turned the tables

China ~ and expressed its own complaints (diplomacy)

turn the tables

the book is her way to ~ and have the final word (tell-all)

they used the press to ~ on her (accusations)

turned the tables on her tutor

she ~

**disruption / reversal: table / verb**

**position, policy & negotiation: table / verb**

## **table (groups)**

seat at the table

by the '80s, the drive was on to claim a ~ (minority poets)

the defense industry should have a ~, but not own the table

table has been extended

the ~ but is still within establishment walls (poetry)

♦ "The screen flashes to five faces. Those invited. All white faces. But the criticism around who got a seat at the table goes a lot deeper than just a lack of diversity." ("Biden's meeting with historians over threats to democracy draws criticism" by Sandhya Dirks, NPR, All Things Considered, Sept. 1, 2022.)

♦ "We must also ensure everyone from all underrepresented communities gets a seat at our table and we are going to make that happen." (Meher Tatna, about the 2021 Golden Globes.)

♦ "Birmingham was begging for our place at the white man's table." (A Black militant.)

♦ "Young people deserve a seat at the table and if you don't kind of give it to us we're just going to take it anyway." (The wonderfully named Poppy, 17, a "youth climate ambassador" at COP26.)

♦ "The facts are clear, our community is growing, and we will take our seat at the table." (A comment about a poll showing that 21% of Gen Z is LGBTQ.)

♦ "Having a seat at the table matters, but also having a voice at the table matters." (Management women in tech.)

♦ "When you are historically excluded from the table, now we're being key players." (Governor Stephen Row Lewis of the Gila River Indian Community, about the tribe's decision to exchange its water rights for government benefits.)

♦ "So we're going to keep shaking the table, shifting the culture, and bringing you the best long-form hip-hop journalism possible." ("Beauty is in the eye of the male gaze: DreamDoll, DoeChii and Baby Tate," NPR, Louder Than A Riot, Season 2, Episode 3, March 30, 2023. Sadly, NPR has decided to discontinue this excellent podcast. We can only hope NPR changes its mind.)

♦ "Invite a beggar into your home and he will put his feet up on your table!"

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

**acceptance & rejection: society / table**

## **table (Table Mountain, etc.)**

Table Bay

~ was named after Table Mountain (Cape Town)

Table Island

~ has a flat top

Table Mountain

~ overlooks Cape Town (South Africa)

**proper name: shape / table**

## **table (shape)**

table

a ~ might not be flat at all (landforms)

table mountains

two ~ can be seen to the north

**shape: table**

## **taboo (noun)**

taboos

he was irreverent and unshocked by ~ (actor Dirk Bogarde)

taboo of his era

he married a white woman, the ultimate ~ (boxer J. Johnson)

taboos against homosexuality

the ~

taboo against use

a longstanding ~ of nuclear weapons except...

taboo in India

public displays of affection remain largely ~

taboo in Turkey

the subject is still ~ (Armenian genocide)

taboos about (sexual) behavior

strong ~... (in conservative Muslim areas)

taboo practice

~s tend to grow in popularity

taboo site

block access to ~s (Internet)

taboo subject

he found humor in ~s (comedian Richard Pryor)

he addressed such ~s as race and sexuality (Pryor)

why is menstruation still a ~ (Eilish McColgan)

taboo topic

raising taxes is a ~ (Republicans)

taboo and mysterious

people are attracted because it's so ~ (a sex act)

longstanding taboo

a ~ against use of nuclear weapons except...

cultural taboo

~s and scientific advancement (autopsies)

rape is a ~ in Sudan

few carry it out because of strong ~s (suicide / Korea)

moral taboos

the ~ associated with germ weapons

social taboo

homosexuality is considered a ~... (US high schools)

she challenged a ~ (Egyptian refused abortion)

strong taboos

~ about sexual behavior (in conservative Muslim areas)

ultimate taboo

he married a white woman, the ~ of his era (black boxer)  
for many people, anal sex is the ~

a bit of a taboo

asking somebody what they earn is ~ (in US)

once strictly taboo

an intimacy ~ (see quote below)

breaking taboos

she is known for ~ (cringe comedian Sarah Silverman)

carries a taboo

voodoo still ~ (New Orleans)

challenged a (social) taboo

she ~ (refused an abortion and filed a paternity suit)

considered taboo

women work, often alongside men, once ~ (Algeria)

♦ Eilish McColgan wrote a column entitled, "Why is menstruation still a taboo subject?" Is it *really* a taboo subject? And is it *really* a topic that might be brought up in any context? Say, at the dinner table?

♦ "Tourists are strongly advised to consult an etiquette guide before visiting one of Thailand's revered temples. The lists of taboos is very long, and the country's ruling junta is strict. / Do not turn your back on a Buddha statue, the *Bangkok Post* cautions. Do not wear sleeveless tops to the temples, or show your knees. Even President Barack Obama had to remove his shoes when he toured the Wat Pho Royal Monastery a few years ago, lest he give offense." ("Two American Instagram stars bared their buttocks at a Thai temple. Now they're under arrest." by Avi Selk, the *Washington Post*, November 30, 2017.)

♦ "The fear of starvation is always hanging over the Indian peasant... / To an American it seems strange that under such distress these villagers never used their cows for food when it was inevitable that the animals would perish from lack of fodder. Only once on our trip did we hear—and then only in scandalized whispers—of a village that was actually 'eating its cows.' For a Hindu farmer to do away with a starving cow, even to put that beloved beast out of its misery, is as unthinkable as for him to slaughter it to feed his starving and equally beloved children. / Such prohibitions as these—too fantastic to seem credible to a Westerner—appear to separate the Indian from the American farmer by a distance greater than the curve of the world that divides them. And yet the problem of getting food out of the land has similarities which reach around the globe..." (*Halfway to Freedom* by Margaret Bourke-White.)

♦ "Incidentally, it is noticed that the Weissmuller haircut, or rather lack of cut, is quite the bang among the heart flutterers. A sort of long bob. Between tunes, the musicians now join the ladies at their tables, an intimacy once strictly taboo." ("New York Day by Day" by O.O. McIntyre, from the newspaper *The Day*, New London, CONN., Thursday Afternoon, April 1, 1937.)

♦ Captain James Cook may have introduced this word to the English language following his visit to Tonga. The Tongan word *tabu* or *tapu* means not allowed, forbidden.

♦ The Turkana have few food taboos and will even eat fish.

♦ "Taboos can be useful."

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## tack (verb)

tacked to the center

he has charted a new course and ~ (politician)

change tack

he decided to reverse these strikes, to ~ (military decision)

**direction: boat / verb**

## tack (noun)

backward tack

I am embarrassed by the ~ of this administration

different tack

she took a ~ for her next project

one last tack

Boies tried ~ (*Bad Blood* by John Carreyrou)

took that tack

the tabloids ~ (that Hollywood is sordid)

**direction: boat**

## tackle (verb)

tackle its (drug) gangs

Mexico needs to ~

tackle that issue

the administration will ~

tackle it

soccer must face up to this problem and ~ (fan racism)

tackle our problems

we need to ~ in a practical way (Obama)

tackle (big-ticket) problems

scientists and engineers used to ~

tackle other projects

it sat in a drawer while I went on to ~ (a piece of writing)

**action, inaction & delay / confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: football / sports & games / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## tail (chase one's tail)

chasing our tails

we're just ~

**progress & lack of progress: animal / dog / direction / verb**

## tail (turn tail)

turned tail on the issue

he has ~ (a politician)

**dominance & submission / resistance, opposition & defeat / reversal: animal / dog / verb**

## tail (tail between one's legs)

with his tail between his legs

he left the company ~

he will come home ~

have their tails between their legs

the Supersymmeticians ~ (physics)

♦ "This is a total tail between the legs kind of getting out of town and leave the field to others." (A pundit talking about US withdrawal from parts of Syria.)

♦ "If a dog can't bark, it licks." (An insult.)

**dominance & submission / resistance, opposition & defeat / reversal / superiority & inferiority: animal / dog**

## tail (orientation)

logistical tail

a ~ stretching hundreds of miles (war)

long tail

the journal *Nature*'s impact factor carries a ~ (a graph)

**orientation: animal / direction**

**resemblance: animal**

## tail end (the finish of something)

tail end of my career

I'm at the ~ but... (boxer touting next fight)

tail end of summer

restrictions are being lifted in time for the ~ (COVID)

tail end of the week

temperatures should start to dip by the ~

**starting, going, continuing & ending: animal**

## tailor (verb)

tailors its coverage to support

it ~ Hamas (TV network)

tailor drills to fit

~ the situation and terrain you will encounter (military)

tailor METT-TC to fit

creative leaders ~ each situation (military)

**amelioration & renewal / creation & transformation:**

**clothing & accessories / verb**

## tailored

culturally tailored

menthol cigarette sellers use ~ advertising (to Blacks)

**creation & transformation: clothing & accessories**

## tailor-made (adjective)

tailor-made for toxic groups

Facebook is ~

**creation & transformation: clothing & accessories**

## tailspin (into a tailspin)

sent her into a tailspin

the news ~ (light sentence for her stalker)

throws the project into a tailspin

the vote ~

**decline: movement / plane**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: movement / plane**

## tailspin (in a tailspin)

CNN is in a tailspin

~ (losing viewers)

**decline: movement / plane**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: movement / plane**

## tailwind (noun)

economic tailwind

the president is riding an ~

national tail winds

the ~ blowing in their favor (Republicans / politics)

♦ "The president is riding an economic tailwind. The president is riding that tailwind very well... Any president as a pilot would be riding this tailwind, but for some reason this president can't seem to stay long enough [chuckling] in the jet stream to ride the tailwind that he has in the economy. He goes off on tangent after tangent and doesn't seem able to ride the economic boom that he's sitting under because he just can't maintain the discipline to do that. He does not ride the tailwind that he has." (ABC News Chief Political Analyst Matthew Dowd, Sunday, May 5, 2018.)

**force / help & assistance: plane / wind**

**progress & lack of progress: plane / wind**

## taint (noun)

taint of a bankruptcy

the ~ can be poisonous

taint of (any serious) crime

the ~ can blight a family (Japan)

**corruption / evidence: materials & substances**

## taint (verb)

tainted his data

his drug company financing ~ (doctor)

taint (a doctor's or researcher's) judgment

drug company ties can ~

taint his legacy

the revelations ~ (informant for FBI)

**corruption: materials & substances / verb**

## tainted

tainted

the election was ~ (missing absentee ballots)

tainted by faulty methodology

scientists say his studies are ~ (autism)

tainted by (government lawyers') misconduct

the verdict was ~

tainted by partisanship

the process was ~ from start to finish (impeachment trial)

tainted by torture

he thought evidence was ~ (military lawyer)

evidence was tainted

he thought ~ by torture (military lawyer)

**corruption: materials & substances**

## take (refuse to take)

take it

I'm not going to ~ (abuse from boss)

take it any more

I can't ~

take this lying down

don't think I'll ~

we weren't going to ~ (Tiger Bay)

take the allegations lying down

he was not about to ~

**acceptance & rejection / resistance, opposition & defeat:**

**verb**

## take (take something / endurance)

took it on the chin

he ~ (arrested criminal refuses to snitch)

took a lot of shit from those bastards

I ~ but I warriored through

**survival, persistence & endurance: verb**

## take (take us back / time)

takes me back

that ~ (a song / memories)

take us back to 1965

we pulled on this thread to ~ (old tapes of trial)

take us back to the dark ages

the fundamentalists would ~

transported audiences back in time

he ~ (a singer)

takes you back in time

a trip to Abkhazia ~ to the Soviet past

**past & present / fictive transportation / time: direction /**

**movement / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

## take (take somebody somewhere)

takes us

the question is where that then ~ (boxing)

take us where

the investigation will ~ it takes us

take us through

~ what the response has been so far (radio interview)

takes us through

the road ~ a dusty, reddish Martian landscape (Chile)

took me to new heights

he ~ (sex)

take you to intriguing and frightening places

his collection of stories will ~ (Stephen King)

**directing: journeys & trips / verb**

**fictive transportation: journeys & trips / verb**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / development:**

**journeys & trips / verb**

## take (and hot take)

their take

~ of what happened was more sympathetic than mine

hot take (for the tournament) is Turkey

my ~ (Euro 2020 / a spectacularly bad prediction)

rise of the (unreported) hot take

the ~, that maligned instant spin on the news of the day

hype and hot takes

the show was unworthy of all the ~ (an SNL episode)

♦ See the online Merriam-Webster explanation of "hot take" at "Where Do Hot Takes' Come From?" The dictionary entered the word in 2018. Since then its connotation seems to have changed from negative to neutral.

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: giving, receiving,**

**bringing & returning**

## take (destroy)

took the whole crop

in recent times a cyclone ~, as you may say (Mauritius)

**destruction: taking & removing**

## takeaway (noun)

takeaways of this study

one of the biggest ~ is that...

takeaway thoughts

are you left with any preliminary big ~ about what this means

big takeaway

so give me the ~, what did you find (a new poll)

big top-line takeaway

the ~ is what we already know (NPR political pundit)

biggest and most important takeaway

what was the ~ from the report

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: giving, receiving,**

**bringing & returning**

## take away (a message, etc.)

take away

the message I hope people ~ is...

took that away

I ~, and it stayed with me for a long time (an insight)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: giving, receiving,**

**bringing & returning / verb**

## take back (take back one's life, etc.)

take back his life

whether to try to ~ or fade away

take back my life

I will ~ (Ruby Rose vs. Warner Bros TV)  
this is my fight song, ~ song (Rachel Platten)

take back her narrative

she tries to ~ (Monica Lewinsky)

take back her story

she is fighting to ~ (Amanda Knox)

♦ "Mama's boy" is a flex, not an insult." (According to NPR's Neda Ulaby. Neda is a lesbian.)

♦ see also *appropriate (groups), appropriation (groups), coopt (and co-opt), misappropriate (groups), misappropriated, misappropriation (groups, etc.), reappropriate (groups), reappropriation (groups), reclaim (groups), reclaimed (groups)*

**inclusion & exclusion: possession / verb**

## take down (kill)

take down the shooter

officers on patrol managed to ~ (killed him)  
I was shocked it took so long to ~ (Uvalde school shooter)

**death & life: euphemism / verb**

## take down (verb)

took down a predator

we ~ and put him behind bars (Hollywood mogul)

taken down a who's who

the fallout has ~ of the rich and connected (universities)

take them down

videos are shared before Facebook and YouTube can ~

takes us all down

time is undefeated and ~ (boxing)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: direction / verb**

## takedown (noun)

takedown of the marketplace

300 have been arrested following the ~ (dark-web porn)

Thoreau takedown

this is the ~ I have been waiting for my entire life

literary takedown

I love a good ~ (failed fact-checking, plagiarism, etc.)

♦ "Why there are no winners after the BBC's two-footed tackle on Gary Lineker."

**curtailment / destruction: direction**

**accusation & criticism: direction / sports & games / wrestling**

## take in (comprehend)

take it (all) in

he seemed to ~ (understand what I was saying)

**comprehension & incomprehension: container / giving, receiving, bringing & returning / verb**

## taken (through death)

taken away

he was ~ far too soon (drug overdose)

taken from us

our beloved daughter was ~ (selfie accident)  
she has been ~ too soon (selfie accident)

**death & life: euphemism / possession / taking & removing**

## take off (verb)

take off

I think it's going to ~ great (a new directory)

taken off

none of these websites have ~ and caught fire (filtering)  
'Air rage' has really ~ this year (Celia Rivenbark)

took off

for some reason it ~, it exploded (Plague of Justinian)

take off all over the country

his business is starting to ~ (Novosibirsk)

took off in a big way

his business ~

sales (of luxury cars) have taken off

~ (in China)

make e-reading take off

a Windows-compatible system will ~

♦ "That's something that has really taken off, this idea of sleep equity." (Lauren Whitehouse, an assistant professor of psychology and cognitive neuroscience at the University of Kentucky.)

**growth & development / increase & decrease / initiation:**

**flying & falling / plane / verb**

## take on (verb)

take on the big banks

she has pledged to ~ (a candidate)

took on the powerful politicians

she was a political gadfly who ~ (Molly Ivins)

take on President Trump

a growing list of Democrats hope to ~ (election)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: verb**

## take out (kill)

take you out

if you are a terrorist, the US will find you and ~

**death & life: euphemism / verb**

## talent scout (and spotter, etc.)

talent spotter for Iranian intelligence

she began working with a so-called ~ (American)

**searching & discovery: person / theater**

## Tale of Two Cities

tale of 2 cities narrative

the curfew reinforces the ~ (Sydney lockdown / a tweet)

♦ "Please, Liberals: Stop Abusing 'A Tale of Two Cities'" by Reid Cherlin, *The New Republic*, Jan 2, 2014.

**allusion: books & reading**

## **talisman (noun)**

Arsenal's talisman

~ Aubameyang worked his Wembley magic once again

England's talisman

Raheem Sterling, ~ in this tournament (Euro 2020)

Holland's talisman

Memphis Depay was ~ (Euro championship / Holland)

Portugal and their talisman

~ Cristiano Ronaldo (Euro 2020)

♦ This word seems to be very popular with BBC sportswriters!

**amelioration & renewal: magic**

## **talismanic (adjective)**

talismanic boss

AstraZeneca and its ~ Pascal Soriot

talismanic captain

Brazil's Neymar, the ~ (Rio 2016 football)

talismanic (young) defender

their ~ (Matthijs de Ligt)

**amelioration & renewal: magic**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## **talk (as transitive verb)**

talks fatherhood

country music artist Russell Dickerson ~

talk New Mexico

let's ~ (KUNM podcast)

Let's Talk Kids

the ~ parenting podcast honors the expertise parents have...

let's talk Bush, Bannon, Gold Star Families and Trump  
~ (NPR's Lakshmi Singh with Mary, Sarah, and Danielle)

♦ The preposition has been dropped. Why?

♦ "Bustles, Butlers. Baranski. Let's talk 'The Gilded Aged.'" (Pop Culture Happy Hour with Glen Weldon, et. al.)

**gossip: part of speech**

## **talk (talk about something / groups, etc.)**

talk about equality

we're still in a place where we have to ~ (female sports)

talk about it

it's a lot of things that went on, no one wants to ~ (racism)

talk about that narrative

Yah, I want to ~ (NPR's Sarah McCammon)

talk about this

should we ~, that's an easy yes for me (racism)

need to talk about

one of the things that we ~ is... (race)

♦ "Mental illness & substance abuse is a real issue that we can't be afraid to talk about." (Master P.)

♦ Let's just say Nicki Minaj has taken to social media to talk about it. Maybe do a little more than talk..." (Ayesha Rascoe of NPR, chuckling with her guest.)

♦ see also *conversation (groups, etc.)*

**inclusion & exclusion: society / verb**

## **talk (mediator talk, etc.)**

AA talk

Jake, who is seasoned in ~... (Alcoholics Anonymous)

FAA-speak

nicknamed, in typical ~, "Flow Control" (panes aloft)

♦ see also *boilerplate (noun)*, *buzzword (noun)*, *doublespeak (noun)*, *ese (legalese, etc.)*, *funny language*, *language (types)*, *lip service (pay lip service, etc.)*, *newspeak (noun)*, *speak (NASA-speak, etc.)*, *supersizing (linguistic supersizing)*, *word salad*

**speech: affix**

**language: speech**

## **talk (money talks, etc.)**

talk to us

we developed sensors to listen to the volcano ~

money talks

whether we like it or not, ~

numbers talk

~ (internet journalism and "eyeballs")

♦ "This time he let his tennis do the talking..." (Nick Kyrgios vs. Rafael Nadal.)

♦ "I let my fists do the talking." (The boxer Conor Benn.)

♦ "I will just let my legs do the talking." (A female runner about a Nike kerfuffle.)

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

## **talk (sweet talk)**

sweet talk

just don't believe the ~ (from bar girls)

**speech: taste**

## **talk (trash talk)**

see *trash talk (verb)* and *trash talk (noun)*

## **talk (talk somebody through something)**

talk us through this

~, why... (explain)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: speech / verb**

## **talk (talk the talk)**

talks the talk

he can ~ but he can't walk the walk

talking the talk

he was better at ~ than of walking the walk (delegation)

talking the talk on democracy

we're ~, I'm not sure we're walking the walk (diplomacy)

♦ This occurs with "walk the walk."

♦ Trey Gowdy is all talk, no hat; all hat and no cattle; all clouds and wind, never any rain; all talk, no walk; bark bark bark, no bite; all show and no results; great at talking while saying nothing; just like, I say, just like Foghorn Leghorn; talks a good game but is full of hot air; talkin loud and sayin nuthin; a blowhard; he should put up or shut up; talks like Big Tuff Guy, then does zero... (Opprobrium heaped upon the ex-politician and Fox bloviator from the Breitbart website. Foghorn Leghorn is a beloved cartoon Warner Bros. animated rooster.)

**commitment & determination: speech / verb**

**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: speech / verb**

### **talk (talk over somebody)**

talked over each other and the moderators  
the candidates often ~ (electoral debate)

**dominance & submission: direction / prep, adv, adj,  
particle / speech**

### **talk down to (somebody)**

talk down to kids  
these graphic novels don't ~

talk down to someone  
if you ~, show disrespect, I will fire you (Joe Biden)

**admiration & contempt: direction / height / verb**

**speech: direction / height / verb**

### **talker (slick talker)**

slick talker  
he is a ~

**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: speech**

**speech: materials & substances / person**

### **tame (verb)**

tame your social anxiety  
tips and techniques to ~

tame a (schoolyard) bully  
how to ~

tame the deficit  
we need to ~

tame inflation  
she said her plans would help ~ (UK's Liz Truss)

tame a (rabies) outbreak  
the authorities are trying to ~

tame a (great) river  
it's impossible to ~ (floods)

tame traffic  
efforts to ~ in our towns and cities (rising bollards, etc.)

tame her urge  
she can't ~ to go shopping

tamed the Wild West  
Google has ~ of copyright infringement

♦ Metaphorically, of course, anything that can be tamed is like a wild animal. That's simple enough.

**amelioration & renewal / behavior / control & lack of control: animal / verb**

### **tame (adjective)**

renders the munition tame  
high heat ~ (mustard agent)

seemed tame  
by today's standards, the editorial ~ (caused a riot)

**attenuation: animal**

### **tangent (on a tangent)**

went off on a tangent  
he ~ (conversation)

**speech: geometry**

### **tangle (noun)**

tangle of alliances  
the US stepped into this minefield, this ~ (northern Syria)

**complexity / involvement: cloth / rope**

### **tangled**

tangled in lawsuits  
she and the company are ~

**complexity / involvement: cloth / rope**

### **tango (verb)**

takes two to tango  
it ~, and he is a cheater (judgment)

**relationship: music / verb**

### **tank (empty the tank, etc.)**

energy tank  
his ~ looked close to empty (Jones v. Tyson match)

tank was (well) empty  
in the 11th round his ~ (a boxer who lost)

tank ran dry  
the ~ for Okolie as he held on (vs. Cieslak)

empty the tank  
he must ~ now and go for it (a boxing match)

use every last drop of fuel that was still in the tank  
he knew he had to ~ (Larry Bird, May 5, 1991 vs. Pacers)

**commitment & determination / power: engine / mechanism**

### **tantrum (noun)**

tantrum  
like a child, throwing a ~

childish tantrum  
cue ~ because he didn't get his own way

♦ A globally broadcast tantrum; made yourself look silly with the tantrum; he brought a whole new meaning to the phrase, 'Throwing the toys out of the pram'; threw his toys out of the pram eh?; his comments came back to haunt him BLM chucking toys out of pram; AJ the spoilt brat revealed; the display of an entitled, petulant child; AJ exhibited the mentality of a spoiled child, selfish in Usyk's moment of glory; petulant and embarrassing; a selfish, childish, very sore loser, that's Joshua; grow up, do us a favour, and disappear... (Comments about Anthony Joshua's bizarre post-fight antics after his second loss to Oleksandr Usyk.)

**behavior: baby**

## tap (verb)

tapped into the well

he ~ of grievance and skepticism (politics)

tap this anger

he wants to ~, feed it and nurture it (politics)

tap your creativity

we want to ~

tap the talent

the agency wants to ~s of people who...

tapped the vein

he has ~ of popular outrage over... (politician)

tap, feed and nurture

he wants to ~ this anger (politician appeals to base)

**access & lack of access: water / verb**

## tap (noun)

taps turned off

the ~ (money for refinancing loans)

**control & lack of control: infrastructure / water**

**increase & decrease: infrastructure / water**

## tap (on tap)

on tap

is there currently any legislation ~ that addresses this

on tap for tomorrow

heavy rain is ~ (weather forecast)

on tap for the South

more heavy rain ~

on tap from central Kansas and Oklahoma to...

stifling heat is ~

**future: container / water**

## tapestry (noun)

tapestry of laws

the new law is the latest thread in a ~ stigmatizing...

racial tapestry

the loosely woven seams of America's ~

wonderful tapestry

this will add to the ~ we call Minneapolis (Adhan)

thread in a tapestry

the new law is the latest ~ of laws stigmatizing...

melting pot, a (beautiful) tapestry, or a salad bowl  
is the United States a ~

♦ "This points to a unique understanding of plurality of Indian society—it is more like a *thali* (an Indian meal comprising a selection of separate dishes served on a platter), rather than a melting pot." (Neha Sahgal, a lead author of a Pew study that found Indians support religious tolerance and religious segregation.)

**mixture / identity & nature: carpets & rugs / cloth**

## tap into (verb)

tapped into people's distrust

his ideas ~ of government (vaccinations)

tap into funding

the president will ~ from other government agencies

tap into (new) markets

we are seeking to ~

tap into the reservoir

the militants can ~ of submerged hatred towards the West

tapped into a (long-standing millenarianism) tradition

he ~ (Hong Xiuquan of the Taiping Rebellion)

**access & lack of access: water / verb**

## tap out (verb)

tap out

I'm not ready to ~ yet, I'll hang in there (COVID teacher)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: sports & games / verb**

## tar (tar and feather, etc.)

tar all liberals

they used her essay to ~ (culture wars)

tar people's reputations

reporters ~ based on past poor decisions (cancel culture)

tar Trump as an anti-Semite

many liberal American Jews have tried to ~

tared his challenger as soft

he ~ on crime (George HW Bush)

tarring Trump with the same brush

she is ~ that Trump used to tar Obama

**accusation & criticism / punishment & recrimination / oppression / speech: history / verb / violence**

## target (verb)

target them towards children

the government will stockpile flu shots and ~

target the behaviors

rewards should ~ you would like to encourage

**target: weapon / verb**

## target (noun)

target

every policeman is a ~

targets of anger  
family, friends and the health team are often ~ (the dying)

target of a bully  
being the ~ is not pleasant

target of (barracks) humor  
his innocence makes him the ~ (soldiers)

target of an investigation  
he was the ~ by the commission (corruption)

targets of jealousy  
Native American athletes risk becoming the ~

targets of a (domestic-terrorism) probe  
~ by the FBI

targets of revenge  
judges sometimes become ~

target of the (war's) supporters  
the interview made Arnett a ~ (Iraq War)

target of prejudice or (physical) harm  
fear of becoming a ~ (gays in sports)

target of (would-be) illegal immigrants  
Melilla is a major ~ (Morocco)

targets of bullying  
students who are ~ (grade 6-10)

targets of (last week's) rioting  
the ~ included...

target of kidnappings and killings  
the family has been the ~ (Colombia)

target on his back  
he's going to have a ~ (political debate)  
he had a ~, and his opponents took dead aim (politics)

target on your back  
when you're leading the pack, everyone can see the ~

targets for (violent) individuals  
government agencies are often ~

target for (future human) exploration  
asteroids are a tempting ~

targets for (violent) perpetrators  
the elderly are easy ~

targets for poachers  
panhandler bears become easy ~

targets for (negative) stereotypes  
they are easy ~ (Irish Travelers)

targets for (reparations) lawsuits  
companies that are potential ~ (US)

target audience  
the ~

target date  
fund the project to completion by the ~ of 2030

target demographic  
its ~ of Jews in their twenties

target disease  
tetanus is one of the ~s of the WHO (neonatal)

target genes  
he's focusing on ~ for schizophrenia

target populations  
~ such as school-age children (public health)

target pressure  
pop-off valves set to the ~ (hyperbaric chamber)

tempting target  
~s for future human exploration (asteroids)

earnings target  
the company announced it would miss its ~

enlistment target  
the Navy fell short of its ~

takeover target  
smaller companies are easy ~

main target  
their ~s were...(looters following eruption)

numerical target  
we are not setting ~s for what they should buy

potential targets  
companies that are ~ for reparations lawsuits (US)

visible target  
he made himself a ~ (arrested)

become targets  
judges sometimes ~ of revenge

indicated the target  
a yellow arrow ~ (BASE jump / landing zone)

puts a target on your back  
standing up for principle ~ (at *The New York Times*)

zoom in on targets  
the cameras can ~ 3 miles away (Newark / police)

**target: weapon**

**target (moving target)**

moving target  
it's a ~ (trying to calculate loss due to plane groundings)  
authenticity is a ~ (cultural identity)

**difficulty, easiness & effort / success & failure: target**

**target (hit the target)**

hit all its targets  
the company has ~

**success & failure: target / verb / weapon**

## target (miss the target, etc.)

fell short of its (enlistment) target  
the Navy fell short of its ~

miss its (earnings) target  
the company announced it would ~

missing its teacher recruitment targets  
the government is ~

**success & failure: target / verb / weapon**

## target (hard target, etc.)

hard target to satirise  
it's not exactly a ~ (the rarefied world of haute cuisine)

♦ "It was known as the Dragon's Jaw." (The Hanh Hoa railway bridge, a US air target during the Vietnam War. In Vietnam, it is called the American War. "Even in a single-seat jet, nobody flies alone.")

**difficulty, easiness & effort: target / weapon**

**protection & lack of protection: target / weapon**

## target (easy target, soft target, etc.)

easy (takeover) targets  
smaller companies are ~

easy target  
the elderly are ~ for violent perpetrators  
panhandler bears become ~s for poachers  
they look at you as an ~ (young men in prison)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: target / weapon**

**protection & lack of protection: target / weapon**

## target date

target date of 2030  
fund the project to completion by the ~

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: target / weapon**

## targeted

targeted on social media  
they were ~ after the game (Rashford, Sancho, Saka)

targeted in social-media callouts, draggings, pile-ons  
some Y.A. books are ~

targeted killing  
fears about the repercussions of a ~ persisted

targeted (radiation) treatment  
a ~ (for breast cancer)

**target: weapon**

## tarnish (verb)

tarnishes the badge  
this ~ we all wear proudly on our chests (bad cop)

tarnished the image  
many lawyers believed that he ~ of the profession

tarnished the country's image  
the government has ~ abroad

tarnished the (Hernandez) name  
they felt she had ~

tarnished his reputation  
his massive accumulation of wealth ~ (politician)

tarnishes his reputation  
admitting to drug use ~ (an athlete)

tarnished his victory  
allegations of fraud ~ (elections)

**attenuation / corruption / failure, accident & impairment /  
flaws & lack of flaws: light & dark / verb**

## tarnished

tarnished by allegations  
his legacy is ~ he... (a boxer)

tarnished by (doping) scandals  
it is the latest black mark on a sport that has been ~

tarnished honor  
a plan to repair Syria's ~ (1973 Yom Kippur War)

tarnished image  
they are trying to sportswash their deeply ~ (EPL)

tarnished reputation  
this little film cleans the ~ of romantic comedies

burnished and tarnished  
reputations were ~ (2021 Trump impeachment trial)

jury pool had been tarnished  
his lawyer argued the ~ by the extensive press coverage

reputation is (forever) tarnished  
now his ~ (a professional athlete)

looking tarnished  
that reputation is ~ (Kenyan runners / doping)

**attenuation / corruption / failure, accident & impairment /  
flaws & lack of flaws: light & dark**

## tarred

unfairly tarred  
progressives acknowledge some have been ~ (canceled)

**accusation & criticism / punishment & recrimination /  
oppression / speech: history / verb / violence**

## taste (taste freedom, etc.)

taste abuse  
she may also ~ (women who work abroad)

taste defeat  
it's seven and a half years since he had to ~ (a boxer)

tasted defeat  
he has ~ before (a boxer)

taste a freedom  
a woman may ~ from familial duties (abroad)

♦ "Are there not other alternatives than sending our armies to chew barbed wire in Flanders?" (Winston Churchill, in a letter of advice to Prime Minister Herbert Henry Asquith. The alternative turned out to be Gallipoli.)

♦ "No, they will fight more actively with empty bellies, and, besides, it would be a bad omen. You remember what a dessert they got to their dinner at Falkirk." (The Duke of Cumberland on whether to allow his army its noontime meal prior to the Battle of Culloden. From *British Battles On Land and Sea* by James Grant. Culloden, 1746. "Such is the story of Culloden, happily the last battle fought on the soil of Great Britain.")

♦ *Revenge tastes sweet. / Revenge is a dish best served cold.*

**consumption / experience: food & drink / taste / verb**

## **taste (taste of freedom, etc.)**

taste of what

get a ~ Native Americans went through... (smallpox)

taste of (hostile) fire

they were getting their first ~ (marines)

taste of freedom

I wanted a ~

taste of home

the meal provided a ~ (Thanksgiving overseas)

taste of (cowboy) life

Americans seeking a ~

taste of regret

the bitter ~ (bad decisions)

taste of (business) success

a ~

taste of winter

western North Carolina gets ~ (snow showers, cold)

taste of acting

he got his first ~ when he was twelve years old

taste of (local) Fijian culture

we got our ~

bitter taste

the ~ of regret (bad decisions)

first taste

he got his ~ of acting when he was twelve years old

got our (first) taste

we ~ of local Fijian culture

seeking a taste

Americans ~ of cowboy life

wanted a taste

I ~ of freedom

**amount / consumption / experience: food & drink / taste**

## **taste (taste for violence, etc.)**

taste for it

you have to have a real ~ (a culinary occupation)

taste for violence

women have developed a ~ (books, films)

taste for flashy cars

he displayed a ~ and elaborate mansions

taste for rice beer

elephants have developed a ~ (Guwahati)

taste for fighting

I've always had a ~ (a gang member)

consumer tastes

a new trend in ~

movie tastes

software to track ~ (Blockbuster)

higher-priced tastes

they seemed to have more money and ~ (Tulane)

acquiring a taste

nomads are ~ for the settled life (Saudi Arabia)

displayed a taste

he ~ for flashy cars and big mansions

developed a taste

elephants have ~ for rice beer (Guwahati);

he ~ for akpeteshie, palm-wine moonshine (Ghana)

had a taste

I've always ~ for fighting (a gang member)

lost its taste

England has not ~ for the fight (boxing)

lose her taste

she seemed to ~ for the game (injured athlete)

cater to all tastes

Sydney can ~ (sex)

**consumption / enthusiasm: food & drink / taste**

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: food & drink / taste**

## **taste (in good taste, etc.)**

in good taste

I think it is ~ (athletes' fashions)

**judgment: food & drink / taste**

## **taste (judgment)**

taste in décor

weight, wardrobe and ~ (hot-button issues for women)

taste in music

if you're unsure about his ~... (dating advice)

taste in popular culture

African-American girlfriends influenced Mankiller's ~

tastemaker

her authority as a ~

expensive taste

she was style conscious and had ~

personal taste

placement is a matter of ~ and preference (piercing)

events for every taste  
there are ~... (concerts, contests / Sturgis biker rally)

judgment and taste  
he revealed questionable ~

cultivate a (less conformist) taste  
give her the courage to ~ (teens)

shown much taste  
nor has McKenzie ~ in new repertory (A.B.T.)

♦ "The language of aesthetic judgment is gustatory—one has good taste or feels something in one's gut..." ("Black-And-White Thinking" by Anna Shechtman, *The New Yorker*, December 27, 2021.)

**judgment: food & drink / taste**

**taste (a bad taste, etc.)**

bitter taste  
the ~ of regret (bad decisions)

sour taste  
this has left a ~ (bad sportsmanship)

erased the (sour-milk) taste  
helped by a bullpen that ~ of Friday's loss...

leaves a bad taste in one's mouth  
but this ~ especially if...

**consumption / corruption / feeling, emotion & effect /  
flaws & lack of flaws: food & drink / taste**

**tasty (adjective)**

tasty new TV  
~ from Alan Ball and HBO

**consumption: food & drink / taste  
attraction & repulsion: food & drink / taste**

**tatters (in tatters)**

left in tatters  
the party has been ~  
he risked seeing his career ~

leave his plans (for the Championships) in tatters  
the injury could ~ (manager / player hurt)

**condition & status / failure, accident & impairment / flaws  
& lack of flaws: cloth / clothing & accessories**

**taut (nerves, etc.)**

taut  
nerves were ~, imagination on edge

**feeling, emotion & effect: rope / skin, muscle, nerves &  
bone**

**taxing (adjective)**

taxing  
the job was extremely ~

**difficulty, easiness & effort: money**

**T-bone (verb)**

T-boned me  
a semi-truck ran through a stop sign and ~

T-boned my mother's car  
the teen ran a stop sign and ~

**failure, accident & impairment: crashes & collisions /  
letters & characters / shape**

**T-boned**

T-boned by a drunk  
I was ~ on Christmas (in a car)

T-boned by a dump truck  
five years ago, I was ~

**failure, accident & impairment: crashes & collisions /  
letters & characters / shape**

**tea (gossip)**

spill the tea  
towards the end, he began to ~, to talk about...

spills some tea  
Garcelle Beauvais ~ in her new memoir

spill the tea about her  
her friends devotedly refused to ~ (Greta Garbo)

♦ "Spill the tea" is Black-, Gay-, and drag queen-adjacent. (See "Let's Talk 'Tea': Spill it, sip it: just make it hot," *Words We're Watching*, Merriam-Webster.)

♦ "Let's spill some shade, throw some tea..." (The transgender Natalie Wynn, reversing the collocating verbs. Noticed! Appreciated!)

**gossip: food & drink**

**tea (weak tea)**

weak tea  
he called it "~" and "too little, too late" (politics)  
he called the plan "~" ("not good enough" / politics)

**substance & lack of substance: food & drink**

**tea (cup of tea)**

cup of mescal  
its plotless drift won't be everyone's ~ (*Bardo* film)

**attraction & repulsion: food & drink**

**teacher (experience is the best teacher,  
etc.)**

best teacher  
you know the name of a Bolshevik's ~ (experience)

greatest and most powerful teacher  
the land itself is the ~ (beauty, power of Bryce Canyon)

♦ "Study from new books but from old teachers." (Turkey.)

♦ "Time teaches more than books." (Po but siklos bersentar sar lilentar / Roma.)

♦ "Clearly Marovo fishes possess a great deal of practical knowledge concerning the fishes of their waters that is unknown to science, putting

them in the same league with Palauan fishers (Johannes 1981) and, for that matter, the nearby fishers of Roviana (Hamilton 1999)." ("Traditional Knowledge Possessed by the Fishers of Marovo Lagoon, Solomon Islands, Concerning Fish Aggregating Behaviour," by Robert E. Johannes and Edvard Hviding.)

## knowledge & intelligence: person / school & education teacher (teacher's teacher, etc.)

actor's actor

she was an ~ and the core of the show...

he would never be an ~ (Paul Newman / too bourgeois)

comic's comic

a ~, Roman was a... (Freddy Roman / the Friars Club)

cop's cop

he was a ~ and mourned by hundreds

dancer's dancer

Ohan-san, who is a geisha, is really a ~ (*East of Home*)

explorer's explorer

he was the ~ (Roald Amundsen)

fighters' fighter

Marvin Hagler, the ~, had a great impact on boxing (BBC)

guitarist's guitarist

Jeff Beck, known as a '~,' dies at 78

guy's guy

his dad was a ~ (snakeskin boots, Harley, muscle truck)

journalist's journalist

she is a ~ (a controversial assertion / arguable)

Lou Cannon is a ~, and a classic American

judge's judges

they are ~, they have the highest integrity (Supreme Court)

linguist's linguist

Chuck Fillmore is a ~ (the teacher's teacher Martin Hilpert)

man's man

he was a ~ (Edmund "Sir Ed" Hillary)

Marine's Marine

he was a ~ (a Marine Staff Sergeant)

pastor's pastor

mourners remember '~' and WWII veteran...

soldier's soldier

he was popular, a ~

he was a ~, a warrior (Alwyn Cashe d. 2005)

teacher's teacher

she was considered a ~ by her colleagues...

veteran's veteran

he has developed into a ~ (boxer Saul "Canelo" Alvarez)

woman's woman

more than Joni and Carole, Carly is a ~ (*Girls Like Us*)

♦ "The idea you could hold your liquor and type a new lead on a breaking story was a badge of honor." (The "journalist's journalist" Pete Hamill, about journalists back in the day.)

♦ "Court-martial him one day and sober him up the next and put him back in because he is a Marine's Marine." (A Marine Staff Sergeant.)

achievement, recognition & praise / identity & nature /  
superlative: epithet

## teacup (person)

teacup

he's a ~ (emotionally fragile student)

♦ A similar term to *teacup* is *snowflake*. In the old days, such people were compared to plants: a *shrinking violet*; a *pansy*; a *wallflower*. The modern update on that is *orchid* (versus a *dandelion*).

strength & weakness: hardness & softness / person  
character & personality: hardness & softness / person

## teacup (storm in a teacup)

storm in a teacup

this might sound like a ~ but... (Oxford prof harassed)

oh, dear, another twitter ~...

this small-town saga might seem like a ~

he described the rumors as a ~

importance & significance: size

## teak (wood)

teak-tough

Baranchyk, a ~ operator, didn't fall (the boxer)

strength & weakness: materials & substances / tree

## tea leaves

political tea leaves

the governor is going to read the ~ and make a decision

♦ "In some way, It's fair for us to say, okay, the court is giving us an indication of what it thinks about executive power and how far that power can reach, at least in the field of public health. On the other hand, I do think, although it's so tempting, I do think we need to be careful about reading tea leaves and saying, okay, this is what the court thinks about Biden's power, because, obviously, as we've already talked about..." (Jessica Levinson, law professor at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles. From "Supreme Court to hear cases that will bear on Biden's workplace vaccine orders," NPR, Morning Edition, Dec. 24, 2021. Actual tea leaves might be clearer!)

fate, fortune & chance / future: magic

## team (dream team)

dream team of civic leaders

he has put together a ~ (a promoter)

dream team of lawyers

he had resources to throw at a ~ (Jeffrey Epstein)

known as the Dream Team

they were members of the Simpson legal defence, ~ (trial)

superlative: epithet / sports & games

group, set & collection: sports & games

## team up (verb)

team up

fans ~ to bully and harass people online

unanimity & consensus: sports & games / verb

## teapot (internet teapot, etc.)

internet teapots

the tempest of these controversies remains confined to ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: food & drink / heating water / sound**

## tear (Harbor of Tears, etc.)

Bridge of Tears

here was the separation, the ~ (Falcarragh, Ireland)

Gate of Tears

the *Bab-el-Mandeb*, the ~ (the strait)

Island of Tears

Ellis Island earned the nickname “The ~”

Harbor of Tears

the ~ (Cobh Harbor / the Irish diaspora)

Highway of Tears

murders and disappearances on the ~ (MMIWG)

Palace of Tears

the *Tranenpalast*, the “~” (divided Berlin)

Spring of Tears

Te Puna Roimata Peak, the ~ (Mt Erebus, Ross Island)

trail of tears

(see *trail of tears*)

Valley of Tears

it became known as the ~ (Golan 1973 battleground)

♦ (“But despite the tragic aura, the most striking thing about the hospital [on Ellis Island] is today how humane it was. The state-of-the-art facility, based on a design by Florence Nightingale, offered free health care to every third-class immigrant, many of whom were peasants who had never seen a doctor in their life or eaten such nutritious food. Of the million or so patients who stayed her, only 3,500 died; the vast majority were granted entry. / “Their first taste of America was the kindness of strangers.” (“Wet and Wild” by Tony Perrottet, photographs by Gina LeVay, *Smithsonian*, May 2017. The map is superb.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: epithet**

## tear (crying)

a lot of tears

that conversation with them, there were ~ (about race)

there have been ~, a lot of questions (upset teens)

people are very moved, there are ~ (a movie)

a lot of pain, a lot of tears, a lot of grief

that’s ~ (Cuomo speech about the pandemic)

blood, sweat and tears

he gave the franchise 20 years of his ~ (Kobe Bryant)

blood and tears

enough of ~, enough (Palestinian-Israeli conflict)

trail of tears

(see *trail of tears*)

vale of tears

life is a ~ (Christianity)

end in tears

it was always going to ~ (Ronaldo leaves Man U)

ends in tears

when managers try to be too clever it usually ~ (soccer)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / sign, signal, symbol**

## tear (crocodile tears)

cry crocodile tears

the Democrats whine, scream and ~ for the child victims

dismissed the concerns as “crocodile tears”

Iran has ~ (about sick schoolgirls, by Germans and U.S.)

♦ “Maybe amber will cry real tears now” (Snark about the Johnny Depp-Amber Heard trial and verdict.)

♦ “Too many lies, wrecking her own credibility, crocodile tearing over spilled milk.” (Snark about the Johnny Depp-Amber Heard trial and verdict.)

**feeling, emotion & effect / sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: animal**

## tear apart (verb)

tore apart her (tidy) life

war ~ (a Serb in Kosovo)

tear the social fabric apart

the stress of collapsing economies can ~

tearing United apart

Liverpool were ~ (Liverpool 5, Man U 0)

**destruction: verb**

## tear down (verb)

tear down the system

they want to ~ (“No justice, no peace,” defund, etc.)

♦ “This whole criminal system needs to be torn down and rebuilt.” (Philonise Floyd, George Floyd’s brother.)

**destruction / disruption: infrastructure / verb**

## tear through (verb)

tearing through (unvaccinated) communities

COVID is ~

**movement: force / verb**

**force: movement / verb**

## tear up (verb)

tear up the treaty

the president wants to ~

**destruction: verb**

## tease out (verb)

tease that out

let’s ~ (talk radio)

tease out what

well, let’s try to ~ that might mean (talk radio)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: cloth / verb**

## **tectonic (adjective)**

tectonic restructuring

the ~ capped a week of turmoil at *The New York Times*

tectonic plates

the ~ of French politics have shifted (Marine Le Pen)

tectonic (paradigm) shift

this is an enormous, ~

**amount & effect / bases / extent & scope: earth & world / earthquake / ground, terrain & land**

## **teddy bear**

teddy bear

he's a ~

♦ On a hunting trip in Mississippi, Theodore Roosevelt turned down an opportunity to shoot a captive bear cub. An editorial cartoon of the scene sparked the craze for "teddy" bears.

**character & personality: hardness & softness**

## **tee off (start)**

teed off an advertising boycott

the tapes have ~ (politics)

**initiation: sports & games / verb**

**starting, going, continuing & ending: sports & games / verb**

## **tee off on (verb)**

tee off on him

it was another chance for his rivals to ~ (politics)

teed off on senators

he ~ who walked out of his testimony

**accusation & criticism / speech: sports & games**

## **teeter (verb)**

teetering on the brink

the factory is ~ of insolvency

the country is ~ of default (Greece / economy)

the world was ~ of war

teeters on the edge

the air travel network ~ of collapse

teetered on the edge

his campaign ~ of electoral abyss, but it is scrambling back

**fate, fortune & chance: equilibrium & stability / verb**

## **teeth (in / into the teeth of)**

in the teeth of the (financial) crisis

~, Ireland decided to...

in the teeth of Syrian fire

they crossed 800 meters of open ground ~ (Golan / 1973)

in the teeth of the (current) recession

~, companies have been forced to cut staff and...

in the teeth of these (challenging) times

but ~ (politics, economy)

ran (right) into the teeth of the defense

he ~ (football game)

sailed into the teeth of a storm

the ship ~ they knew was coming (*Viking Sky*)

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things / danger: animal / teeth**

## **teeth (danger)**

showed his teeth

when criticized, he ~

♦ "Buried secrets have teeth." (Ad for *Truth Be Told* TV series.)

♦ "Just because you can see the teeth of the lion, don't think that he is smiling at you!"

**conflict / destruction: animal / predation / teeth**

## **teeth (force)**

teeth

the regulations must have enough ~ (enforcement)

lack teeth

the so-called reforms ~ and will do little

♦ "Russian people! Brave descendants of brave Slavs! You have broken the teeth of lions and tigers who have attacked you more than once. Unite! With the cross in your hearts and weapons in your hands, no human power can defeat you." (Tsar Alexander I, 1812.)

**force / strength & weakness: animal / teeth**

## **teeth (take the teeth out)**

taken the teeth out of the law

they have ~ (no mechanism for enforcement)

**attenuation / force / strength & weakness: animal / teeth / verb**

## **teeth (to the teeth)**

armed to the teeth

they are ~

**extent & scope: teeth**

## **teeth (kick in the teeth)**

kick in the teeth

it's been a real ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: foot / sensation / teeth**

## **teeth (gnash one's teeth)**

gnashing their teeth

Democrats are ~ (over third-party candidacy)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction / teeth / verb**

## **teeth (cut one's teeth)**

cut her teeth (in politics in the 1980s) interning

she ~ for Wilma Mankiller

cut my teeth in patrol  
this is where I ~ (L.A. / "Fort Apache")

cut our (reporting) teeth  
we ~ in Edinborough and worked on big stories

**growth & development: baby / teeth**

## teeth (sink one's teeth into something)

sink my teeth into  
I wanted a role that I could really ~ (actor)

sinks her teeth into a case  
she's a pit bull, she ~ and doesn't let go

sink my teeth into something  
I'm a pit bull, I ~ and don't let go (crime investigator)

**attachment: animal / dog / teeth**

## teething

teething issues  
there are always new ~ (very young airplanes)  
there have been some ~ as businesses get used to... (Brexit)

teething problems  
the COVID-19 detecting apps face ~  
he described the difficulties as ~ (post Brexit fishing)  
disruptions in the fish trade are ~ (Brexit)

teething troubles  
the novices were over their ~ (dog driving)  
there are reasons to hope that these are ~ only (TV show)

**growth & development: baby / teeth**

## Teflon

Teflon figure  
Boris Johnson is a ~, nothing sticks to him until now

teflon politician  
he has all along been a ~, but this may stick (Partygate)

**attachment / protection & lack of protection / pursuit,  
capture & escape: materials & substances**

## telegraph (Daily Telegraph, etc.)

Daily Telegraph  
she was the United States Editor for the ~ (a newspaper)

♦ "[The Alpena Evening Echo in Michigan] could not tell why the telegraph company caused it to be sent a full account of a flood in Shanghai, a massacre in Calcutta, a sailor fight in Bombay, hard frosts in Siberia, a missionary banquet in Madagascar, the price of kangaroo leather from Borneo and a lot of nice cheerful news from the Archipelagos—and not a line about the Muskegon fire." (Information overload. Quoted in *Krakatoa* by Simon Winchester. From *The Victorian Internet* by Tom Standage, 1998.)

**proper name: tools & technology**

## telegraph (verb)

telegraph (to the audience) that  
expressions of racism are used to ~ a character is terrible

telegraphs his punches

he ~ (boxer)

**fictive communication: tools & technology / verb**

## telegraphed

telegraphed  
every character beat, plot point and narrative turn is ~ (film)

♦ "While the Korean expedition must naturally dominate any account of John Rodger's command of the Asiatic Squadron, one other development was to attain greater significance with the passage of time. The extension of a telegraph line from Vladivostok via Nagasaki to Shanghai in 1871 made possible rapid communication between the Navy Department and the most remote of the distant stations. The dispatch reporting that the Koreans had fired on the squadron's surveying boats, which the *Palos* delivered to a Shanghai-bound steamer off Chefoo on 5 June 1871, seems to have been the first to be telegraphed from the station by the U.S. commander in chief." (*Far China Station: The U.S. Navy in Asian Waters, 1800-1898* by Robert Erwin Johnson.)

**fictive communication: tools & technology**

## telescope (noun)

end of the telescope  
you can look at this from either ~ (worker vs. CEO)

**perception, perspective & point of view: tools & technology**

## tell (data can tell us something, etc.)

tell  
a skin test is the only way to ~ if you have TB infection

tells everyone  
a tie ~, "I respect you, my job, and myself" (an opinion)

told me  
my experience has ~ that...  
my body ~, 'dude, you are not sleeping enough' (Grant Wahl)

told the story  
their faces ~ of that fight (Beterbiev vs. Yarde)

tell a very different story  
the facts ~ (a murder investigation)

telling a totally different story  
but the autopsy is ~

tell us  
what did the data ~ at the time (investigation)

tell us everything  
the next couple of weeks will probably ~ we need to know

tell you something  
trust and act when your instincts ~ (I've got a bad feeling)

tell the rest of the story  
history will judge this and the future will ~ (Afghan War)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / evidence / fictive  
communication: speech / verb**

## tell-all (book)

tell-all  
his book is not a ~ (military figure)

**concealment & lack of concealment / gossip / restraint & lack of restraint: books & reading / part of speech**

## telling

telling

the terms used were ~ (G-20 negotiations)

telling sign

that's a ~ (beaten boxer clinches)

**evidence: speech**

## temperature (raise / lower the temperature)

bring down the temperature

the way you bring order is to ~ (protests)

lower the temperature

I want to ~ in America, not raise it (politics)

he is trying to project calm and ~ (contested election)

raise the temperature of (public) debate

questions over rights ~ (gay students)

raise the temperature of the debate

this will ~ (impeachment)

turn down the temperature in the Gulf

the US wants to ~

raised the temperature by threatening

organizers ~ her with expulsion (Naomi Osaka)

♦ "Could you feel this temperature change in the room when there are these moments of conflict or verbal denial?" (A question about the mood in a Clubhouse chatroom.)

♦ "It will further erode the political temperature in the country and that's not good for Pakistan given how volatile the political situation is." (A Pakistani politician, speaking impeccable British English. "Erode" for "temperature" strikes a wrong note. Why is it wrong? Can you think of a more appropriate verb? See the "funny story" below.)

♦ A FUNNY STORY. A young American on vacation from his job was shooting billiards with a local man at a country club in Nuwara Eliya, Sri Lanka. The Sri Lankan man spoke impeccable British English, and at one point during the game enquired, "What do you do for a living?" The young American said, "I teach English in Saudi Arabia." To which the Sri Lankan man expostulated, "How the *hell* can you teach English when you can't bloody well speak it!"

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature / verb**

## temperature (the political temperature, etc.)

political temperature

I've spent the last few days taking the ~ (a reporter)

**condition & status / measurement: health & medicine / temperature**

## tempest (noun)

tempest

this ~ has already swept away governments (economy)

tempest of these controversies

the ~ remains confined to a handful of internet teapots

storm in a teacup

this might sound like a ~ but... (Oxford prof harassed)

international tempest

the report caused an ~

**amount & effect: air / atmosphere / storm / wind**

## tempestuous (adjective)

mutually tempestuous

their relationship was ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: air / atmosphere / storm / wind**

## template (noun)

template for success

my state I believe is a ~ in our climate policies

meme templates

trending ~, curated for you

revenge template

the film conforms to Hollywood's standard ~

served as a template

the move has ~ for Missouri leaders (politics)

set the template

the Arbuckle affair ~ for the celebrity scandal

**script: manufacturing**

## temple (noun)

temple of (American) Democracy

the Capitol, our ~ (U.S.)

temple of glamour

the Festival is a ~ (Cannes film festival)

temple of my profession

that job took me into the ~ (journalist / *New York Times*)

'temple of speed'

Red Bull has struggled at the so-called ~ (Monza / F1)

**enthusiasm / reverence: religion**

## tendril (resemblance)

tendrils of mist

~ were wrapping across the top of Lhotse (Everest)

dark little tendrils

gray-green clouds dropped virga in ~ (mountains)

**resemblance: plant**

## tendril (growth)

tendrils of (international) terror

efforts to find the ~ in the US

**branching system / extent & scope: plant**

**growth & development: plant**

## tenor (noun)

tenor of this conversation

I am distressed and disappointed with the ~

political tenor

there's an undeniable ~ to the debate

**evidence / perception, perspective & point of view: sound tension (noun)**

tension (between Russia and the U.S.) builds  
~ (over Ukraine)

**feeling, emotion & effect: rope**

## tent (pitch one's tent)

pitch their tents with the Americans or the Russians

Romanian and Bulgarian elites are deciding whether to ~

♦ "Romanian and Bulgarian elites are deciding whether to pitch their tents with the Americans or the Russians, depending on which one seems to have more staying power in the region." (*Balkan Ghosts* by Robert D. Kaplan.)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: tent / verb**

## tent (fold one's tent)

folded her tent

she did what any prudent prosecutor would do, she ~

fold its tents

many think the football program should quietly ~

fold our tents

we don't ~ and run... (prosecutors vs. appeals)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: tent / verb**

**commitment & determination: tent / verb**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: tent / verb**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: tent / verb**

## tent (inclusivity)

big tent

Mr Sanders said his campaign was a 'a ~'

bigger tent

a narrow definition of bluegrass versus a ~ (inclusion)  
fighting for the Methodist Church to become a ~ (gays)

big-tent philosophy

we no long want to espouse a ~ philosophy (politics)

big-tent-theology

the Methodist Church has always been a ~ church

racial and cultural tent

feminism broadened its ~

inside the tent

they were glad to be back "~" (consulted by government)

outside the tent

better to observe him there than have him ~ (government)

inside or outside the tent

does she want him ~ (government)

drawn into the tent

we want people to get ~ of conservation (Joel Sartore)

expand that tent

let's all make an effort to ~ (Golden Globes)

expand-the-tent

he maintains his base strategy versus an ~ strategy (politics)

♦ "Bring everyone in and shut no one out, take no one for granted, write nobody off. So I'm for everyone." (The politician Beto O'Rourke.)

♦ "Thank you to all of you for everything."

♦ "We must also ensure everyone from all underrepresented communities gets a seat at our table and we are going to make that happen." (Meher Tatna, about the 2021 Golden Globes.)

♦ A friend to all is a friend to no one.

♦ Obsequious...

♦ "The best way to neutralize people is to bring them inside the tent." (An AIDS activist giving grudging respect to how Anthony Fauci handled their protests in the 1980s. Fauci *literally* invited them into his home.)

♦ "Better to have him inside the tent pissing out, than outside pissing in." (President Lyndon Baines Johnson about J. Edgar Hoover.)

♦ Suppliants lay on the sand in the tent-mouth, or beyond, waiting their turn." (*Seven Pillars of Wisdom* by T.E. Lawrence.)

♦ Auda's tent, a huge hall seven poles long and three wide... / Afterwards we sat by the wall of Nuri's manor, and saw the women take down the great tent, greater than Auda's, eight-bayed of twenty-four poles in all..." (*Seven Pillars of Wisdom* by T.E. Lawrence.)

♦ "Beyond us the black tents of the Beni Sakhr were like a herd of goats spotting the valley." (*Seven Pillars of Wisdom* by T.E. Lawrence.)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## tentacle (noun)

tentacles (all) through Central America

he had ~ (a drug kingpin)

tentacles in California, Arizona, Chicago

he had ~ ("El Chapo" Guzman)

network's tentacles

the ~ reached far (human-organ trafficking)

extend its tentacles

Indians helped imperialism ~ (East Africa)

♦ "The jihadist threat in Africa has many heads and tentacles."

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / hunting / predation  
affliction / extent & scope: animal / arm / sign, signal,  
symbol**

## tentpole (movies, etc.)

Tentpole Age

we are in the ~ (movies)

tentpole events

~ are cultural, trending and popular (Super Bowl, etc.)

tent pole movies

adult dramatic fare performs less well than branded ~

tent-pole movies

~ can run to \$300 million or more in total costs

tentpoles and their multiple offshoots

superhero ~ have a corporate stranglehold on film culture

two-hour-plus tentpoles

the film is short compared to today's ~

summer tentpole

what more could you want from a ~

typical tentpole

the daily cost for filming was on par with a ~

make only tent poles

a climate of fear pushes studios to ~ (G. Clooney)

♦ "Phoenix and Phillips are satisfied that they've slipped something that feels like auteur cinema under a tentpole usually reserved for blow-'em-up teenage fare..." (The *Vanity Fair* article about Joaquin Phoenix by Joe Hagan.)

♦ "These kind of tent-poles, those blockbusters... You just can't bounce from tentpole to tentpole, you need middle of the road product." (A film-industry pundit.)

♦ "Everyone on the Slate Culture gabfest has suddenly started using [the word *tentpole*] this month, and now the NYTimes too." (Liz Schenck Phillips in the "What made you look this word up?" section for the word on the Merriam-Webster website.)

**basis / branching system / taxonomy & classification: tent**

## tepid (adjective)

tepid

support for the proposed center is ~  
reaction to the president's speech was ~ at best  
public support for it is decidedly ~ (impeachment)

tepid about her candidacy

many members of Congress were ~

tepid response

performers who get a ~ say they died on stage

tepid support

the proposed change won his ~

strangely tepid

he was ~ when asked for a recommendation

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature**

## terminated (killed)

terminated

he should have been ~ long ago (a terrorist)

**death & life: euphemism**

## termite (noun)

termites

he has referred to them as ~ who need to be wiped out

"termites"

he described illegal immigrants as ~ (government official)

**insult / violence: animal / insect**

## terrain (area)

terrain

they have shown themselves adept at navigating the ~

native terrain

his ~ is modern Britain (a filmmaker)

changing terrain

the deal highlights the ~ as investors adjust

master much terrain

a contemporary musician must ~

**area / environment: ground, terrain & land**

## terrain (dangerous terrain, etc.)

dangerous terrain

management is stepping into ~ (NPR fires Juan Williams)

difficult terrain

the Midwest, with its job losses, is ~ for Democrats  
she explores ~, including her husband's death (a writer)

rocky terrain

she adeptly negotiated the ~ of the NYC publishing world

**danger / flaws & lack of flaws: ground, terrain & land**

## terrain (known and unknown terrain)

familiar terrain

the farther you travel from the ~ of the legacy world

new terrain

the Emmys have entered ~ (backstage Webcasts)

**area / certainty & uncertainty: direction / ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips / map**

## territory (known and unknown territory)

familiar territory

they are heading into ~, an important division game (sport)

uncharted territory

legally, this is a bit of ~

unfamiliar territory

he tells stories that follow familiar conversations into ~

unknown territory

he was at 62, ~ for a man who'd never won (golf)

in uncharted territory

we're ~ in terms of predicting his recovery... (coma)

heading into familiar territory

they are ~, an important division game (sports)

sent public opinion into uncharted territory

this has ~

**area / certainty & uncertainty: direction / ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips / map**

## territory (come with the territory, etc.)

come with its territory

his book avoids the pitfalls that ~ (a biography)  
these things ~ (internet abuse of diplomat)

comes with the territory  
getting blamed ~ (a basketball coach)  
this ~ when you work in a hospital (long hours)

goes with the territory  
some people are skeptical, but that ~ (diplomacy)

**presence & absence: ground, terrain & land**  
**fate, fortune & chance: ground, terrain & land**  
**territory (assigned area)**

home territory  
cell-phone users outside their ~s

outside their (home) territories  
cell-phone users ~

**area: ground, terrain & land**  
**territory (stake out territory)**

stake out new territory  
as Microsoft tries to ~

**possession: ground, terrain & land / surveying**  
**territory (area)**

fringe territory  
their most recent article veered into ~ (UFOs / NYT)

vast territory  
the ~ between the extremes has been bridged (book retailing)

seized the territory  
when cancer stories were brought up as story lines, she ~

**area / environment: ground, terrain & land**  
**test (test of time)**

stands the test of time  
what ~ (our favorite books)

stood the test of time  
standards of honor that have ~  
their marriage has ~ (arranged)

withstood the test of time  
Saudi-US relations are longstanding and have ~

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence / survival,**  
**persistence & endurance: school & education**  
**test (stress test)**

stress test  
banks must take a ~ (check finances in case of crisis)

stress test of our ideals  
this is a ~ (a contentious national election)

♦ "Stress tests are (inaudible) general health checkups. They check your heart, they check your liver, they check your kidneys, because any of them can bring down a bank. It was a mistake to take them away, we've gotta put them back." (Democratic Senator Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts, about the failure of the Silicon Valley Bank in early 2023. "Stress tests" for banks were put in place after the global financial crisis of 2007 but lifted in 2018.)

**condition & status: health & medicine**

**test (smell test)**

go by the smell test  
jurors tend to ~ (versus instructions from the judge)

pass the smell test  
this is problematic, it doesn't ~ (Catholic misconduct)  
it doesn't ~ (a *New York Times* article about UFOs)  
doesn't ~ to me (commenter about an attack)

pass an ethics smell test  
it doesn't ~ (jumping the vaccination line)

♦ "Those instructions [from the judge], I'm a lawyer and I couldn't understand them... They've gotten to be too much. They're legalese. And jurors tend to go by the smell test. Does it seem right? Does it seem wrong. And that's what we wanted the jury to do." (Mark Richards, Kyle Rittenhouse's attorney, speaking to Ailsa Chang. From "Kyle Rittenhouse's defense attorney discusses the trial and acquittal," NPR, *All Things Considered*, Nov. 19, 2021.)

♦ "Something is rotten in the state of Denmark." (Marcellus, from *Hamlet*. The meaning is that something is wrong.)

♦ This stinks!

**evidence / suspicion: smell**  
**test-drive (verb)**

test drive what  
he will ~ his life could be like if he lived in Helsinki

test-drive Helsinki  
a practical way to ~ (temporary relocation package)

test-drive life  
he and 15 others were selected to ~ in the Finnish capital

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: engine / verb**  
**testimony (noun)**

testimony that  
the ruins are ~ in antiquity this was a thriving city (Trieste)

testimony of our own eyes  
do you believe lies over the ~ (politics)

**evidence / fictive communication: speech**

**tethered**

tethered to their computers  
doctors and nurses are ~ (criticism of healthcare)

tethered to the pandemic  
the economy is still ~

**attachment: rope**

**textbook (noun)**

textbook  
everything they did subsequently was ~ (survival)

textbook case  
they are a ~ of radicalization (two brothers)  
this is a nearly ~ of discrimination  
this is a ~ of racist, dog-whistle politics  
it's the ~ to declare an emergency (US monkeypox)

♦ "Jungle warfare is a new kind of warfare. It tears up text books and confounds the experts." (Narration to the short war documentary "Kokoda Front Line 1942." Papua New Guinea, World War Two.)

**knowledge & intelligence / script: books & reading / school & education**

## thanks (thanks to something)

thanks to (two) headers

the Dutch reached the semis ~ in the second half (soccer)

thanks to his seatbelt

he survived the crash, ~

thanks to TikTok

the song's massive blowup is partially ~

♦ "The earth shook thanks to the tunneling action of mammoths, who expired on contact with sunlight." (Anna Reid, *The Shaman's Coat, A Native History of Siberia*.)

♦ This seems to mean "because of" and as such it is one of those two-word prepositions.

**help & assistance / relationship: speech**

## thanks (and thank you / sarcasm)

Thanks Nostradamus

~, we are all proud of you (about your prediction)

thanks (a lot) for the (totally bone headed) decisions

Wow, ~ (college football players arrested / sarcasm)

thanks for clearing that up

~ ("mindfulness cultivates intimacy with awareness")

♦ Thanks Nostradamus. We are all proud of you." (A sarcastic commenter, responding to a commenter who posted, "I called it 2 years ago," about some political tempest in a teapot.)

♦ "Thanks pride crowd." (A sarcastic / disgusted comment about monkeypox.)

♦ "Thanks for nothing!"

**language: sarcasm**

## thank you (and thanks)

thank you to Justice Ginzburg, for giving us a life

~ so worthy of celebration (a tribute after her death)

thank you to the movies for saving him

it's one man's ~ (*The Fabelmans*)

♦ "Thanks to the water, and thanks to the moon. The water provides many things. The water gives us life." (Kay Kimsong, on the meaning of Cambodia's annual Water Festival.)

♦ "We talk to the trees. We say, 'OK, we need some of your bark to help us; we'll make something beautiful,'" Fran James said. "You have to talk to it and thank it for giving you the bark. You have to go with a good heart. You can't be cranky and fussy." (A Lummi speaking of gathering bark from the cedar tree.)

♦ "Her father would have tenderly poured a little fresh water in the seal's mouth, ready for the next life; held its claws and said 'hello again' and 'Kuana' (thank you) before dividing the meat." (An Inuit elder in Paulatuk, Canada.)

**achievement, recognition & praise: speech**

## thaw (verb)

thaw

the freeze began to ~ when... (relations)

**amelioration & renewal: snow & ice / temperature / verb**

## thaw (noun)

thaw in relations

the border will reopen after a ~ (Burma and Thailand)

the 2 leaders promised a ~ (Saudi / Iran)

geopolitical thaw

would there be any sign at all of a ~ (international relations)

♦ "How delighted I was when, for the first time, I saw the breaking up of the ice in the Dwina! Sometimes the immense blocks seemed to assume the shape of a lion, a dog, a swan, and every kind of figure, beautiful or grotesque, according to the fancy of the spectator... [T]he flocks of wild swans; the solitary sea-mew, skimming with snowy pinions the liberated waves—formed a scene altogether strange and beautiful." (*The Englishwoman in Russia; Impressions of the Society and Manners of the Russians At Home by a Lady, Ten Years Resident in That Country*, 1856.)

♦ "While Yurii Andreievich slept his fill, the spring was heating and melting the masses of snow... / Ancient pine trees perched on dizzy heights drank the moisture almost from the clouds, and it foamed and dried a rusty white at their roots like beer foam on a mustache. / Yurii Andreievich woke up, stretched, raised himself on one elbow, and looked and began to listen." (*Doctor Zhivago* by Boris Pasternak.)

♦ Weather helped cause the famine (drought), and weather helped delay the relief (thaw), and a return to cold weather helped the relief. (The Great Famine of 1921-22 in Russia. See "America's Gift to Famine Stricken Russia," PBS, American Experience.)

♦ "In the meantime, the thaw we had been fearing for so many days had started, and as the snow slowly disappeared, the camp began to change into a squalid bog. The bodies and the filth made the misty, muggy air impossible to breathe." (*The Truce: A Survivor's Journey Home From Auschwitz* by Primo Levy.)

♦ "No thaw is forever."

**amelioration & renewal: snow & ice / temperature**

## theater (performance)

negotiation theater

it looks serious, but it might just be ~ (trade talks)

diplomatic theater

it provided ~ of the most electrifying kind (UN)

political theater

get out your popcorn, get ready for ~ today (hearing)

the vote was a bit of ~

the candidate debate reprised a piece of ~

♦ "All the world's a stage, / And all the men and women merely players; / They have their exits and their entrances..." (Shakespeare, *As You Like It*.)

**performance: theater**

## theater (appearance)

theater and hot air

many thought him all ~ (national leader)

**appearance & reality: theater**

## theater of the absurd

theater of the absurd

call this what this is, which is a ~ (politics)

**fantasy & reality / feeling, emotion & effect: theater**

## theatrics (noun)

cheap "theatrics"  
the ~ (politics)

**performance: theater**

## there (there is no there there, etc.)

there's no there there  
~ (articles of impeachment)  
~ (claims of election fraud)  
I have no regrets, ~ (a political scandal)

there's no 'there' there  
it's impossible to have a relationship with a junkie, ~

there was no there there  
they had all looked into the allegations and found ~

there is there there or not  
there hasn't been any inquiry into whether ~

♦ For an excellent article about this, see "Why Gertrude Stein's 'No There There' Is Everywhere" by Ben Zimmer, *Wall Street Journal*, Feb 2, 2018.

♦ Let's not go there (discuss it). / Why not? / Because there is no there there.

♦ "There is a hell of a lot of there there..." (A political scandal.)

♦ see also *nothing-burger*

♦ see also the entry in this dictionary for *funny language*

**substance & lack of substance: place**

**presence & absence: place**

**language: cliché**

## there (there for me, etc.)

there for me  
the community was ~ (in time of grief)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## there (destination)

not there yet  
we're ~ (resolution of trauma)

♦ "I don't think the American public is there yet." (To accept the idea that... / A Biden political message.)

**progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## there (let's not go there)

go there  
let's not ~ (topic of conversation)  
I just can't ~ (think about it)  
they don't want to discuss that, they don't want to ~  
he's comfortable enough to ~ publicly (say it)  
he said don't ~ and pulled them off the case (coverup)  
I don't want to ~ and create backlash (make excuses)

♦ Let's not go there (discuss it). / Why not? / Because there is no there there!

♦ "The first place that they go is his age." (Critics of President Biden.)

**language: cliché**

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things / eagerness & reluctance: journeys & trips / movement / place**

## there (out there, etc.)

out there

we focused on her story because his story is ~ (publicized)  
there's a lot of information ~ (murder investigation leaks)  
there's another world ~, you just can't see it  
there is a whole world of gossip and innuendo ~ to explore  
there are a lot of loose cannons ~ (crazy people)  
it's a jungle ~ (survival of the fittest)  
Man, there's a whole Who Dat Nation ~  
the noise and confusion that is ~ (getting COVID vaccine)  
he didn't want any of this information ~ (an exposé)  
we're studying some theories that are ~ (the military)  
there are outliers ~ that are preaching nonsense (COVID)  
we need help from anybody ~ to bring Kiera home

out there on their own

nobody wanted to go first, to be ~ (me too movement)

out there for all to see

what happened behind closed doors may soon be ~

out there in public

today's world is today's world and everything is ~ (online)

evil out there

there was ~ (unsolved child murders terrorize city)

get out there

pull your big-girl pants up, ~ and show them what you got

get our information out there

we want to ~ (to media, reporters)

put the theory out there

our strategy has been to ~

♦ The story is out there, in the open...

**presence & absence: ground, terrain & land**

**concealment & lack of concealment: ground, terrain & land**

## there (been there, etc.)

been there

I understood where he was mentally because I'd ~  
I haven't ~ myself but I know women who have (abuse)  
many of us have ~ before (Irish and overserved at a bar)  
he felt he understood better than most, he had ~ (accused)

♦ "I just don't need to prove myself anymore, I've done that, I've been there, I just let it go..." (Hilaree O'Neill, Hkakabo Razi, Myanmar.)

**experience: ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips / place**

## there (not all there)

clearly not all there

he's ~, he's all over the place emotionally (troubled)

incompetent and "not all there"

he was cast as ~ (President Donald Trump / politics)

incompetent, over the hill and not all there

they have tried to paint Biden as ~ (politics)

♦ "When I lived in LA, I knew a lot of actresses. Most of them are not all there, from drugs, alcohol, or living in a dream world. If you want anything bordering on normality stay away from actors."

**mental health: euphemism**

## thermometer (noun)

thermometer

a ~, a temperature reading of what is happening (a poll)

feeling thermometer

how do people feel, a ~, we call it (polling)

**measurement: temperature / tools & technology**

## Thermopylae (Britain's Thermopylae, etc.)

Britain's Thermopylae

it has been described as ~ (Battle of Kohima / W.W. II)

♦ "Three months before Needham traveled toward the front, the Japanese advance westward had been halted, decisively, at the famous battle of Kohima in the Indian state of Assam, described variously as the 'Stalingrad of the East,' 'Britain's Thermopylae,' and 'one of the greatest battles in history.' Between April and June 1944 a small British contingent held off thousands of Japanese, the climax coming in the legendary 'Battle of the Tennis Court,' hand-to-hand fighting in the gardens of the deputy commissioner's bungalow, ending on the tennis court's center line. Kohima was the most westerly point the Japanese ever attained: after June they were being relentlessly pressed back toward Tokyo, and fought like tigers as they went..." (*The Man Who Loved China* by Simon Winchester.)

♦ "Nobody else ran, and there's the glory of the field of nettles. Six hundred fifty men of the Tryon County militia make their own Thermopylae there in the woods of the western Mohawk Valley... / Gardiner was knocked down...; both of his thighs were pinned to the ground with bayonets... / The Bayonet Tree got its name when one of Herkimer's men was crucified on it." (*The Mohawk* by Codman Hislop. His book is about the Mohawk River.)

♦ The pass where the great battle of Thermopylae between the Spartans and Persians took place is gone. The landscape has become flat, but not in our imagination...

**military: epithet**

## Thermopylae (figurative)

series of Thermopylaes

white blood cells rush to an endless ~ to man the pass

**allusion: military**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: allusion / military**

## thick (in the thick of things)

in the thick of things

she was right ~ (government response to Katrina)

**involvement: ground, terrain & land**

## thick (adjective)

thick

the tension between them was ~ (two film actors)

♦ The opposite of *thick* is *thin*...sometimes!

**amount: breadth**

## thicket (noun)

thicket of bureaucracy

they have created a ~ (a government agency)

thicket of challenges

Netflix is trying to navigate a dense ~

bureaucratic thickets

he knew how best to cut his way through the ~

dense thicket

Netflix is trying to navigate a ~ of challenges

regulatory thicket

the government wants to set up a ~

**obstacles & impedance: ground, terrain & land**

## thick-skinned (adjective)

thick-skinned

I'm ~ so it doesn't bother me

tough and thick-skinned

New Yorkers are thought to be ~

tough, thick-skinned

he is known as a ~ leader

become thick-skinned

making fun of someone helps them build character and ~

♦ "Thick-skinned, sharp-elbowed, ball-busting New Yorkers..." (With hearts of gold...)

**character & personality / feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## thief (thief of joy, etc.)

thief of joy

comparison is the ~ (athletic achievement, etc.)

den of thieves

see *den* (*den of thieves, etc.*)

♦ "Friends are thieves of time."

♦ "Set a thief to catch a thief."

**taking & removing: crime / person**

## thin (size)

razor-thin

the election was decided by a ~ margin

**size: breadth / fatness & thinness**

## thin (substance)

thin

the add-on could work, but the evidence is ~ (IVF)

thin on whether

the evidence has been ~ convalescent plasma can help

thin case

this was a very ~, very little evidence (acquitted)

astonishingly thin

the evidence was ~ (a murder conviction)

pretty thin

that argument is ~ right now (that schools are overpoliced)

so thin

the evidence was ~ the judge set a low bail

**extent & scope: breadth**

**substance & lack of substance: breadth**

**thin (thin on the ground, etc.)**

thin on the ground

British artists were ~ (awards show)

police officers are ~ (looting in Minneapolis)

the tourists are ~ (in Mallorca, due to pandemic)

**amount / presence & absence: breadth**

**thing (prior reference)**

Reagan-Gorbachev thing

the ~ ultimately fell apart (relationship)

generational thing

we rarely see this ~ (*Good Luck To You, Leo Grande*)

**importance & significance: object**

**thing (a matter, issue)**

a thing

we didn't even know that was ~ (trench coats / shootings)

a thing for me

I was black, which wasn't ~ when I was little (immigrant)

a thing for us

work-life balance wasn't really ~ (work consumed them)

a thing for years

hang on, hasn't "post viral fatigue" been ~

a thing all these decades later

sagging might still be ~ because... (the fashion statement)

a thing, after all

polysemy is ~ (Merriam-Webster website)

win-it-for-coach thing

he still sounds worried about the whole ~ (Coach K)

a f\*\*\*ing thing

we'll talk about this, this car turns into ~, man (podcast)

a superstition thing

it's not really a ~... (tennis player Coco Gauff)

a big thing

it's a ~ in Hull (East Side vs. West Side / Beverley Rd.)

a huge thing

Donald Trump is off Twitter and that is a ~

a real thing

is "porn addiction" ~

and that's ~ and there's nothing you can do about it

this is an issue, it's ~, we don't want problems (elections)

constant, (almost) around-the-clock thing

it's a ~ (farm chores)

deny that it's a thing

so many people (racist fan abuse)

♦ "Hair was always a thing. People would ask, 'Can I touch your hair? How does it stand up like that?' I had to deal with things like that my entire life." (Gymnast Nia Dennis on training with white people in Ohio.)

♦ "I think the dance between those two things will always be a thing." (Tiana Kaye Blair, an artist-in-residence at the Dallas Theater Center.)

♦ "I started wearing earplugs, and they've now become a thing, I can't go to sleep without them." (BBC, *Fortunately...with Fi and Jane*, #168.)

♦ "It's not really a superstition thing, I'd say I'm not a superstition person." (The tennis player Coco Gauff about listening to hype music before her matches.)

♦ "Oh, it's not a problem, it's not a thing, stop talking about it..." (Racist fan abuse in soccer.)

♦ "I even had some people would be like, 'What is that?' They were like, 'I didn't even know this was a thing.'" (A homosexual US man with monkeypox in 2022.)

**importance & significance: object**

**contempo-speak: language**

**thing (fad, etc.)**

thing

today is bubble wrap appreciation day, yes, it's a ~ (ABC)

I didn't know that was a ~

is that really a ~

still a thing

is steampunk ~ (Google ask and answer)

'in thing'

not long ago Osaka was the latest ~ to blow in (vs. Gauff)

next thing

Dennis was always looking for the ~ (music)

Chubby Bunny was a thing

I started doing it back when that game ~

became quite a thing

that haircut then ~ people wanted after that film

♦ This echoes the old cliché, "The next big thing..."

♦ If something is "having a moment," then it is a "thing." "X" is having a moment." "Really? I didn't know that was a thing."

♦ "Whatever Happened To... That Guy Who wanted to Make Quinoa A 'Thing' in Rwanda?" by Malaka Gharib, GOATS AND SODA, NPR, August 27, 2018.

♦ Rachel Martin: "All right, I don't know about you, Noel, but I got a Christmas card in the mail at the end of January, and my son's Valentine card from his grandmother still hasn't shown up." Noel King: "This is such a thing right now." Rachel Martin: "It is such a thing, the mail is very slow, and yesterday Congress..." (NPR, Morning Edition, Feb 25, 2021.)

♦ "So, I had no idea that this was a thing that was actually happening." (NPR.)

♦ "Do you remember that moment, when amazeballs was a thing?"

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: object**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: object**

**thing (the next big thing)**

the next big thing

he is tipped to be ~ in basketball (Zion Williamson)

apparently, it's the ~ (the metaverse)

Next Big Thing

the suckers who want to get in on the ~ (stocks)

♦ see also *new* (*orange is the new black, etc.*)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: object**  
**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: object**

## thing (one's thing)

my thing  
hockey is ~

**enthusiasm: object**

## think (groupthink, etc.)

doublethink  
see *doublethink* (*noun*)

groupthink  
see *groupthink* (*and herdthink, etc.*)

## think (I think, etc.)

I think absolutely  
~

I think absolutely it does  
~

I think it absolutely shows that  
yeah, ~... (punditry on NPR)

I think that it's clear that  
~ you know... (off on a tangent)

I think we should have a high level of confidence that  
~... (punditry on NPR)

I think what we do want to underscore is  
~ we do need to...

♦ It can be unclear if "I think" means "In my opinion" or "I'm not sure." This is a feature of NPR punditry. The effect is one of hedging one's bets and uncertainty. Listen to "Should the US worry that assistance to Ukraine could end up in the wrong hands?" NPR, Morning Edition, Feb 2, 2023, with NPR's Leila Fadel and Conor Savoy of the Center for Strategic and International Studies.)

**contempo-speak: filler**

## thin-skinned (adjective)

thin-skinned  
he is ~, prone to ill-advised eruptions  
he was abnormally ~ when it came to criticism  
writers can be ~

thin-skinned about criticism  
he is ~

**character & personality / feeling, emotion & effect:**  
**sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## thirst (quench one's thirst, etc.)

quench America's thirst  
Canada helps ~ for energy (oil exports)

♦ "He quenched the thirst of Los Angeles." (William Mulholland. Los Angeles had a need. That need happened to be, literally, water.)

**amelioration & renewal: food & drink / verb / water**

## thirst (noun)

thirst for energy  
Canada helps quench America's ~ (oil exports)

thirst for knowledge  
his collection hinted at his ~

thirst for revenge  
the suicide bombers are driven by a ~  
a ~, religious zeal and dreams of glory (suicide bombers)

thirst for oil and gas  
China has a bottomless ~

thirst for the vulgar and obscene  
our ~ seems unquenchable (US)

America's thirst  
Canada helps quench ~ for energy (oil exports)

ever-increasing thirst  
the world's ~ for oil

bottomless thirst  
China has a ~ for oil and gas

quench (America's) thirst  
Canada helps ~ for energy (oil exports)

♦ A thirst trap is an online picture that makes you look sexy.

**consumption / wants, needs, hopes & goals: food & drink / water**

## thirsty (adjective)

thirsty for change  
people are ~ (politics)

thirsty for knowledge  
they're really ~ and to pull themselves ahead (education)

thirsty for glowy, healthy skin  
everyone is ~

thirsty for yield  
investors are ~ (municipal bonds)

thirsty for parties and social gatherings  
people were very ~ (Seoul Halloween crowd crush)

♦ "I can be thirsty over a guy." (Deaf activist Raven Sutton.)

**consumption / wants, needs, hopes & goals: food & drink / water**

## thorn (noun)

thorn of terrorism  
the ~ has been removed today (killing of al-Zarqawi)

thorn in (Polish-Soviet) relations  
the massacre has been a ~ for decades (Katyn Forests)

thorn in our side  
Samarra has been a little bit of a ~ (military)

thorn in Mr. Bush's side  
he is a ~ (Al Gore)

thorn in Austria's side

Bavaria was particularly to prove a ~

♦ You don't harvest grapes from planting thorns. (Arab proverb.)

**affliction: plant / sensation**

## thorny (adjective)

thorny issue

~s remain a source of tension (diplomacy)

thorny problem

curbing online hatred is a ~ (in the US)

thorny topic

the president tackled the ~ of immigration

**affliction: plant / sensation**

**flaws & lack of flaws: plant / sensation**

## thoroughbred (noun)

performance of (true) thoroughbreds

this was a ~ (Liverpool 5 Man U 0)

**worth & lack of worth / superlative: horse**

## thrall (noun)

in a strange thrall

Machhapuchhare's pinnacle held me in a ~

in thrall to enterprise technologies

newsrooms are already ~...

**feeling, emotion & effect: magic**

## thrash (Nicole is thrashing the Bahamas, etc.)

thrashing the Bahamas

Nicole is ~ (the named hurricane)

**storm: force**

## thrash (verb)

thrashed Saudi Arabia

Russia ~ (World Cup soccer)

**conflict: verb / violence / whip**

## thrashed

thrashed

they waved their flags in defiance as their team was ~

**conflict: violence / whip**

## thrashing

handed out a thrashing

Liverpool ~ (Liverpool 5, Manchester United 0)

**conflict: violence / whip**

## thread (connection)

thread

the ~ connecting doctrine and tactics is training

thread in a tapestry

the new law is the latest ~ of laws stigmatizing...

common thread

we found a ~ between the two accidents

in some places, suicides seem to have root causes or ~s

narrative thread

the ~ can get lost (procedure and Congressional hearings)

vivid threads

several ~ run through their narratives (stories of grief)

knits together many threads

the story ~ of Muslim grievances (suicide bomber)

unravel the threads

we can't let them ~ of our democracy (Mazie Hirono)

**division & connection: cloth**

## thread (investigation)

thread

so now there was a ~, and we started pulling on it (murder)

threads to this thing

there are so many ~ (Kent State killings)

dangling thread

the tapes were a ~ to connect us back to 1965 (murder)

followed the thread

we ~ and began to unravel the case (tapes of old trial)

we ~ and unraveled a strange and illuminating story

pulled on this thread

we ~ to take us back to 1965 (old tapes of trial)

pulled on the thread

we ~ and realized it was woven into the fabric of life then

**searching & discovery: cloth**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: cloth**

## thread (verb)

threaded itself into the fabric

the gang has ~ of the village

**division & connection: cloth / verb**

## thread (a trail can thread, etc.)

thread the Alpine mountains and valleys

hiking trails ~ (Switzerland)

**fictive motion: cloth / verb**

## thread (by a thread)

hanging on by a thread

we were ~ (money problems and bills)

hanging on to my job by a thread

I'm ~

hang by a thread

their hopes of advancing ~ (tournament)

hanging by a thread  
his career is ~

♦ Atropos was the Greek goddess of fate and destiny who cut the thread of people's lives, thus ending them. In Dante's *Inferno*, Friar Alberigo explains that "So privileged is this rim / of Ptolomea, that often souls fall to it / before dark Atropos has cut their thread." (Translated by John Ciardi.)

♦ In 1970 the German born Karl Wallenda walked across the Tallulah Gorge in northern Georgia (the US state, not the country) on a high wire. He performed 2 handstands—one in honor of the US troops in Vietnam—as 30,000 men, women and children looked on. When he reached the end of the walk, his wife handed the 65-year-old Wallenda a martini.

♦ "I am interested to inspire people to uplift their soul and to look at the sky and say 'Wow, I can move mountains now, nothing is impossible' so that's why I love what I do... I never leave anything to chance and I have weaved this safety net in my head for the past 55 years. So I value life too much to risk my life and I do something I think much more inspiring and noble, I don't risk my life, I carry my life across." (The remarkable high-wire artist Philippe Petit.)

**fate, fortune & chance: cloth**

## thread (lose the thread)

lost the thread  
I've ~ of your argument...

**failure, accident & impairment: cloth / verb**

## threadbare (adjective)

almost threadbare  
his campaign is ~ (presidential election)

**money / condition & status / sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: cloth / clothing & accessories**

## threaten (verb)

threaten to erode  
divisions ~ France's tradition of equality (Muslims)

threatens South with (severe) thunderstorms  
Christmas week storm ~

threaten the (economic and cultural) health  
problems that ~ (reindeer people)

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

## threshold (cross the threshold)

crossed the threshold into a new dimension  
Sputnik ~

crossed a threshold to extinction  
lizards have already ~ (global warming)

**portal: doors & thresholds / verb**

## threshold (below the threshold)

live below the (poverty) threshold  
75 percent of adults ~ of \$1 a day (World Bank)

**measurement: doors & thresholds**

## threshold (on the threshold)

on the threshold of their futures

they were literally ~ (guy kills his girlfriend)

**proximity: doors & thresholds**

## threshold (portal)

threshold to the grave  
nursing homes are viewed as the ~

**portal: doors & thresholds**

## threshold (measurement)

threshold for lead poisoning  
lead levels in their blood were four times the ~

threshold of old age  
typically 60 or 65 years is considered the ~

threshold of \$1 a day  
75 percent live below the World Bank's poverty ~

epidemic threshold  
the number of weekly cases exceeded the ~ of 237

panic threshold  
their ~ is higher... (solo sailors don't panic easily)

poverty threshold  
75 percent live below the World Bank's ~ of \$1 a day

below the threshold  
help keep tensions between nations ~ of conflict

low (pain) threshold  
if you have a ~, don't get a tattoo at the base of your spine

lower threshold  
a ~ for admission should be considered (the elderly)

four times the threshold  
lead levels in their blood were ~ for lead poisoning

threshold is reached  
salt added to water will dissolve until a ~

exceeds a threshold  
if the level ~ set by the system...

lower the (seizure) threshold  
the drugs ~ and should be used cautiously

**measurement: doors & thresholds**

## thrive (verb)

thrived at the company  
he ~

thrive under (enormous) pressure  
some people are able to ~ (jobs)

thrives on sensationalism  
the media ~

**growth & development: plant / verb**

## throat (Devil's Throat, etc.)

Devil's Throat

~ is a must (Iguazu Falls)

**proper name: throat**

## throat (resemblance)

shredder throat

insert paper into the ~ (paper shredder)

insert paper into the (shredder) throat

~ (paper shredder)

**resemblance / shape: throat**

## throat (ram something down the throat)

ram the reform down our throats

the government tried to ~

ramming Utd down everyone's throat

the BBC really are ~ again, totally impartial (sarcasm)

**consumption / oppression: throat / verb**

## throat (predation)

been at each other's throats

they had just ten days previously ~

going for your throat

this isn't a joke, she's ~

**conflict: animal / predation / throat**

## throat (jump down someone's throat)

she jumped down my throat

~ when I told her...

♦ "I would probably dump Twitter tomorrow if it weren't a situation where people I work for are just so down-your-throat about social media as a means of promoting your product." (Alec Baldwin.)

**accusation & criticism / speech: throat / verb**

## throes (death throes)

in its death throes

the once-mighty iceberg A68a looks to be ~ (splitting up)

**condition & status: death & life / health & medicine**

## throne (Blondie's Throne, etc.)

Blondie's Throne

~ is a flowstone (Marvel Cave, Missouri)

Devils Throne

~ is a summit in Idaho

Vulcans Throne

~ is a summit in Mohave County, Arizona

Vulcan's Throne

~ is a cinder cone volcano (Grand Canyon)

Great White Throne

the ~ is in Zion National park, Utah

**proper name: royalty**

## throne (power)

contenders to the throne

there are many ~ (to replace sick leader)

power behind the (home-video) throne

he is a ~ (DVD producer)

**power: royalty**

## throne (in line for the throne)

in line for the throne

she is ~ (a fashion designer)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty**

## throne (pretender to the throne)

pretender to the throne of (champion) Jack Dempsey

he is the French heavyweight ~

chief pretender to the throne

he reigns as king, or at least ~ (sportswriter of a horse)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty**

## throne (primacy)

challenger to their throne

the Celtics rebuffed a ~ (sports)

contender for Nadal's throne

he has established himself as a ~ (tennis)

perch atop the throne

he may soon lose his ~ (a baseball pitcher)

regained his throne

Humpty Dumpty has ~ (the egg as a healthy product)

yielded the throne

the old guard has ~ (world soccer)

knocked off the throne

he has been ~ (a tennis player)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty**

## throttle (full throttle, etc.)

full-throttle defense

he has launched a ~ against charges that...

full-throttle dissent

such ~ is unparalleled (Japan and Olympics)

at full throttle

he starts every day ~, slowing only for naps (toddler)

in full throttle

when he's in front of a crowd, he's ~ mode (musician)

the presidential campaigns are ~

campaign full-throttle

candidates ~ before election day

**functioning: engine / mechanism**

**commitment & determination: engine / mechanism**

## throughout (time)

throughout the day  
~ of 24 June 1807...

throughout this time  
we will do that as long as is necessary ~ (investigation)

♦ In every place...

**time: place / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## throw (throw oneself into something)

threw herself into piano lessons  
she ~

threw herself into renovating  
she ~ the space (art gallery)

**absorption & immersion / commitment & determination / involvement: throwing, putting & planting / verb / water**

## throw (throw it all, etc.)

threw it all at the wall  
see *wall (throw something at a wall)*

threw everything at it  
we ~, search teams, dogs, aerial units, the whole nine (cops)

throwing everything at it  
Shapovalov is still ~ (a tennis match)

**commitment & determination: throwing, putting & planting / verb**

## throw (accusations, etc.)

throw more darts  
he logged back in to ~

threw accusations at each other  
they ~

**throwing, putting & planting: arm / verb**

## throwback (noun)

throwback to the past  
when he talks about crime, it can sound like a ~

throwback to an earlier time  
the carousel is a ~ (Mansfield, Ohio)  
he is a ~

throwback to the 1890s  
Dawson City is a ~

throwback boxer  
Usyk is a proper ~ (praise after victory)

vaudeville throwback  
a U.S.O. tour is a raunchy ~ (US military)

**past & present / time: direction**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction**

## thrown out (dismissed)

thrown out of court  
he is seeing to get the criminal case ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation: arm  
throwing, putting & planting: arm**

## thrown out (cast)

thrown out in the heat of passion  
threats are often ~

**throwing, putting & planting: arm**

## throw out (verb)

threw out the (rape) conviction  
the court ~ of...

threw him out  
her father ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation: arm / verb  
throwing, putting & planting: arm / verb**

## throw up

see *retch (and puke, vomit, throw up)*

## thrum (verb)

thrummed with the promise  
Shanghai ~ of glamorous, fast-paced living

**activity: movement / sound / verb**

## thrust (verb)

thrust him into the (national) spotlight  
his heroics ~

**throwing, putting and planting: mechanism / verb**

## thrust

thrust into the spotlight  
I was ~ (Miss USA and the Haiti earthquake)

**throwing, putting and planting: mechanism**

## thumb (Devils Thumb, etc.)

Thumb Point  
looking south toward ~ (USCG Station, Ft. Pierce, FL)

Devils Thumb  
the ~ is a striking summit on the Alaska-BC border  
the NW face of the ~ has never been climbed  
the NW face of the ~ rises from the Witches Cauldron  
the NW face of the ~ is 6,700 feet

Devil's Thumb  
are pets allowed at ~ Ranch Resort & Spa (Colorado)

Broken Thumb  
the ~ is a vanadium and uranium mine in Colorado

**proper name: hand / thumb**

## thumb (under the thumb)

under the thumb of a Stalinist regime  
the people of Basra are ~

under her father's thumb  
back ~

**oppression: hand / thumb**

## thumbs-down

thumbs-down on the proposal  
stockholders turned ~

**judgment: direction / gesture / hand / sign, signal, symbol / thumb**

## thumbs-up

thumbs-up  
the spectacle gets a ~

thumbs-up from a podcast host  
he got a ~ with 7 million subscribers (a politician)

thumbs-up reviews  
the technology is getting largely ~ (computers)

**achievement, recognition & praise / judgment: gesture / hand / sign, signal, symbol / thumb**

## thunder (sound)

thunder of ice  
the ~ going out (spring ice-out)

muffled thunder  
the ~ of their horses' hooves

drowned out by the thunder  
informed voices were ~ of the partisan lynch mob

**resemblance / sound: lightning / storm**

## thunder (steal thunder, etc.)

steal our thunder  
it will ~ (a double wedding)

steal much thunder  
it was a tough weekend for a tennis player to ~

stolen so much of baseball's thunder  
the NFL has ~ (viewership and interest)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound / storm**

## thunder (speech)

thundered that  
he ~ God was the answer (a rally)

**resemblance / speech: sound / storm / verb**

## thunderbolt (noun)

hurled thunderbolts  
he ~ at his own party (a politician)

**accusation & criticism: lightning / storm**

## thunderclap (noun)

thunderclap  
when a 16-year-old was killed, it was a ~ (gangs)

thunderclap surprise  
we shall seize the bridges with ~ (*A Bridge Too Far*)

legal thunderclap  
a ~

served as a thunderclap  
the new analysis ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound / storm**

## thunderstruck (adjective)

thunderstruck  
we were ~ (by Arctic fox's epic trek)

thunderstruck with surprise  
I'm sure the Germans will be ~ (Market Garden / WWII)

thunderstruck by what  
he was ~ he heard

**feeling, emotion & effect: electricity / lightning / sound / storm**

## thunderous (adjective)

thunderous explosion  
~s shook buildings (war)

♦ "Your silence is thunderous."

**resemblance / sound: storm**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## ticket (and punch one's ticket, etc.)

ticket to doing everything  
pursuing nursing was my ~ that I want to do

ticket to a new life  
their Jewish heritage offers a ~ (in Israel / NPR)

ticket to obscurity  
historically the vice presidency has been a ~

ticket to success  
the Internet can be your ~ (online degrees)

ticket to the top  
it's your ~ (a job offer)

ticket to transition  
trainers are the ~ (military trainers to Afghans)

ticket out of the pandemic  
the vaccine is their ~, why do they reject it

ticket out of poverty  
it was her ~ (new career as technical writer)

ticket home  
that pain is your ~, you should be grateful (combat injury)

get our tickets punched  
we all hoped to ~ for Germany (instead of Vietnam / war)

handed Tampa a ticket  
the penalty ~ to the Super Bowl (NFL)

punched her ticket  
she recently ~ to Tokyo (qualified)

punched their ticket  
The Avalanche have already ~ to the final by beating...

see boxing as a ticket  
many Indian girls ~ to a middle-class life (India)

seized the (golden) ticket  
they have ~ (viruses that hop to humans)

♦ "Now me, I graduated high school in 1988, got my college degree in 1993, and that college degree in '93 did not mean as much, it was not a ticket, it was not a voucher, it was not a free pass go to anything, so I ask the question, what does your college degree mean?" (The great actor Mathew McConaughey from his terrific University of Houston speech, Jan 7, 2016.)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: ticket**  
**cost & benefit: ticket**

### tick on (and tick by)

minutes ticked by  
as the ~...

time ticks on  
Brazil are starting to lose hope as the ~ (World Cup)

**starting, going, continuing & ending / time: clock / movement / sound / verb**

### tick-tock (noun)

tick-tock of events  
tell us how this all happened, what the ~ was

minute-to-minute tick tock  
I don't have the ~ (press briefing on a SOF raid)

tick tick tick  
~, the escalation of this crisis continues

♦ "Is there any info about how this all happened, what the tick-tock of events was?" (Heard on National Public Radio.)

**starting, going, continuing & ending / time: clock / movement / sound**

### tidal wave (in a tidal wave)

in a tidal wave of (voter) discontent  
Democrats lost control of Congress ~

drown in a tidal wave  
he has been trying not to ~ of evictions (lawyer for poor)

swept away in a tidal wave  
their aboriginal rights were ~ of development

**amount & effect: sea / wave**

### tidal wave (other)

tidal wave of calls  
a ~ to 911 (due to prevalence of cellphones)

tidal wave of (criminal) charges  
the ~ and civil lawsuits (priest abuse)

tidal wave of (Muslim) immigrants  
the ~ arrive from India (Karachi)

tidal wave of data and information  
computers are creating a ~

propaganda tidal wave  
the shameless ~ of the mainstream media (culture wars)

face a tidal wave  
parents ~ of pressure (from kids for sexualized products)

**amount & effect: sea / wave**

### tide (on a tide)

on a tide of discontent  
he was swept into office ~

on a tide of (anti-Washington) sentiment  
state lawmakers are capitalizing ~

on a tide of (military) success  
he was elected ~

on a tide of goodwill and emotion  
the team is riding ~ (Iraqi national soccer team)

**amount & effect: sea / tide**

### tide (turn the tide, etc.)

tide is turning  
the ~ in the war  
the ~ against insurgents in the province

tide turning  
is the ~ towards impeachment for President Trump

turned the tide  
in 1943, the Allies ~ (war in Europe)

turn this tide back  
we must do whatever we can to ~ (CIA and communism)

turned the tide in the fight  
countries that have successfully ~ against HIV

turned the tide of battle  
Capt. Rubio's singularly heroic act ~

turned the tide of the war  
the Russians had ~ (Kursk, 1943)  
trucks and tanks and airplanes ~ (Russian industrialization)

successfully turned the tide  
countries that have ~ in the fight against HIV

**development / reversal: sea / tide / verb**

## tide (buck the tide)

buck the tide

he was an iconoclast, willing to ~ (doctor)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: sea / tide / verb**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: sea / tide / verb**

## tide (rising tide)

rising tide

~ of Arab and Islam bashing in America

the ~ of Internet retail mania

on Wall Street, though, a ~ lifts many boats

prescription drugs are being linked to a ~ of problems

he claims free trade is a ~ that will lift all boats

the ~ of gentrification (Miami Beach and sea-level rise)

**amount & effect / increase & decrease: sea / tide / water / wave**

## tide (stem the tide, etc.)

slow the tide

what needs to be done to ~ of immigration

resist the tide

few politicians have done more to ~ of progress

stem the tide of junk mail

we must ~

stem the tide of divorce

measures to ~

stem the tide of foreclosures

little can be done to ~

stem the tide of questions

he had struggled to ~ (minister forced to resign)

stem the tide of suicide

how can we ~ (doctors)

stem the tide of scandals

the NCAA wants to ~ (sports)

**amelioration & renewal: sea / tide / verb**

## tide (other)

tide of anticommunism

as the ~ rose in postwar America (W.W.II)

tide of filth

publication of the letters drenched him in a ~ (a writer)

tide of immigration

what needs to be done to slow the ~

tide of migrants

a swelling ~ is moving into South Africa (Zimbabweans)

tide of optimism

a new ~ was already sweeping across our land

tide of tourism

the ~ cannot be stemmed (the Arctic)

tide of (Arab and Islam) bashing

the rising ~ in America

changing tide

both countries are worried about the ~ of politics (Gulf)

rising (democratic) tide

there is a ~ in the region (for reform)

swelling tide

a ~ of migrants is moving into South Africa

democratic tide

there is a rising ~ in the region (for reform)

populist tide

the ~ is not ebbing (2020 US election)

viral tide

the book got swept up in a ~ (The Atlas Six)

tide is not ebbing

the populist ~ (2020 US election)

tide (of anticommunism) rose

as the ~ in postwar America (World War II)

tide is running against him

the political ~

swelled the (pilgrim) tide

a growing population ~ (the Middle Ages)

swept up by the tide

they have been ~ of domestic technology

swept away on a tide

agrarian England was ~ of industrialization

♦ At low tide, the 33-island nation of Kiribati can be three times larger than at high tide! Believe it or not...

♦ "One becomes aware, at times of tides, onrushing and receding, mountainous and terrible, and all the water motions in between, down to the shallows' ripple, moving not only through oceans but through nations..." (The preface to *The Mohawk* by Codman Hislop. The book is about the river, and it is just one of the series "Rivers of America." Nowadays, kids in school get fed a steady diet of YA fiction.)

**amount & effect / movement: sea / tide / water**

## tie (verb)

tied him to the gang

police ~

**division & connection: rope / verb**

## tied (constraint)

tied to his job

he is ~

closely tied

Moldova is ~ to Moscow

**attachment / constraint & lack of constraint / division & connection: rope**

## tier (hierarchy)

top tier

he is in the ~ of Hollywood directors

top tier candidate

this looked like the rally of a ~ (presidential candidate)

third-tier cities

writers are popping up in ~ (China)

third- or fourth-tier

the ~ cities of China are no longer cultural wastelands

**hierarchy: direction / position**

## tie together (verb)

tie the two crashes together

the FAA was waiting to ~

**division & connection: rope / verb**

## tiger (tiger mother, etc.)

tiger on the campaign trail

he was a real ~, you couldn't stop him (a politician)

tiger mother

and you thought the ~ was tough (Amy Chua / strict)

**epithet: animal / tiger**

**character & personality / behavior: epithet**

## tiger (Arkan's Tigers, etc.)

El Tigre

Azcarraga was nicknamed ~ (Emilio Azcarraga)

Tiger of Mysore

Tipu Sultan, also known as the ~

Arkan's Tigers

~ fought in Croatia and Bosnia (Yugoslav Wars)

Flying Tigers

the ~ of Claire Lee Chennault (US / WW II)

Tamil Tigers

the ~ of Jaffna (LTTE)

♦ "Everywhere within and about the palace, evidence met the eye or ear of [Tippoo's] depraved and sanguinary tastes. His name meant tiger; he called his soldiers his tigers of war; and the tigers of the Indian jungles were his pets, and often his executioners—for the attendant that offended him, or the prisoner that was brought into his presence, was not unfrequently turned into a barred room, or large cage, where the savage animals were let loose upon him. Near the door of his treasury an enormous tiger had been found chained. There were other tigers in the edifice, and so numerous as to give some trouble to Colonel Wellesley. / They became the subject of a postscript to the first letter written by Colonel Wellesley to his commander-in-chief after succeeding Baird in the command within the town and fort. / 'There are some tigers here,' says the colonel, 'which I wish Meer Alum would send for; or else I must give orders to have them shot, as there is no food for them, and nobody to attend them, and they are getting violent.'" (*History of India* by Charles Macfarlane. "Tippoo's Cruelties." The Battle of Seringapatam, 1799. Colonel Wellesley would go on to use the military skills he developed in India to force the French out of the Iberian Peninsula in the Peninsular War and ultimately defeat Napoleon at Waterloo in 1815.)

**military: epithet**

**epithet: animal**

## tiger (noun)

tiger

Pakistan couldn't get down from the ~ it rode

the street is a ~, you must be careful (children)

paper tiger

see *paper tiger*

dangerous tiger

religion is a very ~ to ride in international politics

tribal tiger

it takes temerity to want to ride the ~ in Yemen

♦ "He who rides the tiger can never dismount."

♦ "Dictators ride to and fro upon tigers which they dare not dismount. And the tigers are getting hungry." (Winston Churchill.)

♦ "To have a tiger by the tail" or to "ride a tiger" is similar in meaning to "hold a wolf by the ears."

♦ "The street is a tiger, you must be careful of it." (Educational materials of the Little Teacher Movement, circa 1947, in Shanghai. Mentioned by Santha Rama Rau in her wonderful book *East of Home*.)

♦ "The majority of tigers are bagged with the aid of elephants... / The call of a tigress in search of a mate cannot be described in words." (*Man-Eaters of Kumaon* by Jim Corbett, Introduction by Sir Maurice Hallett, Preface by Lord Linlithgow (Viceroy of India 1936-1943). It is a wonderful account of hunting actual man-eating tigers. The Jim Corbett National Park is in Uttarakhand. Tigers live there.)

♦ In the Sundarbans, some who go into the jungle wear the mask of a human face on the back of their heads, to deter a tiger attack from behind.

♦ Vladivostok celebrates Amur Tiger Day in late September. Children enjoy dressing up as tigers. However, tigers have been known to venture into the suburbs of the city.

♦ "Tigers are gods, who protect ginseng from men." (*Dersu Uzala* by V. K. Arseniev.)

♦ "To the Lord Tiger who dwelleth in the Forest and the Mountains. In ancient days, in the time of the Khan dynasty, He saved the state. Today his Spirit brings happiness to man." (An inscription at a shrine in the Sihoté Alin mountains, noticed by Dersu Uzala and V. K. Arseniev.)

♦ "There are always a few tigers roaming about Singapore, and they kill on an average a Chinaman every day, principally those who work in the gambir plantations, which are always made in newly-cleared jungle..." (*The Malay Archipelago* by Alfred Russel Wallace.)

♦ According to a BBC article, a tiger is able to leap 33 feet forward from a seated position.

♦ Tiger Leaping Gorge is 82 feet wide at its narrowest, with a rock in the middle of the river. Legend has it the gorge got its name from a hunted tiger, who leapt across the river, using the rock, to escape hunters. It is a lovely legend for a spectacular place.

♦ "Well, we're really just getting the first paw swipes of Ida here on St. Charles Avenue in New Orleans. Light rain, blustery wind, a big slate-grey sky..." (NPR reports on a hurricane.)

♦ "I got the eye of the tiger, a fighter, dancing through the fire, 'cause I am a champion, and you're gonna hear me roar." (Lyrics of the song "Roar" sung by Katy Perry.)

♦ "He found himself with a tiger by the tail." (Al Pacino with the actress Tuesday Weld.)

♦ "Anthony Joshua has never had the eye of the tiger." (Boxing snark.)

**control & lack of control / danger: animal / tiger**

## tight (money)

tight

things are rather ~ (lack of money to pay bills)

wages are stagnant, jobs scarce, and credit ~

♦ "One dollar and eighty-seven cents. That was all. And sixty cents of it was in pennies. Pennies saved one and two at a time by bulldozing the grocer and the vegetable man and the butcher until one's cheeks burned with the silent imputation of parsimony that such close dealing implied." (The beginning of "The Gift of the Magi" by O. Henry. One of the greatest love stories ever written. To this day people put pennies on the grave of its author in Riverside Cemetery, Asheville, North Carolina, USA.)

**money: sensation**

**amount: money**

## tight (relationship)

tight with her family

even friends who were ~ began to shun her

**division & connection / feeling, emotion & effect / relationship / social interaction: distance / proximity**

## tight (constraint)

tighter

space is ~ in ships and submarines (pandemic)

security is tight

~ in Washington, DC (for an inauguration)

**constraint & lack of constraint: pressure**

## tighten (tighten control, etc.)

tightening its control

China is ~ of vital minerals

tightened controls

Germany ~ over livestock feed (dioxin scare)

tighten (immigration) laws

many campaigned to ~ (elections)

tighten oversight

we must ~ of the industry

tighten lending

banks continue to ~

**increase & decrease: pressure / verb**

## tight-knit

tight-knit community

the ~

tight-knit network

a ~ of family and clan protected him (Saddam)

♦ "The Perth football community is tight-knitted (BBC.)"

**division & connection / relationship: cloth**

## tight-lipped (adjective)

tight-lipped about any leads

police have been ~

tight-lipped about the plan

they remained ~

**speech: mouth**

**concealment & lack of concealment: gesture / speech**

## tightrope (fate)

tightropes in politics

it's one of the hardest ~ to walk now (abortion issue)

diplomatic tightrope

the US is walking a ~

rhetorical tightrope

no one walks a ~ as deftly as Dave Chappelle (comedian)

walk this tightrope

they have to ~ of how much change they can change

walked his nation across an incredibly narrow tightrope

he ~ in 1944 (Carl Gustav Mannerheim of Finland)

♦ see also *high wire (fate)*

♦ In 1970 the German-born Karl Wallenda walked across the Tallulah Gorge in northern Georgia (the US state, not the country) on a high wire. He performed 2 handstands—one in honor of the US troops in Vietnam—as 30,000 men, women and children looked on. When he reached the end of the walk, his wife handed the 65-year-old Wallenda a martini.

♦ "I am interested to inspire people to uplift their soul and to look at the sky and say 'Wow, I can move mountains now, nothing is impossible' so that's why I love what I do... I never leave anything to chance and I have weaved this safety net in my head for the past 55 years. So I value life too much to risk my life and I do something I think much more inspiring and noble, I don't risk my life, I carry my life across." (The remarkable high-wire artist Philippe Petit.)

**fate, fortune & chance: circus**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: circus**

## tilt (world-title tilt, etc.)

world-title tilt

Benn is a handful of fights away from a ~ (boxing)

**competition / conflict: history / Middle Ages**

## tilt (tilt towards, etc.)

tilting towards the West

once in Moscow's orbit, Moldova has been ~ recently

**attraction & repulsion: astronomy**

## Timbuktu (remoteness)

Asia's Timbuktu

~, Ulan Bator

FSB TIMBUKTU

WELCOME TO ~, HOME OF THE 12TH CAVALRY

from here to Timbuktu

it's a question that has been asked ~ (about women)

♦ "From Here To Timbuktu: Myth And Reality At The World's Edge" by Scott Neuman (NPR, World, January 29, 2013) is a very nice report on a place that is "still a byword for the end of the earth."

♦ "In crossing the desert, I perceived, at a distance, immense tracts, which had the appearance of rivers or lakes, with islands of sand rising in the midst of them; they presented themselves to the eye, in the horizon of the desert, as places where one might quench one's thirst... This illusion only rendered my situation more dreadful, when I was consumed with thirst, and saw the sea receding before me as by enchantment. It is impossible to form any correct idea of a *mirage* without have seen one." (*Travels Through Central Africa To Timbuctoo; and Across The Great Desert, to Morocco; Performed in the Years 1824-1828* by Rene Caillie.)

♦ "60 feet in depth; the water brackish, unwholesome, abundant." "1 foot; water brackish." "3 or 4 feet; water brackish and abundant." "Wells sometimes dry." "7 or 8 feet; water very salt and bad." "7 or 8 feet; water muddy, salt, but not bad." "4 feet; water sweet, but in small quantity." "Excellent water." "Shallow." "Tolerably good water." "4 or 5 feet; water very salt and bad." "7 or 8 feet; water clear and delicious." "From 20 to 25 feet; water good." "The water is taken up by hand; it is abundant and good." ("Depth of the wells, and quality of the water, *Geographical Remarks and Inquiries Concerning the Travels of M. Caillie in Central Africa*, by M. Jomard, Third part of the Travels. These are wells M. Caillie used on his trip from Timbuctoo to Morocco.)

**isolation & remoteness: epithet / ground, terrain & land**

## time (buy time, etc.)

bought us time

the lockdown ~ (pandemic)

bought us (some) time

it ~ but we didn't use it wisely (travel ban / pandemic)

buying time

so basically we were ~ (astronauts face death)

buy some time

the Strategic National Stockpile can ~ (pandemic supplies)

**time: money / verb**

## time (spend time)

spent the night on cots

about 20 people ~ (tornado survivors)

spent a day in combat

the academic professional who has never ~

spent weeks in the hospital

she ~ recuperating

spent 19 days in jail

she ~

spent the night in the (dining hall) lodge

they ~ (climbers)

spent years in exile

they ~ in Iran (Hakims / Iraq)

spent 29 years in the Navy

Ms. Evans ~

spent years in school

I ~ studying a foreign language

spent less time at high altitude

I'd ~ (Everest)

spent a few hours with Hani Shukrallah

I ~

spent eight months (in jail) awaiting

he ~ until...

spent three years building

I just ~ this (an inn destroyed in flood)

spent (most of) his (adult) life climbing

he has ~

spent about two hours digging

the group ~ the cave by hand (climbers)

spent about 15 minutes examining

the trauma team ~ the boy

spend several weeks feeling

I ~ incredibly guilty about the situation

spent the afternoon hiking

we ~

spent the afternoon and early evening paddling

we ~ (sea-kayaking)

spent endless hours practicing

she ~ basketball (SuAnne Big Crow)

spent three hours removing

surgeons ~ the arrow (hunting accident)

spent a week searching

police ~ the area

spent their 77-hour ordeal standing

the miners ~, wet (trapped)

spent three months studying

he ~ English in Santa Monica

spend the last four years studying

he has ~ oceanography

spent the evening talking

they ~

spent his career training

he ~ young men and women for war

spent a lot of time trying

I ~ to fix it

spend days waiting

they can ~ in line (Chinese truck drivers / coal)

spent the morning watching

I ~ TV

spent his life working

having ~ in hospitals...

spent six hours working

he ~ on the framework (space-station spacewalk)

spent several years working

he ~ at a restaurant

spent most of my time rock climbing

At 20 I ~ (Reinhold Messner)

spent the day sightseeing

he ~ on the Las Vegas Strip

spent her (two) pregnancies nauseated and vomiting

she ~

spend (Monday) night

I'll ~ someplace outside of Washington (trip)

♦ "Spend the night, not a fortune." (A sign for the Scenic View Motel, Bryson City, North Carolina.)

**time: money / verb**

### **time (cost time, etc.)**

cost drivers 15 minutes  
construction delays on I-15 ~

**time: money**

### **time (have time)**

have (much) time  
we don't ~ (facing a deadline)

**time: money / possession / verb**

### **time (time on one's side)**

on their side  
time is ~ (negotiation and diplomacy)  
the responders acted as if they had time ~ (Uvalde)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: direction / position**

**time: direction / position**

### **time (steal time, etc.)**

steal time  
I had to ~ away from the daily grind (to go climbing)

♦ "Friends are thieves of time."

**time: consumption / money / verb**

**possession: crime / verb**

### **time (give time)**

give her the (space and) time she needs  
it's important we ~ (a troubled woman)

**time: consumption / money / possession / verb**

**possession: verb**

### **time (a minute to spare, etc.)**

ten minutes to spare  
he called the attack off with ~ (President Trump)

**time: money / verb**

### **time (time has passed)**

time has passed  
it's a tradition whose ~  
the person remains, yet his ~ (*Life and Fate*)

time may have (already) passed  
it's a gimmick whose ~ (augmented reality phone app)

**future / past & present / time: direction / movement / verb**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / movement / verb**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: direction / movement / verb**

### **time (passage of time)**

passage of time

the curve relates forgetting to the ~  
the ~ has been on her mind lately (an aging actor)

**time: journeys & trips / movement**

### **time (borrowed time)**

borrowed time  
he was living on ~  
the building had been on ~ (collapsed)  
Morocco might be on ~ (World Cup / Qatar)

**time: consumption / money**

### **time (take your time, etc.)**

take your time  
don't hurry, ~

**time: consumption / speed**

### **time (take time, etc.)**

take time  
this will ~

**time: amount / consumption**

### **time (long time / short time)**

long time  
Biden has been around a ~ and has a lot of baggage  
I've been on the Doncic bandwagon for a ~ (basketball)

short time  
he arrived a ~ later

♦ see also *long (a long time, etc.)*

**time: amount / distance**

### **time (run out of time)**

running out of time  
we're ~ (press conference)  
in the new academic world, she's ~ (adjunct)  
my greatest fear is ~ (a filmmaker)

time is running out  
~ (negotiations)

♦ "Time was now Scott's most precious commodity, and time was running out." (*The Last Place on Earth* by Roland Huntford. It tells the story of Scott and Amundsen in Antarctica.)

**time: consumption / verb**

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: consumption / verb**

### **time (time left)**

sixty-four seconds left  
there were ~ on the clock (a football game)

**time: consumption**

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: consumption**

### **time (time where)**

see *where (time where)*

## time (make time)

making time to be here  
thank you for ~

**time: money / verb**

## time (find time)

find time for this  
you can make time, you can ~... (a doctor)

**time: money / verb**

## time (waste time)

wasting (too much) time  
we are ~

wasted (precious) time  
first responders ~ (Uvalde school shooting)

run the clock down  
all the Giants had to do now was ~ (NFL game)

♦ TWOT = Total waste of time

**time: consumption / money / verb**

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: consumption / verb  
action, inaction & delay: verb**

## time (lose time, etc.)

losing time  
come on, we're ~  
we're ~ (slow response to cholera epidemic in Angola)

lost (precious) years  
these young men ~ (released from prison)

gain or lose  
the atomic clock won't ~ a second in 20 million years

♦ "Space we can recover, time never... I may lose a battle, but I shall never lose a minute." (Attributed to Napoleon.)

**time: money / possession / verb**

## time (lost time)

make up lost time  
they needed to ~

**time: possession**

## time (use time)

use that last minute  
he wanted to ~ to score again (NFL football)

use their time  
candidates must decide how best to ~  
he studies how people ~ (a sociologist)

use their time on the job  
the surprising ways Americans ~

use it (very) wisely  
it bought us some time but we didn't ~ (mandate / COVID)

use their time wisely

prosecutor want to make sure they ~

**time: consumption / verb**

## time (the time can arrive or come, etc.)

the time has arrived  
~ to take a stand

the time has come  
~ to finish retreating, not one step back

my time will come  
~ (a defeated boxer, looking to his future)

new day has come  
a ~ (political optimism)

come and go  
see *come and go (time)*

♦ see also *strike (his hour had struck, etc.)*

**future / past & present / time: direction / movement / verb  
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning / timeliness &  
lack of timeliness: direction / movement / verb**

## time (it's time, etc.)

time  
if you have things to do, now is the ~ (hurricane)

it's (about) time  
~ we started tackling this

it's time to pay  
~ student athletes (universities)

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## time (space of time)

space of time  
how had Napoleon in so short a ~ been able to...

**time: place**

## time (time will tell)

time will tell  
whatever happens in the future, who knows, I guess ~

only time will tell  
that old journalist canard, ~ (what will happen in the future)

**fictive communication / future: speech**

**fate, fortune & chance: speech**

## time (in time / future)

in time  
we will recover, ~ (politics)

realize that in time  
he will come to ~

**future / time: container**

## time (past time)

past time for Americans to set aside myths

it's ~ about the Civil War and its aftermath

past time to stop them

coaches are killing kids and it's ~ (heat stroke, etc.)

past time to confront the realities

it's ~ (Civil War)

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**

### time (at the time, etc.)

at the time

this was normal ~

♦ At that place...

**time: place / prep, adv, adj, particle**

### time (over time)

over the last few decades

~, Ketchikan has moved from timber to tourism

over time

memories dim ~ (criminal cases)

~, the trail went cold (murder investigation)

♦ Over the last few miles...

**time: distance / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle**

### time (course of time)

in course of time

~ I came to know his sons

**time: distance / movement**

### time (time off)

took some time off

I ~ when I got sick

**time: consumption**

### time (dead time)

dead time

being aware of waiting is the most painful kind of ~

**time: death & life / movement**

### time (down time / activity)

down time

I don't usually do well with ~ (stays busy)

**activity / time: direction**

### time (window of time)

narrow window of time

the ship had a ~ to take out a ballistic missile

small window of time

we only have a ~ (to prosecute rape cases)

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: window**

### time (ahead of his time, etc.)

one step ahead

he was also kind of a visionary and ~ (Gregor Mendel)

ahead of his times

he was ~ (a comedian)

Gregor Mendel was ~ in the way he used math

ahead of her time

Betty Davis was ~ (the Funk and R&B singer)

she in many ways was so far ~ (Carson McCullers)

ahead of its time

the environmentalism was ~ (in an author's writings)

the anti-consumerism was ~ (Travis McGee character)

it was a horror ~ (the Bath bombing in Michigan)

centuries ahead of its time

the notion was ~ (fiction and the *Tale of Genji*)

♦ "Ahead of his time" and "before his time" have the same meaning, different conceptions of time. The former seems to represent the time queue, the latter the idea that "the future is forward" and moving towards us.

♦ "When we speak of artists as being 'ahead of their time,' we often mean that they were operating in a time, place or space that was not prepared for them, and wouldn't be prepared for years or decades to come. A very specific ache in the Connie Converse story is that she was ahead of her time, but by only minutes." ("Fugitive Desires" by Hanif Abdurraqib, *The New York Times Magazine*, August 14, 2022. Finely conceptualized and written.)

**future / time: prep, adv, adj, particle / position**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: prep, adv, adj, particle / position**

### time (before her time, etc.)

before his time

it makes you feel that Kaufman was slightly ~ (a 1980s TV pilot that was turned down)

♦ "Ahead of his time" and "before his time" have the same meaning,

♦ "Fore" means forward and "aft" is to the rear.

**past & present / time: prep, adv, adj, particle / position**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: prep, adv, adj, particle / position**

### time (behind the times)

behind the times

they said I was ~, a dinosaur (early critic of opioids)

**past & present / time: prep, adv, adj, particle / position**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: prep, adv, adj, particle / position**

### time (a man of his time, etc.)

man of his time

he definitely was a ~ (a writer who objectified women)

of course, he was a ~, slavery was a fact of life...

he was very much a ~ (supported eugenics)

his misogyny and racism were hardly unusual for a ~

product of a particular time

the Jerry Springer show is a ~...

women of that time

black ~ just knew they would have to forge on...

♦ Glyn Williams, naval historian: "There is the Cook, which is you say, is one of the great, supreme navigators, and that part of his reputation remains. But there are worries, there is an uneasiness among many I think today, particularly among the Pacific peoples, about the legacy of Cook. I think most white Australians, most white New Zealanders, would still see Cook as a kind of founding father, a hero, almost an iconic figure, but the Maori, Aborigines, Hawaiians, many of those see a very different Cook, a despoiler, a destructive force." / Greg Dyke: "You have to place him in context, you have to place him in time, and what he did at the time was amazing." (Captain James Cook, BBC, Sounds, Great Lives, December 2002.)

♦ "That's the way I think history should be written. As if you were living in that time. It's totally unfair to look at it from 150-odd years later and pass judgment on what those people did without knowing what their values were and what the laws were, even. It's what causes an awful lot of misunderstanding, trying to apply a different set of standards to a different nation, really." (The great Civil War writer Shelby Foote.)

♦ "You will remember I was not a Sweet Girl Graduate of a Library School. I was a Scholar and Frontiersman and a Two-fisted He-Person and that I went to the roots of that Sissy Library and made it, within two years, an Institution of Character, a He-Library, of which we were all proud." (Charles Lummis, the head librarian of the Los Angeles Public Library, quoted in the wonderful *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean, author of *The Orchid Thief*, who correctly and rightly gives full credit to that remarkable character in the evolution of the library.)

♦ "As appears from his name, Oppenheimer is a Jew, but entirely without the usual qualifications of his race. He is a tall, well set-up young man, with a rather engaging diffidence of manner, and I think you need have no hesitation whatever for any reason of this sort in considering his application." (Percy Bridgman's letter of recommendation to Rutherford's lab at Cambridge for J. Robert Oppenheimer. As the authors correctly and rightly note, Bridgman's words were "not unusual for that time and place." From *American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer* by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin.)

♦ "We are told that Columbus was no worse than the men of his race and generation—that his vices were 'those of his time.' No vices are peculiar to any time; this world has been vicious from the dawn of history, and every race has reeked with sin. To say of a man that he is like his contemporaries is to say that he is a scoundrel without excuse. The virtues are accessible to all. Athens was vicious, yet Socrates was virtuous. Rome was corrupt, but Marcus Aurelius was not corrupt. To offset Nero the gods gave Seneca. When literary France groveled at the feet of the third Napoleon Hugo stood erect." ("COLUMBUS" by Ambrose Bierce, 1892, sounding very modern. For comparison, read Joseph Conrad's "Geography and Some Explorers," published in 1924.)

**identity & nature / time: history**

**time (a man out of time, etc.)**

man out of time

the umpire can already seem a ~

stuck out of time

ghostly voices, ~ (old recording devices, etc.)

♦ "The umpire can already seem a man out of time, like a milkman or a doctor who makes house calls." (Balls and strikes are now determined by technology.)

♦ This suggests time travel: *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's court*, "Rip Van Winkle (1819)," the 1998 film *Pleasantville*, *Back to the Future*, *Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery*, etc. *Groundhog Day* was about getting stuck in time, and having to repeat the same day.

**past & present / time: direction**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction**

**time (in our time, etc.)**

in our time

~ the printed best seller speedily reaches across space

**time: container / prep, adv, adj, particle**

**past & present: container / prep, adv, adj, particle**

**time (travel in / through time, etc.)**

time machine

see *time machine*

time traveller

see *time traveller (person)*

**time: journeys & trips**

**time bomb (person)**

time bomb of rage

he was a ticking ~ (member of a hate group)

ticking time bombs

they are ~ (Wendy's employee murders customer)

**character & personality: explosion / weapon**

**mental health: explosion / weapon**

**person: explosion**

**time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.)**

time bomb

the company's debt load is a ~ waiting to go off

time bomb inside your body

you could have a ticking ~ (pancreatic cancer)

time bombs all over the West

wildfire suppression and global warming have created ~

privacy time bomb

it's a ticking ~ (compiling lists of Web searches)

ticking time bomb

Hillary Clinton called Sudan a ~

it's a ~ (San Onofre nuclear-power plant waste)

these dogs are all ~s waiting to go off (pit bulls)

there are a lot of ~s out there with pent up rage (murder)

ticking timebomb

these aging oil platforms are all just a ~ (leak)

environmental time bomb

Central and Eastern Europe our littered with ~s

latent time bomb

a computer command set off the ~ (Mars glitch)

little time bombs

her tweets were ~ she'd unwittingly armed (as a teen)

political timebomb

COVID is a bigger ~ in the short run than anything else

psychological time bomb

reflex-quick killing can be a ~ (the Army)

viral time bombs

hundreds could be ~ (coronavirus pandemic)

zoonotic time bombs

wet markets are ~ (avian flu, SARS, COVID-19, etc.)

made his writings a time bomb  
the printing press ~ (Lorenzo Valla)

binding ourselves to a time-bomb  
we are ~ (one-year timeline to bring referendum into law)

♦ "You never really want to have any situation described as a ticking time bomb."

**danger / initiation / situation: explosion / weapon**

## time capsule (noun)

time capsule  
it's a ~ (an historic building)  
his film was a ~ in case he didn't make it back (war)  
each box was a ~ (old evidence relating to a cold case)

time capsule of the Chicago of the 1920s  
it's a ~ (The Green Mill Jazz Club)

time capsule of the era  
the TV show is a ~

time-capsule of manners  
the book is a ~

time capsule to archaeologists  
the site offers a ~

time capsule to another era  
the stories offer a ~

time capsules from 4½ billion years ago  
they are ~ (comets)

time-capsule details  
there's a poignancy in those ~ (Walkman, camcorder / film)

time-capsule charm  
the building has ~

cinematic time capsule  
the film is a ~

Soviet time capsule  
the state is a ~ (Abkhazia)

get out of the time capsule  
wake up, ~

unearth a time capsule  
to read the book today is to ~, to recall an era when...

♦ see also *frozen* (*frozen in time*)

♦ "This is a freezer, not a time capsule." (A cute ad for Progressive Home Insurance that makes fun of young homebuyers turning into their parents.)

♦ Pompeii and the nearby town of Herculaneum were buried by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD. The excavated Pompeii is today a Unesco World Heritage Site and a time capsule for life in the Roman era.

**past & present / time: container**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: container**

## time machine

time machine  
you're in a ~ as you go up the bay (an ecologist)

♦ "The Wayback Machine is a digital archive of the World Wide Web." (Wikipedia.)

**future / past & present / time: mechanism**

## time traveller (person)

time traveller  
was Ludwig Bemelmans a ~

♦ The film *Back to the Future* was extremely popular. That's the one with Marty McFly, played by Michael J. Fox, and a crazy scientist, and a DeLorean car.)

**time: person**

## time warp

Soviet time warp  
Abkhazia is living in a ~ (frozen in time)

paradisiacal time warp  
the forests of Bucovina seemed to exist in a ~

**past & present / time: movement**

## tinderbox (resemblance)

tinderbox  
the whole forest is a ~ (wildfires)

turned (much of) the state into a tinderbox  
California's severe drought and extreme weather have ~

**resemblance: fire**

## tinderbox (violence, etc.)

tinderbox  
the city is a ~ (trouble in Jerusalem)  
the country is a ~ just waiting for a match (Bulgaria)

tinderbox forests  
crews go into ~ with shovels and axes (wildfires)

volatile tinderbox  
in that ~ of a time, Kennedy led with a steady hand

leaving behind a tinderbox  
he is ~ in the Middle East for his successor (election)

**initiation: fire**

## tin ear (noun)

showed her tin ear  
she again showed her ~ (politics)

**flaws & lack of flaws: ear / music / speech**

## tin-eared (adjective)

tin-eared (political) lines  
he still spouts ~ (politics)

**flaws & lack of flaws: ear / music / speech**

## tinker (verb)

tinkering with the rules  
they are ~

**amelioration & renewal: mechanism / verb**

## tip (tip one's hand)

tips his hand

under pressure from his audience, the candidate ~

**concealment & lack of concealment: cards / gambling / sports & games**

## tire (kick the tires)

kick the tires of who's gonna be the nominee  
they get to kinda ~ (the election primaries)

kicking the tires, and looking under the hood  
Microsoft is ~ of Tik-Tok (possible merger)

♦ And perhaps test-driving...

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: gesture / mechanism**

## tired (condition)

tired categories

we must break out of these ~ (John Searle)

tired narrative

the same ~ gets thrown out there (disgust)

**condition & status: health & medicine**

## tired (feeling)

tired of America being

I'm ~ a babysitter for the world (illegal immigration)

tired of people calling

she's ~ health care workers heroes (a doctor)

tired of being

farmers are ~ collateral damage in trade wars

tired of the finger-pointing

parents are ~ (school issues)

tired of the nonsense and the noise

if you are ~ in our politics... (Amy Klobuchar)

so tired

I'm ~ of this (Ailsa Chang / life's milestones)

sick and tired

see *sick and tired (feeling)*

♦ "Tired of stumbling off curbs or bumping into other pedestrians while consulting a map on your smartphone? When you wear **Lechal Insoles**, a gentle vibration in one shoe or the other will tell you when and in which direction to turn. (\$150, amazon.com.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: sleep**

**mental health: sleep**

## tit-for-tat (adjective)

tit-for-tat relation

this ~ is deteriorating (China-US conflict)

♦ This seems to relate to "a blow for a tap," in other words, reciprocation for getting hit by hitting back.

♦ "Simple tic for tac, these women knew who he was..." (An unsympathetic commenter about an allegation of sex abuse in

Hollywood. Is such a usage an eggcorn? Faulty spell check? Inarticulacy? Who knows!)

**conflict / revenge / social interaction: fist**

## Titan (Tennessee Titans, etc.)

Titans

the ~ brushed aside their hosts (NFL football)

**proper name: creature**

## titan (noun)

titan

in an age of romantic giants he was a ~ (Goethe)

titan of Soviet cinema

tributes to a ~ (Andrey Myagkov, *The Irony of Fate*)

titan of Hollywood

once a ~, the actor and producer now faces charges...

titan of the Surrealist movement

this ~ strode on stage (Salvador Dali on Dick Cavett show)

two titans

~ of Silicon valley are in a bitter fight (Facebook v. Apple)

Hollywood titan

the ~ forced his way into her apartment and raped her

corporate titans

~ like the Walton family

economic titans

Asia's ~, China and Japan...

global titans

the Quakers had become ~ of the whaling industry

"Battle of the Titans"

Lennox Lewis vs. Vitali Klitschko, billed as ~

**size: allusion / creature**

**achievement, recognition & praise / importance &**

**significance: allusion / creature / size**

## Titanic (the ship)

like the *Titanic*

imagine a powerful man as a ship, like the ~

on the Titanic

we feel we're on the ~ (declining enrollments / English)

moving the deck chairs on the Titanic

essentially they're ~ (political criticism of a bill)

rearranging deck chairs on the Titanic

it's the same as ~ (a poor solution)

♦ Camille Vasquez: You also wrote, quote, "Imagine a powerful man as a ship, like the *Titanic*. That ship is a huge enterprise. When it strikes an iceberg, there are a lot of people on board desperate to patch up holes—not because they believe in or care about the ship, but because their own fates depend on the enterprise." (Taps microphone to illustrate the point.) In this op-ed, you're saying Mr. Depp is a ship, right? / Amber Heard: I'm making an analogy to a powerful man as a ship. / CV: The powerful man you're referring to in this analogy is Mr. Depp, right? / AH: Uh, I was talking about a bigger issue actually than just Johnny... / CV: The iceberg is you in this analogy, right, Miss Heard? / AH: (Obviously

surprised) Um, I would not say that, I hadn't, I had not... (exhales) That was not what I intended, no. (The Amber Heard-Johnny Depp trial.)

♦ "She is rearranging the deckchairs on the *Titanic* and trying to run up new flags on it as it's hurtling right into an iceberg, and that iceberg is the energy crisis..." (Ben Judah doesn't think much of Liz Truss. From "The United Kingdom's next prime minister could be a foreign policy hardliner," NPR, All Things Considered, September 2, 2022.)

♦ "And to the Chinese, if you jump on the Putin train now, you're dumber than dirt. It would be like buying a ticket on the *Titanic* after you saw the movie. Don't do this." (A vile and stupid threat from a U.S. Republican Senator.)

♦ "I was so excited for the maiden voyage and launch of Cynisca. One press release, a brief pause, and they've become the *Titanic*." (Inga Thompson, Olympian, removed as Director for Cynisca Cycling. Inga opposes transgender athletes in women's sports. The company claimed she "affected Cynisca's brand and reputation." Cynisca was a Spartan princess.)

♦ "Shut up, shut up! I am busy; I am working Cape Race!" (First Operator John George Phillips to wireless operator Cyril F. Evans of the *Californian*, just 10 miles away from the *Titanic*, and just 40 minutes before the *Titanic* glanced the iceberg with a grinding jar. Evans had contacted Phillips to warn him of icebergs but never got a chance to give the message. He went off duty a bit later and the *Californian*, the closest ship to the *Titanic*, never went to its aid.)

♦ "All the boats together could carry 1178 people. On this Sunday night there were 2207 people on board the *Titanic*." (A *Night to Remember* by Walter Lord. There were 675 survivors.)

♦ "Into the halls they poured, gently prodded along by the crew [of the *Titanic*]... / Up the stairs they trooped—a hushed crowd in jumbled array... / Automobiling, as practiced in 1912, affected the attire of many ladies—Mrs. C. E. Henry Stengel wore a veil tightly pinned down over her floral hat, Madame de Villiers a long woolen motoring coat over her nightgown and evening slippers." (A *Night to Remember* by Walter Lord.)

♦ "Lord had access to many survivors... Jack Thayer, a teen-age passenger from Philadelphia's Main Line, who was one of only a handful of people picked out of the water by lifeboats, later recalled that the sound made by the many hundreds of people flailing in the twenty-eight-degree water, drowning or freezing to death, was like the noise of locusts buzzing in the Pennsylvania countryside on a summer night." ("Unsinkable, Why we can't let go of the *Titanic*," by Daniel Mendelsohn, *The New Yorker*, April 16, 2012.)

♦ "Another survivor, a boy of nine at the time, realized long after settling with his family in the Midwest that he couldn't bring himself to go to the Detroit Tigers games because the noise that greeted home runs reminded him of the cries of the dying." ("Unsinkable, Why We Can't Let Go of the *Titanic*" by Daniel Mendelsohn, *The New Yorker*, April 16, 2012.)

♦ "What troubled people especially was not just the tragedy—or even its needlessness—but the element of fate in it all. If the *Titanic* had heeded any of the six ice messages on Sunday...if ice conditions had been normal...if the night had been rough or moonlit...if she had seen the berg 15 seconds sooner—or 15 seconds later...if she had hit the ice any other way...if her watertight bulkheads had been one deck higher...if she had carried enough boats...if the *Californian* had only come. Had any one of these 'ifs' turned out right, every life might have been saved. But they all went against her—a classic Greek tragedy." (A *Night to Remember* by Walter Lord.)

**destruction / fate, fortune & chance: allusion / boat / history**

## toast (finished)

toast

if you are trying to please them, you're ~ (auditions)

could be toast

wheat farmers ~ if the dams are removed (title of article)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: cooking**

## toast (verb)

toast to Robert Burns' birthday  
people around the world ~

toasts a record wine grape harvest  
California ~

**achievement, recognition & praise: alcohol / gesture / verb**  
**toast (acknowledgment)**

Toast To The Montreal International Jazz Festival  
A ~ at 40: Jazz, Blues & Much More (title of article)

**achievement, recognition & praise: alcohol / gesture**  
**today (the present)**

today

he is as committed ~ as he was yesterday & the day before

today's crime

~ is the foundation of tomorrow's virtue (a Nazi)

today's economy

it's tough to stay alive in ~ (a business)

today's potatoes

they are the ancestors of ~ (Peruvian wild potatoes)

today's tech world

~ worships at the altar of disruption

today, tomorrow and the day after tomorrow

we are well prepared ~ (German response to pandemic)

**past & present / time: day**

## toe (on one's toes)

on their toes

at this point, everybody is ~

on your toes

you've got to be ~ (a paramedic)

keep them on their toes

he will ~ (the debate moderator)

**readiness & preparedness: foot / toe / standing, sitting & lying**

## toe (step on toes)

stepped on a lot of toes

he ~ with his stories (murdered journalist)

stepping on a few toes

we'll be ~, that's for sure (*Millennium* magazine)

stepped on the toes of old theories and beliefs

his discoveries ~ (Pasteur)

♦ "It was ticklish business. Powerful economic toes in the shoes of pseudo-science had to be stamped on." (*Men Against Death* by Paul De Kruif. From the chapter "Death in Milk" about Alice Evans and her work on undulant fever.)

♦ [The exile of Stephen Crane's *Red Badge of Courage* from the high-school curriculum] is hard to explain, given that it crosses no pieties,

offends no taboos, and steps on no obviously inflamed corn." ("American Stoic: What Stephen Crane left behind" by Adam Gopnik, *The New Yorker*, October 25, 2021.)

♦ "Dude should have looked into living there a little better before stepping on locals' toes like that, especially if he took his family—he owed it to them to look out for their welfare..." (A commenter on the article "2 Hawaiian men found guilty of hate crime for attacking white homeowner" by Michelle De Pacina, Yahoo / NextShark, November 21, 2022.)

**character & personality / disruption / feeling, emotion & effect: foot / sensation / toe / verb / walking, running & jumping**

### toe (dip one's toes in water, etc.)

dipping its toes into digital apps  
Mattel is ~

dipping a toe into public life  
they are ~ (two sons of celebrity start YouTube channel)

dipping his toe in the (church-as-business) waters  
perhaps Kanye West is ~

dipped his toe in the world of punditry  
he as already ~ (an athlete)

♦ "When you want to test the depths of a stream, don't use both feet." (Chinese.)

**experimentation / involvement: foot / toe / verb / water**

### toehold (noun)

toehold within the city  
Grbavica gave the Serbs a ~ (war in Bosnia)

toehold on a computer  
automated tools get hackers a ~

political toehold  
women have been unable to gain a ~ (Massachusetts)

♦ "Julius Caesar had been expanding into Gaul and even putting a toe into Britain."

**presence & absence: foot / mountains & hills / toe  
survival, persistence & endurance: foot / mountains & hills / toe**

### toe-to-toe (go toe-to-toe, etc.)

go toe to toe  
the two warriors ~ (*Deadliest Warrior* TV show)  
to ~, to fight for that truth (convict claims innocence)

go toe-to-toe with the US military  
they certainly can't ~, but...

**conflict: boxing / toe / verb**

### together (as noun)

together awaits  
your ~ (ad for Vrbo / holiday bookings / family fun)

**division & connection: part of speech**

### toilet (in the toilet)

in the toilet  
morale is ~ (military)

**failure, accident & impairment / decline: direction / infrastructure**

### tokenize (groups)

tokenize for political benefit  
they just looked for transgender people to ~ (White House)

♦ In the old days, you put a subway token into a turnstile, or you gave somebody something as a token of your appreciation or affection...

**inclusion & exclusion: society / verb**

### toll (take a toll, etc.)

exact a (terrible emotional) toll  
stuttering can ~

takes its toll  
not getting enough sleep day after day ~

taking its toll  
the buildup to war, too, was ~

took its toll  
the heat and humidity ~ (heat-related deaths)

took their toll  
years of graffiti "missions" ~ (arrests, etc.)

**cost & benefit: money / verb**

### toll (other)

toll of the war  
he wrote a report on the psychological ~ (on soldiers)

toll on the (entire) family  
their condition can take a ~ (autistic kids)

toll on musicians' bodies  
hours of practice take their ~

toll on lives and places  
war's ~ (Cambodia)

war's toll  
the ~ on lives and places (Cambodia)

actual (annual) toll  
the ~ might be 10,000 (vs. reported) (mine deaths)

emotional toll  
stuttering can exact a terrible ~

heavy toll  
rebel resistance was taking a ~  
the US raid, while brief, inflicted a ~

huge toll  
my job took a ~ (presidential advisor)

human toll  
the ~ was high

psychological toll  
he wrote a report on the ~ of the war  
the ordeal had taken a profound ~ (climbing accident)

unseen toll

researchers confront the ~ of their work (extremism)

**cost & benefit: money**

## tomahawk (Tomahawk cruise missile, etc.)

Tomahawk cruise missiles  
the submarine is armed with ~

**proper name: weapon**

## tomorrow (future)

tomorrow  
~ is already here  
dominant industries today will give way to new industries ~

tomorrows  
“I’d trade all my ~, for that one single yesterday”

tomorrow’s revenue stream  
ecommerce is ~

tomorrow’s virtue  
today’s crime is the foundation of ~ (a Nazi)

better tomorrow  
dreams of a ~ for our kids

today, tomorrow and the day after tomorrow  
we are well prepared ~ (German response to pandemic)

building a (better) tomorrow  
we are ~

♦ “Own Your Tomorrow.” (A Charles Schwab advertisement.)

**future / time: day**

## ton (amount)

ton of attention  
Charlottesville did bring a ~ to these groups (protest)

ton of confusion  
the briefings have led to a ~ about what is really going on

ton of football  
we’ve got a ~ for you (TV)

ton of detail  
we’ve heard vague reports, but there’s not a ~

**amount: weight**

## tone-deaf (adjective)

tone-deaf  
his response to the accusation was ~

tone deaf to the problems  
she is ~ that average women face (an executive)

tone-deaf response  
his ~ sparked widespread outrage in Germany

tone deaf or blinded  
many online accused her of being by privilege (celebrity)

tone deaf and cringe-worthy  
the video was criticised as being ~ (the pandemic)

tone deaf and ignorant  
she was accused of being ~ to racial sensitivities

tone deaf, insensitive, and insane  
it was ~ (2017 Pepsi ad with Kendall Jenner)

**flaws & lack of flaws: ear / music / speech**

**consciousness & awareness: ear / music / speech**

## tone down (verb)

toning down his rhetoric  
he is ~

**attenuation: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle / sound / speech / verb**

## tongue (resemblance)

glacier’s tongue  
a ~ can extend hundreds of miles

**resemblance: tongue**

## tongue (danger)

tongue  
your ~ is your horse, protect it and it will protect you  
keep the ~ in your mouth a prisoner

punishment of his tongue  
what a man suffers in life is the ~ (Turkey)

♦ “I don’t know what is end game is.” (Shannon Sharpe to Skip Bayless on *Undisputed* about the NBA player Kyrie “I’m a free thinker” Irving.)

♦ “A bridle for the tongue is a necessity ....”

♦ “You can trap an ox by his horns and a man by his words.” (Madagascar.)

♦ “The tongue is but three inches long, yet it can kill a man six feet tall.” (Japanese.)

♦ “Eat when the meal is ready, speak when the time is right.” (Ethiopia.)

♦ “The walls have ears.”

♦ “Who gossips to you, will gossip of you.” (Turkish.)

♦ “Gossiping and lying go together.”

♦ “A knife wound heals; a wound caused by words does not.” (Turkish.)

♦ “Speech is silver, silence is gold.”

**danger: speech / tongue**

## tongue (language)

mother tongue  
*see mother tongue*

foreign tongue  
he was speaking in a ~

native tongue  
as a boy he was flogged for speaking his ~  
children must be taught in their ~ (Nigeria)

**language / speech: tongue**

## tongue (hold one's tongue)

hold your tongue  
I would advise you to ~

held his tongue  
he has largely ~, but on Friday he let loose (politics)

held his tongue about the actions  
Obama has largely ~ of his successor but...

unable to hold her tongue  
she is ~

**speech: tongue / verb**

**control & lack of control: speech / tongue**

## tongue (bite one's tongue)

bitten my tongue  
I have ~ despite feeling I should say something

**speech: tongue / verb**

## tongue (lose one's tongue)

lost your tongue  
have you ~

**functioning: possession / speech / tongue**

**speech: possession / tongue / verb**

## tongue (stick one's tongue out, etc.)

stick their tongues out at the pieties  
writers who ~

**insult: gesture / tongue**

## tongue (slip of the tongue)

slips of the tongue  
~ are entirely normal in kids

**failure, accident & impairment: speech / tongue**

## tongue-lashing

tongue lashing  
the older player gave her a ~ (teen golfer)

tongue-lashings from the coach  
~ (basketball)

tongue-lashing from Kathy  
I took a ~ (wife)

**speech: tongue / violence / whip**

**accusation & criticism: tongue / violence / whip**

## tongue twister

tongue twister  
do you know a ~

♦ She sells sea shells by the sea shore.

♦ The sixth sick sheik's sheep's sick.

**difficulty, easiness & effort: speech / tongue**

## tongue-twisting

tongue-twisting name  
the ~ eosinophilic esophagitis

**difficulty, easiness & effort: speech / tongue**

## tonic (effect)

tonic  
military victory is anticipated as the ~ that will...

tonic for the country  
the team's revival has been a ~ that needs it (World Cup)

tonic for the sport  
her arrival proved a ~ (Danica Patrick)

♦ "On June 14, 1909, Shackleton returned to London and to a tumultuous welcome, painfully unlike Scott's own muted homecoming from *Discovery...* / While Britain still appeared the greatest power on earth, unease was gnawing just beneath the surface... Into this atmosphere laden with uncertainty and doubt, burst Shackleton, genial, swaggering, breezy, the precise figure of reassurance for a troubled country. / King Edward VII, a shrewd monarch, understood this when he knighted Shackleton, while Scott had to make do with a C.V.O. Scott, with his neurotic worries and suspicion, was too much a mirror of the times for comfort; Shackleton was a tonic." (*The Last Place on Earth* by Roland Huntford.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

## tool (help)

tool  
the military is not a ~ well suited for remaking a society

tool to combat  
it remains the principal ~ street homelessness

tool to educate  
Senior Step is a ~ older amputees (magazine)

tool to save  
it's the best ~ lives in avalanches (air bags)

tool of genetic genealogy  
he was identified through the investigative ~ (murderer)

tool of repression  
the Iraqi military was a ~ (Kurds)

tool in the toolbox  
antibody tests are a ~ that will have some value

tools in our toolbox  
I'd like to see more ~ (interrogations of terrorists)

tool for (AIDS) prevention  
the classroom as a ~

tool for law enforcement  
the antiterrorism law is an essential ~

tools for (consumer) advertising  
magazines are ~

tool for analyzing  
Microstran, an advanced ~ structures (software)

tools for evaluating  
 their arsenal of ~ applicants (colleges)

tool for measuring  
 the CATCS, a new ~ student cynicism (college)

tools menu  
 on the ~, click mail merge (computers)

assessment tool  
 the CATCS, a new ~ for measuring student cynicism

communications tool  
 e-mail is a ~, not an information tool (hoaxes)

hacker tools  
 Web sites specializing in ~

information tool  
 e-mail is a communications tool, not an ~ (hoaxes)

management tool  
 wilderness bonding as a ~

research tool  
 the M.R.I. and PET are crucial ~s (brain)

cancer-research tool  
 the virus became a widely used ~

performance evaluation tool  
 the job description may also be a ~

high tech tool  
 ~s that could help in the war on terrorism

learning tool  
 computers are kid's toys and ~s

marketing tool  
 a subtle ~ to get out the message  
 wine has become a ~ as well (restaurants)

recruiting tool  
 the parachutists are deployed as a ~

screening tool  
 there is a need for better ~s for depression

teaching tool  
 adopted as a standard ~; as a ~ he had a chart made

depression screening tool  
 a nine question ~ (public health)

fire-fighting tools  
 a growing arsenal of ~ (wildfires)

advanced tool  
 Microstran, an ~ for analyzing structures (software)

widely used (cancer-research) tool  
 the virus became a ~

additional tools  
 ~ to augment deadly force (nonlethal means)

basic tool  
 education is the most ~ for helping you with diabetes

biometric tools  
 ~ (fingerprinting, facial recognition, iris scans)

diagnostic tool  
 the CAT scan, a ~ used in hospitals worldwide

essential tool  
 the antiterrorism law is an ~ for law enforcement

indispensable tool  
 the typewriter was once an ~ in the writer's life

political tool  
 forswore the use of violence as a ~

powerful tool  
 password systems give merchants ~s  
 the technology can be a ~ to help doctors (MRI)

principal tool  
 it remains the ~ to combat street homelessness

psychiatric tool  
 brain imaging has been oversold as a ~ (psychiatry)

standard (teaching) tool  
 adopted as a ~

subtle (marketing) tool  
 a ~ to get out the message

arsenal of tools  
 their ~ for evaluating applicants (colleges)

arsenal of (fire-fighting) tools  
 a growing ~

creator of a (Web publishing) tool  
 Dave Winer, ~ called... (computers)

repository of (Sybase) tools  
 a non-commercial ~

access to ("cracking") tools  
 al Qaeda has ~ (cyberwarfare)

bonding as a (management) tool  
 wilderness ~

violence as a (political) tool  
 forswore the use of ~

develop tools  
 ~ for addressing stereotypes when you hear them

oversold as a (psychiatric) tool  
 brain imaging has been ~

♦ "That's not to say it can do everything, but it is a tool with profound benefits, a great tool." (Dr. James A. Brink, on the importance of CAT scanners.)

♦ "You're realizing your medical tools are inadequate to help." (Ex-NIH head Francis Collins. He was not particularly religious until a dying patient asked him about what he believed in. From "Next chapter: Ex-NIH head Francis Collins works to bridge the country's divides, NPR, Morning Edition, January 24, 2022.)

**help & assistance: tools & technology**

## toolbox (noun)

management toolbox

there are a whole host of tools that are in that ~ (wildfires)

diplomatic toolbox

what are the tools left in the West's ~ (Russia)

tool in the toolbox

antibody tests are a ~ that will have some value

tools in our toolbox

I'd like to see more ~ (interrogations of terrorists)

vaccine in our toolboxes

we have another ~ (COVID)

**alternatives & choices: tools & technology**

**amount / group, set & collection: tools & technology**

## toolkit (noun)

teacher's toolkit

the techniques and strategies in a ~

**alternatives & choices: tools & technology**

**amount / group, set & collection: tools & technology**

## toolshed (noun)

in the toolshed

this is another tool ~ to fight that fight (a political app)

**alternatives & choices: tools & technology**

**amount / group, set & collection: tools & technology**

## tooth (The Tooth, etc.)

The Tooth

the ~ is an Alpine rite of passage just 2 hours from Seattle

Tooth Island

~ is off the coast of Australia in the Coral Sea

♦ The Antarctic iceberg D28 has come to be known as "Molar Berg." It is adjacent to an area that was nicknamed "Loose Tooth." See "How a colossal block of ice became an obsession" by Jonathan Amos, BBC, 15 Jan 2022.)

♦ Address all correspondence to: Tooth Island, Great Sandy Strait, Coral Sea, Southwestern Pacific Ocean, Pacific Ocean. (Sean Connery, formerly of McLeods Publick House Pub, 5540 W Main St #9, Dothan, Alabama.)

**proper name: teeth**

## tooth (a tooth for a tooth)

tooth for a tooth

an eye for an eye, a ~

**revenge: Bible / religion / teeth**

## tooth and nail (fight tooth and nail, etc.)

tooth and nail

she fought him, ~

they fought ~ to keep the evidence out (trial)

fighting (the effort) tooth and nail

the industry is ~ (regulation)

fight tooth and nail for her power

she has to ~ (the opera character Carmen)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / predation**

**conflict: animal / predation**

## toothless (adjective)

toothless resolution

this is yet another ~ from the Security Council (UN)

scorned as toothless

the regulatory agency is widely ~

**attenuation / force / strength & weakness / substance &**

**lack of substance: animal / teeth**

## toothpaste (put the toothpaste back in the tube)

put (all) that toothpaste back in the tube

it's very hard to ~ (morality)

putting that toothpaste back in the tube

there's no ~ (history of disputes between athletes on team)

**concealment & lack of concealment / pursuit, capture &**

**escape: container**

## top (blow one's top)

blew his top

he ~ in front of a group of colleagues

**feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / verb / volcano**

## top (hierarchy)

top Republican

~ backpedals on tax pledge

top (tech) companies

the company has catapulted into the ranks of ~

top four

Manchester United is lurking on the margins of the ~

top of the food chain

women at the very ~ at the studios (executives)

top of the (root server) hierarchy

at the ~ is the "A" root server

top of the (corporate) ladder

arrogance and ego at the ~

top of the pyramid

the people at the ~ know exactly what they are doing

top-down chain of command

older workers are used to a ~ (business)

top priority

his ~ is to improve team chemistry (sports)

At The Top

the opinion piece was entitled, "The Rot ~" (corruption)

on top

the people are ~ nowadays (*Doctor Zhivago*)  
society is like a layer cake, with the upper class ~

to the top  
it's your ticket ~ (a job offer)

finished on top  
San Jose ~ last season (soccer)

go out on top  
like any other boxer, he wants to ~

motivated to be on top  
he was ~ (Jeremy Lusk)

take him to the top  
he hoped his right hand would ~ (a boxer)

made it (back) to the top  
he ~ (a troubled boxer)

**hierarchy: direction / position**

### top (dominance / winning)

on top  
Bucs defence ~ (Super Bowl)

came out on top  
it was a crappy situation, but we ~ (Rangers)

**superiority & inferiority: animal / direction / position**  
**dominance & submission: animal / direction / position**

### top (on top / control)

on top of this  
we are ~ (an emergency)

get on top of this  
we need to ~ (pandemic)

getting on top of this virus  
we are nowhere near ~ (pandemic)

stay on top of a project  
he will ~ until it is done

stay on top of things  
the aim of the game is to ~ (COVID)

**control & lack of control: direction / position**

### top (excellence)

top (talent) incubator  
the art gallery has emerged as a ~ (Damascus)

top student  
a ~, a star athlete, and a caring girlfriend

top talent  
ENA is an incubator for France's ~

top tier  
he is in the ~ of Hollywood directors  
this looked like the rally of a ~ candidate (for president)  
he is vaulting into the ~ of TV interviewers

top-grade

this is ~ political dirt

at the top of his game  
he is ~  
he was ~ when he was shot and killed (a comic)

**achievement, recognition & praise: direction / position**  
**top (on top of / at the same time)**

on top of the (ongoing) battle  
the 500-year flood comes ~ with the coronavirus pandemic

**time: position / prep, adv, adj, particle**  
**sequence: position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

### top (over the top)

over the top  
are school proms ~ (US / Yes)  
some of the criticism has been ~ (Scottish soccer)  
55% of people thought the response was ~ (swine flu)  
only 12% thought the response to Covid-19 was ~

over the top and ridiculous  
that's just so ~ (tennis penalizes Naomi Osaka)

entreatingly over the top  
some fine actors have gone ~ (playing the Joker, Cruella)

♦ The meaning is *excessive and exaggerated*, like hyperbole. Merriam-Webster gives first use of this meaning to 1984. Many websites claim the phrase somehow relates to World War I soldiers going over the top of trenches.

♦ "This has been the most dizzying, jaw-dropping, eyeball-popping, head-spinning news conference I have ever attended. And I was at Bill Clinton's news conference in 1998 when he faced the press for the first time over his relationship with Monica Lewinsky." (John Sopel for the BBC, following a press conference with President Trump on Monday, April 13, 2020.)

♦ "It's the biggest myth in the history of myths." (John Madden, the bombastic sports broadcaster, reacting to comments about something that he had allegedly done. Sports broadcasters are well known for being bombastic, flamboyant, and for their hyperbole. A great example is the wonderful Steven A. Smith, who is *always* worth listening to.)

♦ "Basketball can be the greatest game in the world. But when you lose it's like somebody reaches in and grabs your heart and shakes it right in front of you, and just sort of taunts you a little bit." (A crying coach Roy Williams about North Carolina's loss to Wisconsin in the 2021 NCAA tournament. Some were disturbed by such behavior and language. A short time later, the storied coach retired.)

♦ The politician Howard Dean screamed or shrieked (some characterized it as a battle cry) while running for president in 2004, which only helped to ruin his chances. Wikipedia has an entry, "Dean scream." The scream went "viral" in the early days of the internet, and some claim it was the very first political meme.

**behavior / performance / restraint & lack of restraint:**  
**direction**

### top dog (hierarchy)

top dog  
there was no doubt he was the ~ (young Federal lawyer)

top dogs  
they are ~ in the history of the sport (college basketball)

**hierarchy / superiority & inferiority: animal / direction / dog**  
**/ person / position**

## topography (noun)

favorable political topography  
this is a ~ for us (the Republican senate)

**area: ground, terrain & land**

## topple (verb)

topple the government  
he was charged with attempting to ~ by force and conspiracy

toppled the government  
his self-immolation started the riots that ~ (Tunisia)

toppled the (Taliban) government  
US troops ~

toppled (entrenched) leaders  
the protests have ~ in Egypt and Tunisia

topple the regime  
they wish to ~ (rebels)

**destruction / dismissal, removal & resignation / disruption  
/ primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction /  
equilibrium & stability / ruins / verb**

## topsy-turvy (upside down)

turned (centuries of medical) dogma topsy-turvy  
he ~

**disruption: direction / equilibrium & stability**

## torch (carry a torch)

carry the torch for the political allies  
judges should not ~

**representation: fire / verb**

## torch (pass the torch)

pass the torch to Andre  
now I'll ~ (second speaker at lecture)

♦ "We are an intergenerational torch that is going to burn brighter and we're going to pass it on until the need for Time's Up becomes obsolete."  
(Ashley Judd, reacting to criticism of that group.)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: fire / verb**

**transmission: fire / verb**

## torch (other)

torch  
the ~ has been passed (from the Kennedys to O'Rourke)

torch of (Syrian contemporary art)  
for a long time the ~ was carried by Mustafa Ali

political torch  
he passed the ~ to his vice president (Clinton to Gore)

carry on the (family's singular political) torch  
there is no one to ~ (Kennedys)

pick up that torch  
she died helping people and we have to ~

**representation: fire / sign, signal, symbol**

**transmission: fire / sign, signal, symbol**

## torchbearer (person)

last torchbearer  
her generation is perhaps its ~s (Anglo-Indians in India)

**representation: fire / person**

## torn (divided)

torn between past and present  
Turkey, ~

torn between modernity and traditionalism  
Turkey, ~

torn between the statements and the lack of evidence  
both juries were ~

torn between two career directions  
are you ~

torn between admiration and annoyance  
he was ~

torn over whether  
I'm ~ I should...

conflict-torn  
~ areas such as Kosovo and the Palestinian territories

violence-torn  
~ East Timor

war-torn (m)  
drilling for oil in this ~ area (Colombia)  
this poor, hungry, ~ backwater

**division & connection: destruction**

## tornado (Tartan Tornado, etc.)

Tartan Tornado  
the win went to the ~ (Scot boxer Josh Taylor)

**force: epithet / weather & climate**

**epithet: weather & climate**

## tornado (force)

tornado  
he was a ~ made of chiffon (William Ivey Long, designer)

beautiful tornado  
Girl Power was the most ~ that ever hit your town (Lizzo)

economic tornado  
people are stuck in the middle of a ~ (a Scot / tax rise)

**force: wind / weather & climate**

## torn up

torn up about it  
I was kind of ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: destruction**

## torpedo (verb)

torpedo (congressional) approval  
he made an unsuccessful attempt to ~ of the agreement

torpedoed the (entire) company  
the Newton nearly ~ (Apple in 1993)

torpedoed a (main EU) initiative  
the tariffs have ~ (Kosovo / Serbia)

torpedoing morale  
the overhaul of the system is ~ (education)

torpedoes her plea  
that ~ for self-defense

torpedoed their season  
the loss ~ (football)

torpedo her career and family life  
her alcoholism threatened to ~ (Aretha Franklin)

♦ Captain R. L. McClintock invented the Bangalore torpedo in 1912 in India. The weapon was used successfully in World War I to cut paths through trenches six feet deep and 30 feet across filled with coils of barbed wire. Militaries use versions of it to the present day.

♦ An international investigation came to the conclusion that North Korea torpedoed the South Korean warship *Cheonan*, killing 46 sailors. During the Falklands War, the submarine HMS *Conqueror* torpedoed and sank the ARA *General Belgrano*.

♦ "Robert watched people jump from the rails. / The ship continued to move; its stern rose higher. His [heavily pregnant] mother held him close. And then the sea seemed to leap forward, and his mother was gone...The ship disappeared. / Later, a passenger reported seeing a woman giving birth in the water. The idea that this might have been his mother would haunt the boy for the rest of his life." (*Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania* by Erik Larson. Robert was seven years old when the ship was torpedoed by Captain Walther Schwieger in the U-20.)

**destruction: boat / sea / verb**

## torpedo (noun)

torpedo  
it was the ~ than sank the prosecution's case (forensics)

fired a torpedo  
he has ~ that has blown a hole in the White House

**destruction: boat / sea**

## torpor (noun)

torpor and schlock  
he came back from years of ~ (Elvis Presley)

**activity: health & medicine**

## torrent (noun)

torrent of abuse  
his remarks unleashed a ~

torrent of criticism  
the decision provoked a ~  
in the aftermath of the shooting, a ~ (Alec Baldwin)

torrent of data  
genomics has released a ~

torrent of (irate and obscene) e-mails  
he awoke to a ~

torrent of fury  
in the play's scorching final scene, she unleashes a ~ at...

torrent of information  
filtering, organizing, and customizing this ~ (Web)

**amount & effect / movement: water**

## tortoise (tortoise and hare, etc.)

tortoise-versus-hare  
the history of AI has been a ~ contest between...

**competition: allusion / animal**

## torture (afflict)

tortured me for months  
my daughter ~ (potty training)

torturing Alabama  
at least 17 reported tornados are ~ (ABC News)

tortured him  
the rumors ~  
cancer ~  
the weeks ~, as he knew people were dying

torturing us  
hunger was now ~ (*Dersu Uzala* by V.K. Arseniev)

**affliction: violence / verb**

## torture (affliction)

torture of waiting  
all this ~ (for an arrest in murder case)

legal torture  
the way we feel is that we are going through ~ (family)

mental torture  
it was a form of ~ (soldiers talking about great meals)

became torture  
her work life ~ (Me Too movement)

puts his body through the torture  
he ~ required to prepare... (a boxer)

♦ "Traveling is a form of torture." (Arabic.)

**affliction / mental health: violence**

## tortured

tortured about his sexuality  
a man ~ (closeted gay Republican politician)

tortured by bad weather  
this is an area that has been ~ (spring tornadoes)

tortured emotions  
such ~ (towards sex)

tortured path  
it's been a long ~ for the project (space)

tortured childhood

he cries when he recalls his ~ (homosexual)

tortured, difficult and painful

relations are often ~ (politics)

♦ "Thirty-five-year-old Messi has been tortured for much of his stellar career by not winning a world cup title for his country. The stage is perfectly set..." (Tom "We love our big stars, right?" Goldman, NPR sports correspondent.)

**affliction / feeling, emotion & effect: violence**

**mental health: violence**

## torturous

slow, torturous

a ~ death by drowning, hypothermia suffocation (sub)

**feeling, emotion & effect: violence**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## toss back (verb)

tossed political gerrymandering back to the states

the Supreme Court has ~

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: ball / verb**

## toss out (verb)

tossed his suit out of court

a judge ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation: arm / verb**

**throwing, putting & planting: arm / verb**

## totally (contempo-speak)

totally binge-worthy

the series is ~ if you want it to be (Victoria Whitley-Berry)

totally, like

see *like (filler)*

totally so

see *so (gushing)*

really totally

they're just ~ cool people

they are ~ driven in a very passionate and spiritual way

if I were a vegan, I'd be ~ skeeved out (NPR's Eyder

Peralta)

she was ~ disabled (NPR's Nina Totenberg)

so totally

I was ~ into self-loathing (Diane Keaton)

Kristen Stewart is ~ thrilled to be here

this record was ~ different

this is ~ true

as he plays, he gets ~, totally lost in the music

that is ~ the answer I wanted (Peter Sagal, host)

♦ "That 5 you're feeling when your kid laughs or when your kid says something that's so totally, like, amazingly weird, or insightful, or sensitive..." (NPR Staff.)

**contempo-speak: adverb**

## totem (noun)

totem of survival

the gun, not the plough, was the ~ (Tasmania)

totem for (a certain kind of American) bravado

Sinatra was a ~ ("My Way")

familiar totem

the Christmas tree is a ~ of the holiday season

outdated and environmentally irresponsible totems

big dams are seen as ~, wasteful symbols of national pride...

tearing down French totems

by ~ Zemmour is showing.... (about WWII)

used Sinatra as a totem

Anka ~ for a certain kind of American bravado (My Way)

♦ Anthem; emblematic; metaphor; represent; (cultural) figurehead; trademark; influence... ("A Toast to 'My Way,' America's Anthem of Self-Determination" by Sonari Ginton, All Things Considered, Nov 19, 2019.)

**representation: picture / religion / sign, signal, symbol**

## totem pole

low on the totem pole

Flint was apparently ~ (in a company)

**hierarchy: direction / position**

## touch (nobody will touch this, etc.)

touch this

nobody in the mainstream media will ~

**attainment: finger / verb**

## touch (verb / emotion)

touched everyone

the loss ~ (children die in house fire)

touched many lives

throughout his life, he ~

touches so many others

each person's life ~ (the film *It's a Wonderful Life*)

**feeling, emotion & effect: finger / verb**

## touch (lose touch)

lost touch with her

officials said they had ~

loses touch with reality

he ~ (a schizophrenic)

lost touch with firefighters

fire officials ~ trying to... (poor communications)

lost touch with their father

they ~ and Native heritage (Laguna Pueblo)

**division & connection: finger / verb**

## touch (connection)

touch with reality  
he loses ~ (a schizophrenic)

human touch  
the ~ comes naturally (a lawyer)

division & connection: finger

## touchdown (success)

touchdown after touchdown  
her book scores ~ (a sports romance)

total touchdown  
forming an authentic connection is a ~ (Ad Council)

♦ "Forming an authentic connection with your intended audience is a total touchdown." (The Ad Council.)

♦ Touch Down / Field Goal / First Down / Fumble ("What's your take on this story?" The rating system for *New York Post* sports stories.)

♦ "They're in the last 20 yards, and you can't let them cross that goal line. You can't let them score a touchdown." (Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu about Iran's nuclear-weapon program. He was speaking on NBC's Meet the Press.)

success & failure: football / sports & games

## touching (adjective)

touching story  
this was the most ~ I've ever heard

feeling, emotion & effect: finger

## touchstone

touchstone of a generation  
it was the ~ (Woodstock Music Festival / US)

touchstones of (medical) progress  
vaccines and antibiotics are seen as ~ (vs. diagnostic test)

touchstone in (American) culture  
her case became a ~ (Terri Schiavo)

touchstone in German Holocaust studies  
the book became a ~ (by H. G. Adler)

touchstone for a set  
the painting is a ~ of ideals ("Kindred Spirits")

"touchstone" (1960) book  
Harper Lee's ~ ("To Kill a Mockingbird")

holiday touchstone  
"It's a Wonderful Life" is now a ~ (film)

cultural touchstone  
"American Psycho" has become a ~ (US / a book)  
it is a ~ (dominoes / Latinos / NYC)  
her fourth book is a ~ (*Eat, Pray, Love*)

emotional touchstone  
Jerusalem is an ~ for many people in the Middle East

♦ A touchstone was a dark stone such as slate used to determine, or assay, the purity of a precious metal, like gold. It is similar in meaning nowadays to *litmus test*. The word seems to relate to authenticity, genuineness, or shared experience.

representation: mark

## touchy (adjective)

touchy subject  
abortion is a ~ for some radio programmers

feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone

## touchy (personality)

touchy about his baldness  
he's ~

character & personality: sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone

## tough-minded

tough-minded  
he is ~ and not afraid to take risks (commander)

nimble, tough-minded and effective  
we need government that is ~

mind: materials & substances

## tourism (noun)

tourism ambassador  
Messi has a role as a ~ for Saudi Arabia (soccer player)

battlefield tourism  
~ flourished... (Waterloo)

civil rights tourism  
~ may protect Mississippi history  
some think ~ could help lift these little towns (Mississippi)

elephant tourism  
~ may not recover from the pandemic (Thailand)  
Saengduan Chailert is a pioneer in ethical ~ (Thailand)

medical tourism  
~ will boost the economy

sex tourism  
~ flourishes

slum tourism  
~ is like poverty porn (2009)

space tourism  
~ is in the not-so-distant future

war tourism  
he engaged in what was basically ~ (Bill Donovan / OSS)

investment in (civil rights) tourism  
some think ~ could help lift these little towns (Mississippi)

♦ "Byron visited; so did the Wordsworths—twice—and the architect and collector John Soane and thousands of others. They carried away skulls—Sir Walter Scott had one—and fingers and teeth and bullets and cannon balls... A century later such battlefield tourism would flourish even if its more gruesome collecting tastes were suppressed." (The site of the Battle of Waterloo, in Belgium. From *The Work of the Dead: A Cultural History of Mortal Remains* by Thomas W. Laqueur.)

♦ "We the oldest community in the county, and we look like the oldest community in the county. We've been left behind. We have not benefiting as we should with this history." (Mayor Johnny Thomas of Glendora, Mississippi, about efforts to create an Emmett Till National Historic District.)

xxx: xxx

## tour of duty

tour of duty as James Bond  
the film concludes Daniel Craig's ~ (*No Time To Die*)

work & duty: military

## tout (person)

tout for the educational-technology industry  
he is a ~

attention, scrutiny & promotion / message: person  
speech: person / sex

## tout (verb)

tout the wonders  
Mexican officials ~ of Mexico (tourism)

attention, scrutiny & promotion / message: verb

## touted

touted as an anxiety-relieving panacea  
digital detoxes are ~

attention, scrutiny & promotion / message: speech

## tow (in tow)

moral in tow  
there is no ~ (criticism of book)

attachment: boat / river

## towel (throw in the towel)

thrown in the towel  
she would be disappointed that he has ~ so quickly

threw in the towel on adding  
he ~ a citizenship question (on the census)

ready to throw in the towel  
she's not ~  
Croatia aren't ~ yet (versus Brazil in Qatar)

♦ "A lot of people say he quit... But you don't know the pain what he was experiencing. I dunno, I've not been in that position. His eye socket was smashed up... It's things like that when it's through injury, I don't think people got a place to call people quitters..." (The great boxer Josh Taylor on BBC's 5 Live Boxing with Costello & Bunce.)

resistance, opposition & defeat: boxing / sign, signal,  
symbol / verb

## towering (towering figure, etc.)

towering figure  
Jacky Robinson was a ~ in American sports  
he was a ~ who rose above party politics (McCain)  
Ike was one of the ~s of the 20th century (Eisenhower)

importance & significance: size / height / infrastructure

## toxic (adjective)

toxic  
rap culture is ~ (Swedish rapper Einar murdered)

toxic atmosphere  
political leaders have contributed to a ~ (politics)

toxic doctrine  
the ~ of racial superiority (Nazis)

toxic environment  
it has been a ~ for 8 years (actor on a TV show)

toxic (political) environment  
incumbent politicians are at risk in the ~

toxic (online) environment  
Facebook creates a ~ by doing nothing (fake news)

toxic (work) environment  
employees complained that he created a ~ (a boss)

toxic masculinity  
~ in *The Power of the Dog* (the film)

toxic person  
she is a ~

toxic relationship  
their ~ ended in murder

toxic political warfare  
this will pour fuel on the fire of ~

politically toxic  
the subject of climate change is ~

become toxic  
the modern culture of the prom has ~ (critics)

growing toxic  
the marriage was ~ (husband murders wife)

destruction / feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine /  
materials & substances

## track (on track)

on track to jump  
the number of Wi-Fi cards sold is ~ 75 percent

on track to meet  
the services are ~ reserve manpower goals (military)

on track for a shot  
a win would keep him ~ at the title (boxer)

on an academic track  
he is ~ (vs. vocational program) (high school)

on the right track  
we are ~ (making progress towards our goal)

back on track  
we are ~ (making progress)  
they will get ~ today with a new bill (politics)

still on track

US policy there is ~ (Central Asia)

organized and on track

keep your job search ~

stay on track

your script should help you ~ (job interviews)

keep your job search (organized and) on track

how to ~

get back on track

treatment options to help you ~ (depression)

it is possible to ~ (debt in economy)

get us (back) on track

I've got a solution that will ~

get our economy (back) on track

to help ~

**direction / progress & lack of progress: train**

**track (fast track)**

on a fast track to a vote

the resolution is ~ on the floor of the senate

**haste / speed: train**

**track (across the tracks, etc.)**

lives across the tracks

the horror genre ~ in the literary community

**division & connection: train**

**track (cover one's tracks, etc.)**

cover your tracks

you didn't ~ very well, you were easy to find

cover his tracks

people wondered if he disappeared to ~ (crime suspect)

his aides were trying to ~ (a politician)

cover his (digital) tracks

he failed to ~ (an Internet hacker)

covered their tracks

whoever did it was very careful and ~ (unsolved murder)

covered his tracks well

he had assimilated into the upper class and ~ (England)

hide their tracks

they used Iranian access hoping it would ~ (hackers)

throw people off the track

this story was a false narrative to ~

♦ "TOR drags branches behind your digital footsteps so people can't tell where you're going or where you've been."

**subterfuge: hunting / verb**

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb**

**concealment & lack of concealment: hunting / verb**

**track (stop something in its tracks)**

stopped the (FBI) investigation in its tracks

the plea agreement ~

stopped his meteoric rise in its tracks

a racial slur has ~ (a country singer)

**curtailment: journeys & trips / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

**track (stopped in one's tracks, etc.)**

halted in its tracks

the tournament was ~ (Coronavirus)

got stopped in its tracks

the idea ~ (opening a liaison office)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: walking, running & jumping**

**track (off the beaten track)**

off the beaten track

the whirlpools are ~

go off the beaten track

he doesn't hesitate to ~

**isolation & remoteness: journeys & trips**

**track (direction)**

career track

I didn't take the traditional ~

traditional (career) track

I didn't take the ~

take the (traditional career) track

I didn't ~

**direction: train**

**track down (verb)**

track down John Sergeant

I decided I would ~ and ask him what...

track down a (caller's) location

in order to ~... (police)

track down his (work) phone

it took some effort to ~

tracked down the relatives

Moroccan officials ~ of the man (terrorist)

tracked down the (first) vehicle

authorities ~, a Subaru Outback...

track down victims

early efforts to ~ turned up... (identity theft)

track down water

how hard it can be to ~ in the Mojave

track down (dog-friendly) cafes and hotels

~ (a Web site)

track down (high-school) girlfriends  
they ~... (NFL background checks)

track down the financing  
our efforts to ~ of al Qaeda

tracked down this sickness  
Evans ~ lurking in the milk supply (undulant fever)

tracked him down at a (corner) dice game  
she ~

effort to track down  
it took some ~ his work phone

**searching & discovery: hunting / verb**  
**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb**

**tracked (followed)**

tracked all over campus  
students are ~ (security systems)

tracked at factories, office parks, stadiums  
people are ~ (security systems)

tracked through the system  
parts must be ~ (military logistics)

information should be tracked  
this ~ in the TOC and the CTCP (military)

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting**

**tracker (person)**

tracker app  
check out our ~ to see the progress of your delivery

♦ "He read the signs like a map." (A "Shadow Wolves" tracker, Tohono O'odham.)

♦ "Bedouin have a remarkable ability to find their way across the desert. There is an Arab saying that a Murra (Al Murrah) tribesman can be taken on a 3-day journey across trackless country, blindfolded, and then told to bury a coin in the sand at night. A decade later he will be able to return and locate his coin." (George B. Cressey.)

♦ "Tigers, lynxes, bears, wolverines, wapiti, deer, roe, pig, all are resident in this rich *taiga*. / Dersu strode on in silence, serenely seeing everything. I was reveling in the view, but he looked at a twig broken off at the height of a man's arm, and from the way it was hanging knew the direction in which the man had been going. From the freshness of the fracture he judged the time that had elapsed. Whenever I passed by a particularly obvious track, Dersu would chuckle, wag his head, and say: / 'H'm! Just like small boy. Go walk, wag head; have eyes, no-can look-see.' / As we went, I trod upon a thorn..." (*Dersu Uzala* by V. K. Arseniev.)

♦ "The reconstruction of jungle events from signs on the ground has always held great interest for me." (*Man-Eaters of Kumaon* by Jim Corbett, Introduction by Sir Maurice Hallett, Preface by Lord Linlithgow (Viceroy of India 1936-1943). It is a wonderful account of hunting actual man-eating tigers. The Jim Corbet National Park is in Uttarakhand. Tigers live there.)

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / person**  
**person: hunting**

**tracking**

tracking of immigrants  
the need for the government to improve its ~

tracking information  
for ~, visit us at... (post office)

tracking number  
~ 844553785371 (Federal Express)

eye-tracking  
usability experts may use ~ software

missile-tracking  
Russia has constructed a large, ~ radar

period tracking  
the USWNT and NWSL used ~ as a strategy (menstruation)

radio tracking  
animals fitted with ~ collars

acquisition and tracking  
frequencies of enemy ~ systems

♦ "Backtracking, doglegging or other countertracking methods..." (The military.)

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting**

**track record (good)**

track record of accomplishments  
years of experience and a ~ (resume)

track record in improving  
he has a ~ schools (election)

track record for success  
he's got a ~

skills, achievements and track record  
your ~ (job hunting)

♦ This usage refers to a runner's time.

**achievement, recognition & praise: sports & games**

**history: sports & games**

**track record (bad)**

track record of these methods  
given the ~... (poor)

track record of getting the big issues wrong  
he has a ~, time after time (Federal Reserve candidate)

**flaws & lack of flaws: sports & games**

**history: sports & games**

**traction (gain / build / get traction)**

traction with customers  
none of their products have gained significant ~

traction on social media  
his comments about the movie gained ~

build traction  
her campaign is starting to ~ (politics)

gain traction  
rumors ~ in an atmosphere of uncertainty

gaining traction

an effort to establish industrywide safety standards is ~

getting traction

the economic recovery was finally ~

struggled to gain traction

her campaign has ~ (elections)

**force: movement / verb**

**progress & lack of progress / starting, going, continuing & ending: movement / verb**

**trade (verb)**

traded some ideas

we ~ on how we could work collectively (diplomacy)

**possession: money / verb**

**trademark (noun)**

trademark word salad

she served up another helping of her ~ (U.S. Vice President)

**characterization / evidence: mark**

**tragedy (noun)**

act of the tragedy

the first ~ has been enacted (war)

farce and tragedy

man walks a narrow line in nature between ~ (Antarctic)

ended in tragedy

the hostage drama ~ when...

follow tragedy with farce

this will undermine them, you will ~ (politics)

look at the tragedy from a new angle

these conclusions help us ~

♦ "City authorities called his death a 'tragedy.'" (An "unsheltered community member" entered a lake and drowned while swimming away from the police, who had been called to the scene after an altercation between the drowned man and his partner.)

♦ When Marx wrote that history repeats itself, "the first time as tragedy, the second time as farce," he was specifically comparing Napoleon Bonaparte to his nephew, Napoleon III, the ruler Victor Hugo disparaged as Napoleon the Little. Winston Churchill had a somewhat more judicious view of Napoleon III: "For more than twenty years this amiable, dreamy figure was to play a striking and not always ineffective part upon the European scene."

♦ War; violence; catastrophe; sacrifice; betrayal; justice; retribution; horror; suffering; wrath; madness; power; fallen kings; family curses; destiny; fate; cycles of carnage; hidden reasons; invisible gods pulling strings; dark patterns and connections; secret flaws; "the sins of the fathers and the sufferings of the children"; the devastating relationship of the present to the past; public rites; mourning; "the reassertion of order and ritual," dark solace..." (Elements of Greek drama and tragedy mentioned in "JFK, Tragedy, Myth" in *Ecstasy and Terror: From the Greeks to Game of Thrones* by Daniel Mendelsohn.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: theater**

**traffic light (or traffic signal)**

"traffic light" regime

operators should observe a ~ (fracking / England)

traffic light system

there is now a ~ in place (pandemic travel to countries)

a ~ sets out rules for entering the UK

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: color / sign, signal, symbol**

**trail (follow)**

trailed him

the accusations have ~ for years (of sexual misconduct)

the allegations that ~ finally caught up to him

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb**

**trail (competition and progress)**

trails so many countries

the U.S. ~ in health-care

trailed the Celtics by 20 points

the Warriors ~ in the fourth quarter

**competition / growth & development / progress & lack of progress: direction / journeys & trips / movement / sports & games / verb / walking, running & jumping**

**trail (blaze a trail)**

blazed

thank you, Penny Marshall, for the trails you ~

blazed the trail for many young film makers

he ~ (Samuel L. Jackson on death of John Singleton)

blazed a trail between Greeks and Turks

they have ~ with their music

blazed a trail into the workplace

women like her ~

blazed his own trail

he ~

♦ "Questioned about her art, Lydia launches into an impassioned riff on the nature of musical time; asked about gender, she names various trailblazers who took to the podium before her but seems otherwise unconcerned with couching her achievement in strictly feminist terms. Her trail is her own." ("Baton Charge: 'Tar' by Anthony Lane, *The New Yorker*, October 10, 2022.)

**importance & significance / searching & discovery: history / journeys & trips / mark / verb**

**trail (throw somebody off the trail, etc.)**

trail went cold

over time, the ~ (murder investigation)

throw the police off their trail

their effort to ~ failed (runaway mom)

**subterfuge: hunting / verb**

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb**

**trail (digital trail, etc.)**

trail of blood

officers followed a ~ to a vacant house

trail of breadcrumbs

see *breadcrumb* (evidence)

#### trail of clues

the murderer left a ~ (arrested)

#### trail of deceit

this industry has left a ~ (tobacco)

#### trail of devastation

deadly tornadoes leave a ~ in Florida (newspaper)

#### trail of (blood) drops

a ~ led away from the bodies

#### trail of (secret) settlements

there is a paper ~ (NBC and sex abuse)

#### accelerant trail

the ~ led into her bedroom (arson)

#### blood trails

the guides have been following ~ (hunting)

#### data trail

they followed the ~ to his computer (criminal)

#### digital trail

investigators are going through a ~ of text messages

#### meteor trail

the ~ persisted for over a minute before disappearing

#### money trail

they are following the ~

#### paper trail

officials follow extensive ~s

there is a ~ that exonerates him (State Department)

#### scent trail

bloodhounds found no ~ (an abduction)

#### evidence / pursuit, capture & escape / searching & discovery: hunting

### trail (campaign trail, etc.)

#### campaign trail

the 2000 presidential ~

#### comeback trail

they are on the ~ after serious injuries (skiers)

the genre is on the ~ (hard rock music)

#### route: journeys & trips

### trail (canoe trail, etc.)

#### Canoe Trail

the 740-mile Northern Forest ~ (New York to Maine)

#### Civil Rights Trail

the U.S. ~ has over 130 stops across 14 states

#### civil rights trails

~ across the South have proven to be an economic driver

#### Fly Fishing Trail

the Western North Carolina ~, created in 2009

#### Heritage Trail

the Coal ~ (US 52 and Route 16 in West Virginia)

#### Historic Trail

adding routes to the existing Trail of Tears National ~

#### Mural Trail

the Appalachian ~ is bringing new energy to small towns

#### Water Trail

the Hudson River Greenway ~ has a landing every 10 miles

♦ "Ale Trail Pass. (Jackson County). Program rewards craft beer fans for visiting local breweries...After visiting at least four breweries, participants can pick up a Jackson County pint glass and stickers at the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce."

♦ "You know what's good? Instant mashed potatoes mixed with ramen noodles. Now, that's good." (A hiker at the "Fontana Hilton" trail hut on the Appalachian Trail in Graham County, North Carolina, poised to enter the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Hikers generally eat only what they can carry.)

♦ "The Yukon lay at his feet, a sea of ice, disappearing around two great bends to the north and south, and stretching an honest two miles from bank to bank. Over its rough breast ran the sled-trail, a slender sunken line, eighteen inches wide and two thousand miles in length, with more curses distributed to the linear foot than any other road in or out of all Christendom." ("The Man With the Gash" by Jack London.)

#### route: journeys & trips

### trailblazer (person)

#### trailblazer

she was a ~

#### trailblazer for (African-American) directors

Singleton was considered a ~ in the 1990s

#### rebel or trailblazer

he was asked if he regarded himself as a ~ (LIV Golf)

#### importance & significance: journeys & trips / person

#### person: journeys & trips

### trailblazing

#### trailblazing research

~ in capital punishment

#### importance & significance: journeys & trips

### trail of tears

#### trail of tears

the training can be a ~ (PJs / military)

#### sort of a trail of tears

it's a ~, it goes on (photos of DC murder victims)

#### two-mile trail of tears

our walk is a ~ (hot in Austin for SXSW music festival)

#### made a trail of tears to some other reach of the state

a quarter million people have ~ and country (post-Katrina)

♦ "Trail of Tears" has come to refer to the removal of the Cherokee Indians from the Southeast to Oklahoma, and to the removal and resettlement of other Indian groups.

♦ In a 2013 playoff game in Alabama, the McAdory High School football team played the Pinson Valley High School "Indians." The McAdory cheerleaders prepared a "bust thru" banner which read, "Hey Indians. Get ready to leave in a Trail of Tears. Round 2." Following criticism,

school officials later apologized for the banner and sought to deflect responsibility: "The person who would normally be responsible for approving such signs is out on maternity leave" and "The cheerleading squad will be disciplined." Of course, throwing the girls and their pregnant leader under the bus only provoked further criticism.

♦ "Right here in the barn there he was beaten and then taken on what we called the tear trail of terror." (Mayor Johnny Thomas of Glendora, Mississippi, about the murder of Emmett Till.)

♦ Similarly, hard, difficult "slogs" are sometimes compared to the Bataan Death March, both in non-trivial and trivial, exaggerated contexts. The phrase is used much like the word "adventure." You might visit the Boundary Waters area and have real adventures with bears, or you might find yourself saying, "My trip to the grocery store turned into a real adventure!"

♦ "*Blonde* feels like a slow-motion death march." (The great film critic Justin Chang's negative review.)

♦ The "Arduous March..." (An official term used by Kim Jong-il in the 1990s for the famine years.)

♦ Many died during the "Great Leap Forward." (China.)

**difficulty, easiness & effort / feeling, emotion & effect / migration / survival, persistence & endurance: history / journeys & trips / walking, running & jumping**

## train (failure)

train wreck

see *train wreck*

wheels are coming off the train

the ~ in the mortgage business

♦ "Horses shied at the hissing horror that scorched by them at fifteen miles an hour..."

**failure, accident & impairment: train**

## train (hype train)

hype train

the ~ was derailed (for Y.A. book, by sensitivity readers)

hype train chugged full speed ahead

the ~

hype train has come to an end

the ~ and Usyk will put him down (AJ / boxing)

well managed money making hype train

he is nothing but a ~ (boxing snark)

hype train derailed

the ~ AGAIN (England soccer / Qatar 2022)

derailed the AJ hype train

Ruiz ~ (boxing)

get off the (hype) train

he is hype, and the sooner people ~ the sooner... (boxing)

halted the (Johnny Walker) hype train

he ~ with a first round TKO (MMA)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: train**

## train (legal train, Trump train, etc.)

Trump train

she was on the Donald ~ (politics)

campaign train

seats on Joe Biden's ~ are starting to fill up (endorsers)

## impeachment train

is an ~ beginning to chug out of the station (politics)

## legal train

the ~ chugs forward, unperturbed...

♦ "Nine out of the last eleven times in Democratic party politics, the person who has won Iowa has gone on to win the nomination... They'll first have a job uniting the party. And then, further down the track, Donald Trump will be waiting. The Democrats have a fight on their hands, a brutal one." (BBC's North America editor John Sopol reporting from Iowa on BBC Newshour. What is interesting and noteworthy is that his comments are accompanied by train horns and crossing-track warning signals, at first faint, then rising to a crescendo. This is a rare case of the use of a metaphor with sound effects.)

♦ "Each of those times [her election victories] she was on the Donald Trump train. And this time she not only stepped off that train, she lay down on the track in front of it." (Ron Elving, NPR political pundit, about Liz Cheney.)

**operation: mechanism / train**

## train (train is pulling into the station, etc.)

train is pulling into the station

the ~, he will be acquitted (impeachment trial)

♦ Dan Harris, ABC presenter: "Are there potentially any twists that could come at the end to derail the march towards acquittal?" / Melissa Murray, NYU Law Professor: "I think it would take an absolute political tornado to derail this, this train is pulling into the station, the president is likely to be acquitted as it were on Wednesday."

**starting, going, continuing & ending: train**

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: train**

## train (train has left the station, etc.)

train has left the station

that ~, I can't see stopping that (active-shooter drills)

train has (already) left the station

that ~

train was leaving the station without him

he realized the ~ (merger plans)

miss the train

it's important we don't ~

♦ "Your dad loved her very much. It there was one other cat in this world that could have loved her and treated her as well as your dad, then it was me. But, unfortunately, for yours truly, that train has sailed." (Austin Powers to Vanessa Kensington from the film *Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery*.)

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: movement / train / verb**

## train (future)

train has been coming down the tracks

this ~ for the past 10 years (change in government)

**future / time: direction / movement / train**

## train (runaway train)

runaway train of drug addiction

data show the ~ has slowed down

**control & lack of control / force: train**

## train (in one's train / at a later time)

in their train

the Chinese arrived with disease ~ (eastern Siberia)

**sequence / time: direction / movement / position / prep, adv, adj, particle / train**

## train (get on the Trump train, etc.)

get on the Trump train

Republicans must ~ or else

got on the Trump train

when he ultimately ~, he stuck to it (politics)

boarded the Trump Train

many of the events took place before he ~ (politics)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: train**

**unanimity & consensus: train**

## train wreck

train wreck

that interview with those NALF women was a real ~  
he is a ~ waiting to happen (job)

train wreck of a term

his ~ has 30 months to go... (president)

train-wreck (former) actress

thank God this ~ didn't maim or kill someone

fiscal train wreck

a ~ looms ahead (deficit government spending)

extent of the train wreck

the diplomats don't fully comprehend the ~ (UN)

headed for a train wreck

we are ~ (a politician about budget proposal)

♦ "AH, she's a lost cause, this train wreck has derailed." (A comment about the Johnny Depp-Amber Heard trial.)

♦ "7.5 million followers??? Guess everyone is signing up to watch the train wreck go over a cliff. Same reason people slow down to look at car accidents. Don't get it." (A comment about a wellness check carried out by police on Gabbie Hanna, a Millennial online personality who goes by the name "Trauma Queen.")

♦ "I mean, as messy as all my relationships have been publicly, I'm glad I'm not going to touch this shit. Like the family side, I'm gonna leave alone because I have my own fucking train wreck of personal family shit out there..." (An ex-NBA player talking about the latest NBA sex scandal.)

**destruction: crashes & collisions / train**

**failure, accident & impairment: crashes & collisions / train**

## traitor (person)

traitor to his class

he was a ~

traitor, a backstabber and a fraud

former fans have been waiting to call him a ~ (basketball)

'race traitor'

he was attacked as being a ~ on several blogs (Jeff Ma)

snake and a traitor

Sanders loyalists called Warren a ~ (no endorsement)

♦ Benedict Arnold; Wang Jingwei (died of wounds from an assassination attempt in Japan); Vidkun Quisling (executed by firing squad); Pierre Laval (executed by firing squad); Philippe Pétain (died in the throes of dementia); William Joyce (aka Lord Haw-Haw / hanged)... (Notorious traitors.)

♦ "He's a human being; we should treat him the same as we treat any other G.I. In my opinion, I think the boy deserves it; he just got off on the wrong track. And I know for a fact when he went to Korea, he didn't know whether he was going to come back or he was going to stay there. So, maybe he got a little scared when he was captured. Maybe he was pressured, tortured. I don't think it's the boy's own fault. No doubt at the time—I never seen him or never met him—No doubt he was young and he wasn't trained properly." (Charles E. Kelly, World War Two veteran and Medal of Honor recipient, when he was asked by Mike Wallace, "How do you think that we should treat US Army turncoats?" like Samuel David Hawkins, who had just returned home to the US from China in 1957. Hawkins had been a POW who, at the end of the Korean War, had decided to defect to China instead of returning home immediately. Hawkins was the youngest of only 22 American and British servicemen to defect to China after the war. The oilman M. H. Champion paid for Hawkins' return and gave him a job. In general, Hawkins was accepted on his return to the US.)

♦ "In the old days, deserters were shot... right?" (Donald Trump, campaigning for president, as the crowd cheers and whistles. He was referring to Bo Bergdahl, who walked off his COP in Afghanistan and was held captive by the enemy for five years.)

**allegiance, support & betrayal / person: military**

## trajectory (noun)

trajectory

he started out on another ~ entirely (career)

trajectory of the war

he helped formulate the strategy that reset the ~

epidemic's trajectory

a trial could have slowed the opioid ~

life's (natural) trajectory

sport compresses ~ of ascent, apogee and decline

stalled trajectory

she got depressed at the ~ of her once-promising career

artistic trajectory

the album's single is emblematic of Batiste's ~

alter the trajectory

the caucus could ~ of the race (US election)

followed a (kind of) trajectory

Lenny ~ (Lenny Pozner, Sandy Hook parent)

set the trajectory

the right college will ~ for the rest of your child's life

reset the trajectory

he helped formulate the strategy that ~ of the war

shifted the trajectory

new information has ~ their probe (police)

**course / development: journeys & trips / flying & falling / physics / shape**

## trample (verb)

trample on his rights  
that doesn't allow you to ~

**destruction / oppression: animal / foot / verb**

## trampled

trampled underfoot  
the rights of victims were effectively ~ (clergy sex abuse)

♦ "It is so clear the dream of Afghan people stepped under the feet of animals." (An Afghan.)

**destruction: animal / foot**

## tranquil (activity)

tranquil  
with the international scene apparently ~, Admiral Davis...

**activity: water / wind**

## transactional (adjective)

transactional  
he is totally ~, without honor, courage, integrity...  
how ~ their relationships have been with him (*Succession*)  
this was not ~, rape is rape (Sarah Ransome)  
for him, truth is purely ~, "What is in it for me" (politician)

transactional approach  
the ~ attaches strings ("vaccine diplomacy")

transactional exchange  
this was a ~ of sex for information (a journalist)

transactional marriage  
she has a ~ with her husband (tabloid)

transactional mentality  
a ~ has led to paradoxical demands (student as customer)

transactional relationship  
a strategic partnership has become a largely ~

transactional sex  
this was simply "~" with women seeking to get ahead

transactional terms  
the president largely sees foreign policy in ~

transactional word  
"cancel" is a very ~ (cancel culture)

transactional and contractual  
a society based primarily on ~ relations (vs Church, class)

transactional or transformative  
it can be ~ (a pundit on national election)

much more than transactional  
their time together is ~ (*Good Luck To You, Leo Grande*)

commercial, (rather) transactional  
it used to be a strictly ~ relationship with China

consensual, transactional  
his lawyer called the incident "~ sex" (Harvey Weinstein)

tactical, transactional, impulsive  
his approach is ~ (not strategic)

♦ "Democracy was never meant to be transactional, 'You give me your vote, I make everything better.'" It requires an active and informed citizenry." (Barak Obama, 2020.)

♦ "Gratitude is not a relevant concept in international relations and never has been."

**position, policy and negotiation: money**

**contempo-speak: language**

## transition (die)

transitioned  
my youngest and only daughter has ~ (died)

**death & life: euphemism**

## translate (verb)

translate words into reality  
the failure to ~... (diplomacy)

translate the language of science into terms  
he can ~ people understand

translate into votes  
endorsements don't always ~ (politics)

translate into (operational) safety  
design safety does not necessarily ~ (factories)

**creation & transformation: speech / verb**

## transparency (noun)

transparency in (government) procurement  
~ (part of WTO agenda)

Transparency measures  
Article 7 ~ (UN convention against landmines)

transparency and accountability  
the need for financial ~ (PLO)

financial transparency  
the need for ~ and accountability (PLO)

a lot of transparency  
we don't have ~, a good view into how it decides (Twitter)

transparency turned opaque  
the seeming ~ (historical allegation of rape with settlement)

lacks transparency  
the process ~

♦ "I know... one of the best things that the prison system is good at doing is hiding behind the walls." (Paul Taylor, "the man who started the Strangeways Prison riot." The riot occurred in Manchester, England, in 1990.)

**concealment & lack of concealment: eye / light & dark**

## transparent (adjective)

comprehensive, transparent and independent  
the investigation should be ~ (plane crash)

free and transparent (m)  
ensuring ~ elections (Kosovo)

**concealment & lack of concealment: eye / light & dark**

## transplant (noun)

Atlanta's transplants

creating a hometown atmosphere for ~ (sports bars)

recent transplant

he mistook Miles for a ~ (vs. a born-and-raised native)

**growth & development / migration: plant**

**dismissal, removal & resignation: plant**

**identity & nature: plant**

## transport (in time)

transports her readers to the monuments and history

she ~ of Aphrodisias in Turkey (a historian)

transported audiences back in time

he ~ (a singer)

**fictive transportation / time: movement / verb**

## trap (verb)

trapped me in a web of deceit

he ~

**involvement: hunting / verb**

**danger / pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb**

## trap (in a trap)

in a trap

I'm ~, I can't get out of it

**situation: container / hunting**

**pursuit, capture & escape: container / hunting**

## trap (military / noun)

trap was sprung

the ~, Paulus's Sixth Army was surrounded... (Stalingrad)

escape the trap

Stalin, alarmed that the prey might be about to ~...

**military: animal / hunting**

## trap (other)

trap

his proposal is not a solution but a ~ (diplomacy)

clickbait trap

threading the needle of writing a headline to avoid the ~

debate traps

Macron avoids ~ (against Le Pen)

Debt Trap

The ~: How Student Loans Became a National Catastrophe

likeability trap

women must stop falling into the '~'

speed trap

the State Police set up ~s to catch speeders

thirst trap

I promise this is my last ~ pic (dressed up)

I get more likes when I post ~s (Gen Zer influencer)

tricks and traps

car dealerships deploy ~ to make money from you

trap is set

the ~ (a stratagem to catch a criminal)

trap is sprung

at the right opportunity, the ~ (politics)

avoid these traps

her new book examines how to ~ (women)

escape (at least one of) the traps

he had managed to ~ Bradley had laid for him

fallen into a trap

the Bush administration has ~ (by invading Iraq)

fallen for the trap

many online personals users have ~ (scam)

laid a trap

he ~ (Andy Lee knocks out John Jackson 2014)

lays a trap

it feels good now but it ~ for us later on (Fed decision)

♦ Falling into a pattern is falling into a trap." (Ex-FBI profiler, speaking of the Washington, D.C.-area sniper.)

♦ Asparagus beds, Czech hedgehogs, Dragon's teeth... (Anti-tank obstacles, or tank traps.)

**danger / pursuit, capture & escape / subterfuge: hunting**

## trap (Chinese finger trap)

Chinese finger trap

engaging with Trump is like a ~ (Joe Biden)

♦ Trying hard to remove your fingers only makes the trap tighter. Sometimes, if you are in a jam, it is better to relax.

**situation: container / pressure**

## trapdoor (computers)

trap door

'~s' allow outsiders access to the system (computers)

**computer / subterfuge: doors & thresholds**

**concealment & lack of concealment: doors & thresholds**

## trapped

trapped in a (sodomasochist) love affair

he was ~ with a former RAF pilot

trapped in the battle

~ between his warring parents

trapped as a (permanent) adjunct

you could end up ~ forever (colleges)

trapped by dogma

don't be ~ (Steve Jobs / Apple Computer)

feels trapped

she ~ (in a small town)

got trapped

they ~ in a cycle of drug-taking (prostitutes)

end up trapped

you could ~ as a permanent adjunct forever (colleges)

**involvement / situation: hunting**

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting**

## trash (verb)

trash each other's work

campaigns by competing studios to ~ (the Oscars)

**accusation & criticism: speech / verb / waste**

## trash (noun)

trash

you're no better than the ~ that shot this little boy

he's nothing but ~ (assault allegations)

TRASH

Boebert is ~ (one US representative about another)

trash talk

see *trash talk (verb)* and *trash talk (noun)*

trailer trash

she went from ~ to rich as sin and back

she's not ~, but she sure acts that way

white trash

Mama persuaded us we were special, not just ~

full of trash

the Internet was ~ that threatened to follow me for life

piece of trash

the book is a filthy ~ (*Lolita* by VN)

sweep the trash off the streets

it's time for NYC law enforcement to ~ (crime)

♦ "She'll be back in the system, trash is trash." (A comment about a woman, convicted of murder as a teen, being released early from prison.)

**accusation & criticism / insult / worth & lack of worth:**

**hygiene / speech / waste**

## trash talk (verb)

trash talk

they don't have to ~, they talk with their feet (NFL)

they ~ in what they think is a private call

~ is baked into the culture of play (basketball)

♦ "He was the originator of getting in your face and talking trash." (Orlando Woolridge about the great NBA player Larry Bird, a Hoosier from French Lick, Indiana.)

♦ "Your mouth wrote a check that your ass couldn't cash." (A gleeful trash-talking radio commentator, about a boxer, known for talking trash, who lost.)

♦ "He's a young puppy, I'm a big dog here, whatever I say, goes." (Magic Johnson good naturedly talking trash about Michael Jordan at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics. The team was famous for its chemistry.)

**speech: verb / waste**

**insult: speech / verb / waste**

**worth & lack of worth: verb / speech**

## trash talk (noun)

trash talk

the ~ escalated to violence

too much ~, too much mouth from... (NFL)

trash talking and hype

months of ~ preceded the boxing match

♦ In *Smithsonian* (June 2011) there is a page showing a pretty, smiling young woman sitting behind a pile of trash consisting of empty plastic bottles. The page is titled "TRASH TALK" and points the reader to an article on sustainable development.

**speech: waste**

**insult: speech / waste**

**worth & lack of worth: speech**

## trashy (adjective)

trashy

you might think I'm ~ ("Redneck Woman")

♦ "NFL overtime rules are so trash. Which is honestly an insult to trash." (NBC Philadelphia Sports reporter Taryn Hatcher.)

♦ "To call this season a dumpster fire would be an insult....to dumpster fires." (NFL Las Vegas Raiders snark.)

**admiration & contempt / behavior / character & personality**

**/ insult / worth & lack of worth: waste**

## trauma (groups, etc.)

trauma

~ can occur, even vicariously... (race-based trauma)

trauma of being Black

the ~ in America (Kathryn Fink)

trauma of being oneself

"On a new album, 'Heterosexuality,' Shamir tackles the ~"

trauma of life

the ~ that makes one want to fight

trauma industry

as the ~ was building steam and attracting clients...

trauma model

the biggest beneficiaries of the ~ are trauma theorists

trauma porn

it's easy to descend into ~ (the great writer Phil Klay)

trauma-porn

she characterized her former friend as a ~ star (contrived)

trauma queen

he's an oversharing ~ (a celebrity)

trauma sharing

~ (J. McCurdy / *I'm Glad My Mom Died*)

trauma-informed

~ therapies for anxiety, depression & PTSD (Ryan Gallagher)

*Traum-Com*

“*The Rise of The ~*” (*Vanity Fair*, June, 2022)

trauma and injury  
when people don’t validate you that’s another ~

*Racialized Trauma*  
*My Grandmother’s Hands*: ~ (Resmaa Menakem)

race-based trauma  
many Black experience “~” (vicariously)

race-related trauma  
debilitating ~ for Asian, Black, indigenous, and Latinx...

birth trauma  
women dealing with miscarriage or ~

Black trauma  
the appetite for stories about ~

family trauma  
we’re all fractured with issues, ~, addictions (Halle Berry)

microaggression trauma  
most of the world doesn’t care about your ~

African trauma  
the Eurocentric narrative will always discount ~

ancestral trauma  
a healing mechanism for ~ (NATIFS / food)  
how ~ informs patients’ health decision making

collective trauma  
dealing with ~ in the wake of mass shootings (NPR)

generational trauma  
when I trace it back I realize that this was just ~ (Black)  
the ~ First Nations communities feel (suicide, addiction)

historical trauma  
she entered a doctorate program to study ~

intergenerational trauma  
the ~ of Black people  
it’s a young adult love story that explores ~ and racism

racial trauma  
~ in Minneapolis  
~ expert weights in on...

secondary trauma  
~ comes from hearing about or seeing a traumatic event  
~ is trauma with no direct connection (news, picture, etc.)  
I’m sure you’ve heard of the term ~ (clinical social worker)  
~ felt after events like mass shootings

historical, racial and intergenerational trauma  
the negative impacts of ~ on my mom’s wellbeing

balm for the trauma  
her films are a ~ that adolescents feel

fetishization of (Black) trauma  
this ~ epitomizes an industry (entertainment)

comedy in trauma

there’s ~ (Amy Schumer, Bridget Everett, Simone Finch, etc.)

born into trauma  
these brothers were ~ and are now sharing it

creating more trauma  
closed schools are ~ (pandemic)

navigates (generational) trauma  
an immigrant family ~

punished for their trauma  
other colleagues have been ~ (fired WAPO reporter)

turned it into trauma  
blackness gave virality its teeth, ~ (the Internet)

♦ “The trauma that sometimes comes with being a black student at predominately white institutions is tangible. In their 2015 paper, ‘Reimagining Critical Race Theory in Education: Mental Health, Healing and the Pathway to Liberatory Praxis,’ Ebony O. McGee, a professor at Vanderbilt University, and David Stovall, a professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago, found that black college students who weather the effects of studying and living on predominately white campuses suffer from a ‘physical and mental wear-and-tear that contributes to a host of psychological and physical ailments.’” (“For Black College Prospects, Belonging and Safety Often Top Ivy Prestige” by Denene Millner, NPR, Code Switch, Opinion, February 26, 2017.)

♦ “One thing we need to better understand is intergeneration trauma and history. All the research shows the survivors have no parenting skills. Now, there’s something called Boarding School Syndrome—it’s basically post-traumatic stress disorder. They have intrusive memories, flashbacks, nightmares, attachment disorder, personal shame—they’re ashamed of being Indian—trouble sleeping, poor anger management, deficient parenting skills and the tendency to abuse alcohol. It’s also called ‘disenfranchised grief’ because it can’t be publicly mourned. Some call it a ‘soul wound.’” (Denise Lajimodiere. From “Q & A with Denise Lajimodiere,” National Catholic Reporter, July 22-August 4, 2022.)

♦ “These brothers were born into trauma and are now sharing that trauma with those around them.” (Professor Niigaan Sinclair, an Anishinaabe, head of indigenous studies at the university of Manitoba, about Myles and Damien Sanderson, 2022.)

♦ “Tanya [Mosely] is also the host of the podcast *Truth Be Told*, which has a new season coming in April, exploring advances in the use of psychedelics to treat PTSD due to racial trauma.” (NPR, Fresh Air, Dave Davies, March 17, 2023.)

♦ “In a letter to the judge, Singer blamed his actions on his ‘winning at all costs’ attitude, which he said was caused in part by suppressed childhood trauma.” (“‘Varsity Blues’ mastermind faces sentencing for college scam” by Alanna Durkin Richer, AP, Jan 4, 2023.)

♦ “She carried grief over her family’s past.” (Brittany Martin, found guilty of breaching the peace in a high and aggravated manner in South Carolina. From “A Black protester voiced anger at police in South Carolina. She got 4 years in prison,” NPR-AP News, Sept 6, 2022. It’s a very interesting article.)

♦ “[S]ome researchers want to expand the definition of trauma that’s fueled by the experience of racism.” (“Coping While Black: A Season Of Traumatic News Takes A Psychological Toll,” Cheryl Corley, NPR, All Things Considered, July 2, 2015.)

♦ “With the moral injury, that was going on with the officers, because of the scrutiny from the public, umm, uhh... I’m sure you’ve heard of the term compassion fatigue and secondary trauma, we felt it...” (Andy Carrier, clinical social worker, who counseled Uvalde school-shooting officers.)

♦ “I truly believe it’s a matter of time. And again, this isn’t about taking anything from anyone, it’s actually about lifting trauma and...” (Debbie Ngarewa-Packer, seeking to change New Zealand’s name to Aotearoa.)

♦ “My great-great-great-grandparents’ home was burned to the ground by a mob in Illinois. You don’t forget stuff like that.” (A Mormon.)

♦ “Harris’ attorneys had sought a six-year sentence, followed by eight years of supervised release, arguing in court documents filed last month

that he is 'both victimizer and victim' after being assaulted as a minor. 'The trauma he experienced as a child normalized his skewed version of what he understood to be appropriate relationships,' his attorneys said." ("Former 'Cheer' star Jerry Harris sentenced to 12 years in Prison for sex crimes," by Meredith Deliso, ABC News, July 06, 2022. Crimes against boys.)

♦ "The producers of the opera say the story will hopefully inspire white people to confront racism, others, though, worry it depicts Black trauma for white entertainment while masquerading as activism." ("A new opera about Emmett Till is criticized for being created from a white perspective," NPR, Morning Edition.)

♦ "Megan Thee Stallion gets vulnerable on hot sophomore album 'Traumazine,'" NPR, All Things Considered, August 12, 2022. (Traumazine is "in reference to the *fictional* [italics mine] chemical that is released in your brain when you're forced to deal with painful emotions caused by traumatic events and experiences.")

♦ "I love dealing with my trauma in funny ways." (Gabbie Hanna, the Millennial online personality who goes by the name "Trauma Queen.")

♦ "7.5 million followers??? Guess everyone is signing up to watch the train wreck go over a cliff. Same reason people slow down to look at car accidents. Don't get it." (A comment about a wellness check carried out by police on Gabbie Hanna, a Millennial online personality who goes by the name "Trauma Queen.")

♦ "It was a trauma-pa-looza." (A disparaging online commenter about Prince Harry's online therapy session with Gabor Mate.)

♦ "The representation of emotion plays to the gallery." (Humiliation, anguish, distress, etc.)

♦ "The way it kind of leans on trauma sometimes felt a little swicky." (A discussion about Alex Garland's film *Men* on NPR's Pop Culture Happy Hour.)

♦ "It's gone from being a hallmark to being a cliché. Any time there's a [horror trope?] you know you're going to be dealing with trauma." (Films like *Halloween* (2018) with Jamie Lee Curtis, *Men*, etc.)

♦ "The trauma plot flattens, distorts, reduces character to symptom, and, in turn, instructs and insists upon its moral authority." ("The Key To Me" by Parul Sehgal, *The New Yorker*, January 3 & 10, 2022.)

♦ "I've been silent about this for years. However, over [the] past two weeks watching Rachel stubbornly refuse to move on from her contrived trauma, ever brazen and unchecked, while going on every show that will have her, I thought—now I have to." (Anna Sorokin aka Anna Delvey about Rachel DeLoache Williams.)

♦ Read "The Rise Of The Traum-Com: Childhood cancer, alcoholism, humiliation, and death become the stuff of wistful comedy" by Rebecca Ford, *Vanity Fair*, June 2022.)

♦ "Maybe I'll lean into the pain narrative, write that and get a good advance, ya'll pay me for that, right." (Fantasy author L.L. McKinney.)

♦ "Case 16.—N.M.M.—, major 14<sup>th</sup> Tennessee regiment, aged 30, wounded at the second battle of Manassas August 30<sup>th</sup>, 1862. A common musket ball struck the left side of the head, a little in front of, and on a level with the parietal protuberance... He was not examined by a surgeon on the field, as no one who saw him thought he would live beyond a few hours at the most. The day following a large piece of bone was removed by his brother with his finger... At present, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1863, he is walking about with the assistance of a crutch. His paralysis is getting very slowly better; but he speaks with a good deal of difficulty... There is a large cicatrized surface covering a depression two and a half inches long and three-fourths of an inch wide, beneath which, when the head is bent forward, the pulsations of the brain can be seen and felt distinctly..." ("Eighteen Cases of Gun-Shot Wounds of the Head, observed at the General Hospital, Charlottesville, Virginia. From Prof. J. L. Cabell, University of Virginia." Reprinted in *The Richmond Medical Journal*, E.S. Gaillard, M.D., and W.S. McChesney, M. D., Editors and Publishers, Volume 1, Richmond, VA., 1866.)

♦ "The wounds caused by shell high-explosive fragments and by bombs and grenades are so infinitely various that it is not possible to describe a characteristic shell wound as a type... The large fragments tear away from the limbs or trunk huge masses of skin and muscle. [A]s a result of these injuries, the exposed muscle often loses all its natural characteristic appearance and looks exactly like a mass of mud... In other cases fragments of big shells may tear away the abdominal wall and expose the viscera, or may carry away portions of the face or neck, while the bones of the limbs may be fractured or the limb itself may be completely shot away..." (From the 1915 Bradshaw Lecture on Wounds

in War by Surgeon-General Sir Anthony Bowlby, K.C.M.G., A.M.S., Surgeon in Ordinary to H.M. the King; Consulting Surgeon to the British Expeditionary Force in France; Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.)

♦ "Then Blough kept asking if his balls were all right and the corpsman muttered, 'Yeah, yeah,' but Blough was getting freaky about it, so the doc finally took Blough's unwounded right hand and cupped it against his groin. 'Your balls are there.' / Meanwhile, the vet corpsman had his cherry corpsman working on Blough's left foot. As instructed, he cut away the frayed jungle boot, and the horror of the sight suddenly dribbled from his mouth, 'Oh my God, look at his foot!' / *I must be pretty fucked up*, Blough thought. He couldn't tell. He was in pain, but mostly he was numb, especially after the senior corpsman thumped a morphine Syrette into his leg... Blough was lifted into a poncho. A Sea Horse landed in their smoke-marked clearing-turned-land zone. The one-legged black Marine, who was in bad shape (but who would survive), was hefted into the cabin; and the other wounded man was being helped in when Blough, waiting his turn, thought he heard the soft exit of a mortar round from its tube over the slap-slap-slap of the vibrating chopper's propellers... / Then Gunny Santomaso also heard the pops of a 60mm mortar... The Sea Horse, nose down, roared out of the LZ with its three bloody, bandaged Marines as the first shells began exploding around Alpha Company." (The affecting *Operation Buffalo: USMC Fight for the DMZ* by Keith William Nolan.)

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**  
**mental health: health & medicine**

## traumatic (groups)

traumatic for students

active-shooter drills in schools could be ~

traumatic childhood

Amber McLaughlin's ~ and mental health issues (trans)

traumatic legacy

Indian boarding schools' ~ (native Americans)

traumatic memories

~ of...

traumatic news

a season of ~ (for Blacks)

traumatic stress

"~ injury" is different from "post-traumatic stress disorder"

traumatic week

Orlando wrestles with a ~ (the Florida city)

'traumatic' (bodycam) video

police release ~

post-traumatic

post-traumatic (see post-traumatic stress disorder (and PTSD))

rarely discussed and thus deeply traumatic

queer listeners' ~ human truths...

painful, humiliating and traumatic

this ~ practice must end (WHO / virginity tests)

♦ "Then a cannonball streaked through the air near Grant, missing him but shattering the skull of an enlisted man, spattering his blood and brains on surrounding soldiers. The sudden blast inflicted a disfiguring wound on a Captain Page in Grant's regiment. 'The under jaw is gone to the wind pipe and the tongue hangs down upon the throat,' Grant wrote. 'He will never be able to speak or to eat.'" (*Grant* by Ron Chernow. An incident from the Mexican-American War. Chernow's biography of Alexander Hamilton inspired Lin-Manuel Miranda to create his Broadway musical.)

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

mental health: health & medicine

## traumatic (mental health)

just traumatic

it has been such an emotional roller coaster and ~

time consuming, difficult and (even) traumatic

jury duty can be ~

mental health: health & medicine

feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine

## traumatization (groups)

re-traumatization

and that's a ~, right

vicarious traumatization

vivid imagery producing “~” that has been used for...

psychologists say there is such a thing as “~”

there's a profound phenomenon called ~, well-documented...

prime us for traumatization

the stories passed down ~ (Blacks / race-based)

♦ “We're hearing comments from survivors that, similar to Dr. Ford, they're experiencing a retraumatization...” (“Sexual Assault Hotline Callers Report Retraumatization Following Ford Testimony,” WBUR, October 03, 2018.)

♦ Bierce developed an innovative prose style—limpid, severe, restrained, at once offhand and punctilious—that allowed him to take in the most dreadful scenes (a soldier's face with 'a great red gap' where his lower jaw ought to have been, wild boars eating the stomachs of still-living battlefield casualties) with a flat precision. (“Great American Cynic,” by Benjamin Schwarz, the *Atlantic*, October 2011. Read Ambrose Bierce's “On a Mountain” and “The Coup De Grace.” Bierce was a combat veteran.)

♦ “An unfortunate man, especially horribly and hideously mutilated, was being carried on a stretcher. The bottom of an exploded shell, which had split his face open, turning his tongue and teeth into a bloody gruel, but without killing him, was lodged between his jawbones in place of his torn-out cheek.” (*Doctor Zhivago* by Boris Pasternak.)

inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine

mental health: health & medicine

## traumatize (verb)

traumatize people

law enforcement can ~ in the Black community

traumatize (some) people

the fireworks may ~ (New Year's Eve)

traumatize students

this approach could ~ (lockdown drills)

traumatized (Atlanta) election workers

Trump's lies ~

emotionally and physically traumatize

gym environments continue to ~ young gymnasts

♦ “She didn't want me to see it because she was afraid it would traumatize me, and it did. In a good way.” (Greg Nicotero, who decided he wanted to “do special effects” after seeing the film *Jaws* as a 12 year old. From “Jaws' Shark Gets His Bite Back: A Love Story” by Cory Turner, NPR, Movies, August 9, 2019.)

♦ Torpedoed by a Jap sub, the USS *Indianapolis* sank in 12 minutes. Of the 1,195 crew, eight hundred and ninety sailors lived to make it into the water. Of those, only 316 survived before rescue. Many of those were killed by sharks. The men in the water clung together, forming little

islands, and the marauding sharks savaged those on the outer edges. This was at a time when sailors on boats would poke a lifejacketed man in the water with a stick. If the lifejacket flipped over, it meant the man's body was gone from the waist down. (The sinking of the USS *Indianapolis* was central to the character of Quint in the 1975 film *Jaws*.)

inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine / verb

mental health: health & medicine / verb

## traumatized (groups)

traumatized by life

a handful of students say they've been ~ in Compton

traumatized dogs

~ learn to trust humans again (fearful, undersocialized)

traumatized dolphin

I hope the ~ gets counseling

traumatized penguins

the recovery of the ~

traumatized (urban) spaces

they seek to transform the energy in ~ (Urban Alchemy)

shaken, traumatized

survey finds a ~ people (the unemployed)

triggered and traumatized

Amy Schumer says she's ~ by...

♦ “Twenty-five penguins were in route from the Indianapolis Zoo to a new home in Galveston, Texas, when the refrigerated truck carrying them overturned. Four of them died, but the survivors are squawking and walking and doing remarkably well.” (“The Recovery of the Traumatized Penguins,” Melissa Bloc, NPR, All Things Considered, August 10, 2006.)

♦ “I hope the traumatized dolphin gets counseling. I definitely will need it after just seeing it.” (Abhaya, commenting on “A topless woman attempting to ride a lost dolphin trying to find its way back to the sea, video shows” by Alia Shoaib, Yahoo Insider, July 23, 2022.)

♦ “Students are increasingly seeking help for, and apparently having emotional crises over, problems of everyday life. / Recent examples mentioned included a student who felt traumatized because her roommate had called her a ‘bitch’ and two students who had sought counseling because they had seen a mouse in their off-campus apartment.” (“Declining Student Resilience: A Serious Problem for Colleges” by Peter Gray (psychologist) at his “Freedom to Learn” blog, *Psychology Today*, Sept. 22, 2015.)

♦ “Still triggered and traumatized... I'm still in shock and stunned and sad... Waiting for this sickening feeling to go away from what we all witnessed.” (A tweet from Amy Schumer after Will Smith slapped Chris Rock onstage at the 2022 Oscars / 94th Academy Awards.)

♦ “It was by far the worst experience I've ever had in my entire life. When I say I was traumatized, I was really traumatized.” (An ex-worker on NBC's *The Kelly Clarkson Show*.)

♦ “Officers come out of the line presumably for extra study, but mostly for a rest and a good time. And they must have a girl, or girls. They have seen enough of men for a while. So they fall enthusiastically in love with the first girl they meet, and everybody has a gorgeous time. But I wonder, now and then, if they ever really see us as individuals? I doubt it. Anyway, everybody forgets everybody else as soon as they are gone, and that's that. It's a fascinating game, this playing at love with people who can't stay long enough to be serious. One feels so safe. I'm getting to hate long-drawn-out affairs. Once in a while, of course... / John left today... He stayed about an hour, and we finally parted with all the necessary drama. He is the first of the crowd at the school to go. The thought of it makes me sick. The crowd at the school will all be killed. They always are. I don't see why we aren't all crazy. Maybe we are. We ought to be.” (*Sister: The War Diary of a Nurse* by Helen Dore Boylston. World War I.)

inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine

mental health: health & medicine

## traumatizing (groups)

depressing, if not traumatizing  
these celebrity trials have been ~ (*New Yorker's* Naomi Fry)

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

**mental health: health & medicine**

## traveller (person)

time traveller  
see *time traveller (person)*

## traverse (verb)

traverse the two worlds  
he is trying to ~ (rural and urban / a comic)

♦ In 1963, in one of the great feats of mountaineering, Tom Hornbein and Willi Unsoeld climbed Mount Everest by the West Ridge and descended by the South Col. It was the first ascent of the West Ridge, and the first traverse of Mount Everest.

**division & connection: journeys & trips / mountains & hills / verb**

## travesty (noun)

travesty  
voters will not forget this ~ (Wisconsin)  
it was a ~, going nowhere (DOD program in Vietnam)

sham, a travesty, a dark blot  
it is a ~ on our country (politics)

**feeling, emotion & effect: theater**

## trawl (verb)

trawled through (400,000) documents  
the panel ~ (investigation)

trawled (daily) through (student) websites  
police ~ run by Muslim student groups at Yale

trawl through his social media history  
FBI investigators were able to ~

**searching & discovery: boat / fish / verb**

**pursuit, capture & escape: boat / fish / verb**

## tread (tread carefully, etc.)

treading a (delicate) line  
the government is ~ between...

tread heavily  
you ~, but you speak the truth

tread lightly  
we have to ~ here (a murder investigation)

tread carefully  
they need to ~  
I'd advise you to ~ (an investigation)

treading carefully  
Republicans up for election are ~ during the pandemic

**danger: walking, running & jumping / verb**

## treadmill (noun)

treadmill  
the ~ isn't likely to stop anytime soon (language change)

treadmill of daily radio  
get off the ~ and see what's next

treadmill, hamster wheel  
you're on this really crazy ~... (NFL's Tom Brady retires)

minimum-wage treadmill  
she discusses how people can get off the ~

exhausting treadmill  
it's an ~ (trying to manage time to meet deadlines)

economic treadmill  
many are caught on an ~ with no hope of getting ahead

step off the (industry's promotional) treadmill  
by 2010 he was ready to ~ (a country singer)

♦ "A treadmill doesn't take you anywhere."

♦ Decompression's really important; take time to unwind...

**starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism**

**work & duty: mechanism**

## treason (noun)

cultural treason  
rabbis and Jewish leaders accused Roth of ~ (the writer)

♦ Benedict Arnold; Wang Jingwei; Vidkun Quisling; Pierre Laval; Philippe Pétain; William Joyce (aka Lord Haw-Haw)... (Notorious traitors.)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: military**

## treasure (verb)

treasure our loved ones  
it's also a time to ~ and to take stock... (pandemic)

read, treasure and want to share  
books that people ~ with their children

**worth & lack of worth: money / verb**

## treasure (money)

treasure and blood  
how much more can we give in ~ (foreign wars)

blood and treasure  
we have wasted an enormous amount of ~ in Afghanistan  
it's a complete waste in terms of ~ (Afghanistan)  
President Johnson reflected on the cost in ~ (Vietnam)  
we need to pull out and save American ~ (Afghanistan)

blood, treasure and effort  
after so many years, and so much ~ (US in Afghanistan)

**money: sign, signal, symbol**

**sign, signal, symbol: money**

**sacrifice: money / sign, signal, symbol**

## treasure (worth)

national treasure

National Public Radio is a ~  
she's a sort of ~ (Francoise Hardy / France)  
Yellowstone is a ~  
some consider him a reclusive ~ (actor Bill Murray)  
once a ~, the comedian was jailed for sexual assault  
China considers pandas a ~

**worth & lack of worth: money**

## treasured (worth)

treasured member  
she was a ~ of the Georgetown law community (RBG)

treasured novel  
it is arguably America's most ~ (*To Kill a Mockingbird*)

as treasured as pistols  
typewriters were ~ (revolutionaries pre-W.W.II)

**worth & lack of worth: money**

## treasure house

treasure house of the writings  
the library is a ~ at the core of the Western tradition

**amount: money**

**group, set & collection / worth & lack of worth: money**

## treasure trove (and trove)

trove of documents  
a ~ was published by WikiLeaks

trove of (internal) documents  
he turned over a ~ to the Wall Street Journal (Facebook)

treasure trove of information  
a ~ from a data recorder (space shuttle)

trove of information  
intelligence agencies are acting on a ~  
soldiers discovered the tape among a ~

treasure-trove of (fossilized) jellyfish  
a ~ discovered in Wisconsin

trove of material  
the new ~ was being sifted for fresh clues (terrorism)

treasure trove of (grand, poetic) rhetoric  
the black church has always been a ~

trove of (bowling) treasure  
the Webers' home is a ~

treasure trove of trivia  
he has compiled a ~ about every president

treasure trove of plant life  
the Appalachians are a ~

treasure trove for a historian  
these materials were a ~

**stunning trove**

scientists have discovered a ~ of fossils (Qingjiang biota)

geological treasure trove  
obtaining rocks from the mantle layer would provide a ~

acting on a trove of information  
intelligence agencies are ~ found during...

**amount / group, set & collection / searching & discovery / worth & lack of worth: money**

## treat (in for a treat)

in for a treat  
you are ~

**experience: food & drink**

## tree (resemblance)

boot tree  
~s can prevent wrinkles and cracking (leather boots)

**resemblance: tree**

## tree (branching system)

decision tree  
we're going to develop a ~ for hospitals to use... (COVID)

decision making trees  
~ to decide appropriate paths forward (public health)

phone tree  
a ~ is a fast way to send a message to many people  
a ~ of known international terrorists  
he ran ~s for the refugees (US leaves Afghanistan 2021)

**branching system: tree**

## tremor (noun)

created tremors  
the article ~ throughout Silicon Valley

**amount & effect / effect / evidence / initiation: earthquake / volcano**

## trench (in the trenches)

in the trenches  
he spent 34 years ~ (a teacher)  
the game is won ~ (football)  
what is your advice for mothers ~ with young children

in the trenches of bulimia  
opening up about life ~ (Jennette McCurdy)

in the dating trenches  
friends of mine ~ have similar tales of woe (ghosted)

get into the trenches  
we've got to ~ and figure out... (public health)

went into the trenches  
I ~ with him (a boxer about a tough bout)

♦ "Take it from me, when you're in the trenches, you want Joe Biden right there next to you." (US representative Conor Lamb, Pennsylvania, 2020. Lamb was a Marine lawyer who, according to his Wikipedia entry, "prosecuted cases of rape and sexual assault" at a Marine base on Okinawa.)

- ♦ "My first summer on the doors..." (Selling door-to-door.)
- ♦ "Arriving draftees were shipped up in cattle cars and marched over duckboard to their new homes in the earth, where everything revolved around the trench—you had a trench knife, a trench cane, a rod-shaped trench periscope and, if you were unlucky, trench foot, trench mouth, or trench fever." (*The Arms of Krupp* by William Manchester.)
- ♦ "There's almost as many men drowned as killed: when they're wounded they fall into the water." (World War I trench warfare in late December on the Western Front.)
- ♦ "When we dug bunkers we saw how the dead lay in layers one above the other." (*The Storm of Steel* by Lieutenant Ernst Junger, quoted in *The Beauty and the Sorrow* by Peter England.)

**experience / place: military**

## trench (other)

*Chiffon Trenches*

*The ~*, the memoir by Andre Leon Talley...

update from the trenches

~, keep red-pilling (a QAnon site)

♦ *The Chiffon Trenches* is a memoir by Andre Leon Talley, a fashion journalist who has had a long relationship with *Vogue* magazine.

**experience / place: military**

## triage (verb)

triage between (bad and worse) options

they have been forced to ~ (flooding)

**judgment: health & medicine / verb**

## triage (noun)

triage in flight delays

there is no ~ (US airports)

triage mode

aging forces democracies into ~

fiscal triage

they have resorted to ~ (government)

political triage

Democrats plan ~ to retain the House (election funding)

strategy of triage

Democrats have begun a ~ (elections)

doing triage

Theranos was ~ (troubled corporation)

**judgment: health & medicine**

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: health & medicine**

## trial (show trial)

"show trial"

the investigation is a ~ (politics)

show trial

we don't see the need for a ~ (political gaffe)

she was betrayed and subjected to a ~ (Edith Cavell)

**appearance & reality / performance: theater**

**judgment / oppression: justice**

## trial (trial by fire)

faced a trial by fire

she ~ (politics)

**experience / survival, persistence & endurance: fire**

## trial balloon

trial balloon

his office floated a flurry of ~s (baseball)

**experimentation: atmosphere / balloon**

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: atmosphere / balloon**

## triangle (area)

"triangle of death"

the so-called ~ south of Baghdad

India-Japan-Australia triangle

China sits at the center of the ~ (trade)

Sunni triangle

the so-called ~ (Iraq)

coral triangle

the ~ exhibits astonishing marine biodiversity

Iron Triangle

the ~ was a Viet Minh stronghold (Vietnam War)

three-and-a-half-acre triangle

a ~

♦ "And people get trapped in this iron triangle of apartment, water source—which will be a standpipe or an ice hole in one of the canals or the river—and food shop...where they spend hours and hours and hours queuing." ("Author Anna Reid discusses her book 'Leningrad,' YouTube, 2011.)

**area: shape**

## triangle (Ilemi Triangle, etc.)

Afar Triangle

the ~ is also known as the Danakil Depression

Golden Triangle

a mountainous region known as the ~ (Mexico drugs)

the ~ (Thailand, Laos, and Myanmar)

Iron Triangle

the ~ was a Viet Minh stronghold (Vietnam War)

Ilemi Triangle

the ~ is contested by Sudan, Ethiopia and Kenya

Northern Triangle

the ~ is a violent region (Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador)

Polynesian Triangle

they navigated the ~ (New Zealand, Hawaii, Rapa Nui)

Yigra triangle

the dispute centers on the ~ (Eritrea and Ethiopia)

the 250-square-mile piece of rocky land known as the ~

**proper name: geometry / shape**

**geography: geometry / proper name / shape**

## triangle (fire triangle, etc.)

fire triangle

the ~ is fuel, oxygen and heat (wildfires)

**relationship: geometry / shape / sign, signal, symbol**

## triangle (love triangle, etc.)

triangle of misery

he called it the ~ (3 connected people)

love triangle

she attacked her romantic rival in the ~  
the play portrays a ~

apex of a romantic triangle

she was the ~

ensnared in a love triangle

she was ~

♦ "And I bet the guy that she was killed over is a total nothing." (Online comment.)

♦ "Yeah, them love triangles are rough, I was involved in a love trapezoid once." (Online comment.)

**relationship: geometry / sign, signal, symbol**

## tribal (groups)

tribal divisions

Brexit was both a symptom and cause of ~

tribal identity

this alliance has solidified into a ~ (England / elections)

tribal politics

we're already in a civil war, the ~ is beyond belief

become "tribal"

American politics have ~

become (more and more) tribal

our country has ~ (misinformation / politics)

**conflict / identity & nature: society**

## tribalism (groups)

tribalism

maybe ~ is just in her DNA (politics)

instincts of tribalism

partisan politics are playing to the worst ~ (Britain)

think of political divisions as tribalism

we often ~, and I think that's probably true (the U.S.)

♦ Geoff Nunberg's commentary about this word is interesting. See "As Fissures Between Political Camps Grow, 'Tribalism' Emerges As The Word Of 2017," NPR, Fresh Air, December 6, 2017.)

**conflict / identity & nature: society**

## tribe (group)

tribe

we are a ~, we have our ways of working (a journalist)

girl's "tribe"

he must play up to the ~ (her friends / teen dating)

rainbow tribe

they are a ~, black, Asian, white, biracial (kids at a pool)

gay tribe

going to Fire Island and being with my ~

new tribe

the ~ (politics)

political tribes

the geography of American ~ (Geoff Nunberg)

"gathering of the tribe"

many refer to it as a ~ (Masters / surfing)

opinions of a (particular) tribe

he does not blindly follow the ~ (Joe Rogan podcast)

**group, set & collection: person**

## tribune (person)

Emancipists' tribune

the role of the ~ was less politically useful

**representation: government / person**

## tributary (noun)

numerous tributaries

the main river of human lineage was split into ~  
(Denisovans, etc.)

♦ "How do the tributaries of democracy flow down into this one little block in Brooklyn." (Wesley Morris, film critic, about the great Spike Lee film, *Do the Right Thing*.)

**branching system / taxonomy & classification: river**

## tribute (pay tribute)

paid tribute to its fallen detective

the NYPD ~ (killed in line of duty)

pays tribute to fallen service members

for Memorial day, Biden ~

**achievement, recognition & praise / obligation: money**

## tribute (groups)

tribute to self-love

Carly Rae Jepsen's *'Party for One'* is a ~

tribute to a woman

*Bernadette* is a stirring ~ and her true calling

Super Bowl halftime tribute

'SpongeBob Squarepants' gets ~

pay tribute to Ahmaud Arbery

runners across U.S. ~ with #I RunWithMaud

pay tribute to (NBA star) Kobe Bryant

fans ~, who died Sunday

pays tribute to George Michael

Andrew Ridgeley pays ~

pays tribute to Mac Miller  
Ty Dolla \$ign ~ (NPR / Bobby Carter)

pays tribute to 'the women who raised' her  
Kandace Springs ~ (NPR's Lulu Garcia-Navarro)

♦ "Nick Cannon gets Father's Day tributes from THREE of his baby mommas..."

♦ Various "tributes" feature on Pornhub.

♦ Alfred Lord Tennyson (1809-1892) wrote "Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington." Wellington had died in 1852 and a million and a half people watched his funeral procession. "Bury the Great Duke / With an empire's lamentation, / Let us bury the Great Duke / To the noise of the mourning of a mighty nation, / Mourning when their leaders fall, / Warriors carry the warrior's pall, / And sorrow darkens hamlet and hall." Stanza III: "Lead out the pageant: sad and slow, / As fits an universal woe, / Let the long long procession go, / And let the sorrowing crowd about it grow, / And let the mournful martial music blow; / The last great Englishman is low."

♦ "Abraham Lincoln's Funeral Train: How America Mourned for Three Weeks: Millions of Americans bade farewell to the assassinated president as his body made a 1,700-mile journey home" by Christopher Klein, Feb 7, 2022.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## trickle (noun)

trickle of information  
the ~ handed out so far (by police)

trickle of papers  
a ~ became a flood (scientific papers on topic)

trickle of (surrendering) soldiers  
a ~ became a flood

trickle, flow, gush  
we had a theory called, "~" (to rescue hostages)

slowed to a trickle  
the outpouring of generosity has ~ (aid)  
the export of Libyan oil has ~  
the flow has ~ (migrants)

cut to a trickle  
the stream of jihadists into the country has been ~

♦ "Joni had lots of friends—chief among them, a funny, freeloading young, wire-specs-wearing American guitar player named David Rea, who was one of the trickle-turning-into-a-flood of American males coming north to escape the draft during these early months of the Vietnam War..." (*Girls Like Us* by Sheila Weller.)

♦ "There has been a trickle, not a flood, of letters from conservative MPs. Boris Johnson's allies expected those letters to dry up, after his response to the [Sue] Gray Report, but some of his critics now feel the dam is coming closer to breaking." (BBC Six O'Clock News.)

**amount & effect / movement: water**

## trickle (trickle in / out)

trickling in  
foreign tourists are ~ (Wakhan)

trickle in at inflated prices  
items ~ (Kisangani)

trickle out  
yesterday, the news started to ~ (politics)

**movement: water / verb**

## trident (three)

attacking trident  
excitement about the ~ (Nunez, Gakpo, Salah / Liverpool)

**amount: number**

## trigger (groups / verb)

triggers me so hard  
them being teachers ~ (commenter at Libs of TikTok)

trigger feelings  
pedantic language may ~ of ostracism (TESOL)

triggered a hurt  
these questions ~ (Cory Booker, politician)

trigger millennials  
my ability to ~ is insane (the writer Bret Easton Ellis)

triggered outrage  
the online book ~

♦ "Why does 'Black Lives Matter' trigger so many people?"

♦ "But I completely agree with you about the description of an elephant being killed, slam, slam, slam, the bullets go in, and he says the elephant takes on an incredible senility... You know, I've had students year after year cry when we read that text, and I can tell you it takes a lot to make a student cry over a text... It is a wonderful, wonderful passage." (Robert Colls, *Start the Week*, "Heart of Darkness: Conrad and Orwell," BBC Sounds, 6 Nov 2017. British academics and students are, of course, completely different from American ones, and that was especially true in 2017. If Colls, Professor of Cultural History at De Montfort University, Leicester, had been teaching *in the US*, he would have issued a "trigger warning" before reading George Orwell's "Shooting An Elephant," and in spite of that he would have been cancelled for claiming it was a "wonderful, wonderful passage." God only knows what students would have said about him on the "Rate My Professor" website.)

♦ Female teacher: Gesim was in a fight. Male teacher: Well, did he win?

**mental health: weapon / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: verb / weapon**

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine / verb**

## trigger (a war, etc.)

triggered my decision  
what ~ was...

triggered a firestorm  
he ~ of controversy (a politician's remarks)

trigger a panic  
the government does not want to ~ (epidemic)

trigger a (regional) war  
he is willing to ~ (Assad)

trigger fear and chaos  
their aim is to ~ (political assassins)

**initiation / relationship: verb / weapon**

## trigger (cause)

triggers of asthma  
~ include allergens, infections, exercise, anxiety, reflux

trigger for abuse  
low income or stress may be a ~ (spousal abuse)

trigger for the accident  
the failure of the heat shielding may have been a ~

triggers for my bulimia  
industry events were often huge ~ (young actress)

trigger for conflict  
water can be a ~ (world's rivers)

allergy trigger  
asthma and the effect of pets or other ~s

heartburn trigger  
there are many ~s (food, cigarettes, drugs, etc.)

mass trigger  
the pandemic acted as kind of a ~ for them (eating disorders)

viral trigger  
identifying a potential ~ is helpful, but... (AFM)

pets or other (allergy) triggers  
asthma and the effect of ~

**initiation / relationship: weapon**

## **trigger (emotion, memory, etc.)**

memory triggers  
~ lurk in wait all around (war and suffering)

♦ "Memory triggers lurk in wait all around—a particular outdoor tap or fire hydrant, the drone of an aeroplane or the squeak of sled runners, the smell of jointer's glue or just the sight of untrodden snow on a city pavement. One man never puts up a New Year's tree, because it reminds him of the one underneath which his father lay dying of hunger; others always detour round particular streets or bridges. For Grechina, one day in 1978, it was the smell of a bonfire, drifting in at her window. Having for years given the conventional version of the siege in talks to students, she sat down at her desk and wept and wrote for two days and nights, releasing a torrent of long-pent-up grief and anger." (*Leningrad* by the great writer Anna Reid.)

♦ "A few boys were playing in the yard when I got there, but I waited until they had run down to the other end before I went in the door. The same smell of chalk, that I hate to this day, and quiet... / 'Well,' [Mr. Motshill] said. 'What is it?' / 'I have come to join school,' I said. / 'Speak English,' he said..." (*How Green Was My Valley* by Richard Llewellyn.)

♦ "One of the girls she was very sick. I let her come into my bed one morning, she was very ill. They brought me down to the shoe room, they stripped me off, they threw cold water over me... (prior to severe beating)...It was the shoe room you know where all the shoes were, even now if I get the smell of shoe polish, the feeling of encloement, it was awful..." (The long-term effects of physical and emotional abuse. From the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (CICA / Ryan Commission), the record of abuse (female witnesses), Chapter 9, 2009, Ireland.)

♦ "Another survivor, a boy of nine at the time, realized long after settling with his family in the Midwest that he couldn't bring himself to go to the Detroit Tigers games because the noise that greeted home runs reminded him of the cries of the dying." ("Unsinkable, Why We Can't Let Go of the Titanic" by Daniel Mendelsohn, *The New Yorker*, April 16, 2012.)

♦ "Those were dreadful days and nights after that—the bombing and the fires. Even now I can never listen to the sound of dried autumn leaves blowing along the roads because that was the sound the fires made in the wooden houses near the hospital." (Sakiko, speaking about having her baby during air raids in wartime Japan. From *East of Home* by Santha Rama Rau.)

**mental health: weapon**

**feeling, emotion & effect / initiation / relationship: weapon**

## **trigger (pull the trigger, etc.)**

quick trigger  
the referee has a ~ in stopping fights (boxing)

pull the trigger  
nobody wanted to ~ and do a deal (publishing houses)  
they have been a little slower to ~ (cancel sports season)  
we don't want to ~ until we have to (sanctions)

pulled the trigger  
finally, finally, he finally ~, a little late (he took action)

pulled the trigger on sending  
the Browns finally ~ on sending him to the Panthers (NFL)

♦ "The referee Howard Foster always has a quick trigger in stopping fights and stepping in between opponents." (A commentator during the boxing match between Zhilei "Big Bang" Zhang versus "Joe "the Juggernaut" Joyce.)

**action, inaction & delay / initiation: verb / weapon**

## **triggered (groups)**

triggered by trans folks  
why are y'all ~

triggered by that  
I don't know why people are ~ (comedian He Huang)

triggered and traumatized  
Amy Schumer says she's ~ by Will Smith's slap

felt (really) triggered  
I was seething, I ~ (anxiety, anger, etc.)

sound triggered  
you ~ (snark, sarcasm)

♦ "Body Normalcy' is a large contributor to the unhealthy state of Americans of both sexes today. Fat (sorry if you are triggered by the word) is not healthy unless you are a walrus."

♦ "To use a very contemporary word, I was 'triggered.'" (The author J.K. Rowland.)

♦ "You sound triggered, Glenn..." (Leftist snark directed at a Glenn Greenwald tweet. Or perhaps the snark comes from a rightist. Who knows? Who cares anymore?)

♦ Old: upset... New: triggered...

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

**mental health: weapon**

## **triggering (groups)**

triggering for some readers  
this essay may be ~ (anorectics, bulimics)

sensitive or triggering  
the hosts bring levity when addressing ~ topics

feels (kind of) triggering  
for a lot of people it ~ (low-rise waists / fashion)

♦ "This is our reality and we need to face it. Maybe that's what we needed, to be given a beating in order to grow." (Xavi, after Bara loses 0-3 to Bayern and crashes out of the Champions League.)

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

**mental health: weapon**

## trilogy (noun)

trilogy of fights

he lost for the second straight fight in their ~ (McGregor)

**amount: books & reading / number**

## trim (trim the fat, etc.)

trim money from the (defense) budget

he proposed to ~

trim the fat from some departments' budgets

there is always room to ~ (U.K.)

trim (state) spending

he has been able to ~ (politician)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: ax / blade / knife / verb**

## trinity (Holy Trinity)

holy trinity

the ~---cilantro, onion and lime (actor Danny Trejo)

holy trinity of the Asian spice trade

pepper, clove, and nutmeg were the original ~

holy trinity for tabloid culture

they formed a ~ (Britney, Lindsay, and Paris)

**importance & significance: number / religion**

## triple threat

triple threat

he was a ~, he could dance, sing and act (Patrick Swayze)

faces a triple threat

the nation ~ (storms, heat, hurricane)

♦ According to the excellent online Merriam-Webster site, this phrase appeared in 1920 to describe a football player who was exceptional at running, kicking, and passing.

**ability & lack of ability: football / sports & games**

## trip up (verb)

trip up the president

this could ~

**disruption / failure, accident & impairment: equilibrium & stability / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## tripwire (warning)

tripwire between the two Chinas

the Seventh Fleet acted as a ~

geopolitical tripwire

Russian military advisers in Venezuela act as a ~

**warning: explosion / military / weapon**

## tripwire (initiation)

tripwire event

*The Sopranos* was the ~ that set off the golden age of TV

♦ "The murder of a female officer is the trip wire that causes an explosion that rocks the Army to its foundations." (*The General's Daughter* by Nelson DeMille, with a new foreword by the author.)

**initiation: explosion / military / weapon**

## tripwire (danger)

legal tripwires

she avoided ~ (Supreme Court confirmation hearing)

♦ "I found a piece of red detonating cord between my legs. That's when I knew I was screwed." (Gunnery Sgt. Michael Burghardt, aka "Iron Mike" and "Gunny," just before getting blown up by a trap while investigating an IED in Ramadi. Incredibly, he was not too badly wounded. A photo of him "flipping off" whoever detonated the trap became famous on the Internet.)

**danger: explosion / military / weapon**

## triumvirate (noun)

triumvirate of the great mountains

the ~ would be Everest, K2 and Nanga Parbat (Joe Simpson)

♦ The First Triumvirate in 60 B.C. consisted of Julius Caesar, Pompey, and Crassus.

**importance & significance: allusion / history / number**

## Trojan horse (computers)

viruses, worms and Trojan Horses

~ (computers)

**computer: Iliad & Odyssey**

## Trojan Horse (subterfuge)

Trojan horse of Putin

Italy could become the ~ (politics)

Trojan Horse for the Chinese Communist Party

Huawei has been accused of being a ~ (politics)

Trojan Horses of the 21st century

cargo containers are the ~ (terrorism)

Trojan Horse in our midst

the INS may be a ~ (editorial in state paper)

♦ Dante put Ulysses in hell for being an evil counselor. Ulysses convinced Achilles to sign up for the war, breaking Achilles' mother's heart, and causing his girlfriend, Deidamia, with whom he had had a child, to commit suicide. Ulysses stole the sacred statue of Pallas, on which the security of Troy depended, from the Palladium. And, of course, he came up with the ruse of the Wooden Horse. According to Dante, Ulysses never made it home to Ithaca to be reunited with his old dog. Instead, he sailed through the Strait of Gibraltar into the Atlantic and headed south. His ship went down in a storm near Tristan da Cunha.

**subterfuge: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey**

## troll (fish / verb)

trolling for votes

he is a cynical politician ~

**pursuit, capture & escape: fish / verb**

## troll (verb / computers)

to provoke, to tease, to troll

he's long used his account ~ (Elon Musk / Twitter)

♦ "I though people were trolling, but nope. It's real... Yes, these are children holding teddy bears dressed in bondage outfits." (A Balenciaga ad campaign described as frightening, creepy, wrong, gross, and infuriating.)

**affliction / computer: creature / verb**

## troll (noun / computers)

troll

- ~s ask stupid questions and see who rises to the bait
- ~s provoke strangers online
- ~s love a vicious group hunt
- ~s push peoples' buttons
- ~s have caused people to commit suicide
- ~s posted flashing images to a Web site for epileptics
- people give ~s too much elevation thanks social media

troll-wrestling

he calls this ~, trolling the trolls (internet feud)

Web Troll

Prolific ~ Arrested (headline)

♦ In the old days, trolls lurked under bridges or in dark forests and caught and ate unsuspecting people. Nowadays, trolls are provocateurs who lurk online. They identify a person they consider to be a "blowhard" or "full of it" and provoke and attack him. While the person who is attacked goes nuts, the trolls sit back and laugh!

♦ "I was a troll, full stop. And I am so sorry." (Someone named Chrissy Teigen, who is apparently married to a singer named John Legend, which sounds like a made-up name.)

♦ "Shitposting..." (Rest assured. It has its Wikipedia entry.)

**person: creature**

**behavior / character & personality / computer: creature**

## troll (Troll Wall, etc.)

Troll Wall

the ~ is the tallest rock face in Europe (Norway)

**proper name: creature**

## troops (supporters)

rallying their troops

conservative luminaries are ~ against Obama (politics)

**allegiance, support & betrayal / work & duty: military**

## trophy (trophy boyfriend, etc.)

trophy boyfriend

Asian boyfriends are the next "~s"

trophy girlfriend

she's found herself a young, hot ~

**pursuit, capture & escape: love, courtship & marriage**

## trot (on the trot)

on the trot

the Azzurri made it 10 wins ~ (Euro soccer)

**movement: animal / horse**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: animal / horse / movement**

## trotted out

trotted out

it's a charge that is often ~ (sportswashing)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: animal / horse**

## trouble (in trouble)

in trouble

the magazine is ~ (libel)

**situation: container / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## troubled

troubled company

the ~ is in bankruptcy

**condition & status: mental health**

## trough (direction)

in a trough

we're ~ (technology seems to have slowed down)

peaks and troughs

the regional patterns of ~ could change (rising sea levels)

**decline / progress & lack of progress: shape**

**shape: direction**

## trough (greed)

trough of greed

these pundits are swine, gorging themselves at the ~

keep their snouts in the trough

so they can ~ financially (FIFA)

♦ "They're looking to have World Cups every two years so they can keep their snouts in the trough financially." (FIFA.)

♦ "These pundits are just swine, gorging themselves at the trough of greed." (Commenter about BBC coverage of Qatar World Cup.)

**behavior: animal / food & drink**

## trounce (verb)

trounced Bush

John Major backed the wrong horse, Clinton ~

**conflict: fist / verb**

## trounced

trounced 4-0 at Everton on Sunday

they were ~ (Manchester United)

**conflict: fist**

## trousers (wear the trousers, etc.)

wore the trousers

it was madame who ~

**dominance & submission / role / superiority & inferiority:**

**clothing & accessories**

## trove

see *treasure trove* (and *trove*)

## truce (noun)

call a truce

let's ~ (interpersonal problem)

reached a (shaky) truce

they have ~ in their trade dispute

**conflict / reconciliation, resolution & conclusion / starting, going, continuing & ending: military**

## truck (control)

my truck

this is ~, and in my truck we go by my rules

♦ This is like the person who said, "You're either on the bus or not on the bus, and I'm driving the bus."

**allegiance, support & betrayal: mechanism**

**unanimity & consensus: mechanism**

**control & lack of control: mechanism**

## truckload (amount)

truckloads of money

they have spent ~ (Manchester United)

♦ Bucketful, truckload, container ship-load...

**amount: container**

## true (true to oneself, etc.)

true to himself

he is speaking out and staying ~ (queer)

true to your (gender) identity

while staying ~... (Queer, Punk and Latin)

true to your (authentic) self

when you are ~... (teens)

true to yourself

the quest to be ~ (a trans woman)

♦ "Be true to yourself. Never apologize. Burn it to the ground." (Support to the comedian Michelle Wolf, whose remarks at the 2018 White House Correspondents' Dinner were widely criticized.)

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**

## Trump (Trump of the Tropics, etc.)

Trump of L.A.

Alex Villanueva has been called the Donald ~ (Sheriff)

Trump of the Tropics

he is often called the ~ (Jair Bolsonaro)

British Trump

Boris Johnson has been described as the ~

**behavior: epithet**

## trumpet (blow one's own trumpet)

blow her own trumpet

she was unashamed to ~ (the great Nancy Hargreaves)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound / verb**

## trumpet (verb)

trumpeted the drug

he ~ as a potential treatment

trumpeting its own product

the company is ~

trumpeting their victory

conservative groups were ~ (court)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: military / sound / verb**

## trunk (branching system)

trunk road

we drove along France's old ~ (N7)

Grand Trunk Road

I drove along the ~ to the Khyber Pass

♦ Route Nationale 7 has been called France's Route 66. It links Paris to the Cote d'Azur. Like Route 66, it has been superseded by expressways, but still preserves its charm and history.

**branching system: tree**

## truth (speak one's truth, etc. / groups)

truth is that

her ~ she's transgender (black drag queen Chablis)

truth of this moment

dive into the ~ (*Love in the Time of Corona*)

truth to power

see *truth to power*

truth about the past

we can't understand the problems without speaking ~

truth tellers

~, sharing their experiences and their opinions...

truth telling

now is a time for ~, listening, and for action

shared truth

they want to articulate the ~ of their experience (a female professor who teaches a feminism class, about females)

'Own Truth'

Poet Encourages Others To Find ~ In Poetry

her truth

it's incredibly brave that she has revealed ~ (mental illness)

his truth

I'm a person who spoke ~ and I spoke about what I felt

my truth

I defended ~ (Amber Heard, speaking about Johnny Depp)

our truth

all of ~ is out there for the world to see (2016 Hillsborough)

in your truth

when you come to people ~, 'Yo, this is me...'

Woman Truth

her large dose of ~ (feminist-speak / *Rolling Stone* /1972)

sharing his truth  
the NFL family is proud of Carl for courageously ~ (gay)

sharing her truth  
radiating joy after ~ (JoJo Siwa / her label)

speaking his truth  
Kit Connor has received global support after ~ (bi)

defended my truth  
I ~ (Amber Heard, about Johnny Depp)

live his truth  
he gets to ~ and his authentic self (came out as gay)

live their truth  
Olympians unable to ~ because of this world (trans)

live their truths  
the cast chose to ~ (Jagged Little Pill)

reveals his truth  
"The Bachelor" star ~ (comes out as gay)

sang their truth  
he ~ (Michael K. Williams / *The Wire*)

speak truth  
it is important to ~ about the role of racism in the US  
we must "~" about history of racism

speaks truth  
when one person ~, it gives license for all of us...

speaks his truth  
former "Bachelor" ~ and comes out as gay

speak their truth  
students ~ in winning podcast

speak your truth  
how do you feel about the palace hearing you ~ (Oprah)

speaking his truth  
but now he is ~ (came out as gay)

spoke truth  
he ~, how is that pushing an 'agenda'

stepping into his truth  
he is rebooting his life and ~ (gay after having wife, kids)

tell your truth  
what does it mean to be a woman and to ~ (music)

take control of their own truth  
social media lets celebrities ~ and rebut claims to followers

wrapped in our truths  
women artists show women as we are, ~

♦ This version of *truth* is characterized by the absence of the definite article "the truth" and its replacement with a possessive adjective: *my truth, our truth, your truth, his truth, her truth, their truth...* But not always. "The truth" is also code for "my truth."

♦ "He was telling his truth and I think unfortunately some of that has been distorted due to some other factors, but I do think he did not intend to tell

a truth that wasn't his truth." (Juror Samantha Imrie explaining her vote in the Gwyneth Paltrow-Terry Sanderson trial.)

♦ "I reiterate that our top priority is to serve younger and more diverse audiences... Now is a time for truth telling, for listening, and for action. As a news organization, we act by bearing witness and elevating voices..." (A message to staff from John Lansing, President and CEO of National Public Radio. NPR will do whatever is necessary to attract younger listeners.)

♦ "He's someone who is looking for truth—truth from the world, and truth from himself. [His latest album is] so full of truth he originally wasn't sure if he should release it at all." ("Hiss Golden Messenger Is Looking For Truth On 'Terms Of Surrender,'" heard on NPR, World Café WXP, January 15, 2020.)

♦ "He is a man who is basically rebooting his life and stepping into his truth and embracing the fact that he's a gay black man in the South. And so, I've always been that type of person who uses the truth, umm, and it's inspired by just what I've gone through, my folks go through, and people who are close to me go through, and then I weave it into fiction..." (Katori Hall.)

♦ "We've been silenced and misrepresented. And so, any time you get an opportunity to tell your truth, you are pushing back against so many lies and falsehoods...And being an artist and in demanding that the world just looks at you, you oddly are being an activist." (Katori Hall.)

♦ *The Truths We Hold: An American Journey*. (A memoir by Kamala Harris. With a young reader edition.)

♦ *Barbara Jordan: Speaking the Truth with Eloquent Thunder*, edited by Max Sherman, University of Texas Press.

♦ "I am with you. I stand by you. People forget you're paid for your opinion and that you're just speaking your truth." (Sharon Osbourne defends Piers Morgan in a tweet after the latter criticized Meghan Markle, saying, "I don't believe a word she says... I wouldn't believe her if she read me a weather report." He was commenting on an Oprah Winfrey-Meghan Markle interview.)

♦ "Alana Thompson is no longer 'Honey Boo Boo,' and is speaking her truth." (ABC News.)

♦ "The truth is there is now extreme anxiety in Washington and Tokyo about how to deter China's growing threat to the island. In the meantime, President Biden seems to have been speaking his own truth, that a friendly democracy must be defended." (BBC Six O'Clock News, 23/05/2022.)

♦ "This is my truth. I am not a stigma. I'm a person that walks their life." (Selena Gomez, quoted from *People* magazine, on a GMA feature story about Gomez's new mental health platform WonderMind.)

♦ "I'm coming out as non-binary, I'm speaking my truth, and you know what, this is who I am, and I'm gonna own it, and I am taking the power back from what you have to say about me." (Demi Lovato.)

♦ "They keep sayin' I should get help, but I don't even know what I need, they keep sayin', 'Speak your truth,' and at the same time put it onto me." (Megan Thee Stallion, "Anxiety.")

♦ "The same formula again and again. I want to post pictures of myself in bathing suits. When I get criticized I'll say I want to do it for others and for body positivity. When I get criticized for that, I will show sadness that the world doesn't support mental health and I'm a victim, and finally I'll get praised for being so brave for living my own truth." (Bob Loblaw. A BBC HYS about "SI Swim model Natalie Mariduena wants to 'be an example' of 'body normalcy'" by Stephanie Nolasco, August 20, 2022.)

♦ "My man at @X is tweeting some truth dis' mornin'!"

♦ "Suppose he's tellin' the truth, that fella?" / (Grimly.) "He's tellin' the truth. The truth for him. He wasn't makin' it up. / "Was it the truth for us?" / "I don't know." (Dialogue from John Ford's great film *The Grapes of Wrath*, based on the book by John Steinbeck.)

♦ see also *reality* (*real, truth, lies, etc.*)

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology / verb**

**truth to power**

truth to power

where was ~ (criticism of a politician)

hold truth to power

Mexico's journalists ~  
speak truth to power  
people do not have to risk their jobs to ~ (tenure)  
speaking truth to power  
we are ~ (protestors)  
but then she started ~ (the latest Glennon Doyle)  
spoke truth to power  
*Outside The Lines* ~ (the cancelled ESPN show / journalism)  
told truth to power  
the "Cronkite Moment" has it the anchorman ~ (arguable)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: speech**

## tsunami (noun)

tsunami of cases  
Germany hopes to avoid the ~ seen in Italy (pandemic)  
tsunami of (omicron) cases  
due to the ~, hospitals... (January, 2022)  
tsunami of lawsuits  
the company faces a ~ (opioid epidemic)  
tsunami of fake news  
Brazilian voters faced a ~ before the election  
disinformation, partisan news, and social media's ~  
tsunami of problems  
the ~ that the government confronts (UK)  
tsunami of traffic  
the Web site experienced a ~ (celebrity gossip)  
tsunami warning  
Democrats face a ~ (elections)  
tsunami of misinformation and disinformation  
he warned about a "~" in his country (Dr. Anthony Fauci)  
cicada tsunami  
brace yourself for a ~ (Brood X)  
refugee tsunami  
the world has not seen a ~ like this since World War II  
steroid tsunami  
the ~ nearly washed out Major League Baseball  
digital tsunami  
it will be a challenge to keep up with the ~ (power)  
electoral tsunami  
we will see an ~ on Nov. 2 (elections)  
green tsunami  
voters turned out for her in a "~" (Brazil)  
slow-motion tsunami  
all we can do is watch this ~ (elections)  
wave or a tsunami  
this wasn't just a ~, it was a red asteroid (Republicans win)  
survive the (economic) tsunami

companies are struggling to ~ (downturn)

♦ "The Florida Democratic Party has completely collapsed. This wasn't just a wave or a tsunami. It was a red asteroid that hit them in Florida." (Giancarlo Sopo, Republican strategist, after the 2022 midterm elections. In the U.S., red is the color of Republicans.)

♦ "There is no dearth of prose describing the mass of humanity that made its way to the feet of the Great Emancipator that day; no metaphor that has slipped through the cracks waiting to be discovered, dusted off, and injected into the discourse a half century on. The March on Washington has been compared to a tsunami, a shockwave, a wall, a living monument, a human mosaic, an outright miracle. / It was all of those things..." (*Behind the Dream: The Making of the Speech that Transformed a Nation* by the fine writer Clarence B. Jones.)

♦ "I am not afraid of it, ghosts or something. If a ghost comes to haunt me, I will just ask where his body is so I can pick him up." (Muzahar, 26, an Indonesian, paid to collect dead bodies following the 2004 Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami, which killed up to 230,000 people.)

♦ "It was fate. If you were meant to die, you died. People visiting here to see friends, or foreigners here on holiday, all were here because their time had come to die. I've lived here all my life but I was spared. How do you explain that? My time had not yet come. When I think like this, it makes me feel better. Nature decides. Things come and things disappear. If you don't just let go, it can make you crazy." (Am Changkrai-Chok, 68, Thai fisherman, talking about who and who didn't survive the 2004 Tsunami.)

**amount & effect: sea / tsunami / wave**

## tube (go down the tubes)

goes down the tubes  
this is what happens when a corporation ~

**failure, accident & impairment: infrastructure / verb**  
**destruction: infrastructure / verb**

## tucked

tucked between Australia and Fiji  
Vanuatu, ~

**configuration: cloth**

## tug of war

tug-of-war  
it's a ~ which ideology will control the party

tug-of-war over the house  
a post-divorce ~

tug-of-war between the airlines and FAA  
part of a familiar ~

tug of war between the aircraft and the crew  
the false reading created a ~ (MCAS / airline disasters)

tug of war between Congress and the administration  
the ~ over (border wall) funding took a new turn today

tug-of-war between progressives and centrists  
Biden's whole presidency has been a ~

post-divorce tug-of-war  
a ~ over the house

constitutional tug-of-war  
the ~ between Moscow and the regions

legal tug-of-war  
he has been the subject of a long ~ between...

**conflict: sports & games**

## tumble (decline)

Dow tumbled

the ~ more than 500 points (2008 financial crisis)

prices have tumbled

gas ~

**increase & decrease: number**

**decline / failure, accident & impairment: direction / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## tumble (take a tumble)

took a tumble

the financial markets ~ today

**decline / failure, accident & impairment: direction / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## tumble down (verb)

came tumbling down

but it all ~ when... (a happy life)

**destruction: infrastructure / ruins / verb**

**failure, accident & impairment: infrastructure / ruins / verb**

## tumor (noun)

cancerous tumor

he described the country as a ~ (leader)

**affliction: health & medicine**

**growth & development: health & medicine**

## tumult (disruption)

political tumult

the ~ of the 1960s

**conflict / disruption / resistance, opposition & defeat: sound**

## tune (in tune, etc.)

in tune with his teammates

on Thursday he was ~ (soccer game)

in tune with the views

he is not ~ of his constituents (a politician)

in tune with (Bush's) view

he is more ~ of North Korea (a leader)

dance to the tune

many politicians ~ of the latest opinion poll or tweet

♦ "The old hurdy-gurdy is once again playing the tune about Russian doping. Someone is diligently turning the handle." (The Russian Olympic Committee, after disgruntled losers at the Tokyo Olympics suggested that Russian winners were doping.)

♦ "I imagine they'll sing in tune *after* the revolution." (Viktor Komarovskiy, at a restaurant where he is feting Lara, about the singing of demonstrators on the street outside. He receives a standing ovation from the other diners. It is a wonderful moment in the great 1965 David Lean film *Doctor Zhivago*.)

**unanimity & consensus: music**

## tune (out of tune)

out of tune with the needs

education is ~ of the economy

**flaws & lack of flaws / unanimity & consensus: music**

## tune (different tune)

singing a different tune

but he is ~

**unanimity & consensus: music**

## tune (change one's tune)

changed his tune

in May he ~ and confessed to doping (Tour de France)

changed their tune

it doesn't mean the bad guys have ~ (Baghdad)

**reversal: music / verb**

## tune (change in tune)

change in tune

this is a ~ (US will leave troops in Syria after all)

**reversal: music / verb**

## tune (dance to the tune)

dances to the tune of a different drummer

she says her state "~" (South Carolina)

**unanimity & consensus: music / verb**

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: music / verb**

## tune (and tune up)

tune up for the World Cup

friendly matches will help them to ~ (soccer)

tune up my (50-something) brain

I want to ~ (brain exercises)

tune up your relationship

need to ~ (advice)

tune up the vaccine

we can use new genetic information to ~ (pertussis)

**amelioration & renewal / readiness & preparedness:**

**engine / mechanism / music / verb**

## tuned (stay tuned)

stay tuned

he urges people to ~ (to an ongoing issue)

stay tuned to find out

~ (a politically motivated lawsuit)

♦ "The others... were deeply confused and afraid, and most of them wished that the emir would cover the radio up again and put it away, because 'anything can happen in this world.' Most of them were not ready to hear any explanation or comment, because the strange device could talk, sing, tell stories and perhaps do many other things as well, in spite of its tiny size. The people inside it might be strange enchanted creatures, probably badly deformed as well. The only one to dare ask a

question was Ibn Naffeh, though he was apprehensive and a little afraid. / "Who made this calamity?" (*Cities of Salt* by Abdelrahman Munif.)

**consciousness & awareness: radio / verb**  
**attention, scrutiny & promotion: radio / verb**  
**development: radio / verb**

## tune-up (noun)

tune-up for the playoffs

the game was a good ~ (sports)

in need of a tuneup

the program is badly ~ (state monitoring of pollution)

getting a tune up

the painting is ~ (restoration of old master)

**amelioration & renewal: engine / mechanism / music**  
**readiness & preparedness: engine / mechanism / music**

## tuning fork (noun)

tuning fork for writing

his nearly infallible ~ allowed him to appreciate...

♦ "William Dean Howells, the good guy of American letters in his day, whose nearly infallible tuning fork for writing, which had allowed him to appreciate Emily Dickinson before almost anyone else did, also enabled him to respond to Crane." ("American Stoic: What Stephen Crane left behind" by Adam Gopnik, *The New Yorker*, October 25, 2021.)

♦ "I am classically trained in music theory and music performance, so I have an innate ear and actually a highly skilled ear when it comes to frequency and harmony and dissonance and melody. So for me, it's this thing that I can feel in my body, I'm almost like a tuning fork where if I hear the beat and I vibrate at the level that I'm supposed to, I know that that's what I want to get on." ("Lizzo on Feminism, Self-Love And Bringing 'Hallelujah Moments' To Stage," *Fresh Air*, May 23, 2019. Prince was a Lizzo fan. Nuff said.)

**judgment: sound / tools & technology**

## tunnel (resemblance)

tunnel of (mature) rhododendron

a long arched ~

**resemblance: infrastructure**

## tunnel (light at the end of the tunnel)

light at the end of the tunnel

sometimes it doesn't seem like there's a ~ (troubles)

it's not the end of the pandemic, but certainly a bright ~

♦ "I think I see the light at the end of the tunnel. And this time, it is not a freight train." (A restaurateur, about the end of COVID restrictions.)

♦ "It seemed like there was light at the end of the tunnel, and then... (The Omicron variant / pandemic.)

♦ "You can only go halfway into the darkest forest, then you are coming out the other side." (Chinese.)

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: infrastructure / light & dark**

## tunnel vision

tunnel vision

a kind of ~ dominates his perspective

tension tends to induce instant ~

I had ~ (an athlete who drove, shot, scored, won game)

detectives are looking at all angles to avoid getting ~

tunnel vision thing

it was just kind of like a ~ (rescuer didn't hear screams of bystanders)

tunnel vision versus an open mind

~ (criminal investigations)

♦ "He's got target fixation." (A military pilot.)

♦ "I've been looking through a cardboard tube." (A comment on narrowness of vision due to work.)

♦ GOOD ADVICE. Don't get tunnel vision on that 300-pound bear walking near your picnic table. Look for its trailing twin brother.

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye / infrastructure**

## turbocharge (verb)

turbocharged this (global social-media) ecosystem

the alt-right has ~ of hatred

turbocharged the movement

the military escalation of the war in Vietnam ~ (New Left)

turbocharge that process

#booktok can ~ (word-of-mouth recommendations)

turbocharge the early-warning system

we need to ~ (COVID variants)

**increase & decrease / power / speed / strength & weakness: engine / mechanism / verb**

## turbocharged

turbocharged by fresh debate

discussion of the novel has been ~ (*The Well of Loneliness*)

**increase & decrease / power / speed / strength & weakness: engine / mechanism**

## turbulence

political turbulence

the ~ in the Palestinian Authority

**conflict: air / atmosphere / water**

## turbulent (turbulent childhood, etc.)

turbulent relationship

they had a ~

turbulent childhood

he emerged from a ~ emotionally brittle

**flaws & lack of flaws: air / atmosphere / water**

## turf (control)

enemy turf

treading on ~

home turf

bring it to his ~

**area / control & lack of control: ground, terrain & land**

## turf (turf war, etc.)

turf battles

~ likely to ensue (federal agencies)

turf wars between the C.I.A. and F.B.I.  
~ (9/11)

alcohol turf war  
allegations of an ~ (Saudi Arabia)

absurd turf wars  
a series of ~ between the C.I.A. and F.B.I. (9/11)

bloody turf wars  
the gang endured ~s

fight over turf  
~ for distributing the drugs (gangs)

series of (absurd) turf wars  
a ~ between the C.I.A. and F.B.I. (9/11)

**competition / conflict: ground, terrain & land**

## turkey shoot

turkey shoot  
this was an armed retreat, not a ~ (Highway of Death)

called it a turkey shoot  
newspapers called it a (Highway of Death / Kuwait)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: hunting / weapon**

## turn (transform)

turns from a hobby into an obsession  
it ~ after a while (yo-yoing)

turn him from a criminal into a martyr  
the Arabs will ~

turns into real action  
it will be a long process before the talk ~

turn into (physical) confrontations  
verbal confrontations that ~ (police)

turned into a love affair  
their friendship ~

turned into something more  
it ~ (a relationship)

turned him into an advocate  
his accident ~ for spinal cord research (Reeve)

turned (former) foes into allies  
he has ~ (leader of Mexican drug cartel)

turned the telegraph into an antique  
the telephone ~

turns a poem into a companion  
memorization ~ (Billy Collins)

turns any meal into a feast  
a good piece of fry bread ~

turns global into globalization  
the kind of intercourse that ~ (Silk Road)

turned Yakutat into a (surfing) hotspot

they have ~ (Alaska)

turn the discussion into a lecture  
don't ~ (advice to teachers)

turned Pattenon into a (Christian) martyr  
the murder ~ (Melanesia)

turned his (difficult) childhood into music  
50 Cent ~ (rapper)

turned the dream into a nightmare  
the loans have ~ (home ownership)

turn a cult activity into a mainstream sport  
he helped ~ (surfing)

turned to grief  
but euphoria ~... (all miners but one actually dead)

turned to panic  
fear ~ (1918 flu pandemic)

turns to trust  
distrust ~ when people get to know you

turned it to his advantage  
he ~

turned angry  
the march ~

turned fatal  
his good deed ~ when...

turn tragic  
a relatively minor mistake can ~ (climbing)

turned from bad to worse  
the situation in Somalia has ~

♦ "Mental illness and substance abuse is a real issue and we hope to turn this tragedy into a testimony." (Master P.)

**creation & transformation: direction / verb**

## turn (turn to something, etc.)

turn  
I didn't know which way to ~

turned to the Internet to get  
she ~ information on how to...

turn to plastic surgery to look  
they ~ young

turned to Sununu to strike back  
he ~ (politics)

turn to Crazy Horse for answers  
I ~

turn to God for forgiveness  
we must constantly ~

turn to traditional healers for help  
8 in 10 South Africans ~ (sangomas)

turn to (school) officials for help

young lesbians will not ~ when...

turns to the I.M.F. for a loan  
the next time it ~

turning to Islam  
they are ~

turns to Allah  
if a person sincerely ~, seeking His help...

turned to his allies  
Zhou ~ in the local police (labor problems)

turn to anybody  
when there's no one else to listen to you, you'll ~ (gay)

turn to drugs  
youth who ~ in an effort to escape their circumstances

turned to drugs  
they ~ as a way of dealing with isolation and... (gay students)

turn to faith  
to cope with combat, soldiers often ~

turned to poetry  
he ~, his source of solace in times of difficulty

turning to sources  
Western scientists are ~ they once disparaged...

turned to sports  
they ~ to boost sagging morale (soldiers in war zone)

turn to terrorism  
enemies who cannot compete conventionally often ~

turned to the (Wyoming) can-do spirit  
but talk at the meeting ~

turned to the Adult Friend Finder  
he ~ dating service...

turn to traditional healers  
8 in 10 South Africans ~ for help (sangomas);  
undocumented workers ~ (Mexicans in US)

no one (there for me) to turn to  
there was ~

**alternatives & choices / help & assistance: direction**

### **turn (turn against / turn on something)**

turned (ruthlessly) against e-mail  
Mr. Ferriss ~ (author of "The 4-Hour Workweek")

turned against the war  
he was a Vietnam veteran who later ~

turned on her  
her friends ~

turned on each other  
two of the main rebel factions have ~ (Darfur)

turned on him

the public quickly ~ (Richard Jewell)  
the U.K. media ~ (a *Love Island* contestant)

turn on the president  
he won't ~

turn on them  
you could feel the crowd ~ (soccer)

turned on us  
the tools we use have ~ (technology)

turned on Tom Brady and Alex Guerrero  
and what got me the most was that Antonio Brown ~

♦ "The enraged elephant then turned on the tourists, charging the crowd."  
♦ "The performing elephant turned on its handler and then charged..."

### **allegiance, support & betrayal: animal / direction / verb** **turn (take a turn)**

taken a turn  
the case for the missing teen has ~

took a turn for the better  
their marriage ~  
our luck ~...

took a turn for the worse  
at nightfall, Jason ~ (injured Ranger / combat)  
her condition has taken a ~

took a dark turn  
their relationship ~ (boyfriend murders girlfriend)

took a devastating turn  
and then the case ~ (missing woman found murdered)

took another dramatic turn  
the case ~ when... (murder)

took a grim turn  
his troubled life ~ when he was shot... (bipolar)

taken a new turn  
the investigation has ~

took a romantic turn  
their friendship ~

took a sharp turn  
his uncertain health ~ for the worse

took a sour turn  
the day ~ when... (fight at park)

took a tragic turn  
events ~ (student party)

took an unexpected turn  
the case ~ (murder trial)

taken an ugly turn  
things have ~ (awkward moment)

path took an (unexpected) turn  
her life's ~ (serious injury)

**development: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## turn (development)

turn of events

parishioners expressed their sadness over the ~ (abuse)

turns of events

stunned by ~ you never saw coming

plot turn

~s, notable scenes, acting performances

upturn

our management team is focusing on the ~ (business)

180-degree turn

a ~ of public opinion

twists and turns

the plot has many ~ (movie)

his career has taken many ~

**development: direction / movement / journeys & trips**

## turn (wrong turn)

historical wrong turns

like a lot of ~, *LGBTQ* means well (the term)

wrong turns and dead ends

the series had some ~ (a TV show)

**failure, accident & impairment: direction / movement / journeys & trips**

## turnabout (reversal)

turnabout

for the computer industry this is a ~

turnabout reflects

the ~ a recognition that... (diplomacy)

**reversal: direction / movement / trips & journeys**

## turn around (turn things around, etc.)

turned around CBS

he ~ (an executive)

turn around the economy

he will help Republicans ~

turned (Manchester United's) fortunes around

he has ~ (the manager)

turn his life around

he is trying to ~ (a troubled athlete)

turned his life around

he had ~ and learned from his mistakes (re-arrested)

turn things around

we can ~

we can still ~ (a crisis)

turn this thing around

we're going to ~ (improve schools)

**amelioration & renewal / reversal: direction / movement / verb**

## turnaround

turnaround plan

the ~ has not worked (hospital in debt)

abrupt turnaround

the decline in his fortunes represents an ~ since autumn

dramatic turnaround

in another ~ (football coach's fortunes)

**reversal: direction**

## turn back (verb)

turn back

we can't ~ now... (plan)

we've gone too far to ~ now (politics)

we are in this fight for our lives, and we will not ~ (candidate)

**progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / verb**

## turncoat (person)

weaklings and turncoats

GOP ~ (politics / culture wars)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: military / person**

**person: military**

## turn down (verb)

turn down clients

they were not allowed to ~ (sex slaves)

turn down an invitation

never ~ to go out... (dating)

turn down an offer

it's tempting to verbally ~ and skip writing a letter

turned down the part

he ~ (in a film)

turned down the (immigrants') requests

Italy has ~ for political asylum

turned down their requests

Germany ~ for political asylum

turned down his (zoning) request

Ann Arbor officials ~

turned down an (athletic) scholarship

he ~ from Villanova because...

turn down (extra) work

pilots invoked their contract right to ~

turn this offer down

few ~ ("john" school instead of court)

turned them down twice

school officials ~ (students request gay club)

**acceptance & rejection: direction / verb**

## turned down

turned down for a job

if you are ~ because of credit problems...

no one is turned down

get a degree without tests, ~ (diploma mill)

get turned down

so many things that are very good ~ (screenplays)

**acceptance & rejection: direction**

## turned off

turned off by (e-tailers') customer service

consumers are ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism**

## turned on (sex)

turned on by her

I was ~

really turned on

I was ~ by him

**feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism / sex**

**sex: mechanism**

## turned up (discovered)

turned up by the FBI

based on information ~

**searching & discovery: direction / ground, terrain & land**

## turn in (give)

turn in (uninspiring, half-hearted) performances

boxers content to ~ (vs. Ward and Gatti)

turned in a performance

if the US team ~ that was better than... (soccer)

**giving, receiving, bringing & returning: direction / verb**

## turning point (noun)

turning point in World War II

the battle of El Alamein was a ~

turning point in the battle

a ~ against entertainment violence

turning point of her career

it was the ~

turning point in my life

this was the ~

turning point in the history of the world

it was a major ~ (gas attack at Ypres in 1915)

major turning point

it was a ~ in the history of the world (gas attack at Ypres)

marked the turning point

the battle ~

**development: direction / mechanism / movement**

**importance & significance: mechanism / movement**

## turnip (Turnip Rock, etc.)

Turnup Rock

the sun rises over ~ (Michigan)

~ stands in Lake Huron near Port Austin, Michigan

**proper name: fruits & vegetables / shape**

## turn-off (disgust)

turn-off for (most) women

a lack of humor is a major ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism**

## turn on (excite)

turns me on

it ~ (risk of getting caught / adolescent lesbian)

**feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism / verb**

## turn-on

turn-on for men

the pursuit of revenge is a ~ (brain studies)

major turn-on

her scent is a ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism**

## turn out (create)

turn out 10 times the amount

super labs ~ of drugs (methamphetamine)

turned out hits

they ~ which included "Midnight Train to Georgia"

**creation & transformation: direction / manufacturing / verb**

## turn out (develop)

turned out

I was surprised by how it ~

it makes sense the way it ~

turn out that

it may ~ some anxiety disorders are caused by...

turns out that

it ~ his girlfriend has already seen a lawyer

turn out to be the case

that didn't ~

turn out to be nothing

it may ~

turn out (quite) the way

the next months did not ~ Scott had hoped

turn out to be easy

that second goal didn't ~

turned out to be flawed  
the studies ~ (education)

turns out to be true  
it's a rare event when an Army rumor ~

turn out as advertised  
in Russia, things rarely ~ (Siberian adventure)

turned out OK  
my child ~ and I spanked him...

turn out best  
things ~ for people who make the best of things

turn out well  
when you make a decision and it doesn't ~ (regret)  
they can turn out to be heroes if things ~ (doctors)

turned out a lot worse  
the swim could have ~ considering... (kayaking)

**development: direction / verb**

### turn out (rally)

turn out in force  
activists will ~ to back those who stood up... (gays)

turned out in (record) numbers  
rural voters ~ to vote out...

turned out in (far greater) numbers  
demonstrators ~ than predicted

turn out in droves  
democrats predicted minority voters would ~

turn out for revival  
thousands ~, river baptisms (Cane River, NC)

fans turn out  
only a few thousand ~ at RFK to watch (women's soccer)

**appearance & disappearance: direction / verb**

### turnout (people)

turnout at the polls  
the election is expected to hang on ~

voter turnout  
~ was less than 20 percent  
there was a surge in ~ (Iraq election)

low turnout  
the election was marred by ~

surge in (voter) turnout  
there was a ~ (Iraq election)

stir up (Democratic) turnout  
they sent leaders across the country to ~

**appearance & disappearance: direction**

### turnover (work)

turnover rate  
nursing aides and their high ~ rate

staff turnover  
~ has been high (English school in Qatar)

teacher turnover  
~ has also been high

nursing staff turnover  
~ has been harmful

high turnover  
a teaching corps marked by ~ (middle school / NYC)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: direction**

### turn up (increase)

turned up the heat  
then he really ~ by starting a Web site accusing...

turning up the volume  
the democratic candidates are ~ against the president

turned it up to eleven  
I had ~ and had to go even higher (intensity / an actor)

♦ "The violence is decidedly turned up to 11." (A film.)

♦ Elisabeth Moss: I just did it, and just kind of went as big as I could and threw it all at the wall knowing the only mistake we could make was not going far enough. And so we just went for it... / Rachael Martin: Did he ever have to pull you back. I mean did it ever feel too far, or were you like, "Nope..." / Elisabeth Moss: I had turned it up to eleven and then realized I had to go even higher... ("In 'Her Smell,' Elisabeth Moss 'Turned It Up To 11,' Then Turned It up Some More," Morning Edition, NPR, April 19, 2019.)

**increase & decrease: mechanism / verb**

### turn up (appear)

turned up at (local) parades  
he ~ (a politician)

turn up at (gun) shows  
blowguns also ~

turned up in (Robert's) bedroom  
the knives later ~, bearing traces of blood

turn up in dormitories, co-ops, bookstores  
Flugenock posters ~

turn up in a few days  
it'll ~ (a lost shoe)

turn up within a few weeks  
most are found or ~ (the missing)

turn up during (road) construction  
old bombs ~ (Germany)

turned up for the pig roast  
around 2,000 people ~ (Indonesian Papua)

turn up next  
where it might ~ (anthrax)

turned up next  
the school rash ~ in northern Virginia

turned up well armed  
Belgian troops ~ and ready to perform (UN force)

turned up dead  
one more gangbanger who ~ beside a ditch;  
Lina disappeared in 2000 and ~

turn up (here) regularly  
now prominent foreigners ~ (Afghanistan)

virus has turned up  
the dreaded West Nile ~ in New York City again...

body turned up  
her ~ four days later with the corpse of...

nothing turned up  
but ~ (search for missing woman)

something turns up  
if ~, you're terminated (criminal background checks)

**appearance & disappearance: ground / verb**

**turn up (discover)**

turned up anything  
we never ~ in that case (a detective)

turned up the drugs  
a search of the car ~ (busted)

turned up (other) evidence  
their inquiries ~ (murder investigation)

turned up (39) incidents  
a computer check ~ over 15 years (crime)

turns up (unanticipated) information  
sometimes an investigation ~

turn up problems  
renovation at the high school did ~ with asbestos

turned up proof  
intelligence services had never ~ of wrongdoing

failed to turn up  
the schools ~ evidence of hazards (mystery rash)

investigation turned up  
an ~ no criminal activity...

search (of her apartment) turned up  
a ~ her packed luggage, jewelry...

search (of the car) turned up  
a ~ drugs (busted)

**searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / verb**

**tweak (noun)**

small tweaks  
the administration has made ~ to regulation and policy

**amelioration & renewal: mechanism / tools & technology**

## twilight (in / into the twilight, etc.)

twilight of his (political) career  
now the 78-year-old senator is approaching the ~

in the twilight of the Soviet Union  
they came of age ~ (a generation)

in the twilight of his career  
now, ~ (a minister)

in the twilight of democracy  
we are ~ (authoritarianism)

in the twilight of their lives  
recognition has come ~ (Kinkaseki POWs)

in the twilight of the republic  
we are in the ~ (US)

into the twilight of his career  
Federer is well ~ (the great tennis player)

**time: day**

**decline: day / death & life / light & dark**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day / light & dark**

## twilight (in a legal twilight, etc.)

legal twilight  
the ruling leaves her in a ~ (immigrant)

twilight zone  
the school has been caught in the ~ of "orphan" academies

**certainty & uncertainty / situation: light & dark**

## Twilight Zone

from the Twilight Zone  
the latest accusation is ~

♦ The "contempo-speak" equivalent is *Black Mirror* (see *Black Mirror*).

**fantasy & reality: allusion**

**allusion: film & TV**

## twin (two)

Twin Cities  
the Somali community in the ~ (Minneapolis-St. Paul)

twin failures  
the ~ of 1999 forced NASA to... (Mars missions)

twin (suicide) bombings  
Istanbul suffered ~ (terrorism)

twin lakes  
the ~ of Ohrid and Prespa (Balkans)

twin relics  
polygamy and slavery, the ~ of barbarism

**amount: family**

## twin (relationship)

twin masters

bow to their ~: the ratings and advertisers (network TV)

twin threats

~ face Russia's polar bears—global warming and poaching

South's (familiar) twins

the ~, temperature and humidity

deadly twin

TB has become AIDS' ~

evil twin

September is the ~ of spring fever

familiar twins

the South's ~, temperature and humidity

scientific twins

forecast and evolution were ~ (FitzRoy and Darwin)

**division & connection / relationship: family**

**twin (the Twins, etc.)**

the Twins

we visited ~ (Marshall Islands)

Twin Rocks

we sailed around ~ (Kemps Bay, the Bahamas)

Twin Peaks

I hiked to ~ (Australia)

Twin Lakes

she has a cabin on ~ (Ontario)

**proper name: family**

**twist (twist the truth, etc.)**

twisted the facts

the magazine ~

twist the truth

his lawyers tried to ~ during the trial

twist our words

they will change our words, they ~

**speech: direction / verb**

**corruption: direction / verb**

**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: speech / direction / verb**

**twist (noun)**

twist in the case

it was a sad ~

twist in the trial

this was a dramatic ~ (Trump's second impeachment)

latest twist

he will speak about the ~ (diplomacy)

EFPs are the ~ in a lethal game of measure, countermeasure

sad twist

it was a ~ in the case

stunning twist

it was a ~

♦ "Is high school theater becoming a battleground in the culture wars? ... One such case is in Cardinal High School in Middlefield Ohio. As NPR's Elizabeth Blair reports, the story there took an unexpected pirouette." (NPR's "A" Martinez.)

**development: direction / movement**

**twist (twist and turn / twists and turns)**

twists and turns

the plot has many ~ (movie)

twist and turn of this case

he has been following every ~ since the very beginning

twist and turn in the story

he has covered every ~ (a reporter)

**development: direction**

**twisted (corruption)**

twisted for (political) gain

in Washington, anything can be ~

twisted into a web

his death has been ~ of disinformation and paranoia

twisted logic

genocide followed a ~

this is an example of ~

twisted psychology

the trial has been a showcase of ~ (murder)

perverted, twisted (m)

he is a man with a ~ mind

twisted world

she lives in a ~

mentally twisted

he is ~ (animal abuser)

**corruption / flaws & lack of flaws: direction**

**twisted (character)**

twisted killer

he is a ~

twisted predator

a vivid and meticulous investigation of a ~ (true-crime book)

twisted soul

he is a ~

strange, twisted

it takes a ~ person do what she did

**character & personality: direction**

**twitch (quick-twitch)**

quick-twitch media

a ~, desperate to get it out, amplified flaws in the reporting

**control & lack of control: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

## twitter-lashing (noun)

twitter-lashing by President Trump  
this ~ towards the Kochs

**speech: violence / whip**

**accusation & criticism: violence / whip**

## Twitterverse (noun)

in the Twitterverse  
she has a lot of love ~ (a liberal)

Twitterverse went crazy  
and the ~ (about something or other)

**computer: astronomy**

**area / environment: astronomy**

## two point zero, two point oh (2.0)

Globalization 1.0  
how Vikings launched ~

GOP 2.0  
he is focusing on what he calls ~ (politics)

JCPOA 2.0  
there needs to be a ~ (a new nuclear deal)

Johnny Appleseed (of Agriculture) 2.0  
she is the ~ (brings together entrepreneurs, investors)

lockdown 2.0  
~ is here (second surge of coronavirus pandemic)

NAFTA 2.0  
it's ~, a modest tweak, an updating (USMCA)

**progress & lack of progress: number**

**computer: number**

## tyrant (noun)

tyrant  
he's a ~, micromanages, appreciates only himself  
he was a ~, he fired people so often...

household tyrant  
he was a terrible ~

ogre and a tyrant  
his employees describe him as an ~

called him a tyrant  
Republicans ~ for imposing mask restrictions

**oppression / power: government / history / person**

# U

## uber (uber-interesting, etc.)

uber-competitive  
I was on a team that was not ~

uber-fun

this ~ and exhilarating set (NPR tiny desk concerts)

uber-interesting  
his Afrofuturism class is ~ and a piece of cake... (Uni)

ubersselective  
~ schools... (colleges and universities)

uber talented  
she is young, ~ and enigmatic (Amythyst Kiah)

uber-sensual  
she had transitioned into her ~ Janet (Janet Jackson)

super-hyper-mega-uber  
this ~ French entry (Barbara Pravi / Eurovision Contest)

♦ Much in U.S. society is and always has been and always will be commercial, promotional, and self-promotional. And our language reflects it: *big, super-, trendy, performative, curated, boutique*, "throw it all on the wall and see what sticks," *artisanal, craft, custom, heirloom, designer, bespoke, bedazzled* (or is it *bejazzled?*), *uber, meta, hyper, upcycled, -forward, -informed, -driven, -ized, reinvented, pop-up, verb-up, kinetic, fluid, deep, massive, generational, transactional, intersectional, insanely cool*, "try this genius hack to..." In warfare, bombs and missiles have gone from *dumb* to *smart* to *brilliant*.

**contempo-speak / language / superlative: affix**

## Uber (the Uber of towing, etc.)

aimed to be "the Uber of towing"  
his former startup ~ (Domm Holland)

**size: epithet**

**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## ugly (adjective)

ugly blemish  
the Charlottesville tragedy was "an ~" on the US (2017)

ugly byproduct  
domestic violence is an ~ of the culture of machismo

ugly cousin  
sarcasm is anger's ~

ugly cry  
*Love Story* was an ~ (the movie)

ugly detail  
do I have to spell it out in every ~

ugly divorce  
the UK and the EU are having an ~

ugly picture  
she painted an ~ of him as a drug user (trial)

ugly rhetoric  
I thoroughly reject and repudiate his ~

ugly scenes  
there have been ~ in some places (panic buying)  
players, coaches and officials were involved in ~ (brawl)

ugly sister  
eugenics and its ~, eugenic euthanasia (Nazis)

ugly specter

the deal raises the ~ of conflict of interest

ugly truth

police revealed the ~ (Keith Simms, the Bondi Beast)

ugly turn

things have taken an ~

ugly underside

the ~ of America's most popular sport (football)

get ugly

late at night, the protests ~ (street protests)

♦ "This sofa is ugly. The other sofa is beautiful." (The American Language Course, Defense Language Institute—ALC / DLI.)

♦ "Of course I litter the public highway. Every chance I get. After all, it's not the beer cans that are ugly; it's the highway that is ugly." (Edward Abbey, author of the *Monkey Wrench Gang* and a Godfather of Earth First.)

♦ "Fury continues to dominate. He's turned it up a bit more this round. The eyes on Chisora aren't good, his face is battered. Stop this fight. This is ugly and getting uncomfortable." (Fury versus Chisora III, Round 9. The ref stopped the fight in Round 10.)

♦ Life asked Death, "Why does everyone love me and hate you?" Death replied, "Because you are a beautiful lie and I am the ugly truth."

**flaws & lack of flaws: eye**

**ulcer (noun)**

Napoleon's "Spanish ulcer"

the Peninsular War was ~

bleeding ulcer

Commander Stanley McChrystal called Marjah "a ~"

**affliction: health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

**ultra (ultra-conservative, etc.)**

ultrarunners

~, a bizarre band of pain junkies...

ultra-aggressive

he is ~, on and off the track... (an F1 racer)

ultra-conservative

he was a victim of a mutiny by ~s (politics)

ultramassive

astronomers at Britain's Durham University have found an ~

♦ "We've never witnessed buildings rise so much, so quickly. From high-rises, we've stretched to supertalls and even megatalls (double the height of a supertall), and engineers are already discussing 'ultratalls' that would take us higher still." ("Can A Building Be Too Tall?" by Bianca Bosker, *The Atlantic*, January / February 2023.)

**language / superlative: affix**

**umbilical (connection)**

curly umbilical

you can see the ~ from the descent stage to the rover

**configuration / division & connection / resemblance: birth**

**umbrella (protection)**

air defense umbrella

air cover or an ~ is necessary

the passes lay outside the Egyptians' ~ (Sinai / 1973)

protective umbrella

the Saudis did not want a U.S. ~

nuclear umbrella

the US could extend its ~ to Israel, Egypt, and the Gulf

under the (American national security) umbrella

any number of countries ~ have done quite well

♦ Umbrellas were originally designed as sun shades for protection against the sun.

**protection & lack of protection: umbrella**

**umbrella (under an umbrella)**

under the Taliban's umbrella

it is one of the main groups fighting ~

under the social studies umbrella

disciplines ~

under that huge umbrella

all of the sub-genres that go ~ of hyperpop (music)

work under the U.N. umbrella

7,000 de-miners are at ~ (Afghanistan)

**cover: umbrella**

**umbrella (umbrella group, etc.)**

umbrella agencies

get in touch with the ~ below...

umbrella term

"transgender" is an ~ to describe people who...

**taxonomy & classification: umbrella**

**un (unhoused, etc.)**

unhoused

LA's struggle to address its ~ crisis

the ~ population is facing new restrictions around sleeping

some ~ people prefer the streets to shelters

tiny homes for ~ veterans

~ people and extreme heat

murders committed by people who are ~ (NYC street people)

unparented

an ~ teen-ager

unsheltered

Philadelphia will provide vacant houses to ~ residents

unhealthy, unschooled, unfed and unpaid

women comprise the majority of the world's ~

♦ "Of particular concern to me is the plight of women and girls, who comprise the majority of the world's unhealthy, unschooled, unfed, and unpaid..." (Hillary Clinton's Confirmation as Secretary of State under President Obama.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affix**

**un (undo this hurt, etc.)**

undo this hurt

~, unbreak my heart... (Toni Braxton)

**reversal: affix**

## unblemished

unblemished record

he came to Glasgow with the title and an ~ (boxer)

**flaws & lack of flaws: mark**

## unbowed (adjective)

ultimately unbowed

he was ~, he defended himself (Jack Welch)

**dominance & submission / resistance, opposition & defeat:  
direction / religion / standing, sitting & lying**

## unbridled

unbridled ambition

Qatar has leveraged its oil wealth and ~  
he is a man of ~

unbridled authority

state's attorneys don't have ~ to appoint special prosecutors

unbridled capitalism

~ undermines traditional social relations

unbridled enthusiasm

he has the ~ of his party (a politician)  
there are problems with ~

unbridled expression

the Internet allows ~

unbridled greed

our ~ caused the economic crisis  
good for the company for saying no to ~ (a publisher)

unbridled growth

low interest rates fueled ~ in the tech sector (US)

unbridled (economic) growth

pollution has been one of the downsides of China's ~

unbridled imagination

musicians admired him for his ~ (a fellow musician)

unbridled optimism

people praised his ~ in the face of his illness

unbridled optimist

she is an ~

unbridled passion

he has energy, enthusiasm and ~ of what's possible

**restraint & lack of restraint: horse**

**constraint & lack of constraint: horse**

**control & lack of control: horse**

## uncharted (adjective)

uncharted territory

we're in ~ in terms of predicting his recovery... (coma)  
sending public opinion into ~

uncharted water

the NCAA is wading into ~

uncharted waters

this was ~ for us (youthful sex)

uncharted (legal) waters

the charges have led the country into ~ (soldiers)

uncharted wilderness

new routes into the ~ of the 21-century economy

**certainty & uncertainty / direction: ground, terrain & land /  
journeys & trips / map / sea**

## unclear (adjective)

unclear

facts are scarce and sources are ~ (news rumors)  
it's very ~ what happened (school shooting)

**certainty & uncertainty: light & dark**

**perception, perspective & point of view: light & dark**

**comprehension & lack of comprehension: light & dark**

## uncomfortable (groups)

uncomfortable

it's going to be ~ (a dialogue on racism)

Uncomfortable Conversations

he created "~ With a Black Man" (Emmanuel Acho)

uncomfortable moments

how to handle ~ (being misgendered)

uncomfortable conversations

I want to have ~ (David Archuleta)

made them uncomfortable

close, physical interactions with Joe Biden ~ (women)

made the grownups uncomfortable

hip-hop that ~ ("WAP" / Cardi B & Megan Thee Stallion)

♦ "People with disabilities can share the ways that encounters with non-disabled people make them uncomfortable." (#AbleDs Are Weird.)

♦ "How To Survive Uncomfortable Holiday Conversations," NPR, All Things Considered, November 22, 2017.

♦ "...and those hormones have no place to go." ("The Wedge' Explores How Being Uncomfortable Builds Human Resilience," wbur, Here & Now, May 28, 2020. Jeremy Hobson interviews author Scott Carney.)

♦ "When they tried to sleep, the heat of their own bodies would melt the mush snow beneath their rubber blankets, and soon they would be lying in puddles of cold water. Dr. Ambler wrote that 'sleeping in wet clothes in a wet bag on wet ice makes every bone and separate muscle ache in the morning. To-day I have not been able to draw a breath without pain.'" (*In the Kingdom of Ice: the Grand and Terrible Polar Voyage of the USS Jeannette* by Hampton Sides.)

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

## uncork (verb)

uncorked a declamation

he ~ on why America is no longer the greatest (TV show)

uncorked (long-suppressed) public opinion

the riots have ~

**initiation: bottle / pressure**

## **uncover (verb)**

uncover

she would be surprised at the information she would ~

uncovered (more) bodies from a canal

rescue efforts ~ (Nigeria)

uncovered crimes

investigators dug into actions and ~

uncover explosives

troops conduct raids to carry out arrests and ~

uncover the (true) extent

he worked to ~ of bullying (schools)

uncovered an (unnerving) fact

he ~ (scientist / about influenza)

uncovered evidence

scientists digging south of Denver say they have ~ of...  
well, we've ~ that points in a different direction (crime)

uncover any links

as federal agents work to ~ to terrorists

uncovered a (solid) motive

the investigation has not yet ~ (rap-star shooting)

uncovered a plot

police ~ to blow up commercial jetliners (terrorists)

uncovered the (Sept. 11) plot

the FBI mishandled info that could have ~

uncovered a (growing multi-smuggling) racket

a newspaper has ~ (Swaziland)

uncovered (one or two more of the) terrorists

we could have ~... (9/11)

police uncovered

~ thousands (tapes by militant Islamists)

investigations can uncover

~ things that result in lawsuits

**appearance & disappearance / concealment & lack of concealment / searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / verb**

## **under (hierarchy)**

under him

but because I was ~... (a company)

**hierarchy: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle / position**

## **under (underdeliver, etc.)**

underdeliver

hopefully, the storm will ~, but it could overdeliver

underpromise

~, overdeliver...

under-resourced

so, we're over-policed and ~ (a black woman)

underserved

~ communities (black, brown, etc.)

historically ~ (Black, brown communities)

underprotecting

the imbalance of overpolicing and ~ (groups)

♦ "Undermanned, underequipped, under rested, and undertrained Marine companies went nose-to-nose with North Vietnamese regulars along the DMZ." (Operation Buffalo by Keith William Nolan.)

**flaws & lack of flaws: affix / direction**

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: affix / direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## **underbelly (soft underbelly, etc.)**

soft underbelly

Liverpool knew where the ~ lay (victory against City)

**protection & lack of protection: animal / orientation / stomach**

## **underbelly (concealment)**

underbelly of globalization

this is the ~ (toxic dumping in third world)

underbelly of that protection

the ~ is physical and sexual violence (homeless women under wing of homeless veterans)

underbelly of drugs, violence and fear

the investigation uncovered a dark ~ (a small town)

Glasgow's (dark) underbelly

~ of vulnerability and danger (murdered prostitutes)

corrupt underbelly

did he know too much about boxing's ~ (Sonny Listen)

dark underbelly

the ~ of just how far parents are willing to go (college admissions scandal)

grim underbelly

ballet has a ~

seedy underbelly

Hollywood's ~, the casting couch...

violent underbelly

this city is beautiful with a very real and very ~ (cop)

**orientation: stomach**

**appearance & reality / concealment & lack of concealment / flaws & lack of flaws: orientation / stomach**

## **undercurrent (noun)**

undercurrent of extremism

there is a serious ~ (in a country)

constant undercurrent

the quest for identity is a ~ in the Middle East

**concealment & lack of concealment / force: river**

## undercut (verb)

undercut her  
she stood her ground and didn't let the defense ~ (trial)

**failure, accident & impairment: mining / verb**

## underdog (competition)

underdog  
we don't consider ourselves ~s (basketball team)  
we're the ~s (sports team)  
he is an ~ (politics)

underdog candidates  
~ gulped much-needed political oxygen (TV debate)

underdog potential  
who has that ~ (NCAA tournament)

underdog status  
Dillian Whyte will relish the ~ (vs. Tyson Fury / boxing)

front-runners and underdogs  
~ loved him (a race car driver)

consider ourselves underdogs  
we don't ~ (member of a basketball team)

♦ The underdog has nothing to lose and everything to gain. (Boxing.)

♦ "Who doesn't love an underdog?" (Sports.)

**competition / strength & weakness / superiority & inferiority: animal / dog / position**

## underdog (hierarchy)

underdog  
she was an ~ some cheered for (Anna Nicole)

underdog story  
it's an ~ set during the Depression (a film)  
people love an ~ (footballer Jamie Vardy)

bias towards the underdog  
journalists have a ~, all kinds of biases...

**hierarchy: animal / dog / position**

## underground (noun)

underground church  
millions of Chinese Catholics worship in ~s

underground (extremist) group  
the ~ Army of God

underground magazine  
an ~ about dog fighting (illegal in US)

underground market  
drugs available on the ~

underground (anti-slavery) movement  
an ~

underground music  
acid-house was ~

underground rock scene  
an ~ in the city's shadows (the Leningrad Rock Club)

underground churches and sects  
the spread of ~

underground and the mainstream  
he is stuck between the ~ (Shaun White in 2010)

cyber underground  
the ~ was abuzz with rumors

drives it underground  
cracking down on sex trafficking just ~

drive sex offenders underground  
Iowa's residency rules ~

♦ "People were still uncomfortable and nervous about going underground. The only reason you go underground is when you're dead. They viewed it as a place where the devil lived, where rats lived." Doug Most, author of *The Race Underground*, a history of the Boston- New York subway rivalry.)

**society: center & periphery / direction**

**concealment & lack of concealment / environment: direction**

## underground railroad

underground railroad  
an ~ to get workers across the border (from Mexico)

**pursuit, capture & escape / resistance, opposition & defeat: history**

## underhanded (or underhand)

underhand tactics  
his side was subjected to ~ (sports)

underhanded tricks  
protect yourself from ~

underhanded ways  
she employs ~ to get ahead

covert and underhanded  
racism can be ~ (versus in your face)

**subterfuge: direction / hand**

## underlie (verb)

underlie the (chronic) inflammation  
allergic symptoms may ~

underlie the insurgency  
we must address the problems that ~

underlie mating games  
she is testing out the social skills that ~ (a teen girl)

♦ Geological basins and basement rocks underlie the Nullarbor Plain. (Geology.)

**bases: direction / ground, terrain & land / verb**

## underline (attention)

double underline  
we need to ~ the conclusion (of a report)

underline, highlight

the Soviets did not ~ the tragedy of the Jews (WWII)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: letters & characters / verb**

## **underlying (adjective)**

underlying causes

an understanding of the ~

underlying concept

the approach and its ~s

underlying condition

does not help the ~

underlying explanation

no one challenged the ~ for the sudden death

underlying factors

the ~ that contributed to the disaster (NASA)

underlying felony

armed robbery was the ~ in the murders

underlying infrastructure

a deep flaw in the ~ (Microsoft security flaw)

underlying injuries

the diagnosis of ~

underlying issues

~ include emotional immaturity, feelings of inferiority

underlying message

understand their ~ (autistic behaviors)

underlying principle

a world in which modesty is the ~ (Muslim girl)

underlying (Buddhist) principles

a draft constitution based on ~ (Bhutan)

underlying (psychological) problems

were there ~

underlying question

imaging research has not answered the ~ (psychiatry)

underlying theme

CBS stuck to the ~ of the report (expose)

underlying unity

our quest for some elusive ~

underlying medical condition

regardless of their ~

**bases: direction / ground, terrain & land**

**relationship: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## **undermine (verb)**

undermine assumptions

the finding, if upheld, would ~ that... (migration)

undermine cohesion

disparities in compensation ~ among troops

undermined confidence

fear has ~ in the food supply (avian flu)

undermines (investor) confidence

corruption ~ in new ventures

undermine cooperation

selfish, exploitative people quickly ~

undermine (U.S.) credibility

deliberate lies ~ (foreign policy)

undermine the (Eritrean) government

Sudan's government tried to ~ (1990s)

undermined the law

religious fanaticism has ~ (Pakistan)

undermine morale

inefficient distribution of mail can ~ (military)

undermine relationships

you can ~ with insecurity and jealousy

undermines their (own academic) reputation

reviewers may react harshly to research that ~

undermine security

they use terrorism to sow fear and ~

undermine (global) security

a missile-defense system will ~

undermined (fundamental) values

popular culture has ~

undermines his sex drive

his performance anxiety ~

undermined his self-confidence

the rejections ~ (job hunting)

threatens to undermine

lawlessness ~ investor confidence

**failure, accident & impairment: mining / verb**

## **underneath (basis)**

underneath the bravado

~ there is fear

**appearance & reality / bases / relationship: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## **underscore (attention)**

underscores the importance

this breakdown in talks ~ of negotiations (with Iran)

underscores the need

the report ~ for better data

underscore the pressure-cooker atmosphere

the accusations ~ in the region

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: letters & characters / verb**

## underside (noun)

underside of the miracle

but the ~ is... (booming economy but problems)

ugly underside

the ~ of America's most popular sport (football)

**orientation: stomach**

**appearance & reality / concealment & lack of concealment / flaws & lack of flaws: orientation / stomach**

## undertaker (The Undertaker, etc.)

The Undertaker

Mark William Calaway, better known as ~ (wrestler)

undertaker of Silicon Valley

the ~ stays busy (Martin Pichinson)

♦ "Everything has been hit. I never in my life thought I'd see a black swan. This is a black swan." ("The 'Undertaker Of Silicon Valley' Stays Busy As Startups Lay Off Thousands" by Bobby Allyn, NPR, All Things Considered, April 20, 2020. The COVID pandemic.)

**epithet: death & life**

## undertone (noun)

veiled undertones

his irritation can be detected in ~ in his diary

racial undertones

the media's coverage of Sterling has ~ (Great Britain)

**concealment & lack of concealment / evidence: music / sound**

## underwater (adjective)

\$20.5 billion underwater

the federal flood insurance program is currently ~

**survival, persistence & endurance: water**

## underway

underway

an economic recovery is ~

efforts ~ to develop job opportunities for those...

underway in Azerbaijan

the alphabet reform ~

underway on the dam

construction is ~

already underway

a disaster accelerates economic changes that are ~  
an improvement plan is ~

currently underway

a second, larger study is ~ (rehab therapy)

now underway

an NIH-sponsored double-blind study is ~ to evaluate...

well underway

construction is ~ on the dam

buzz was underway

the water cooler ~ (Olympic controversy)

coup was underway

one of the rogue officers denied a ~ (Philippines)

work is underway

construction ~ on Ethiopia's huge Gibe III dam

trials are underway

randomized controlled ~ (medicine)

gets underway

the next big federal trial ~ next month (opioid suits)

got underway

as the trial ~, prosecutors knew they had an uphill climb

**starting, going, continuing & ending: boat / journeys & trips**

## underworld (noun)

underworld figures

the bar is a favorite for ~ (crime)

Kyrgyzstan's (powerful criminal) underworld

the government may be trying to rein in ~

♦ "The signs were there that it could flow over from the underworld to the upper world, and now that has happened." (Wouter Loumans, author of *Mocro Mafia*.)

**concealment & lack of concealment / environment:**

**direction / earth & world / society**

**center & periphery: direction / society**

**society: center & periphery / direction**

## undoing (destruction)

its (final) undoing

this summer's warmth has been ~ (ice-shelf breaks up)

your undoing

you are going down a road that will be ~

laid the groundwork for his own undoing

he had ~

**destruction / failure, accident & impairment: cloth / rope**

## undone (destruction)

coming undone

behind all the glitter of the 1970s, Iran was ~

**destruction / failure, accident & impairment: cloth / rope**

## unearth (verb)

unearth documents

the unit can ~ erased from hard drives (police)

unearthed evidence

FBI investigators ~ to show his involvement in IS  
the podcast claimed it had ~ that corroborated his alibi  
he also ~ of contact between... (politics)

♦ Workmen recently unearthed a 500-pound World War II bomb at Portsmouth Naval Base. It was detonated by bomb-disposal experts.

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / appearance & disappearance / concealment & lack of concealment / searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / mining / verb**

## **unearthed**

unearthed experiment  
a recently ~ prompted US authorities to apologize

**analysis, interpretation & explanation / appearance & disappearance / concealment & lack of concealment / searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / mining**

## **unfathomable (adjective)**

unfathomable  
this murder is so senseless, it's ~

unfathomable to him  
the decision was ~ (business)

unfathomable stupidity  
he survived due to the ~s of the regime (W.W. II)

heartbreaking and unfathomable  
his murder was ~ (a rapper)

seem unfathomable  
falsely admitting to a crime may ~ to many

**comprehension & incomprehension: sea / depth / water**

## **unfettered**

unfettered  
they can buy weapons ~ (in US)

unfettered access  
she has ~ to files (an investigator)  
the church will give ~ to documents (sex abuse)

unfettered press  
people paid attention to their increasingly ~ (change)

live unfettered  
he was determined to ~ by excessive obligations (a writer)

**constraint & lack of constraint / functioning: chain / crime / leg / movement / walking, running & jumping**

## **unfold (discover)**

unfolding details  
investigators are rapidly ~ of the plot (terrorism)

**searching & discovery: cloth / verb**

## **unfold (develop)**

unfolding in chapters  
the mystery is ~ (missing plane)

still unfolding  
the story is ~

crisis unfolds  
as the coronavirus ~...

events will unfold  
agility requires an ability to visualize how ~ (military)

watched their own drama unfold  
passengers ~ on satellite TV sets (JetBlue Flight 292)

**development: cloth / verb**

## **unfolding (developing)**

unfolding in Japan  
a catastrophe has been ~ (nuclear problem)

unfolding disaster  
a Greek chorus comments on the ~

still-unfolding  
a chapter in the ~ story

**development: cloth**

## **unfolding (opening)**

unfolding blossoms  
the ~ of the fruit trees

**resemblance: cloth**

## **unglued (emotionally)**

came unglued  
she ~ in the courtroom

**mental health: materials & substances**

**feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances**

**failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances**

## **unhealthy (condition)**

unhealthy focus  
the internet's ~ on opinion (Jia Tolentino)

something unhealthy at Manchester United  
there is ~

**condition & status: health & medicine**

## **unhinged (adjective)**

unhinged  
he seemed like a guy who was ~

unhinged mind  
the gloriously ~ of James Gunn (film *The Suicide Squad*)

unhinged partisans  
shame on these ugly ~, deranged by their hatred (politics)

become so unhinged that...  
liberal activists and social justice warriors have ~

**fantasy & reality: doors & thresholds**

**failure, accident & impairment: mental health**

**mental health: euphemism**

## **unicorn (unicorns of the sea, etc.)**

“unicorns of the sea”  
narwhals are the ~

**epithet: creature**

**resemblance: epithet**

## unicorn (tech “Unicorn,” etc.)

unicorn boom

the gold rush of the “~” (Silicon Valley startups)

“unicorn” paper

a ~ is publishable as is (no revising / an academic editor)

NBA’s latest European unicorn

7-foot-4 Victor Wembanyama, the ~ (basketball player)

tech “Unicorns”

Blipper was one of the UK’s ~

*\$47 Billion Unicorn*

*WeWork: Or the Making and Breaking of a ~* (Hulu)

quite a unicorn

that is ~ (a person to fit job requirements)

poster child of the unicorns

the ~ was Uber, the ride-hailing smart-phone app

♦ A tech unicorn is a start-up worth \$1 billion or more.

♦ “That is quite a unicorn.” (A fluent speaker of Mandarin, with a background in artificial intelligence, willing to work as a spy for the CIA.)

♦ “We have been the grateful recipients of many fine and interesting papers, but have yet to come across what I think of as a ‘unicorn’ paper—one that has been unanimously deemed ‘publishable as is’ by all of its review editors.” (The editor of some minor academic journal.)

**epithet / worth & lack of worth: creature**

**computer: creature**

**worth & lack of worth: epithet**

## unicorn (Scotland, etc.)

unicorn

~s are ubiquitous in Scotland

Lion and the Unicorn

the ~ appear on the UK royal coat of arms

♦ See the excellent article, “What unicorns mean to Scottish identity” by Mike MacEacheran, BBC Travel, 9th April 2019. It includes very nice pictures of unicorns.

**identity & nature: creature / sign, signal, symbol**

## universe (noun)

surfer’s (turquoise) universe

the ~ (tubes, barrels, pipelines, etc.)

yachting universe

Cape Horn is regarded as the Mount Everest of the ~

basketball universe

Indiana is the center of the ~

board-sport universe

in the ~

academic universe

more settled fields in the ~ (vs. black studies)

aesthetic universe

the ~ of *Avatar* (the film)

new universe

he told of the mysterious world of microbes as a ~

center of the (basketball) universe

Indiana is the ~

♦ Something referred to as “The Marvel Cinematic Universe” comprises 30+ films. Who knew?

♦ see also *verse* (*metaverse*, etc.)

**area / environment: astronomy**

## university (experience)

real university

the Arctic was his ~, the Inuit his professors (Amundsen)

♦ “A whale-ship was my Yale College and my Harvard.” (*Moby Dick* by Herman Melville.)

“The Eskimos were right!” (An excited scientist in a helicopter in 1994, noticing a bow whale swimming with a group of beluga whales. The native peoples had told him bow whales did that, something he didn’t know.)

**experience / knowledge & intelligence: school & education**

## unleash (verb)

unleashed a (\$350 million) campaign to persuade

Microsoft ~... (ad)

unleash (even more) oil into the Gulf

it could ~ (a plan to stop oil spill)

unleashed a (powerful) shot from 20 meters

he ~ (soccer)

unleashed a (mortar) barrage

the Wa ~ and the Thais responded with...

unleashed his blows

Tyson charged up to Lewis and ~... (boxing)

unleashed the demons

WWI ~ of political disorder, extremism, and cruelty

unleashed feelings

Donald Trump ~ that were not expressed publicly before

unleash a flood

Tibetans fear the rail line will ~ of Han immigrants  
defeat of the bill will ~ of negative advertising (politics)

unleashes forces

war ~ that cannot be predicted or controlled

unleashed its fury

the massive storm ~ (tornadoes)

unleash a monster

that’s what happens when you ~ (violence)

unleashed (additional rocket) salvos

Palestinians have ~ (from Gaza)

unleashed a storm

congressmen ~ of patriotic rage

unleashed (heavy) rain and (strong) winds

thunderstorms ~ across parts of the Midwest

unleashes a torrent  
in the play's final scene, she unleashes a ~ of fury at...

unleashed a wave  
they ~ of protest

unleashed a bloodbath  
the bombing of the Mosque of the Gold Dome ~

unleashed a whirlwind  
the dictator's ouster ~ of pent-up civic forces (Suharto)

unleash a civil war  
then Mr. Taylor returned to Liberia to ~

**constraint & lack of constraint / initiation: dog / verb**

## unleashed

unleashed against dissidents  
the repression ~

unleashed by (fanatical) terrorists  
the violence ~

unleashed by (emotional) trauma  
hysteria as a nervous-system disorder ~

genie (of racial hatred) has been unleashed  
the ~ (Ivory Coast)

**constraint & lack of constraint / initiation: dog**

## unlock (verb)

unlocks the mystery  
this could be the key that ~

**amelioration & renewal / concealment & lack of  
concealment / searching & discovery: key / verb**

## unmaking (destruction)

making and unmaking  
the book describes her ~ (Elizabeth Holmes)

**destruction / failure, accident & impairment:  
manufacturing**

## unmask (verb)

unmask (vile and prolific) abusers  
the technology is there to ~ (on social media)

unmask this individual  
Republicans are trying to ~ (a whistleblower)

**concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories  
/ verb**

## unmoored

unmoored from its stated purpose  
Congress allowed the mission to become ~ of... (war)

**attachment / division & connection / movement / progress  
& lack of progress: boat**

## unpack (verb)

unpack  
there's a lot to ~ in this scene, it's confusing (a film)

unpacking (implicit racial) bias  
for two decades she has been ~

unpack the idea  
the way I ~ is that...

unpack it  
you got to explain it, ~

unpack that  
let me ~...

♦ This is similar to *unpick*, which literally means to remove sewing stitches.

♦ Hosts and pundits *break down, unpack, unpick, discuss, walk us through, give us an overview of, and help us with their respective topics. In the past, this might have been expressed with the word "analyze."*

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: container / verb**

## unpalatable (adjective)

unpalatable options  
in Syria, the US weighs a range of ~

uncomfortable and unpalatable  
ideas that are ~ (the comic Dave Chappelle)

**consumption: food & drink / taste**

## unpick (verb)

unpick one or two of those things  
let's ~ (discussion of Hapsburg Monarchy on BBC)

unpick this chain of events  
we sought to ~ in our film

unpicking the mechanics of hatred  
in this series I'll be ~ (a history of hate)

♦ This literally means to remove sewing stitches.

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: cloth / verb**

## unpolished

unpolished charm  
the movie's ~ dissolves into predictability

♦ It is good to know there is an opposite for *lapidary*.

**flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances**

## unravel (fail)

unraveling  
the system that has controlled her life is ~ (Britney)

unraveled at an accelerating pace  
those norms have ~

unraveling in Iraq  
with no criminal or psychiatric history, he had started ~

started unraveling  
with no criminal or psychiatric history, he had ~ in Iraq

began to unravel  
her life ~ when...  
Swallow's story ~ (an escaped convict)

case (against him) may be unravelling  
the ~

harmony (of Russia's nationalities) is unraveling  
the enforced ~

meeting (quickly) unraveled  
the ~ (diplomacy)

narrative (of deceit) unraveled  
after her ~ (the Australian influencer Belle Gibson)

norms unraveled  
those ~, replaced by an ethos of "anything goes"

pact unraveled  
the power-sharing ~ (Sierra Leone)

**failure, accident & impairment: cloth / rope / verb**

**unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.)**

unravel the case  
we followed the thread and began to ~ (tapes of old trial)  
looking for a clue that would ~

unravel the mystery  
they are trying to ~ of tornadoes (storm chasers)

unraveled the mystery  
satellites have ~ of Mars' geological patterns ("spiders")

unraveled a (strange and illuminating) story  
we followed the thread and ~

**searching & discovery: cloth / verb**  
**amelioration & renewal: rope / verb**  
**analysis, interpretation & explanation: cloth / verb**

**unraveled (explained)**

unraveled  
there are mysteries yet to be ~ (crop circles)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: cloth**

**unsavory (adjective)**

unsavory connections  
he has ~ (a tribal leader)

unsavory means  
he became rich through ~

unsavory methods  
he is known for his ~ (politician)

unsavory past  
he is a loose cannon with an ~ (politician)

unsavory reality  
using a famous last name is an ~ of power and politics

unsavory reputation  
he has an ~

unsavory side  
he showed his ~

illegal or unsavory  
he engaged in practices that were ~ (businessman)

♦ Something may taste or smell savory. Stews and goulashes can have a savory smell. Savory is related to palatable.

**consumption / corruption / feeling, emotion & effect / flaws & lack of flaws: food & drink / taste**

**unscathed (adjective)**

left the debate unscathed  
his main rival ~ (politics)

**condition & status: health & medicine / mark / wounds & scars**

**unseat (verb)**

unseats our idea  
this idea ~ that lesbianism equals female masculinity

**dismissal, removal & resignation / disruption / failure, accident & impairment: equilibrium & stability / horse / verb**

**unstable (adjective)**

unstable  
the regime is ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: equilibrium & stability**

**unshackle (verb)**

unshackle itself from the past  
hopefully, the sport can ~ (cycling and doping)

**constraint & lack of constraint: chain / crime / verb**

**unspool (verb)**

unspool what  
fans and music critics have been trying to ~ it all means

unspool the history  
he joins us to ~ that led up to...

unspool the (song's multiple) layers  
to help us ~ of meaning...

unspool his role  
investigators are working to ~ in the affair (politics)

unspool the (sordid) story  
we ~ and talk with survivor families

unspool slowly  
the reasons for her alienation ~ (a book)

unspool as Iraq did  
the great fear is that Afghanistan could ~

**development: cloth / film / verb**  
**analysis, interpretation & explanation: cloth / film / verb**

## unstoppable (force, etc.)

seem unstoppable

Manchester City ~ with Erling Haaland

**force: movement**

## unsung (praise)

unsung hero

the ~ for me was... (a championship soccer game)

he is a bit of an ~ (the remarkable Martyn Stewart)

the ~s (five maintenance workers at pre-K-12 school)

My Unsung Hero

time now for ~, a series from Hidden Brain (NPR)

**achievement, recognition & praise: music**

## untangle (verb)

untangled the history from the mythology

we ~ to get the true story of what happened (podcast)

untangle the supply snarls

it could take a while to ~ (economy)

**amelioration & renewal: cloth / rope / verb**

**analysis & interpretation: cloth / rope / verb**

## untouchable (person)

untouchables of academia

it's a caste system, and we are the ~ (an adjunct)

**acceptance & rejection / hierarchy / person: society**

**society: person**

## unvarnished (adjective)

unvarnished advice

he had some ~ for him

unvarnished authenticity

his ~ (the boxer Gervonta Davis)

unvarnished and emotional

their stories are ~ (not sensationalized or trivialized)

♦ "His rags-to-riches backstory, crowd-pleasing style and unvarnished authenticity... (The boxer Gervonta Davis.)"

**appearance & reality / concealment & lack of concealment: materials & substances**

## unveil (make public)

unveiled a new approach

the government ~ to...

unveiled its (welfare) reforms

the government ~

**inauguration: clothing & accessories / verb**

## unwavering (adjective)

unwavering

his support is ~

total and unwavering

our amazing veterans deserve our ~ support

**commitment & determination: equilibrium & stability / movement**

## unwind (relax)

unwind

he watched TV and tried to ~ after work

crime documentaries have become my default way to ~

how does he ~ (Anthony Fauci, a workaholic)

**mental health: pressure / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect / amelioration & renewal:**

**mechanism / verb**

## unwind (reverse)

unwind them

Joe Biden has taken steps to ~ (2 Trump policies)

**reversal: mechanism / verb**

## unwind (analyze)

unwind the scandal

it won't be easy to ~ (doping allegation / Olympics)

**development: cloth / film / verb**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: cloth / film / verb**

## up (increase / verb)

up the ante

Moscow might ~ if the West continues to ignore...

up our game

we need to ~

up their game

companies need to ~ in cybersecurity

upped the tariffs

the Trump administration has ~

**increase & decrease: direction / verb**

## up (science up, etc.)

amp up

see *amp up* (verb)

armor themselves up

distrustful people ~ to feel safe

butch up

"Dear Ari, Please, ~" (NPR's Ari Shapiro)

focus up

we've got to ~ and nail this audition

brain up

don't "dumb down," but "~" (Teletubbies)

level up

see *level up* (as verb)

network up

don't just ~, do it with your peers (networking)

ramp up  
see *ramp up* (verb)

science things up  
we'd love for Joe Biden to really ~

skill up  
~, level up (an ad for the University of Montreal)

staff up  
we need to ~ (increase staff)

amped up  
the dish is ~ with plenty of chilies

angered up  
oh my, the bigots are all ~ (snark on discussion board)

cached up  
guard who fled with inmate was ~ (withdrew \$90,000)

cowboyed up  
Baratunde Thurston ~ in Idaho (*America Outdoors*)

lawyered up  
both parties have ~ amid negotiations

loved up  
he is currently ~ with Lauren Silverman (shacked up?)

sexed-up  
why stars have ~ (clickbait)

“teched-up”  
mindfulness can help you in a 24/7 ~ world

“xanied up”  
he was ~ (the prescription drug Xanax)

♦ If someone talks about *managing up*, they are referring to a set of common-sense ways of dealing with the boss. There have been articles about this, even in *The Wall Street Journal*.

♦ Girl Up, a U.N. Foundation campaign, promotes the rights of adolescent girls around the world.

♦ “Up the ‘Ra!’” (Nigel Farage, perhaps not knowing what he was saying.)

**contempo-speak: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## up (higher)

up  
employment is ~  
suicide rates are ~

**increase & decrease: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## up (time is finished, etc.)

time is up  
my ~

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence / timeliness & lack of timeliness: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## up (up to now, up to date, etc.)

up to date

the students keep us young, ~ (Darryl “Pepe” Diaz)

led up to the French Revolution  
in the years that ~...

bring us up to date  
~, where are we now, exactly (Ailsa Chang, NPR)

♦ This is an instance of up-down metaphors for time and contrasts with down (*down through the centuries*). Time seems to come down from the past and then up to the present. Perhaps this reflects a cyclical view of time, or simply a hilly topography.

**past & present / time: direction / height / history / mountains & hills / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## up (feeling)

up  
keep your hopes ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## up (what's up, etc.)

up with you  
I know something's ~ (a mother about a troubled child)

**occurrence: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## up (ups and downs)

ups and downs  
there's going to be a lot of ~ in the months to come  
~ are simply a part of life (self-compassion)  
she had her ~ (an athlete)

**development: direction**

## up (up for something)

up for the challenge  
people wonder if he is ~ (running for president)

♦ You can be down for something or up for something with similar meaning! English is crazy.

**allegiance, support & betrayal / commitment & determination: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## up-and-coming

up-and-coming  
seaweed farming is ~

up-and-coming rapper  
an ~ who went the way of Pop Smoke (both murdered)

♦ See *comer* (up-and-comer, etc.), *arrive* (attainment)

**future / time: direction / movement**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / movement**

## up and down

up and down  
my career has been ~, and I like up better (Ray Liotta)

up and down, rollercoaster  
it's been an ~ week (impeachment trial)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / movement**

## upbeat (adjective)

remained upbeat

she ~, taking the positives out of the day's events

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction**

## upcoming (adjective)

upcoming (boxing) match

his ~ with Apinun Khongsong (Josh Taylor)

upcoming trial

he was back in court ahead of his ~ (Markeith Loyd)

**future / time: direction / movement**

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: direction / movement**

## upend (verb)

upended his career

the scandal ~ (Hollywood)

upend the (financial) industry

looming challenges will ~

upended (entire) industries

Amazon, Netflix and Uber ~ (technology)

upended the (presidential) race

he ~ this week by picking...

upended the game table

he ~ of politics in 2016

upended conventional wisdom

this really ~ (a "natural" experiment / economics)

upend and destabilize

sports podcasts often ~ stereotypes about black athletes

**disruption: direction / equilibrium & stability / verb**

## upheaval (disruption)

upheaval

the miners' action has opened the floodgates to more ~

upheaval of Ruiz's shock win

a few weeks of calm after the ~ over Joshua (boxing)

great upheavals

periods that precede ~ such as Europe on the eve of 1914

political upheavals

the last few years have seen a series of ~ (England)

**disruption / effect / feeling, emotion & effect: earthquake / equilibrium & stability / ground, terrain & land**

## uphill (difficult)

uphill battle

passage of the monumental law was an ~  
education on overfishing is an ~ (sharks, etc.)

uphill climb

as the trial got underway, prosecutors knew they had an ~

uphill fight

it will be an ~ (to win an election)

uphill struggle

a difficult and ~

difficult and uphill

a ~ struggle

♦ see *downhill* (go downhill, etc.) for why downhill can mean to decline.

**difficulty, easiness & effort: direction / mountains & hills / walking, running & jumping**

## upon (tragedy upon tragedy, etc.)

tragedy upon tragedy

~ (3 mass shootings in California in 3 days)

**development / sequence: direction / position / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## upper (river, etc.)

upper reach

this is what one might call the ~ of the Lower Yangtze

**orientation: direction / river / height**

## uppercutting

upper-cutting guests with a sharp line of questioning

she was known for her tough interviewing style, ~

**conflict: boxing**

## upright (upright man, etc.)

upright man

he was an ~ of starchy integrity (law and government)

**behavior / character & personality: direction / height**

## uprising (resistance)

wave of (democratic) uprisings

a ~ is transforming the Islamic world

**resistance, opposition & defeat: direction**

## uproar (controversy)

ensuing uproar

in the ~, scientists battled over the risks and benefits...

political uproar

the politics of mother's milk has created a ~

uproar (eventually) died down

the ~ (dismissal of coach)

caused an uproar

the sanitized edition of 'Huckleberry Finn' has ~

provoked uproar

the case has ~ (guns versus domestic violence)

sparked an uproar

his dismissal ~ on campus (popular coach Bobby Knight)  
her transgender talk ~ (a Canadian feminist)  
the sisters' case ~ (abuse)

triggered the uproar

what ~ was an incendiary post at a Website

♦ "At sunrise, Sunday morning, May 3, 1863, the battle opened with terrific cannonading. Simultaneously commenced the bursting shells and the harsh, crashing sound of musketry, reminding one of a dreadful storm, the coming of mighty, angry winds, driving the dark and threatening clouds, sweeping everything material in their path, the rolling reverberations of great thunder-bolts that seem to give fitting expression to the thoughts of an offended God." (The Battle of Chancellorsville. From *Memoirs of Chaplain Life* by W. Corby.)

**amount & effect / conflict: sound**

**uproot (verb)**

uproot the system

we're going to need to ~ (Greta Thunberg, climate activist)

**destruction: plant / tree / verb**

**uprooted**

uprooted from rebel-held east Aleppo

thousands have been ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation: plant / tree**

**upside (noun)**

upside

the ~ is things could be worse

has an upside

the financial system has an ~  
depression ~

have an upside

the predicament could ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: direction / orientation**

**upside down**

upside down

I wasn't expecting this, my whole world is ~ (health)

turned upside down

then her life ~ (World War II)

turned our lives upside down

his illness ~

turn the system upside down

the proposed new tests will ~ (education)

turning the town upside down

the mystery is ~ (missing children)

**disruption: direction / equilibrium & stability**

**upspeak (contempo-speak)**

you know all our stories (upspeak on "stories")

it's like, ~ (2001 film *American Pie*)

♦ Upspeak used to come at the end of the sentence, but now it is quite common to hear upspeak on *any* word.

♦ Online commenters have begun putting question marks at the end of statements, indicating how they would say them with upspeak. At the end of 2022, the following headline appeared at ABC online: "Harry and Meghan always planned to be on TV?" by Andy Tillet, *New York Post*, Dec. 8, 2022.)

♦ "Apologizing only works when it clears up the reason why?" (A *New York Post* article by Ariel Zilber, quoting Jay Jaye, founder of Ace of Spades branding agency.)

♦ "While Ed was manly, the strong, silent type, Bobby was extraordinarily effeminate. His voice was singsong with a trilling inflection that would have turned your head in the street if you overheard him. He tended to raise the pitch when he ended a sentence as if he was asking a question. It was a baroque touch that, together with the way he tossed his head, and the way his hands were held near his face, created the illusion that he was Salome wearing a diaphanous veil, not Bobby Keller, the salesperson." (*My Own Country: A Doctor's Story* by Abraham Verghese.)

♦ Upspeak is associated with females, particularly young ones. However, older females, especially in broadcast media, have affected upspeak, most likely to sound "younger" for that demographic. Upspeak is also associated with gay men. Males or females may acquire upspeak from their own group, or affect it in solidarity with a group.

♦ People (mainly women) who use upspeak, baby talk and vocal fry are widely considered hesitant and weak, and their language is considered affected and irritating. The matter has been widely discussed and needs no comment from me. NPR's Selena Simmons-Duffin's "Talking While Female" animation (2014), and the *comments* relating to it, say everything that needs to be said. The issue has been settled: listen to the two *Fresh Air* Terry Gross episodes about the matter. The first was critical, the second was essentially a retraction. The consensus is, it is wrong to criticize or judge these things.

♦ A FUNNY CARTOON. Two young men are sitting at a table. The man on the left is in despair: His elbows are on the table, his head is bowed, and his hands are on the top of this head, so that you can't see his face. It is a very good rendering of despair. Across the table, his nerdy Zoomer friend is saying, "Maybe try turning the mug around so its inspirational message faces you?" On the table is a mug. Looking closely, you can see that the "inspirational message" on the mug is the yellow smiley face. The upspeak indicated by the question mark in the caption is priceless. *The New Yorker*, November 7, 2022.)

♦ "The little engine that could do another round, if everyone else is?" (A not very funny cartoon, but notable for the question mark indicating upspeak. *The New Yorker*, March 6, 2023.)

♦ Michelle: It's like, you know all our stories?" (Pronounced upspeak on "stories.") / Jim: (Confused and startled.) "Uh, was that a question?" / Michelle: "Well, I don't know. Maybe... Do you want to answer it anyway?" (The 2001 [italics mine] film *American Pie 2*. Since then, upspeak has only become more prevalent, to include males.)

**contempo-speak: upspeak**

**upstage (verb)**

upstaged them on their home snow

he ~ (an Olympic skier)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / verb**

**orientation: direction / theater / verb**

**upstanding (adjective)**

upstanding member

he is an ~ of the community

**character & personality: direction / height**

**behavior: direction / height**

**upstream (swim upstream)**

swimming upstream

modern women are ~ (juggling various duties)

**orientation: direction / orientation / river**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: direction / orientation / river**  
**upsurge (noun)**

upsurge in (volcanic) activity  
there is no suggestion the ~ is related

**increase & decrease: direction / movement**

**uptick (noun)**

uptick in attacks  
there has been an ~ (war)

dramatic uptick  
there has been a ~ in the time it takes...

**increase & decrease: direction**

**upturn (noun)**

upturn in exports  
there has been an ~

upturn in the market  
the company will profit from any ~

economic upturn  
there are hopes for an ~ in the spring or summer

sharp upturn  
the political unrest has caused a ~ in oil prices

upturn is under way  
experts believe an ~ (economy)

derail this (vulnerable economic) upturn  
a conflict with Iran could yet ~ (in US)

signal an upturn  
the numbers ~ in the economy

**increase & decrease: direction**

**upvote (and downvote)**

282 upvotes  
~, 30 downvotes...

**judgment: direction / sign, signal, symbol / thumb**

**usher in (verb)**

usher in a new age  
the Republicans seek to ~ of limited government

ushered in the Age  
the Age of Columbus ~ of Copernicus (celestial navigation)

usher in a more socially conservative approach  
democrats warn Trump's choice will ~ to abortion

usher in change  
much blood has been shed to ~

ushered in a second sexual revolution  
the digital revolution has ~

usher in the sixties  
he helped to ~ with a new style of journalism (Tom Wolfe)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning /**  
**inauguration: doors & thresholds / theater / verb**

**usurp (verb)**

usurping Serbian heritage  
they are ~ (Croatia creates Tesla coins)

usurp her mark  
four rivals failed to ~ (Charlotte Worthington / Olympics)

usurp the (congressional) power  
his plan will ~ of the purse (politics)

usurp her teammate  
can Chenchen Guan ~ Xijing Tang (for gold medal)

**control & lack of control / possession / taking & removing:**  
**crime / royalty / verb**

**U-turn (noun)**

U-turn on (school) reform  
scholar's ~ shakes up debate

scholar's U-turn  
~ on school reform shakes up debate

massive U-turn  
today's move is a ~ for the Prime Minister (politics)

made a U-turn  
they ~ and admitted it was their fault (shot down plane)

forced into a U-turn  
the government was ~ (French labor strike)

**reversal / shape: direction / letters & characters**

**V**

**vacuum (noun)**

vacuum of power  
there is a ~ developing in the Middle East

policy vacuum  
there was a ~ in Washington (government)

creating a vacuum  
we're ~ that will be filled by bad elements (withdrawal)

**presence & absence: air / atmosphere**

**valedictory (farewell)**

valedictory salute  
it's a moving ~ to the actor (*No Time To Die* / Daniel Craig)

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: exclamation /**  
**speech**

**valence (attraction)**

valence for Black Americans  
"40 acres of land" has a particular ~

hateful valence

the ~ of that gesture is an open question (okay sign)

**attraction & repulsion: chemistry**

## Valentine

valentine of a book

it's a warm and affectionate ~ (*The Finns and Their Country*)

♦ see also *love letter (noun)*, *ode (praise)*

**achievement, recognition & praise: writing & spelling**

## Valhalla (noun)

Valhalla of men

they have earned their places in the ~ against death (microbe hunters)

**superlative: allusion / place / religion**

**importance & significance / sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

## valley (noun)

Silicon Valley

see *Silicon Valley*

peaks and valleys

it's a long season, you're going to have ~

**progress & lack of progress: mountains & hills**

**shape: direction / mountains & hills**

## valley (the uncanny valley, etc.)

uncanny valley

the phenomenon known as the ~

♦ It's a phenomenon known as the uncanny valley—if something looks human-like but not believably so, it becomes unnerving and even frightening." / As Prof Helen Hastie says: 'If it's too human-like, it will put off the human.'" ("Tesla's Optimus and the problem with humanoids" by Zoe Kleinman, BBC, October 8, 2022.)

♦ "Over the pass we dropped at once into a gulch. The place was extraordinarily broken. Deep crevices, encumbered with boulders and trunks, streams and rocks, all thickly overgrown with a carpet of moss; the whole scene reminded me vividly of a picture of Walpurgis Night. It would be hard to imagine a wilder and more repellent scene than that grim gorge. / Sometimes it happens that mountain and forest have such a cheerful and attractive appearance that one would be glad to linger there for ever. In others mountains seem surly and wild. It is a strange thing that such impressions are not purely personal and subjective, but were felt by all the men in the detachment. I tested this several times and was always convinced that it was so. That was the case here. In that spot there was an oppressive feeling in the air, something unhappy and painful, and the sensation of gloom and ill-omen was felt by all." (*Dersu Uzala* by V.K. Arseniev.)

**appearance & reality: mountains & hills**

## valve (relief valve)

relief valve

comedians are the only '~' we have left

♦ "I frankly don't know where this world would be without comedians...its the only 'relief valve' we have left." (A comment about criticism of the comedian Chris Rock.)

**amelioration & renewal / feeling, emotion & effect / mental health: pressure / tools & technology**

## vampire (noun)

vampire devices

so-called ~ raise your electrical bill

~ include electronics left on standby

♦ see also *Dracula (noun)*, *heart (stake through the heart, etc.)*

**affliction / taking & removing: creature**

## vandal (noun)

army of vandals

Rome's art heritage is under attack by an ~

**destruction: allusion / crime / history / person**

## vandalism (noun)

cultural vandalism

it's ~ of the worst kind (Puffin Books rewrites Roald Dahl)

cyber vandalism

President Obama called the Sony Pictures hack an act of "~~"

**destruction: allusion / crime / history**

## vanguard (in the vanguard)

in the vanguard of (iceboat) design

the company is ~

**driving force: military**

## vanguard (other)

vanguard of change

young people are acknowledged as the ~

acknowledged as the vanguard

young people are ~ of change

♦ *Palsars serve in the vanguard of the Israeli military forces.*

**driving force: military**

## vanish (extinction)

vanished

many other old customs have ~

**appearance & disappearance: death & life / verb**

## vanishing (disappearance)

vanishing plants

save the genetic legacy of ~ (seed vault on Svalbard)

vanishing species

he's a ~ (moderate Republican)

**appearance & disappearance: death & life**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: death & life**

## vantage point (from a vantage point)

from our vantage point

it's difficult to believe ~ (now)

from the vantage point of the victims

~, justice was not done

**perception, perspective & point of view: position**

## vapor (noun)

vapor

centering people's humanity, blah-blah-blah-blah-blah, it was ~ (a politician)

pedagogical vapor

the acronym, coined in the early 1990s, is ~ (STEM)

**speech / substance & lack of substance: air / atmosphere**

## varsity (noun)

varsity

this is not the JV team, this is the ~ (a gang)

**experience / group, set & collection: sports & games**

## vaudeville (noun)

vaudeville series

18th-century Europe saw a ~ of priority disputes (science)

**feeling, emotion & effect: theater**

## vault (verb)

vaulting into the top tier

he is ~ of TV interviewers

**movement: verb / walking, running & jumping**

**progress & lack of progress: verb / walking, running & jumping**

## vector (noun)

one vector

that was ~ that there might be extremism (Facebook)

**source / transmission: biology**

## vegetable (consciousness)

vegetable

if she makes it she'll probably be a ~ (head injuries)

♦ *Cabbage is sometimes used with this meaning.*

**consciousness & awareness: fruits & vegetables**

## veil (covering)

veil of (glowing) clouds

an hour after sunset a ~ appears (noctilucent)

veil of (limestone) dust

a slab resting on the dirt floor under a ~

**cover / resemblance: clothing & accessories**

## veil (under a veil)

under the veil of darkness

the rustlers steal cattle ~ (Dakota)

**concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories**

## veil (concealment)

veil of mystery

the desert "wears a ~" (Edward Abbey)

veil of secrecy

sky watchers have pierced the ~ (spaceplane)

the ~ was finally lifted over the weekend...

parted the veil

US officials have ~ of secrecy to reveal...

pierced the veil

sky watchers have ~ of secrecy (spaceplane)

ripped that veil from my eyes

the pandemic ~ (that schools care about teachers, students)

**concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories**

## veiled

veiled in secrecy

how money was disbursed was ~ (US aid to Pakistan)

veiled accusations

he made ~ of cheating against... (chess)

veiled references

the song has ~ to the shooting (rap feuds)

veiled threats

direct or ~ of harm

thinly veiled

~ contempt

reporters used ~ racist terms—gorilla, beast (Liston)

not-so-veiled

a ~ reference to his homosexuality

direct or veiled

~ threats of harm

**concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories**

## vein (source)

vein of pain

there's a pretty deep ~ that runs through these songs

rich vein

Lukaku is enjoying a ~ of form (the soccer player)

feel for the main vein

he had a ~ of popular sentiment (politics)

**source: blood / mining**

## vein (tap a vein)

tapped the vein

he has ~ of popular outrage over... (politician)

tapping that vein of American sentiment

he is ~ (nativism and anti-immigrants)

**access & lack of access / identity & nature: blood**

## vein (in that vein, etc.)

in that vein

~, the campaign released an online ad on Monday...

in a similar vein

~, what do you think is the greatest failure...

**starting, going, continuing & ending: mining**

## **vein (ice in one's veins, etc.)**

ice in his veins

he has ~

courses through their veins

partisan rage ~ (Democrats)

running through his veins

he has aviation fuel ~ (a pilot)

**character & personality / feeling, emotion & effect: blood / temperature**

## **Velcro (attachment)**

Velcro Dogs

dog breeds that are so loyal they're considered "~"

**attachment: materials & substances**

## **velvet (Velvet Revolution)**

Velvet Revolution

the ~ ended communist rule (Czechoslovakia / 1989)

**conflict: cloth / hardness & softness**

## **vendetta (noun)**

vendetta against him

he believes the group has a ~

academic feud

this ~ began to poison the project (undersea mapping)

partisan vendetta

they are wasting time on ~ (politics)

political vendetta

he has called the case a ~ (convicted politician)

♦ **A FUNNY CARTOON.** "None of this research would have been possible without all the bitter professional vendettas that kept me going.." (This funny cartoon in *The New Yorker*, December 13, 2021, shows a happy academic with a goatee in the spotlight on a stage behind a podium at an awards ceremony in a great hall, addressing a packed audience.)

♦ "Hey, what's the strongest force in the universe? It's not gravity. It's jealousy." (Robert P. Kirshner of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, on controversies in the field.)

♦ Jumbo shrimp, clean dirt, mud bath, American culture, academic fellowship... (Oxymorons.)

♦ see also *feud* (noun)

**revenge / conflict: violence**

## **vener (appearance)**

vener of officialdom

the presentation at the UN gave the accusations the ~

democratic vener

despite a ~, the government retains oppressive control

religious vener

they offer a ~ but they are ruthless and corrupt

**appearance & reality / extent & scope / substance & lack of substance / subterfuge: breadth / materials & substances**

## **venerate (verb)**

venerate Ronald Reagan

Republicans ~

venerated him

everyone ~ (an Ethiopian leader who died)

venerates its pathfinders and pacesetters

jazz ~ (its elders)

**importance & significance: religion / verb**

**reverence: religion / verb**

## **venerated**

venerated as one of the all-time comedy greats

Dave Chappelle, ~, is facing criticism (from Dahlia Belle)

**importance & significance / reverence: religion**

## **Venice (Venice of the North, etc.)**

"Venice of Africa"

Makoko, known as the ~, is built on stilts (Lagos)

Venice of the Middle East

Basra was once called the ~ (for its canals)

Venice of the North

St. Petersburg, the ~

Amsterdam claims to be the true "~"

Venice of the East

Alappuzha on the Arabian Sea, often called "the ~"

**geography: epithet**

## **venom (noun)**

social venom

they are sowing hatred and ~ (politics)

with venom

Benn had already been landing ~ (boxing)

rhetoric, the venom, the demagoguery

after witnessing the inflamed ~

spewed venom

she ~ (neurotic woman)

**accusation & criticism / feeling, emotion & effect / speech: animal / snake**

## **venomous (adjective)**

venomous

the debate is becoming increasingly ~

venomous creatures

women were these ~ (a teen girl bullied by other girls)

**accusation & criticism / feeling, emotion & effect / speech:**  
**animal / snake**

## vent (verb)

vented her frustration to the TV cameras  
she ~ (after another school shooting)

vent their anger with stones  
they ~ (angry Palestinian kids)

vent about the issues  
he wanted to do more than just ~ (a terrorist)

vent for a while  
take her someplace calm and let her ~ (crying kid)

vented their anger  
voters ~ by voting him out of office

vented their disdain  
fans ~ through chants

vent frustration  
it offers her a safe place to ~ (New Teacher Institute)

vented frustration  
the president ~ with his own party

**mental health: pressure / verb**  
**amelioration & renewal / feeling, emotion & effect:**  
**pressure / verb / volcano**

## verdict (noun)

verdict on how  
what was the ~ she did (a politician's speech)

verdict is (still) out on that  
the ~ (a policy)

**judgment: justice**

## verge (on the verge)

on the verge of being sent  
she is ~ to jail

on the verge of a catastrophe  
the country is ~ (AIDS)

on the verge of collapse  
the provincial government is ~ (Iraq)

on the verge of combat  
troops ~

on the verge of elimination  
now the Jazz are ~ (NBA playoffs)

on the verge of eradication  
the disease had been ~ (polio)

on the verge of extinction  
some languages are ~ (few speakers left);  
to others we are the "noble savages" ~ (Canada)  
bluefin tuna are ~ in the Mediterranean

on the verge of orgasm

she was ~

on the verge of sex  
being ~ and discovering you've got no birth control

on the verge of tears  
he seemed ~ as the verdict was read

on the verge of war  
with the US ~ with Iraq

on the verge of a (nervous) breakdown  
I'm ~

on the verge of overrunning  
when they again seemed ~ the small force

on the verge of passing out  
14-year-olds vomiting, ~ (high-school dance)

on the verge of losing consciousness  
he doesn't inhale until ~ (drowning)

**proximity: ground, terrain & land**

## verge (to the verge)

to the verge of war  
Kashmir has pushed them to the ~ (Pakistan and India)

pushed them to the verge  
Kashmir has ~ of war (Pakistan and India)

**proximity: ground, terrain & land**

## Versailles (Russian Versailles, etc.)

"Russian Versailles"  
Peter the Great's ~ (Peterhof / the Grand Palace)

**epithet: royalty**

**geography: epithet**

## verse (metaverse, etc.)

Bataverse  
in the ~... (a review of the film *The Batman*)

Juliaverse  
here, in the ~... (a food blogger about Julia Childs)

Marvelverse  
but now that the ~ has Leto going full Dracula...

metaverse  
see *metaverse*

multiverse  
see *multiverse*

pedoverse  
concerns about the ~ (grooming on social media)

Potter-verse  
the ~ fandom has not dwindled over the years

Sandlerverse  
there are perks to being in the greater ~ (Adam Sandler, actor)

## Spider-Verse

*Spider-Man: Into the ~* (an animated film)

## Twitterverse

see *Twitterverse*

## universe

see *universe*

**area / environment / language: affix**

## very (contempo-speak)

very, very pure

~ water (an advertisement / see below)

very, very widespread

it's actually ~

actually very

it's ~, very widespread

definitely very

I think that was ~ triggering for me  
the movie is ~ sappy (NPR's Elizabeth Blair)  
it's ~ promising and very exciting that...  
we're ~ concerned with there being an...  
I was ~ aware that it is...

definitely very, very

it was ~ important to... (violinist Esther Yoo)

♦ Type in "definitely very" into search at NPR and you will get 80 results and counting.

♦ "Very, very pure water... Visit [gewater.com](http://gewater.com) to learn more. imagination at work GE" (A 2-page ad in *Smithsonian*.)

♦ see also really (and REEE•lee, etc.)

**contempo-speak: adverb**

## vest (close to the vest, etc.)

keep that evidence very close to the vest

we tried to ~ but it was leaked (police)

plays that close to his vest

as to whether he is a socialist, he ~ (a politician)

**concealment & lack of concealment: cards / gambling / hand / sports & games**

## veteran (noun)

veteran of the New Jersey music scene

he's a ~ that launched Springsteen's career (Van Zandt)

agency veteran

Dr. Woodcock, an ~ of more than three decades (FDA)

Broadway veterans

three ~ prepare for opening night after the pandemic hiatus

Shakespeare veterans

both actors are ~ (Succession)

twenty-year veteran

a ~ of NPR, Neda Ulaby...

crafty veteran

he is a ~ of Middle East negotiating

♦ "Forget everything you learned in the academy." (The standard greeting a rookie police officer receives from his veteran partner.)

♦ "In training camp they filled you full of fancy information on how to be a soldier. We're going to work hard to forget all that." (Ernest Borgnine in *All Quiet on the Western Front*.)

♦ "There's no fool like an old fool."

**experience: military**

## veteran (adjective)

veteran diplomat

the ~ has held multiple roles at the State Department

veteran musicians

how ~ keep things fresh over the long haul (pandemic)

veteran roster

the US must add young blood to its ~ (women's soccer)

**experience: military**

## via dolorosa

via dolorosa

for Oates, it was a ~ (he couldn't pull, frostbitten feet)

♦ "About 9 A.M. we attacked a true *Via Dolorosa*, the normal road of the Lower Congo." (Richard F. Burton.)

**difficulty, easiness & effort / feeling, emotion & effect / survival, persistence & endurance: history / journeys & trips / religion**

## viable (adjective)

viable campaign

most do not think he can mount a ~ (election)

viable challenger

it is doubtful there will be a ~ to the President (election)

viable solution

there is still no ~ in sight

stay viable

rural schools are working to ~

**survival, persistence & endurance: baby / birth / death & life**

## viability (political viability, etc.)

political viability

many like his ideas, but his ~ has been questioned

**survival, persistence & endurance: baby / birth / death & life**

## vicious circle

vicious circle

it's in the nature of ~s that they're hard to stop

reverse a vicious circle

people of good will can ~

**conflict / feeling, emotion & effect / relationship / sequence: shape**

## victim (fall victim to something)

fell victim to a (common human) failing  
he ~ (padding his resume)

fall victim to the (cheap) hashish  
the young easily ~ (Arab immigrants in France)

fall victim to the stress  
but there are ways to not ~ (sports psychology)

fell victim to accident or illness  
whether someone simply ~ (vs. crime)

falling victim to black magicians  
more and more hapless people have been ~ (in the UAE)

fallen victim to human trafficking  
thousands of Moldovan women have ~

fell victim to a rush to judgment  
she ~ by police following the murder

♦ "I am a stupid girl from a little village." (An Eastern European girl, forced to work in an Israeli brothel.)

**predation: animal / verb**

## victim (groups)

victims  
we are all ~ (two campus police murdered)

victims of racism  
he issued a heartfelt apology to the ~ (Cricket Scotland)

victim complex  
the French view is "woke" Americans are indulging a ~

victim expression  
it's like that dead eye, ~ (acting, performing victimhood)

victim mode  
Goldberg is perpetually in ~ (Whoopi Goldberg)

'victim' rather than the aggressor  
they claim to be the ~ (passive-aggressives)

Twitter victim  
just another ~ (reporter fired for tweets)

professional victim  
she's a ~ with a permanent chip on her shoulder

good, likeable victim  
I'm not a ~, I get it (Amber Heard loses lawsuit)

play the victim  
she is trying to ~ (the Heard versus Depp trial)

side with celebrities over victims  
the public tends to ~

♦ In the context of cancer, "victim" has morphed to "survivor" and even "conqueror."

♦ "An OnlyFans star was kicked out of the supermarket for her skimpy outfit, but she believes she's a victim of 'hot phobia.'" ("I was kicked out of a store over my shorts—I'm a victim of 'hot phobia'" by Adriana Diaz, *New York Post*, April 26, 2023.)

♦ "the shooter is now the victim, shaking my head and rolling my eyes." (An online commenter.)

♦ "Harris' attorneys had sought a six-year sentence, followed by eight years of supervised release, arguing in court documents filed last month that he is 'both victimizer and victim' after being assaulted as a minor. 'The trauma he experienced as a child normalized his skewed version of what he understood to be appropriate relationships,' his attorneys said." ("Former 'Cheer' star Jerry Harris sentenced to 12 years in Prison for sex crimes," by Meredith Deliso, ABC News, July 06, 2022. Crimes against boys.)

♦ "But the second she sees the camera *is* on her, she kinda goes stoic, puts her face down, and then she has a completely different expression when she looks back up, it's like that dead eye, victim expression..." (A commenter on the Amber Heard-Johnny Depp trial.)

♦ "[Carrere] talked about a number of 'false victims' of November, 2015—including Alexandra Damien, a woman who claimed to have been at a bar that was attacked. She had shown reporters a scar that, she said, came from that night. (It was the result of a kite-surfing accident.) He recalled that the president of a group for victims of the attacks in which Damien became involved had told him, 'She was completely lost. We liked her. We were the first friends of her life.' She had escaped social solitude by inserting herself into this community. For Damien, Carriere said, 'it was an identity to be a victim.'" ("The First Rule Is Not to Lie: Emmanuel Carrere's bracingly personal reportage" by Ian Parker, *The New Yorker*, July 11 & 18, 2022.)

♦ "The same formula again and again. I want to post pictures of myself in bathing suits. When I get criticized I'll say I want to do it for others and for body positivity. When I get criticized for that, I will show sadness that the world doesn't support mental health and I'm a victim, and finally I'll get praised for being so brave for living my own truth." (Bob Loblaw. A BBC HYS about "SI Swim model Natalie Mariduena wants to 'be an example' of 'body normalcy'" by Stephanie Nolasco, August 20, 2022.)

♦ "Raped' teenage boys... That is hilarious. A woman does not rape a teenage boy. She lets them do it with her." (An online commenter about a woman who had sex with boys.)

♦ "American prisons are full of inmates prosecuted for victimless crimes."

♦ "This family will never stop playing the victims." (An online commenter.)

♦ "I am a stupid girl from a little village." (An Eastern European girl, forced to work in an Israeli brothel.)

♦ see also *survivor (groups)*

**characterization: health & medicine**

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## victimhood (groups)

victimhood  
*agency* is generally used to mean the opposite of ~

victimhood competition  
is there no end to ~

victimhood and oppression  
the constant alleged ~

communities of victimhood  
NPR seeks to perpetuate ~

'poor me' and 'victimhood'  
they revel in their own narrative of ~

flip victimhood into empowerment  
the art exhibit is designed to ~

♦ "[M]any readers today have reached adulthood in educational institutions where a generalized sense of helplessness and acute anxiety have become the norm. In these institutions, young people are increasingly encouraged to see themselves not as agents in life but as potential victims: of their dates, their roommates, their professors, of institutions and of history in general. In a culture where victimhood has become a claim to status, how could Yanagihara's book—with its unending parade of aesthetically gratuitous scenes of punitive and humiliating violence—not provide a kind of comfort? To such readers, the

ugliness of this author's subject must bring a kind of pleasure, confirming their preexisting view of the world as a site of victimization—and little else." ("A Whole Lotta Pain" by Daniel Mendelsohn, *The New York Review of Books*, December 3, 2015, and included in Mendelsohn's book *Ecstasy And Terror: From the Greeks to Game Of Thrones.*)

♦ "When victimhood is a source of prestige, there's no incentive to get better."

## **inclusion & exclusion: epistemology / health & medicine victimization (or victimisation)**

victimization porn

I don't get how ~ helps minorities (NPR)

purported victimization

Ms. Heard's ~... (legal case versus Johnny Depp)

grievance and victimization

NPR has worked hard to be the national voice of ~

♦ "Victimisation" has a Wikipedia article, which is part of a series on *Discrimination*. Part of the article is on "revictimisation."

♦ see also *revictimization (or revictimisation)*

**characterization: health & medicine**

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## **victimize (groups)**

self-victimize

she is able to ~ and still make millions of dollars (celebrity)

sexually victimized

the pastor repeatedly ~ her

♦ Wikipedia redirects "self-victimize" to "Victim playing."

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## **victimized (groups)**

victimized

a lifetime of trauma for those who are ~ (sex assault)

Black landowners have been ~ by...

victimized by climate change

nations ~

victimized by (sex-negative) shame

Lil Nas X refuses to be ~ or his own past trauma

victimized again

the father said he would be ~ if... (murder)

victimized over and over again

these families have been ~ (Sandy Hook school shooting)

victimized and killed

Black Americans being ~ by the police is an epidemic

(NPR)

sexually victimized

Biles and so many other gymnasts were ~...

the CDC estimates that 1 in 6 men have been ~

♦ see also *revictimized (groups)*

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## **Vietnam (Egypt's Vietnam, etc.)**

Egypt's Vietnam

Nasser lamented war in Yemen had become ~ (1967)

Britain's Vietnam

"the War in Afghanistan, ~" (Daily Mail, 2006)

Sri Lanka's Vietnam

the fight against the Tamils was ~

"Nasser's Vietnam"

the North Yemen Civil War was widely described as ~

♦ In Vietnam the Vietnam War is called the American War.

**comparison & contrast / military: epithet**

## **view (verb)**

view stress as a challenge

some workers ~ rather than a burden

view drownings as avoidable accidents

juries tend to ~

view drugs as part of their social lives

they ~ (young people)

view it as their main job

high school is demanding, and kids need to ~

view the computer as another toy

a tot under age 3 will ~ at his disposal

view this as a case of doping

we don't ~ (competitive bicycling)

view the other members as competition

people often ~ for jobs (networking)

view the problem as (pretty) serious

I ~

view things through an ethnic lens

he refused to ~ (Afghan military man)

view conflict through a theological lens

he does not ~ (Middle East)

view both with skepticism

we should ~ (explanations and prophecies)

view him with deep suspicion

we should ~ (a pastor)

view these programs skeptically

many judges ~ (for batterers)

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye / verb**

## **view (in view of)**

in view of the changes

~ e-commerce is bringing, can book stores survive

in view of yesterday's action

~, what's your position on that...

in view of lack of concealment

close-air support is more important in desert warfare ~

♦ This is a 3-word preposition, and it seems to mean the same as 'in light of' or "because of" or "considering."

**relationship: eye / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## **view (in somebody's view)**

in the view of (tobacco) critics

~, label warnings are not enough

in the view of specialists

~, the situation...

in the view of the Special Representative

~, there is no doubt... (UN)

in Morison's view

~ there is a 1-in-5,000 chance that...

in his view

~, the Cherokee culture is in danger because...

in my view

~, interpretation has an important role to play in...

in your view

which of the five Central Asian nations, ~, can we trust...

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye**

## **view (opinion)**

view that

scientists challenged the ~...

view of abortion

whenever I asked what the local ~ was...

view of the (Jack the Ripper) story

a revisionist ~

view of sin, marriage and human nature

a more tolerant ~ (adultery)

views on children

we both have the same ~

views on the issue

her ~ changed (Ann Landers / divorce)

view on (social) issues

the mainstream Saudi ~ (women in sports, etc.)

views on race

whatever his ~

views on politics and religion

his complex ~

views on intelligence and genetics

he holds controversial ~

views on how

indigenous peoples have ~ the land should be utilized

views on whether

he called in to offer his ~ Arab nationalism was dead

views on Islam

the mosque attracted worshippers with militant ~

view on Wall Street

the consensus ~ is...

views on stoning

she tried to avoid stating her ~ (Iranian official)

views and opinions

we encourage individuals to express their ~

President's view

what's the ~ on that (press question)

administration's view

what is the ~ how the talks stand right now

outsider's view

an ~

consensus view

the ~ on Wall Street is...

establishment view

the BBC tended to take an ~

minority view

the Hippocratic Oath represented the ~

mainstream (Saudi) view

the ~ on social issues (women in sports, etc.)

anti-establishment view

prison terms strengthen ~s

opposing views

to justify their ~s...

accepted views

his studies were controversial and challenged ~

distorted view

the media has presented a ~ of the case

widely held view

the books debunk the ~ that...

Saudi view

the mainstream ~ on social issues (women and sports)

Western and Arab views

the difference in perspective between the ~ of Hezbollah

complex views

his ~ on politics and religion

controversial views

he holds ~ on intelligence and genetics

conventional view

scientists said their findings challenged the ~ that...

different views

there were a number of ~ on this

dim view

lawmakers took a ~ of people who...

local view

whenever I asked what the ~ of abortion was...

militant views

the mosque attracted worshippers with ~ on Islam

optimistic view  
whites hold a more ~ than minorities about race relations

pessimistic view  
those holding this ~

racist views  
~ have influenced his decisions (politics)

revisionist view  
a ~ of the Jack the Ripper story

same views  
we both have the ~ on children

strong views  
this article includes some ~  
indigenous peoples have ~ about the land

tolerant view  
a more ~ of sin, marriage and human nature (adultery)

unpopular views  
speakers with ~

politically correct views  
Abraham-Santos had all the appropriate ~

more optimistic view  
whites generally hold a ~ about race relations

number of (different) views  
there were a ~ on this

speakers with (unpopular) views

worshippers with (militant) views  
the mosque attracted ~ on Islam

view (on the issue) changed  
her ~ (Ann Landers / divorce)

views evolved  
yet she was not rigid, and her ~ (Ann Landers)

view is echoed  
his ~ by many Central Asians... (a university professor's)

debunk the (widely held) view  
the books ~ that...

express their views  
we encourage individuals to ~ and opinions

heard a different view  
I ~ from Dr. Muhammad al-Musfir

make your views known  
~ (elections, democracy)

denounced the view as hypocritical  
he ~

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye**  
**view (perspective)**

viewpoint

see *viewpoint (perspective)*

helicopter view  
sometimes you have to take the ~

warped views  
he denigrates ideas that don't dovetail with his ~

long view  
see *view (long view)*

strategic view  
they are taking the ~ (terrorists chose not to fight)

bird's-eye view  
drones give commanders a ~ of the battlefield  
you get a ~ from a plane

fish-eye view  
a ~ from Spirit's navigation camera shows... (Mars)

wider-angle view  
if you take a ~, what comes in focus is... (historian)

point of view  
(see *point of view*)

colors his views  
his vegetarianism ~ of certain countries

taking the strategic view  
they are ~ (terrorists chose not to fight, wait US out)

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye / position**  
**view (out of view)**

dropped out of (public) view  
he ~ (politician)

**appearance & disappearance / attention, scrutiny & promotion / consciousness & awareness: eye**  
**view (attention)**

public view  
wall off some things from ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye**  
**view (long view)**

long view  
India has always taken the ~

**consciousness & awareness / future / perception, perspective & point of view: distance / eye**  
**viewed (perceived)**

viewed as apostasy  
conversions from Islam are ~ (Egypt)

viewed (by many Estonians) as a symbol  
the monument is ~ of... (USSR)

viewed as a tradition  
the practice is ~ (polygamy / eastern Turkey)

viewed as the will of God

in the Philippines, pain is ~

viewed with suspicion

Mormonism is ~ by Christian conservatives (politics)

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye**

## viewpoint (perspective)

Panglossian viewpoint

it's easy to make fun of his ~

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye / position**

## vigilante (person)

online vigilantes

~ unearthed his parents' address and threatened his family

♦ Lynchings and running people out of town on a rail after having tarred and feathered them have been replaced by doxing, swatting, pile ons, and cancellation.

**person: justice**

## village (online village, etc.)

your little online village

you just have to find a Reddit chat and you find ~

**society: infrastructure**

## villain (character)

villain in the plot

there's always an other, somebody who is the ~

villain to (climate) savior

mining recast from environmental ~ ("green" minerals)

prominent villain

Facebook is broadly seen as the most ~ (tech companies)

heroes or villains

in times of crisis, New Yorkers appoint ~

named as the villain

the tourism industry will be ~ again (if COVID returns)

cast your boss as a villain

try not to ~ (a *Wall Street Journal* "managing up" article)

recast as a villain

a guard cast as a hero was ~ (Richard Jewell)

♦ "Should we avoid the controversy or should we dive right into it? I say of course we dive right into it, we confront this thing head on." (Adrian Lamo and "Informants: villains or heroes?")

♦ "There's always an other, somebody who is the villain in the plot." (Believers of conspiracy theories.)

♦ "The media making me a villain, the fans making me a villain and then that just creates a whole different persona on me. So now you think I intended to hit LeBron James in the nuts..." (An NBA player, thrown out of a game for hitting LeBron James in the nuts, and with a history of hitting opposing players in the nuts. The great boxer Andrew "the Foul Pole" Golota had the same problem.)

**character & personality: film / person / theater**

## vine (wither on the vine)

wither on the congressional vine

even overwhelmingly popular laws will ~ (US)

**decline: plant / verb**

## vintage (similar vintage, etc.)

similar vintage

imperialists who were themselves of a ~ to Churchill

**taxonomy & classification: food & drink**

## viral (computers)

viral firestorm

the wrongly edited footage set off a ~

viral phrase

'White supremacy' is a ~ that has infected the lexicon

viral video

what to release in an age of ~ (reporting school massacre)

he's watching a ~ of a drunk cat (party)

go viral

she saw a video of herself ~ on YouTube (a celebrity)

gone viral

in a TV interview that has ~...

went viral

the pictures ~ on the Internet

♦ "Yellow fever belongs to a group of illnesses called viral hemorrhagic fevers (VHFs). VHFs, which also include dengue fever and Ebola, are viruses that affect multiple organ systems in the human body and cause severe bleeding..."

**computer / transmission: health & medicine**

## virgin (noun)

virgin market

the Arab markets are a ~ for local TV (Afghanistan)

virgin wilderness

Kekexili, the last ~ of China... (*Mountain Patrol Kekexili*)

gambling virgin

we're ~s (two young women at Las Vegas)

♦ "Virginity is a very real issue for Egyptian women, as illustrated in the popular film "The Wedding." It tells the story of Abdullah and Gamila, a young couple who signed their marriage contracts years ago but couldn't afford the marriage ceremony that would, by tradition, allow the union to be consummated. But the couple has been having sex all along... ("Artificial Virginity Device Sparks Backlash In Egypt," by Peter Kenyon, NPR, Oct. 13, 2009.)

♦ "If they think they can get a pure-hearted girl this way they are really mistaken. To me, the way people are taking virginity as a commodity these days is such a sad thing." (A Chinese woman, on the practice of very rich Chinese businessmen advertising for virgin brides, and then interviewing them.)

♦ Purity applies to women, but not men.

♦ The boto is a dolphin that can transform itself into a human to impregnate impressionable young virgins. (The Amazon.)

**experience: love, courtship & marriage / sex**

## virulent (adjective)

virulent form

our social ailments include a ~ of stupidity (elections)

virulent hatred

they espouse a ~

virulent opposition

the statement provoked ~ from the Communists

♦ “Roux injected virulent stuff from rabid rabbits into the brains of other healthy dogs.” (*Microbe Hunters* by Paul De Kruif.)

**transmission: health & medicine**

## virus (affliction)

virus

wokeness is a ~ more dangerous than any pandemic

**affliction: health & medicine**

## virus (computers)

computer virus

a ~ is spreading

♦ “If a mosquito bites a person with dengue, the mosquito can pass the virus to the next person it bites. If that person flies to another country with mosquitoes, he or she can unknowingly spread the virus even further. Complicating prevention, 90 percent of those infected develop only mild symptoms or no symptoms, inadvertently serving as a reservoir for the virus. Even those who do fall ill become infectious days earlier, making any potential quarantine useless, experts say.” (Wayne Arnold, *The New York Times*, October 1, 2005.)

♦ “Amazon has banned more than one million products which claim to protect against the coronavirus—or even cure it. / The online retailer told Reuters it had also removed ‘tens of thousands’ of overpriced health products from unscrupulous sellers.” (“Coronavirus outbreak ‘getting bigger’—Who,” BBC Live, Feb 29, 2020.)

♦ The Ebola virus is named after the Ebola River.

**computer: biology / health & medicine**

## vise (pressure)

vise is closing

a ~ on Saddam's regime (Operation Iraqi Freedom)

caught in the (same) vise

middle-class teenagers ~ (police interrogation)

held in a vice

the citadel of Ulm was now ~ on three sides (Napoleon)

put Baghdad in a vise

troops attacking from the north and south would ~

**pressure / situation: tools & technology**

**oppression: pressure**

## visibility (groups)

visibility of the trans community

recently there's been more ~

visibility or (that) representation

being the person creating that ~ can be painful (trans)

visibility, representation and equality

thanks to increases in ~, more LGBTQ folks can come out

lesbian visibility

~ and political change (the Lesbian Avengers)

queer visibility

as ~ increased in pop culture (*Basic Instinct*, etc.)

Trans Visibility

United Airlines featured her on ~ Day (Kayleigh Scott)

transgender visibility

~ at the Olympics (Tokyo)

commitment to visibility

the series reflects her lifelong ~ (Lola Flash)

day of visibility

at the trans ~ event, they got up to express their joy

Day of Visibility

March 31 marked the annual Transgender ~ she shared her transition story for a Trans ~ video (suicide)

improve visibility

they take risks to ~ (groups)

sing a community into visibility

they ~ (L.G.B.T.)

♦ “A choir of L.G.B.T. Catholics, protesting their exclusion from a meeting of church leaders, perform ‘We Are Family’ outside the event, singing a community into visibility.” (Deep Cuts: How ‘Soul Man’ gets to the heart of a song” by Hua Hsu, *The New Yorker*, December 13, 2021.)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## visible (groups, etc.)

hypervisible

my Korean face made me ~ where we lived

visible, courageous and present

folks have been so ~ (a group)

respected, visible, and represented

a space for students to feel ~ (gay / Yeshiva University)

made visible

the desire for certain marginalised identities to be ~

♦ “The desire for certain marginalised identities to be ‘made visible’ is an imperative that can wrongly equate visibility with progress, which in turn raises questions about the burden of an individual to represent the collective and, as a result, who can—and should—hold the power to speak for a particular identity or social group.” (Dr. Christopher Holliday, lecturer in Liberal Arts and Visual Cultures Education at King's College, London. Quoted in “Have film and TV got Gen Z all wrong?” by Emily Maskell, BBC, Culture.)

♦ “I was brought into this world visible, but I identify as invisible. My preferred pronouns are who/where.” (Funny snark from an online commenter about a “woke” celebrity.)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence**

## vision (noun)

vision of an editor

the power of a writer and the ~

vision of the founder

staying true to the ~ (J.C. Penney)

vision of the future

his dark, sadistic and medieval ~ (al-Zarqawi)

vision of the world and the universe

the Maya, Toltec and Iztec ~ (Chichen Itza)

vision for space travel

his most lasting legacy is his ~ (Von Braun)

America's vision

~ of personal reinvention and hope (vs. Europe)

Maya, Toltec and Iztec vision

the ~ of the world and the universe (Chichen Itza)

television

village elders say ~ is a particularly disturbing force

medieval vision

his dark, sadistic and ~ of the future (al-Zarqawi)

sphere of vision

there is a much bigger picture than your immediate ~

dream, fantasy, or vision

the only way to keep a ~ intact or rosy is never...

voices and visions

she claims ~ led her to drown her five children

pursues his vision

Wangurri clan Elder Timothy Buthimang ~

takes vision

it ~ to involve the common good (versus profit)

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye  
consciousness & awareness / future: eye**

## visionary (adjective)

visionary plan

he had a ~ to digitalize the library's collection

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye  
future: eye**

## visionary (person)

tech visionary

~s have, unfortunately, made the future come true

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye  
future: eye / person**

## vitriol (noun)

anti-American vitriol

Iran's leaders escalated their ~

subjected to yet more vitriol

he was ~ from the fans (Raheem Sterling)

**accusation & criticism / feeling, emotion & effect / speech:  
chemistry / materials & substances**

## vivisection (verb)

vivisection experiences

the book adeptly ~ of fandom obsession (*Y/N* by Esther Yi)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: death & life / health  
& medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb**

## vivisection (noun)

vivisection of Michael Bloomberg

her strongest effort was her ~ (election debate)

**accusation & criticism / speech: health & medicine / skin,  
muscle, nerves & bone**

## vocabulary (groups)

vocabulary for (pernicious) doubt

Alex Jones popularized a ~ ("truther," etc.)

multiracial vocabulary

America's ~ (*Blaxican*, etc.)

part of our fashion vocabulary

the punk movement has become ~ (ripped shirts, etc.)

embedded in our vocabulary

"moron" and "idiot" are ~ and need to be omitted  
(disability)

have the vocabulary

she does not yet ~ to describe herself or her desire (lesbian)  
we don't ~, the tools to discuss race

♦ "He does things for which he has no vocabulary of apology or shame."  
(An author talking about his novel.)

♦ "[Pin] is sensitively drawn as a young butch lesbian who does not yet  
have the vocabulary to describe herself or her desires." (A review of  
*Curious Toys* by Elizabeth Hand.)

♦ "When I was young, I didn't really have the vocabulary to articulate how  
I felt about it... But music has always been a tool for me to express  
feelings I fear would be unacceptable... (NoSo / Abby Hwang about  
being trans / queer / nonbinary.)

♦ The notion of "lacking language or vocabulary" to understand feelings  
is a popular LGBTQ trope. Type in "have the vocabulary" at NPR and  
you get 23 results and counting. It seems to have to do with self-  
consciousness, self-understanding.

♦ "We lack the vocabulary of such pain." (U.S. Attorney Raj Parekh  
paraphrasing Dante's *Inferno*, about El Shafee Elsheikh, an ISIS  
"Beate.")

**inclusion & exclusion: language**

## vocabulary (language)

abhorrent (fact checking and accuracy) abilities  
the AI has ~ (ChatGPT)

tremendous conditions

airports have canceled flights in preparation for the ~  
(storm)

stigmatism of Alabama education

do you know the ~ (a student-athlete)

troves of (terrified) students

videos posted online showed ~ running... (mass shooting)

believed gunman

officials identified McRae as the ~ (mass shooter)

stacked with snow

vehicles are ~ are seen [sic] (ABC photo caption)

milling about the campus

they frequently saw him ~ (loitering? / *New York Post*)

captivated the nation

the murders that ~ (ABC "2022 University of Idaho  
killings")

deteriorated my mental health  
the job ~

exuded power  
the family ~ over the state's Lowcountry region (ABC news)

kicked off a firestorm  
her story ~ (set off? started? ignited?)

oozed kindness  
he ~ wherever he went (radiated? obituary of college student)

teeming with excitement  
Kansas City is ~ since the Chiefs beat the Bengals (NFL)

vanish tooth decay  
this can regrow your gums and ~ (an eggcorn?)

audibly shaken  
family members ~ (a reporter)

- ◆ "Do you know the stigmatism of Alabama education?" (Kayvon Thibodaux, college and NFL football player.)
- ◆ "She watched the swerm (rhymes with "worm") of police." (A person who witnessed the police arrive at a school where a school-shooting had been reported. Presumably the reporter on NPR meant "swarm.")
- ◆ "Cow-towing to the woke cancel culture mob is pathetic." (An article from *The New York Post*. Presumably "kowitzing.")
- ◆ "Sadly we did see some of those family members come out of the reunification site audibly shaken and audibly upset..." (A local female reporter about a shooting at a Virginia Walmart, heard audibly on NPR.)
- ◆ "Kohberger was arrested on Dec. 30 in his home state of Pennsylvania in connection to the quadruple murders that *captivated* [italics mine] the nation." (Emily Shapiro, ABC News, Jan 12, 2023. *Horrified? Shocked?*)
- ◆ "Language models can just wholecloth make things up." (ChatGPT, etc.)
- ◆ Original photo caption: "Snow piles on vehicles before their owners clear them off on Thursday in central Lincoln." ABC photo caption via AP: "Vehicles are stacked with snow are seen [sic] before their owners clear them on Thursday, Feb. 16, 2023, in Lincoln, Neb."
- ◆ "Other videos showed an officer shoving a man who had his hands up to the ground and kicking him in the groin [sic]." (ABC news. An eggcorn? Funny!)
- ◆ This sort of language has many possible explanations.

language: vocabulary

## vocal fry (contempo-speak)

- ◆ "The best example of this is from the journalist Sarah Koenig, and you can hear her going from being in her thirties to being in her forties, over the 21st century, actually developing this vocal fry manner of speaking." (John H. McWhorter of Columbia University, on his Slate podcast *Lexicon Valley*.)
- ◆ Rachel Syme, in "Feeling Better Now? (*The New Yorker*), describes a podcast host "affecting a high-pitched tone dusted with vocal fry." The important word is "affecting."
- ◆ People (mainly women) who use upspeak, baby talk and vocal fry are widely considered hesitant and weak, and their language is considered affected and irritating. The matter has been widely discussed and needs no comment from me. NPR's Selena Simmons-Duffin's "Talking While Female" animation (2014), and the *comments* relating to it, say everything that needs to be said. The issue has been settled: listen to the two *Fresh Air* Terry Gross episodes about the matter. The first was critical, the second was essentially a retraction. The consensus is, it is wrong to criticize or judge these things.

contempo-speak: vocal fry

## voice (one voice, etc.)

one voice united  
this could work if we are ~ on this problem

spoke with one voice  
7 expert witnesses ~ that it was not an accident (trial)

speak with a single voice on this issue  
we must ~

speak with one voice on this issue  
Democrats don't ~ (impeachment)

speaking with one voice on the topic  
they seem very much to be ~

## unanimity & consensus: speech voice (voice of reason)

listen to the voice of reason  
I was in no reason to ~

sound like the voice of reason  
he is beginning to ~

welcomed as a voice of reason  
he was ~

message: speech

## voice (groups)

voice  
the poor and the powerless don't have a ~  
they want to make sure their ~s are heard

voice of Eastern European Jewry  
he was the ~ (Sholem Aleichem / Sholem Rabinovich)

voice of millennials  
he positioned himself as the ~ (candidate)

Voice of the Mountains  
the ~ (the *Asheville Citizen-Times* newspaper)

voice of the people  
the ~ will be heard

voice of grievance and victimization  
NPR has worked hard to be the national ~

voice for change  
does it get tiring being a ~ in the comics community

voice for the needy  
colleagues praised him as a ~ (a politician)

voice for our people  
we must keep being a ~ (*Koori Mail* newspaper)

voice in that conversation  
he has been a crucial ~, too (sports and race)

tennis' (most powerful) voices  
she has become one of ~ with her activism (Naomi Osaka)

voices and presence

the ~ of genderqueer folks

voices and stories  
the antiquated mentality that our ~ aren't profitable enough

no voice  
populations that have ~ (MSF)

anti-immigration voice  
he's the leading ~ in town (Arkansas town)

leading voice  
she has become a ~ for action on climate change (Greta)

marginalised voices  
~ are telling stories that need to be heard

trans voices  
I rise in honor of ~

Himalayan voices  
here the ~ called me (Tomaz Humar in Slovenia)

additional voice  
there's room and a need for an ~ (new newspaper)

authentic voices  
a think tank that centers ~ (the New Lines Institute)

crucial voice  
he has been a ~ in that conversation, too (sports and race)

inner voice  
just follow your ~

louder voice  
her power gives her a ~ than we can hope for (critics of the choreographer Rosie Kay)

national voice  
the national ~ of grievance and victimization (NPR)

necessary voice  
hers is a ~ (creator of the 1619 Project)

political voice  
Americans who found their ~ during last summer's activism

"powerful voice"  
she was a ~ in the Black Lives Matter movement (UK)

strong, powerful voice  
Johnson is a ~ for our people and our community

using my voice  
~ has been very empowering to me (an elite athlete)

voices are heard  
they want to make sure their ~

adding their voices  
among those ~ to the debate over gun control are...

empower voices  
these teams ~ the world needs to hear (MacKenzie Scott)

find their voice  
they have waited years to ~ and tell their stories (abuse)

found my voice  
I couldn't fight back because I hadn't yet ~ (sex abuse)

found her voice  
how a shy introvert has ~ (Naomi Osaka / tennis)

found their (political) voice  
Americans who ~ during last summer's activism

given voice  
she has ~ to the aching despair many feel (politician)

given people a voice  
social media is a powerful tool, it has ~, a way to organize

have a voice  
I sympathize with the poor who don't ~

make our voices heard  
if we make a stand, if we ~ (athletes)

make their voices heard  
protestors are using the delay to ~

raise my voice  
I started thinking and I had to ~ (about AIDS)

speak their voices  
different races and gender identities can ~ more clearly

take your voice  
a defamation lawsuit is meant to ~ (Amber Heard)

taking my voice back  
I'm ~, it's mine, not theirs (rape victim vilified)

use her voice  
she is stepping out of the shadows to ~ to fight hate

using her voice  
I'm so proud of her for ~ (Britney Spears' sister)

♦ "Hip-hop is a voice for people who don't have another voice."

♦ "NPR 50 Hear Every Voice."

♦ "The industry caught up to my ambitions and created space for me to have my voice." ("Faces of NPR HBCU Edition: Kia Miakka Natisse," Sommer Hill, NPR, February 16, 2022.)

♦ "I couldn't fight back when Jeffrey Epstein sexually abused me, because I hadn't yet found my voice. Well, I found my voice now, and while Jeffrey may no longer be here to hear it, I will not stop fighting and I will not be silenced anymore."

♦ "It took me a while to find my voice, but I have found it, and I am going to use it." (Rape victim.)

♦ "I rise in honor of trans voices that deserve to be heard—not silenced and not criminalized." (U.S. Representative for Massachusetts Katherine Clark, House Minority Whip.)

♦ "Watts (2001) has made the argument that to have a voice an agent must find a space where the voice can be concretized... The connection between voice and space becomes particularly critical when such a space is denied in the real world through marginalizing forces and a new space needs to be carved out." ("Voices of the Marginalized on the Internet" by Ananda Mitra.)

♦ "The deceased must be protected and given a voice." (The motto of 1-800-Autopsy, in Los Angeles.)

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology / messaging**

**void (noun)**

fill the void

nobody will be able to ~ (death of politician)

**presence & absence: air / atmosphere**

## volatile

volatile atmosphere

it's a ~ (national outrage over child abuse by clergy)

volatile behavior

despite his ~ on the court (basketball)

volatile border

fighting along the ~ (Kashmir)

volatile crises

he was sent in to defuse ~ (FBI hostage negotiator)

volatile markets

shaky banks, ~...

volatile relationship

they had a ~

volatile temper

she has a ~

volatile Persian Gulf

ease China's reliance on a ~ for its energy needs

volatile West Africa

its reputation as an oasis of peace in ~ (Ivory Coast)

volatile Horn of Africa

terrorists in the ~... (Somalia, Eritrea)

extremely volatile

their marriage was ~

highly volatile

we live in ~ times (English politics in 2019)

politically volatile

the tiny nation is among the most ~ in the Gulf

tense and volatile

Basra remained ~ (Operation Iraqi Freedom)

prices will be volatile

~ for the foreseeable future

becomes (a little more) volatile

have you been in a situation where the crowd ~ (policing)

**initiation: explosion / fire**

## volcanic (adjective)

volcanic temper

his ~ led to his firing (a coach)

he has gotten a pass for his ~ (Hollywood producer)

**feeling, emotion & effect: volcano**

**comparison & contrast: affix**

## volcano (pressure)

volcano

it's a ~ and it's now starting to erupt (a scandal)

volcano of revenge

a ~ has built up inside him (Shiite in Baghdad)

**amount & effect / pressure: volcano**

## Voldemort

Penny Voldemort

somebody was moving up in the polls, ~...

called him Voldemort

she ~, you know, the Harry Potter villain (politics)

♦ Neera Tanden was forced to withdraw her nomination to become budget director, partly because of her social-media posts, some of which disparaged politicians. In one of them, she referred to the Senate minority leader, Mitch McConnell, as Voldemort.

♦ "Somebody was moving up in the polls—Penny Voldemort." (A very funny BBC topical satire show, referring to the politician Penny Mordaunt. The section engendered much laughter.)

**oppression: allusion / books & reading / film**

**allusion: books & reading**

## volley (volley of abuse, etc.)

volley of abuse

she has faced a ~ from critics

volley of questions

when she does speak, it is often in a ~

**accusation & criticism: boat / military / weapon**

**speech: boat / military / weapon**

## volume (turn up the volume, etc.)

turning up the volume

the democratic candidates are ~ against the president

**accusation & criticism / conflict: sound**

## vomit

see *retch* (*and puke, vomit, throw up*)

## voracious (adjective)

voracious appetite

our ~ for scores that we can use to rank our kids (education)

for the last few years, China has had a ~ for bauxite

China's ~ for timber is deforestating Siberia

voracious audience

TV allowed the market soothsayers to reach a ~

voracious reader

a ~, he donated 20,000 books... (PM Gladstone)

he was a ~ and autodidact, a lover of knowledge

I was a ~, I could read a book a day, sometimes two

voracious sun

eight fell prey to the ~ (stranded whales)

**consumption: food & drink**

## voraciously

voraciously interested

he was a farmer, but ~ in the news...

voraciously follow  
those who ~ this stuff... (politics)

read voraciously  
she ~ as a child in Nigeria  
I ~ in prison

**consumption: food & drink**

## **vortex (noun)**

vortex of all this fury and hatred  
he was at the ~ (an Israeli leader)

plunging into a vortex  
South Sudan, born in great jubilation, is ~ of violence

get sucked into the (Fortnite) vortex  
kids who ~

**attraction & repulsion: movement**

## **vote (vote with one's feet, etc.)**

vote with their feet  
without some straight answers, fans may ~ (Ibrox)

voted with their feet  
fans ~ (Newcastle United fans give up on team)

voting with their feet  
the population is ~ (refugees leave camps)  
the result sees Texas parents ~ (home schooling)

vote with their wallets  
people ~ (support of bistros in France)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: walking, running & jumping / verb**

## **vote (noun)**

vote of confidence  
he has my ~

got my vote  
he's ~ for the most improved player

**allegiance, support & betrayal: government**

## **vow (verb)**

vowed to find  
he ~ a solution to the problem

**commitment & determination: religion / verb**

## **vow (noun)**

vow of loyalty  
the song is a ~ ("You've Got A Friend")

**commitment & determination: religion**

## **vulnerability (emotional, etc.)**

vulnerability  
"Maps" shows how both sex and love are about ~  
the sweetness of her melodies indicates ~, not passivity

Vulnerability  
"Our ~ Is Our Strength" (Colin Bates)

Vulnerability in Certainty  
"Missy Higgins Finds the ~" (by Barbara Mitchell)

public vulnerability  
most people are not capable of ~ and self-critique

radical vulnerability  
Brandi Carlile On The ~ Of Joni Mitchell's 'Blue' (NPR)

raw vulnerability  
here ~ and palpable intensity (WILLOW)

courage and vulnerability  
you showed ~ with your testimony (Megan Thee Stallion)

Violence and Vulnerability  
"~ in Clarke's 'Lusthaus'" (Steve Inskip / 2003!)

conflate vulnerability for weakness  
athletes can ~ (mental health / universities)

expressing vulnerability  
warrior culture conflicts with ~ and asking for help  
(Marines)

Mixes Assertiveness With Vulnerability  
"Miranda Lambert ~ On Her New Record" (Ken Tucker)

pivots to vulnerability  
Chicago rapper G Herbo ~ and scores a hit

♦ **NPR Music: Vulnerability is a theme that really comes across on the record. How did you learn to be vulnerable both with yourself and others? / Abby Hwang: I've been pretty reserved since I was a kid because I felt like things I would say would not be acceptable in the homogenous town I was in—especially my thoughts about being trans...** ("NoSo's debut album is a care package for someone in need: Their younger self" by Elle Mannion, NPR, Music Interviews, July 7, 2022.)

♦ **"But that in fact wasn't my healthy... I do feel like maybe having an openness and some sort of vulnerability—something good might come from it, I don't know." (Ariana Grande addressing online "comments" and "conversations" that she is too thin at present based on comparison to her past size.)**

♦ **"You showed incredible courage and vulnerability with your testimony despite repeated and grotesque attacks that you did not deserve. You faced unjust and despicable scrutiny that no woman should ever face and you have been an inspiration to others across LA County and the nation." (Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascon, about Megan Thee Stallion. From "Rapper Tory Lanez found guilty on all charges in shooting of Megan Thee Stallion" by Deena Zaru, ABC News, Dec. 23, 2022. Gascon also called Megan Thee Stallion "brave.")**

♦ **"Even five years ago people didn't open up so much. Now there's greater awareness of people's vulnerabilities, such as mental health and LinkedIn has magnified this." (Douglas Rode of the recruitment giant Page Group in the U.K and Ireland about LinkedIn's "new emotional tone.")**

♦ **"Women are turned on by him—his vulnerability, his sexuality, his sensuality." (The producer Marty Bregman about the actor Al Pacino.)**

♦ **"I Miss You" (an earnest love song); expressing feelings; passions; emotions; dropping the mask; crying; gushing; begging for her to return; pleading to her to come back; the feminine side of the man; a vulnerable man; becoming helpless; he never gives up; love does conquer all... ("Love In A Time Of Urbanization: The Twofold Vulnerability Of An East African Pop Hit" by Eyder Peralta, NPR, All Things Considered, August 30, 2017. About Tanzanian superstar Diamond Platnumz. *Plus ca change...*)**

♦ **"[Arnold recognized] a key vulnerability in the enemy line... / Early on he realized that an officer on a gray horse was playing a prominent role in maintaining the integrity of the British right. Arnold rode over to**

Colonel Morgan on the American left and requested that he order a sharpshooter to aim at the British officer. It took three shots, but eventually the Indian fighter Tim Murphy managed to put a rifle ball into the gut of General Simon Fraser..." (*Valiant Ambition* by Nathaniel Philbrick. Read also "Saratoga, 1777" in *British Battles On Land and Sea* by James Grant for the affecting details of Fraser's burial under fire.)

♦ "Casualties among the tank-hunter squads were in fact very high—seventy percent in some units—but there was never a shortage of volunteers. Eighty Russian tanks were destroyed in the border-zone fighting." (*Frozen Hell: The Russo-Finnish Winter War of 1939-40* by William R. Trotter. "The Karelian Isthmus: Round One." The Finns used Molotov Cocktails consisting of gasoline, kerosene, tar, and chloride of potassium (and even a tiny vial of nitroglycerine) ignited by an ampule of sulfuric acid taped to the bottle's neck; clusters of stick grenades taped together; and twenty-pound satchel charges.)

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

**feeling, emotion & effect / mental health / protection &**

**lack of protection: animal**

## vulnerable (emotionally, etc.)

vulnerable

thanks to Lor for having the courage to be ~ (trans)  
if you're angry, frustrated, or happy, share it, be ~ (a school)  
he's being ~, showing them love (tough love principal)

vulnerable people

there was an edge of picking off ~ (online fandom trolls)

emotionally vulnerable

when you're ~, you're in need of a caring human  
the angst-ridden teen is ~ (*Rebel Without a Cause*)

open and vulnerable

how to be more ~ (happier and better / relationship)

personal and vulnerable

your speech is very ~

scared or vulnerable or afraid

what it is to be ~

willing to be vulnerable

unless he is ~ and share his grief, fear, insecurity (therapy)

choosing to be vulnerable

you're ~ (a binary climber about climbing)

feel vulnerable

a safe emotional space where young men can ~ (D.C. school)

♦ "I think they have a very hard time still naming what it is to be scared or vulnerable or afraid, and it's not just that they can't talk about it—it's that they can't sometimes even identify what they're feeling...When I hear sometimes my male friends talking about these manifestations of what, to me, is clearly fear, or clearly shame, they really can't even express the word itself." (Hanya Yanagihara, author of *A Little Life*, quoted by Daniel Mendelsohn in "A Whole Lotta Pain" from *Ecstasy And Terror: From The Greeks To Game Of Thrones*, New York Review Books.)

♦ "I think it's really hard to hide from the stress of climbing. Like, when you go out, you're like, you're really choosing to be vulnerable." (The climber Lor Sabourin, FTM trans.)

♦ "How feeling 'vulnerable' helped climber Lor Sabourin explore their identity. Sabourin welcomes the vulnerability that climbing forces you to confront." (They are a FTM trans.)

♦ "We are so grateful to you for being so vulnerable and sharing your story with us. As the parents of a non-binary tween, having role models such as yourself is so important. Thank you Lor. Thank you also Black, Justin & team, your family and Patagonia. (A commenter about the film *They/Them: One Climber's Story*.)

♦ "She was so strong, so driven but had such willingness to be vulnerable. As a female in this industry, it's so difficult to be vulnerable without seeming weak... I'm certain she will mostly be remembered for remaining exceptionally human while doing superhuman things." (Climber Melissa Annot Reid about the ski mountaineer Hilaree Nelson.)

♦ "She was a force, strong and powerful, but she also was not afraid to be vulnerable, express her fears, and be honest." (Climber Emily Harrington about ski-mountaineer Hilaree Nelson.)

♦ "Tony Adams fought his own battles with addiction and mental illness and went on to help other top players do the same. Does he think elite sport is honest enough about the vulnerability of its stars?" (BBC HARDtalk Tony Adams, former Captain, Arsenal Football Club.)

♦ "Part of the school's mission is to create a safe emotional space where young men can feel vulnerable. Where they can talk about the world as it is and learn to share their feelings. Anger. Happiness. Fear and frustration." ("Raising Kings: A Year Of Love And Struggle At Ron Brown College Prep. Episode 3: The Fierce Debate Over High Standards," NPR, Code Switch, November 1, 2017.)

♦ "I was talking with my therapist about how I didn't mind being vulnerable as long as I knew the other person would be warm, that they wouldn't judge me and all that..." (Tania Israel, a professor of psychology at the University of California, Santa Barbara.)

♦ "I don't know! I'm not no soft person so I'm not gonna say I'm all about to tear up and all that, but..." (A D.C. high-school student, on learning his favorite teacher was not returning the following year. From "Raising Kings: A Year Of Love And Struggle At Ron Brown College Prep. Episode 3: The Fierce Debate Over High Standards," NPR, Code Switch, November 1, 2017.)

♦ "Gone are the days of showing the highlight reel of your best life on Instagram. Now, it's trendy to celebrate your worst moments. What attracts eyeballs in today's social media market is tears, and content creators are incentivized to be vulnerable for views." ("How TikTok has become a dangerous breeding ground for mental disorders" by Rikki Schlott, *New York Post*, March 12, 2022.)

♦ Barely afloat; recently separated; seductive; vulnerable; touchy; acute; reduced; no money... (A female character in a novel.)

♦ Outsiders; outside; misfits; don't belong; not such a great childhood; not well loved; crappy, challenging upbringings in childhood; feeling like the weird one of the bunch; stigmatized; going through bad times... ("Vulnerable" Harry Potter fans, including gay teenagers.)

♦ "Be vulnerable with me. No shallow stuff. I didn't wiretap your phone to hear you make small talk." ("I want to know you" by Rima Parikh, *The New Yorker*, October 3, 2022. A female stalker who wants her prey to be "vulnerable." Hilarious!)

♦ "Want to Grow an Exceptional Person Brand? Be Vulnerable." (Allan Draper interviews Jay Jaye.)

♦ "He—you know, he didn't physically force me. There was no bruises on my body. But he was able to set me up in an emotionally vulnerable situation and to get me alone and to have it sort of seem normal..." (Child sex abuse.)

♦ "I am a stupid girl from a little village." (An Eastern European girl, forced to work in an Israeli brothel.)

♦ "Out-of-town drug gangs prey on vulnerable people." (Rhyl, Wales.)

♦ "Real people don't show their feelings, they try to hide them."

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

**contempo-speak: mental health**

**feeling, emotion & effect / mental health / protection & lack of protection: animal**

## culture (culture culture)

culture culture

let's make it more difficult for ~s to appropriate AAVE

called out as a "culture culture"

Miles is ~ by a black man (*Blindspotting*)

♦ "Every step I've taken has gaslighted those whom I love... I am not a culture culture. I am a culture leech. You should absolutely cancel me, and I absolutely cancel myself." (Rachel Dolezal, an academic who

claimed "identities of color," including Black Caribbean, North African Blackness, US rooted Blackness, Caribbean rooted Bronx Blackness, *Boricua*...)

**behavior:** bird / person

## vulture (behavior)

vultures

critics are ~ whose gnawing at the entrails...

vulture behavior

this was ~, callous and emotionally predatory (social media)

Vulture Club

he's a member of the "~" (journalists who follow conflict)

vulture fund

agreement was reached with two ~s (Liberian debt relief)  
every ~ on Wall Street (private-equity firm closes hospital)

vultures are (already) circling

the ~ on the web (gossip about Chancellor's health)

feed that kind of vulture

we shouldn't ~ (by showing failed TikTok stunts)

♦ "Hagfish are the vultures of the abyss, feeding on carcasses of dead fish."

♦ "In this great city (Calcutta)...vast areas were dark with ruin and black with the wings of vultures that hovered impartially over the Hindu and Muslim dead..." (*Halfway to Freedom* by Margaret Bourke-White.)

♦ "The deceased was an eleven-year-old girl who had died from a ruptured liver after being thrown from a horse. A priest in an apron laid the corpse on a stone and began cutting away. Now standing, now squatting, he wielded hatchet and knives with practiced hands... [The] birds swarmed to their dinner table. The feast began... This was the sky burial... To Tibetans this is natural and right." (An eyewitness account by the great photojournalist Kazuyoshi Momachi of a sky burial, from his wonderful book *Pilgrimage*.)

♦ In the film *Mountain Patrol: Kekexili*, the reporter Ga Yu and Ritai first notice one another and lock eyes at the sky burial for a patrolman murdered by poachers. It is an unforgettable moment in a great film.

♦ "Towers of Silence, such as this one in Chilpyk, Uzbekistan, are where Zoroastrians would leave the bodies of the dead to be consumed by birds."

♦ "We have an unusual method of disposal of the dead. The Parsi corpse is exposed to the rays of the sun and the corpse is consumed or devoured by birds of prey: vultures, kites and crows." (Khojeste Mistree, a Parsi in Mumbai.)

♦ "There were far-going Arab dhows on the pearly waters, and gaily dressed Parsees wading out to worship the sunset. Of their creed I knew nothing, nor did I know that near our little house on the Bombay Esplanade were the Towers of Silence, where their Dead are exposed to the waiting vultures on the rim of the towers, who scuffle and spread wings when they see the bearers of the Dead below. I did not understand my mother's distress when she found 'a child's hand' in our garden, and said I was not to ask questions about it. I wanted to see that child's hand." (*Something of Myself* by Rudyard Kipling, which he wrote "Looking back from this my seventieth year." At the time, he was a boy of perhaps four, in 1869.)

♦ "After being properly necklaced, according to custom, with great garlands made of yellow flowers, and provided with betel-nut to chew, this pleasant visit closed, and we passed then to a scene of a different sort: from this glow of color and this sunny life to those grim receptacles of the Parsee dead, the Towers of Silence. There is something stately about that name, and an impressiveness which sinks deep; the hush of death is in it. We have the Grave, the Tomb, the Mausoleum, God's Acre, the Cemetery; and association has made them eloquent with solemn meaning; but we have no name that is so majestic as that one, or lingers up on the ear with such deep and haunting pathos. / On lofty ground, in the midst of a paradise of tropical foliage and flowers, remote from the world and its turmoil and noise, they stood—the Towers of Silence; and away below was spread the wide groves of cocoa palms,

then the city, mile on mile, then the ocean with its fleets of creeping ships all steeped in a stillness as deep as the hush that hallowed this high place of the dead. The vultures were there..." (*Following the Equator: A Journey Around the World* by Mark Twain. When he visited Bombay in 1895, he was an old man of 60.)

**behavior:** animal / bird / death & life

**person:** animal / bird / death & life

**affliction:** animal / bird / sign, signal, symbol

## W

## wade (wade in / wade into)

waded into war

lessons from the last time Cairo ~ in Yemen (1960s)

wading into uncharted water

the NCAA is ~

waded into (treacherous political) waters

he has ~ (taking sides in controversy)

**absorption & immersion / involvement:** walking, running & jumping / water / verb

## wagon (circle the wagons)

circle the wagons

they ~ in a time of crisis (universities, church)

they began to ~ trying to protect the vice president

circling their wagons

right now, the government is really ~ (security leak)

"circle-the-wagons mentality"

the ~ backfired...

wagons were circled

the ~ (opposition to desegregation in Mississippi)

close ranks, (they) circle the wagons

the groups ~ (bands, sororities, fraternities / hazing)

♦ "We're seeing them close the wagon so to speak..." (Michele Steele, ESPN, on NPR. An eggcorn? AAVE? A poorly written script? A performance error? A competency error? Lack of reading skills? Inarticulacy? Who knows? Our language becomes more and more unstable every day.)

**conflict / protection & lack of protection:** film / history / military / verb

## wagon (hitch one's wagon to something)

hitched his wagon to Donald Trump

he ~ and saw his life unravel

hitching his wagon to (complete) flops

he is always ~ (a celebrity)

hitched our wagons to (a variety of) warlords

we ~ (US in Afghanistan)

**allegiance, support & betrayal:** history / horse / verb

## wail (sirens, etc.)

sirens wailed

~ on the campus (school shooting)

**resemblance / warning: sound**

## wail (verb)

wail and moan

they'll ~ and write outraged editorials...

**conflict / feeling, emotion & effect / resistance, opposition & defeat: sound / verb**

## waist (noun)

“waist” of Finland

the narrow ~ (1939-40 / Suomussalmi)

joined by a narrow waist

the Mediterranean, divided like a butterfly into 2 halves ~

♦ The “narrow waist” of the Mediterranean is the Strait of Sicily, guarded on its eastern side by Malta, The Siege of Malta during World War II was a crucial struggle to control the Mediterranean. Operation Pedestal in August 1942 may have saved the island for the Allies. That operation was a “very close-run thing.”

**division & connection / configuration: stomach**

## wait (in wait)

lurk in wait

memory triggers ~ all around (war and suffering)

lying in wait

the hackers created back doors to come and go and are ~

♦ The Sutton-Taylor feud was the longest and bloodiest in Texas. (According to the Texas State Historical Association Handbook of Texas, in an article written by C. L. Sonnichsen: “Persons who wished to live in the area had to take sides, there was constant pursuing and lying in wait...”)

**presence & absence: animal / predation**

## waiting game

waiting game

for us, it's a ~ (police investigation of serial killings)

waiting game with the weather

they played a ~ (military operation)

**action, inaction & delay / strategy: sports & games**

## wake (resemblance)

wakes

while man sleeps, the jungle ~ (animal activity)

**activity / resemblance: sleep / verb**

## wake (effect)

deal with the wake

he jet-skied through my life, and I was left to ~

♦ “We now know that they separated not long after he returned home, and eventually divorced. “Yoga” describes only the effect of the rupture—the wash from a boat that’s out of frame. He’s suddenly living alone, and ‘as lonely as a rat.’ He doesn’t bathe...” (“The First Rule Is Not to Lie: Emmanuel Carrere’s bracingly personal reportage” by Ian Parker, *The New Yorker*, July 11 & 18, 2022.)

**effect / feeling, emotion & effect: water / wave**

## wake (in the wake of / at a later time)

in the wake of disaster

how strong we can be ~ (terrorism)

in the wake of (terrorist) hijackings

new security measures ~

in the wake of the invasion

the potential for chaos ~ (Iraq)

in the wake of another (accounting) scandal

~ hitting a US giant...

in the wake of a (sleet) storm

in Mid-December, ~

in the wake of Sept. 11

flag-waving ~

♦ NO WAKE ZONE (A sign directed at boaters in a channel.)

♦ This seems to represent one conception of time, “Earlier events are in front of later events.” “In the wake of” might just as easily be stated as “after” or “following.”

**sequence / time: boat / direction / movement / position / prep, adv, adj, particle / water**

## wake (in a wake)

in his wake

he left his rivals ~ (Olympic swimming)

**superiority & inferiority: movement / water**

**competition: movement / water**

## wake up (activity)

woke up in the fourth

the Phillies’ bats ~ as... (baseball)

♦ “The Zhurong rover has yet to wake up since going into hibernation for the Martian winter nearly a year ago.”

**activity: sleep**

## wake up (awareness)

wake up

people are starting to ~ (a public-health issue)

woke up

an Arab nation ~ (Tunisia / 2011)

woken up

I was one of the sleeping majority, but now I have ~

wake up to the dangers

West African states have begun to ~ of the drug trade

waking up to the reality

now we’re ~ and the question is... (Afghanistan War)

people have woken up

the Baluch ~ (Brahmdagh, a rebel leader)

♦ “Hey, wake up, what’s going on?” (Marvin Gaye’s great album of 1971.)

**consciousness & awareness: sleep / verb**

## walk (walk the walk)

walking the walk

he was better at talking the talk than of ~ (delegation)  
we're talking the talk on democracy but not ~ (diplomacy)

walk the walk

I want her and other actresses to ~ (vs lip service / Me Too)

walked the walk

you knew he ~ (a biker outlaw)

♦ This occurs with "talk the talk."

**commitment & determination: walking, running & jumping / verb**

## walk (walk and chew gum at the same time)

walk and chew gum

Democrats can ~ (work with Trump and impeach him)  
Democrats can ~ (U.S. Rep Ayanna Pressley)  
we on the Left can ~ (Brandon Unger)

♦ "The focus on non-impeachment issues is further evidence that Pelosi (D-Calif.) and other Democratic leaders are aiming to sell a 'walk and chew gum' image for the party—that they can investigate and possibly impeach President Trump while also working to make progress on jobs, health care and other concerns." ("Pelosi-backed group gives House Democrats cover amid impeachment probe" by Mike DeBonis, *The Washington Post*, Oct. 6, 2019.)

♦ "Incoming Rules Committee Chairman Rep. Jim McGovern, D-Mass., insists the new majority can 'walk and chew gum' at the same time."

♦ "We Gotta Be Able To Walk And Chew Gum At The Same Time." (Sticker from \$1.29. Also a T-shirt at \$31.67. REDBUBBLE.)

♦ "Word Knowledge Instruction: We Can Walk and Chew Gum at the Same Time" by Kathy Ganske and Mia C. Heller, 20 July 2022. 48-Hour online access: \$10.00. Online-only access: \$18.00. PDF download and online access: \$42.00.)

♦ "So three years in, 2500 lives later, more than 18,000 wounded, our statesmen's prose akin to a schoolyard fist fight after a disputed call in a game of four-square. Instead of two boys tussling, it's our distinguished representatives labeling each other commitment-phobes, traitors, quitters, cowards, cutters-and-runners, with coddled, air-conditioned pampered porcine backsides. And your mother's ugly too." ("A War of Words," NPR, Day to Day, Opinion, by Brian Unger, June 19, 2006.)

**ability / insult: verb / walking, running & jumping**

## walk (walk somebody through something)

walk us through how

~ this unfolded, did you know how...

walks us through how

she ~ white nationalists are using live-streaming to...

walk me through why

~ somebody would be afraid to participate (census)

walk me through what

but first ~ you have heard from people about...

walk us through what

can you ~ police are doing right now (breaking news)  
so can you just ~ the president is saying now...

walk us through (exactly) what

~ happened here (tell us what happened)

walk us through the data

so ~, what did you find (talk radio)

walk us through that moment

can you ~ that you found out... (TV interview)

walk us through the procedure

could you ~ (explain)

walk us through the results

and here to ~ is our lead political editor (new poll)

♦ "Ellis walks the reader through all the balls Madison was juggling as he advocated and negotiated at the Constitutional Convention..." (Scott Detrow, NPR Book Review. An odd image indeed. But then, you can have friends, or you can point out their odd metaphors.)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: walking, running & jumping / verb**

## walk (walk somebody back)

walk us back a bit

could you ~ (speak about what happened before)

**past & present / time: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

## walk (crawl, walk, run)

crawl, walk, run

instruction should follow a ~ sequence (military)

crawl, walk and run

we are essentially helping the states to ~ (HHS / 988 #)

**sequence: walking, running & jumping**

**growth & development: life span**

## walk (slow-walk)

slow-walked to confirm

they ~ the test, it took them a month... (horse's doping test)

slow-walked his investigation

NBC ~ and then shut it down (Ronan Farrow)

♦ "Democrats accuse him of slow-rolling requests for the whistleblower's complaint or just blocking it altogether." (Politics.)

**speed: verb / walking, running & jumping**

**action, inaction & delay: verb / walking, running & jumping**

## walk (walk away from something)

walked

he ~, and the project was thrown into disarray (film)

walk away

mining companies ~ without paying for cleanups (gold)

walked away

he spoke to the BBC about why he ~ (quit Royal Ballet)  
his sponsors all ~ (sportsman and racial slur)

walked away from a (potential) deal

the president ~ (negotiations)

walked away from an exclusive trading club

Britain ~ (Brexit)

walk away from it  
why didn't you just ~ (a scam)

walk away from the European Union  
should the United Kingdom ~

walk away or try to hang on  
you can ~ (aging NFL players)

throw up our hands and walk away  
we can't just ~

**allegiance, support & betrayal / avoidance & separation / coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: verb / walking, running & jumping**

### walk back (noun)

walk back  
let's talk about the ~ (reversal)

**reversal: walking, running & jumping**

### walk back (verb)

walk back his (previous) comments  
he tried to ~ (a politician)

walked back his earlier statement  
the witness ~

walked back from earlier pledges  
he has ~ to overturn reforms

walked the advisor's assertion back  
his campaign manager ~

walk that back  
I don't know how you ~ (statement by official)

**reversal: walking, running & jumping / verb**

### walk on by (verb)

walk on by  
~, the tears and sadness you gave me (Dionne Warrick)

**avoidance & separation: walking, running & jumping / verb**

### walkover (noun)

walkover  
the campaign won't be a ~  
the war won't be a ~

**difficulty, easiness & effort: walking, running & jumping**

### wall (blue wall, etc.)

blue wall  
Frank Serpico pierced the ~ of silence (police)

**epithet: wall**

**division & connection: epithet**

### wall (red wall, etc.)

wall of green

Saudi players run to the ~ and celebrate with their fans

### Red Wall

passionate Wales fans, the ~ (Euro 2020)

♦ "Wonderful, incredible scenes of celebration on the pitch. Saudi Arabia players are hugging, smiling, crying. / They run to the wall of green and celebrate with their fans. / What a moment." (Qatar, the FIFA World Cup, 2022, Saudi Arabia 2-Argentina 1. Mashallah! "Raise our Green Flag!")

**epithet: wall**

**amount & effect: epithet**

### wall (emotions)

put up a wall  
he ~, he wouldn't get close to anyone (Navy corpsman)

**feeling, emotion & effect: wall**

### wall (brick wall)

electoral brick wall  
in 2016 Sanders hit an ~ after New Hampshire (primaries)

run into a brick wall  
law enforcement has ~

hit a brick wall  
this new bill is expected to ~ in the Senate (politics)

**obstacles & impedance: wall**

### wall (obstacle)

wall of (Republican) opposition  
President Obama ran into a stone ~

wall of privacy  
biographers ran up against a ~

wall of silence  
breaking down the famous "blue ~" (NYC police)  
our biggest challenge is the ~ (Shasha Johnson shooting)  
police face a ~ (university hazing tragedies)

brick wall  
see *wall (brick wall)*

firewall (computers)  
see *firewall (computers)*

paywall  
see *paywall (obstacle)*

stone wall  
President Obama ran into a ~ of opposition

bureaucratic wall  
it felt like I had hit a ~

cultural walls  
the ~ that keep the rest of the world out (reservation)

broke the wall  
she ~ of silence on the issue (protection rackets)

set up (high) walls  
kings ~ of etiquette to keep the world out

♦ "All in all you're just another brick in the wall." (Pink Floyd.)

♦ "Something there is that doesn't love a wall..." (The first line of "Mending Wall" by Robert Frost. Twice his neighbor says, "Good fences make good neighbors.")

**obstacles & impedance: infrastructure / wall**

**division & connection: infrastructure / wall**

## wall (hit a wall, etc.)

hitting a wall

some heretics argue that deep learning is ~ (AI)

hit a (bureaucratic) wall

he sought police help but initially ~

run into a (brick) wall

law enforcement has ~

ran into a (stone) wall

President Obama ~ of Republican opposition

run into (stone) walls

journalists have ~ with the administration

ran up against a wall

biographers ~ of privacy

**progress & lack of progress / obstacles & impedance:**

**crashes & collisions / movement / verb / wall**

## wall (wall of flames, etc.)

wall of fire

a ~ came down over the Rumanian positions (WWII)

wall of flames

fleeing a ~ (wildfire firefighters)

wall of sound

he transformed pop with his "~" recordings (Phil Spector)  
Scotland's Eilish McColgan rode a ~ to a 10,000m win

wall of water

the dam failure sent a ~ downstream  
the ~ destroyed everything in its path (tsunami)  
a ~ that can move onshore (storm surge / hurricane)

**amount & effect / resemblance: wall**

## wall (constraint)

walls come down

this is where the ~ (Las Vegas partying)

**behavior / constraint & lack of constraint: wall**

## wall (ricochet off the wall)

ricocheting off the wall

she's going to be ~ (surprised / upset / unhappy)

**behavior / feeling, emotion & effect: mental health /**

**movement / verb**

## wall (throw something at a wall and see what sticks)

throwing at the wall

I can write things that I'm just ~ and see how people react

threw it all at the wall

I just did it, ~ (Elisabeth Moss' commitment to a role)

throws plenty of jokes (and its lead actress) at the wall

'Marry Me' ~ (Pop Culture Happy Hour)

throws a lot at the wall

the dream psych-pop band ~ (Shana Falana)

♦ The meaning seems to be, "to try everything" in order to see what works (or "sticks"). There seems to be an element of desperation to it. Like the cliché "to wrap one's arm's around something" it is not immediately obvious what the physical basis for this expression is.

♦ "I just did it, and just kind of went as big as I could, and threw it all at the wall knowing the only mistake we could make was not going far enough. And so we both just went for it... I had turned it up to eleven and then realized I had to go even higher..." (Elisabeth Moss on performing in *Her Smell*.)

♦ "[Ms. Heard] slings an exceptional amount of mud at the wall in the hope that something might stick." (Johnny Depp's attorneys." This seems to combine *mudslinging* and *wall (throw something at a wall, etc.)*."

♦ "Trump looked like a president throwing anything he could at the wall to try and stay in power." (NPR.)

♦ "What the pro-life movement is doing is throwing every type of spaghetti at the wall and seeing what sticks." (Mallory Quigley of the anti-abortion rights Susan B. Anthony List.)

**attachment: materials & substances / verb**

**survival, persistence & endurance: materials & substances / verb**

## wall (the walls have ears)

wall

the ~s have ears

**surveillance: wall**

## wall (walls close in)

walls may be closing in on him

the ~ (manhunt)

**pressure: wall / verb**

## wall (wall-to-wall)

wall-to-wall coverage

despite the ~ that his previous trial had generated...

**extent & scope: wall**

## wallet (money)

implications on your wallets

what is the ~

worried about their wallets

they're more ~ than moral issues

open their wallets

they have inspired millions to ~ (aid to Haiti)

watch their wallets

retirees need to ~ (US)

**money: purses & wallets / sign, signal, symbol**

## wallow (verb)

wallow

rather than wallow, she decided to make the best of it

wallows in nostalgia  
the show ~

wallow in self-pity  
my job means that I can't ~

wallow (so happily) in stories  
why do we ~ of violence (media, entertainment)

wallows in victimhood  
it ~ (NPR)

♦ "Sambur (Sambar) and other game used this pool as a drinking place and wallow." (*Man-Eaters of Kumaon* by Jim Corbett.)

♦ "He found a mud hole, let out a tremendous cry, and rolled and wallowed." (*An elk during rut.*)

**absorption & immersion / involvement: animal / verb**  
**behavior: animal / verb**

## Wall Street (Wall Street of fish, etc.)

Wall Street of the South  
Charlotte, North Carolina, the ~ (Bank of America)

Wall Street of fish  
Tokyo's Tsukiji fish market was the ~ (set prices, etc.)

Black Wall Street  
the Greenwood area of Tulsa was referred to as the ~

**money: epithet / place / sign, signal, symbol**

## Walter Mitty

Walter Mitty of the war  
Juan Pujol Garcia was the ~ (British double agent)

Walter Mittys with Everest dreams  
~ need to keep in mind... (climbing)

♦ "President Walter Mitty" (A disparaging remark by an online commenter about a Joe Biden story involving the military. Other commenters described the story more harshly, as an example of "stolen valor.")

♦ "Not everyone admires the [A&E's *Cold Case Files* message board on EAR-ONS] board sleuths or their efforts [to identify the Golden State Killer]. One agitator came on recently to rant about what he characterized as wannabe cops with a twisted, pathetic obsession. He accused them of being untrained meddlers with an unhealthy interest in rape and murder. / 'WALTER MITTY DETECTIVE,' he wrote. / By then I was convinced one of the Mittys was probably going to solve this thing." (*I'll Be Gone In The Dark* by Michelle McNamara.)

♦ "Not so fast! You're driving too fast! What are you driving so fast for? You were up to fifty-five. You know I don't like to go more than forty. You were up to fifty-five. You're tensed up again. It's one of your days. I wish you'd let Dr. Renshaw look you over... Remember to get those overshoes while I'm having my hair done." (*The harridan Mrs. Mitty*. From the short story "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" by James Thurber.)

**fantasy & reality: allusion / person**

**allusion: books & reading**

## waltz (last waltz)

last waltz  
and so, there was a ~ (dinner at bankrupt restaurant)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: music**

## waltz (waltz to success, etc.)

waltz to gold  
US men ~ in basketball

waltzed to re-election  
he should have ~ but is now in a fight (politics)

waltz to victory  
a tough fight might allow the opposition to ~ (politics)

**attainment: movement / music / verb**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: movement / music / verb**

## waltz in (verb)

waltz (right) in  
we shouldn't let them just ~ (terrorists return to England)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: movement / music / verb**

## wand (magic wand)

imaginary magic wand  
programmers don't have an ~ that prevents ALL attacks

had a magic wand  
it I ~, I would change...

**amelioration & renewal: magic**

## wander (mind, attention, etc.)

wander  
where did you mind ~ (during pandemic lockdowns)

**mind: movement**

## wane (on the wane)

on the wane  
his once promising ability is ~ (athlete)  
summer is ~ and autumn on the way  
tolerance is ~ and extremism is thriving  
support for the climate bill is ~  
empathy is ~  
America's power and influence is ~

**decline: astronomy / moon**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / moon**

## wane (verb)

wanes a bit  
my new-found euphoria ~ (for new hobby)

wax and wane  
see *wax and wane*

career waned  
his ~ after his "Airwolf" heyday (actor)

epidemic is (now) waning  
the cholera ~, having run its natural, devastating course

influence (in Iraq) is waning  
the American's ~

popularity has waned  
since then, however, its ~... (barbiturate abuse)

sense of urgency wanes  
people forget and the ~... (wildfires)

star had (also) waned  
in America, however, his ~ (Amundsen lecture tour)

starts to wane  
the fight's urgency ~ (pit bulls)

tendency (for the effect) to wane  
there is a ~ after... (a medication)

♦ Immunity wanes over a period of time (pandemic).

**decline / development / increase & decrease / primacy,  
currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / moon /  
verb**

## want (I want her home, etc.)

want her home  
I ~ (arrested abroad)

♦ Classified in this work like *need* (*she needs to, etc.*) This usage is like a performative: I want it done; I want him cancelled; I want him dead; we want her home (abducted), etc.

♦ "Want" is NOT the verb we teach to our ESL / EFL students: "Following the shooting, police were wanting to talk to the baby's father..." (ABC, Meredith Deliso. That rule about "like" and "want" not taking the -ing... Fuhgeddaboudit!)

language: verb

## war (epithet / figurative)

War on Drugs  
the collateral damage due to the ~ was horrible

epithet: military

conflict: epithet

## war (the war to end all wars, etc.)

"War to end all wars"  
World War I, the ~

"Madeleine's War"  
critics dubbed it ~ (Kosovo 1998-9)

Egypt's Vietnam  
see *Vietnam (Egypt's Vietnam, etc.)*

military: epithet

## war (at war)

at war with her (nagging) fears  
her hopes were ~ (health of child)

at war with a virus  
we need to remember, we're ~, not one another (COVID)

conflict: military

## war (flame war)

flame war  
spam, ~s, dumb jokes...

burst into flame wars  
Web sites ~

sparked a flame war  
he ~ by writing that... (Internet)

computer: fire / military

## war (conflict)

war  
this is ~ (attempts to repeal the death tax)

war to make the Internet safe  
the ~ was lost long ago

war of attrition  
he turns football into a ~

war of nerves  
see *war of nerves*

war of (racially charged) slurs  
they fought a ~ (high schoolers)

war of words  
an interesting ~ develops between... (politics)  
the arrests provoked a ~ between the two countries  
the two men have been engaged in a ~ (boxers)

war of insults and namecalling  
a virtual ~ between Turks and Greeks on YouTube

war on Islam  
what he called the West's ~

war on their bosses  
Corps officials quietly declared ~, skipping meetings

war on cancer  
Richard Nixon began America's ~

War on Drugs  
the ~

war on meth  
in 2003 Thailand launched an all-out ~ (Yaba)

war on piracy  
~ bears fruit (pirated music, software in Dubai)

War on Poverty  
the 1960s produced the ~

war on poverty  
finding a drug for black hypertension is cheaper than a ~

war on rodents  
NYC Council to pass Rat Action Plan, stepping up ~

war on smallpox  
Dr. Donald A. Henderson led the successful ~

war with the European Union  
the banana ~ over imports

war with multiple fronts  
China and the US are locked in an escalating ~ (media, etc.)

war against doctors  
the D.E.A.'s ~ (drugs-for-sex cases)

war against the environment  
the ~ is also a war against traditional people

war against the people  
Macron and the elites are ~ (COVID mandates)

war against traditional people  
the war against the environment is also a ~

war against cybercafes  
Beijing declares ~

war (with the European Union) over imports  
the banana ~

war over (union) representation  
sparked a labor ~

war between the two  
it's not a ~ (sales and marketing)

war between consumers and record labels  
the file-sharing ~ (burning)

war between theorists and engineers  
the ~ (over artificial intelligence)

wars among (Ecstasy) dealers  
turf ~

war on Black history  
he has declared ~ (a critic / politics)

war chant  
fans and players intoned their ~ (football)

war room  
see *war room* (*strategy, etc.*)

war-simulation  
a ~ game (console game)

war stories  
as he recounts his ~ (about the film industry)

war-gaming  
civilian ~ spread...

war or battle  
we're not in a ~ with Facebook (government official)

"banana war"  
the ~ with the European Union over imports

banana war  
the ~ has been the world's longest running trade dispute

culture war  
"~s" that have wracked universities

drug war  
Colombia's ~  
the ~ became a bipartisan effort

gang war  
this was the beginning of a full-blown ~ (LA)

labor war  
a ~ over union representation

lightning war  
this ~ on public education (billionaires support charters)

price war  
fierce ~s have reduced profits  
a ~ broke out (illegal drugs)

proxy war  
debates about language are always ~s (Geoff Nunberg)

taxi war  
the ~s are a national problem in South Africa (rival cartels)

technology war  
America has declared a ~ on China (*The Economist*)

trade war  
sanctions could set off a ~

Twitter war  
Warren and Musk are in the middle of a full-scale ~

vaccine war  
maybe the UK wants to start a ~ (EU Justice Commissioner)

one-man war  
he was waged a ~ against the bill (government)

all-out war  
it had become an ~ (Egypt and US issue)

full-scale (Twitter) war  
Warren and Musk are in the middle of a ~

reading wars  
the so-called ~—the battle over the best method

file-sharing war  
the ~ between consumers and record labels (burning)

bidding war  
a ~ had begun for exclusive photo rights

full-blown (gang) war  
this was the beginning of a ~ (LA)

civil war  
see *civil war* (*noun*)

diplomatic war  
he has won the ~

forever war  
he has waged a cultural ~ against the media (Ishmael Reed)

"virtual war"  
a ~ of insults and namecalling between Turks and Greeks

public opinion war  
they would lose the ~ (educational vouchers)

PR war  
it lost a significant battle in the ~ (Facebook v. Australia)

12-round war  
a ~ that was one of the year's best fights (boxing)

in the midst of a (culture) war  
 America is ~

front line of the (culture) war  
 the judiciary committee is the ~ (U.S. politics)

language of war  
 its language is the ~ (US football)

battle in the (culture) war  
 these bills are the latest ~ waged over the rights of...

soldier in the (culture) wars  
 if you are a ~

war broke out  
 a price ~ (illegal drugs)

war continues and escalates  
 the ~ (Internet popup ads)

declared war  
 Corps officials quietly ~ on their bosses

declares war  
 Beijing ~ against cybercafes

engaged in a war  
 the two men have been ~ of words (boxers)

go to war  
 Usyk was fresh and ready to ~ (boxing)

launched an (all-out) war  
 in 2003 Thailand ~ on meth (Yaba)

lose the (public opinion) war  
 they would ~ (educational vouchers)

prepare for (a long) war  
 the right must ~ (against Critical Race Theory)

set off a (trade) war  
 by imposing sanctions, the administration could ~

sparked a (flame) war  
 he ~ by writing that... (Internet)

wage war  
 communities in this state ~ on their youth

♦ "He's waging total jihad against 'comprised of' across five million English language Wikipedia articles and he's vowed not to stop until he's driven it into the sea." ("Don't You Dare Use 'Comprised Of' On Wikipedia: One Editor Will Take It out" by Geoff Nunberg, the University of California, Berkeley, on NPR, Fresh Air, March 12, 2015.)

♦ "And the thing about the culture wars is that its warriors and conscripts are always looking for new fields of battle. Sport provides them in spades. Just look at the debate right now over transgender athletes." ("How cash and culture are shifting the goalposts for sports journalism," *Journo*, 14 July 2022. The Judith Neilson Institute.)

♦ The first casualty of war is the truth.

♦ War can kill all things except bad ideas. (An old maxim.)

♦ There's a right way, the wrong way, and the military way.

♦ "Nothing except a battle lost can be half so melancholy as a battle won." (The Duke of Wellington, in a letter to his brother after his victory at Waterloo.)

♦ "It is well that war is so terrible—lest we should grow too fond of it." (Robert E. Lee, 1862.)

♦ "You cannot qualify war in harsher terms than I will. War is cruelty, and you cannot refine it." (General William T. Sherman, 1864.)

♦ "The most ironic thing is that it became really quite serious and in the Falklands War the sailors sitting on the HMS *Sheffield* after they had been hit by an Exocet sang it for 3 hours while they were waiting to be rescued. And the RAF pilots would sing it in great jeopardy, when they were changing for their long, low-level bombing in the Bush Wars, Desert Storm. And so you know, it took on a kind of optimistic component to it..." (The "Bright Side" song by Monty Python, BBC, "Inheritance Tracks, Eric Idle." As late as 2016, Monty Python sketches were a favorite of civilian US Iraq and Afghanistan War combat veterans at Camp Vinnell in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, sitting around the pool at the Tiki Hut on the weekends. They knew the skits by heart. Or was it heartbreak?)

♦ "Your mother had a pair and your little brother and your girlfriend and you nail them to a wall in some bar in the Philippines and you've spread yourself so far and wide that there's no way you can die because your dog tags are out there pulsing around the globe." (The great writer Anthony Swofford, Marine, who served in the Gulf War, 1990.)

♦ It will be a great day when our schools get all the money they need and the Air Force has to hold a bake sale to buy a bomber. (A U.S. bumper sticker.)

♦ "War is a way of teaching geography."

♦ "It don't make a thang." (The Vietnam War. In Vietnam, the Vietnam War is known as the American War.)

**conflict: military**

**war chest**

war chest

his ~ is below the poverty line (a politician)

war chest of \$200,000

armed with a ~ that they'd raised...

war chest and grassroots army

his ~ make him an unstoppable juggernaut (politics)

campaign war chest

he has a much larger ~

bulging war chest

the Southern Poverty Law Center has a ~ (endowment, etc.)

**money: military / sign, signal, symbol**

**warehouse (neglect)**

Dickensian warehouses

it's orphanages became famous as ~ (Romania)

Europe's refugee warehouse

Turkey will not be ~ (President Recep Tayyip Erdogan)

**environment: infrastructure / mental health / warehouse**

**warehouse (amount)**

viral warehouses

monkeys are ~

**amount: infrastructure / warehouse**

**warehousing (data)**

data warehousing

~ and consumer information

data-warehousing

he develops ~ software

computer: infrastructure / warehouse

## warfare (noun)

warfare against Democrats

there is likely to be a session of trench ~ (politics)

trench warfare

this has become political ~ (politics)

it will be paralysis, partisan ~ (politics)

conflict: military

## warm (verb)

warmed up to California

in time, he ~

feeling, emotion & effect: temperature / verb

acceptance & rejection: temperature / verb

## warm (adjective)

warm

the relationship between them has never been ~ (politics)

warm heart

he praised her for her ~ can concern for others

warm reception

we got a ~ everywhere we went

warm welcome

they gave us a ~

warm 28-year-old

she is a ~ with big brown eyes

warm and receptive

the audience was ~ (for a folksinger)

warm and sympathetic

voters perceive her as ~

feeling, emotion & effect: temperature

## warmed-up

getting warmed-up

I'm just ~

readiness & preparedness: engine / temperature

starting, going, continuing & ending: engine / temperature

## warmhearted (adjective)

warmhearted person

she is a ~

character & personality / heart: temperature

## warmly

greeted us warmly

he ~

received us warmly

she ~

feeling, emotion & effect: temperature

## warmth

support, encouragement, and warmth

she provides ~

feeling, emotion & effect: temperature

## warn (a sign can warn, etc.)

sign warns

a road ~, "Watch for children and dogs"

signs warn

~ visitors to stay clear of the falls

sign warned

a ~, "Danger Do Not Enter Steep Drops" (cliffs)

fictive communication: speech / verb

## war of nerves

war of nerves

how soldiers cope with the ~ (waiting for combat)

conflict: skin, muscle, nerves & bone

## warp (verb)

warped and narrowed

what they consumed online ~ their vision of the world

flaws & lack of flaws: direction / materials & substances / shape / verb

## warped

warped view

he denigrates ideas that don't dovetail with his ~

flaws & lack of flaws: direction / materials & substances / shape

## warpath (on the warpath)

on the warpath

but the admirals were no match for Sir Clements ~

President Biden is ~ (against Big Tech)

his baby mama is ~ (trying to serve papers)

on the warpath against cutbacks

labor leaders are ~ (pensions, health care)

on the warpath with Wall Street

his finer days were as attorney general ~

back on the warpath

nativists are ~

gone on the warpath

they have ~

put Elizabeth on the warpath

the inspector's surprise visit had ~ (Theranos)

put him back on the warpath

it angered him and ~ (a snub)

conflict: history / violence

## warren (noun)

warren of rooms

inside, beyond the entrance hall, lay a ~

warren of shops

the casbah of Nablus is a ~, selling...

warren of tenements

East London was a ~, a “rookery” of the poor

warren of step stairs and cramped corridors

the ship is a ~ (*Polarstern*)

rabbit warren

the building is a ~ of cubicles (Merriam-Webster)

♦ Warrens were built for rabbits and were traditionally surrounded by a moat, as rabbits don't like to swim and avoid water. Warrens are also associated with prairie dogs, people living in slums, and office workers in cubicles. The raising of rabbits for fur and meat is called cuniculture, from the Latin word for rabbit, *cuniculus*.

**complexity: animal / infrastructure**

## warrior (ironic)

warriors and conscripts

its ~ are always looking for new battles (culture wars)

armchair warriors

I have zero tolerance for ~ (a veteran)

some shameful ~ on here (BBC HYS / boxing)

cancel culture warriors

could you imagine the reaction from the ~ if...

keyboard warrior

some brave ~s on here tonight (BBC HYS boxing)

they are ~s having a pop at people (twitter)

probably wouldn't say it to his face would you, ~  
armchair detectives and ~s piled on (Nicola Bulley)

twitter warriors

~, keyboard warriors, whatever you call them (sports)

weekend warriors

nobody is going to pay to watch ~ play in the NFL

weekend (lionfish) warriors

~ are not going to solve this problem alone (invasive species)

social justice warriors

the book takes a clear aim at ‘~’ (The Ink Black Heart)

♦ “Some brave keyboard warriors on here tonight.” (Sarcastic comment on BBC HYS boxing.)

♦ “Twitter warriors, keyboard warriors, whatever you call them, they're not out here with us practicing hard.” (An NFL players, responding to online criticism of his performance in a *practice* video.)

♦ “And if we've learned anything from Joe Biden, it's that you make your own story and live your own truth.” (“Happy Warrior: The Fabulous Hero” by David Harsanyi, *National Review*, May 17, 2021.)

♦ “I want to get more politically involved, I'm tired of being a keyboard warrior, it's time to make my face known.” (Politics.)

**appearance & reality: military / person**

## warrior (girls and women)

warrior for the Democrats

she was seen as a party ~

Warrior Girls

“~” is about the injury epidemic of young female athletes

mental-health warrior

leader, role model, ~ (Nastia Liukin about Simon Biles)

♦ “*Carry On, Warrior* honors women committed to slogging through the muck of domesticity.” (The book by Glennon Doyle.)

♦ *Warrior Girls* is about the injury epidemic of young female athletes. (Michael Sokolove.)

♦ “Be a love warrior, a justice warrior.” (Cornel West.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affirmation**

## warrior (other)

warrior

he is extremely ill but still fighting like the ~ that he is

warrior spirit

he has no ~ (criticism of a boxer who lost)

eco-warrior

Dave Foreman, ~, has died (Earth First!)

“wolf warrior”

China's ~ diplomat, Zhao Lijian

♦ “And Mike Tyson, traditionally no robe, no socks, he says it makes him feel like a warrior, makes him feel like a gladiator.” (The excited broadcaster as Mike Tyson enters the ring for his fight against Mitch “Blood” Green.)

**person: military**

**character & personality: history / military / person**

## warrior through (verb)

warriored through

the cut was serious, but he ~, so much heart (Tyson Fury)

**survival, persistence & endurance: military / verb**

**commitment & determination / courage & lack of courage: military / verb**

## war room (strategy, etc.)

war room

teams can have a ‘~’ to make their selections (NFL draft)

Detroit Lions brass went wild in their ~ (about draft pick)

War Room

she knocked once and entered the ~ (police HQ / task force)

assembling a war room

the White House is ~ as impeachment looms

launched a war room

she ~ to fight Trump (White House counsel Dana Remus)

♦ “The social media behemoth has established a ‘war room’ at its headquarters in Menlo Park, Calif., where specialists try to detect and disrupt bad actors attempting to delegitimize elections, spread fake information and suppress the vote.” (“Facebook, Exploited by Influence Campaigns, Tries to Clamp Down With ‘War Room’” by Tim Mak, NPR, October 22, 2018.)

**readiness & preparedness / strategy: military**

## war zone

mean war zone

Twitter is a ~

♦ "I mean, I've been in the Twitter war zone for a while, it takes a lot to phase me at this point. You can't take it personally, none of these people actually know you. It's like if you're fighting a war and there's some opposing soldier that shoots at you, it's not like they hate you. They don't even know you. So, just think of it like that. They're firing bullets, whatever, but they don't know you, so don't take it personally." (Elon Musk talking to Joe Rogan.)

**conflict / environment: military**

## wash (straightwash, etc.)

artwash

see *artwash*

greenwash

see *greenwash*

pinkwash

see *pinkwash*

sportswash

see *sportswash*

straightwash

see *straightwash*

whitewash

see *whitewash (groups)*

**inclusion & exclusion: affix / presence & absence / subterfuge**

## washboard (bumpy)

washboard road

driving down a ~

**shape: clothing & accessories**

## washed-up (adjective)

washed up

at age 50, I found myself ~

a woman was all ~ after 21

**decline / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: sea / water / wave**

## wash in (verb)

washed into Germany

millions of migrants have ~

**migration / movement: verb / water / wave**

## washing machine

referred to (locally) as the 'washing machine'

Pillsbury Sound is ~ for its rip currents (Virgin Islands)

**resemblance: epithet**

## wash up (verb)

washed (back) up

when was the next time the picture ~ in your life

washed up

his dishonesty had finally ~ at his brother's feet

**appearance & disappearance / coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: sea / verb / water / wave**

## waste (lay waste)

lay waste to the myths

it is time to ~ of Soviet propaganda (Katyn)

**destruction: military / ruins / verb**

## wasteland (environment)

wastelands of everyday existence

men who saw in Polar deserts an escape from the ~

wasteland of (vapid, consumerist) content

the video service is a ~ (YouTube kids)

cultural wastelands

the third- or fourth-tier cities are no longer ~ (China)

emotional wasteland

in this ~, new romance bloomed (divorce)

woke wasteland

ESPN used to be the video bible of sports, now it's a ~

♦ "I invite each of you to sit down in front of your television set when your station goes on the air... Keep your eyes glued to that set until the station signs off. I can assure you that what you will observe is a vast wasteland." (Newton Minow's "Wasteland Speech" delivered to the National Association of Broadcasters in Washington, D.C. in 1961.)

**environment: ground, terrain & land**

## watch (on one's watch)

on my watch

not ~

it will not happen ~ (constitutional sheriff)

on his watch

Bush was haunted by a replay of 9/11 ~

on our watch

~, hope can now be spotted across the seas and oceans

happened on your watch

these problems ~ (investigation)

♦ A full-page advertisement for the "Oyster Perpetual Sea-Dweller" Rolex watch on the back cover of *The New Yorker* magazine says, "ON OUR WATCH. Hope can now be spotted across all our planet's seas and oceans." In small print at the bottom it reads, "Rolex supports Mission Blue in its commitment to protecting 30% of the oceans by 2030."

**responsibility: military**

## watchdog (noun)

watchdog

every industry needs a ~

Watchdog Journalism

the Murrey Marder Nieman Fellow in ~

watchdog organization  
a national ~

public's watchdog  
the media is supposed to be the ~

drug industry watchdog  
his self-appointed role as the ~

**protection & lack of protection / surveillance / warning:  
animal / dog**

## **water (deep water)**

found himself in deep water  
he ~ (a boxer during match)

**involvement / situation: water**

## **water (blow something out of the water)**

blows your theory out of the water  
this ~

blew Phelps out of the water  
Lochte ~ (Olympics)

blown out of the water  
that theory was ~ (criminal trial)

**destruction: boat / military / sea / verb**

## **water (keep one's head above water)**

keep our heads above water  
we are struggling to ~ (financial woes)

**situation / survival, persistence & endurance: verb / water**

## **water (tread water)**

treading water  
the middle class is still ~, and trying not to drown

♦ "Many of us have heard of the 'duck syndrome' at Dartmouth: It's week five midterms are crashing into you... And yet, you must appear calm above the surface of the water... If someone were to peek underneath, however, they would see webbed feet paddling away... to keep from drowning. Nobody would know from appearance that the duck is just barely remaining afloat..." ("The College's ratio of students to mental health providers is abysmal and it shows" by Anna Roodnitsky, *The Dartmouth*, 22 July 2022. It's an interesting conceit to consider, and Anna gets some of it right. Actual ducks, when frightened, do appear calm but can be seen to paddle hard, seemingly to gain the momentum necessary to take flight. But do ducks paddle to keep from drowning? I just highlighted "do ducks paddle to keep from drowning?," right-clicked, clicked search, and was astonished to discover the article, "The New Duck Metaphor | The Stanford Daily." It's a wonderful opinion by Adam Johnson who had the same question I had and answered it. Interestingly, it was datelined September 26, 2012, ten years before Roodnitsky's article.)

♦ "Sink or swim."

**survival, persistence & endurance: water / verb**

## **water (hold water)**

hold water  
the theory doesn't ~  
the idea you can add adversity to the SAT doesn't really ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: water / verb**

## **water (throw cold water on something)**

pouring cold water over the idea  
Trudeau is now kind of ~ (peacekeepers to Haiti)

"poured cold water" on the article's apparent premise  
ABC News sources ~

poured cold water on the theory  
Biden ~ that the Taliban could swiftly take Afghanistan

pour cold water on (earlier) theory  
scientists ~ about...

threw cold water on the idea  
he ~ that... (an investigation)

♦ "That suggests the job market is still hotter than the Federal Reserve would like, and also suggests the central bank is likely to keep pouring cold water on the economy by raising interest rates to control inflation..." (Punditry related to the economy—a "hot" job market, "pouring cold water on the economy," etc.—consists almost entirely of figurative language.)

♦ "One of the girls she was very sick. I let her come into my bed one morning, she was very ill. They brought me down to the shoe room, they stripped me off, they threw cold water over me... (prior to severe beating)...It was the shoe room you know where all the shoes were, even now if I get the smell of shoe polish, the feeling of enclosure, it was awful..." (The long-term effects of physical and emotional abuse. From the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (CICA / Ryan Commission), the record of abuse (female witnesses), Chapter 9, 2009, Ireland.)

**eagerness & reluctance: temperature / verb / water**

**enthusiasm: temperature / verb / water**

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature / verb / water**

## **water (poison the water / waters)**

poisoned the waters  
his statement ~ for anyone seeking an honest answer

**corruption: verb / water**

## **waterboarding (noun)**

fiscal waterboarding  
the country is being subjected to a ~ (austerity)

**affliction / coercion & motivation / oppression: violence**

## **water cooler (digital water cooler, etc.)**

water cooler buzz  
the ~ was underway (Olympic controversy)

water-cooler conversation  
we talk about ~

watercooler shows  
*Succession*, and other ~

digital water cooler  
the Website is a sort of ~ for the tech industry

♦ "We talk about water-cooler conversation. Well, the television was the gigantic water cooler around which the entire country congregated." (Neal Gabler, historian. From *Ring of Fire: The Emile Griffith Story 2005*, about TV in the late 50s and early 60s. Emile's story is gut-wrenching and heart wrenching.)

♦ "Imagine something innocuous like a water-cooler conversation in an office. Imagine that it's happening in a fully-monitored metaverse environment—that is certainly going to have life-changing

consequences..." (Alex Rice, the co-founder of online security company HackerOne.)

♦ "[Mr. Head] particularly wanted the boy to see the toilet so they went first to the men's room and examined the plumbing. Mr. Head demonstrated the ice-water cooler as if he had invented it and showed Nelson the bowl with the single spigot where the travelers brushed their teeth." (Mr. Head takes his grandson on the boy's first train trip. From the great short story by Flannery O'Connor, published in 1955.)

♦ The actual water cooler is a relic of the past, but it lives on, in the language!

**computer / gossip / social interaction: place**

**society: infrastructure**

## water down (verb)

water down the program  
the government wants to ~

**attenuation / strength & weakness: prep, adv, adj, particle / verb / water**

## watered down

get watered down  
most reform bills ~ (US)

**attenuation / strength & weakness: prep, adv, adj, particle / water**

## Waterloo (figurative)

Waterloo for Mr. Brown  
the debates could be a ~ (politics)

Obama's Waterloo  
the Republicans hope to turn health care into ~

mayor's Waterloo  
failure to clear snow can be a ~ (Chicago, etc.)

a kind of Waterloo  
it was a bad defeat for me, a ~ (an argument)

**allusion / epithet: military**

**success & failure: military**

## waterproof (adjective)

ironclad, waterproof, bulletproof, (legally) binding  
we need ~ guarantees (Sergey Ryabkov / diplomacy)

**flaws & lack of flaws: water**

**protection & lack of protection: water**

## waters (uncharted waters, etc.)

uncertain waters  
Egypt has sailed into freer but more ~

uncharted water  
the NCAA is wading into ~

uncharted waters  
we're in ~ here, or very little charted waters (legal issue)

uncharted (legal) waters  
the charges have led the country into ~ (soldiers)

**area: boat / direction / journeys & trips / map / sea**

**certainty & uncertainty: boat / direction / journeys & trips / map / sea**

## waters (dangerous waters, etc.)

dangerous waters  
you are in ~, Mr. Starbuck (*Moby Dick*)

choppy waters  
the cruising industry is still in ~ (COVID cases)

rough waters  
UN climate talks hit ~

treacherous (political) waters  
he has waded into ~

in troubled (political) waters  
Biden is already in ~ (over Afghanistan)

perilous and uncharted waters  
we are entering ~ here (Bolivian politics)

pour (lower tariff) oil on troubled waters  
an offer to ~ (the US and the EU)

♦ "The *Marion* was hove to under storm canvas, and boiler fires were lighted; but she labored so violently in mountainous seas that several boilers began to work loose in their saddles and all leaked badly. Water was pouring into the vessel through deck and side seams, while waves breaking on board carried away a boat and several gunport covers... But the *Marion* and her men were equal to this occasion... Oil streamed from the weather bow exerted its calming effect on the troubled waters, lessening the impact of the waves. The gale diminished markedly the next day..." (*Far China Station: The U.S. Navy in Asian Waters 1800-1898* by Robert Erwin Johnson.)

**danger: boat / sea / water**

## waters (muddy the waters)

muddy the waters about salt and health  
the Salt Institute has done nothing but ~

muddy the (legal) waters  
the case did nothing but ~

**certainty & uncertainty / comprehension & incomprehension / perception, perspective & point of view: light & dark / verb / water**

## waters (test the waters)

testing the waters  
they are ~

♦ "When you want to test the depths of a stream, don't use both feet." (Chinese.)

**experimentation: verb / water**

## watershed (noun)

watershed  
the death of Tom Simpson was a ~ (athletes doping)

watershed in the history  
it was a ~ of British policing (Stephen Lawrence murder)

watershed in (American) politics  
the 1968 presidential election was a ~

watershed in that (fractious) relationship  
this day could be a ~ between fans (Liverpool / Man U)

watershed event  
it was a ~ for the company

watershed moment  
the arrival of the drones will be a ~ (war)  
the affair was a ~ for British Muslims (Rushdie book)  
this is a ~ for China to lead (pandemic)  
the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is at a ~

historic watershed  
the violence was a ~ (Sri Lanka / 1983)

political watershed  
it is a ~ (Citizens United Supreme Court decision)

♦ "This is a watershed. This is a Rubicon. And I'm worried this could be just a starter. More draconian bans in the name of the law could be lurking around the corner." (A protester.)

♦ "A couple of days later we came to the watershed. Both ascent and descent were steep. On the far side we came on to a path at once, which brought us to the cabin of a Chinese sable-trapper... Towards evening that day we managed to reach the Noro. / The upper reaches of the Noro are regarded as the most remote and wildest parts of Ussuria." (*Dersu Uzala* by V. K. Arseniev.)

**development / direction / division & connection / importance & significance / source: mountains & hills / river**

## watertight (adjective)

legally watertight  
they will ensure their position is ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: water**

## wave (Wave Rock, etc.)

Wave  
the Wave, Paria Canyon, Arizona

Wave Rock  
natural wonders like ~ in western Australia

**proper name: sea / shape / water / wave**

## wave (shape)

wave clouds  
rare ~ amaze sky-watchers in Wyoming

waves of (wind-hardened) snow  
~ called "sastrugi" (Antarctic)

stony wave  
Half Dome looms over Yosemite Valley like a ~

**shape: sea / water / wave**

## wave (crest of a wave)

crest of a wave of public popularity  
he was on the ~ (a politician)

♦ Never turn your back on the sea.

♦ "If you want to learn how to pray, go to sea." (Portuguese.)

♦ Rag-doll wipeouts on massive faces; getting sucked / swept over the falls; getting nailed by your surfboard or somebody else's; getting struck

square on the head by the lip of a wave; traveling 500 yards underwater (Teahupoo); taking a five-wave set on the head; three-wave hold-downs; getting blown off a Jet Ski; colliding with an upside-down Jet Ski; getting rammed in the groin by a Jet Ski; Jet Skis cavitating in foam... (Some of the hazards of surfing.)

♦ "If you want to ride the ultimate wave, you have to be willing to pay the ultimate price." (Mark Foo.)

**force: height / sea / sports & games / water / wave**

## wave (ride a wave, etc.)

wave of the future  
online banking is the ~

wave of relevance  
creators are using tired tropes to ride the ~ (TikTok)

next big wave  
the ~ was cloud computing

wave (of relevance) has passed  
content creators vie for views before their ~ (TikTok)

catch the wave  
some companies were too big to ~

ride the wave  
I'm not going to be short of options, we'll just ~ (boxer)

riding on a new artistic wave  
he is ~ which has captured the public's imagination

surf this wave  
those who failed to ~ will have to wait (weather / Everest)

take advantage of this wave  
Pablo was perfectly positioned to ~ (cocaine)

**development: force / sea / water / wave**

## wave (make waves, etc.)

making waves  
he is ~ here in the US (a Chinese billionaire)

♦ Audi Cornish: Looking back at the way that the virus moved across the U.S., early on we heard about different waves. Is this actually a good way to think about it? / Will Stone: A wave does not quite capture it, because the pandemic has not crashed across the country all at once and then gone away. This is how Dr. Roger Shapiro at Harvard describes the U.S. coronavirus outbreak. / Dr. Robert Shapiro: A better way of thinking about it is a wave that went into a pool and in that pool it's sloshing around. Wherever it hasn't been yet, it's gonna go, to places where it has already been, it could go back. / Will Stone: So what we have now is this constant reservoir of disease splashing around, infecting people at different times in different places. ("Tracing The Course Of The U.S. Pandemic," All Things Considered, October 9, 2020.)

**effect / feeling, emotion & effect: sea / verb / water / wave**

## wave (in a wave)

in a wave of dissent  
the team dissolved ~, losing all 3 matches (soccer)

in a wave of kidnappings  
dozens of foreigners have been abducted ~ (Iraq)

in the (first) wave of infections  
hospital workers infected ~ (SARS)

in a (weeklong) wave of violence

more than 100 were killed ~

in the first wave  
hospital workers infected ~ of infections (SARS)

in a great wave  
engulfed ~ of hate and anger (mob)

in a weeklong wave  
more than 100 were killed ~ of violence

dissolved in a wave  
the team ~ of dissension, losing all 3 matches (soccer)

abducted in a wave  
dozens of foreigners have been ~ of kidnappings (Iraq)

engulfed in a (great) wave  
~ of hate and anger (mob)

infected in the (first) wave  
hospital workers ~ of infections (SARS)

**amount & effect: sea / water / wave**

**wave (amount and effect)**

wave  
this ~ is going to build and grow (flexible workplace)

wave of (neo-Nazi) activity  
we must combat a ~

wave of (cigarette) advertising  
the new ~

wave of (new) applications  
a ~ for accommodations (SAT disability)

wave of arrests  
this summer, there was a further ~ in Saudi Arabia

wave of (Palestinian) attacks  
a ~ killed five Israelis

wave of (HIV-positive) babies  
a ~ still to be born

wave of (commercial space) cameras  
the new ~

wave of criticism  
the slow response has brought a ~

wave of emigration  
the ~ that followed (the fall of Soviet Union)

wave of emotions  
the resignations set off a ~ from sadness to relief

wave of euphoria  
the South Korean ~ (World Cup)

wave of explosions  
a ~ marred Algeria's independence celebration

wave of fury  
the nominee list set off a ~

waves of grief

the wreck is sending ~ across the mountains

waves of immigrants  
the cold war's end has brought ~  
~ who have crossed the sea to live in France

wave of immigration  
the latest ~ threatens to change...  
a ~ that has changed schools and neighborhoods  
he came here as part of a ~ from Uzbekistan (to Israel)

waves of immigration  
the ~ to the US over the past 20 years

wave of (national) indignation  
a ~

wave of popularity  
she had been riding an even bigger ~ when...

wave of pride  
his success has set off a ~ (Japanese ballplayer)

wave of self-criticism  
a ~ swept the press

wave of (reported) sightings  
a ~ in 1993 (UFOs)

wave of sympathy  
setting in motion a fast-rolling ~ (psychogenic illness)

wave of (national) unity  
the ~ following 9/11

wave of unrest  
the ~ has toppled two presidents (Middle East)

wave of (democratic) uprisings  
a ~ is transforming the Islamic world

wave of (sectarian) vengeance  
a ~ is sweeping the capital (Baghdad)

waves of arrivals and departures  
orchestrated ~ (busy airport)

wave of (criminal) charges  
the ~ and civil lawsuits (church sex abuse)

wave of (corporate) divestitures  
the next ~ and spin-offs

wave of car bombs  
a ~ against westerners (Saudi Arabia)

wave of kidnappings  
victims of a ~ (Lebanon)

waves of killing and ethnic cleansing  
subjected to ~ (Hutu-Tutsi)

wave or a tsunami  
this wasn't just a ~, it was a red asteroid (Republicans win)

Republican wave  
a ~ swamped them (elections)

attack wave

the main ~

crime wave  
unassimilated immigrants have set off ~s in Europe

enemy wave  
slowed the on-coming ~ with machine gun fire

heat wave  
a killer ~ claimed an estimated 10,000 lives (France)

immigration wave  
the US is in an ~ that rivals the start of 20th century

murder wave  
a ~ engulfed the U.S. around 1960

technology wave  
you're riding on a ~ that's going to crash

on-coming (enemy) wave  
slowed the ~ with machine gun fire

fast-rolling wave  
setting in motion a ~ of sympathy (psychogenic illness)

orchestrated wave  
~s of arrivals and departures (airport)

first wave  
he was part of the ~ of immigrants from Laos (Hmong)

second wave  
this is the ~ of climate-change suits against oil companies

big wave  
there is a ~ coming (demand for non-alcoholic drinks)

further wave  
this summer, there was a ~ of arrests in Saudi Arabia

great wave  
engulfed in a ~ of hate and anger (mob)

human wave (m)  
the determined enemy launched ~ assaults (war)

latest wave  
the ~ of immigration threatens to change... (France)  
experts hope this ~ of the pandemic will recede

main (attack) wave  
the ~ (military)

new wave  
the ~ of commercial space cameras  
the ~ of cigarette advertising

New Wave  
the French ~, especially Truffaut and Goddard

next wave  
the ~ will be "semantic web" applications

previous waves  
~ of US immigrants

successive wave  
each ~ of (U.S.) strikes (military)

consequences of a wave  
one of the many ~ of immigration (schools)

victims of a wave  
~ of kidnappings (Lebanon)

wave has crested (and the waters receded)  
the ~ to reveal a changed landscape (refugee tsunami)

wave (of the pandemic) will (continue to) recede  
experts hope this latest ~

wave has begun to recede  
the Omicron ~ (pandemic / January 2022)

wave has spread  
the revolution ~ from Egypt to Libya

wave (of sectarian vengeance) is sweeping  
a ~ the capital (Baghdad)

wave (of self-criticism) swept  
a ~ the press

wave (of immigration) threatens  
the latest ~ to change...

waves are washing  
the ~ over other parts of the region (Ethiopia-Eritrea peace)

brought a wave  
the slow response has ~ of criticism

combat a wave  
we must ~ of neo-Nazi activity

riding the wave  
but today he was ~ of his success (and feeling confident)

riding an (even bigger) wave  
she had been ~ of popularity when...

rode that wave  
two years later she ~ of attention to a seat in the US Senate

sending waves  
the wreck is ~ of grief across the mountains

set off a wave  
the resignations ~ of emotions from sadness to relief  
the nominee list ~ of fury  
his success has ~ of pride (Japanese ballplayer in US)

subjected to waves  
~ of killing and ethnic cleansing (Hutu-Tutsi)

♦ "The Florida Democratic Party has completely collapsed. This wasn't just a wave or a tsunami. It was a red asteroid that hit them in Florida."  
(Giancarlo Sopo, Republican strategist, after the 2022 midterm elections.  
In the U.S., red is the color of Republicans.)

♦ Rogue waves, also known as freak or monster waves, have sunk ships and snatched people from coastlines.

♦ When the wave height reaches three quarters of the water depth, the wave breaks.

**amount & effect: sea / water / wave**  
**movement: sea / water / wave**

## waver (verb)

wavering over what to do  
the city has been ~

give up or waver  
are we going to ~ when things get tough (a protest)

**commitment & determination: equilibrium & stability / movement / verb**

## wavelength (on the same wavelength)

on the same wavelength  
his two most threatening players are clearly ~ (soccer)  
politically they're ~

on the same wavelength as his teammates  
he has not been ~ (a soccer striker)

**unanimity & consensus: tools & technology**

## wax and wane

wax and wane  
separation anxiety tends to ~ (toddlers)

waxed and waned  
anti-American protests have ~ in South Korea  
their grip on the area ~

waxes and wanes  
her apparent awareness ~ (GHB rape on video)

♦ It's always a treat to see a very young moon, such as one that is 24 hours old or less. It takes clear skies and good eyesight or binoculars.

**development / increase & decrease / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / moon / verb**

## way (along the way)

along the way  
so many friends we've lost ~

**death & life / course: journeys & trips**

## way (in harm's way)

in harm's way  
people and homes are ~ (wildfire)

go in harm's way  
I intend to ~ (combat)

puts volunteers in harm's way  
the Peace Corp commonly ~

**danger / situation: route**

## way (out of harm's way)

out of harm's way  
I directed myself toward river right, ~ (kayaking)

dragged him out of harm's way  
he ~ (combat)

**danger / situation: route**

## way (know one's way around)

knows his way around the European Union  
he ~ (a British politician)

**ability / direction / knowledge & intelligence: ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips**

## way (out of the way / remote)

geographically out of the way  
Siberia may be ~, but...

**isolation & remoteness: journeys & trips**

## way (in the way)

unwanted, in the way, and useless  
some old people feel ~

get in the way  
don't let anger or prejudice ~ of peace  
the Washington Democrats are the ones who ~

gets in the way  
all this stuff ~ of instruction (adolescent problems)

gets in his own way  
the president constantly ~ on these things (by his tweets)

stand in your way  
let nothing ~ (dreams)

stands in her way  
she will hurt anyone who ~

stood in her way  
she didn't care who ~

stand in the way  
just a few contract details ~ (boxing)  
if you want to quit, I won't ~

stand in their way  
and nothing is going to ~

**obstacles & impedance: journeys & trips**  
**progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips**

## way (get out of the way)

get out of my way  
people were smart enough to ~ and let me handle it

♦ Lead, follow, or get the hell out of the way!

**obstacles & impedance: walking, running & jumping / verb**

## way (out of the way / obstacles)

out of the way  
Americans praise Indian enemies once they are ~

got their jitters out of the way  
our guys finally ~ (sports)

**obstacles & impedance: journeys & trips**

## way (go out of one's way)

go out of their way

moray eels do not ~ to attack humans

go out of the way to explain

they don't ~

goes out of its way

it ~ to be out of the ordinary (a HBO series)

went out of his way to meet

the President ~ with opposition leaders

gone out of his way to woo

he has ~ friends in the other party

Gates has ~ to woo Secretary of State Hillary Clinton

**difficulty, easiness & effort: journeys & trips / verb**

## way (way out / escape)

way out

there is simply no other ~ (a Palestinian State)

way out of the abyss

he worked his ~ of crime and hopelessness

way out of the (poor) neighborhood

the Army was a ~

way out of this pandemic

vaccines are the ~ (COVID)

way out of a (dire) situation

she sought a ~

way out of (criminal) trouble

you can often buy your ~ (police corruption)

way out for the UAW

I don't see a real ~ (corruption probe of union)

easy way out

teens will take the ~ (cheating)

I took the ~ (didn't graduate from high school)

only way out

she saw suicide as her ~

no way out

there was ~ (hopelessness)

buy your way out

you can often ~ of trouble (corruption)

dig his way out

he found a way to ~ of his problems

find some way out

we must try to ~ of it (world economies)

found a way out

he ~ of his own wreckage with the therapist's help

lie her way out

she tried to ~ of it, but she got caught

look for a way out

teen suspects often ~ (false confessions)

looked for a way out

and so he ~ (of a bad situation)

sought a way out

she ~ of a dire situation

take the (easy) way out

teens will ~ (cheating)

worked his way out

he ~ of the abyss of crime and hopelessness

saw suicide as her (only) way out

she ~

♦ "Oh, wait, it's upside-down." (A member of a group of people lost in a corn maze, referring to their map of the maze.)

**pursuit, capture & escape / situation: container**

## way (get one's way)

gets its way

as an arm of the Kremlin, Gazprom usually ~

get her way

she schemes and plans and manipulates to ~

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: verb**

## way (autumn is on the way, etc.)

autumn is on the way

summer is on the wane and ~

**future / time: direction / movement**

## way (on the way out)

on its way out

the fastest way down is ~ (firehouse poles)

gun control is ~ (US attempts to regulate guns)

on their way out

the network anchor and evening news are ~

♦ "Cynics may believe the genre is already on its way out. But...I'm convinced there's still life in the old form. Particularly as women and people of color fill a larger space in the genre." ("Samantha Bee's cancellation hints at tough times for women and POC in late night TV" by Eric Deggans, NPR, television, July 28, 2022.)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: journeys & trips / prep, adv, adj, particle**

## way (give way to something)

giving way to diesel

by the nineteen-seventies, steam was ~ (India / trains)

gives way to knowledge

what happens when innocence ~

gives way to the new

the old order ~

give way to the lit stage

the fading daylight began to ~ (concert)

gave way to a (gentler) slope

the steep shale ~ of snow (South Col)

give way to new industries  
dominant industries of today will ~ tomorrow

gave way to palaces and villas  
during the Renaissance, castles ~ (Italy)

gives way to clear-cutting  
selective logging often ~ (Amazon)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence / sequence:  
journeys & trips / verb**

### **way (go the way of something)**

going the way of the phone booth  
street-corner mailboxes are ~ (email)

going the way of the corset  
the push-up bra may be finally ~ (Victoria's Secret)

going the way of the rotary dial  
common courtesy is ~

go the way of the dinosaur  
frats and sororities should ~ (yet another hazing death)

go the way of buggy whip manufacturers  
they are going to ~ (non-green corporations)

go the way of the rotary-dialed phone  
residential white-page phone books may ~

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: journeys & trips  
/ movement / verb**

### **way (go a long way)**

go a long way  
American dollars ~ in Canada

goes a long way  
a little humiliation ~ (resistance)

go a long way towards improving  
this will ~ things

**cost & benefit / extent & scope: distance**

### **way (lead the way)**

leading the way  
the Democrats are ~ on this (vote of disapproval)

**direction / driving force: journeys & trips / verb**

### **way (lose one's way)**

lost our way  
we've ~  
we have all ~ from time to time  
we have ~ and it's time that we get back on track (politics)

lost its way  
Manchester United has ~ (2018-19)  
Brearley's obsession with race must stop, the school has ~

**direction: journeys & trips / verb**

**failure, accident & impedance: journeys & trips / verb  
way (the wrong way)**

going the wrong way  
we're ~

**direction / failure, accident & impedance: journeys & trips  
way (find one's way)**

find my way  
it was easy to ~ (a difficult job)

find our way  
but we'll ~ (out of a problem)

find his own way  
I'm not trying to force the boy, I know he will ~

finding our way  
we are ~ (how to teach during pandemic)

**direction: journeys & trips / verb**

### **way (pave the way)**

pave the way for the (surfing) boom  
Hoffman helped ~

pave the way for (new) drugs  
the landmark discovery could ~ to beat viruses

paves the way for gays  
the bill ~ to serve openly in the military

paved the way for an recovery  
the government program ~ (economy)

paved the way for (better) relations  
the treaty has ~ between the two countries

paved the way for the rise  
repeal of the Fairness Doctrine ~ of Fox News

paved the way for an (economic) comeback  
the government program ~

**amelioration & renewal: journeys & trips / verb**

### **way (come a long way, etc.)**

long way to climb  
the people of Africa have a ~

long way to go  
we've got a ~, but we've had some success  
there is still a ~ (a legal process)  
Liverpool looks good, but there is still a ~ (soccer season)

long way towards meeting  
we've come a ~ that goal

long way from throwing  
we're a ~ in the towel

come a long way  
we've ~ towards meeting that goal  
the city has ~ (Warsaw / improvement)  
the field has ~ but still has far to go (AI)

go a long way  
she will ~ (a young singer)

gone a long way  
we have ~

have a long way  
the people of Africa ~ to climb

**progress & lack of progress: distance / journeys & trips / movement**

### way (a long way off)

a long way off  
the 2024 election is ~

**future / time: distance**

### way (a long way from, etc.)

long way from where  
I'm a ~ I want and need to be (mental health)

♦ see also *far* (*far from, etc.*)

**proximity: distance**

### way (go the other way, etc.)

gone the other way  
events could have ~

**development: direction / journeys & trips**

### way (part ways)

parted ways  
she and NPR have ~

**direction / division & connection: journeys & trips / verb**

### way (every step of the way)

every step of the way  
they've helped us ~  
her mother had approved the relationship ~

**starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips**

**extent & scope: walking, running & jumping**

### way (all the way)

all the way  
a suit won't get them ~ they need to go to stop the president

**success & failure / attainment: journeys & trips**

### way (route)

way to (anyone's) heart  
the quickest ~ is with an MCL gift card

quickest way  
the ~ to anyone's heart is with an MCL gift card

**route: journeys & trips**

### wayside (fall by the wayside, etc.)

fallen by the wayside

the US has ~ (competitive weightlifting)

pushed to the wayside  
free speech has been ~ for political correctness (campus)

went (quickly) by the wayside  
the idea ~ by the onslaught of events

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence / success & failure / survival, persistence & endurance: journeys & trips**

### weak (fragile)

fragile and weak  
the caretaker government is ~

**flaws & lack of flaws / strength & weakness: materials & substances**

### weak-minded (adjective)

weak-minded man  
he was a ~

**mind: materials & substances**

### wealth (amount)

wealth of (forensic) evidence  
police have a ~

wealth of experience  
he's bringing a ~ into the classroom

wealth of (allosaurus) fossils  
the area is known for its ~ (Jurassic Monument in Utah)

wealth of information  
the flight data recorder provided a ~ (crash)

wealth of (company) information  
the ~ held by the government

wealth of materials  
he uncovered a ~ (sunken boat)

wealth of (educational) options  
giving parents a ~

wealth of talent  
the team has a ~

wealth of titles  
producing a ~ (publishing houses)

wealth of information, perspective, opportunities  
we provide you with a ~ (ad for Fidelity Wealth)

**amount / worth & lack of worth: money**

### wean (verb)

wean itself off coal  
the US cannot ~ quickly

wean countries off coal  
the European Commission seeks to ~

wean yourself off cigarettes  
it's a bad idea to ~ with smokeless tobacco

wean himself off heroin  
he was able to ~ with the help of his family

wean the nation off fossil fuels  
we must ~

wean ourselves off of fossil fuels  
we must ~ (energy independence)

wean itself from ad revenues  
the magazine wants to ~ (vs. subscriptions, online fees)

wean the US from (messy and expensive) heating oil  
while federal officials try to ~, Main remains addicted

wean the planet from the burning  
we must ~ of fossil fuels

**dependency / growth & development: baby / verb**

## weapon (help)

weapons of the weak  
~ include foot-dragging and feigned ignorance

weapon in the arsenal  
the googly is a major ~ of a leg spin bowler

weapon in the (COVID) fight  
it is the third ~ (third vaccine approved)

weapon in solving  
seamless teamwork can be a potent ~ disease outbreaks

weapon against prejudice  
black and gay comedians have wielded jokes as a ~

potent weapon  
teamwork can be a ~ in solving disease outbreaks

make it a weapon  
I'm always trying to ~ (her service game / Ashleigh Barty)

♦ "So it was that in these three days at Breslau this Koch put a sword Excalibur into the hands of men, with which to begin the fight against their enemies the microbes, their fight against lurking death; so it was that he began to change the whole business of doctors from a foolish hocus-pocus with pills and leeches into an intelligent fight where science instead of superstition was the weapon." (*Microbe Hunters* by Paul De Kruif. The 34-year-old Koch exhibited the anthrax bacillus at the university.)

**help & assistance: weapon / military**

## weapon (political weapon, etc.)

political weapon  
Sadat gained diplomatic leverage using oil as a ~ (1973)

denies using energy as a weapon  
the Kremlin ~ (Moldova)

become weapons  
memes ~ in Ukraine-Russia conflict

♦ Words and terms can certainly be used as weapons. See "How 'Phobic' Became a Weapon in the Identity Wars" by Amanda Hess, *The New York Times Magazine*, Jan. 26, 2016. It's a brilliant article.)

**destruction; military / weapon**

## weapon (secret weapon)

secret weapon of diplomacy  
cultural exchanges are the ~

secret weapon for Nokia  
better developer tools could be a ~

secret weapon in fighting  
women are his ~ lawlessness

campaign's secret weapon  
she has been the ~ (politician's wife)

group's secret weapon  
technology has been the group's ~

virus's secret weapon  
evolution is a ~

unleashed a secret weapon  
supporters of reform have ~ (clerical support)

♦ "Say hello to your holiday shopping secret weapon. Price comparison gives power to find the best deals, without any of the hassle. Microsoft Edge is not only the best browser for shopping, its brings you the best of the web every day."

**concealment & lack of concealment / strength & weakness: weapon**

## weaponization (noun)

weaponization of social media  
the ~ to influence elections and sow discord

♦ "Weaponization: Metaphorical Ubiquity and the Contemporary Rejection of Politics" by Greggor Mattson, an associate professor of Sociology at Oberlin College, is the final word on this word and "metaphor emergence from coinage to conventionality."

**creation & transformation / destruction: weapon**

## weaponize (verb)

weaponize children  
the Democrats are happy to ~ (immigration)

weaponize the virus  
they are trying to ~ politically (Democrats)

weaponizes Ukraine's drinking water  
Putin ~ (2022 / Ukraine cut water to Crimea in 2014)

♦ This means, "illegitimate politicization." Merriam-Webster dates this to 1957, and interestingly provides no synonyms. An obvious one is "politicize." Or "instrumentalize." And compare with *operationalize*: "The North's foreign and military policies *operationalize* those core precepts of state."

♦ A FUNNY CARTOON. The cartoon shows a host, bringing a heaping, over-the-top tray of apple crisp to his two guests. His wife is saying to them, "Charlie has weaponized apple crisp." (*The New Yorker*, October 24, 2022.)

**creation & transformation: verb / weapon**

## weaponized

weaponized to round up  
RICO was ~ groups of black men (gangs)

weaponized as a tool  
the Eucharist is being ~ in political warfare (communion)

♦ What *can't* be weaponized? (See "Weaponization: Metaphorical Ubiquity and the Contemporary Rejection of Politics" by Greggor Mattson.)

**creation & transformation: weapon**

## weariness (groups)

sense of weariness

there's a ~ that people have to go through this (Blacks)

see *exhausted (groups)*, *exhausting (groups)*, *exhaustion (groups)*

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## wear on (verb)

winter wears on

as the ~, he tries to act like everything is normal

week wore on

but as the ~...

1950s wore on

as the ~...

**starting, going, continuing & ending / time: verb**

## weary (feeling)

weary of England

~, hungry for adventure, he found himself in Bratislava...

weary of war

the public is ~ (US)

**feeling, emotion & effect / mental health: sleep**

## weasel (weasel words, etc.)

weasel words

this article contains ~, clarify or remove...

♦ "This article contains weasel words: vague phrasing that often accompanies biased or unverifiable information. Such statements should be clarified or removed. (Wikipedia entry for "Marginal Utility.")

♦ See "Safire: 'Change' and Other Old Political Phrases, NPR, Morning Edition, April 10, 2008." At the very bottom of the article Safire has a section about "weasel words."

**speech: animal**

## weasel (verb)

weaseled its way into cosplay and selfie culture

it has also ~ (the Ahegao face)

**behavior / movement / transmission: animal / verb**

## weather (groups / verb)

weathers the body

the lived experience of being Black in America ~

being Black ~

weather the effects

Black students who ~ of studying, living on white campuses

♦ "The trauma that sometimes comes with being a black student at predominately white institutions is tangible. In their 2015 paper, 'Reimagining Critical Race Theory in Education: Mental Health, Healing and the Pathway to Liberatory Praxis,' Ebony O. McGee, a professor at Vanderbilt University, and David Stovall, a professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago, found that black college students who weather the

effects of studying and living on predominately white campuses suffer from a 'physical and mental wear-and-tear that contributes to a host of psychological and physical ailments.'" ("For Black College Prospects, Belonging and Safety Often Top Ivy Prestige" by Denene Millner, NPR, Code Switch, Opinion, February 26, 2017.)

♦ "[I]f you're Black, even if you are middle class, there is something about the lived experience of being Black in America that weathers the body. And this is the theory of Dr. Arline Geronimus from the University of Michigan. And she believes that the high-effort coping of dealing with racism in America makes the body prematurely aged. And so if your body is older, then you're more susceptible to every kind of health problem." Linda Villarosa, from "How Systemic Racism Continues To Determine Black Health and Wealth In Chicago," NPR, Fresh Air (with Terry Gross), May 6, 2021.)

♦ see also *weathered (groups)*, *weathering (groups)*

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## weather (survive)

weather the (15-month) closure

she was able to ~ with the help of grants (pandemic)

weather their (financial) crisis

the extra income allowed them to ~

weathered the storm

he ~ until the 11th round (Plant vs. Saul "Canelo" Alvarez)

weather this (economic) storm

cities need help to ~

weathered (all sorts of) storms

the Catholic Church has ~ across the centuries

**survival, persistence & endurance: storm / verb**

## weather (environment)

weather

it's as good as an example as any given the ~

change in the (regulatory) weather

there has been a ~ (*The Economist*)

weather had changed

but this week the ~ (*Financial Times* / crypto down)

**environment: air / atmosphere / weather & climate**

## weathered (groups)

weathered

if we are ~, which is a kind of premature aging... (Blacks)

♦ see also *weather (groups / verb)*, *weathering (groups)*

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## weathering (groups)

weathering

black Americans experience a phenomenon known as "~"

weathering effect

racism and experiencing racism contributes to this ~

idea of weathering

the other thing is the ~ (journalist Linda Villarosa)

♦ "Geronimus coined a term for this chronic stress—she calls it 'weathering.'" (Arline Geronimus, University of Michigan.)

♦ “Clearly racism and experiencing racism, that also contributes to this kind of weather effect. You’re in fight-or-flight mode. And so that has a real significant biological effect that contributes to premature aging.” (Joseph Betancourt of the Massachusetts General Hospital. Heard on “Death Rate Among Black Americans Declines, Especially For Elderly People,” NPR, All Things Considered (with Rob Stein), May 2, 2017.)

♦ “Author Linda Villarosa has been writing about the racial disparities in health outcomes for decades and recently covered the topic for the New York Times’ 1619 Project. She says that while she used to think poverty was to blame for Black Americans’ health problems, she’s now convinced that bias in the health care system and the ‘wearing’ affect (sic) of living in a racist society are taking a serious toll on African Americans.” (“1619 Project” journalist lays bare why Black Americans ‘live sicker and die quicker,” NPR, Fresh Air (with Dave Davies), June 14, 2022.)

♦ “The other thing is the idea of weathering. So weathering is the idea that fighting against discrimination day in, day out ages you prematurely. Each time an incident happens, it fires up the systems of your body, including your blood pressure, your cortisol, your stress hormones and even your pulse rate. So if that happens over and over and over, as it does in the case of people who are Black in this country, it weathers the body the way a storm might weather a home—knocks the shutters off, chips the paint. If we are weathered, which is a kind of premature aging, then it’s not a shock why we would have worse COVID outcomes at younger ages.” (The journalist Linda Villarosa, heard on “How COVID exposed racial disparities in all aspects of the healthcare system,” NPR, All Things Considered (with Karen Grigsby Bates), June 20, 2022.)

♦ “Harry Belafonte, a singer, actor and activist, has died at age 96.” (The beloved American figure was a paragon of “style, class and charisma,” and always was “his generous heart wide open.” He was born in Harlem.)

♦ NPR’s Scott Simon: Mr. Teasley, may I ask how old you are? / Mr. Ron “Schoolboy” Teasley: Ninety-six years old. / Scott Simon: Boy, you sound good!

♦ see also *weather* (groups / verb), *weathered* (groups)

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## **weather vane (noun)**

weather vane of the hip-hop world

the show, a longtime ~, now attracts politicians (The Breakfast Club)

weathervane for where

Biden is a ~ the Democratic center is going

weathervane-patriots

the rooms were jammed with Tories and ~ (1777)

political weathervane

she’s a ~, shifting with the winds

♦ “You don’t need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows.” (“Subterranean Homesick Blues” by Bob Dylan.)

**direction: air / sign, signal, symbol / tools & technology / weather & climate / wind**

## **weave (create)**

weave this story

the state is trying to ~ of his guilt based on...

weaves a tale

she ~ of first contact (author)

**creation & transformation: cloth / verb**

## **weave (a trail can weave, etc.)**

trail weaved

the ~ downhill... (mountain biking)

**fictive motion: cloth / verb**

## **weave (move)**

weaves in and out of (Indian) stereotypes

he ~ (Native American writer)

weave to his right

Tyson would take a short step and ~ (boxer)

**movement: cloth / direction / verb**

## **weave (mixture)**

weave of information

the Web’s tangled ~ and misinformation (hoaxes)

tangled weave

the Web’s ~ of information and misinformation

**mixture: cloth**

## **weave together (verb)**

weave together what

I wanted to ~ life is like in the city (a book)

**division & connection: cloth / verb**

## **web (entanglement)**

web of lies

he has created and spread a ~ about the election (politics)

web of lawsuits

a thick ~

web of bribery

a ~, kickbacks, theft and conspiracy (war contracts)

thick web

a ~ of lawsuits

caught up in a web

~ of drug addiction and crime

**involvement: animal / cloth / insect / movement / spider**

## **web (situation)**

web of (drug) addiction and crime

caught up in a ~

**situation: animal / container / insect / spider**

## **web (spider web and cobweb, etc.)**

cobweb of crevasses

he was enmeshed in a ~ and fogbound (Antarctica)

spiderweb of canals

between the ponds is a ~ (a beaver complex)

spider web of (mountain biking) trails

there is a ~ (in a state park)

spider-web cracks

if there are ~ leading from the bolt hole... (climbing)

**shape: animal / insect / spider**

## web (spin a web)

spinning a web

they are accused of ~ of lies (murder)

twisted into a web

his death has been ~ of disinformation and paranoia

♦ "...Lady Macbeth's arachnid schemes."

**creation & transformation: animal / insect / spider**

**subterfuge: animal / insect / spider**

## wedded

wedded to the past

FitzRoy was a pioneer, but he was also ~

**attachment / division & connection / relationship: love, courtship & marriage**

## wedge (edge of the wedge)

thin edge of the wedge

politicians fear this is the ~ (sending a few troops)

**driving force: tools & technology / wedge**

## wedge (drive a wedge, etc.)

wedge issue

it's becoming a major ~ among Democrats (Israel)

they have turned it into a very effective ~ (politics)

drive a wedge between Muslims, Christians

a sinister attempt to ~

♦ A British negotiator being interviewed on NPR about sanctions against a country used the verb *wedge-drive*: "They will see this an opportunity to wedge-drive between the EU and the United States' allies in Europe."

**division & connection: tools & technology / wedge / verb**

## wedged

wedged between the DRC and Republic of Congo

Cabinda is ~ (enclave of Angola)

wedged between Switzerland and Austria

Liechtenstein, ~

wedged between Ukraine and Romania

Moldova is ~

wedged between the Gulf and the Gulf of Oman

the UAE, ~

**configuration: wedge**

## weed (in the weeds)

deep in the weeds

we are ~ of Machiavellian machinations (politics)

get in the weeds

it's not my job to ~ (lack of knowledge of details)

get into the weeds

streaming video is available for anyone who wants to ~

get (more) into the weeds

we can get ~ during the question-answer period

got into the weeds

this was the shocking fact when I ~ on it (sports issue)

dive into the weeds

he would ~ and explore the most detailed elements

**perception, perspective & point of view: ground, terrain & land / height**

## weed out (verb)

weed out bad products

her agent helps ~ (a social-media influencer)

weed out the rebels

we will ~, but they are dug in

weed out the slackers

it's time to ~ who aren't pulling their weight

weeds out (struggling) soldiers

the course ~ (Green Berets)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: plant / farming & agriculture / verb**

## weigh (analyze)

weigh the merits against the risks

we ~ (the press and the publishing of secrets)

weighed whether

parents ~ to send their kids to school or... (sniper)

weigh the benefits

commanders must ~ of a rigid versus a flexible plan

weighing bids

the Coast Guard is ~ from three companies (for boats)

weigh the credibility

they must ~ or various threats (police)

weigh all the evidence

a decision-maker will ~

weigh his fate

it will be up to jurors to ~

weigh the merits

we ~ of publishing against the risks (press / secrets)

weighing the offer

she is ~ (of employment)

weigh my options

I have to ~

weighed plans

Rumsfeld ~ to deploy up to 200,000 troops in the Gulf

weighed the price

weary but optimistic, he ~ of success (a rapper)

weighs response

India ~ after Kashmir attack

weigh the risks  
your doctor can help you ~ and potential benefits

weigh the value  
registrars must ~ of transfer credits

weigh the pros and cons  
you must ~ (job offers)

weighed the pros and cons  
~ of joining in the condemnation

weigh the successes and inadequacies  
they ~ of the criminal-justice-dominated approach

**judgment: scale / verb / weight**  
**analysis, interpretation & explanation: scale / verb / weight**  
**weigh (weigh heavily)**

weighed heavily  
Beijing's opposition ~

weighs heavily on the city  
the bank's decline ~

weighing heavily on their conscience  
the events must be ~ (a hit and run)

weighed heavily on my mind  
those experiences ~ (wildfires)  
the decision ~

weighed heavily on her mind  
the bombings ~ (Northern Ireland)

weighing (quite) heavily on the players  
the responsibility was ~

**affliction: burden / verb / weight**  
**oppression: burden / verb / weight**

**weigh (oppress)**

weigh (down) on me  
it's all starting to ~ (pressure)

weighs on you  
it ~ like a ton of bricks (harassment / gay students)

weighed on my conscience  
it ~ (terrorism)

weigh on your conscience  
if you have any sense of decency it will ~ so much (terror)

weighing on her mind  
that's still ~ as she sits... (no classes for adjunct)

let grief weigh him down  
he didn't ~

**affliction: burden / verb / weight**  
**oppression: burden / verb / weight**

**weighed down**

weighed down by debts and deficits  
the nation is ~

**affliction: burden / weight**  
**oppression: burden / weight**

**weigh in (verb)**

weighing in  
now his mother is ~ (expressing her opinion)

weigh in on (major strategic) decisions  
he will still ~ (executive takes sick leave)

weighing in on the issue  
women are ~

weigh in (more heavily) on the issue  
Congress has begun to ~ of...

weighed in on the (newspaper's) Web site  
hundreds of readers ~

weighed in with concerns  
groups ~ about the FBI's use of...

weighed in with a national study  
JAMA ~ asserting that...

weighed in against the project  
Sen. Barbara Boxer ~

♦ **Boxers weigh in before a fight.**

**involvement: boxing / sports & games / verb / weight**

**weight (under the weight)**

under the weight of so many laws  
the people are ~

caved in under the weight  
the regime finally ~ of its impossible contradictions

♦ "There is no question that the donkeys are damnably treated... / This kind of thing makes one's blood boil, whereas—on the whole—the plight of the human beings does not. I am not commenting, merely pointing to a fact. People with brown skins are next door to invisible. Anyone can be sorry for the donkey with its galled back, but it is generally owing to some kind of accident if one even notices the old woman under her load of sticks." ("Marrakech" by George Orwell, *New Writing*, Christmas 1939.)

♦ "A woman without a donkey is a donkey herself." (Debre Zeit, Ethiopia. Ethiopian women are extraordinarily fond of their donkeys.)

**affliction / oppression: burden / weight**

**weight (pull one's weight)**

pulling their weight  
we need to weed out the slackers who aren't ~

♦ **Were the blocks of stones that comprise the great pyramids pulled or lifted into place? Either way, it must have entailed great effort.**

**work & duty: burden / verb / weight**

**weight (put / throw one's weight behind something)**

throw its weight behind the (democracy) movement  
the US did not ~ (diplomacy)

throwing their weight behind the opposition  
they are ~ (an organization)

put all of their weight behind trying  
the government ~ to prevent us from publishing

**allegiance, support & betrayal: weight / verb**  
**power: weight / verb**

### **weight (punch above one's weight, etc.)**

punches above its weight in math  
Hungary ~, it has produced many mathematicians

fight above our weight  
we're going to have to ~ (politics)

punch above our weight  
we are a small nation but we ~ (Wales at Euro 2020)

**power: boxing / verb / weight**  
**substance & lack of substance: boxing / verb / weight**  
**weight (effect)**

weight of the law  
he needs to feel the full ~ (a school shooter)

feel the weight  
they ~ every day (White House scandal)

cope with the weight  
she is still learning to ~ of international celebrity (athlete)

**oppression: burden / weight**  
**weight (substance)**

weight of the data  
the ~ would suggest that... (inconsistent studies)

weight of the tragedy  
as the full ~ fell over the neighborhood (AIDS)

weight with listeners  
her apology didn't carry much ~ (a singer)

weight and attention  
these fears are given too much ~ (of AI)

full weight  
as the ~ of the tragedy fell over the neighborhood (AIDS)

great weight  
his words and opinions carry ~

moral weight  
his being a Catholic helped give ~ to his speech

carry weight  
such recommendations do ~ (a government taskforce)

carry (much) weight  
her apology didn't ~ with listeners (a singer)

gives more weight  
the ranking system ~ to selectivity than efficacy

**substance & lack of substance: weight**  
**weighted**

weighted variables

his methodology relies on 7 ~ (college rankings)

weighted equally  
the three criteria were all ~ (a rating survey)

**substance & lack of substance: weight**  
**weighty (substance)**

weighty decision  
it was a ~  
what to do was a ~ (war)

weighty issue  
Congress has taken up a series of ~s

weighty step  
renouncing one's citizenship is a ~

weighty topic  
she writes about ~s

weighty (literary) works  
he was known for filming ~ (Joseph Strick)

**importance & significance: weight**  
**substance & lack of substance: weight**

### **welcome (welcome news, etc.)**

welcome news  
the new economic data is ~

not welcome  
but the negative publicity was ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: exclamation / house / speech**  
**welcome (verb)**

welcomed Disney with open arms  
Orlando and Florida ~ (Magic Kingdom)

welcomes change  
the Democratic Party ~, not as an enemy but as an ally

welcomed the Confucius Institute  
many universities have ~ with open arms

welcome an investigation  
we ~

happy to welcome  
local companies have been ~ whoever signs up (Everest)  
♦ How I miss that wonderful greeting, "*Ahlan wasahlan.*"

**acceptance & rejection: house / speech / verb**  
**welcome: exclamation / house / speech / verb**  
**fictive communication / fictive meeting & seeing: house / speech / verb**

### **welcome (noun)**

wore out his welcome  
the talented but troubled diva ~ (NFL football player)

**acceptance & rejection: house / speech**  
**welcome: house**

## welcome (noun / groups)

safe and welcome

it was important to create a space where we felt ~

respected, visible, and represented

a space for students to feel ~ (gay / Yeshiva University)

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

## welcoming (and unwelcoming / groups)

welcoming to Black people

projects that make the outdoors more ~

welcoming environment

issues that make NPR a less than ~ for people of Color

welcoming place

a more ~ for others who look like them (music industry)

less welcoming

this is a bill that makes our state a ~ state (for Trans)

safe and welcoming

make all Harry Potter fan spaces ~ for everyone (Gayly)

safe, inclusive, respectful, and welcoming

create psychologically ~ environments (EDI)

♦ "It was such an unwelcoming place for them." (Women comedians back in the day.)

♦ "I believe if players are happy, if they feel welcome, if they feel joy when they go on the court, they're going to be a much better version of themselves." (Coach Mark Madsen, about accepting the job of coach of the men's basketball team at the University of Berkeley. His team has a 3-29 record, a 38-87 record with its previous coach, 6 consecutive losing seasons, and a 16-game losing streak. Only in America!)

♦ see also *friendly (queer-friendly, etc.)*

**inclusion & exclusion: acceptance & rejection**

## welcoming (other)

welcoming place

Antarctica is not a ~

**welcome: house / speech**

## welfare (mental, etc.)

welfare check

she was found dead after officers conducted a ~ (suicide)

the ~ may be connected to another death (murder)

officers entered the home for a ~ (found dismembered body)

she was found brutally slain at her mobile home during a ~

♦ "A jury acquitted a former Texas police officer of criminally negligent homicide Monday after a gunshot meant for a menacing dog instead killed a woman whose welfare he had been sent to check..." ("Ex-North Texas officer acquitted of crime in woman's death," AP, August 29, 2022.)

♦ see also *mental wellbeing (and mental well-being), mental health (noun), mental wellness (noun), self-care (and self care), wellbeing (noun), wellness (noun)*

**mental health: euphemism / health & medicine**

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## well (poison the well)

poison the well of information

establish a false persona, then ~ (Facebook)

poison the well for bipartisanship

if he goes that route, he could ~ (politics)

poison the well for cooperation and bipartisan progress

that would really ~ (rules change in Senate / politics)

well was poisoned

the ~ between them even before... (bad relations)

from that point on the ~ (prosecutorial misconduct)

♦ Perhaps the worst mass poisoning of a population in history has taken place in Bangladesh. Around 25 million people have been exposed to arsenic through runoff from agriculture and industry into man-made ponds and the water table. Ironically, many of the contaminated ponds and boreholes were dug with the help of international relief organizations to protect villagers from unclean water.

**corruption: water**

## well (source)

well of outrage

the ~ is bottomless (fundamentalists)

well of resistance

there is still a deep ~ to a woman president

well of (wifely) goodwill and loyalty

her ~, which had overflowed for so long, was drained dry

well of grievance and skepticism

he tapped into the ~ (politics)

content well

everybody is just dipping their bucket into this ~ (media)

deep well

there is still a ~ of resistance to a woman president

he has a ~ of institutional knowledge (foreign policy)

well that never runs dry

it is the ~ (excitement for heavyweight boxing division)

dipping their bucket into this (content) well

everybody is just ~ every day (post-game athlete interviews)

tapped into the well

he ~ of grievance and skepticism (politics)

♦ "The Well was the world's first online community." (The Whole Earth 'Electronic Link / 1985.)

♦ "A snowboarder is stuck upside down in a tree well." (A remarkable video, showing the skier Francis Zuber saving a snowboarder from asphyxiation. Super!)

**amount / source: water**

## well (health)

get well

we're sorry this happened, ~ soon (Treaty Oak in Austin)

♦ In 1989, Paul Stedman Cullen tried to kill the Treaty Oak in Austin, Texas. Thousands of kids addressed letters to the Treaty Oak, hoping it would get well.

**condition & status: health & medicine**

## well (introductory)

Well

~, researchers at the CDC...

right, well

~, it means that...

Sure, well

~, there's always been a connection between... (NPR)

**contempo-speak: introductory**

## well-being (status)

Boeing's well-being

Renton is very dependent on ~ (Washington State)

**condition & status: health & medicine**

## wellbeing (noun)

well-being

our focus was on his ~... (self-harming trans son)

~ is a key priority (the CIA)

wellbeing

putting you in control to improve your ~ (Ka'Chava ad)

wellbeing at work

Dr. Jim Harter shares the key practices that improve ~

Well Being In Color

"~, " a peer mental health program for students of color

wellbeing of players

we forget about the ~ (Van Dijk on criticism of teammate)

wellbeing challenges

he will not compete following some ~ (athlete sent home)

well-being check

the incident, labeled ~... (family did not press charges)

Wellbeing Officer

"The Rise Of The Chief ~" (by Colleen Reilly / Forbes)

wellbeing office

the CIA just appointed a ~ (Jennifer Posa)

Well Being Trust

psychologist Ben Miller, President of ~

wellbeing, motivation and job satisfaction

burnout, stress and poorer levels of ~

comprehensive wellbeing

~ (mental, emotional, physical, financial, professional)

Linguistic Well-Being

Racism and ~ in ELT (TESOL 2023 convention)

psychological well-being

nature benefits our ~ (Audubon Society)

mental wellbeing

see *mental wellbeing* (and *mental well-being*)

sense of well-being

mindfulness can enhance our connection to nature and ~

health and wellbeing

her dedication to ~ (Belle Gibson / *The Whole Pantry*)

I can't jeopardize my ~ (Simone Biles)

exercise is important for general ~

Liz Lagone, head of ~ for Meta... (Molly Russell inquest)

mental health and well-being

full-time streamers must focus on their ~ (Twitch, etc.)

mental health and wellbeing

Sciver pulls out of India series to 'focus on ~' (cricket)

self and wellbeing

~/ How I found the special joy of nature in cities

peace, health and well-being

~ in exchange for our time, money, and attention (a critic)

wealth, family life, charity, and well-being

*abundance*, a roomy word that includes ~ (motivational)

Immersive Technology, and Well being

I am a Ph.D. focusing on Digital Transformation, ~

welfare and wellbeing

children's ~

concern over her well-being

Britney Spears is fed up with the ~

assess his well-being

lack of consular access means we can't ~ (jailed abroad)

♦ "I have real concerns about her well-being." (A pundit about a woman who was violently kidnapped off the street in Memphis. She was eventually found murdered.)

♦ "I remain unconvinced that the Metropolitan Police is consistently considering children's welfare and wellbeing." (Dame Rachel de Souza, England's children commissioner, about the 650 strip-searches of students in London by police from 2018 to 2020. 95% were boys, and 58% of those were black boys. 53% of children who were strip-searched were released without further action.)

♦ "If my kids can pursue education for its mental pleasure, I believe, it will naturally increase their well-being... Maybe they won't even need to spend their *higher* education learning banal tips to well-being (take naps, look at flowers, etc.) in courses called Positive Psychology (among Harvard's most popular courses) or Psychology and the Good Life (the most popular course ever at Yale)..." ("How we loved to love pedagogical vapor" by Virginia Heffernan, *Wired*, January 2020. The "pedagogical vapor" she decries is STEM: science, technology, engineering, mathematics.)

♦ "We also need to shift how we think about mental health—away from crises and toward mental well-being. / Business leaders have a tremendous role to play here..." ("Opinion: CVS Health CEO: It's time for business leaders to get serious about mental health" by Karen S. Lynch, Sept 12, 2022.)

♦ "In these unprecedented times, comprehensive wellbeing (mental, emotional, physical, financial and professional) in the workplace is so important." (From "The Rise Of The Chief Wellbeing Officer" by Colleen Reilly, contributor. "I cover positive change for individuals and organizations.")

♦ "Motivational speakers often tell reps that the ultimate goal is 'abundance,' a roomy word that comprehends not just wealth but also family life, charity, and well-being. Knockers (door-to-door salesmen) remove impediments to abundance by continually taking up new disciplines. They pump weights, try intermittent fasting or paleo, adopt Wim Hof breathing techniques, and undertake 75 HARDs, seventy-five-day programs requiring twice-a-day workouts, abstinence from alcohol, and immersion in self-help books. If you're betting on yourself, then everything you do to make yourself faster and tougher and more

focussed improves your odds." ("The Hard Sell" by Tad Friend, *The New Yorker*, August 8, 2022.)

♦ "Ready to get healthier? Meet Ka'Chava... Putting you in control of your nutrition. To improve your wellbeing..." (A YouTube advertisement.)

♦ "What are the motives of the people who are presenting all of these fad diets, all of these wellness trends, like what's the story behind it." ("New podcast examines wellness trends and beliefs, like what weight means about health," NPR, All Things Considered, October 29, 2021. A prime motive is the profit motive. Duh.)

♦ "To be sure, many observers, beginning with de Tocqueville, have remarked that Americans are singularly concerned with their individual well-being. Since the 1830s, when de Tocqueville visited America, the United States has been swept by a series of popular movements concerned with improving health variously through diet, exercise, moral purity, positive thinking, and religious faith. Today, were a revived de Tocqueville to observe Americans jogging in parks, shopping in health food stores, talking psychobabble, and reading endless guides to keeping fit, eating right, and staying healthy, he would probably conclude that, if anything, the obsession is now more pronounced." (*The Social Transformation of American Medicine* by Paul Starr, winner of the 1984 Pulitzer Prize for general non-fiction.)

♦ see also *mental health* (noun), *mental wellness* (noun), *self-care* (and *self care*), *welfare* (mental, etc.), *wellness* (noun)

**mental health: euphemism / health & medicine**

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## wellness (status)

health and wellness

those pumps were so critical to the ~ of the experiment

**condition & status: health & medicine**

## wellness (groups)

wellness

~ is just one more task that women have to excel at

~ is a way to make us feel bad

~ has no ultimate goal, just the idea of feeling better

wellness of mind

there is a path to ~

wellness blogger

the perfectly-curated Instagram profile of the ~

wellness call

an officer on a routine ~ approached a house...

wellness center

he filmed himself at a ~ doing drugs

Wellness Center

additional resources include the Student ~ (Dartmouth)

wellness center

Safeway's ~s (*Bad Blood* by John Carreyrou)

wellness check

the officers came for a ~ (for Gabbie Hanna)

the dispatcher called for a high-priority ~ at the house

wellness company

she launched the ~ Stripes (Naomi Watts)

'Wellness-Industrial Complex'

breaking down the ~ (the podcast *Maintenance Phase*)

Wellness Day

the university is having a ~ (suicides)

wellness days

colleges are offering '~' to students (suicides)

wellness devices

savvy marketers position their products as "~" (sex toys)

wellness experts

she heard about mouth taping at night from multiple ~

wellness facility

Wendy Williams enters ~ to manage 'overall health issues'

wellness gifters

there are a lot of ~ out there ("Lose body fat," etc.)

"wellness" influencers

online ~ who peddle positivity for likes, clicks, and profit

wellness journey

first, let's check in about where you are on your own ~

wellness narrative

as the ~ toggles between self-improvement and self-acceptance... (*Vanity Fair*)

"wellness play"

Burd was asked about Safeway's mysterious ~ (Theranos)

wellness retreat

Becky leads workshops at a popular New England ~

wellness routine

mouth taping is a positive addition to her ~ (during sleep)

wellness scams

the junk science behind ~ (Maintenance Phase podcast)

wellness (care) system

we've got to shift to a ~ (depression / people of color)

wellness trend

popular dietary advice and ~s

podcast examines ~s and beliefs (what weight means, etc.)

mouth taping, the viral ~... (at night)

wellness visionary

self-professed "~" Lisa Odenweller (Kroma)

wellness and weight loss

~, debunked and decoded (*Maintenance Phase* podcast)

wellness startups and apps

the numerous ~

mental wellness

see *mental wellness* (noun)

sexual wellness

Maude, the ~ website

Welcome to the Pornhub ~ Center!

beauty and wellness

Marlene Lenthang is a freelance writer covering ~

health and wellness

people are really concerned with ~

Health and Wellness

Out ~ (“reduce sex partners to avoid monkeypox” / NBC)

## health and wellness

he won't run for re-election “to focus on ~” (politician)

## health, wellness, and lifestyle

she created the world's first ~ app (*The Whole Pantry*)

## queen bee of wellness

Belle Gibson was the ~ (*The Whole Pantry*)

♦ “What to know about mouth taping, the viral wellness trend that has people taping their mouths shut at night” by Katie Kindelan, ABC, Nov. 7, 2022.)

♦ “First, let's check in about where you are on your own wellness journey. When was the last time you had your vagina steam?” (“Well, it was just the one time.”)

♦ “And here we get into questions of philosophy. My V-steam cost \$50, which is a lot to pay for sitting over hot vapor. Is your money well spent on this stuff? It depends on what you're looking for. It also depends on how much money you have and how you define wellness. Is a massage only supposed to feel good, or is it supposed to lead to a tangible state of bliss? Is it a pleasure of the now or an investment in tomorrow?” (“We Have Found a Cure! (Sort of...)” by Taffy Brodesser-Akner, *Outside Magazine*, 11/12/2022.)

♦ “Employers, which have long been nickel and diming workers to lower their costs, now have a new tactic to combat these growing costs. They call it ‘wellness.’ It involves growing surveillance, including lots of data pouring in from the Internet of Things—the Fitbits, Apple Watches, and other sensors that relay updates on how are bodies are functioning.” (*Weapons of Math Destruction* by the remarkable Cathy O’Neil.)

♦ “An officer on a routine wellness call approached a house with his gun drawn...” (Also referred to as a welfare check, as in “The welfare check at the lake may be connected to another death...”)

♦ “The officers came for a wellness check and I asked them if any of them wanted a hug and they all said they wouldn't like one.” (Gabbie Hanna on TikTok, after some of her 7.5 million fans called the police, concerned about her mental state.)

♦ “Our goal is to evaluate each case individually and help students regain the level of wellness required to return actively to the Dartmouth community.” (Diana Lawrence, a Dartmouth spokeswoman, about a student who had been involuntarily withdrawn after a suicide attempt and sent home, where she successfully committed suicide.)

♦ “What are the motives of the people who are presenting all of these fad diets, all of these wellness trends, like what's the story behind it.” (“New podcast examines wellness trends and beliefs, like what weight means about health,” NPR, All Things Considered, October 29, 2021.)

♦ *Bad Blood* by John Carreyrou is instructive about “wellness.” Chapter 9 is entitled “The Wellness Play.” So much for “wellness centers.”

♦ “In Chicago, executives at Walgreens were astonished to learn of the scale of the test voidings. The pharmacy chain had been trying to get answers from Theranos about the impact on its customers for months. On June 12, 2016, it terminated the companies' partnership and shut down all the wellness centers located in its stores.” (*Bad Blood* by John Carreyrou.)

♦ “People are losing 67 pounds as they sleep by simply adding a pinch of this tropical ingredient to their glass of water before bed. Whistleblower scientist Doctor Yang confirmed for the first time ever that...” (The YouTube ad goes on and on and gets better and better!)

♦ “Weed use is taking off as more states move to legalize it. And with all the buzz over medical marijuana, it's starting to gain an aura of healthfulness. But there are some serious health risks associated with frequent use. One of the more troubling ones is the risk of having a psychotic episode.” (“Daily Marijuana Use And Highly Potent Weed Linked To Psychosis” by Rhitu Chatterjee, NPR, Public Health, March 19, 2019.)

♦ “Leveraging the cultural capital of barbershops to promote wellness.” (trapmedicine.org/barberswithout borders. “Are you a barber interested in partnering with us?”)

♦ “Grant Cardone's motto is to ‘10X yourself.’ But why cap it at ten? I like the idea of ‘InfinX.’ I'm a huge fan of mindfulness—and of coupling that with success... Call it religion, call it personal development, call it

whatever...but I feel compelled to compete with the Tony Robbinses to impact millions around the world, by teaching them to sell themselves on life! We're building out a goal-setting life-management system with accountability that's pretty dope. It'll tell you, ‘Did I expand my life or not?’ and then deliver content into your app.” (Sam Taggart, a door-to-door salesman and hopeful dreamer with goals. From “The Hard Sell” by Tad Friend, *The New Yorker* August 8, 2022.)

♦ “WonderMind will adopt a more approachable and comfortable tone, similar to that of entertainment and lifestyle content. The plan is to eventually expand into other forms of media, such as books, TV shows and movies.” (“Selena Gomez to launch new mental health platform, WonderMind” by Megan Stone, GMA, Culture, November 19, 2021. A link in the article leads to the following statement from Wondermind's official Instagram statement: “[Funding] will be used to accelerate the building of Wondermind's mental fitness ecosystem across our daily online content, CPG products, and original storytelling for all platforms.” A faux reporter on a street tells us, “Selena Gomez, out with a new single, she has a new show, and a new make-up line, is hoping to help others who are struggling...”)

♦ “Primark Wellness hits stores with 80 curated “eco-conscious” products.” (Primark is a department store chain with many stores in the United Kingdom, with more stores being established on the continent. There is a Primark Store in Chicago. Among other things, Primark specializes in “fast fashion,” trendy clothes at astonishingly low prices.)

♦ “Want lifestyle and wellness news delivered to your inbox? Sign up here for Yahoo Life's newsletter.”

♦ “Wellness, parenting, body image and more: Get to know the *who* behind the *hoo* with Yahoo Life's newsletter.”

♦ “And when Dr. McClain dropped the final bombshell—video footage of the results he experienced after using the method on himself—it became clear that the discovery is nothing short of *incredible* [italics mine], of course your individual results will vary.” (“How To: Repair Your Body,” a full page advertisement in the *Smithsonian*, December 2017. One cannot NOT immediately think of the Scarecrow from the Wizard of Oz, on receiving a diploma: “The sum of the square roots of any two sides of an isosceles triangle is equal to the square root of the remaining side.” Which is, of course, BS.)

♦ The Audubon Society and its magazine has jumped on the “health and wellness” bandwagon; what trendier way to maintain its relevance, particularly with young people? Especially when you're promoting birds, and not, say, a rave. In an article titled “The Nature Antidote” by Jill U. Adams (Winter, 2019), the following medical words appear: antidote; anxiety; depression; diabetes; doctor's advice; dose (doses of green space); heal; health; mental health; mindfulness; prescription (how people “fill prescriptions” i.e. visit green spaces); (medical) professionals; PTSD; public health; Rx (the nonprofit Park Rx America); stress; therapeutic; well-being; wellness... There is also practical advice on the way you must deal with minorities.

♦ “The wellness effort is part of a large rebrand, designed to court Gen Z hires [into the CIA].” (The Talk of the Town, Wellness Dept., “Safeguarding,” *The New Yorker*, March 6, 2023.)

♦ What exactly is wellness? “Wellness” includes lifestyle; self-help; self-improvement; self-care; fad diets; detoxes (“re-sets”); alternative medicines; mental health (everything from happiness to suicide); physical health; spiritual wellness; wellness at work; corporate monitoring and surveillance to cut costs; personal safety (police wellness checks); drug addiction / substance abuse; unregulated supplements and vitamins; anti-aging creams; exercise programs; yoga; wellness books and magazines; pop celebrities like Selena Gomez; sports celebrities like Serena Williams; celebrity actors like Gwyneth Paltrow; wellness coaches; wellness consultants; wellness gurus; wellness product lines at stores; wellness platforms; wellness apps for your phone... / Everyone knows someone for whom the pursuit of wellness is in fact a mania. See the Wikipedia entry “Belle Gibson.”

♦ “To be sure, many observers, beginning with de Tocqueville, have remarked that Americans are singularly concerned with their individual well-being. Since the 1830s, when de Tocqueville visited America, the United States has been swept by a series of popular movements concerned with improving health variously through diet, exercise, moral purity, positive thinking, and religious faith. Today, were a revived de Tocqueville to observe Americans jogging in parks, shopping in health food stores, talking psychobabble, and reading endless guides to keeping fit, eating right, and staying healthy, he would probably conclude that, if anything, the obsession is now more pronounced.” (*The Social Transformation of American Medicine* by Paul Starr, winner of the 1984 Pulitzer Prize for general non-fiction.)

♦ see also *mental health (noun); mental wellbeing (and mental well-being), mental wellness (noun), self-care (and self care), welfare (mental, etc.), wellbeing (noun)*

**mental health: euphemism / health & medicine**

**inclusion & exclusion: health & medicine**

## wellspring (source)

wellspring of pride

a ~ in the gym (Sequoyah High's women's basketball)

wellsprings of our society

sacrifice and self-reliance are the ~

♦ "You use your own humanity, that's your source, that's your wellspring." (BJ Miller, a doctor who is also a triple amputee.)

♦ "Love's wellspring is forgiveness." (Dante.)

**source: water**

## west (go west / obsolete)

'goes west'

a one-pounder ~ (destroyed by tank in WW I)

gone west

in ten days McCray had ~ to join McClintic (both died)

gone West in the cause of science

guinea-pigs ~ (died / killed)

♦ This expression is out of favor. See *direction (symbol)* for quotations about the cardinal directions as metaphors.

**failure, accident & impairment: direction / verb**

**death & life: euphemism**

## West Point (epithet)

Thailand's West Point

Chulachomklao Military Academy is considered to be ~

Australian West Point

he studied counterinsurgency at Duntroon, the ~

**military: epithet**

**epithet: school & education**

## wet (the wet, the dry, etc.)

Big Dry

the ~, also known as the Millennium Drought (Oz)

the ~ was a nine-year drought (Australia)

in the wet

he took a brilliant maiden pole position ~ (F1 / rain)

wind and wet

as we drove through ~ (sailing ship at Cape Horn)

**epithet: part of speech**

## whack-a-mole (and whack a mole)

whack-a-mole

the whole affair is just ~ (online content moderation)

whack-a-mole with the virus

we are in for a long, protracted game of ~

whack-a-mole over and over again

it's ~ (defending abortion rights against opponents)

whack-a-mole situation

you are almost facing a ~ where... (misinformation)

game of whack-a-mole

it's a macabre ~ (resurgences of COVID)

go to whack-a-mole

they could dismantle a group, instead they ~ (underlings)

♦ Many Americans associate this idea with the film *Caddyshack* and the character played by the great actor Bill Murray.)

**difficulty, easiness & effort: sports & games**

## whale (epithet)

whales of (psychiatric) science

the assembled great ~ (1909 medical congress / Budapest)

whale hunting

you don't have to go ~ (Pat Riley / NBA free agency)

land a "whale"

Heat president Pat Riley stated his desire to ~ (free agent)

♦ This epithet is less used nowadays; the modern term might be "old dead white men."

♦ In the *New York Magazine*, a writer recently referred to two competing Hollywood and Broadway producers as "silverbacks." A silverback is a mature male mountain gorilla.

**epithet: animal**

**size: epithet / fish / animal**

**importance & significance: animal / fish / size**

## whale (White Whale)

Michelle's white whale

~ was the Golden State Killer (*I'll Be Gone In The Dark*)

second white whale

last season he got a yacht, Italy is the ~ (a showrunner)

focus on that White Whale

if he continues to ~, it's going to bring him down (politics)

♦ "[Liz] Cheney, by contrast, had stopped going to House Republican conferences entirely, spent almost no time campaigning for re-election in Wyoming, lived in the Washington area and maintained a Captain Ahab-like focus on Donald Trump as a singular threat to American democracy." ("Inside the Jan. 6 Committee" by Robert Draper and Luke Broadwater, *The New York Times Magazine*, January 1, 2023.)

♦ "Even the central metaphor...doesn't work... If the protagonist, Charlie, is the whale, then who is his Ahab? Society? Or is Charlie Ahab and his Moby Dick is [sic] pizza? More importantly, who reads Moby-Dick in eighth grade!? / To the film-makers: You are not on the gallows with us; you are the hangman..." ("The Whale is not a masterpiece—it's a joyless, harmful fantasy of fat squalor" by Lindy West, *The Guardian*, 10 March 2023. Her mention of "gallows humor" seems to be the only connection to her metaphor of gallows and hangmen.)

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: allusion / animal**

**allusion: books & reading**

## whataboutism, etc.

whataboutism

"~," a strategy of false moral equivalences

**context: part of speech**

## wheat (separate the wheat from the chaff)

separate the wheat from the chaff  
we need to ~ (real cases vs. imagined of a syndrome)

separating the wheat from the chaff  
G-2 had great difficulty ~ (military intelligence)

worth & lack of worth: farming & agriculture / wheat

## wheel (break someone on the wheel, etc.)

wheel of Gladstone's sanctimony  
thus he was at last broken on the iron ~ (politics)

destruction: justice / Middle Ages / violence

## wheel (grease the wheels)

grease the wheels  
the government is trying to ~ of growth (economy)  
flattery and civility ~ of all human dealings

amelioration & renewal: mechanism / verb

social interaction: mechanism / verb

## wheel (control)

at the wheel  
the deputy attorney general will be ~ for the final weeks...

put his hand on the wheel at the Justice Department  
Trump tried to ~ and control the investigation

grab hold of the industry's steering wheel  
Washington can no longer just ~ (auto making)

take the wheel  
the state legislature should ~ and tweak the law (parole)

control & lack of control: mechanism

## wheel (asleep at the wheel)

asleep at the wheel  
several Republican incumbents have been ~ (election)  
many states have been ~ (girls marrying too young in US)  
the World Health Organization was ~ (response to epidemic)

consciousness & awareness: mechanism

control & lack of control: mechanism

## wheel (training wheels)

on training wheels  
direct mail was microtargeting ~ (vs. today)

remove the training wheels  
we're going to ~

♦ The Vice President of the US, Joe Biden, explained the 2012 withdrawal of US troops in Afghanistan as removing the training wheels from a bicycle.

dependency / growth & development / help & assistance: mechanism

## wheel (wheels are falling off, etc.)

Wheels Are Falling Off

City fans responded to chants of "Ole's At The Wheel" with "The ~"

wheels are starting to come off the bus  
I do think the ~ (US Congress / democracy)

wheels are coming off the train  
the ~ in the mortgage business

wheels are (well and truly) off at Manchester United  
well, the ~ (disgruntled fan)

♦ "Nurses are the linchpins of hospitals, and when we lose them the wheels of medicine fall off."

failure, accident & impairment: mechanism

condition & status: mechanism

## wheel (spin one's wheels)

spinning our wheels  
we're in a rut and are ~ (financial reform)

spinning our wheels in Iraq and Afghanistan  
we're just ~

spinning our wheels on too many important issues  
we've been ~ (government politics)

just spinning our wheels  
we're ~, hoping to get out of the ditch

condition & status / progress & lack of progress / starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism / movement

## wheel (hamster wheel)

hamster wheel of social media  
we spend our time on this ~ and our newsfeeds

hamster wheel of technology and productivity  
knitting draws people way from the ~ (the hobby)

hamster wheel  
the ~ that has happened in our brain (anxiety)

♦ "[Running for anxiety] takes the focus off the hamster wheel that has happened in our brain that puts us in an anxious state." (A licensed clinical social worker who suffers from anxiety and who is also a runner.)

♦ The Rat Race is for Rats! (A bumper sticker.)

♦ Even if you win the rat race, you're still a rat. (A bumper sticker.)

progress & lack of progress: direction / mechanism / movement

## wheel (wheel of fate or fortune, etc.)

wheels of fate  
the ~ had started to turn, and for me there was no way out

wheels of fate were starting to turn  
but the ~, for me there was no way out ("Fancy" / Reba)

♦ "No mortal power may stay her spinning wheel. / The nations rise and fall by her decree. / She passes, and things pass... / ...Season by season / her changes change her changes endlessly." (Dante's *Purgatory*, translated by John Ciardi. In medieval times she was known as Dame

Fortune, to the Romans she was Fortuna, to the Greeks she was Tyche. Today she might be referred to as Lady Luck.)

♦ "A lady doesn't leave her escort: / It isn't fair, it isn't nice. / A lady doesn't wander all over the room / And blow on some other guy's dice." (Frank Sinatra sings "Luck Be A Lady.")

**fate, fortune & chance: mechanism**

## wheel (spin of the wheel, etc.)

turn of the wheel, the spin of the wheel  
federal judges are assigned the case by the ~

**fate, fortune & chance: gambling / sports & games**

## wheel (wheels of justice, etc.)

wheels of capital  
they want us to keep oiling the big ~ (in the U.S.)

wheels of commerce  
the ~ are turning (in the U.S. / unfairness)

wheels of the European economy  
they keep the ~ turning (truckers held up at border)

wheels of government  
the ~ turn slowly

wheels of justice  
the ~ must now turn (Hillsborough disaster / soccer)  
the ~ in Atlanta move slowly

PR wheels

OMG, the ~ are spinning on how to save Anne's career

**operation: government / justice / mechanism**

## wheel (wheels turn slowly, etc.)

wheels (of justice) operate slowly  
the ~ (grand-jury investigation)

wheels (of government) turn slowly  
the ~

wheels (many feel) turn (too) slowly  
a justice system whose ~

**operation / speed: mechanism**

## wheel (set the wheels in motion)

set (all) the wheels in motion  
he ~ (for a trip)

**initiation: mechanism**

## wheelhouse (noun)

in my wheelhouse  
it's not exactly ~

in his wheelhouse  
the issue is scientific and technical, not really ~ (politician)

in the executive branch's wheelhouse  
things that are clearly ~ (rules, regulations)

outside the city's wheelhouse  
he believes the huge undertaking falls ~

really outside my wheelhouse  
what you want me to do is ~ (a lawyer)

so far outside his wheelhouse  
why he devoted years to a subject ~ (an academic)

**ability & lack of ability / experience / responsibility: boat**

## Wheel of Fortune (snark)

I'll solve the puzzle, Pat  
~ (an online commenter)

♦ Pat Sajak hosted *Wheel of Fortune*, along with Vanna White. "I'll solve the puzzle, Pat" is a meme. This is the game based on "hangman."

♦ see also *Jeopardy!* (snark)

**contempo-speak: sarcasm**

## wheezing (condition)

wheezing businesses  
a landscape dominated by abandoned street fronts and ~

**condition & status: breathing / health & medicine**

## where (conversations where, etc.)

where you realize  
it's like a real chilling reveal moment ~ that... (a film)

conversations where  
we're having these dishonest ~ children... (race)  
have these ~ people can you know choose mental health...

future where  
a dystopian ~ children are homeless castaways

moment where  
we're in this ~ there's so much fakery (media)

place where  
see *place (place where)*

point where  
the war plan got baroque, insane, to the ~... (nukes)

situation where  
you could find yourself in a ~ you keep boosting (Covid)  
there is no ~ you go to the media (chain of command)  
we can be a David in a ~ there's a Goliath (politics)

world where  
we live in a digital ~ many get their news from the internet

♦ "There was a moment where I was like, you know, I'm this privileged person..."

♦ Traditionally, "where" would be "in which" or "at which," or "when." It seems that, for the younger generation, situation, time, and development have become places, expressed as "spaces."

**location: place**

## where (time where)

time where  
at a point in ~ contracts extension talks would start...  
in this pandemic ~ everything's so fragile  
this is our ~ we need to stand up (politics)  
that was really the first ~ I was using my camera to...

this app came into my life right at a ~ I... (Clubhouse)  
a ~ a skinny black girl can dream of...  
it helped me get closer to my mom during a ~ she...  
reimagining my life at a ~ I thought it was over  
but there was a ~ bold political ideas flourished  
they lived in a ~ gay people were made to feel like...  
this is all coming at a ~ China is a touch subject (NPR)

♦ "Ishiguro's latest novel, *Klara and the Sun*, is set in a future time, where children no longer go to school..."

♦ "There are periods in time where we really need rest and we really need to heal. And I think we're in a time where that's certainly the case." (A doctor and the director of psychiatry at a concierge-style health care start-up with offices in New York, Chicago, and Washington, D.C.)

♦ "We're moving toward a time when COVID won't disrupt our daily lives, where COVID won't be a constant crisis." (White House Covid Advisor Jeff Zients.)

♦ The "time when" and "place where" distinction, like so much grammar nowadays, seems no longer to apply.

**time: place**

## where (situation / development)

where are we  
bring us up to date, ~ now, exactly (Ailsa Chang, NPR)

where we ended up  
I'm super happy with ~ (=the results)

where she is  
on ~ with her body now

where we are  
catch us up on ~ (about the Britney Spears story)  
this is ~ now (Martin Luther King)

where we are today  
we will need to have a conversation as to ~ (power failure)

where they are  
we have to meet people ~ (addiction treatment)

where he is at  
he has shown courage by acknowledging ~ (troubled)

where they are at  
sometimes you have to meet people ~ (psychologically)

where we need to be  
that's not how we're gonna get to ~ (a better place)  
we're still so far from ~ (testing for COVID)

where we want to be  
the vaccines are going to get us ~ (COVID pandemic)

where I plan on being  
to be on ~, world champion, I should win this fight

where we wanted to be  
we are basically two months behind ~ (vaccine production)

where the Lions and Matt Safford were last year  
by next January, they could be in a place similar to ~

where it all began  
let's go back to ~ (a podcast)

where things go

~ from here is quite honestly up in the air

where we are headed  
there is so much fear about ~ (Covid Delta strain)

where we are and where we're going  
the general will address ~ (Afghan evacuation / bombing)

where we want to be, need to be, can be  
we are not ~ (Thomas Tuchel, sacked by Chelsea)

right back where  
they will be ~ they are now (next season / sports)

♦ "When this is over, we'll need to have a conversation, a serious conversation, as to why we are where we are today." (Houston mayor Sylvester Turner about why the Texas power grid experienced difficulties during cold weather in February 2021.)

♦ "Thanks for having me, well, uh, so it started yesterday morning where [italics mine] the national police service [?] received a phone call regarding..." (Mickey Djuric, a female, Saskatchewan correspondent for the Canadian Press.)

♦ "Where we are today" equals "the situation now."

♦ see also *place (situation)* and *place (place where)*

**development: movement / place**

**past & present / future / time: movement / place**  
**condition & status / situation: place**

## whet (whet the appetite)

whet audiences' appetites for films  
movie trailers ~

whet people's appetite for spending  
museums try to ~

whet the appetites of fans  
the ad campaign is designed to ~ (TV)

whet the appetites of investors  
the company's performance will not ~

whet appetites for a rematch  
their fight ~ (boxing)

**increase & decrease: blade / knife**

## whiff (noun)

whiff of anxiety  
there's a ~ in the Asian air (various issues)

whiff of bias  
journalists must be free of any ~

whiff of corruption  
the organization is tainted by the ~

whiff of incompetence  
the government's handling of the crisis has the ~

whiff of insolvency  
the ~ had reached the sensitive noses of his creditors

whiff of insurrection  
the ~ is in the air (street protests)

whiff of opportunism  
behind his good intentions is a ~

whiff of scandal  
only one ~ has tainted the casino (Cherokee)

whiff of (Western) supremacy  
some critics detect a ~ in his book

"There's something dead up the branch." (A Southern Appalachians expression. A branch is a watercourse like a creek or a stream.)

evidence: smell

## whine (verb)

whine, scream and cry  
the Democrats ~ crocodile tears for the child victims (guns)

character & personality: animal / sound / speech / verb

## whiner (person)

hand wringers, worriers and whiners  
~ (foreign policy)

character & personality: animal / person / sound

person: animal / sound

## whining (noun)

whining  
her ~ is rubbing fans the wrong way (auto racer)

stop whining  
she just won't ~, she blames everyone other than herself

♦ Stop whining! Do something!

sound: animal

speech: animal / dog / sound

## whiny (adjective)

whiny spineless  
to hell with this ~ generation

sound: animal

speech: animal / dog / sound

## whip (violence)

whipped them into shape  
it took a while, but I ~ (a coach)

coercion & motivation / directing / oppression: verb / violence / whip

## whip (crack the whip)

crack the whip  
he taught his deputy how to ~ (politician)

cracking the whip on them  
he is ~ (President against BP for oil spill)

coercion & motivation: verb / violence / whip

oppression: verb / violence / whip

## whip (resemblance)

whipped the snow into a frenzy  
the winds ~ (ground blizzard)

resemblance: whip

## whip (movement)

whipped around  
she ~ and said...

movement: verb / whip

## whip hand (noun)

whip hand in the bidding process  
Tahiti had the ~ (a surfing competition)

has the whip hand  
Iran ~ (in the Gulf)

♦ "Major Sleeman reveals the fact that the trade union and the boycott are antiquities in India. India seems to have originated everything. The 'sweeper' belongs to the bottom caste; he is the lowest of the low—all other castes despise him and scorn his office. But that does not trouble him. His caste is a caste, and that is sufficient for him, and so he is proud of it, not ashamed... A footnote by Major Sleeman's editor, Mr. Vincent Arthur Smith, says... 'The sweepers cannot be readily coerced, because no Hindoo or Mussulman would do their work to save his life, nor will he pollute himself by beating the refractory scavenger.' They certainly do seem to have the whip-hand... Just like a milk-route; or like a London crossing-sweepership." (*Following the Equator: A Journey Around the World* by Mark Twain.)

coercion & motivation: hand / violence / whip

oppression: hand / verb / violence / whip

## whiplash (noun)

legal whiplash  
the ~ voters are experiencing this year (rules go to court)

feeling whiplash  
many Americans are ~ from the changes (COVID rules)

feeling, emotion & effect: crashes & collisions / sensation / whip

## whipping boy (person)

whipping boy  
China is used as a ~ in the campaign (politics)

♦ The whipping boy was punished in the prince's stead at school.

punishment & recrimination: person / royalty / whip

person: royalty / whip

## whirl (noun)

whirl of activities  
he was in a ~ (very busy and engaged)

activity: movement

## whirlpool (in a whirlpool)

in a whirlpool of thought and bewilderment  
they were lost ~ (Bedouins)

stuck in a whirlpool  
we are ~ of violence and extremism

amount & effect: sea / water

## whirlpool (other)

whirlpool of (religious) violence and extremism  
his murder laid bare the ~

entering the whirlpool  
the film was made as the Greek economy was ~

**amount & effect: sea / water**

## whirlwind (noun)

whirlwind

for the two women, the next few days would be a ~  
we've had wild travel schedules lately, it's been a ~  
he was a ~ (a skateboarder who committed suicide)

whirlwind of attention

he has been at the center of a ~ (Nobel Prize)

whirlwind of controversy

a ~ surrounds him

whirlwind of impeachment enquiry

Kurt Volker caught up in ~

whirlwind of (pent-up) civic forces

the dictator's ouster unleashed a ~

whirlwind of success

boxing, so far, has been a ~ for Karriss Artingstall

whirlwind for the (production) company

the past 36 hours have been a ~ (chaotic moves)

whirlwind existence

she lived at a totally different pace from her husband's ~

whirlwind romance

they got married after a ~

whirlwind relationship

they had a ~ and got married

whirlwind tour

a ~ ensued (of a factory)

whirlwind (first foreign) trip

Biden is back in Washington after his ~

whirlwind visit

he made a ~ to Afghanistan (Obama)

whirlwind 12 months

it has been a ~ since he returned to the sport (a boxer)

multitasking whirlwind

she was a ~ (sports, school, etc.)

romantic whirlwind

throughout the ~, Carly continued to write new songs

viral whirlwind

the ~ he created in 2014 (Bobby Shmurda "Hot Boy")

released the whirlwind

you have ~ and you will pay the price (politics)

unleashed a whirlwind

the dictator's ouster ~ of pent-up civic forces (Suharto)

reap the whirlwind

he who sows the wind shall ~ (Bible)

♦ In the US, people speak of dust devils. Dust whirlwinds are called *zawabi* in Arabic. In Australia, a whirlwind is called a willy willy.

♦ "Just on the stroke of seven o'clock we heard a shrill whistling in the north-east, and, two or three minutes later, down came a black buran. Shagdur set out to return to his own sleeping-place. Half an hour later...he [re-] appeared at the opening of the yurt. He had lost his way, although his sleeping-place was only 15 paces from mine...It was pitch dark [and] impossible for any man to stand. Shagdur had been on his hands and knees the whole time. Only those who have been out in such a storm can form any conception of what it is like. You get bewildered, and want to keep going, without knowing where...and it affects the brain. Next morning, the effects of this grim desert tempest were very easy to see; the sand was heaped up all round my yurt, and there were little mounds on the sheltered side of the camels." (A windstorm on the salt desert of Lop Nur in Xinjiang. From *Central Asia and Tibet* by Sven Hedin.)

**amount & effect: air / atmosphere / storm / wind**

**activity: air / atmosphere / storm / wind**

## whirlwind (ride the whirlwind, etc.)

riding the whirlwind

he's ~

**control & lack of control: atmosphere / storm / wind**

## whisker (come within a whisker, etc.)

got within a whisker of the South Pole

he ~ in 1909 (Shackleton)

passed by a whisker

the referendum ~ (Switzerland)

**proximity: breadth / hair**

## whisper (sound)

whisper of a (distant) waterfall

the ~

**sound: speech**

**resemblance: sound**

## whisperer (horse whisperer, etc.)

Adele-whisperer

jazz pianist and repeat ~ Greg Kurstin (producer)

"baby whisperer"

called the ~, Brazelton... (a noted pediatrician)

"brand whisperer"

*Forbes* declared him a ~ (singer Travis Scott)

customer whisperer

a ~ with tips on how to defuse a patron... (on airlines, etc.)

*Elephant Whisperers*

*The ~* has earned an Oscar nomination (documentary)

elk whisperer

the ~ speaks English, Spanish and elk (Mark Casillas)

horse whisperer

the ~ feels the horse's childlike skittishness and fear

the ~ sees and hears himself through its eyes and ears

quarterback whisperer

he is known to be a ~ (coach Jim Harbaugh)

race whisperer  
the latest pop-cultural ~ (Charlamagne tha God)

'swim whisperer'  
the ~ teaches kids to be water-safe (Conrad Cooper)

Vagina Whisperer  
meet the '~,' a pelvic floor therapist  
Susan Reardon, known as "the ~"  
Susan Reardon runs the ~ website and Instagram account

"vegetable whisperer"  
some people call Jeremy Fox the ~ (Californian chef)

"whale whisperer"  
he refers to himself as a ~ (sued for defrauding investors)

wind-whisperer  
developers consult a ~ like Derek Kelly (skyscraper design)

whistleblower whisperer  
the ~ (the whistleblower lawyer Jordan Thomas)

♦ "In a chapter about 'vaccine whisperers' in Quebec..." ("Beyond The Vaccine" by Jerome Groopman, *The New Yorker*, April 5, 2021.)  
♦ OG stands for "Original Gangster" and is AAVE. The "yield curve" relates to predictive economics. And the "whisperer" is Campbell Harvey, a finance professor at Duke University! ("The OG Yield Curve Whisperer," Stacey Vanek Smith And Cardiff Garcia, NPR, Planet Money, August 9, 2018. If there is a Hall of Fame for these sorts of headlines, this must surely be in it.)

♦ "Meet 'the Vagina Whisperer,' a pelvic floor therapist who wants people to get comfortable with their vulvas" by Kailin Reilly, yahoo life, January 12, 2023. The caption of a photo reads, "Sara Reardon, known as 'the Vagina Whisperer,' poses in a vulva costume."

♦ *The Elephant Whisperers* has been nominated for an Oscar for short documentary. It was created by Kartiki Gonsalves, and it highlights the Kattunayakan people of Tamil Nadu.

**ability / knowledge & intelligence: sound**  
**language: affix**

## **whistle (blow the whistle)**

blow the whistle on corruption  
~, bribery, or abuse

blow the whistle on them  
maybe they were afraid he might ~

**warning: sound / verb**

## **whistle (dog whistle)**

dog whistle  
it's not even a ~, it's so blatant (anti-Latin sentiment)

dog whistles  
these are ~, Islamophobic tactics (politics)

dog whistle from a losing politician  
this is a desperate ~ (politics)

dog-whistle comment  
some people are calling that a ~ against Muslims

dog whistle crap  
he called concerns about Afghan refugees "~"

dog whistles and race

he used ~ in his campaign (a president)

racist dog whistles  
he is launching his election campaign with ~

racist, dog-whistle  
critics say this is a textbook case of ~ politics

♦ "The nature of a dog whistle is that I can't definitively prove what was in somebody's mind or heart when they said it, but the echoes are very strong." (Andrew Marantz, author of *Antisocial: Online Extremists, Techno-Utopians, and the Hijacking of the American Conversation*.)

♦ In the US, a white politician claimed a black politician would "monkey things up." The black politician replied, "He's not using a (racist dog) whistle, he's using a bullhorn."

♦ "It occurred to me that, because the world media establishment had ignored the Balkans for so long..., these people never had to learn, as the Israelis and Arabs did, how to talk in code, so as not to offend Western sensibilities with their racial hatred. In the Balkans, people spoke more honestly than in the Middle East, and therefore more brutally." (*Balkan Ghosts: A Journey Through History* by the superb writer and correspondent Robert D. Kaplan.)

**message / speech: sound**

## **whistleblower (noun)**

whistle-blower  
he's a ~  
a ~ has filed a complaint

whistleblower complaint  
the charges, contained in a ~ (against FAA)

drawn criticism from whistle-blowers  
the company has ~

♦ "I'm coining a new term: #whistleposturing. 1. The masking self-interested behavior as an act of whistleblowing. 2. The encouragement of others to view self-interested behavior as an act of whistleblowing." (A tweet from *The New Yorker* staff writer Raffi Khatchadourian, seemingly in defense of the magazine.)

♦ Many older Americans, when they think of a whistleblower and whistleblowing, think of the 1983 film *Silkwood*.

♦ Not all whistleblowers' motives are pure, or their complaints legitimate.

**message / warning: person / sound**

## **white (White Sea, etc.)**

White Nile  
the Blue Nile and the ~ come together in Khartoum

White Revolution  
to placate Kennedy, the shah launched the so-called ~

White Sea  
the Solovetsky Islands are in the ~

White Volta  
the ~ is a tributary of the Volta River

♦ The White Volta's main tributaries are the Black Volta and the Red Volta.

**proper name: color**

**geography: color / proper noun**

## **white elephant**

white elephant  
in English a ~ is simply a useless extravagance  
Glasgow's £10m ~ (Glasgow Science Centre tower)

sports cathedral or white elephant  
is the Tokyo Olympic stadium a ~

vanity project, a white elephant  
the rail link between London and Birmingham is a ~

**worth & lack of worth: animal / color**

### white flag (surrender)

ran up the white flag  
the BBC ~ and forced him off air (Gary Lineker)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: color / flags & banners / military / sign, signal, symbol**

### white hat (good)

white hat-black hat  
they have this ~ mentality (social groups)

**character & personality: hat / sign, signal, symbol**

### white knight

white knight  
they needed a ~ to save the hospital

**help & assistance: Middle Ages / person**

### whitewash (noun)

whitewash  
it's a ~, they're brushing it under the carpet (PS752)

whitewash of justice  
the mayor, police Superintendent railed against it as a ~

branded a whitewash  
a public inquiry was ~ by victims' families

**appearance & reality / concealment & lack of concealment / subterfuge: infrastructure / materials & substances**

### whitewash (verb)

whitewashed its review  
UKA ~ and turned a blind eye to the concerns (doping)

textbooks whitewash  
a number of ~ Japan's wartime conduct (in Japan)

**appearance & reality / concealment & lack of concealment / subterfuge: infrastructure / materials & substances / verb**

### whitewash (groups)

whitewashes its cast  
21 ~ (the film 21, with Kevin Spacey)

whitewashes the role  
the film completely ~ south Asians played in WWI

♦ Merriam-Webster only added this sense in September 2019. The 2019 film *The Aeronauts* with Felicity Jones and Eddie Redmayne is a good example of a film that isn't whitewashed. Himesh Patel plays John Trew, and many crowd scenes are enlivened with black and oriental faces.

♦ "Think about what that means. They didn't even cast a Black gay actor, or a Black gay character. It's played by a straight (laughing) Italian

American man. So just like process that... that erasure." ("Bonus: Remembering the iconic, complicated Andre Leon Talley," NPR, Code Switch, Jan. 23, 2022. The commentators are discussing the idea that Stanley Tucci's character in the 2006 film *The Devil Wears Prada* represents Andre Leon Talley.)

**inclusion & exclusion: presence & absence / verb**

### whittled

whittled away  
his control has been ~ (a ruler facing protests)

**decline: blade / knife**

**dismissal, removal & resignation: blade / knife**

### whittling (whittling down)

task of whittling down  
he will leave the ~ the embassy to his successor (in Iraq)

**decline: blade / knife**

**dismissal, removal & resignation: blade / knife**

### whoa (exclamation)

like whoa  
people are ~ (surprise, delight, acknowledgment)

♦ "People are like whoa, real badass over here!" (An approving reaction to a surprising idea. The speaker leans back, with both hands up in the air, palms facing outward.)

**feeling, emotion & effect: exclamation / gesture / hand / horse**

### whore (attention whore, etc.)

attention whore  
just a guy who climbed, an ~, I guess... (a trans climber)

media who&e  
AOC is just a ~ (politics)

♦ "AOC is just a media who&e." (An online comment about a politician.)

♦ "I don't get it either.. just a guy who climbed.. attention whore I guess.." (A negative comment about a FTM trans rock climber.)

♦ "The attention starved, the uncivil, the unsteady or just drunk and disruptive..." (NFL fandom featured on TV broadcasts. Whore and client.)

♦ "There's nothing so pure as the reformed whore."

♦ see also *slut* (enthusiasm)

**attraction & repulsion / behavior / eagerness & reluctance / enthusiasm: sex**

### Who's Who

Who's Who of (left-leaning) economists  
they hosted a brunch for a ~, including...

who's-who of ('80s musical) legends  
the artist lineup was a ~ (1984 Olympics)

who's who of (big) names  
a ~ were present (the funeral of the great Aretha Franklin)

who's-who of (WNBA) stars  
the team's players are a ~ including... (Olympic gold)

who's who of (comedy) talent  
the magazine is known for producing a ~ (*The Lampoon*)

‘Who’s Who’ of virologists  
the ~ meet to talk bird flu in Geneva

who’s who of the rich and connected  
the fallout has taken down a ~ (universities)

who’s who of the music world  
the room is heavy with the ~ (MTV VMAs afterparty)

who’s who in health policy  
he has enlisted a veritable ~ to come up with standards

who’s who list  
his economic team is a ~ of Democratic veterans  
the ushers were a ~ of titans (funeral of Cokie Roberts)

♦ The title is now in the public domain.

♦ “Suella Braverman was knocked out despite being endorsed by MPs Desmond Swayne, Jason McCartney and MP Henry Smith, a regular “Who’s That?” of British politics.” (A BBC topical satire show. The line drew hearty laughs.)

**importance & significance: books & reading / person**

## wicked (as adverb)

wicked fast  
Scott Horsley, ~ reporter...

**superlative: part of speech**

## wild (behavior)

wild beast  
those ~s shot you in the back (said at funeral)

wild celebration  
the victory set off a ~ at the finish line (Olympics)

wild child  
he was always mature for his age, he wasn’t a ~

wild look  
she burst through the door, a ~ in her eyes

wild melee  
a ~ broke out (soccer riot in Kabul)

wild (tailgate) parties  
the ~ outside Arrowhead Stadium

wild rampage  
dozens of teenage boys set off on a ~ (Central Park)

wild revelry  
feasting accompanied by ~ (Mardi Gras)

wild side  
I love to show my ~ every now and then (sex)

wild streak  
he must have brought out some ~ in me

wild youth  
whether to remember his ~ or forget it

wild rite of passage  
Las Vegas becomes a ~ for new 21-year-olds (booze)

wild and crazy

he was ~, young and dumb

wild and crazy  
the NFL has its ~ side

wild and reckless  
I was at times ~ (gang member)

crazy and wild  
it was ~ (wedding in non-traditional location)

“Girls Gone Wild”  
the creator of the “~” video series (spring break)

dudes-gone-wild  
such ~ comedies as *Pineapple Express* and *The Hangover*

went wild  
the 100,000 fans at the Camp Nou stadium ~ (soccer)  
social media ~ (over Anna Sorokin)

drives scientists wild  
this is the kind of thing that ~ (political interference)

♦ “Tuesday’s done some wild, wild things and screwed up many, many guys. She’s high sexual.” (The blond actress Tuesday Weld.)

**behavior / feeling, emotion & effect / restraint & lack of restraint: animal**

## wild (control)

wild ending  
in a ~ to the regular season (basketball)

wild guess  
the ~ is that 100,000...

wild hunch  
she acted on a ~ (an inventor)

wild rumor  
another ~ going around was...

wild shot  
he flung up a ~ that missed horribly (basketball)

wild swings  
protect consumers from ~ in energy prices

wild (conspiracy) theories  
his death became the subject of ~

♦ “The novelist is ferociously untame.” (Lydia Millet.)

**control & lack of control: animal  
restraint & lack of restraint: animal**

## wild (run wild)

run wild  
I will not ~ when my teacher is away

“running wild” in care homes  
coronavirus is ~ for elderly people

running wild in Australia  
Omicron is ~, it’s raging through this country

let their imaginations run wild  
painters in the 18th Century ~ in the ruins (Piranesi, etc.)

**behavior / constraint & lack of constraint / restraint & lack of restraint: animal / verb**

## wildcard (computers)

wildcard

you can fine-tune a search by using ~s (computers)

wildcard character

type the ~ and other text in the Find What box

word combinations, wildcards, part-of-speech tags  
~ (searching)

**computers: cards**

## wild card (person)

wild card

Saddam Hussein is a ~

branded Walker a 'wild card'

he branded ~ and worried that... (politics)

**behavior: cards / person**

**character & personality: cards / person**

## wild card (other)

wild card

the weather is always a ~ (mountaineering)

**fate, fortune & chance: cards**

## wilderness (voice in the wilderness)

voice in the wilderness

I am a ~, but history will vindicate me (politics)

some voices in the wilderness

there are ~ calling for a digital Geneva Convention

voice in the wilderness of (intellectual) life

Chomsky is an important ~ in America

**society: ground, terrain & land**

**dismissal, removal & resignation: society**

**acceptance & rejection: society**

## wilderness (in / into the wilderness)

in (history's) wilderness

his spell ~ is at an end (Alfred Russel Wallace)

in the (international) wilderness

he spent 3 years ~ (player left off national team)

in the (musical) wilderness

she managed to record her album after a painful period ~

quarter of a century in the wilderness

the team hopes to reach the Super Bowl after a ~

30 years in the wilderness

maybe ~ is long enough (Liverpool fail to win EPL)

on their own in the wilderness

they felt as if they were ~ (public investigators)

wondering in the wilderness

formerly in charge of the city, now ~ (a leader)

spent 30 months in the wilderness

he was suspended from the sport and ~ (a boxer)

led him into the political wilderness

his campaign ~ (against self-government for India)

**acceptance & rejection / dismissal, removal & resignation: society**

**isolation & remoteness / society: ground, terrain & land**

## wilderness (society)

wilderness years

the play was written during his ~ (while struggling)

the "~" when he was not in power (1930s / Churchill)

**society: ground, terrain & land**

**acceptance & rejection / dismissal, removal & resignation: society**

## wilderness (area)

uncharted wilderness

new routes into the ~ of the 21-century economy

online wilderness

international students are often in an ~ (universities)

♦ "It is rough, steep, mountainous country where we were trekking, covered with dense virgin forest, the famous taigá of Siberia, in places almost impenetrable, especially where the ground is littered with fallen giants smashed down by storms." (*Dersu the Trapper* by V.K. Arseniev. The country Arseniev describes lies between the Amur and Ussuri Rivers and the Sea of Japan, north of Vladivostok, and includes the Sihoté-Alin mountain range.)

♦ "Midway in our life's journey, I went astray / from the straight road and woke to find myself / alone in a dark wood. How shall I say // what wood that was! I never saw so drear, / so rank, so arduous a wilderness! / Its very memory gives a shape to fear." (*The Inferno*, from the wonderful translation by John Ciardi.)

♦ "You can only go halfway into the darkest forest, then you are coming out the other side." (Chinese.)

**area: ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips**

## wild West

Wild West

this is the ~, there's a lot of things to figure out (venture)

it's like the ~, there are no rules (Instagram)

it really is a ~ in terms of facial recognition (no rules)

wild west

it's the ~ with automatic weapons (Afghanistan)

'wild wild west'

why Oklahoma is a cannabis ~ (hands-off approach)

"Wild West" of unregulated tests

the current ~ is creating confusion (antibody tests)

Wild West-ish

the Mani, the ~ tip of the southern Peloponnese

digital-era Wild West

Silk Road was the new frontier of crime, a ~ (drugs)

a bit of the Wild West

it was ~, you could write your own rules...

in a Wild West

we are left ~ of antibody testing (unregulated)

tamed the Wild West

Google has ~ of copyright infringement

**behavior / control & lack of control / environment: ground, terrain & land / history**

### wilt (verb)

wilted in his (first Grand Slam) final

he ~ (tennis / lost)

wilt in the face of threats

we will not ~

wilted in the second half

the team ~

wilted in the heat

the city's residents ~

wilted in theaters

the film ~

wilted under cross-examination

he ~ (convicted)

wilted under pressure

the offense ~ (sports)

wilted under his successor

the investigation ~

wilted sales

the sweltering heat ~ (retail)

efforts have wilted

legislative ~ (climate action)

stocks (also) wilted

European ~ (downturn)

**decline / resemblance: plant / verb**

### win (verb)

hunger won

but the next morning, ~ (Alexander Pearce story)

**success & failure: sports & games / verb**

### wind (get / catch wind of something)

caught wind of this

she first ~ in March (press investigation)

caught wind of Ulven's music

the Web site called NRK Urort ~

gotten wind of an attack

a few days earlier, US intelligence had ~

got wind of some improprieties

he ~ (fraud)

get wind of the war

the Israelis did not ~ (1973)

♦ "There's something dead up the branch." (A Southern Appalachians expression for something suspicious. A branch is a watercourse like a creek or a stream.)

**evidence: smell / verb / wind**

### wind (throw something to the wind)

threw caution to the wind

I just ~ and went for it

throwing civil liberties to the wind

we are ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation / restraint & lack of**

**restraint: atmosphere / verb / wind**

### wind (dangle in the wind)

left dangling in the wind

the prosecutor was ~ (not supported by others)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: atmosphere / verb / wind**

### wind (wind at one's back, etc.)

wind is at their back

unions feel like the ~

put wind in Biden's sail

these results will ~ (primary election victory)

**force / help & assistance / progress & lack of progress:**

**boat / plane / wind**

### wind (wind of change, etc.)

wind of change

but the ~ is blowing (rural areas)

there is a ~ blowing (state politics)

new wind

~s were whipping on the political stage (history)

political winds

anticipate the ~ blowing in Washington

the shifting ~ on campuses these days (Title IX)

winds were blowing

Oppenheimer was fully aware of which way the ~ (policy)

buffeted by the (political) winds

the Hmong were ~ that blew through Vietnam

winds have changed

the political ~ (more people support gun control)

♦ "Rain and winds, and whatsoever occurs by local impulse alone, can be caused by demons. It is a dogma of faith that the demons can produce winds, storms, and rain of fire from heaven." (St. Thomas Aquinas, in his Summa Theologica. The rain of fire is lightning.)

♦ Arabian horse are called "drinkers of the wind" because of their flaring nostrils.

**force / driving force: atmosphere / wind**

### wind (wind its way)

winding their way through the courts

their cases are ~ (migrants)

♦ "An assembly line of discovery, invention, deployment, and trust wound its way through centuries and landed at the tip of a needle." (The final dose of vaccine that resulted in the eradication of smallpox. From "The Eureka Theory of History Is Wrong: The Real Reason American Progress Has Stalled" by Derek Thompson, *The Atlantic*, January / February 2023. The final paragraph is wonderful, but the metaphor is better stated as a voyage. No assembly lines back then.)

**fictive motion: direction / verb**

**direction: movement / river / verb**

**movement: river / snake**

**progress & lack of progress: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb**

## wind back (verb)

wind back to the spring  
to understand, ~ of 2014

**past & present / time: clock / mechanism / verb**

## wind down (verb)

winding down  
the murder trial is ~  
the party was ~ anyway

wound down  
as 2010 ~...

**starting, going, continuing & ending / time: clock / mechanism / verb**

## wind down (relax)

wind down  
after a performance, it takes him a long time to ~  
he took a sleeping pill to ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism / verb**

**amelioration & renewal: mechanism / verb**

## windfall (noun)

windfall of \$1.7 billion  
higher commodity prices contributed to a ~ (BHP)

windfall for local governments  
it was a ~ (a COVID relief bill)

oil windfall  
elites use their ~ to ensconce themselves in power

financial windfall  
rising oil prices have brought them a ~

investigative windfall  
finding the server was an ~ (cybercrime)

political windfall  
she accused him of seeking a ~ from the aid package

♦ You can collect dead limbs that the wind has blown down and use them to start a fire. Or, you can collect fruit that the wind has blown down and eat it. A windfall can "falls into your lap" and is an unanticipated benefit.

**fate, fortune & chance: money / tree / wind**

**worth & lack of worth: money / tree / wind**

## windmill (tilt at windmills, etc.)

windmills of 'inequity'

tilting at the ~ (criticism of liberal academics)

tilting at windmills

he suggested that Trump is ~ (attributed to Xi Jinping)

♦ see also *Quixote* (*Don Quixote*)

♦ Eric Drooker's November 15, 2021 cover of *The New Yorker* is superb. In the foreground is Don Quixote on his horse, on a bit of barren ground. His lance is pointed downward and he is looking up at four Brobdingnagian wind turbines in the midground. In the background is the edge of a great city with skyscrapers and a suspension bridge. The colors are industrial orange and yellow.

**fantasy & reality: allusion**

**allusion: books & reading**

## window (window of opportunity)

window of opportunity

there was a little, little ~ (to win an Olympic medal)

small window of opportunity

there is a ~ for the motor system (peak performance)

window of opportunity to solve

the ~ the crimes is closing (passage of time)

window of opportunity is closing

the US's ~ fast (diplomacy)

window of opportunity could slam shut

the ~ (stopping AIDS in India)

missed our window of opportunity

we've ~

**target / timeliness & lack of timeliness: window**

## window (launch window, etc.)

window

the ~ for doing a deal is small and closing  
people don't realize how close or narrow that ~ is (climate change)

window of time

we only have a small ~ (to prosecute rape cases)

window of good weather

the climbers had been waiting for a ~

windows between the (guard's) rounds

the 15-minute ~ (prison suicide)

application window

a second ~ will be opened (computer)

launch window

we don't think we can make the ~ for March (NASA)  
the ~ for Wednesday's mission opens at 0900 (space)  
the ~ runs for 3 hours and 22 minutes (space)

summit window

weather forecasts show a potential ~ (Everest)  
more and more are climbing during the same good ~s

weather window

Nasa had a ~ of 65 minutes to launch  
 everyone tries to reach the summit in the same 12-hour ~  
 climbers wait for the right ~ for the summit climb

clear-weather window  
 the first feasible ~ was 19 and 20 May (Mount Everest)

legal window  
 the eight-year ~ when a suit could be filed

narrow window  
 the ship had a ~ of time to take out a ballistic missile

small window  
 the ~ between the end of the night and beginning of the day  
 (birdsong)

15-minute windows  
 the ~ between the guard's rounds (prison suicide)

eight-year (legal) window  
 the ~ when a suit could be filed

lookback window  
 the ~ lasts a year (suspension of state of limitations / abuse)

window is closing  
 that ~, we need to act now (global warming)

window would close  
 there was a risk the weather ~ (Mount Everest)

make the (launch) window  
 we don't think we can ~ for March (NASA)

**target / timeliness & lack of timeliness: window**

**window (window to the West, etc.)**

window to the capital  
 the Gare du Nord acts as a ~ (needs renovation)

window to the West  
 'Dallas' in Finnish was our ~ (a 37-year-old Estonian)

window to the world  
 the computer screen is his ~ (homeless man)

window on Europe  
 the city allowed Russia to open a ~ (St. Petersburg)

window on a nervous planet  
 the Diplomatic Security Daily is a ~

window on relations  
 the leaked cables are a ~ with the world (diplomacy)

"window on the West"  
 St. Petersburg was Russia's ~ (Peter the Great)

window into the dark corners  
 conspiracy theories are a ~ of our political soul

window into mammoth evolution  
 the DNA gave the scientists a unique ~

window into his mind  
 his letters to his wife were a ~ (a politician)  
 this statement is a ~ (politician's gaffe about rape)

windows into (other) worlds  
 they were ~ and landscapes (museum dioramas)

window onto the wonders  
 his narrow focus opens a larger ~ of natural science

world's window  
 the ~ to Thailand (the Bangkok Post)

illuminating window  
 the case is an ~ into the pitfalls of capital punishment

opens a window  
 she ~ on Cape Verde's music (a singer)

♦ "The media sometimes serves as a window and sometimes as a mirror. Shows and characters that resonate the most are actually both. You see yourself reflected in them, but you also get to learn about other things through them." (Mariana Diaz-Wioczek. From "Kids need to see themselves reflected in media. Here are some recommendations," Elizabeth Blair, NPR, December 26, 2021.)

#### portal: window

### window (out the window)

window  
 gender goes out the ~ (female sports broadcaster)

go out the window  
 those best practices can mostly ~

gone out the window  
 common sense has ~ (soccer and VAR)

went out the window  
 his game plan ~ (a boxer)  
 the idea this was terrorism got shot down and ~

threw it out the window  
 we took the entire model and ~ (Andrei Doroshin)

throw that gut feeling out the window  
 ~ (a defense lawyer during final argument)

thrown the law out the window  
 the judge has ~

♦ "Sometimes tactics are going to go out the window, you've just got to box..." (In other words, box on instinct.)

#### dismissal, removal & resignation: window

#### appearance & disappearance: window

### window dressing

window dressing  
 I was ~ (hired to fix problems, but ignored)  
 this was a farce, ~ (the Savoy plebiscite)  
 the referendum was ~ (rigged results)

window dressing on a coup  
 some wonder if this new prime minister is simply ~

window-dressing public relations  
 he took a ~ stand on the coronavirus crisis (EU official)

#### substance & lack of substance: window

### wing (wing it)

winging it

the president is just kind of ~ (pardons)

**haste / readiness & preparedness: bird**

## wing (division)

wing of Extinction Rebellion

XR Youth, the UK-based independent ~

right wing

in the US, the ~ is adamantly opposed to abortion

"political" and "military" wings

no difference between ~ (terrorists)

**division: bird**

## wing (building)

amputee wing

Ward 57, the ~ at Walter Reed Army Medical Center

**branching system: bird**

## wing (under one's wing)

took her under his wing

Clark Terry noticed Reeves' abilities and ~ (jazz)

took her under its wing

the Lawn Tennis Association ~ from an early age

took Liston under his wing

Father Alois Stevens ~ (Missouri State Penitentiary)

took me under his wing

he ~ (a film mentor)

took the teacher under his wing

he ~ (mentor / first-year teacher)

took Tommy under his wing

so Andy ~ (*Shawshank Redemption*)

got you under our wing

we have ~ (support)

**help & assistance: animal / bird**

## wing (in the wings)

in the wings

there are extremists ~

waiting in the wings

many fine musicians are ~

**readiness & preparedness: theater**

**center & periphery: theater**

## wing (clip / stretch one's wings)

political wings

the military is behind this campaign to clip Khan's ~

roots and wings

the only thing you can give your children is ~

stretch my wings

my fans have allowed me to ~

clipped his wings

his bosses had ~ (cop assigned to desk)

**constraint & lack of constraint: bird / verb**

## wingman (person)

wingman's role

he played a ~ (an uncritical biographer)

Congressman's wingman

he acted as the Florida ~ (friend, associate, procurer, etc.)

♦ "NYC wingwoman LLC, a relationship coaching service based in New York City, offers matchmaking, wingwoman services, 1-on-1 Coaching, and intensive weekend bootcamps."

♦ "The tactics of the Luftwaffe were immeasurably better suited to the realities of air fighting. The basic formation was the *Rotte* of two aircraft, a leader and his wingman, whose duty it was to support the leader at all times." (The Battle of Britain, 1941.)

**character & personality / person: military / plane**

**help & assistance: military / person / plane**

**protection & lack of protection: military / person / plane**

## wink (noun)

wink

there's a bit of a ~, it's a joke (the subtitle of a book)

there's a bit of a ~, we're all in on it (subtitle of book)

this sort of ~, which the meme is...

wink-wink

they've just gone ~ and done the research anyway (viruses)

wink and nod

he is playing a risky game of ~

wink, wink, nod, nod

green energy with reliance on Russia for oil and gas (~)

with a wink

it's all done ~ of course (a drag-queen renovation show)

♦ "PEN15, write out the title, you'll get it, has begun its second season on Hulu..." (A well-briefed Scott Simon of NPR. This is an example of leetspeak.)

♦ maryann 03: From CA: Welcome. I highly (wink wink nudge nudge) recommend online ordering and home delivery. Always tip your delivery person. They are your friend. (An ABC "Join the Discussion" comment on "New York legalizes recreational marijuana...")

♦ "Showing these struggles is important and necessary because they are very rarely told from this Black and brown perspective, and so much history about queer life has been and continues to be erased. (I don't recall ever studying LGBTQ issues in my history classes at school; like many kids growing up in the United States in the 1990s, my textbooks came from Texas. And well...you know.) (The last sentence is the "wink wink, nudge nudge." From "Farewell To 'Pose,' Which Fused Grief And Joy, Right Up To The Finale" by Aisha Harris, NPR, June 6, 2021.)

♦ "He dots all the "I's" and crosses all the "T's" for Michigan (wink wink).....plus the Athletic Director is afraid of him" (An online commenter about the volatile coach Juwan Howard, who is Black. The commenter probably meant, "checks all the boxes.")

♦ "The chain acknowledges that many consider 'Hooters' a slang term for a portion of the female anatomy. Hooters does have an owl logo and uses an owl theme sufficiently to allow debate to occur over the meaning's intent. The chain enjoys and benefits from this debate. In the end, we hope Hooters means a great place to eat." (Hooters.)

♦ Be careful! Overseas a wink might mean something entirely different!

**fictive communication / subterfuge: eye / gesture**

## winking (adjective)

winking acknowledgment

beyond his ~, he said he would address the matter later

fictive communication / subterfuge: eye / gesture

## winner (noun)

winner

I don't think there are any ~s (politics)

competition / success & failure: sports & games

## winnow (verb)

winnows (preparatory) info to a concise packet

his staff ~

winnowed away many social services

the government has ~

♦ Traditionally farmers still winnow the chaff from grain by throwing grain into the air. The wind blows away the lighter chaff from the heavier grains. "Winnow out" can mean both "remove" and "select." You can winnow out something undesirable or unwanted. But you can also "winnow out" what is desirable.

♦ "My sister midwived their winnowing while I sifted through family history, embodied in our belongings." (Helping aged parents move out of their home of 54 years. Many older people refer to this as "decluttering.")

dismissal, removal & resignation / searching & discovery / worth & lack of worth: farming & agriculture / verb / wheat

## win over (verb)

win over Brexiters

can she ~ (English Prime Minister)

win over Hispanics

they are trying to ~ (politics)

♦ The following title struck me when I saw it on the BBC website, because I didn't understand it: "Johnson has lost the dressing room—and the people in the stands, says MP." For some reason, the first thing that popped into my head was the dressing room for actors at a theater. Further along, comprehension dawned: "Using a sports analogy, he says: "As I walked through the crowd it was very clear that the prime minister has not only lost the [support of the] dressing room—he has also lost quite a lot of people in the stands." Well, of course! Like Manchester United!

allegiance, support & betrayal: sports & games / verb

## winter (decline)

winter of his life

he didn't complain at the inexorable arrival of the ~

what he describes as the ~ (Paul Auster)

in the winter of my life

now ~, it was a great honor to... (explorer Don Walsh)

winter has (finally) come

~ to *Game of Thrones* (final two episodes)

♦ "I salute Victor Vescovo and his outstanding team for the successful completion of their historic explorations into the Mariana Trench. Six decades ago, Jacques Piccard and I were the first to visit that deepest place in the world's oceans. Now in the winter of my life, it was a great honour to be invited on this expedition to a place of my youth." ("Mariana Trench: Deepest-ever sub dive finds plastic bag" by Rebecca Morelle, BBC, May 13, 2019.)

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: season  
death & life / decline / growth & development: season

## winter (resemblance)

winter sleep

nature is awakening from its ~

resemblance: season

## winter (nuclear winter, etc.)

A.I. winter

the seventies proved to be the so-called "~-"

crypto winter

a recession could lead to another ~ and last for a long time

in past ~s, trading revenue declined significantly

Coinbase has survived through four major ~s

a ~, a downturn that has gone on and on...

we've been living in the ~ for the better part of a year

impact winter

debris from a comet strike could produce an ~

nuclear winter

a full-blown nuclear war would be followed by a ~

destruction: season

## wire (down to the wire)

going down to the wire

business leaders are furious because the new change is ~

(Brexit)

timeliness & lack of timeliness: horse / sports & games

## wired (and hardwired)

hardwired into the nation's DNA

confrontation and conflict are ~ (US)

hardwired to find myself

I knew I was ~ in that situation (an abusive relationship)

hardwired for that

I was ~, drawn to it, or I drew that to me (female abuse)

wired to worry

we're ~, it's a survival mechanism

identity & nature / operation: electricity / mechanism

## witch (insult)

witch

she's a ~ (disliked or feared woman)

♦ Traditional medicine and psychiatry may relate to black magic, the evil eye, an evil spirit, a ghost, magic, muti, sorcery, a spell, voodoo, or witchcraft. Practitioners of traditional medicine include the inyanga, medicine man, sangoma, shaman, sorcerer, traditional healer, witch, witch doctor, and yerbero.

♦ "Siquijor is one of more than 7,000 islands in the Philippines—it has tropical sun, white sand and an azure sea, but it is also famous for witchcraft... Consing Achay is not quite what I imagined a witch to be. She is devoutly Catholic and sees no contradiction between her religious faith and her traditional spells." ("Healing rituals and bad spirits on a Philippine island," by Kate McGeown, BBC, 4 February 2012.)

♦ "A 40-year-old mother of two was burned alive in central Nepal after she was accused of being a witch, police said Saturday. / She was attacked and set on fire by family members and others after a shaman allegedly accused her of casting a spell to make one of her relatives sick, Police Officer Hira Mani Baral said. / The attack occurred in Bagaunda in Chitwan district, about 50 miles southwest of Kathmandu... / Police arrested 10 people, including two shamans, five women and an 8-year-old boy, in connection with the burning. / "Those arrested have confessed to their crime and will be charged with murder," Baral said. / Mahato had just finished cleaning a cowshed early in the morning when she was attacked, Baral said. / She was beaten with sticks and rocks before being doused with kerosene and set afire, an attack witnessed by her 9-year-old daughter, according to the local police report. / Neighbors told police they were alerted to the attack but by then it was too late to save her. / Prime Minister Baburam Bhattarai appealed to the people not to heed to shamans and faith healers." ("Nepalese woman accused of witchcraft and burned alive," from Manesh Shrestha, CNN, Feb. 18, 2012.)

♦ "With the arrival of the womenfolk a new figure appeared in the camp. This was Zlydarikha or Kubarikha, a soldier's wife who was a cattle healer, a veterinarian, and also, secretly, a witch..." (*Doctor Zhivago* by Boris Pasternak.)

♦ "Seeing the phantom-like outline of the Dolomites against the night sky, it feels harder to sneer at stories of witches, sorcerers and secret gates to the underworld. Perhaps these legends are the last reminders of a time when we didn't need to believe in heaven and hell—the landscape was mysterious enough in itself. (At Lago di Braies, near the mountain of Sass dia Porta. From "Legends of the Italian Dolomites," by Oliver Smith, BBC, 28 August 2012.)

♦ "As the sky was clear, he did not bother to set up a brush shelter. He simply scraped together a bed of leaves, as a wild animal might do. / However, he took the human precaution of piling them under a shade that moonlight would not strike through. If one sleeps in the moonlight he will go crazy. Also he broke off a willow fork and drew a circle with it around his bed. That was to keep witches away. Then he took a piece of rubber band from his pocket, where he always carried it, snipped off a bit and burned it in the fire, so no ghost would bother him that night." (*Smoky Mountain Magic* by Horace Kephart.)

♦ "Witch hunts have been triggered by health crises in the past: during a tetanus epidemic in Benin, following dysentery and malaria deaths in Papua New Guinea, and during a meningitis outbreak in Ghana. In communities in the DRC, Papua New Guinea, and Tanzania, among others, HIV / AIDS is perceived to be linked to witchcraft. ("Witchcraft allegations, refugee protection and human rights: a review of the evidence," from the series *New Issues in Refugee Research*, Paper No. 169, by Jill Schnoebelen, UNHCR, January 2009.)

♦ In Ghana in 2008, 5,000 alleged witches, mainly elderly women, were living in six "witch camps," including the Gambaga Outcast Home.

♦ "Why can't somebody throw a bucket of water on this witch." (An online commenter about the celebrity Amber Heard. The allusion is to the beloved 1939 film *The Wizard of Oz*, and the *Wicked Witch of the West*, portrayed by Margaret Hamilton. "I'll get you, my pretty...and your little dog too!")

**character & personality / insult: creature / person**

## witch hunt

witch hunt

the campaign has sparked a ~ (for pedophiles)

witch hunts of the late 1940s

the anti-Communist ~ and early '50s

"witch-hunt" on Wikileaks

Assange urges the US to end its ~

"witch-hunt" against Wikileaks

Assange has urged the US to renounce its ~

witch hunt tactics

I will not be subjected to your ~

celebrity witch-hunt

police denied a ~ (sex offenses against boys)

Democratic witch hunt

this is a ~, everyone knows it (politics)

political witch hunt

the administration claims this is just a ~

anti-Communist witch hunts

the ~ of the late 1940s and early '50s

victim of a (political) witch hunt

many Zulus believe Mr Zuma to be the ~

end witch-hunt

~, Assange urges US (on Wikileaks)

renounce its "witch-hunt"

Assange has urged the US to ~

turned into a hysterical witch-hunt

the Tailhook scandal ~

**Judgment: justice**

**oppression: allusion / creature / history / justice / violence**

## with (support)

with you

I am ~

with him all the way

I am ~ (politics)

with you shoulder to shoulder

we are ~ (US troops withdrawn from Afghanistan)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: prep, adv, adj, particle**

## withdrawal (feeling)

withdrawal symptoms

when you're not around them, do you get ~ (a birder)

going through withdrawal

sports fans are ~ because of coronavirus lockdowns

**enthusiasm: addiction / health & medicine**

**feeling, emotion & effect: addiction / health & medicine**

## wither (verb)

withered

his faith in the government ~

wither in our (education) system

children ~ (rote learning)

wither on the vine

see *vine* (*wither on the vine*)

**decline: plant / verb**

## withering (adjective)

withering barrage

their report came under a ~ of criticism (education)

withering criticism

he has faced ~

withering questioning

he faced ~ from upset lawmakers (Boeing exec)

**feeling, emotion & effect: plant**

**with us (no longer with us)**

no longer with us

unfortunately, he was found in a pond and he is ~ (body)  
we've located them and they're ~ (Delphi murders)

♦ **A-Wang:** (Busy cutting meat with a knife on a chopping board, creating a lively chopping sound.) My radio is broken. What's the latest news? / **Ritai:** Qiangba's not with us anymore. / **A-Wang:** (Jovially.) Chasing after another girl? / **Ritai:** (Somberly.) He was killed. / **A-Wang:** (The busy chopping sound he has been creating goes silent for several beats.) / **Ritai:** You be careful. (From the great film *Mountain Patrol: Kekexili*.)

**death & life: euphemism / presence & absence**

**with us (with us forever, etc.)**

with us always

clickbait will be ~

remain with us

the costs of Vietnam ~ (troubled vets, sons, etc.)

♦ "I don't feel any guilt or blame about it. I think my view really is if we hadn't done it someone else would have. And it would be with us in any case." (Lilli S. Hornig, who worked on the Manhattan Project. From "The Bomb," PBS, 2015.)

**presence & absence / survival, persistence & endurance:**

**prep, adv, adj, particle**

**witness (noun)**

witness roses

these ~ are saying, "Welcome home, pilgrims"

witness trees

it is one of the best known ~ at Gettysburg (Sickles')

♦ "Witness trees have incredible stories to tell."

♦ "A rosebush, which hasn't bloomed in decades, adds color to a dim chapter in history" by Ryan Warner, NPR, Morning Edition, May 30, 2022. A "survivor" of the Amache Japanese-American internment camp witnesses a "miracle."

♦ "And off this corner in the wild, / Where these are driven in and piled, / One tree, by being deeply wounded, / Has been impressed as Witness Tree / And made commit to memory / My proof of being not unbounded." ("Beech" by Robert Frost from A Witness Tree.)

**fictive meeting & seeing: eye**

**witness (verb)**

witnessed two cataclysmic events

the 15th century ~

**fictive meeting & seeing: eye / verb**

**Wizards (Washington Wizards, etc.)**

Washington Wizards

~ point guard Russell Westbrook

**proper name: creature**

**wizard (person)**

math wizard

only gifted ~s understand it (Poincare Conjecture)

dot-com wizard

~s becoming billionaires

Wall Street wizard

he had a reputation as a ~ (Bernie Madoff)

marketing wizard

a ~ who hopes he had found the path to riches

financial wizard

he is regarded as a ~ and bankruptcy expert

♦ Reporters, editors, and digital whizzes...

♦ "They resemble humans, but their mouths are wider and their legs are much longer than ours, with the feet facing backward. They have wings to fly through the air, and are clad in green robes." (Mashraf Khan, the royally appointed wizard of Hunza, speaking of the snow fairies that, in Hunza tradition, inhabit the surrounding mountains in northwest Pakistan. Mashraf says that they have a king and a queen, and the queen makes prophecies, such as 'A girl will die a month from now, falling into the river to the north.' Mashraf says he dances with the fairies. People watch him dancing, but the fairies are invisible.)

♦ Ian Brackenbury Channell was a winner of the Queen's Service Medal and was also considered "a living work of art." ("New Zealand council ends contract with wizard after two decades of service" by Eva Corlett, *The Guardian*, Friday 15 October 2021.)

**ability & lack of ability: creature / magic / person**

**person: creature / magic**

**wizard (Wizard of Menlo Park, etc.)**

Wizard of Menlo Park

Edison was known as "The ~"

Welsh Wizard

the new champion of the world, the ~, Joe Cordina

**ability & lack of ability: creature / epithet**

**epithet: creature / magic**

**Wizard of Oz**

Wizard of Oz defense

he is using the ~ (pay no attention to that man behind...)

Wizard of Oz curtain

when normal standards get applied, the ~ comes open

Wizard of Oz effect

the ~ (it seems like it's powerful, but it's really not)

♦ "When normal standards get applied, the Wizard of Oz curtain comes open." (A scandal at CNN involving ethics and sex, resulting in three high-level dismissals.)

♦ "Why can't somebody throw a bucket of water on this witch." (An online commenter about the celebrity Amber Heard. The allusion is to the beloved 1939 film *The Wizard of Oz*, and the Wicked Witch of the West, portrayed by Margaret Hamilton. "I'll get you, my pretty...and your little dog too!")

♦ "And when Dr. McClain dropped the final bombshell—video footage of the results he experienced after using the method on himself—it became clear that the discovery is nothing short of incredible, of course your individual results will vary." ("How To: Repair Your Body," a full page advertisement in the *Smithsonian*, December 2017. One cannot NOT immediately think of the Scarecrow from the Wizard of Oz, on receiving a diploma: "The sum of the square roots of any two sides of an isosceles triangle is equal to the square root of the remaining side.")

**allusion: film & TV**

**subterfuge: allusion / cloth / film**

## wizardry (noun)

high-tech wizardry  
the new weapon is a bit of ~

technological wizardry  
in an age of ~...

**knowledge & intelligence: creature / magic**  
**ability & lack of ability: creature / magic**

## wobble (commitment)

wobbles on tanks for Ukraine  
Germany's Scholz ~

♦ You can stand fast / firm... or wobble.

**commitment & determination: equilibrium & stability / movement / verb**

## wobbly (condition)

wobbly on policy  
we have seen her sometimes ~ (politics)

wobbly state  
City Opera has been in a ~ since 2008

looking (slightly) wobbly  
it was perceived Britain was in decline and ~ (history)

**condition & status / flaws & lack of flaws: equilibrium & stability**

## wobbly (commitment)

went wobbly  
he ~ but she stiffened his spine (politics)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: standing, sitting & lying**  
**commitment & determination: equilibrium & stability / movement**

## woke (groups)

woke  
but if you're aware, ~ is you will... (Trans)

“woker” than their Black classmates  
it is white students who are “~” (academia)

woke activists  
Cambridge Dictionary bows to ‘~’ (definitions)

woke babble  
the left's ~ (*Latinx*, etc.)

“woke” capitalism  
~ waters down the left (David Brooks)

woke capitalism  
“~” is a derogatory reference to ESG

‘woke’ content  
who is reaping the benefits of all the ~ that we produce

woke culture  
~ is threatening Western values (Oliver Dowden, Tory)

woke definition  
so by ~ literally everything is racist

woke fans  
J.K. Rowling not worried about losing ~ (Harry Potter)

woke incarnation  
*Teen Vogue*, in its current ~...

woke (gender) ideology  
keep ~ out of schools

woke interpretation  
~ is heavy on self-flagellation (v. self-congratulation)

woke left  
those who dissent with the tenets of the ~

woke liberals  
~ see “racism” in everything

woke messaging  
Hollywood force-feeds diversity and the ~

woke mob  
I realize I'm in the crosshairs of the ~ (QB Aaron Rodgers)  
we will never ever surrender to the ~ (Governor DeSantis)

woke orthodoxy  
I've been outspoken about my disagreements with the ~

woke people  
the cancel culture people, the ~ (the beloved John Cleese)

woke playbook  
their opinions are incompatible with the current ~

woke police  
the ~ is out there (Chris Harrison)  
the only police that need defunding are the ~

*Woke Racism*  
~: *How a New Religion Has Betrayed Black America*

“woke” rhetoric  
they have turned ~ against their opponents

woke wasteland  
ESPN used to be the video bible of sports, now it's a ~

woke worldview  
I've seen how the ~ trivializes actual bigotry (a student)

woke zombies  
where do these ~ come from (PACBs)

super woke  
she's like ~, you know, she's like policing me (a father)

tediously woke  
it's ~ and needlessly bitchy (*And Just Like That*)

became woke  
a prejudiced white character who ~ (a book)

gone woke  
the big banks have ~ and let the community down (ESG)

♦ Get Woke. Stay woke.

- ◆ Go woke go broke. (Pushback against “woke” corporations.)
- ◆ “You really could have inserted the word *accountable* or *accountability* instead of *woke police*... You don’t get to say what you want. That’s just not how it works.” (The former Bachelorette Rachel Lindsay, calling out Chris Harrison, longtime host of *The Bachelor* TV show. Who gets to say what and how to say it is an important characteristic of “woke” folks.)
- ◆ “Should the Lincoln Memorial come with a spoiler alert? Should schoolchildren be taught to question the very name of the nation’s capital?” (“Once the future, US now captive to its past” by Nick Bryant, BBC New York, 18 June 2021.)
- ◆ “It’s a cruel woke world out there...” (Jake, from BBC’s hilarious *Ed Reardon’s Week*, Series 14, “You’re Cancelled.”)
- ◆ “Some people are so ‘woke’ they are delirious from lack of sleep.” (Online discussion board shade / snark / sarcasm.)
- ◆ “‘Stop WOKE Act’ regulates what schools and workplaces can teach about race and identity.” (Florida.)
- ◆ Sam Sanders (“Opinion: It’s Time to Put ‘Woke’ To Sleep,” NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, December 30, 2018) argues that the term *woke* has had its day and should be retired.
- ◆ A FUNNY CARTOON. “The microwave is smart, but the refrigerator is woke.” (A real-estate lady showing a kitchen to two potential customers. From *The New Yorker*, March 6, 2017.)
- ◆ “Get Lit, Stay Lit.” (The name of a solar power project that seeks to “put solar panels on one restaurant in every New Orleans neighborhood.”)
- ◆ “The Hutu extremist magazine *Kangura* (Wake Them Up) promoted hatred of Tutsis before the genocide.” (“Roots of Rwanda’s Genocide” by Helen Epstein and Claude Gatebuke, *The New York Review*, June 10, 2021.)
- ◆ “Most people are just not into this Woke New World.” (An online commenter.)
- ◆ “What is wrong with ‘being alert’ to injustices?” (An online commenter.)
- ◆ see also *awake* (*adjective*)

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**  
**wokeness (groups)**

**wokeness**

I realized ~ was different from my liberal values (student)  
 ~ is not just a social philosophy, but an elite status marker

**peak (campus) wokeness**

we’re past ~, the tide has turned and is receding... (2023)

**newfound wokeness**

the museum’s ~ (Metropolitan Museum of Art)

**corporate wokeness**

the governor wants to take on ~ (Ron DeSantis)

**‘wokeness’ comes**

when ~ to Middle-earth (CNN / *The Rings of Power*)

- ◆ “Wokeness is a virus more dangerous than any pandemic hands down.” (The politician Nikki Haley at CPAC.)
- ◆ “Wokeness is not just a social philosophy, but an elite status marker, a strategy for personal advancement. You have to possess copious amounts of cultural capital to feel comfortable using words like *intersectionality*, *heteronormativity*, *cisgender*, *problematize*, *triggering*, and *Latinx*... Wokeness becomes a way to intimidate Boomer administrators and wrest power from them.” (“How The Bobos Broke America” by David Brooks, *The Atlantic*, September 2021.)
- ◆ “It was possible to interpret [Macron’s] emphasis on her embrace of universalism as a rebuke of the ‘wokisme’ that some members of the government believe is eroding national cohesion.” (“Paris Postcard: Maman at the Pantheon,” *The Talk of the Town*, *The New Yorker* magazine, December 13, 2021, about Josephine Baker, originally from St. Louis, who became a French citizen in 1937.)
- ◆ “Many in the French mainstream are correct to note that wokeness is philosophically incoherent—trying to end racism by elevating race—and,

if taken far enough, dangerous. The politics of identity that undergirds the obsession with social justice obliterates individuality. It subordinates human psychology—always an ambiguous terrain—to sweeping platitudes and self-certain dictates; it boxes all of us in. Worst of all, it smacks of determinism, trapping the present in a never-ending past that steals the innocence from any collective future.” (“The French Are In A Panic Over Le Wokisme” by Thomas Chatterton Williams, *The Atlantic*, March 2023.)

- ◆ “We will never ever surrender to the woke mob. Florida is where woke goes to die.” (Florida Governor Ron DeSantis.)

**inclusion & exclusion: epistemology**  
**wolf (predation)**

**wolf**

a ~ can wear scrubs or doctor’s clothing or be a woman

**wolves**

Smurf was one of the “~” (Jamaica Queens via Trinidad)

**wolves in here**

there are a lot of ~ who will prey on the sheep (prison)

**wolf in sheep’s clothing**

see *wolf* (*wolf in sheep’s clothing*)

- ◆ If you are not a wolf, a wolf will eat you. (Said in Saudi Arabia.)
- ◆ “That period confirmed the ancient proverb, ‘man is a wolf to man.’ Traveler turned off the road at the sight of traveler, stranger meeting stranger killed for fear of being killed. There were isolated cases of cannibalism. The laws of human civilization were suspended. The jungle law was in force. Man dreamed the prehistoric dreams of the cave dweller...” (*Doctor Zhivago* by Boris Pasternak.)
- ◆ “It is better for your mother to be crying than for my mother to be crying.” (A Romanian saying, about killing or being killed.)
- ◆ “It is the choice between the coffin or the suitcase.” (The Algerian Civil War.)
- ◆ He’s a wolf in sheep’s clothing.
- ◆ “We are holding a wolf by the ears, and we can neither hold him, nor safely let him go.” (Similar to holding a tiger by the tail, or riding a tiger.)
- ◆ “Forgive me. I was raised by wolves.” (A funny bumper sticker seen in Asheville, North Carolina, U.S.)
- ◆ “Sometimes wolves can be difficult to locate.”

**behavior / danger / character & personality: animal / predation / wolf**

**affliction: animal / predation / sign, signal, symbol / wolf**

**wolf (wolf at the door)**

**keep the wolf away from the door**

my streaming earnings are not significant enough to ~

- ◆ *The wolf at the door*; *Enemy at the Gates* (the 2001 film)...

**protection & lack of protection: animal / wolf**

**wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)**

**wolf in sheep’s clothing**

we’ve all heard of a ~ (district attorney)  
 two Middle East scholars portray him as a ~  
 a ~, Huckle fooled people into believing... (a pedophile)

**appearance & reality / subterfuge: animal / clothing & accessories / predation / wolf**

**wolf (cry wolf)**

cry wolf

we certainly don't want to ~  
we can't ~ every time we suspect something

boy who cried wolf  
the media is the proverbial ~ (can't trust it)

♦ "Joselu went down after his shirt was pulled, but maybe he was seen as the boy who cried wolf at that point. Play went on..." (Scotland 2-0 Spain.)

**warning: allusion / animal / verb / wolf**  
**allusion: books & reading**

## wolf (throw somebody to the wolves)

throw him to the wolves  
I'm not going to ~

threw me to the wolves  
my bosses ~

throwing them to the wolves  
America is ~ (Afghans / US flees Afghanistan / 2021)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: animal / verb / violence / wolf**

## wolf (thrown to the wolves)

thrown to the wolves  
they are about to get ~ (Me To movement)

thrown to the (financial) wolves  
the city will be ~ (bankruptcy)

thrown to the wolves and blamed  
somebody who could be ~ for what happened (stockholders)

effectively thrown to the wolves  
we were ~ (Antifa and counter protesters, no police)

♦ "If they don't [restructure]... the city will be thrown to the financial wolves... Everyone will want their scrap of what money is left." (Detroit.)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: animal / violence / wolf**

## wolf down (food)

wolfed down his meal  
he ~

**behavior: animal / food & drink / verb / wolf**

## wonderful (as noun)

wear your wonderful  
Shein, ~, Free return (clothing)

**superlative: part of speech**

## woo (verb)

wooed doctors with free trips  
the company aggressively ~ to seminars

woo the masses with (new) spending  
he could attempt to ~ (a politician)

woo students to enroll  
they're still trying to ~ (universities during pandemic)

woos far-right voters

Sarkozy ~ after losing narrowly (elections)

**attraction & repulsion / pursuit, capture & escape: love, courtship & marriage / verb**

## Woodstock (whitewater Woodstock, etc.)

Whitewater Woodstock  
it's a ~ (Green River Narrows Race / North Carolina)

**enthusiasm: music**  
**comparison & contrast: epithet**

## woodwork (come out of the woodwork, etc.)

came out of the woodwork  
they ~ for whatever reason (people falsely confessing)

come out of the woodwork  
it's all hype, win a few games and all the Man U fans ~

come (streaming) out of the woodwork  
first dull Super Bowl in years and the whingers ~

coming out of the woodwork  
people are ~ (survivors of wildfire thought dead)  
armed groups are now ~ (fighting in Khartoum)

**appearance & disappearance: animal / house / insect**

## wooded

wooded to aerial skiing by the US Ski Team  
she was ~

**attraction & repulsion / pursuit, capture & escaped: love, courtship & marriage**

## woods (out of the woods)

out of the woods  
she was not ~ after the operation (transplant)  
we are not in any way ~ (hurricane)  
firefighters are not ~ yet (wildfires)  
we're not ~ yet (Iran crisis)  
we're making progress but we're not ~ yet (pandemic)

out of the woods and into the clear  
we are not ~ yet (pandemic)

♦ An ABC news reader, speaking about a resurgence of COVID, warned, "Another reminder that we are not out of the clear just yet." Surely, she meant, "out of the woods and into the clear."

♦ "Every time I enter a forest which stretches for several miles I have an involuntary feeling of something like humility. Such a primitive forest is a kind of elemental force, and it is not to be wondered that even the aborigines, these simple nomads of the forest, before crossing its threshold which separates it from the inhabited world, first utter prayers to their gods and beg protection against the evil spirits which haunt the wooded wastes." (*Dersu Uzala* by V.K. Arseniev.)

♦ "Midway in our life's journey, I went astray / from the straight road and woke to find myself / alone in a dark wood..." Dante's *The Inferno*, translated by John Ciardi.)

♦ "You can only go halfway into the darkest forest, then you are coming out the other side." (Chinese.)

**danger / obstacles & impedance / survival, persistence & endurance: forest / journeys & trips**

## **woods (neck of the woods)**

neck of the woods

someone from our ~ (Western North Carolina)

happening in your neck of the woods

here's what's ~ (national TV weather report)

make its way to our neck of the woods

the storm will ~ (weather report / North Carolina)

**area / location: forest**

## **word (the last word)**

the last word

it's phase 1, so this might not be ~

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion / starting, going, continuing & ending: books & reading / writing & spelling**

## **word (the P-word, etc.)**

A word

physicians should not be afraid to say the ~ ("abortion")

B word

in an era when the ~ for billion was shocking (1930s)

B word

they all loved the Beatles, they called it the ~ (Nirvana)

B-word

she has been referred to by the ~ ("bitch" / a politician)  
calling a woman "difficult" is a code word for the ~ (bitch)

b-word

my friends and I called each other the ~ ("bitch")

"B" word

I didn't say the ~, I used euphemisms (low vision v. blind)

B word

he objected to being called a ~ ("bastard" or "bully")

B-word

she called it the other "~" ("bossy" / Sheryl Sandberg / WSJ)

D-Word

Obama called ~ ("dick" / NPR / 2011)

D Word

the dreaded ~ (the economy / "depression")

f-word

Sunday Puzzle: No, not that ~ (NPR)

F-word

is the ~ every okay in the classroom

F-word

it's treated as taboo, as the ~ ("feminism")

F-word

Jets GM Joe Douglas used the ~ (freak) for Kuntz (ability)

F-Word

the CDC's reluctance to use the '~' (NPR / "firearms")

G Word

Adam Conover stars in Netflix's *The ~* (Federal government)

*The ~* is a comedy-documentary series (Federal government)

L Word

Showtime's *The ~* ("Lesbian" / TV / 2004 to 2009)

*The ~: Generation Q* ("Lesbian" / TV / 2019-2023)

m-word

Walton used the "~" (ex-NBA star and Deadhead / "midget")

N-word

should the ~ be purged from Mark Twain's *Classic* (NPR)  
she used the ~ 33 times (a drunk coed)

n word

so he said the ~, read it off an iPad (Coach Cale Gundy)  
he apparently used the ~ on live television (a broadcaster)

n-word

Rachel Richardson was called the ~ (Duke volleyball)

P-word

the ~ should be sent to the dustbin of history ("Paki")

P-Valley

Hall adapted "~" from her 2015 play, "Pussy Valley"

R-word

"Black crime" and "kung flu" add up to the ~ ("racism")

R-word

he called the brother the ~ slur ("retarded")  
don't use the ~ for people on the spectrum (autism)

S word

I can't use the ~ thanks to Yahoo censorship ("suicide")

'S' Word

"Activists Reclaim Use Of The ~" ("Slut" / NPR, 2011)

s-word

the ~ will forever be harmful ("spaz" / Lizzo)

S Word

Name Change: The ~ (Squaw Valley to Palisades Tahoe)

"S" word

he explains how the ~ was used in the past ("Socialist")

"T" word

the ~ to him is like a warm bed ("trauma" / disparagement)

♦ "My V-steam cost \$50, a lot to pay for sitting over hot vapor."

♦ "Rendon accused the fan of calling him a 'b----.'" (ESPN, about the MLB player Anthony Rendon. The *New York Post* headline was, "Angels' Anthony Rendon takes swing at A's fan: 'Called me a bitch.'" Fan comments included, "Well, he does slap like one," "Swing and a miss," and "The A's have fans?")

♦ "Linguist Geoff Nunberg explains how the 'S' word was used in the past—and why it's come up now." ("Socialist' Charge Draws On Old Fears" by Geoff Nunberg, NPR, Fresh Air, October 29, 2008. In that broadcast Nunberg also mentions "hearth language." Nunberg died in August 2020, and his commentary on language is sorely missed.)

♦ "I don't like the D-word. I think calling soil that word is not helpful because it assumes that this is an abundant resource that we can take for granted." (Asmeret Asefaw Berhe, a soil scientist at the University of California-Merced. "Dirt.")

♦ "That was an era when the B word for billion was as shocking to the ear as the T word is today." ("In The 1930s, Works Program Spelled HOPE for Millions Of Jobless Americans" by Ron Elving, NPR, The Coronavirus Crisis, April 4, 2020.)

♦ "He especially objected to being called "a 'B word'" on the editorial page. It wasn't clear if he meant 'bastard' or 'bully'—the paper has referred to him as both." ("Done Fighting This Madness,' Akron Mayor Steps Down" by M.L. Schultze, NPR, Morning Edition, May 15, 2015.)

♦ "In accordance with Secretary's Order 3404 the BGN (Board on Geographic Names) has approved replacement names for all official features that included the word "Sq\_\_\_\_\_ " in their name. The Geographic Names Information System (GNIS) is being updated to reflect these changes. More information is available in the Derogatory Geographical Names FAQs." ("Squaw.")

♦ Doowopron: May I buy some vowels? I was curious also—gotta be some Aussi slang? / Tigers Blood: I'm sorry that I'm just not very hip, but...what inappropriate word is 'r\_\_\_\_\_d'? / Laura: Yea [sic] I was wondering myself. / Rita S: I don't know either. ????. / Danny: I'm thinking retarded. / t.laf: Yes, and the fact that it is deemed inappropriate is retarded. ("F-k you": Teen's fiery response following alleged machete robbery" by Hamish Spence, News.com.au, Sept 4, 2022, and carried by *The New York Post*. The video of the teen at perthnow.com.au garnered 1.2M views and counting.)

♦ "Diaz called Chimaev a "b----ass rookie." (UFC 279, as reported on ABC. "Bitch-ass?" "Broke-ass?")

♦ "What it was, was all those f-gs, those Catholic f-gs..." ("WVU reviewing incident after Huggins uses anti-gay slur on air" by Myron Medcalf, ESPN, May 8, 2023.)

♦ "She called Florida the 'd\*\*\* of the country.'" ("Tiffany Cross, on Comedy Central's *Charlamagne Tha God's* program *Hell of a Week*, in the segment entitled "One's Gotta go." "Dick.")

♦ "I'm from the South, and I've been through the traditional kind of campaigns where everybody got to call you the N-word, the B-word, or the C-word." (Donna Brazile, interim chair of the D.N.C. From "Active Measures" by Evan Osnos, David Remnick, and Joshua Yaffa, *The New Yorker*, March 6, 2017.)

♦ "They don't criminalize physicians' speech, right, so, physicians should not be afraid to say the A word." (Elizabeth Sepper, a professor of law at University of Texas at Austin. From "3 abortion bans in Texas leave doctors 'talking in code' to pregnant patients," NPR, Morning Edition, March 1, 2023.)

♦ "Little People of America (LPA) called Walton's use of the term 'm-t' deplorable and inexcusable." (The great ex-NBA star and Deadhead Bill Walton. "Midget.")

♦ "And it was in KSI's answer that he made the racist slur, using an offensive word sometimes used towards people from South Asian backgrounds. Looking down at letters, he looks up and says, 'I don't mean this maliciously, but the word is BLEEP.'" (The spoof of the Countdown Challenge took place on a YouTube channel. "Paki.")

♦ "What did he say? All the articles I've seen so far have said that he said a racial slur but none of them include what it is he was supposed to have said. Pretty weird omission." (An online commenter. For context see "A pro soccer player has apologized after an opponent said he made a racist remark" by Joe Hernandez, NPR, April 11, 2023. The player who made the remark was Belgian, the on-field disruption resulted in 21 minutes of extra time being added on to the game, and the game ended in a 1-1 draw. Such is soccer.)

♦ "And she said that he used a vulgar epithet, like the most I think vile epithet that you can use for a woman..." (NPR's David Folkenflik.)

♦ "ESPN fires MLB reporter for calling fellow reporter 'f-king c-t.'" (Both reporters were women.)

♦ "That's Shatane Porter, a counselor at Ron Brown College Preparatory High School. And yes, he is talking about the F-word. And whether it's OK for students to say it. In class. In front of their teacher." ("Is The F-Word Ever OK In The Classroom?" by Ariana Figueroa, nprEd, October 29, 2017. A 46-Minute Listen.)

♦ "I call disabled viewing platforms the "cripple pen." (A commenter about "After the N-word, the P-word" by Rajni Bhatia, BBC, 11 June 2007.)

♦ "A pidgin English field guide would list buk-buks, pakes, buddaheads, katonks, mokes, titas, popolos, yobos, blalabs, haoles and portagees." (Ethnic and racial labels used in Hawaii.)

♦ see also *bomb* (*F-bomb*, etc.)

## **inclusion & exclusion: language**

### **language: letters & characters**

## **word salad**

### **word salad**

~, means absolutely nothing (a VP's jumbled remarks)

### **word salad talking**

her ~ (a "woke" celebrity)

### **trademark word salad**

she served up another helping of her ~ (U.S. Vice President)

♦ Fake accent; nothing authentic; cheap; contrived; desperate; fake; gold-digging; inauthentic; obnoxious; a big phony; overly produced; no substance; social climbing victim and narcissist; virtue signalling; low whispering voice; whining... (Commenters about a "woke" celebrity whose speech has been reviled as "word salad.")

♦ "So, during Women's History Month, we celebrate and we honor the women who made history through history, who saw what could be unburdened by what had been." (U.S. Vice-President Kamala Harris.)

♦ "I think it's very important, as you have heard from so many incredible leaders, for us at every moment in time, and certainly this one, to see [seize?] the moment in time in which we exist and are present, and to be able to contextualize it, to understand where we exist in the history and in the moment as it relates not only to the past but the future." (Vice President Kamala Harris in her speech at Howard University, Tuesday, April 25, 2023. One online commenter remarked, "Obviously intoxicated and starting to panic.")

♦ "Yes, it feels to me like a moment where people are sort of battering down the hatches and picking the safe lane." (Film producer Dede Gardner, mixing her metaphors.)

♦ "I feel that same pit in my stomach as so many of you today do." (Governor Jared Polis of Colorado, expressing grief after a mass shooting at a gay bar in Colorado Springs, Colorado.)

♦ "He drove to a police station and gave himself in." (NPR's Eric Westervelt. Gave himself up? Turned himself in?)

♦ "I think that's so interesting because the idea of networking has always been really intimidating to me, but building real relationships feels much more natural, so I like to hear you say that." (A GMA host talking to Aliza Licht, author of *On Brand*.)

♦ "Yaa, um, I definitely do see, among my peers and with myself, that, even though it is still this popular app, um, I find that a lot of people have some of the most problems with it, um, in terms of, like what we've been talking about right now, in terms of anxieties and the different pressures that come with social media." (With upspeak, heard on NPR.)

♦ "It was the hardest thing to shake when I spent time in Australia, and somebody would say, 'thank you,' and I would say, 'Yep! Oh—uh, I mean, 'you're welcome!' Because to me, it's kind of rude—like, it's not rude, but saying 'yep' and 'sure' is the equivalent of saying 'no problem,' and that is more polite in America than saying 'you're welcome.'" (Millie on TikTok.)

♦ "You know, why nuns? Uh, why not. You know, I really respond to characters with passion, you know, coming from *Big Bang* and you had these physicists who their passion was science and umm you know exploring those whose passions are the divine which is sort of a total pivot starting from a place of these women who have this full and total commitment and and feeling like that's so far outside of my experience, and wanting to sort of understand and unpack and just coming from a place of curiosity first and foremost..." (Tara Hernandez. From "Tara Hernandez and Damon Lindelof on creating the Peacock series 'Mrs. Davis,' NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, April 23, 2023.)

♦ Astrologer and relationship expert Colin Bedell is the author of *Queer Cosmos: The Astrology of Queer Identities & Relationships*. He is at Colin Bedell @queercosmos. View "Everything you need to know about Mercury going into retrograde in Gemini," ABC News, May 28, 2021.)

♦ "I mean this is the whole beauty of like horror movies is that it's such like weird circumstances and there's so much like weird rules about them that it's fun to subvert them and it's also like, the horror movies themselves were doing subverting, were like trying to like, be twisted and do this weird stuff and have these weird commentaries, and this is what makes *Scream* so good, right." (Alex Abad-Santos, a self-professed "flagrant homosexual." From "M3GAN, murder, and mass queer appeal," NPR, It's Been A Minute, January 17, 2023. Weird.)

♦ "I felt like I kind of realized who I was by being with him—or like, I felt like I was allowed to be who I was, and I didn't feel like I needed to be anybody different." (A contemporary woman about her relationship with her *husband*.)

♦ "I hear all this rummaging upstairs in the kitchen. It sounded like multiple people, so my heart started like beating..." (A Temple University coed, about yet another home invasion off campus, in Philadelphia. At the time of the American Revolution, Philadelphia was larger than New York, and it was the capital of the Revolution.)

♦ "Yeah, I was a little bit understanding at first and then it sort of become [sic] frustrating in how it's like straight aggravating (upspeak on "aggravating") because it's like leave us alone (exasperation vocalization) a little bit umm..." (A coed at the University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho, about a quadruple murder of four students, and the national interest in finding the perpetrator or perpetrators.)

♦ "It feels like an impossible place to be worrying about this material we hold without interrogating what it is, what narratives there are to be understood in a more profound way, and how the material came to be in our collection." (Melanie Keen. From "Wellcome Collection closes 'racist, sexist and ableist' Medicine Man display" by Rachel Russell, BBC, November 28, 2022.)

♦ "[It was upsetting] to see her, as a white woman, take on these tropes and profit off of them. She was presenting Latinas in a very toxic way. I think that was definitely very triggering for me as someone who has to conform to certain standards of whiteness, especially in the academic and personal space." (*Graduate student* [italics mine] and content creator Marlene Ramirez about popular creator Chiara King, who is from the U.K. From "How Latin identity became fodder for content" by Manuela Lopez Restrepo, NPR, Pop Culture, Dec. 10, 2022.)

♦ "He was telling his truth and I think unfortunately some of that has been distorted due to some other factors, but I do think he did not intend to tell a truth that wasn't his truth." (Juror Samantha Imrie explaining her vote in the Gwyneth Paltrow-Terry Sanderson trial.)

♦ "Boston police said Michael Perry, 37, was charged with murder Friday after he tried to flee an apartment with a corpse found in it earlier this week, only to end up hanging upside down a dozen floors above the street." ("Alleged Boston killer caught dangling from high-rise by his underwear" by Jacob Geanous, *New York Post*, December 17, 2022. The caption of a photo reads, "Cops said Michael Perry tried to flee with a corpse before they caught him." The caption of another photo reads, "Police arrested Michael Perry and charged with murder on Friday." Commenters remarked on the horrible writing and lack of editing. So many things were wrong with this article, and they raise so many questions.)

♦ "VA probes trooper hired to killed teen's family" by Denise Lavoie, Associated Press, December 20, 2022, on ABC news. After clicking, you find this: "Virginia probes hiring of trooper who killed teen's family." To further clarify: "The Virginia Office of the State Inspector General is investigating the state police hiring of a man who drove across the country, kidnapped a 15-year-old California girl and killed her mother and grandparents."

♦ "Synagogue attacker took hostages, moved jails." (A headline, again at ABC news. After clicking, you find this: "Synagogue attacker moved to new prison after taking hostages.")

♦ A mental health / social justice activist talked about discrimination against people with "behavioral health disabilities." If you type that phrase into Wikipedia, you are sent to "Emotional or behavioral disability." The disclaimer says, "The examples and perspective in this article deal primarily with the United States and do not represent a worldwide view of the subject..."

♦ "Mr. de Ruyter told his son he had a 'knowing' that he was meant to 'be with a number of women in sexual relations with a purpose of meaning' the Globe reported." ("Self-styled spiritual leader John de Ruyter charged with sex crimes" by Holly Honderich, BBC News, 24 Jan 2023.)

♦ "If someone went into my grandma's house with a f-ing shotgun and blew her brains out, I'm going to be sad, I'm going to go through the

whole f-ing array of human emotions, but at some point, if I'm able to really sit with that, there's no level or retribution that's going to make me feel any type of way." (Chas Moore, head of the Austin Justice Coalition in Austin, Texas. Quoted in "Leader of anti-police group wants no prison time for murder, burglars to clean homes as punishment" by MaryAnn Martinez, *The New York Post*, April 5, 2023.)

♦ "They hurted me; I don't want to be a American african; They made me who I'm am today a killer; My father as nothing to do with this; sorry for my hand writing (at top left corner); racist mother fuckers..." (From the note in the pocket of Anthony Dwayne McRae, 43, who committed suicide after he murdered three students at Michigan State University and critically injured others.)

♦ "I'm afraid we have seen the best of AJ and its simply not good enough. Listening to him speak is torturous, he makes zero sense... time to hang them up AJ you day has come and gone (A fight fan.)

♦ "I learned that if I shouted 'Scotty!' I could stop this cycle. In the stunned silence while the feedback loop was momentarily arrested, I could ask Scotty a question about himself, and the echolalia—the parroting of what I said—did not resume. Instead, a torrent of speech would commence, a veritable word-salad that climbed up the drapes, bounced off the ceiling and circled the bed." (*My Own Country: A Doctor's Story* by Abraham Verghese.)

♦ Wikipedia has an entry "Word salad" that is extremely interesting. The phrase is also recognized by Wiktionary and Merriam-Webster. I tend to think of Word salad as contempo-speak—see the glossary entry. In its extreme, though, it can indicate logorrhea, aphasia, or a personality disorder.

♦ see also *boilerplate* (noun), *buzzword* (noun), *doublespeak* (noun), *ese* (legalese, etc.), *funny language*, *language (types)*, *lip service* (pay lip service, etc.), *newspeak* (noun), *speak* (NASA-speak, etc.), *supersizing* (*linguistic supersizing*)

**language: speech**

**contempo-speak: mixture**

**work (work one's way up)**

worked her way up in Hollywood  
she ~ (Halyna Hutchins)

**hierarchy: prep, adv, adj, particle**

**workhorse (noun)**

workhorse  
he's a ~

workhorse of an airplane  
the 767 is a ~ (flying since 1981, also used for cargo)

workhorses of the aviation world  
the 737 and A320 are the ~

**strength & weakness / work & duty: animal / horse**

**workings (noun)**

inner workings  
she started to get involved in the ~ of the party  
they are like black boxes whose ~ are mysterious (brains)

inner workings of the party  
she started to get involved in the ~ (DNC)

**bases / operation: mechanism**

**world (exploration)**

totally different world  
I was taken by the ~ down there (caving)

♦ "I was taken by the totally different world down there. I began to go caving every weekend." (David Bunnell.)

♦ "Under the earth's crust there exists such an enormously great world, in absolute darkness, that we can with some justice speak of a new continent." (Alfred Bogli.)

♦ "You can't really say very much, if anything at all, about below the surface." (David E. Smith, chief of NASA's Laboratory for Terrestrial Physics.)

♦ "After the Roc Noir, I had the feeling of closing a door behind me. I was entering another world. I was far from the world of the living. I had never had this feeling on any other mountain." (Jean-Christophe Lafaille on the east ridge of Annapurna in 2002.)

♦ "The deep sea is full of surprises. We may find species unlike any seen before. The Cayman Trough may be like Arthur Conan Doyle's 'Lost World.'" (From the Web site of Britain's National Oceanography Center.)

**area / environment: earth & world**

## world (on top of the world, etc.)

on top of the world

he was ~ again (happy)

he owned the sport, he was ~ (Hector "Macho" Camacho)

♦ "I'm the king of the world!" (Jack, from the film *Titanic*. And why wouldn't he say that? He is Leonardo DiCaprio!)

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / earth & world**

## world (fantasy)

dream world

it was her ~

the curious Occupation ~ (Japan, 1947)

live in a fantasy world

people think I ~

you can't ~

lived in a make-believe world

I ~ that afforded me great comfort (abused)

retreated into a fantasy world

she ~ (9-year-old, father jailed)

**fantasy & reality: earth & world / mental health**

## world (the whole world, etc.)

whole world

the anger broke out into the open for the ~ to see

whole world of gossip and innuendo

there is a ~ out there to explore

**extent & scope: earth & world**

## world (a world of difference, etc.)

world of difference

listening can make a ~

world of good

it did me a ~

**extent & scope: earth & world**

## world (means the world to me, etc.)

means the world to them

it ~ (care packages to military abroad)

meant the world to me

she ~ (a kind person)

Archie blessed the ground, it just ~ (an online powwow)

thought the world of Elizabeth

Robertson ~ (affection, admiration, etc.)

## feeling, emotion & effect: earth & world world (Disney World, etc.)

World of Warcraft

he spent a lot of time online playing ~

Disney World

live entertainment in all four ~ parks

Trumpworld

the key to understanding ~ is... (politics)

**proper name: earth & world**

## world (in the world, in her world, etc.)

in the (fickle) world of (New York) restaurants

he did what he could to survive ~

in the (staid) world of sumo

a rare event ~

in the (tempestuous) world of boxing

nothing is impossible ~

in the world of (horse) racing

he is a force ~

in the world of mountain biking

North Shore riding is legendary ~ (BC)

in the (murky) world of the (Japanese) bar trade

foreign women working ~

in today's world

it is risky, ~, to go to work (workplace violence)

in her world

it doesn't count ~ (snark about a judge)

in their own world

they're ~ (females having party-within-party at party)

in the design world

people ~ think...

in the bowling world

~, he is perceived as a...

in the surfing world

there have been a number of movies set ~

in a simulated world

influencing events and characters ~ (computers)

in the academic world

a debate that's currently going on ~

in the ancient world

the temple, a pilgrimage site ~

in both worlds

unlike some relatives, he lives ~ (Hispanic in US school)

in different worlds  
experimentalists and theorists live ~s

in a digital world  
we live ~ where many get their news from the internet

in a perfect world  
~ we would be able to...

in the non-Indian world  
~ (Native Americans)

force in the world  
he is a ~ of horse racing

live in (different) worlds  
experimentalists and theorists ~

set in the (surfing) world  
there have been a number of movies ~

survive in the (fickle) world  
he did what he could to ~ of New York restaurants

**environment: earth & world**

### **world (other)**

world of (midtown) Manhattan  
the ~

world of Washington  
the ~ and the business world

world of ghosts  
the ~ that blankets Southeast Asia (fortunetellers, etc.)

world of (branded) goods  
the competitive ~

world of (academic) medicine  
the publish-or-perish ~

world of (dive) travel  
the ~

world of tomorrow  
fixed-wing aircraft will still exist in the ~ (military)

world of black magic and voodoo  
a bizarre ~ (muti murders)

world of street life  
the twilight ~ and girls for hire

world of cyberdrugstores  
the new ~

world of boxing  
welcome to the ~ (a Web site)

world of (extreme) kayaking  
the ~

world of haves and have-nots  
a Dickensian ~

world of rock and roll  
the sex-and-drug-filled ~

man's world  
Silicon Valley was overwhelmingly a ~ (VCs, etc.)

nomad's world  
the Tibetan Plateau is a ~ (over 13,000 feet)

today's world  
~ offers us more choices but, ironically, less satisfaction

art world  
the ~

art-world  
a comment on ~ politics

aviation world  
the ~ uses nautical miles (vs. statute miles)

blog world  
some restaurants have embraced the ~ (instant marketing)

business world  
does the ~ really need Harvard  
the world of Washington and the ~  
the ~ he inhabits

chess world  
young Soviet-trained players dazzled the ~

entertainment world  
the stratospheric reaches of the ~

hockey world  
the news of his arrest shocked the ~

magazine world  
the New York ~

rave world  
he opened the door to the ~ for us

spirit world  
long journeys to the ~ (Inuit)  
West African Islam maintains ties to the African ~

twilight world  
the ~ of street life and women for hire

plant, animal and insect worlds  
how electrification has affected the ~

dog show world  
Mick is the Michael Jordan of the ~ (a blue terrier)

music-business world  
the ~ of midtown Manhattan

high-tech world  
he's striking alliances throughout the ~

celebrity-mad world  
a ~

3-D world  
players roam around a ~

online world  
the ~ has its perils (pro-ana, suicide sites, etc.)

boxing world  
Foreman astounded the ~ by returning to the ring

collecting world  
the ~ (artifacts of pop culture)

sportscasting world  
open up the ~ for women

sex-and-drug-filled world  
the ~ of rock and roll

Muslim world  
the Kaaba is literally the center of the ~

Arab world  
the anger and humiliation emanating from the ~  
he is a folk hero in much of the ~ (Muntader al-Zaidi)

Islamic world  
the Jews who came to Israel from the ~  
the troubled ~  
when Baghdad was capital of the ~ (9th century);  
Iran wants to be a leader in the ~

Dickensian world  
a ~ of haves and have-nots

academic world  
the close-knit Polish ~  
the sentences sent a chill through the ~  
following the war and his return to the ~  
the ~ has started a self-examination

avian world  
the ~ is known for its great migrations (tern, albatross)

bizarre world  
a ~ of black magic and voodoo (muti murders)

different world  
it was a ~ when he started (coaching)

literary world  
the ~ of Belfast

natural world  
people and the ~ are on a collision course

new world  
the ~ of cyberdrugstores

secret world  
the ~ of childhood (Eskil Vogt / *The Innocents*)

tribal worlds  
the mountains shelter ~ lost in time (Caucasus)

virtual worlds  
computer games that create ~ onscreen

leave-me-alone world  
she retreats into her own ~ (athlete on game day)

Michael Jordan of the dog-show world  
Mick is the ~ (a blue terrier)

reaches of the (entertainment) world

the stratospheric ~ of the ~

lives in both worlds  
unlike some relatives, he ~ (Hispanic in US school)

opened up a (whole new) world  
it ~ (radio)

open up the (sportscasting) world  
~ for women

see the world  
people who from a different perspective ~ (autism)

shocked the (hockey) world  
the news of his arrest ~

maintains ties to the (African) spirit world  
West African Islam ~

opened the door to the (rave) world  
he ~ for us

♦ "I'd rather live in his world / than live without him in mine." (Gladys Knight and the Pips.)

♦ "Do you not see it, the little things that keep this wooden world together, the hard work, the discipline..." (Capt. Jack Aubrey, played by Russell Crowe, in the film *Master and Commander*.)

### environment: earth & world

### world (into a world)

stroll into another world  
Wright Creek Trailhead—~

### environment: earth & world

### world (lost world)

celebrate that lost world  
I'm going to ~ (rock journalism)

♦ *The Lost World*, written by Arthur Conan Doyle, was published in 1912. See the excellent Wikipedia article, "Lost world."

### past & present / time: earth & world

### allusion: books & reading

### primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: earth & world

### worm (verb)

wormed into Pakistan's military  
have militant groups ~

wormed its way into my heart  
this book ~

wormed its way into our culture and language  
paper has ~ ("paper things over," etc.)

### attachment: animal / verb

### worm (insult)

"worms"  
she frequently referred to her millions of subjects as ~

### insult: animal / insect

## worm (can of worms)

open up a can of worms  
an investigation will ~

♦ This seems to mean "a tangled mess." The worms lack the sense of affliction that "Pandora's box" entails. I never met a worm I didn't like! And birds like them, too.

**complexity / initiation: creature**

## worm (computers)

worm  
he took an existing ~ and tweaked it (a variant)

worm's code  
it required only a few changes to the original ~

worms and pop-ups  
spam, spyware, viruses, ~ (Internet)

Code Red worm  
protect themselves from the ~ (computers)

Slammer worm  
the ~ that downed corporate networks in January

network worm  
the ~ struck many corporations and compromised data

Internet worm  
a new ~, "Goner," spread across the globe via e-mail

e-mail worm  
the ~ can send itself to all addresses in Outlook  
the ~ attempts to shut down anti-virus products

authors of (viruses and) worms  
~ and viruses (computers)

viruses and worms  
authors of ~ (computers)

**computer: animal**

## wormhole (noun)

wormholes of online content  
don't get distracted by the various ~

entered a strange wormhole  
we ~ relevant to now (Oklahoma bombing podcast)

follows its protagonist down an Internet wormhole  
the book ~

get drawn down these wormholes into strange worlds  
people ~ (conspiracy theories)

**fantasy & reality / portal: hole / physics**

## worm's-eye (adjective)

worm's-eye charm  
the book has a ~ (about a lowly adjunct)

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye / ground, terrain & land / height / insect / position**

## worship (verb)

worship Snowbird Creek  
trout fishing devotees ~ (Graham County, NC)

**enthusiasm / importance & significance / reverence: religion / verb**

## worship (noun)

Manchester United worship  
the BBC's usual ~, what a disgrace

**enthusiasm / importance & significance / reverence: religion**

## worth (benefit)

worth it  
it's not ~

worth (far) more than compulsion  
voluntary discipline is ~

**cost & benefit: money**

## wound (self-inflicted wound)

self-inflicted wounds  
he also suffered politically from ~, like when he...

unforced error and a self-inflicted wound  
he described it as an ~

left him with self-inflicted wounds  
the pandemic has ~ (a politician)

♦ "...the constant danger of attack from Bolshevik forces caused a number of soldiers to intentionally wound themselves for the purpose of evading service at the front; these men were court-martialed, as was a soldier guilty of 'misconduct before the enemy.' Apparently, self-inflicted gunshot wounds were not the only method used to avoid combat: Pvt. Charles F. Kingan was convicted of contracting 'a venereal disease through neglect thereby unfitting himself for active military duty against the enemy.' Some seventy men were convicted of this last offense; almost all received three months confinement at hard labor to discourage such behavior in the future." ("Bolsheviks, Polar Bears, and Military Law: The Experiences of Army Lawyers in North Russia and Siberia in World War I," by Fred L. Borch III.)

**failure, accident & impairment: military / weapon**

## wound (salt in a wound)

salt on the wounds  
it's ~ of the family (a tragic family accident)

pouring salt on their wounds  
the arrest is only ~ (a tragic family accident)

rubs salt in the wounds  
it ~ to find that...

rub salt into Saints' wound  
to ~, Liverpool immediately scored (YNWA)

rub (some kind of) salt in the wound  
does that ~ that... (injustice on top of injustice)

**affliction: sensation / materials & substances**

## wound (lick one's wounds)

lick their wounds

the battered Anglo-French forces retired to Shanghai to ~  
Man U flew home to ~ after their Europa League trauma

licking their wounds

a lot of stock market investors are ~

♦ "Manchester United must now lick their wounds..." (Man Utd 0-7 Liverpool.)

**behavior / conflict: animal / predation**

## wound (figurative wounds of Vietnam, etc.)

wounds of Vietnam

healing the ~ (dissent vs. service)

wound of an unresolved conflict

the open ~

wounds of the past

cold cases rip open the ~ (crime investigations)

wounds of silence

the ~ (sexual problems can wreck people's lives / *Economist*)

wounds of war

and with the ~ all but healed... (US / Vietnam)

wounds of the war

the center addresses both the invisible and visible ~

war wounds

the ~ are still raw (between Japan and its neighbors)

childhood wound

real healing of our ~s

long-standing wounds

the report could heal ~ (Hillsborough disaster)

soul wound

some call it a ~ (indigenous boarding schools)

deep wounds

the racist taunts opened ~ (Indonesian West Papua)

emotional wounds

people use drugs or sex to medicate ~

invisible wound

soldiers suffer from ~s (combat)  
trying to heal the ~s caused by gunfire (gang violence)

old wounds

talking with me opened ~ (World War II vets)

open wound

this is an ~ in Swedish society (murder of Olof Palme)  
because it is still an open case it is an ~ (manhunt)

racial wounds

help heal old ~

invisible and visible wounds

the center addresses both the ~ of the war

carry those wounds into adulthood

those who ~ (sexual abuse)

heal (old racial) wounds

help ~

heal the wounds

a ceremony of reconciliation meant to ~ (Nez Perce War)

licking their wounds

a lot of stock market investors are ~

open (old) wounds

these pictures will ~ (prisoner abuse repeated)

opens (old) wounds

today's decision ~ (results of a Swiss referendum)

reopen (old) wounds

trials would ~ (Bloody Sunday)

reopen (these old) wounds

why ~ (historic civil rights crimes)

♦ "You've got to open the wound and clean it before it can heal. It's as if we've had this open gash on the arm for 40 years and have done nothing but put a bandage on it." (James E. Prince III, on the arraignment of Edgar Ray Killen for the murders of 3 civil-rights workers 40 years earlier in Mississippi.)

♦ "Afghanistan is my sucking chest wound... wars do not end with a withdrawal or retreat or retrograde or the signing of a peace treaty. / Instead, they ebb and flow within the memories of those who were there and the ones who received an unfortunate knock on the door one day from people in uniforms." ("A U.S. Marine, A Curious Boy And An Unfathomable Moment" by AP investigative reporter James LaPorta, at NPR, September 9, 2021.)

♦ "A knife wound heals; a wound caused by words does not." (A Turkish proverb.)

**mental health: health & medicine**

**affliction / feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / mark / wounds & scars**

## wound (tightly wound)

tightly wound

he was bright, hardworking, but he seemed ~

**character & personality: mechanism**

**feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism**

## wounded (emotionally)

wounded egos

her lack of interest in tending to the ~ (Liz Cheney)

wounded pride

~, that's all that is...

walking wounded

their union of the ~ was short-lived (2 actors)

♦ "A knife wound heals; a wound caused by words does not." (A Turkish proverb.)

**feeling, emotion & effect / mental health: health & medicine**

## wounded (condition)

wounded

the only candidate he trails is ~, perhaps mortally so

wounded nation

we were proud of our ~ (directly after 9/11)

fatally wounded

the campaign is ~ (politics / election)

remains (badly) wounded

the economy ~

**condition & status: health & medicine**

## woven

woven into the fabric

cheating is ~ of accepted conduct

Arab Americans are deeply ~ of America

Mexico is deeply ~ of the US economy

woven through the fabric

their legacy is ~ of our nation today (WW II generation)

**division & connection: cloth**

## wow (verb)

wowing audiences

he has been ~ for decades (a singer)

wow him

I did everything I could to ~ (an actor about his director)

**feeling, emotion & effect: exclamation / verb**

## wow (as noun)

wow factor

there's no "~" there (a man's service record)

I enjoyed the theatrics, the ~ (some tech show)

'wow' goals

Russo is developing a habit of scoring ~ at Euro 2022

wow moment

it creates a really ~ ("Deep Nostalgia" at MyHeritage)

stop at wow

his curiosity tended to ~ without getting to why (interview)

**feeling, emotion & effect: exclamation / part of speech**

## wrangle (verb)

wrangles over health care

GOP ~ (politics)

wrangle over debt limit

lawmakers continue to ~

wrangle over visas

U.S. and Cuba ~

wrangle for water

farmers and frackers ~ in shadow of drought (California)

wrangles his girls

Richard ~ (an overbearing tennis father)

wrangles Texas Longhorns

Alabama Crimson Tide ~ (American football)

wrangle those votes

he's using the full power of his office to ~ (politics)

♦ "Movin', movin', movin', / Though they're disapprovin' / Keep them dogies movin', rawhide! / Don't try to understand 'em, / Just rope 'em, throw, and brand 'em, / Soon we'll be livin' high and wide... / My heart's calculatin' / My true love will be waitin' / Be waitin' at the end of my ride..." (The song "Rawhide.")

**conflict / control & lack of control: animal / cows & cattle / horse / verb**

## wrangler (person)

Data Wranglers

Online Editor, ~, VFX Artists... (job categories / films)

political wrangler

to get things done you needed a ~ (James Baker)

press wrangler

she started on the campaign as a ~ (press office)

snake wrangler

Pinyo is Bangkok's chief ~ (snake removal)

♦ "Once the ice blocks are lined up, they're pushed into a wooden chute and lifted, by pulley, into the ice house. A group of young, energetic 'wranglers' takes over from there. The ice blocks glide in like giant, high-speed hockey pucks. The crew inside has to be capable of dodging the blocks, hooking them with an ice pick and then stacking the 250-300-lb blocks one layer at a time until the ice house is nearly full." ("In Maine, Residents Slice Through Thick Ice To Keep A tradition From Melting Away" by Susan Sharon, NPR, All Things Considered, February 26, 2020. It's a slippery business!)

♦ "No, no, no, we don't need a coat wrangler." (A cute cartoon from Progressive Insurance. A man is trying to de-program first-home buyers from acting like their parents in a movie theater. The word's appearance in advertising is telling. It is the final stage of acceptance and sanctioning. And the ubiquity of advertising in the lives of most Americans will ensure the usage will spread.)

♦ "By 1830, nearly 20,000 wild cattle...roamed the main island alone, pillaging gardens, hiding in forests and ravines, and posing a serious threat to the locals. As the authors casually remind us, 'longhorns were the same breed of cattle that wranglers in Alta California would sometimes pit against grizzly bears for sport.'" ('Aloha Rodeo' Offers Alternative To The Cowboy Cliché' by Carson Vaughan, NPR, Book reviews, June 27, 2019. The book is by David Wolman and Julian Smith. It focuses on the cattle trade and the *paniolas*, the cowboys, of Hawaii.)

**conflict / control & lack of control: animal / cows & cattle / horse / person**

**person: animal / cows & cattle / horse**

## wrangling

wrangling

after weeks of~, an Israeli government takes shape

wrangling over subpoenas

the legal ~ (politics)

backstage wrangling

after weeks of~, the Party has decided...

political wrangling

Constitution reading sparks ~ (Congress)

aggravating procedural wrangling  
~ has wasted valuable time (climate change)

years of wrangling  
after ~, the VA will provide vets with housing on...

rancor and wrangling  
the election will cause much ~ (politics)

wrangling (over Yellowstone snowmobiles) ends  
15 years of ~ (new rules)

**conflict / control & lack of control: animal / cows & cattle / horse**

### **wrap (under wraps)**

kept the book under wraps  
government pressure ~

kept his debt under wraps  
he ~ (financial infidelity)

keep it under wraps  
if they know something, they ~ (cops)

keep their wedding under wraps  
the couple tried to ~

kept under wraps  
terms of the agreement were ~

**concealment & lack of concealment: cloth**

### **wrap (take the wraps off something / inauguration)**

took the wraps off its (latest) project  
on Monday, Microsoft ~

**inauguration: cloth / verb**

### **wrap (take the wraps off something / concealment)**

takes the wraps off a (top-secret) mission  
the book ~

**concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / verb**

### **wraparound**

wraparound porch  
on the west side of its ~ porch

wraparound (double) deck  
its ~ of stands

wraparound (NASCAR) sunglasses  
they've got ~ and mullets

**configuration: cloth**

### **wrapped (covered)**

wrapped with (thick) clouds  
the upper mountain was ~ (Everest)

♦ "The living glow of the desert dawn wrapped a blue turban around the mountain's lofty peak." (Ibrahim al-Koni.)

**cover / resemblance: cloth**

### **wrapped (wrapped up in something)**

wrapped up in the sex trade  
middle-class kids also get ~

wrapped up in being  
my identity had been ~ an athlete

get wrapped up in the sex trade  
middle-class kids also ~

**involvement: cloth**

### **wrap up (verb)**

wrap up within a few weeks  
the work might ~ (investigation)

wrap up in 2020  
the construction project was expected to ~

wrap up in May or June  
that investigation is expected to ~ (government)

wraps on April 15  
the session ~ (state legislature)

wrapped up the case  
we ~ (an investigation)

wrap up a deal  
is that possible that this week they could ~

wrap up the demonstration  
activists agreed to ~ if the police...

wrapped up his report  
he ~ on the president's address by... (newscaster)

wraps up today's show  
that ~, thanks to everyone...

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: cloth / verb  
starting, going, continuing & ending: cloth / verb**

### **wreck (verb)**

wrecked his career  
a throwing problem ~ (catcher can't throw to pitcher)

wrecking the markets  
his wildly irresponsible comments are ~ (politics)

**destruction / failure, accident & impairment: crashes & collisions / ruins / verb**

### **wreck (train wreck)**

see *train wreck*

### **wreck (person)**

wreck  
emotionally, he was a ~

coke-sniffing wreck

he was a ~

nervous wreck

I was a ~ at the job interview

**destruction / failure, accident & impairment: crashes & collisions / person / ruins**

**feeling, emotion & effect: crashes & collisions / destruction / ruins**

## wreckage (noun)

wreckage of misfortune

money to salvage a decent life from the ~

social wreckage

she describes the ~ of her bipolar episodes

salvage a (decent) life from the wreckage

money to ~ of misfortune

found a way out of his own wreckage

he ~ with the therapist's help

♦ "Hedge funds, after all, didn't make these markets. They just played in them. That meant that when the market crashed, as it would, rich opportunities would emerge from the wreckage. The game for hedge funds was not so much to ride markets up as to predict the movements within them. Down could be every bit as lucrative." (*Weapons Of Math Destruction* by Cathy O'Neil.)

**destruction: crashes & collisions / ruins**

## wrecked

wrecked by (phone) hacking

her life was ~

**destruction: crashes & collisions / ruins**

## wrecking ball (noun)

wrecking ball to the status quo

the Black Panther Party promised radical action, a ~

wrecking-ball agenda

they have a ~ that is rooted in nationalism (politics)

5ft 10in wrecking ball

there was nowhere to hide against the ~ (Tyson vs. Bruno)

anti-globalist wrecking ball

she has done much to protect the UN from Trump's ~

take a wrecking ball to the organization

are you going to ~ (an financial official)

taken a wrecking ball to reform

they have ~ (Supreme Court)

takes a wrecking ball to its past

a danger of excess if the country ~ (cancel culture)

♦ "Australia has a long and depressing history of inadvertently introducing wrecking ball species as pets and livestock, or for sport. Examples include foxes, pigs and rabbits, goats, camels and cats... but it is the cane toad that is widely reviled about all else." ("The rapid spread of Australia's cane toad pests" by Phil Mercer, BBC, 22 March 2017.)

**destruction / force: tools & technology**

## wrench (throw a wrench into something)

wrench in the gears

antiviral drugs are a ~ of the genetic machinery

wrench in (long-term U.S.) policy

China just threw a major ~ by... (see quote below)

monkey wrench

the announcement has thrown a ~ into those plans (antitrust)

throw a wrench into (contract) talks

the investigation could really ~ (union)

throw a wrench into the works

this could ~

throw a wrench in the works

does this ~ (negotiations)

♦ "China just threw a major wrench in long-term U.S. policy in the Middle East by arranging the Saudi-Iranian negotiations. It's a very severe blow to the United States. Control of the Middle East has been a prime concern of U.S. foreign policy." (Noam Chomsky, who views the Abraham Accords as sinister.)

**disruption: engine / mechanism / verb**

## wrenching (adjective)

wrenching (personal) account

a ~ (*I'll Be Gone In The Dark* by Michelle McNamara)

wrenching climax

the novel reaches a ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation**

## wrestle (verb)

wrestling over her emotions

she is ~ (a celebrity)

wrestles over whether

he ~ he should have moved to Atlanta

wrestle with

that's one of the issues we have to ~ (terrorism)

wrestle with (tough) decisions

as you ~

wrestling with these issues

the government is ~ (info in wartime)

wrestle with its (economic) problems

Uzbekistan is now free to ~

wrestle with changing

they ~ the system

♦ In "A Photographer's Pilgrimage," the great Kazuyoshi Nomachi has wonderful pictures and text relating to the actual annual wrestling matches in the Nuba Mountains in southern Sudan. A victor might win a wife.

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: sports & games / verb / wrestling**

## wring (create)

wring a (big) profit from his restaurant

he hopes to ~

wring art out of the rubble  
in Kosovo, artists ~

wring (more) water from (existing) supplies  
conservation can ~

**creation & transformation: pressure / verb**

**taking & removing: pressure / verb**

### wring (coerce)

wring concessions from banks  
the government hopes to ~

wring (pay) concessions from the union  
the city wants to ~

**coercion & motivation / oppression: hand / pressure / verb**

### wring (wring one's hands)

see *hand* (*wring one's hands*)

### wringer (through the wringer)

through the wringer  
Nooo, this is terrible, that poor family has been ~

social-media wringer  
Y.A. titles that passed through the ~ (books)

gone through the wringer  
she has ~ with assorted investigations (a politician)

going through the wringer  
you been ~ with all this shit going on (Bob Menery)

put contestants through the wringer  
they ~ (a quiz show)

put the FAA through the wringer  
the congressman ~ (congressional hearings)

put his (approval) rating through the wringer  
the government shutdown ~ (politics)

put through the wringer  
a black comedy about a weakling being ~  
he has been ~ this week and deserves it (a sports doper)  
Jolie is ~ in the film (*Those Who Wish Me Dead*)

♦ Younger teachers might not know what the washboard in a *washboard road* refers to. But I can remember my mother using one, as well as an electric wringer, and a clothes line.

♦ see also *mill* (through the mill)

**experience: mechanism**

**accusation & criticism / affliction / oppression: clothing & accessories / mechanism / pressure**

### wrinkle (noun)

another wrinkle  
~ in the trans-Atlantic relationship concerns Moscow

some wrinkles  
there are some ~ to be ironed out

iron out wrinkles  
they still need to ~ in their new contract

**flaws & lack of flaws: cloth**

### wrist (slap on the wrist)

slap on the wrist  
he needs more than just a ~ (justice / sentencing)  
this ~ is an absolute miscarriage of justice  
he served 13 years, not exactly a ~ (prison)

slap on the wrist for a pedophile  
a ~ (title of article)

financial slap on the wrist  
the FTC's fine will be more than just a ~ (on Facebook)

**punishment & recrimination: hand**

### write (create)

write more chapters  
it's been a storybook season, hopefully we can ~ (team)

write a (new) chapter  
the protests could ~ in Arab politics

write his most glorious chapter  
on Sunday he could ~ (Raheem Sterling, Euro 2020)

**creation & transformation: writing & spelling**

### write (write out / off)

write you out  
don't let anybody ~ (dwarf plays basketball)

wrote him off  
people ~, said he had no heart, he quit... (a boxer)

wrote me off  
my last fight everybody ~ (a boxer)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: writing & spelling**

### writing (writing on the wall)

the writing on the wall for his campaign  
with ~, he announced his withdrawal (election)

saw the writing on the wall  
I don't think anyone ~ (private-equity firm shuts hospital)

**future / time: religion / writing & spelling**

**fate, fortune & chance: Bible / religion / writing & spelling**

### written (written on it, etc.)

written all over it  
the attack has Iran ~

written all over this  
this has got upset ~

**evidence: writing & spelling**

### written (fate)

written

it was ~ (said by a Muslim)

written in the stars

Neymar struck the winning penalty, it was ~, perhaps

♦ Auda: (To a stricken-looking Lawrence) Well, Lawrence... (Lawrence, distraught, rushes away, and Auda addresses Ali.) What ails the Englishman? / Ali: That that he killed was the man he brought out of the Nefud. / Auda: It was written, then... Better to have left him. (From the great David Lean film *Lawrence of Arabia*.)

**fate, fortune & chance: religion / writing & spelling**

**future / time: religion / writing & spelling**

**written off**

basically written off

he was ~, but he defied all his critics (Marvin Gaye)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: writing & spelling**

**wrong (sarcasm)**

wrong on all levels

the chant is ~ (“Rent boy” chant / Chelsea soccer)

bigger than the club...WRONG

he thought he was ~ (soccer snark)

what could go wrong

parents go on vacay and leave house to teens, ~  
cranks with guns, ~ (a protest)

just wrong

this is ~ (a Trans Day of Vengeance protest in D.C.)

so wrong

this is ~

- ♦ “he thought he was bigger than the club...WRONG.” (Soccer snark.)
- ♦ “I always joke, like, running thousands of feet of pipe filled with water in the Minnesota winter, like, what could go wrong, right?” (Maintaining an ice park for winter climbing.)
- ♦ “He would disparage another physicist by saying, ‘He is not even wrong.’”
- ♦ “holy crap, this is idiotic on so many levels” (A tweet about a tweet.)
- ♦ “This is so horribly wrong what happened.” (Mother about her murdered son.)
- ♦ “There’s a right way, a wrong way, and the Army way.” (Enlisted men’s wisdom.)

**contempo-speak: sarcasm**

**X**

**x (Chicanx, etc.)**

Chicanx

~ activists and writers (1970s)

Filipinx

the gender-neutral terms “Latinx” and “~”

girlx

sports night for ~ (Cambridge, MA / elementary-school age)  
~ is for all who identify as girls or with girlhood

Latinx

the ~ community

Afro-Latinx

Lin-Manuel apologizes for lack of ~ actors in *The Heights*

Folx

an unapologetic focus on Black ~ in these places and spaces

folx

~ is a nod to the gay community

Merriam-Webster has an entry for ~

womxn

“~” removes the “man” from “woman”

Womxn

she won WWU’s ~ of Color Empowerment Faculty Award

♦ “Latinx. Please stop it.” (An online commenter.)

♦ A Pew Research Center survey found that about one in four U.S. Hispanics have heard of the term Latinx, but just 3 percent use it, and those are usually young Hispanic women.

♦ “Wokeness is not just a social philosophy, but an elite status marker, a strategy for personal advancement. You have to possess copious amounts of cultural capital to feel comfortable using words like *intersectionality*, *heteronormativity*, *cisgender*, *problematize*, *triggering*, and *Latinx*... Wokeness becomes a way to intimidate Boomer administrators and wrest power from them.” (“How The Bobos Broke America” by David Brooks, *The Atlantic*, September 2021.)

♦ “Thinx: Absorbs Period Worries.” (Thinx to pay millions to settle class-action lawsuit.)

**inclusion & exclusion: affix / language**

**language: letters & characters**

**x-ray (noun)**

x-ray of the weaknesses

the pandemic has been an ~ of our social safety net

X-ray of Iranian society

*A Hero* feels like an ~ (Asghar Farhadi)

X-ray eye

he has a ~ about people and situations (comic Colin Quinn)

♦ “Mungiu is offering an anatomical scan of the Romanian body politic. But not only the Romanian one...” (“This Romanian film about immigration and vanishing jobs hits close to home” by John Powers, NPR, Fresh Air, May 2, 2023.)

♦ “Moms have X-ray eyes.”

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: health & medicine / picture**

**Y**

**y (websites, drug names, etc.)**

Blavity

~ is a tech company for Black millennials

Brainly

~ is a Polish education technology company...

chewy.com

~, where pet lovers shop

Etsy

~ sellers launch strike over increased fees

goatse  
~.cx, the internet shock site...

Grammarly  
let ~ do that for you

lively  
Ad \$ ~ (“See If You have This Penny Worth \$1.2 million)

Muckety  
~ creates maps showing paths of influence (website)

Nerdly  
Matthew Turner at ~

Newsy  
~.com

Ozy  
~ Media shuts down after reports of...

Queerty  
~ covers gay-oriented lifestyle and news

Streamy  
the YouTube ~ Awards (the Streamys)

Swiggy  
popular Indian food aggregator ~

Teami  
shop ~ detox teas (skinny, colon cleanse, etc.)

Tubi  
watch films for free with ads on ~

Wegovy  
~ works (obesity drug)

Wondery  
~ is an American podcast network (2016)

♦ The question, as always, is *why*...

**contempo-speak: affix**  
**y (pulpy, etc.)**

animal-y  
the samples were very ~ (a male evolutionary biologist)

angsty  
~ music genre with roots in D.C. (crossword clue)  
we were listening to the same ~ music (proto Pop-punk)  
the ~ Zeitgeist of his generation  
God, I’m just so ~ (closeted Lesbian teen)

awards-y  
some of his performances have felt ~

baddie  
the cop is a stock ~, tossing N-bombs... (a play)  
why are British actors so good at playing ~s

besti  
when someone you think is your ~ doesn’t... (best friend)

barnyardy

a ~ cayenne tang (sweaty subway car)

beachy  
the aptly named Crabby Shack, casual and ~ (restaurant)  
Dua Lipa shares ~ pics from down under

Blair Witch-y  
there is sort of a ~ sort of vibe (outdoors at night)

bloopy  
so the mud pods are, like, very ~ (Yellowstone Park)

boozy  
easy shortcakes with ~ whipped cream (Grand Marnier)

bougie  
Tiffany, a ~ sorority sister...  
the ~ part of downtown (across Atlantic Avenue)  
~ 25-year-olds who value branding over substance

bratty  
the ~ and the bold

breezy  
let’s not knock ~ distraction (*New Yorker’s* Naomi Fry)  
finicky photorealism and ~ artistic license (*The Crown*)

bubbly  
“Hi, guys,” the ~ senior says to the cops (noise complaint)

buzzy  
see *buzzy* (adjective)

cartoony  
a fantastical, ~ realm (Teletubbies)

catchy  
it’s punk but it’s still ~ (Pop-punk)  
her music is masterfully ~ (Leah Kate)

catty  
‘~’ workplace conflict (women)

cheeky  
the singer’s ~ charisma

cheesy  
it was super ~  
you know, it sounds a little bit ~ to say, but I was really...  
ahhh, the era when movies were ~ but not cringey  
easy, ~ (the film *Into the Blue*)

chocolatey  
McDonald’s adds new ~ pretzel McFlurry to the menu  
and then the brown color got like a denser, thicker ~?

clickbait-y  
Facebook changed its algorithm to exclude “~” headlines  
some of her thumbnails are ~ (content creator)

clingy  
antidepressants made me less needy, and ~, and happier  
“Bug a Boo” is about a guy who’s too ~

comfy  
snuggle up in ~ pajamas

corny

the ~ aspects of my personality  
people with guns could be pretty ~ about them

creamy  
deliciously ~ with 2 grams of protein...

creepy  
the cinematography was just as ~ as it was in...

cringe-y  
see *cringe-y* (*adjective*)

cringy  
see *cringe-y* (*adjective*)

culty  
a ~ celebrity church based on Hillsong

cutie  
you're a ~ (Hunt 4K porn site)

dreamy  
it's a ~ call to get as an actor

egg-shelly  
I'm putting it out there so no one is in the dark or feels ~

FBI-y  
something ~, please (editor's request to photo staffers)

feely  
officers aren't typically touchy ~, huggy type people

flirties  
this girl's gonna have the ~ rollin' in (online dating)

flirty  
they sparked romance rumors with their ~ display  
romantic country getaways and ~ after-work drinks (ABC)

foody  
this Italian ~ spot...

fratty  
she sought to update the "~" humor (epic marketing fail)

Freaky  
"Super ~ Girl" by Nicki Minaj...

fringe-y  
some ~ men's rights groups (NPR's Bob Mondello)

fringier  
still, her ~ thoughts distressed her (Joshua Ferris)

frisky  
if you're feeling a little ~, check out... (NPR's Ailsa Chang)

fudgey  
her sweet, ~ red velvet shortbread sticks

fuzzy  
see *fuzzy* (*adjective*)

Gayly  
the ~ Prophet, a queer Harry Potter analysis podcast

geeky  
his childhood was solitary and ~

girlie  
she was very sort of feminine really and ~  
remember Shrek~ (Heidi Klum / Who? Weekly)

girly-girly  
Minaj's ~ alter-ego...

glowy  
everyone is thirsty for ~, healthy skin...

goe-y  
when it comes to pandas, the internet goes all ~

goofy  
I was a pretty ~ kid (a FTM trans)  
it's ~ and glitchy (*Saints Row* video game)  
the cast of *White Lotus* share a ~ moment (SAG awards)

gossipy  
I found myself being too ~ sometimes (petty, bickering)

Gothy  
it's sort of self-consciously ~ (movie review)

grifty  
this is so bad and so ~ (wellness fraud / an influencer)

grungy  
the bratty and the bold, the ~ and the poppy (Gayle)

hellscape-y  
it sounds a bit ~ to me (Zoe Kleinman about Twitter)

homie  
you ain't my ~

hookiness  
the narcotic ~ inherent to his melodies (Drake)

hosty  
I'm gonna put on my most naïve ~ voice (Scott Simon)

Hottie  
Megan Thee Stallion's video series "~ World"

huggy  
officers aren't typically touchy feely, ~ type people

Huggy  
a horror video game character named ~ Wuggy

icky  
when you talk about your followers, it becomes a little ~  
because men think they're ~... (periods)  
["You gross me out, I've got the ick" / Leah Kate]

insider-y  
I squeezed in as much ~ gay-culture stuff as I could...  
all of that is pretty ~ (political-party machinations)

janky  
the ~ Comuta-Car (Simone Giertz's Cheese Louise)  
he offered his driver a ~ gamsahamnida (thank you / Korean)

jankey  
supply chains are still kind of ~ (Jacob Goldstein / NPR)

judgy  
we live in a ~ age (Louis Menand / *The New Yorker*)

kooky  
I don't like spooky, I like ~ (Who? Weekly podcast)  
a series of ~ encounters

mathy  
it can be a really ~ high (solving crosswords)

meaty  
see *meaty* (*substance*)

micromanagey  
I became more ~ (Caroline Polachek)

networky  
everyone is super supportive but not in a ~ feeling way

new-agey  
Adam Neumann and his ~ wife Rebekah (WeCrashed)

newsy  
~ documentaries are coming off as rushed...  
let's start with a ~ question (NPR "science")

normie  
~ voters, including ~ non-white voters

outdoorsy  
everyone can be ~ (PBS America Outdoors)

outsidery  
it felt like ~ type of music (Pop-punk)

performancy  
she had tattoos down her arms and was very ~, dramatic...

pervy  
they both look ~ (a Hollywood producer and director)

plucky  
Janine, *Abbott Elementary's* ~ protagonist

poopy  
there's ~ diapers and less sleep, things like that, right?  
we live in a fallen, gross, ~ reality (Glen Weldon)  
it had a ~, stinky kind of flair to it, you know what I mean?  
the interview has been edited so it isn't too ~ (Linda Poon)

poppy  
it's punk but ~ (Pop-punk)  
the bratty and the bold, the grungy and the ~ (Gayle)

Poppy  
the game ~ Playtime (with Huggy Wuggy)

potty  
children yelling ~ words at smart speakers (Ari Shapiro)

pouty  
a punchy and ~ rock nugget (10 Things I Hate About You)

pulpy  
~ filmmaking at its entertaining best  
I can read a bit faster if the book is ~ (Molly Young)

punchy

really ~ powerful moments (a queer LatinX youth poet)  
"10 Things I Hate About You" is ~ and pouty (Leah Kate)

queenie  
gay men were loud and silly and ~ (Richard Lawson)

radio-producery  
and you approached this in a very ~ way (podcaster)

rapey  
Choe described engaging in "~ behavior" in 2014  
one of his buddies was getting all date-~ with Treece...  
my girlfriend says he's got ~ eyes (Portland, Oregon)

rascally  
the flavor of ~ pop punk is now everywhere (SOUR)

really  
see *really* (*and REEE•lee, etc.*)

rom-comy  
so sweet and traditionally ~ (*Heartstopper* TV series)

roséy  
what was once a ~ side hustle (rosé wine / *Vulture*)

same-y  
the conventional wisdom is all pretty ~ (fashion industry)  
everything felt very ~

saucy  
you know I got the sauce, you know I'm ~ (Rihanna)  
her captions are coy, her poses ~ (gymnast Olivia Dunne)

scammy  
he cold-called prey to sell them on ~ investments

schoolies  
high-school grads revel during ~ week (Australia)

scold-y  
politics is quite moralistic and ~ in tone now

selfie  
are you ready to pout for your next ~ sesh  
she fell off a cliff while taking a ~

sexy  
see *sexy* (*adjective*)

sheisty (schiesty, etc.)  
that's as ~ as it gets... (an approving NFL player)

shitty  
your ~ parents  
they are pioneers of this ~ form of heckling  
469 results for "~" and counting at NPR

skanky  
she's a ~ stripper (one woman about another)

skeevie  
people are ~ (monkeypox)

sleazy  
where he draws the line between sexy and ~ (John Legend)

soapy

a YA adaptation with lots of ~ complications (TV series)

spammy  
a lot of the links were ~ (after reports of school shooting)

sparkly  
the 20-year-old wore a sleeveless ~ black dress

spicy  
~ trends (Ad / online clickbait)

spoil-ery  
now we'll get into the more ~ aspects of the film...  
our discussion will be so ~, right? (about a film)

spooky  
I don't like ~, I like kooky (Who? Weekly podcast)

spunky  
she was sharp and funny and ~

squirmy  
the ~ things in her personal life

stabby  
I'm feeling ~ today (meme)  
but it's only a matter of time before things get ~ (*X* film)

Stinky  
*Babytalk* magazine's "~ Diaper Awards" (to anti-moms)

Streamy  
Gabbie Hanna at the 2018 ~ Awards

suffer-y  
this really deeply ~ experience (climber Emily Harrington)

sunnies  
the ~ best suited to the open road (fashion sunglasses)  
Corey Worthington's yellow ~ (Australia)

sweary  
Strong language, A ~ blog about swearing

swicky  
the way it kind of leans on trauma sometimes felt a little ~

talky  
this is a very ~ show (*Straight Line Crazy*)

teary  
she took a ~ selfie and posted it

techy  
we should not overlook less ~ remedies for loneliness

thingies  
I'm just trying to get more of these ~ (female)  
see those yellow sparkly ~ right behind Dr. Strange  
a pleather tunic with shoulder ~ (Glen Weldon)

thingy  
and that glitter spray ~ (Glen Weldon)  
a metal glove~ called the Infinity Gauntlet

thirsty  
everyone is ~ for glowy, healthy skin  
I can be ~ over a guy (deaf activist Raven Sutton)

thotty  
Beyonce's 'Renaissance' is ~, naughty and ethereal

touchy  
offers aren't typically ~ feely, huggy type people

trendy  
pumpkin cheesecake cookies are the ~ fall treat...

tricky  
navigating one's identity can be a little ~  
the need to be liked can be ~ (Andee Tagle)

troll-y  
it seemed more than a bit ~ (Dahlia Lithwick)

Trumpy  
GOP braces for more ~ moments (The Note: ABC News)  
update New York is VERY conservative and ~

vampy  
her ~ off-Broadway comedy *Nollywood Dreams*

wacky  
she brings a certain ~ sensibility (Linda Holmes)

Whoopsies!  
~ we can't find what you're looking for (NPR link to store)

'Who-y'  
this is a very ~ thing for a Them (*Who Weekly*)

yucky  
how to make poached eggs that are not ~  
I don't think it's ~, its normal (vaginal seeding)  
15,378 results for "~" and counting (at NPR)

yummy  
anything pumpkin is ~

zeitgeist-y  
*Sex and the City* is about as ~ a show as one can get  
the first season proved a ~ hit (HBO's *Industry*)

zeitgeisty  
the controversies and ~ debates (over the old Teletubbies)  
a bullshit, ~ social media argument

♦ "They're creepy and they're kooky, / Mysterious and spooky, / They're all together ooky, / The Addams Family." (The Addams Family theme song.)

♦ "It doesn't embrace the overblown-y-ness of... (Linda Holmes of Pop Culture Happy Hour reviewing a film. *Y plus ness!*)

♦ "The way it kind of leans on trauma sometimes felt a little swicky." (A discussion about Alex Garland's film *Men* on NPR's Pop Culture Happy Hour.)

♦ "Guess Which 52-Year-Old Hottie Shared This Teeny Black Bikini Selfie!" (TMZ.)

♦ David Thompson, aka Tinky Winky... (The original *Teletubbies*.)

♦ "Sheryl was really exceptionally talented..."

♦ "He he...; deeply deeply...; really really...; very very...; obviously...; already...; effortlessly...; especially...; understandably...; deeply...; truly...; obviously...; finally... (Female "gushing" with pronounced—strongly marked—adverbs ending in long e. White. Born and raised in Ohio. Successful author. Born 1967-1968 (early Gen X). Lives in Kansas. Straight with children.)

♦ "So the mud pods are, like, very—I would say they're very bloopy—bloop, bloop, bloop. Because you have some gas coming up through that, that's just coming up through the mud, and it makes a cool sound."

(A female high-school biology teacher leading students on a field trip to Yellowstone National Park.)

♦ "When kids yell 'Alexa, play poop,' you'll hear these songs," NPR, All Things Considered, September 9, 2022.)

♦ Squealy; jazzy; campy... (A young white male music critic.)

♦ Crunchy; filthy... (Contempo-speak about contempo-music.)

♦ "This message comes from NPR sponsor Yogi Tea. For a delicious way to start your day, steep a citrusy cup of Yogi Sweet Tangerine Positive Energy Tea, blended with invigorating Yerba Mate..."

♦ "Easy blackberry mint biscuit shortcakes with boozy whipped cream..."

♦ "Every Bay film is cheesy, but his one counts as high-speed cheese, grilled to the max by Danny's thoughtful advice: 'Just. Drive. Fast.'" ("Restless: 'Paris, 13<sup>th</sup> District' and 'Ambulance,' by Anthony Lane, *The New Yorker*, April 18, 2022.)

♦ "It's a bit nutty." (Austin Powers drinks Fat Bastard's stool sample, thinking it is coffee, in *Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me*.)

♦ Absolutely (contempo-speak); *actually* (contempo-speak), *basically* (contempo-speak), *definitely* (contempo-speak), *obviously* (contempo-speak), *really* (and REEE\*lee, etc.)... (Adverbs beloved by contempo-speakers that end with long e.)

♦ Abby (Abigale); Addy (Adriana); Ali (Alexandra); Allie; Ally; Amy; Andee; Andie; Annie; Ashley; Aubrey; Bambi; Barbie; Berly (Kimberly / female); Bethany; Billie (female); Bobbi (female); Bobbie (female); Bodie (a fictional female character); Brandi; Bri; Brie; Briony; Britney; Brittanee; Brittany; Brittini; Cady; Candi; Carrie; Casey (female); Cassidy (female); Charity; Charlie (female); Charly (female); Chelsea; Chelsy; Cheri; Chrissy; Daisey; Darcy; Debbi; Debbie; Debi; Dede; Dee; Dee Dee (Dorice); Destinee; Ebony (female); Emily; Evie; Felicity; Freddie (Frederique); Gabbie; Gabby; Haley; Hayley; Holley; Holli; Jackie; Jamie (female); Jeannie; Jennie; Jessie (female); Jodie (female); Jody; Jori; Juli; Julie; Kari (female); Katie; Katy; Kaylee; Keely (female); Kelly (female); Kelsi; Kennedy; Kennedy; Kiki\_Bee (text); Kirstie; Kitty; Konni; Kristi; Leslie (female); Lexie; Libby (Liberty); Lili; Lily; Lilly; Livvy (Olivia); Lori; Lucie; Madi; Maddie; Marly (female); Matty (female); Maycee; Melanie; Meri (female); Mickey (female); Micki (female); Miley; Millie; Mimi; Missy; Misty; Molly; Nicki; Nikki; Nikky; Patty; Polly; Poppy; Rainey; Randi (female); Riki (Erika); Rikki (female); Riley (female); Sadie; Sally; Shelby (female); Sidney (female); Sophie; Stacey (female); Stephanie; Stormi; Suki; Sunny (female); Sydney (female); Taffy (female); Tammi; Teri; Tiffany; Toby (female); Toni (female); Tori; Tracy; Wesley (female); Whitney; Whoopi; Winnie (female); Zoe; Zoey (trans woman)... (Contemporary American female names ending in long "e.")

♦ see also *ish* (*androgyny-ish*, etc.)

♦ "A shitty little base in a shitty little town in a shitty little country." ("An Army Wife Reflects On 'When The Men Are Gone,'" *Fresh Air*, January 18, 2011. Dave Davies interviews Siobhan Fallon, a military wife, author of *You Know When The Men Are Gone*.)

♦ "It got a little bit sketchy." (A male talking about a dangerous incident inside a prison.)

♦ "That's ballsy." (A soldier's tense comment about enemy action in the Korangal Valley, Kunar Province, Afghanistan.)

**comparison & contrast: affix**

**contempo-speak / language: affix**

## yapping (noun)

yapping

oh, stop ~

I wish he would stop his ~

there has been a lot of ~ about...

**speech: animal / dog / sound**

## yardstick (noun)

yardstick for measuring

the real ~ probability is "How surprised should we be?"

China's yardstick

India measures its economic development against ~

celestial yardstick

certain stars could serve as ~s to measure distances

most important yardstick

it is the ~ of their skill and achievement (birders' lists)

view money as a yardstick

I ~ for how much I've accomplished (versus greed)

use it as a yardstick

once you have an initial bracket, ~ for correction (artillery)

serve as (celestial) yardsticks

certain stars could ~ to measure larger distances

**measurement: tools & technology**

## yawn (verb)

yawn (wide) open

the ship's hatches ~ (container ship full of cocoa)

**resemblance: bodily reaction / verb**

## yawn (noun)

yawn

~, stop boring us ("Join the Discussion" snark)

big yawn

high school quickly became a ~ (bored teen)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily reaction**

## yawning (adjective)

yawning chasm

the ~ between city and countryside (China)

yawning deficit

government spending is to blame for the ~

yawning gap

the ~ is now wider (cultural and economic inequality)

yawning inequality

widespread poverty and ~

**extent & scope: bodily reaction**

## yeah (introductory)

Yeah, no

~, it looks like... (female punditry)

Yeah. So

~ what we're seeing right now is...

Yeah, so

~ I think it's fuzzy, right...

Yeah. So actually

~, drug crimes...

Yeah, so, uh

~, a teaching assistant, uh, you know... (NPR)

Yeah, so, umm

~ (NPR's Bobby Allyn)

Yeah, so, yuh know  
(NPR's Jenna McLaughlin)

♦ Type in "yeah so" at NPR and you will get 6,077 hits and counting. Not all of the hits will be an acknowledgement, but many are.

♦ "What do we know about her?" / "Yeah, so..." (Typical question and response format at NPR.)

♦ "NPR newscasters and reporters have gotten completely casual and unprofessional, so much so that I fully expect one to respond to another in quick staccato with the new affirmative phrase: "Yeah yeah, yeah yeah yeah!" (One of 2,371 comments to an article at *The Washington Post* titled, "NPR is losing some of its Black and Latino hosts. Colleagues see a larger crisis," by Paul Farhi and Elahe Izadi, Jan. 5, 2022.)

♦ CHANG: Right. Well, I'm curious—are there some crimes that are more likely than others to see higher numbers of wrongful convictions, like when they're prosecuted? / WISE: Yeah. So actually, drug crimes... (NPR.)

♦ see YouTube Fargo | Marge Questions Hookers Scene

♦ see also *right (introductory)*, *so (introductory)*, *sure (introductory)*

**contempo-speak: language**

## yellow (Yellow Sea, etc.)

Yellow River  
the ~ is known as the cradle of Chinese civilization

Yellow Sea  
the ~ lies between China and the Korean Peninsula

**proper name: color**

**geography: color / proper name**

## yellow brick road

no yellow brick road  
it was ~, it's a story of perseverance...

dancing down a yellow brick road  
the party is ~ to what it hopes is victory (politics)

♦ "I struggled my first two years in the minor leagues and A Ball and Double A... I struggled for those first three years in the major leagues. So it was no yellow brick road, it's a story of perseverance..." (The great MLB player Keith Hernandez speaking about his 2018 book *I'm Keith Hernandez* with Dave Davies on Fresh Air.)

♦ "I saw a football field as a 'yellow brick road,' one that would take me beyond the coal mines and steel mills surrounding me in western Pennsylvania and on to an easier life..." (The great NFL quarterback Joe "Montani" Montana.)

**allusion: film & TV**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: journeys & trips / path**

## yesterday (the past)

one single yesterday  
"I'd trade all my tomorrows, for that ~" (Pink)

yesterday and the day before  
he is just as committed today as he was ~ (anti-terrorism)

happened yesterday  
it has the feeling that it just ~ (9/11)

**past & present / time: day**

## yesterday (I need it yesterday, etc.)

yesterday  
this should have happened ~

moving US forces should have happened ~ (a hawk)

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: day**

## yesteryear

standards of yesteryear  
can Russia maintain the ~ (Soyuz rocket malfunction)

**past & present / time: day**

## yoke (under the yoke)

under the yoke of corruption  
the people have suffered for too long ~

under a yoke of hatred  
~, prejudice and bigotry (Armenians in 1915)

**oppression: animal**

## yoke (from the yoke)

from the yoke of (Arab) domination  
we must liberate them ~ (Darfur)

free themselves from the yoke  
they seek to ~ of the federal government

liberate the people from his yoke  
we will ~ (Churchill / Hitler)

rescued them from the yoke  
we ~ of dictatorship

wrest itself from the dollar yoke  
China is seeking ways to ~ (SWIFT)

**oppression: animal**

## yoke (other)

take up the yoke  
more people must ~ of responsibility

threw off the yoke  
they ~ of British colonial rule

throwing off the yoke  
South American leaders are ~ of US imperialism

♦ The three types of yokes are: the head yoke, the neck yoke, and the withers yoke. India has the largest number of working oxen or cattle in the world.

**oppression: animal**

## Yosemite (Yosemite of the East, etc.)

Yosemite of Central Asia  
people were calling the Ak-Su Valley the ~ (Kyrgyzstan)

referred to as the Yosemite of the East  
Panthertown Valley, ~ (western North Carolina)

**comparison & contrast / geography: epithet**

## you know (filler)

you know what I'm saying  
he wasn't a bad kid, ~? (murdered)

I was like, you know  
there was this moment where ~, I'm privileged...

I'm like, you know  
~, fame to me is very important (Howard Stern)

I just kind of felt like, you know  
~, for several years, I...

actually, you know  
and ~, this is not super uncommon...

kinda you know  
like I was still ~...

♦ "[Her case] is opening up this space to have these conversations where people can you know choose mental health over you know necessarily you know showing up to work when they're feeling miserable." (ABC, "Naomi Osaka Steps Away.")

♦ "I think it had a lot to do with me being a Black woman, period. And having seen how historically, you know, if our stories, you know, have been presented to the world, oftentimes they're misrepresented or their not represented in their fullness or there's just like a sliver of us being presented." (Katori Hall speaking about the great American-born Tina Turner, birth name Anna Mae Bullock, a Swiss citizen since 2013.)

♦ "Don't use conversation fillers like 'umm,' 'you know,' and 'like.' (Presenter Tips and Tricks: Quick Tips: Things to consider: Don't... TESOL 2023 International Convention & English Language Expo.)

**contempo-speak: filler**

## young (adjective)

young  
we'll see, the day is ~... (if government votes on bill)

young aircraft  
very ~ also carry a high risk (of crashing)

young country  
Macedonia is a ~

young (autumn) ice  
Scott insisted on crossing to Cape Evans over the ~

young moon  
a ~, just 24 hours old (astronomy)

young sea  
the Mediterranean itself is a ~

young storm  
a ~ of this type is called a tropical depression (38 mph)

young, thin  
the ~ sea ice (RV *Polarstern*)

too young  
the French wines had been drunk ~  
he says the data is ~ to be sure (increase in fire tornadoes)

**growth & development: baby / death & life**

## youngster (noun)

relative youngster  
Ellison's Orange is a ~ (apple originated 1911)

**growth & development: life span**

## Young Turk

no Young Turk  
Churchill was ~ daringly challenging received orthodoxy

♦ "The very first cell is in fact said to have been formed by army medical students as early as 1889—and though its members were by no means all military, nearly all were from the young officer class. They were not, in these early stages, dedicated to the overthrow of the Ottoman Empire; all they wanted was reform, and in particular westernisation. They remained, nonetheless, a potentially dangerous threat, and as time went on gave ever-increasing anxiety to Abdul-Hamid's secret police." (*The Middle Sea: A History of the Mediterranean* by the great historian John Julius Norwich.)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: allusion / history**  
**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: allusion / history**  
**youth (development)**

rowdy youth  
he personified the American West in the days of its ~ (Pete Marker)

**growth & development: life span**

## you've never heard of

you've never heard of  
the most famous magician ~ (Howard Thurston)  
it's the most important theater of WW II that ~ (Crimea)  
the best foreign books ~  
the worst U.S. naval disaster ~ (Penobscot Expedition)  
the fastest racehorse ~ ("Got Country Grip" / a Paint horse)  
the greatest band ~ (The Glands)  
the greatest philosopher ~ (Eihei Dogen)

Alcatraz you've never heard of  
McNeil Island in South Puget Sound is the ~

♦ see also the entry in this dictionary for *funny language*

**language: cliché**

## yo-yo (verb)

yo-yoed between Academia.edu and the Borscht Belt  
the prose ~ (*The Silence of the Girls*)

**movement: direction / sports & games / verb**

## yo-yo (yo-yo dieting, etc.)

yo-yo dieting  
~ is not good

yo-yo team  
why the Tigers are such a ~ (Bangladeshi cricket)

♦ The World Yo-Yo Championship is held each year and has its own website.

♦ "Figure 7.13. (a) The modern yo-yo, basic version, which gives every indication of being the same as the (b) 480 BCE version from ancient Greece." (*Why the Wheel Is Round: Muscles, Technology, and How We Make Things Move* by Steven Vogel.)

**movement: direction / sports & games**  
**increase & decrease: direction / movement / sports & games**

## Yugoslavia (Asian Yugoslavia, etc.)

Asian Yugoslavia

Indonesia could have become an ~ (after Suharto)  
division & connection: allusion / epithet / history

## Z

### zeitgeist (noun)

zeitgeist of cognitive dissonance  
this is a perfect example of the ~...

zeitgeist of that time  
the series tapped into the cultural ~ (*People v. OJ*)

zeitgeist of language and action  
the ~ ripped from the headlines (drug ballads / Mexico)

zeitgeist-y  
*Sex and the City* is about as ~ a show as one can get  
the first season proved a ~ hit (HBO's *Industry*)

zeitgeisty  
a bullshit, ~ social media argument

post-pandemic zeitgeist  
the concept has captured the ~ ("quiet quitting")

Gen Z zeitgeist  
Hollywood is on a mission to grapple with the ~

cultural zeitgeist  
the series tapped into the ~ of that time (*People v. OJ*)

captured the (post-pandemic) zeitgeist  
the notion of quiet quitting has ~

connects with the zeitgeist  
when it works, it really ~ (the TV show SNL)

making waves in the zeitgeist  
it's still ~ (*The Secret History* by Donna Tartt)

♦ Time and spirit / ghost. Or, the spirit of the age...

♦ "The challenge is to make enough noise to capture the zeitgeist." (Adult superhero films. Also, to separate one from another by introducing diverse characters, etc.)

♦ Listen to "The concept of quiet quitting has captured the post-pandemic zeitgeist," NPR, Morning Edition, Sept 15, 2022. With Alina Selyukh and Steve Inskeep. Inskeep is properly snarky and ironic.

♦ "this is a perfect example of the zeitgeist of cognitive dissonance permeating our devolving society." (An online comment to "NJ transgender woman transferred from women's only prison after impregnating 2 inmates, report says" by Stephen Sorace, Fox News, July 17, 2022.)

contempo-speak: language

### zenith (at the zenith)

at its zenith  
the fall marathon season is ~  
Portugal then was ~ (history)

at the zenith of influence  
he is ~ in Washington

achievement, recognition & praise / primacy, currency,  
decline & obsolescence: astronomy / height / sun

### zenith (during the zenith)

during its (commercial) zenith  
the division sold millions ~ (cars)

achievement, recognition & praise / primacy, currency,  
decline & obsolescence: astronomy / height / sun

### zenith (other)

zenith of (judicial) restraint  
the decision is the ~

zenith of splendor  
under those Mogul emperors, Lahore reached a ~

zenith of wealth and power  
Djenne and Timbuktu reached their ~ in the 16th century

glow of its zenith  
the band has tried to capture the ~ (music)

zenith comes  
the ~ on July 12 (Protestant marching in N. Ireland)

passed its zenith  
liberal democracy has ~ (opinion)

reached its zenith  
opera ~ during the romantic period

achievement, recognition & praise / primacy, currency,  
decline & obsolescence: astronomy / height / sun

### zero (place and time, etc.)

ground zero  
Miami is ~ for climate change

patient zero  
~, the first documented patient... (epidemiology)

Year Zero  
this was the US version of ~ (9/11)

'year zeros'  
1485 is taken by historians to be one of the great ~ of history

♦ "In 1485 Henry Tudor slew Richard III and routed his army at the Battle of Bosworth Field. It was a decisive victory which founded a bold new dynasty; and this date like 1789 and 1066 has been taken by historians to be one of the great 'year zeros' of history. Suddenly the muddled Medieval World with its robber barons, feudal barbarism and bloody Wars of the Roses was banished, and the modern age of centralised government and King's Justice was ushered in." ("The Tudor State," BBC, In Our Time with the great Melvyn Bragg.)

♦ "I said, 'No, the history begins today.'" (Richard Armitage, cutting off General Mahmood Ahmed, who was trying to explain to the former who the Taliban were. From "The Lie of Nation Building" by Fintan O'Toole, *The New York Review of Books*, October 7, 2021.)

♦ When the Khmer Rouge took over Cambodia in 1975, Pol Pot declared Year Zero. Everything before was to be eradicated.

♦ "Emily Bazelon's article, 'The Battle Over Gender Therapy' uncritically used the term 'patient zero' to refer to a trans child seeking gender-affirming care, a phrase that vilifies transness as a disease to be feared." ("For the attention of Philip B. Corbett, associate managing editor for standards at *The New York Times*.")

origin: number

## zero (from hero to zero, etc.)

gone from hero to zero  
he has ~ (a politician)

went from pandemic hero to a political pariah  
he ~ (Gov. Andrew Cuomo)

♦ "It's been six years of trying times—so strange when one day you're Cinderella, so to speak, and then in 0.6 seconds, you're Quasimodo."  
(The actor Johnny Depp, about how people's attitudes towards him have changed.)

**development / speed: number**

## zero hour (noun)

at the zero hour  
the plot has been nipped in the bud ~

**timeliness & lack of timeliness: hour / military / number**

## zero in on (verb)

zeroing in on his location  
police are ~

zero in on a suspect  
investigators have been unable to ~ (Delphi IN murders)

zero in on the suspects  
hundreds of tips helped them ~

**target: weapon / verb**

## zig-zag (verb)

zig-zag  
people ~ to avoid one another (social distancing / Covid)

**shape: direction / letters & characters / verb**  
**movement: direction / letters & characters / verb**

## zig-zag (noun)

zig-zag economy  
Britain's ~ (ups and downs)

zig-zag line  
drivers are baffled by a double yellow ~ in the busy road

zig-zag lines  
the yellow ~ mean stopping or waiting is prohibited

"zig-zag" path  
the ~ connects Highcliffe Castle with the beach (Dorset)

**shape: letters & characters**

## zilla (bridezilla, etc.)

BOSS-ZILLA!  
~ (WSJ article about a Hollywood / Broadway producer)

Bridezilla  
the ~ was hauled off from her reception to jail

Coffeezilla  
his channel ~ has over a million subscribers  
Tiffany Fong and YouTuber Stephen "~" Findeisen

Dormzilla  
~, as it has been nicknamed (Charlie Munger's dorms)

Eventzilla  
President @ ~

Godzilla  
see *Godzilla (force)*

guinea-zilla  
meet ~, a guinea pig the size of a buffalo (Venezuela)

'Squawkzilla'  
scientists discover prehistoric giant ~ parrot (NZ)

Tacozilla  
Toyota's SEMA Show project, the ~ Tacoma Camper

toadzilla  
the record-breaking "~" found in Australia (a large toad)

♦ "Bridal magazines were thick, and brides were zilla'd." (In the 1990s. A nice usage from "TOTN Summer Movie Series: Agony, Ecstasy, Felony—It Must Be Matrimony" by Barrie Hardyman, NPR, Blog Of The Nation, August 7, 2008.)

♦ "Scientists Discover Prehistoric Giant 'Squawkzilla' Parrot, As Big As Small Child" by Vanessa Romo, NPR, Science, August 7, 2019.)

♦ "Put on the mask, we'll call you dwarfzilla." (Logan Paul to his good buddy Evan Eckenrode, aka "Dwarf Mamba.")

**affliction: affix / allusion / creature**

**allusion: film & TV**

**force / size: allusion**

**language: affix**

## zip (verb)

zipped through (many) witnesses  
we ~ today (a trial)

**movement / speed: sound / verb**

## zombie (can't kill it, back from the dead)

zombie claim  
it's a ~, it keeps coming back

♦ "It's a zombie claim, no matter how many times you kill it, it keeps coming back." (Claims of election fraud.)

♦ "Girl, you're being ghosted? I'm being zombied. It's like ghosting, but he comes back from the dead after a couple of months and hits you up." (Singer-songwriter Mariel Darling on TikTok to her 255,900 followers.)

**survival, persistence & endurance: creature**

## zombie (computers)

zombie  
computers recruited as ~s need to be on when called

zombie attack  
~s have tried to block access to Web sites

zombie computer  
the user of a ~ is unaware it has been commandeered  
~s can be used for denial-of-service attacks  
one case involves as many as 300,000 ~s  
the use of ~s to launch attacks is not new

zombie network  
those seeking to create ~s, known as botnets

army of zombies  
they band these computers together into an ~ (botnets)

ranks of zombies  
hundreds of thousands of computers belong to the ~

**computer: creature**

## **zombie (control)**

Zombie cells  
“~ central to the quest for active, vital old age” (AP)

zombie cell  
can the ~ buildup be stopped (AP)

Zombie ice  
‘~’ from Greenland will raise sea level (AP)

zombie satellites  
~ are no longer under human control  
~ have failed to some degree  
beacons can still operate on ~

♦ Similar to ghost ships that drift with no control.

♦ “‘Zombie ice’ from Greenland will raise sea level 10 inches” by Seth Borenstein, AP Science Writer, Aug. 29, 2022. It is almost certain that an editor wrote this headline. The ice is “zombie” because it is “dead” with “one foot in the grave” and not being replenished by parent glaciers and so is “doomed” to melt, even if climate change is reversed.)

♦ Perhaps that same AP editor is responsible for the headline, “Zombie cells central to the quest for active, vital old age” by Laura Ungar, August 31, 2022. The conceit is, cells die and are removed from the body, but some linger “like zombies” and can hurt nearby cells “like moldy fruit corrupting a fruit bowl.”)

**control & lack of control: creature**

## **zombie (behavior)**

mindless zombies  
we are becoming ~ (reliance on smart phones, etc.)

woke zombies  
where do these ~ come from (PACBs)

overmedicated ‘zombie’  
mom who killed kids was ~ (according to her lawyer)

♦ “I decided to call it Ataxic Neurodegenerative Satiety Deficiency Syndrome. So ataxic, meaning you don’t walk that well. And neurodegenerative means your brain stops working so you degenerate neurologically. Satiety is the sense that you’re full and that’s not working, so it’s deficient. (Dr. Steven Schlozman of the Harvard Medical School, a lover of zombie movies.)

**behavior / consciousness & awareness / feeling, emotion  
& effect: creature**

## **zone (combat zone)**

combat zone of massage parlors  
the seedy, neon-drenched ~

known then as the ‘Combat Zone’  
Boston’s red-light district, ~ (1979)

♦ “Our children are trained to operate in a combat zone, in a hostile environment.” (School shootings.)

**conflict / environment: military**

## **zone (target zone)**

“target zone” for your heart rate  
exercising in a ~

**target: weapon**

## **zone (red zone, etc.)**

red zone  
that area is considered a ~, where you should not go

**danger: color / sign, signal, symbol**

## **zone (dead zone, etc.)**

dead zone  
the courthouse was a ~, as far as communication went

**activity: death & life**

## **zone (one’s comfort zone)**

get out of your comfort zone  
~, we have to challenge ourselves (Simon Reeve)

**disruption: place**

## **zoo (environment)**

ZOO  
it’s a kind of ~ (social scene at Newport mansion)

♦ “We know who’s who in the zoo, and we know how to find it out if we need to.” (A member of the Metro Gang Unit about Salt Lake City and County. Law enforcement personnel must deal with Asian, Latino, and white supremacist gangs, not to mention the Tongan Crip Gang.)

**environment: animal / zoo**

## **zoo (group)**

menageric of (unruly and curiously assorted) ships  
an admiral called it a ~ (British Navy in the 1880s)

zoo of (subatomic) particles  
the Standard Model includes a ~ (physics)

**group, set & collection: animal / zoo**

## **zoom out (noun)**

zoom-out of the larger war  
the role of the US and the ~ on drugs

**perception, perspective & point of view: film / position**

## **zoom out (verb)**

zoom out  
I think we have to ~ and see some of the context here  
I want to ~ a bit and get your sense of how... (NPR)  
but when you ~, explanations get murky (homelessness)

zoom out to other organizations  
if we ~, we’ve seen... (from Oath Keepers to others)

**perception, perspective & point of view: film / position / verb**

## **Zuckerberg (the Russian Mark Zuckerberg, etc.)**

known as the Russian Mark Zuckerberg

Telegram was found in 2013 by Pavel Durov, ~

**comparison & contrast / importance & significance: epithet**

# The thesaurus / categories

## ABILITY & LACK OF ABILITY (1) (see also knowledge & intelligence)

- affix: craft (ringcraft, etc.)
- animal: pony (one-trick pony)
- blade: edge (lose one's edge)
- boat: wheelhouse (n)
- books & reading: illiteracy (n), illiterate (adj), literacy (n), literate (adj)
- boxing: shape (in fighting shape, etc.)
- circus: acrobat (person), acrobatic (adj), juggle (v), juggling
- creature: genie (knowledge), ninja (person), wizard (person), wizard (Wizard of Menlo Park, etc.), wizardry (n)
- depth: depth (out of one's depth)
- epithet: wizard (Wizard of Menlo Park, etc.)
- fatness & thinness: flabby (adj), lean (size)
- football: triple threat
- gift: gift (gift for languages, etc.), gifted
- ground, terrain & land: way (know one's way around)
- health & medicine: fit (adj), fitness (ability), flabby (adj), handicapped, lean (size)
- horse: pony (one-trick pony)
- infrastructure: alley (up one's alley)
- journeys & trips: way (know one's way around)
- knife: edge (lose one's edge)
- magic: genie (knowledge), ninja (person), wizard (person), wizardry (n)
- materials & substances: brittle (emotionally brittle, etc.), flexible (adj), flexible (character), inflexible (character), rigid (constraint), rigid (character), supple (adj)
- mechanism: brilliant (technology), dumb (technology), smart (technology, etc.)
- mountains & hills: Sherpa (n)
- movement: acrobatic (adj), agile (adj), agility (n), clumsy (adj), flexible (adj), flexible (character), footwork (n), gymnastic (adj), gymnastics (effort), handicapped, inflexible (character), nimble (adj), rigid (constraint), rigid (character), supple (adj)
- music: chops (expertise), maestro (person)
- nose: nose (ability)
- part of speech: can do (ability)
- person: acrobat (person), black belt (person), genie (knowledge), maestro (person), ninja (person), Sherpa (n), wizard (person)
- school & education: competence (metaphoric competence, etc.), IQ (ability), school (experience), study (quick study)
- sound: whisperer (horse whisperer, etc.)
- speech: fluent (ability)
- sports & games: acrobatic (adj), acrobatics (n), black belt (person), gymnastic (adj), gymnastics (effort), juggle (v), juggling, triple threat
- theater: pony (one-trick pony)
- tools & technology: brilliant (technology), dumb (technology), intelligent (things), smart (technology, etc.)
- verb: juggle (v), walk (walk and chew gum at the same time)
- walking, running & jumping: walk (walk and chew gum at the same time)
- water: depth (out of one's depth)

## **ABSORPTION & IMMERSION (1)**

- air: permeate (v)
- animal: lap up (v), sponge (n), wallow (v)
- breathing: eat (eat and breathe, etc.), inhale (v), live (live and breathe, live to)
- burial: bury (bury oneself in something, etc.)
- death & life: live (live and breathe, live to)
- depth: end (deep end)
- food & drink: drink in (v), eat (eat and breathe, etc.), eat (eat and sleep, etc.), imbibe (v), ingest (v), lap up (v)
- sleep: eat (eat and sleep, etc.)
- smell: permeate (v)
- throwing, putting & planting: throw (throw oneself into something)
- tongue: lap up (v)
- verb: absorb (a country, etc.), absorb (books, culture, etc.), absorb (punishment, etc.), bury (bury oneself in something, etc.), dive (analyze), dive deep (analysis), dive in (v), drink in (v), eat (eat and breathe, etc.), eat (eat and sleep, etc.), etc.), imbibe (v), immerse (v), ingest (v), inhale (v), lap up (v), live (live and breathe, live to), marinate (v), permeate (v), sink in (v), soak up (v), steep (v), suck up (v), throw (throw oneself into something), wade (wade in / wade into), wallow (v)
- walking, running & jumping: wade (wade in / wade into)
- water: absorb (a country, etc.), absorb (books, culture, etc.), absorb (punishment, etc.), absorbed, bathing (forest bathing, etc.), dive (analyze), dive deep (analysis), dive in (v), drenched, end (deep end), feet (get one's feet wet), immerse (v), immersed, immersion, marinate (v), saturated, saturation (n), sink in (v), soak up (v), soaked, sponge (n), steep (v), steeped, suck up (v), sunk in, throw (throw oneself into something), wade (wade in / wade into)

## **ACCEPTANCE & REJECTION (1) (see also inclusion & exclusion)**

- arm: arm (open arms), embrace (v), embraced
- back: back (turn one's back)
- bodily reaction: choke (v), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up)
- breathing: choke (v)
- color: blackball (v), blackballed, blacklist (v), blacklisted
- container: in (inclusion), left out (excluded), out (exclusion)
- direction: turn down (v)
- doors & thresholds: shut out (adj), shut out (v)
- family: adopt (v), adopted (adopted state, etc.), adopted
- fish: hook (hook, line and sinker)
- food & drink: choke (v), go down (digestion), hook (hook, line and sinker), Kool-Aid (drink the Kool-Aid, etc.), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), stomach (accept), swallow (accept)
- gesture: embrace (v)
- health & medicine: leper (person), quarantine (v)
- house: room (inclusivity), welcome (v), welcome (n)
- love, courtship & marriage: spurn (v), spurned
- mark: blackball (v), blackballed, blacklist (v), blacklisted
- money: buy (buy into something), buy (accept), buy-in (n)
- part of speech: other (verb / groups, etc.), othered, othering, otherism (n)
- party: floor (dance floor), party (invited to the party, etc.)
- person: heretic (person), hermit (person), leper (person), non-person, outcast (person), pariah (n), stranger (other)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: in (inclusion), left out (excluded), out (exclusion)
- religion: heretic (person)

- sheep: fold (to / into the fold)
- snow & ice: freeze out (v), frozen out (excluded)
- society: banish (v), banished, banishment (n), blackball (v), blackballed, blacklist (v), blacklisted, Brahmin (person), cold (in the cold), exile (in exile), exile (n), exiled, freeze out (v), frozen out (excluded), in (inclusion), inhospitable (adj), leper (person), non-person, ostracized (society), outcast (person), shun (v), shunned, Siberia (exile), stranger (other), table (groups), untouchable (person), wilderness (voice in the wilderness), wilderness (in / into the wilderness), wilderness (society)
- speech: welcome (v), welcome (n)
- stomach: retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), stomach (accept), stomach (turn one's stomach), swallow (accept), swallowed
- table: table (groups)
- temperature: cold shoulder, freeze out (v), frozen out (excluded), warm (v)
- throat: choke (v), swallow (accept), swallowed
- throwing, putting & planting: outcast (person)
- verb: adopt (v), back (turn one's back), banish (v), blackball (v), buy (accept), choke (v), embrace (v), freeze out (v), go down (digestion), other (verb / groups, etc.), quarantine (v), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), shun (v), shut out (v), spurn (v), stomach (accept), stomach (turn one's stomach), swallow (accept), take (refuse to take), turn down (v), warm (v), welcome (v)

## ACCEPTANCE & REJECTION (2)

- inclusion & exclusion: ally (groups), allyship (groups), baiter (red-baiter, etc.), baiting (queerbaiting, etc.), box (check the box, etc.), colorism (groups), friendly (queer-friendly, etc.), gesture (groups), intention (n), intentional (adj), intentionality (n), intentionally, microaggression (groups), misgender (groups), misgendered (groups), performance (groups), performative (groups), performative allyship, perform (perform values, etc.), safe (groups), safety (groups), uncomfortable (groups), welcome (noun / groups), welcoming (and unwelcoming / groups)

## ACCESS & LACK OF ACCESS (1)

- astronomy: black hole
- blood: vein (tap a vein)
- bottle: bottled up (emotions), bottle up (emotions), lid (keep the lid on something)
- color: black box (n), black hole
- container: bottled up (emotions), bottle up (emotions), lid (keep the lid on something), open up (access)
- crime: door (back door / illegality)
- doors & thresholds: camel (camel's nose in the tent, etc.), door (back door / front door), door (and doorway / access), foot (foot in the door), gatekeeper (person), key (access), shut out (v), shut out (adj)
- epithet: gate (Gates of Hell, etc.)
- foot: foot (foot in the door)
- gate: gateway (gateway to India, etc.), gate (society), gatekeeper (person)
- key: key (access)
- light & dark: black hole
- person: gatekeeper (person)
- society: gatekeeper (person)
- tent: camel (camel's nose in the tent, etc.)
- tools & technology: black box (n)
- verb: bottle up (emotions), lid (keep the lid on something), open up (access), shut out (v), tap (v), tap into (v)
- water: tap (v), tap into (v)

## **ACCUSATION & CRITICISM (1) (see also conflict; punishment & recrimination; resistance, opposition & defeat)**

- allusion: jeremiad (bitter lament)
- animal: savage (v), venom (n), venomous (adj)
- Bible: jeremiad (bitter lament)
- blade: hatchet job (n)
- boat: broadside (n), salvo (n), shot (shot across the bow, etc.), volley (volley of abuse, etc.)
- boxing: come (come out swinging), jab (n), pummel (v), punching bag (n)
- chemistry: vitriol (n)
- color: pot (pot calls the kettle black)
- cooking: grill (v), grilled, pot (pot calls the kettle black), skewer (v), skewered
- creature: demonization (n), demonize (v), demonized
- crime: drive-by (conflict), hatchet job (n), hit (mob hit, etc.), hot seat (n), job (hit job, etc.), mugged (mugged by the officials, etc.)
- death & life: drive-by (conflict), hit (mob hit, etc.), job (hit job, etc.)
- direction: come down on (v), takedown (n)
- electricity: hot seat (n)
- explosion: blast (criticize), incoming (criticism)
- family: scold (v)
- finger: finger (point a finger), finger-pointing, finger-wagging
- fire: grill (v), grilled
- fist: backhand (v), bash (v), bashed (criticism), bashing (n), beaten (beaten up), clobber (v), pummel (v)
- force: backhand (v), blast (criticize), hammer (criticize), lay (lay into), slam (v)
- gesture: finger (point a finger), finger-pointing, finger-wagging
- ground, terrain & land: dirt (political dirt, etc.), mud (drag something through the mud), mud (dragged through the mud), mudslinging (n), stone (throw stones, etc.), sully (v)
- hammer: hammer (criticize)
- health & medicine: eviscerate (v), eviscerated, lacerate (v), vivisection (n)
- history: tar and feather, etc.)
- hunting: go after (attack)
- hygiene: trash (n)
- justice: firing squad, hot seat (n)
- light & dark: shade (v), shade (n)
- lightning: thunderbolt (n)
- materials & substances: vitriol (n)
- mechanism: wringer (through the wringer)
- military: ammunition (and ammo), attack (under attack, etc.), barracked, blast (criticize), broadside (n), dressing down (n), fire (criticism), fire (under fire), fire (draw fire, etc.), fire (fire back), firing squad, flak (criticism), fusillade (n), incoming (criticism), salvo (n), shot (shot across the bow, etc.), snipe (v), sniping (n), volley (volley of abuse, etc.)
- pile: pile-on (n), pile on (gang up on)
- predation: savage (v)
- pressure: wringer (through the wringer)
- religion: crucified, crucifixion (n), crucify (v), jeremiad (bitter lament), nail (nail someone to the cross)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: eviscerate (v), eviscerated, lacerate (v), vivisection (n)
- snake: venom (n), venomous (adj)
- sound: barracked, decry (v), rail (v), volume (turn up the volume, etc.)

- speech: assassination (character assassination), call out (v), callout (criticism), hammer (criticize), mudslinging (n), pilloried, pillory (v), potshot (n), rail (v), trash (v), trash (n)
- sports & games: cheap shot, game (blame game), pile-on (n), pile on (gang up on), takedown (n), tee off on (v)
- storm: thunderbolt (n)
- temperature: heat (criticism), hot seat (n)
- throat: throat (jump down someone's throat)
- tongue: tongue-lashing
- verb: backhand (v), bash (v), blast (criticize), call out (v), clobber (v), come down on (v), crucify (v), decry (v), demonize (v), eviscerate (v), finger (point a finger), get over oneself, go after (attack), grill (v), hammer (criticize), lacerate (v), lambast (v), lash out (v), lay (lay into), mud (drag something through the mud), nail (nail someone to the cross), pile on (gang up on), pillory (v), pummel (v), rail (v), scold (v), shade (v), skewer (v), skewered, slam (v), snipe (v), sully (v), tar (tar and feather, etc.), throat (jump down someone's throat), trash (v)
- violence: assassination (character assassination), backhand (v), bash (v), bashed (criticism), bashing (n), beaten (beaten up), cheap shot, crucified, crucifixion (n), crucify (v), drive-by (conflict), hatchet job (n), hit (mob hit, etc.), job (hit job, etc.), lash out (v), nail (nail someone to the cross), pillory (v), pilloried, pummel (v), savage (v), slam (v), tar (tar and feather, etc.), tarred, tongue-lashing, twitter-lashing (n)
- weapon: ammunition (and ammo), attack (under attack, etc.), attack (n), blast (criticize), broadside (noun), cheap shot, dart (throw darts, etc.), fire (criticism), fire (under fire), fire (draw fire, etc.), fire (fire back), flak (criticism), fusillade (n), gun (criticism), gun (with guns blazing), hatchet job (n), incoming (criticism), potshot (n), salvo (n), shot (criticism), shot (shot across the bow, etc.), snipe (v), sniping (n), volley (volley of abuse, etc.)
- waste: trash (v), trash (n)
- whip: lambast (v), lash out (v), tongue-lashing, twitter-lashing (n)
- wrestling: takedown (n)

## **ACHIEVEMENT, RECOGNITION & PRAISE (1) (see also superlative)**

- alcohol: toast (v), toast (acknowledgment)
- allusion: laurels (praise), pantheon (n), titan (n)
- animal: lion (liberal lion, etc.), lionized
- apple: apple (Golden Apple / education)
- astronomy: rising (rising star, etc.), star (rock star), star (person), star (achievement), star (five stars, etc.), star (Silver Star, etc.), supernova (achievement), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
- back: back (pat on the back / verb), back (pat on the back / noun)
- bird: nightingale (Nightingale of India, etc.)
- boxing: Muhammad Ali (Muhammad Ali of her generation, etc.)
- creature: giant (achievement), titan (n)
- day: heyday (n)
- direction: apex (achievement), elevate (v), elevation (n), height (at the height), heights (to new heights, etc.), rise (achievement), rise (achieve), rising (rising star, etc.), summit (at the summit), top (excellence)
- dog: head (pat on the head)
- epithet: Academy Awards, America (America's sweetheart, etc.), Baryshnikov (Baryshnikov of football, etc.), dean (person), Eaton (Eaton of Africa, etc.), Elvis (Afghanistan's Elvis, etc.), Harvard (epithet), Hollywood (Hollywood of Africa, etc.), Michael Jordan (Michael Jordan of the dog-show world, etc.), Mozart (Mozart of Rock, etc.), Muhammad Ali (Muhammad Ali of her generation, etc.), Napoleon (the Napoleon of surgery, etc.), nightingale (Nightingale of India, etc.), Nobel (Nobel Prize of the Arab World, etc.), Obama (Russia's Obama, etc.), Oscars (Oscars of surfing, etc.), Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.), savior (the savior of mothers, etc.), Springsteen (epithet), teacher (teacher's teacher, etc.)
- family: America (America's sweetheart, etc.), boy (blue-eyed boy), favorite son

- film: Academy Awards, Oscars (Oscars of surfing, etc.)
- fist: fist bump (n)
- gesture: applaud (v), applauded, back (pat on the back / verb), back (pat on the back / noun), bow (take a bow), cap (tip one's cap), fist bump (n), hat (take off one's hat to somebody, etc.), head (pat on the head), high five (n), nod (acknowledge), nod (acknowledgement), salute (v), toast (v), toast (acknowledgment), thumbs-up
- government: Obama (Russia's Obama, etc.), statesman (elder statesman, etc.), stateswoman (elder stateswoman, etc.)
- ground, terrain & land: height (at the height), heights (to new heights, etc.)
- hair: scalp (n)
- hand: high five (n), thumbs-up
- hat: cap (tip one's cap), hat (take off one's hat to somebody, etc.)
- head: head (pat on the head)
- height: elevate (v), elevation (n), height (at the height), heights (to new heights, etc.), lofty (adj), peak (at the peak), pinnacle (achievement), rise (achievement), rise (achieve), rising (rising star, etc.), summit (at the summit), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
- history: belt (notch in a belt), laurels (praise), scalp (n)
- horse: spur (earn one's spurs, etc.)
- infrastructure: milestone (n), pinnacle (achievement)
- journeys & trips: milestone (n)
- light & dark: leading light (person), luminary (person), star (achievement), supernova (achievement)
- lion: lion (liberal lion, etc.), lionized
- mark: belt (notch in a belt)
- military: badge (badge of honor), coup (achievement), medal (n), salute (v), spur (earn one's spurs, etc.), stripe (earn one's stripes, etc.)
- money: earn (v), tribute (pay tribute)
- mountains & hills: peak (at the peak), summit (at the summit)
- music: hymn (n), Mozart (Mozart of Rock, etc.), nightingale (Nightingale of India, etc.), paean (n), praise (sing someone's praises), unsung (praise)
- person: boy (blue-eyed boy), dean (person), favorite son, girl (golden girl), golden boy, leading light (person), lion (liberal lion, etc.), luminary (person), star (rock star), star (person), star (achievement), statesman (elder statesman, etc.), stateswoman (elder stateswoman, etc.)
- picture: art (work of art), masterpiece (engineering masterpiece, etc.)
- place: hall of fame (and hall of shame, etc.), pantheon (n)
- position: top (excellence)
- proper name: lion (the Bronze Lion, etc.), star (Silver Star, etc.)
- religion: hymn (n), pantheon (n)
- royalty: coronation (n)
- school & education: dean (person)
- sign, signal, symbol: apple (Golden Apple / education), badge (badge of honor), bow (take a bow), clap (n), laurels (praise), lion (the Bronze Lion, etc.), medal (n), milestone (n), star (five stars, etc.), star (Silver Star, etc.), thumbs-up
- size: giant (achievement), titan (n)
- sound: applaud (v), applauded, boo (v), boo (n), cheer (v), cheer (n), clap (n), hurrah (and hoorah, etc.)
- speech: ode (praise), thank you (and thanks)
- sports & games: lap (victory lap), Muhammad Ali (Muhammad Ali of her generation, etc.), Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.), track record (good)
- star: rising (rising star, etc.), star (rock star), star (person), star (achievement), star (five stars, etc.), star (Silver Star, etc.), supernova (achievement)
- sun: zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)

- theater: gallery (cheering gallery)
- thumb: thumbs-up
- tree: laurels (praise)
- verb: applaud (v), boo (v), cap (tip one's cap), cheer (v), earn (v), elevate (v), hat (take off one's hat to somebody, etc.), nod (acknowledge), praise (sing someone's praises), rise (achieve), salute (v), toast (v)
- violence: belt (notch in a belt), coup (achievement), scalp (n)
- writing & spelling: love letter (n), Valentine

## **ACTION, INACTION & DELAY (1) (see also confronting, dealing with & ignoring things)**

- allusion: fabius (Fabius Maximus), fiddle (while Rome burns, etc.), Gordian knot
- ball: ball (the ball is in somebody's court), roll (slow-roll)
- cards: double down (v), in (all in), pass (cards)
- clock: clock (run the clock, etc.)
- engine: bus (park the bus)
- foot: feet (drag one's feet), foot-dragging
- football: clock (run the clock, etc.), tackle (v)
- gambling: double down (v), in (all in), pass (cards)
- gesture: hand (throw up one's hands), shoulder (shrug one's shoulders), shrug (gesture)
- government: red tape
- ground, terrain & land: dust (collect dust)
- hand: hand (throw up one's hands), hand (sit on one's hands), handle (deal with), handled, handwringing (n), hold (on hold), holdup (n)
- history: fabius (Fabius Maximus), fiddle (while Rome burns, etc.), Gordian knot
- justice: stay (stay of execution)
- mechanism: button (push a button / action), button (pause button), pause (v), pause (n)
- military: fabius (Fabius Maximus), stand down (v)
- movement: bus (park the bus), can (kick the can down the road), feet (drag one's feet), hand (sit on one's hands), inertia (n), move (take action), road (push something down the road), roll (slow-roll), slow (adj), stand by (v)
- part of speech: fabius (Fabius Maximus)
- plane: pattern (holding pattern)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: in (all in)
- religion: limbo (in limbo), purgatory (n)
- rope: Gordian knot
- shoulder: shoulder (shrug one's shoulders), shrug (gesture)
- sleep: nap (noun)
- snow & ice: ice (put on ice / delayed)
- sports & games: ball (the ball is in somebody's court), clock (run the clock, etc.), gun (jump the gun), tackle (v), waiting game
- standing, sitting & lying: hand (sit on one's hands), sit (sit on something), sit by (v), sit out (v), stand by (v), stand down (v)
- temperature: ice (put on ice)
- tools & technology: needle (move the needle, etc.)
- verb: button (push a button / action), can (kick the can down the road), clock (run the clock, etc.), double down (v), feet (drag one's feet), fire (hang fire), gun (jump the gun), hand (sit on one's hands), hand (throw up one's hands), handle (deal with), move (take action), needle (move the needle, etc.), pass (cards), pause (v), put off (v), road (push something down the road), roll (slow-roll), shoot (shoot first), shoulder (shrug one's shoulders),

sit (sit on something), sit by (v), sit out (v), stand by (v), stand down (v), tackle (v), time (waste time), trigger (pull the trigger, etc.), walk (slow-walk)

- walking, running & jumping: can (kick the can down the road), foot-dragging, road (push something down the road), tackle (v), walk (slow-walk)
- weapon: draw (late / early on the draw), fire (hang fire), shoot (shoot first), trigger (pull the trigger, etc.)

## ACTIVITY (1)

- air: cyclone (n), gale (strong wind), hurricane (n), whirlwind (n)
- alcohol: ferment (v), ferment (n)
- animal: abuzz (activity), bee (busy as a bee), crawl (activity), dormant (adj), fly (activity), frenzy (feeding frenzy), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), hibernation (in hibernation), hibernation (other), hornet's nest, hum (n), lie low (and lay low), roar (activity), swarm (v), swarm (n)
- atmosphere: cyclone (n), gale (strong wind), hurricane (n), whirlwind (n)
- bird: fly (activity), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.)
- bubble: bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj)
- chemistry: ferment (v), ferment (n)
- creature: ghost town
- death & life: alive (activity), alive (come alive), dead (activity), dormant (adj), hibernation (in hibernation), hibernation (other), life (spring to life), suspended animation, zone (dead zone, etc.)
- direction: time (down time / activity)
- engine: gear (kick into gear, etc.), hum (hum along), neutral (in neutral), overdrive (in / into overdrive)
- explosion: boom (jade boom, etc.), boom (increase), burst (activity), bust (oil bust, etc.)
- fire: ablaze (adj), aflame (adj), alight (fire), burning (slow-burning), smolder (v)
- flying & falling: flurry (activity), fly (activity)
- force: rage (v), raging (adj)
- fruits & vegetables: potato (couch potato)
- health & medicine: comatose (adj), convulse (v), convulsed, convulsion (n), febrile (adj), fevered (adj), feverish (adj), feverishly, fever pitch (n), frenzied (adj), frenzy (other), lethargic (adj), paroxysm (other), spasm (n), spasmodic (adj), torpor (n)
- heating water: boil (initiation), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), percolate (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity)
- history: gold rush
- insect: abuzz (activity), bee (busy as a bee), beehive (activity), buzz (activity), crawl (activity), hive (n), hornet's nest, hum (n), swarm (v), swarm (n)
- light & dark: alight (activity), light up (activity)
- mechanism: comatose (adj), gear (kick into gear, etc.), hum (hum along), hum (n), neutral (in neutral), overdrive (in / into overdrive)
- mental health: frenzied (adj), frenzy (other), rage (v), raging (adj)
- mining: bonanza (n), gold rush
- money: bonanza (n), gold rush
- movement: astir (adj), busy (active), convulse (v), convulsed, convulsion (n), feverish (adj), feverishly, hop (v), jump (the place was jumping, etc.), paroxysm (other), potato (couch potato), rage (v), raging (adj), rush (oil rush, etc.), scramble (v), spasm (n), swing (in full swing), swirl (v), thrum (v), whirl (n)
- pendulum: swing (in full swing)
- person: potato (couch potato)
- potato: potato (couch potato)
- predation: frenzy (feeding frenzy)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: bubble up (v)
- rain: flurry (activity)

- sleep: astir (adj), awaken (nature, etc.), comatose (adj), dormant (adj), hibernation (in hibernation), hibernation (other), restlessness, sleepy (activity), wake (resemblance), wake up (activity)
- snow & ice: freeze (v), freeze (activity), frozen (activity)
- sound: abuzz, boom (increase), buzz (activity), chatter (signals intelligence, etc.), hum (n), hum (hum along), noise (worthlessness), noisy (data, etc.), quiet (adj), roar (activity), static (n), thrum (v)
- speech: chatter (signals intelligence, etc.)
- sports & games: scrum (reporters)
- standing, sitting & lying: lie low (and lay low)
- storm: cyclone (n), gale (strong wind), hurricane (n), storm (calm before the storm), whirlwind (n)
- temperature: boil (initiation), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), cold (cold case, etc.), cool (cool off / activity), febrile (adj), fevered (adj), feverish (adj), feverishly, fever pitch, frozen (activity), heat up (v), hot (adj), hotspot (place), lukewarm (activity), percolate (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity)
- verb: boom (increase), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), convulse (v), cool (cool off / activity), crawl (activity), dart (dart about), ferment (v), fly (activity), freeze (v), heat up (v), hop (v), hum (hum along), jump (the place was jumping, etc.), lie low (and lay low), life (spring to life), light up (activity), percolate (v), rage (v), simmer (v), scramble (v), swirl (v), smolder (v), swarm (v), thrum (v), wake (resemblance)
- walking, running & jumping: hop (v), jump (the place was jumping, etc.), scramble (v)
- water: boil (initiation), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble (activity), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), calm (activity), percolate (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity), swirl (v), tranquil (activity)
- weapon: dart (dart about)
- wind: calm (activity), cyclone (n), flurry (activity), gale (strong wind), hurricane (n), tranquil (activity), whirlwind (n)

## **ADDICTION (2) (see also health & medicine)**

- amelioration & renewal: detox (and detoxification, etc.)
- behavior: addictive (adj), holic (shopaholic, etc.)
- consciousness & awareness: opiate (n), opium (n)
- dependency: addicted (dependency), addiction (dependency)
- enthusiasm: addict (chess addict, etc.), addicted (enthusiasm), addiction (enthusiasm), addictive (adj), crave (fans crave the bout, etc.), fix (daily fix, etc.), habit (enthusiasm), high (enthusiasm), hooked, junkie (game junkie, etc.), withdrawal (feeling)
- fantasy & reality: opium (n), pipe dream, rabbit hole (fantasy)
- feeling, emotion & effect: addictive (adj), narcotic (n), withdrawal (feeling)
- mental health: addict (sex addict, etc.), detox (and detoxification, etc.)
- person: addict (chess addict, etc.), junkie (game junkie, etc.)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: overdose (n)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: brain (on the brain)

## **ADMIRATION & CONTEMPT (1)**

- bodily reaction: laughed out (of court, etc.)
- direction: below (behavior), beneath (behavior), high (noble), look down on (something), look up to (somebody), low (base, bad / adjective), low (base, bad / noun), nose (look down one's nose), talk down to (somebody)
- eye: look down on (something), look up to (somebody), nose (look down one's nose)
- foot: doormat (person), feet (wipe one's feet on somebody)
- gesture: look down on (something), look up to (somebody), nose (look down one's nose)
- height: high (noble), look up to (somebody), look down (look down on somebody), low (base, bad / adjective), low (base, bad / noun), nose (look down one's nose), pedestal (on a pedestal, etc.), pedestaled, talk down to (somebody)
- nose: nose (look down one's nose)

- person: doormat (person)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: below (behavior), beneath (behavior)
- sign, signal, symbol: doormat (person)
- sound: laughed out (of court, etc.)
- statue: pedestaled
- verb: feet (wipe one's feet on somebody), look down on (something), look up to (somebody), talk down to (somebody)
- waste: trashy (adj)

## ADVERB (2)

- contempo-speak: absolutely (contempo-speak), actually (contempo-speak), basically (contempo-speak), definitely (contempo-speak), exactly (contempo-speak), kind of (contempo-speak), maybe (contempo-speak), obviously (contempo-speak), pretty (contempo-speak), really (and REEE•lee, etc.), so (gushing), sort of (contempo-speak), totally (contempo-speak), very (contempo-speak)
- language: hard (love hard, go hard, etc.)

## AFFIRMATION (2)

- inclusion & exclusion: agency (groups), amazing (groups), beautiful (groups), bold (groups), boldly (groups), brave (girls and women, etc.), bravery (groups), celebrate (groups), celebrated (groups), celebration (groups), community (groups), courage (groups), courageous (groups), courageously, empower (groups), empowered (groups), empowering (groups), empowerment (groups), fearless (girls and women, etc.), fearlessly, fearlessness (n), ferocious (groups), ferocity (groups), fierce (girls and women / groups, etc.), fiercely (girls and women / groups, etc.), fierceness (groups), girlboss (and girl boss), hero (person, child, queer, dog, rat, etc.), heroic (groups), heroism (groups), heroize (v), honor (noun / groups), honor (verb / groups), joy (Black joy, etc.), liberation (groups), matter (Black lives matter, etc.), positive (sex positive, etc.), positivity (body positivity, etc.), power (power to the people, etc.), pride (groups), proud (groups), savage (groups), superpower (groups), tribute (groups), warrior (girls and women)

## AFFIX (2)

- ability & lack of ability: craft (ringcraft, etc.)
- affliction: demic (infodemic, etc.), Franken (Frankenfoods, etc.), geddon (chipageddon, etc.), pocalypse (gas-pocalypse, etc.), zilla (bridezilla, etc.)
- amount: heavy (tank-heavy, etc.)
- area: dom (memedom, etc.), land (clubland, etc.), scape (threatscape, etc.), sphere (cryptosphere, etc.), verse (metaverse, etc.)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: first (metaverse-first, etc.), forward (future forward, etc.)
- behavior: holic (shopaholic, etc.), overboard (behavior), overreach (v)
- comparison & contrast: acrobatic (adj), anthemic (adj), Arthurian (adj), bestial (adj), Caligulan, cavernous (adj), chameleonic (adj), cherubic (adj), Churchillian (adj), combative (adj), Cromwellian (adj), Dantesque (adj), Darwinian (adj), demonic (adj), Dickensian (adj), diplomatic (adj), draconian (adj), Edenic (adj), elegiac (adj), encyclopedic (adj), Faustian (adj), fetishistic (adj), foundational (adj), funereal (adj), Gandhian (adj), hellish (adj), Homeric (adj), herculean (adj), iconic (adj), ish (androgyny-ish, etc.), Kafkaesque (adj), Lawrence of Arabia-esque, like (Svengali-like, etc.), Machiavellian (adj), magnetic (adj), Manichean (adj), Martian (adj), McCarthyite, meteoric (adj), motherly (adj), mountainous (adj), murderous (murderous hail of bullets, etc.), Napoleonic (adj), nightmarish (adj), nomadic (adj), O. Henry-esque, Orwellian (adj), palatial (adj), Panglossian (adj), paradisiacal (and paradisa), parasitical (adj), piratical (adj), Pollyannaish (adj), procrustean (adj), promethean (adj), quixotic (adj), robotic (movement), Shakespearean (adj), shaped (anvil-shaped, etc.), Sisyphian (adj), size (and sized / affix), skeletal (adj), Solomonic (adj), spartan (adj), talismanic, torturous, thunderous (adj), volcanic, y (pulpy, etc.)
- constraint & lack of constraint: overreach (v)

- contempo-speak: adjacent (rich-adjacent, etc.), centered (survivor-centered, etc.), core (cottagecore, etc.), ery (badassery, etc.), curious (bi-curious, etc.), ify (mainstreamify, etc.), fication (adulthoodification, etc.), hyper (hypersexualized, etc.), informed (trauma-informed, etc.), ish (androgyny-ish, etc.), ization (marginalization, etc.), ize (racialize, etc.), ized (invisibilized, etc.), meta (affix), over (overshare, etc.), self (self-love, etc.), uber (uber-interesting, etc.), y (websites, drug names, etc.), y (pulpy, etc.)
- creation & transformation: Franken (Frankenfoods, etc.)
- death & life: cide (femicide, etc.)
- destruction: breaker (deal-breaker, etc.), geddon (chipageddon, etc.), pocalypse (gas-pocalypse, etc.)
- disruption: breaker (deal-breaker, etc.)
- enthusiasm: head (Deadhead, etc.), maniac (Hulkamaniac, etc.)
- environment: dom (memedom, etc.), land (clubland, etc.), scape (threatscape, etc.), sphere (cryptosphere, etc.), verse (metaverse, etc.)
- failure, accident & impairment: mis (misbehave, etc.)
- flaws & lack of flaws: over (overshare, etc.), under (underdeliver, etc.)
- identity & nature: ness (Asian-ness, etc.)
- inclusion & exclusion: anti (antiracist, etc.), centered (survivor-centered, etc.), centric (Afro-centric, etc.), cide (femicide, etc.), curious (bi-curious, etc.), de (defund, etc.), face (yellowface, etc.), fication (adulthoodification, etc.), fishing (Latino-fishing, etc.), friendly (queer-friendly, etc.), hood (personhood, etc.), informed (trauma-informed, etc.), ism (racism, etc.), ist (racist, etc.), ity (intersectionality, etc.), ization (marginalization, etc.), ize (racialize, etc.), ized (invisibilized, etc.), ness (Asian-ness, etc.), phobe (vaxophobe, etc.), phobia (fatphobia, etc.), phobic (transphobic, etc.), ship (allyship, etc.), un (unhoused, etc.), wash (straightwash, etc.), x (Chicanx, etc.)
- increase & decrease: besity (infobesity, etc.), demic (infodemic, etc.), flation (lunchflation, etc.)
- language: complex (military-industrial complex, etc.), demic (infodemic, etc.), dom (memedom, etc.), enomics (and nomics), exit (and Brexit, etc.), flation (lunchflation, etc.), Franken (Frankenfoods, etc.), geddon (chipageddon, etc.), holic (shopaholic, etc.), hyper (hypersexualized, etc.), ish (androgyny-ish, etc.), land (clubland, etc.), mega (mega-blogger, etc.), meta (affix), over (overshare, etc.), scape (threatscape, etc.), sphere (cryptosphere, etc.), super (superlawyer, etc.), uber (uber-interesting, etc.), ultra (ultra-conservative, etc.), verse (metaverse, etc.), whisperer (horse whisperer, etc.), y (pulpy, etc.), zilla (bridezilla, etc.)
- resemblance: boyish (adj), doughnut (doughnut-shaped)
- restraint & lack of restraint: overboard (behavior), overreach (v)
- reversal: un (undo this hurt, etc.)
- searching & discovery: naut (Argonaut, etc.)
- sequence: sequel (prequel, etc.)
- size: besity (infobesity, etc.), jumbo (large), mega (megadrought, etc.)
- speed: hyper (hypersexualized, etc.)
- speech: ese (legalese, etc.), speak (NASA-speak, etc.), talk (mediator talk, etc.)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: over (overshare, etc.), overdose (n), overheated (adj), overinflated (adj), under (underdeliver, etc.)
- superiority & inferiority: out (outpace, etc.)
- superlative: hyper (hypersexualized, etc.), mega (mega-blogger, etc.), super (superlawyer, etc.), uber (uber-interesting, etc.), ultra (ultra-conservative, etc.)

## AFFLICTION (1)

- affix: demic (infodemic, etc.), Franken (Frankenfoods, etc.), geddon (chipageddon, etc.), pocalypse (gas-pocalypse, etc.), zilla (bridezilla, etc.)
- allusion: albatross (n), dog (dogs of war), Dracula (n), Franken (Frankenfoods, etc.), Frankenstein (product), Frankenstein (a monster), fury (creature), geddon (chipageddon, etc.), hector (v), Minotaur, monster (create a

- monster, etc.), nemesis (n), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), pocalypse (gas-pocalypse, etc.), zilla (bridezilla, etc.)
- animal: albatross (n), animal (insult), back (get off my back, etc.), backbiter (person), badger (v), barnacle (affliction), bete noire (black beast), bird-dog (v), bite (resemblance), biting (adj), dog (afflict), dog (dogs of war), dogged (hounded), eat (mental health), eat (mental health), eat (destroy), encrustation (affliction), gadfly (person), gnaw (v), gnawing (gnawing doubt, etc.), hound (v), hounded (dogged), leech (person), monkey (monkey on one's back, etc.), octopus (n), parasite (person), pest (person), pester (v), piranha (predation), pursue (afflict), riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.), shark (predation), tentacle (n), vulture (behavior), wolf (predation)
  - arm: octopus (n), tentacle (n)
  - atmosphere: fallout (effect)
  - back: back (get off my back, etc.), backbiter (person)
  - Bible: geddon (chipageddon, etc.), pocalypse (gas-pocalypse, etc.)
  - bird: albatross, vulture (behavior)
  - blade: cut (a thousand cuts)
  - boat: barnacle (affliction), encrustation (affliction)
  - bodily reaction: choke (v)
  - breathing: choke (v)
  - burden: bear (a weight, etc.), barnacle (affliction), burden (v), burden (n), encrustation (affliction), heavy (oppression), weigh (weigh heavily), weigh (oppress), weighed down, weight (effect), weight (under the weight)
  - clothing & accessories: shoe (a stone in the shoe)
  - color: bete noire (back beast)
  - container: genie (initiation), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.)
  - cooking: skewer (v), skewered
  - creature: bedevil (v), bedeviled, bogeyman (and boogeyman), demon (affliction), devil (evil), Dracula (n), Franken (Frankenfoods, etc.), Frankenstein (product), Frankenstein (a monster), fury (creature), genie (initiation), ghost (memory), gremlin (n), haunt (v), haunted, Minotaur, monster (create a monster, etc.), monster (affliction), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), pursue (afflict), specter (n), troll (verb / computers), vampire (n), zilla (bridezilla, etc.)
  - dog: bird-dog (v), dog (afflict), dog (dogs of war), dogged (hounded), hound (v), hounded (dogged)
  - finger: pinch (pinch of hunger, etc.), pinched
  - fish: piranha (predation)
  - fist: smitten (afflicted)
  - food & drink: choke (v), eat (mental health), eat (destroy)
  - hand: squeeze (pressure / noun)
  - health & medicine: boil (affliction), cancer (n), cancerous (adj), contagion (n), convulse (v), convulsed, convulsion (n), demic (infodemic, etc.), disease (affliction), epidemic (n), fester (v), festering (adj), gall (v), growth (cancerous, etc.), headache (n), hives (n), infection (corruption), ill (ills of society, etc.), malignant (adj), metastasize (v), metastasizing (adj), migraine (n), neck (pain in the neck), pain (economic pain, etc.), pain (pain in the neck, etc.), paroxysm (other), pathology (n), patient zero, plague (v), plague (n), plagued, pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, rash (affliction), scar (psychologically / verb), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring, scathing (adj), sore (affliction), sickness (n), smitten afflicted, spasm (n), spasmodic (adj), syndrome (n), tumor (n), ulcer (n), virus (affliction), wound (figurative wounds of Vietnam, etc.)
  - hole: pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.)
  - horse: gadfly (person), pester (v), saddle (a burr in the saddle)
  - hunting: bird-dog (v), follow (afflict), hound (v), hounded (dogged)
  - Iliad & Odyssey: hector (v)

- insect: gadfly (person), infest (v), infested, pest (person), pester (v), riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.)
- justice: ball and chain, nemesis (n)
- knife: cut (a thousand cuts)
- magic: curse (n), cursed, evil eye
- mark: pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, scar (psychologically / verb), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring, scathing (adj), wound (figurative wounds of Vietnam, etc.)
- materials & substances: wound salt in a wound
- mechanism: mill (through the mill), put (put somebody through something), wringer (through the wringer)
- movement: convulse (v), convulsed, convulsion (n), paroxysm (other), spasm (n), spasmodic (adj)
- neck: neck (pain in the neck), pain (pain in the neck, etc.)
- nuclear energy: fallout (effect)
- person: backbiter (person), gadfly (person), leech (person), pain (pain in the neck, etc.), parasite (person), pest (person)
- plant: bane (n), thorn (n), thorny (adj)
- predation: backbiter (person), eat (mental health), eat (destroy), piranha (predation), shark (predation), wolf (predation)
- pressure: squeeze (pressure / noun), wringer (through the wringer)
- religion: bedevil (v), bedeviled, curse (n), cursed, devil (evil), evil eye, fury (creature), nemesis (n), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.)
- sea: barnacle (affliction), encrustation (affliction)
- sensation: biting (adj), gall (v), gnaw (v), gnawing (gnawing doubt, etc.), irritant (n), irritated, needle (v), neck (pain in the neck), pain (economic pain, etc.), pain (pain in the neck, etc.), pinch (pinch of hunger, etc.), pinched, saddle (a burr in the saddle), shoe (a stone in the shoe), thorn (n), thorny (adj), wound (salt in a wound)
- shark: shark (predation)
- sign, signal, symbol: octopus (n), tentacle (n), shark (predation), vulture (behavior), wolf (predation)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: boil (affliction), ulcer (n)
- speech: nag (v), nagging (adj)
- teeth: bite (resemblance), biting (adj), gnaw (v), gnawing (gnawing doubt, etc.)
- throat: choke (v)
- verb: badger (v), bear (a weight, etc.), bedevil (v), bite (resemblance), burden (v), choke (v), convulse (v), dog (afflict), eat (mental health), eat (destroy), fester (v), follow (afflict), gall (v), gnaw (v), haunt (v), hector (v), hound (v), infest (v), metastasize (v), nag (v), needle (v), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), pester (v), plague (v), pockmark (v), pursue (afflict), scar (psychologically / verb), skewer (v), torture (afflict), troll (verb / computers), weigh (weigh heavily), weigh (oppress)
- violence: scourge (n), torture (afflict), torture (affliction), tortured, waterboarding (n)
- weapon: dart (throw darts, etc.), shrapnel (n), smitten (afflicted)
- weight: ball and chain, bear (a weight, etc.), burden (v), burden (n), heavy (oppression), weigh (weigh heavily), weigh (oppress), weighed down, weight (effect), weight (under the weight)
- whip: scourge (n)
- wolf: wolf (predation)
- wounds & scars: scar (psychologically / verb), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring, scathing (adj), wound (figurative wounds of Vietnam, etc.)

## **AIR (2) (see also atmosphere; sky; wind)**

- absorption & immersion: permeate (v)
- activity: cyclone (n), gale (strong wind), hurricane (n), whirlwind (n)
- amelioration & renewal: air (breath of fresh air), air (clear the air)

- amount & effect: cyclone (n), downdraft (n), gale (strong wind), hurricane (n), storm (amount and effect), tempest (n), whirlwind (n)
- appearance: air (air of authority, etc.), aura (n)
- appearance & disappearance: air (into thin air), air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.), ether (into the ether), nowhere (come out of nowhere, etc.), sky (a clear blue sky, etc.)
- attenuation: deflate (pressure)
- certainty & uncertainty: air (up in the air)
- concealment & lack of concealment: air (expose)
- conflict: turbulence
- corruption: miasma (n)
- destruction: balloon (puncture a balloon, etc.), prick (v), puncture (v)
- direction: weather vane (n)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: filter (v)
- effect: air (take the air out of a room, etc.)
- environment: air (environment), air (anger in the air, etc.), atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), climate (work climate, etc.), weather (environment)
- failure, accident & impairment: balloon (puncture a balloon, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: sky (the sky can fall)
- feeling, emotion & effect: air (take the air out of a room, etc.), air (breath of fresh air), air (air of authority, etc.), air (anger in the air, etc.), atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), aura (n), climate (work climate, etc.), deflate (emotion), deflated, pump up (v), pumped (feeling)
- flaws & lack of flaws: airtight (adj), overinflated (adj), tempestuous (adj), turbulent (turbulent childhood, etc.)
- force: downdraft (n)
- growth & development: oxygen (fuel)
- identity & nature: air (environment)
- increase & decrease: balloon (v), ballooning (adj),flation (lunchflation, etc.), inflate (v), inflated (expectations, etc.), inflation (n), overinflated (adj), oxygen (fuel), pump up (v)
- initiation: oxygen (fuel)
- origin: air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.)
- presence & absence: air (anger in the air, etc.), vacuum (n), void (n)
- speech: air (hot air), breezy (speech), empty (empty words, etc.), hollow (hollow promises, etc.), long-winded (speech), vapor (n)
- substance & lack of substance: air (hot air), breezy (speech), empty (empty words, etc.), gas (substance), hollow (hollow promises, etc.), vapor (n)
- survival, persistence & endurance: oxygen (life)

## ALCOHOL (2)

- achievement, recognition & praise: toast (v), toast (acknowledgment)
- activity: ferment (v), ferment (n)
- behavior: binge (on a binge), binge (other), drunk (adj), holic (shopaholic, etc.), inebriate (v), intoxicate (v), intoxicated
- concealment & lack of concealment: bootleg (adj), bootlegger
- consciousness & awareness: black out (v)
- control & lack of control: drunk (adj)
- enthusiasm: intoxicating (adj)
- feeling, emotion & effect: drunk (adj), hangover (alcohol), intoxicate (v), intoxicated, intoxicating (adj), sober (v), sober (adj), sobering (adj)
- mixture: cocktail (n)
- restraint & lack of restraint: binge (on a binge), binge (other), drunk (adj), inebriate (v)

- subterfuge: bootleg (adj)

## **ALLEGIANCE, SUPPORT & BETRAYAL (1) (see also help & assistance; resiliency; sanctioning, authority & non-conformity; survival, persistence & endurance; unanimity & consensus)**

- allusion: believer (true believer)
- animal: horse (switch horses), horse (back the wrong horse), rat (betray), rat (a snitch), shark (thrown to the sharks), turn (turn against / turn on something), wolf (throw somebody to the wolves), wolf (thrown to the wolves)
- arm: arm (link arms), embrace (v), embraced, pull (pull for someone)
- atmosphere: hang (hang somebody out to dry), hung (hung out to dry), wind (dangle in the wind)
- back: back (support / verb), back (behind somebody's back), backed, backing (support), backstabber (person), backstabbing (n), stab (stab somebody in the back)
- baseball: bat (go to bat for somebody, etc.)
- Bible: Judas (betrayal)
- bird: coop (fly the coop)
- blade: cutthroat (competition)
- boat: board (on board), mutineer (person), mutinous (adj), mutiny (n), overboard (throw somebody overboard), rat (sinking ship), ship (abandon ship / jump ship)
- boxing: corner (in one's corner)
- bullet: bullet (take a bullet for somebody)
- burden: pull (pull for someone)
- cards: in (all in)
- carpets & rugs: rug (pull the rug out)
- clothing & accessories: hang (hang somebody out to dry), hung (hung out to dry)
- container: out (want out)
- corner: corner (in one's corner)
- direction: back (support / verb), bring around (v), down (down for something), lean towards (v), side (on one's side / person), side with (v), time (time on one's side), turn (turn against / turn on something), up (up for something)
- epithet: Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative)
- fence: fence (on the fence, etc.), fence (straddle the fence), fence (fence-straddling)
- flags & banners: banner (under the banner), banner (behind the banner), banner (banner of Islam, etc.), flag (rally around the flag), rally (v)
- food & drink: egg (put all one's eggs in a basket, etc.), Kool-Aid (drink the Kool-Aid, etc.)
- fortification: insider (insider attack, etc.)
- gambling: horse (back the wrong horse), in (all in)
- gesture: embrace (v), hand (raise one's hand)
- government: vote (n)
- hand: hand (raise one's hand)
- hat: hat (hang one's hat on something)
- heart: heart (allegiance), heart (change of heart), hearts and minds
- history: fealty (n), river (sell somebody down the river), wagon (hitch one's wagon to something)
- horse: horse (switch horses), horse (back the wrong horse), wagon (hitch one's wagon to something)
- infrastructure: prop (n), prop up (v)
- knife: backstabber (person), backstabbing (n), cutthroat (competition), stab (stab somebody in the back)
- line: rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks)
- love, courtship & marriage: bed (jump into bed with someone), infidelity (n)
- materials & substances: stick (stick by / stick with somebody), stick together (v)

- mechanism: bus (control / allegiance), truck (control)
- Middle Ages: champion (v), champion (n), championed, fealty (n), ring (kiss the ring)
- military: AWOL, conscript (n), desert (v), insurrection, post (abandon one's post), rally (v), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), soldier (n), traitor (person), treason (n), troops (supporters), turncoat (person)
- mining: prop (n), prop up (v)
- money: buy (buy into something), buy-in (n), sell out (v)
- number: count on (count on me, etc.)
- person: backstabber (person), rat (a snitch), renegade (person), turncoat (person)
- position: back (support / verb), backed, backing (support), beside (support), side (on one's side / person), side with (v), time (time on one's side)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: against (opposition), behind (support), beside (support), down (down for something), for (support), in (all in), out (want out), side with (v), stand (stand behind something, etc.), there (there for me, etc.), up (up for something), with (support)
- rat: rat (betray), rat (a snitch), rat (sinking ship)
- religion: faith (n), Judas (betrayal), recant (v), renegade (person), ring (kiss the ring)
- river: river (sell somebody down the river)
- royalty: fealty (n)
- shark: shark (thrown to the sharks)
- shoulder: shoulder (stand shoulder to shoulder, etc.)
- speech: betrayed
- sports & games: bat (go to bat for somebody, etc.), win over (v)
- standing, sitting & lying: shoulder (stand shoulder to shoulder, etc.), stand (stand behind something, etc.), stand by (support), stand up (stand up for something), stand with (support)
- temperature: lukewarm (feeling)
- tent: tent (pitch one's tent), tent (fold one's tent)
- train: board (on board), train (get on the Trump train, etc.)
- verb: arm (link arms), back (support / verb), bat (go to bat for somebody, etc.), bed (jump into bed with someone), bring around (v), bullet (take a bullet for somebody), bus (throw somebody under the bus), champion (v), coop (fly the coop), count on (count on me, etc.), desert (v), embrace (v), fence (straddle the fence), hand (raise one's hand), hang (hang somebody out to dry), horse (switch horses), horse (back the wrong horse), jump (leave), lean towards (v), lion (throw somebody to the lions, etc.), overboard (throw somebody overboard), post (abandon one's post), prop up (v), pull (pull for someone), rally (v), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), rat (betray), recant (v), river (sell somebody down the river), rug (pull the rug out), sell out (v), ship (abandon ship / jump ship), shoulder (stand shoulder to shoulder, etc.), side with (v), stab (stab somebody in the back), stand (stand behind something, etc.), stand by (support), stand up (stand up for something), stand with (support), stick (stick by / stick with somebody), stick together (v), tent (pitch one's tent), tent (fold one's tent), turn (turn against / turn on something), vote (vote with one's feet, etc.), wagon (hitch one's wagon to something), walk (walk away from something), weight (put / throw one's weight behind something), win over (v), wind (dangle in the wind), wolf (throw somebody to the wolves)
- violence: bus (throw somebody under the bus), cutthroat (competition), lion (throw somebody to the lions, etc.), overboard (throw somebody overboard), wolf (throw somebody to the wolves), wolf (thrown to the wolves)
- walking, running & jumping: highway (my way or the highway), jump (leave), step (every step of the way), vote (vote with one's feet, etc.), walk (walk away from something)
- weapon: bullet (take a bullet for somebody)
- weight: weight (put / throw one's weight behind something)
- wind: wind (dangle in the wind)
- wolf: wolf (throw somebody to the wolves), wolf (thrown to the wolves)

## ALLUSION (1)

- books & reading: Arthurian (adj), Big Brother (oppression), brave new world, Brobdingnagian (adj), Byron (epithet), Casanova (Serbian Casanova, etc.), Catch-22, Cinderella, Colonel Blimp, curiouser and curiouser, Cyclops (creature), Dantesque (adj), Darwinian (adj), Dickensian (adj), Don Juan, Faust (n), Faustian (adj), Frankenstein (product), Frankenstein (a monster), gargantuan (size), Goldilocks (Goldilocks zone, etc.), Good Earth (Pearl Buck), Great Gatsby, Hamlet (Hamlet on the Hudson, etc.), Jekyll (Jekyll and Hyde), Kafkaesque (adj), Kipling (the Canadian Kipling, etc.), Lady Macbeth (epithet), Lawrence (T.E.), Lilliputian (adj), lily (gild the lily), Looking Glass, Lord of the Flies, love (love that dare not speak its name), Machiavelli (Trump's Machiavelli, etc.), Mark Twain (the Yiddish Mark Twain, etc.), monster (create a monster, etc.), never-never land; nineteen eighty four (and 1984), O. Henry, Orwell, Orwellian (adj), Panglossian (adj), Peter Pan, pied piper, pitchfork (oppression), Pollyanna, Pollyannaish, profile in courage (JFK), Quixote (Don Quixote), quixotic (adj), rabbit hole (fantasy), Robin Hood, Robinson Crusoe, Romeo and Juliet (epithet), soul (sell one's soul to the devil, etc.), Shakespeare ("hillbilly Shakespeare," etc.), Shakespearean (adj), Shangri-la, Sherlock Holmes, Sisyphean (adj), shot (shot heard round the world), sleeping beauty, story (Just-so story), Svengali (allusion), Tale of Two Cities, Voldemort, Walter Mitty, whale (White Whale), windmill (tilt at windmills, etc.), wolf (cry wolf), world (lost world)
- film & TV: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.), Chinatown (the film), Chris Farley (Chris Farley of silent cinema, etc.), Dracula (n), game of thrones, Groundhog Day (film) Hunger Games (film), Mini-Me, Rashomon (point of view), Oh, my! (sarcasm), Rosebud (allusion), Star Wars (film), Twilight Zone, Wizard of Oz, yellow brick road, zilla (bridezilla, etc.)
- military: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.), Dunkirk (digital Dunkirk, etc.), ersatz (substitute), fabius (Fabius Maximus), Gallipoli (a Gallipoli of an interview, etc.), Geneva Convention (cyber, etc.), Maginot Line, Manhattan Project, Marshall Plan, Napoleon (the Napoleon of surgery, etc.), Pyrrhic victory (figurative), Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative), Thermopylae (figurative), Waterloo (figurative)

## ALLUSION (2)

- accusation & criticism: jeremiad (bitter lament)
- achievement, recognition & praise: laurels (praise), pantheon (n), titan (n)
- action, inaction & delay: fabius (Fabius Maximus), Gordian knot, fiddle (while Rome burns, etc.)
- affliction: albatross (n), dog (dogs of war), Dracula (n), Franken (Frankenfoods, etc.), Frankenstein (product), Frankenstein (a monster), fury (creature), geddon (chipageddon, etc.), hector (v), Minotaur, monster (create a monster, etc.), nemesis (n), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), pocalypse (gas-pocalypse, etc.), zilla (bridezilla, etc.)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: believer (true believer)
- alternatives & choices: cornucopia (variety), Hobson's choice, Scylla and Charybdis
- amelioration & renewal: Fountain of Youth, Lazarus (Bible), panacea (n)
- amount: cornucopia (variety), Lucullan (adj)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: Rosetta Stone
- appearance: Adonis (handsome)
- appearance & reality: chalice (poisoned chalice)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: Barnum (and P.T. Barnum), it girl (and it drug, etc.), shot (shot heard round the world), Streisand (Streisand effect)
- attraction & repulsion: pied piper, siren (siren call / siren song), siren (other)
- behavior: Lady Macbeth (epithet), Lord of the Flies, Machiavelli (Trump's Machiavelli, etc.)
- Bible: Lazarus (Bible)
- biodiversity, nature & life: Noah's Ark
- certainty & uncertainty: Bermuda Triangle
- character & personality: Byron (epithet), Casanova (Serbian Casanova, etc.), Colonel Blimp, Don Juan, Hamlet (Hamlet on the Hudson, etc.), Jekyll (Jekyll and Hyde), Lady Macbeth (epithet), Machiavelli (Trump's

Machiavelli, etc.), Machiavellian (adj), Panglossian (adj), Pollyanna, Pollyannaish (adj), stoic (adj), Svengali (allusion)

- coercion & motivation: hector (v)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: migration (#TwitterMigration, etc.)
- commitment & determination: believer (true believer), boat (burn one's boats), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.), shield (on one's shield)
- competition: Darwinian (adj), Hunger Games (film), race (arms race)
- complexity: Gordian knot, labyrinth (n)
- comprehension & incomprehension: : babel (n), Delphic (adj), eureka (moment, etc.), Rosetta Stone
- concealment & lack of concealment: love (love that dare not speak its name), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), Streisand (Streisand effect)
- conflict: cold war, Gandhian (adj)
- consciousness & awareness: frog (frog in boiling water), road (road to Damascus)
- constraint & lack of constraint: envelope (push the envelope)
- control & lack of control: King Canute, Lady Macbeth (epithet)
- cost & benefit: egg (golden egg), goose (golden goose), Pyrrhic victory (figurative)
- creation & transformation: chimera (n), chimeric (and chimerical), Franken (Frankenfoods, etc.), Frankenstein (product), muse (person), Phoenix (myth), procrustean (adj)
- danger: kryptonite (n), Scylla and Charybdis
- dependency: banana republic
- destruction: apocalypse (n), Armageddon, geddon (chipageddon, etc.), heart (stake through the heart, etc.), holocaust (n), kiss of death, kryptonite (n), Phoenix (myth), pocalypse (gas-pocalypse, etc.), *Titanic* (the ship), vandal (n), vandalism (n)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: hard (space is hard), herculean (adj), Manhattan Project, Marshall Plan, New Deal (Green New Deal, etc.), promethean (adj), Sisyphian (adj)
- direction: breadcrumb (evidence)
- disruption: Bolshevik, Che Guevara, Danton, Jacobin
- division & connection: apartheid (separation), iron curtain, Maginot Line, Paradise Lost (allusion), Yugoslavia (Asian Yugoslavia, etc.)
- environment: Dantesque (adj), Dickensian (adj), frog (frog in boiling water), never-never land, Promised Land
- evidence: breadcrumb (evidence)
- fantasy & reality: Arthurian (adj), Bermuda Triangle, Black Mirror, curiouser and curiouser, El Dorado, Groundhog Day (film), heffalump (creature), Kafkaesque (adj), never-never land, Quixote (Don Quixote), quixotic (adj), rabbit hole (fantasy), Star Wars (film), surreal (adj), Twilight Zone, Walter Mitty, windmill (tilt at windmills, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: boat (burn one's boats), chalice (poisoned chalice), Chinatown (the film), devil (deal with the devil), Faust (n), Faustian (adj), kiss of death, midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.), Sword of Damocles, *Titanic* (the ship)
- feeling, emotion & effect: Chinatown (the film), stoic (adj)
- flaws & lack of flaws: Goldilocks (Goldilocks zone, etc.), Panglossian (adj)
- force: zilla (bridezilla, etc.)
- geography: Frankenstein (Frankenstein Cliff, etc.)
- group, set & collection: cornucopia (variety), Noah's Ark
- help & assistance: Marshall Plan, New Deal (Green New Deal, etc.)
- hierarchy: patrician
- identity & nature: believer (true believer), no (no Jack Kennedy, etc.), patrician
- importance & significance: titan (n), triumvirate (n)
- initiation: Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), ship (launched a thousand ships)
- judgment: draconian (adj), nemesis (n), piper (pay the piper, etc.), Solomonic (adj)

- knowledge & intelligence: Einstein (intelligence, or lack)
- message: Cassandra, jeremiad (bitter lament), messenger (shoot the messenger)
- migration: hegira (and hejira), Lazarus (Emma Lazarus), migration (#TwitterMigration, etc.)
- money: Great Gatsby, Lucullan (adj), Lucullus (epithet), Midas (Midas touch)
- oppression: Big Brother (oppression), brave new world, Cinderella, Cromwellian (adj), Cyclops (creature), Dark Star, draconian (adj), Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.), Hunger Games (film), inquisition (n), Lord of the Flies, McCarthy, McCarthyism, McCarthyite, nineteen eighty four (and 1984), Orwell, Orwellian (adj), pitchfork (oppression), procrustean (adj), reign of terror / fear, etc., star chamber (n), Voldemort, witch hunt
- origin: Phoenix (myth)
- past & present: ancien regime
- perception, perspective & point of view: elephant (“The Blind Men and the Elephant”), Rashomon (point of view), Rorschach (test)
- power: complex (military-industrial complex, etc.)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: ancien regime, it girl (and it drug, etc.), Methuselah, old guard
- product: Frankenstein (product)
- proper name: Frankenstein (Frankenstein Cliff, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: Achilles’ heel (n), Great Wall of China
- punishment & recrimination: nemesis (n)
- pursuit, capture & escape: Houdini, Pandora’s box (open a Pandora’s box, etc.)
- relationship: banana republic, Mini-Me, muse (person)
- repetition: Groundhog Day (film)
- resemblance: Mini-Me, proverbial (adj)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: Pyrrhic victory (figurative), Thermopylae (figurative), Young Turk
- restraint & lack of restraint: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.), envelope (push the envelope)
- revenge: nemesis (n)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: promethean (adj), shibboleth (n), Young Turk
- searching & discovery: El Dorado, grail (holy grail), rabbit hole (exploration), rainbow (searching and discovery), Sherlock Holmes
- sex: Casanova (Serbian Casanova, etc.), Don Juan
- situation: Dantesque (adj), frog (frog in boiling water)
- size: behemoth (n), Brobdingnagian, colossal (adj), David (David and Goliath, etc.), gargantuan (size), Goliath (Bible), jumbo (large), Krakatoan (adj), leviathan, Lilliputian (adj), Olympian (size), Pharaonic (adj), spartan (adj), titan (n), zilla (bridezilla, etc.)
- speech: : babel (n), doublespeak (n), gaslight (v), gaslighting (n), gaslit (and gaslighted), newspeak (n)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: swan song
- strength & weakness: Achilles’ heel (n), David (David and Goliath, etc.), Goliath (Bible)
- substance & lack of substance: clothes (the emperor has no clothes)
- subterfuge: breadcrumb (v), breadcrumbing, curtain (the con man behind the curtain, etc.), doublespeak (n), doublethink (n), gaslight (v), gaslighting (n), gaslit (and gaslighted), Machiavelli (Trump’s Machiavelli, etc.), Machiavellian (adj), newspeak (n), Svengali (allusion), Trojan Horse (subterfuge), Wizard of Oz
- success & failure: Cinderella, Pyrrhic victory (figurative)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: cornucopia (variety)
- superlative: Homeric (adj), Mount Rushmore, Olympus (Mount Olympus), pantheon (n), Promised Land, Valhalla (n)
- survival, persistence & endurance: Lazarus (Bible), legend (n), Methuselah, Phoenix (myth)
- taking & removing: Robin Hood
- time: ancien regime, legend (n)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.)

- transmission: Johnny Appleseed
- violence: Lord of the Flies
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: El Dorado, grail (holy grail), whale (White Whale)
- warning: wolf (cry wolf)
- worth & lack of worth: black tulip (rarity), egg (golden egg), fool's errand, goose (golden goose), Mona Lisa (Mona Lisa of baseball cards, etc.)

## **ALTERNATIVES & CHOICES (1)**

- allusion: cornucopia (variety), Hobson's choice, Scylla and Charybdis
- books & reading: Catch-22
- color: palette (n)
- direction: turn (turn to something, etc.)
- food & drink: buffet (n), cornucopia (variety), menu (computer), menu (other), smorgasbord (n)
- hand: hand (on the one / other hand)
- Iliad & Odyssey: Scylla and Charybdis
- journeys & trips: crossroad (at a crossroad), crossroad (other), fork (a fork in the road, etc.), path (alternatives and choices), road (fork in the road, etc.)
- nuclear energy: option (nuclear option)
- path: path (alternatives & choices)
- tools & technology: toolbox (n), toolkit (n), toolshed (n)
- verb: choose (chose me, found me, etc.)

## **AMELIORATION & RENEWAL (1)**

- addiction: detox (and detoxification, etc.)
- air: air (breath of fresh air), air (clear the air)
- allusion: Fountain of Youth, Lazarus (Bible), panacea (n)
- animal: barnacle (scrape the barnacles, etc.), calm (v), tame (v)
- atmosphere: air (clear the air), air (breath of fresh air)
- baby: newborn
- ball: rebound (on the rebound)
- Bible: Lazarus (Bible)
- birth: newborn, rebirth (n), reborn, renaissance (n)
- blade: hack (fix), hack (a fix), hacking (fixing), hone (v), sharpen (v)
- boat: bailout (n), bail out (save), barnacle (scrape the barnacles, etc.), damage control, righted, salvage (v), ship (right the ship, etc.)
- breathing: breathing space (and breathing room), life (breathe life)
- bridge: bridge (v), bridge-building (through bridge-building), bridge-building
- bullet: bullet (magic or silver bullet, etc.)
- burden: barnacle (scrape the barnacles, etc.), get out (get out from under)
- burial: ghost (bury the ghost)
- cloth: iron out (v), patch (and patch up), patched, untangle (v)
- cooking: reheat (v)
- cows & cattle: beefed up, beef up (v)
- creature: exorcise (v), ghost (bury the ghost)
- death & life: alive (come alive), Fountain of Youth, invigorate (v), Lazarus (Bible), life (give life), life (bring to life), life (breathe life), newborn, reinvigorate (v), resurrect (v), resurrection (n), resuscitate (v), revive (v), revivify (v)
- destruction: piece (pick up the pieces)
- direction: feet (get back on one's feet, etc.), straighten out (v), turn around (turn things around, etc.)
- document: lease (lease on life)

- doors & thresholds: open (after lockdown, etc.)
- electricity: battery (recharge one's batteries, etc.)
- engine: tune (and tune up), tune-up (n)
- epithet: spring (Arab Spring, etc.)
- equilibrium & stability: counterbalance (v), counterbalance (n), counterweight (n), right (right a wrong, etc.), stabilize (v)
- explosion: defuse (v)
- face: facelift (n)
- fence: fence (mend fences)
- fire: ashes (from the ashes), burn off (v)
- food & drink: beefed up, beef up (v), fresh (fresh evidence, etc.), spice up (v), thirst (quench one's thirst, etc.)
- foot: feet (get back on one's feet, etc.)
- fountain: Fountain of Youth
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: bring back (restore)
- ground, terrain & land: swamp (drain the swamp)
- history: renaissance (n)
- hardness & softness: cushion (v), cushion (n), smooth (v), soften (speech)
- health & medicine: anodyne (adj), antidote (n), balm (n), Band-Aid (n), bromide (n), cure (n), cure (v), cure-all, detox (and detoxification, etc.), disinfect (v), disinfectant (n), heal (v), healing (n), inject (fresh blood, etc.), invigorate (v), lance (v), lanced, life (breathe life), mend (on the mend), nostrum (n), panacea (n), pill (miracle pill), prescribe (v), prescription (n), reinvigorate (v), remedy (v), remedy (n), resuscitate (v), revive (v), revivify (v), salve (n), shot (shot in the arm, etc.), soothe (sensation), surgery (n), tonic (effect)
- house: broom (broom of reform, etc.), house (a house in order), house (clean house)
- hygiene: act (clean up one's act), broom (broom of reform, etc.), clean (come clean), clean (v), clean up (improve), cleanse (make clean), disinfect (v), disinfectant (n), house (clean house), order (get something in order, etc.)
- infrastructure: bolster (v), bolstered, buttress (v), outlet (n), put (put something back together), prop (n), prop up, rebuild (v), reinforce (v), scaffolding, shored up, shore up (v), smooth (smooth the road, etc.)
- journeys & trips: path (clear a path), smooth (smooth the road, etc.), way (pave the way)
- key: unlock (v)
- knife: hone (v), sharpen (v)
- light & dark: clarify (v), clear up (v), polish (v)
- magic: bullet (magic or silver bullet, etc.), dust (fairy dust, etc.), magic (magic bullet, etc.), talisman (n), talismanic (adj), wand (magic wand)
- manufacturing: recycle (v), salvage (v)
- meat: beefed up, beef up (v)
- mechanism: fix (v), lubricant (social lubricant, etc.), mend (on the mend), mend (v), put (put something back together), repair (v), repair (n), tinker (v), tune (and tune up), tune-up (n), tweak (n), unwind (relax), wheel (grease the wheels), wind down (relax)
- military: damage control
- mining: buttress (v), prop (n), prop up (v), shored up, shore up (v)
- movement: outlet (n), turn around (turn things around, etc.)
- music: fine-tune (v), tune (and tune up), tune-up (n)
- orientation: right (right a wrong, etc.)
- part of speech: law enforcement (as verb)
- path: path (clear a path)
- pressure: decompression (n), outlet (n), steam (blow / let off steam), steam (take the steam out, etc.), valve (relief valve), vent (v)

- religion: dead (rise from the dead), exorcise (v), Lazarus (Bible), panacea (n), resurrect (v), resurrection (n), salvation (n)
- river: bridge (v), bridge-building (through bridge-building), bridge-building
- rope: loosen up (feelings), straighten out (v), unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.), untangle (v)
- scale: counterbalance (v)
- sea: barnacle (scrape the barnacles, etc.), tide (stem the tide, etc.)
- sensation: smooth (v), soothe (sensation)
- sign, signal, symbol: magic (magic bullet, etc.)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: loosen up (feelings)
- snow & ice: ice (break the ice), thaw (v), thaw (n)
- sports & games: playing field (level the playing field)
- standing, sitting & lying: crutch (n), feet (get back on one's feet, etc.)
- swamp: swamp (drain the swamp)
- temperature: ice (break the ice), thaw (v), thaw (n)
- tide: tide (stem the tide, etc.)
- tools & technology: calibrate (adjust), calibrated (adjusted), plug (v), plugged (fixed), tweak (n), valve (relief valve)
- verb: act (clean up one's act), air (clear the air), bail out (save), bailed out, battery (recharge one's batteries, etc.), beef up (v), bolster (v), bridge (v), bring back (restore), burn off (v), buttress (v), calibrate (adjust), calm (v), clarify (v), clean (v), clean (come clean), cleanse (make clean), clean up (improve), clear up (v), counterbalance (v), cure (v), cushion (v), dead (rise from the dead), defuse (v), disinfect (v), exorcise (v), fence (mend fences), fine-tune (v), fix (v), get out (get out from under), ghost (bury the ghost), hack (fix), heal (v), hone (v), house (clean house), ice (break the ice), invigorate (v), iron out (v), lance (v), life (give life), life (bring to life), life (breathe life), lift (amelioration), lighten (lighten things up, etc.), loosen up (feelings), mend (v), patch (and patch up), path (clear a path), piece (pick up the pieces), playing field (level the playing field), plug (v), polish (v), prescribe (v), prop up (v), pull (pull yourself together, etc.), put (put something back together), rebuild (v), recycle (v), reheat (v), reinforce (v), reinvigorate (v), remedy (v), repair (v), resurrect (v), resuscitate (v), revive (v), revivify (v), right (right a wrong, etc.), salvage (v), scaffold (v), sharpen (v), ship (right the ship, etc.), shore up (v), smooth (v), soothe (sensation), spice up (v), stabilize (v), steam (blow / let off steam), steam (take the steam out, etc.), straighten out (v), swamp (drain the swamp), tame (v), thirst (quench one's thirst, etc.), tide (stem the tide, etc.), tinker (v), tune (and tune up), turn around (turn things around, etc.), unlock (v), untangle (v), unwind (relax), vent (v), wheel (grease the wheels), wind down (relax)
- volcano: vent (v)
- water: cleanse (make clean), Fountain of Youth, plug (v), plugged (fixed), outlet (n), thirst (quench one's thirst, etc.)
- weapon: bullet (magic or silver bullet, etc.)
- weight: get out (get out from under), lift (amelioration), lighten (lighten things up, etc.), tailor (v), tailored, tailor-made, thaw (v), way (pave the way)
- wind: air (breath of fresh air)

## AMOUNT (1)

- affix: heavy (tank-heavy, etc.)
- allusion: cornucopia (variety), Lucullan (adj)
- animal: drove (herd or flock), lion's share
- atmosphere: glimmer (glimmer of hope, etc.), ray (ray of hope, etc.)
- blade: sliver (piece)
- boat: armada (n), boatload (amount); fleet (amount), flotilla (flotilla of icebergs, etc.), raft (amount)
- books & reading: encyclopedia (amount), library (amount), trilogy (n)
- boundary: boundless

- breadth: thick (adj), thin (thin on the ground, etc.)
- cards: spade (in spades)
- container: bag (collection), bottomless (adj), brim (v), full (adj), package (benefits, etc.), package (commercial), truckload (amount)
- cloth: shred (shred of hope, etc.)
- clothing & accessories: laundry (laundry list)
- color: palette (n)
- crime: mob (group)
- dam: reservoir (amount)
- day: Christmas (Christmas list)
- depth: bottomless (adj)
- direction: bottomless (adj), low (low on food, etc.)
- distance: few and far between
- ear: earful (amount)
- epithet: Saudi Arabia (Saudi Arabia of coal, etc.)
- family: twin (two)
- farming & agriculture: bumper (bumper crop)
- fire: scintilla (scintilla of doubt, etc.), spark (spark of hope, etc.)
- food & drink: bellyful (amount), buffet (n), cornucopia (variety), crumb (amount), dollop (n), fed up (adj), helping (amount), lion's share, menu (other), morsel (amount), pie (piece of the pie, etc.), plate (full plate), scrap (n), smorgasbord (n), taste (taste of freedom, etc.)
- forest: forest (a forest of cranes, etc.)
- ground, terrain & land: acre (amount), pasture (amount)
- hand: handful (amount)
- health & medicine: dose (amount), rash (affliction)
- height: low (low on food, etc.)
- history: horde (people)
- hygiene: laundry (laundry list)
- infrastructure: suite (suite of tools, etc.), warehouse (amount)
- knife: slice (piece), sliver (piece)
- light & dark: glimmer (glimmer of hope, etc.), ray (ray of hope, etc.), scintilla (scintilla of doubt, etc.), shadow (beyond a shadow of a doubt, etc.), spark (spark of hope, etc.)
- lion: lion's share
- mark: speck (amount)
- materials & substances: chunk (amount)
- military: armada (n), army (a large group), arsenal (amount), battalion (a large group), battery (amount), fleet (amount), host (host of questions, etc.), legion (n), panoply (n), phalanx (phalanx of lawyers, etc.)
- mining: nugget (n)
- mixture: slurry (n)
- mountains & hills: mountain (amount)
- money: catalogue (list), change (pocket change), rich (plentiful), tight (money), treasure house, treasure trove (and trove), wealth (amount)
- number: trident (three), trilogy (n)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: full (adj)
- pile: backlog (amount), pile (pile of money, etc.)
- plant: kernel (amount)
- religion: litany (n)
- river: reservoir (amount)
- sea: abundance (amount), armada (n), fleet (amount), ocean (amount), sea (amount)

- size: gargantuan (size), grain (grain of truth), kernel (amount)
- snow & ice: iceberg (the tip of the iceberg)
- space: space (space of time)
- speech: earful (amount)
- stomach: bellyful (amount), fed up (adj)
- taste: taste (taste of freedom, etc.)
- theater: repertoire (n)
- tools & technology: toolbox (n), toolkit (n), toolshed (n)
- verb: brim (v)
- warehouse: warehouse (amount)
- water: abundance (amount), aquifer (n), drop (drop in the bucket), reservoir (amount), well (source)
- wave: abundance (amount)
- weapon: arsenal (amount), battery (amount), quiver (n)
- weight: groan (amount), heavy (amount), ounce (amount), pound (amount), ton (amount)

## AMOUNT (2)

- time: light year (a long time), long (a long time, etc.), minute (for a minute, etc.), space (space of time), time (take time, etc.), time (long time / short time)

## AMOUNT & EFFECT (1)

- air: cyclone (n), downdraft (n), gale (strong wind), hurricane (n), storm (amount and effect), tempest (n), whirlwind (n)
- animal: swarm (v), swarm (n)
- atmosphere: cyclone (n), downdraft (n), gale (strong wind), hurricane (n), storm (amount and effect), tempest (n), whirlwind (n)
- boat: swamp (v), swamped
- breathing: smother (amount & effect)
- cards: spade (in spades)
- dam: floodgate (open the floodgates / sluice gates), floodgate (other)
- earth & world: tectonic (adj)
- earthquake: earthquake (effect), earthshaking (adj), seismic (adj), seismically, tectonic (adj), tremor (n)
- epithet: wall (red wall, etc.)
- equilibrium & stability: earthquake (effect)
- explosion: blockbuster (n), blow up (blow up on TikTok, etc.), bomb (drop a bomb), bombard (v), bombarded, bombardment (n), bombing (n), bombshell (n), firebomb (n), Krakatoan (adj)
- fire: conflagration (n), fire (n), fire (flash fire), firestorm (n)
- flood: deluge (n), deluged, flood (flood of refugees, etc.), flood (amount / verb), flooded, floodgate (open the floodgates / sluice gates), floodgate (other), floodwaters, inundate (v), inundated
- flying & falling: flurry (activity)
- fortification: besiege (v), besieged, siege (under siege), siege (other)
- ground, terrain & land: earthquake (effect), earthshaking (adj), landslide (in a landslide), landslide (by a landslide), landslide (other), tectonic (adj)
- head: head (come down on one's head, etc.)
- health & medicine: epidemic (n), plague (n), rash (affliction)
- height: peak (peak sexy, etc.)
- history: gold rush
- insect: swarm (v), swarm (n)
- mechanism: full on (adj), full out (adj)
- military: barrage (n), besiege (v), besieged, blitz (campaign), bombard (v), bombarded, bombardment (n), bombing (n), bombshell (n), invade (v), invasion (n), onslaught (n), siege (under siege), siege (other)

- mining: bonanza (n), gold rush
- money: bonanza (n), gold rush
- mountains & hills: landslide (in a landslide), landslide (by a landslide), landslide (other)
- music: chorus (chorus of critics, etc.), crescendo (n)
- part of speech: everything (everything Taylor Swift, etc.), peak (peak sexy, etc.)
- pile: heap (v), heaped
- prep, adv, adj, particle: full (full Sarah Brightman, etc.)
- rain: flurry (activity), rain (amount & effect), rain (rain down), shower (v)
- religion: juggernaut (n)
- river: flood (amount / verb), flood (flood of refugees, etc.), flooded, floodgate (open the floodgates / sluice gates), floodgate (other), floodwaters, Niagara (the river and falls), river (river of hogs, etc.)
- sea: change (sea change), floodtide (n), groundswell (n), maelstrom (in a maelstrom), maelstrom (other), tidal wave (in a tidal wave), tidal wave (other), tide (rising tide), tide (on a tide), tide (other), tsunami (n), wave (in a wave), wave (amount and effect), whirlpool (in a whirlpool), whirlpool (other)
- size: colossal (adj), monster (size), stupendous (adj)
- snow & ice: avalanche (n), blizzard (n), hail (in a hail), hail (n)
- sound: bombshell (n), crescendo (n), drip (and drip-drip, etc.), full-throated (adj), Krakatoan (adj), uproar (controversy)
- speech: chorus (chorus of critics, etc.)
- storm: blizzard (n), cyclone (n), downdraft (n), gale (strong wind), hail (n), hail (in a hail), hurricane (n), nature (force of nature), storm (v), storm (by storm), storm (perfect storm), storm (amount and effect), tempest (n), whirlwind (n)
- tide: floodtide (n), surge (n), surge (intransitive verb / effect), tide (rising tide), tide (on a tide), tide (other)
- tsunami: tsunami (n)
- verb: besiege (v), blow up (attention /verb), bombard (v), erupt (v), flood (amount / verb), gush (v), heap (v), inundate (v), invade (v), pour (in, into, pour out, etc.), rain (amount and effect), rain (rain down), shower (v), smother (amount and effect), spill (and spill out, etc.), storm (v), surge (intransitive verb / effect), swamp (v), swarm (v)
- volcano: erupt (v), eruption, Krakatoan (adj), tremor (n), volcano (pressure)
- wall: wall (wall of flames, etc.)
- water: awash, cascade (n), clogged, deluge (n), deluged, drenched, drip (and drip-drop, etc.), flood (amount / verb), flood (flood of refugees, etc.), flooded, floodgate (open the floodgates / sluice gates), floodgate (other), floodtide (n), floodwaters, gush (v), inundate (v), inundated, Niagara (the river and falls), outpouring, pour (in, into, pour out, etc.), river (river of hogs, etc.), spill (and spill out, etc.), stream (amount & effect), surge (n), surge (intransitive verb / effect), swamp (v), swamped, tide (rising tide), tide (other), torrent (n), trickle (n), wave (in a wave), wave (amount and effect), whirlpool (in a whirlpool), whirlpool (other)
- wave: groundswell (n), swamp (v), tidal wave (in a tidal wave), tidal wave (other), tide (rising tide), tsunami (n), wave (in a wave)
- weapon: barrage (n), blitz (campaign), blockbuster (n), bomb (drop a bomb), bombard (v), bombarded, bombardment (n), bombing (n), firebomb (n)
- wind: cyclone (n), downdraft (n), flurry (activity), gale (strong wind), hurricane (n), storm (amount and effect), tempest (n), whirlwind (n)

## ANOLOGY (2)

- comparison & contrast: analogy (and analogize, etc.)

## ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION & EXPLANATION (1) (see also context; picture)

- allusion: Rosetta Stone
- books & reading: biography (non-human, etc.), misread (v), read (read something into something), read (analyze)

- chemistry: distill (v), essence (n)
- cloth: curtain (pull back the curtain, look behind the curtain, etc.), pick apart (analyze), tease out (v), thread (investigation), unpick (v), unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.), unraveled (explained), unspool (v), untangle (v), unwind (analyze)
- clothing & accessories: strip (strip something down)
- color: black box (n)
- container: unpack (v)
- day: day (at the end of the day)
- death & life: autopsy (analysis), biopsy (analysis), dissect (v), post-mortem (analysis), vivisection (v)
- direction: boil down to (v), bottom (get to the bottom of something), come down to (v), drill (analysis), follow (it follows that, etc.), follow (the facts, etc.)
- engine: hood (look under the hood, etc.), test-drive (v)
- eye: look at (analysis), look into (v), look like (analysis), microscope (under a microscope)
- film: unspool (v), unwind (analyze)
- food & drink: nutshell (in a nutshell)
- fruits & vegetables: layer (analysis), onion (n), peel (peel back the layers, etc.)
- geometry: angle (from an angle), curve (behind / ahead of the curve)
- gesture: tire (kick the tires)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: come away with (v), get across (v), take (and hot take), takeaway (n), take away (a message, etc.)
- ground, terrain & land: contour (n), dig deep (analysis), dig into (v), dig up (v), drill (drill down, etc.), excavate (v), lay of the land, unearth (v), unearthed
- head: head (reason)
- health & medicine: autopsy (analysis), biopsy (analysis), diagnosis (n), dissect (v), misdiagnose (v), post-mortem (analysis), vivisection (v), x-ray (n)
- heating water: boil down to (v)
- history: Rosetta Stone
- hunting: find (discover), sign (evidence)
- infrastructure: deconstruct (v), deconstruction (n), frame (n), frame (characterize), framed (characterized), reframe (characterize)
- journeys & trips: arrive at (an answer, etc.), come from (analysis), come to (come to an answer, etc.), exploration (n), explore (analyze), follow (argument), get (get somewhere), go (argument), reach (reach an answer, etc.), take (take somebody somewhere)
- letters & characters: spelled out, spell out (v)
- light & dark: illuminate (v), illuminating (adj), light (shed light), lighthouse (illumination), opacity (n), opaque (adj)
- mechanism: break down (explain), sort out (analyze), tire (kick the tires)
- military: interrogate (v), interrogated, interrogating (questioning), interrogation (questioning)
- mining: dig deep (analysis), dig into (v), dig up (v), drill (analysis), excavate (v), layer (analysis), unearth (v), unearthed
- mirror: mirror (n)
- money: bottom line
- movement: arrive at (an answer, etc.), come to (come to an answer, etc.), follow (argument), follow (it follows that, etc.), go (argument), go on (what's going on, etc.), reach (reach an answer, etc.)
- number: add up (v), arithmetic, calculus (n), equation (n)
- part of speech: picture (big picture / verb), science (as verb)
- picture: backdrop (against a backdrop), dot (connect the dots), frame (n), frame (characterize), framed (characterized), illustration (n), mosaic (analysis), picture (in the big picture), picture (big picture / noun), picture (view), portrait (view), puzzle (problem), reframe (characterize), show (the data show, etc.), x-ray (n)

- plant: root (root cause)
- puzzle: fall (fall into place), puzzle (problem), put (put something together), piece (missing pieces), piece together (v)
- religion: navel gazing (omphaloskepsis), sign (evidence), soul-searching
- rocket: science (not rocket science)
- rope: untangle (v)
- scale: weigh (analyze)
- school & education: blank (fill in the blanks), study (n)
- sign, signal, symbol: shorthand (n)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: dissect (v), vivisect (v)
- sound: chatter (signals intelligence, etc.), noise (worthlessness), noisy (data, etc.), signal (signal and noise), static (n)
- speech: chatter (signals intelligence, etc.), interrogate (v), parse (v), suggest (indicate), talk (talk somebody through something), tell (data can tell us something, etc.)
- sports & games: play (play with data, etc.)
- stomach: gut (n)
- surveying: baseline (n)
- temperature: boil down to (v)
- theater: curtain (pull back the curtain, look behind the curtain, etc.)
- tools & technology: black box (n), microscope (under a microscope)
- tree: root (root cause)
- verb: arrive at (an answer, etc.), biopsy (analysis), boil down to (v), break down (explain), chase down (v), come away with (v), come down to (v), come from (analysis), come to (come to an answer, etc.), crunch (crunch the data), decode (v), deconstruct (v), dig deep (analysis), dig into (v), dig up (v), dissect (v), dive (analyze), dive deep (analysis), dot (connect the dots), drill (analysis), excavate (v), explore (analyze), follow (argument), follow (it follows that, etc.), follow (the facts, etc.), frame (characterize), get (get somewhere), get across (v), go (argument), go on (what's going on, etc.), illuminate (v), interrogate (v), light (shed light), look at (analysis), look into (v), make (make of something), misdiagnose (v), misread (v), parse (v), peel (peel back the layers, etc.), pick apart (analyze), piece together (v), play (play with data, etc.), put (put something together), read (read something into something), reach (reach an answer, etc.), read (analyze), reframe (characterize), show (the data show, etc.), spell out (v), strip (strip something down), suggest (indicate), take (take somebody somewhere), take away (a message, etc.), talk (talk somebody through something), tease out (v), tell (data can tell us something, etc.), test-drive (v), unearth (v), unpack (v), unpick (v), unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.), unspool (v), untangle (v), unwind (analyze), vivisect (v), walk (walk somebody through something), weigh (analyze)
- walking, running & jumping: chase down (v), walk (walk somebody through something)
- waste: garbage (data)
- water: boil down to (v), dive (analyze), dive (deep dive), dive deep (analysis)
- weight: weigh (analyze)
- writing & spelling: shorthand (n), spelled out, spell out (v)

## **ANIMAL (2) (see also bird; cat; cows & cattle; dog; fish; fox; frog; horse; insect; lion; predation; rat; sheep; snake; tiger; wolf)**

- ability & lack of ability: pony (one-trick pony)
- absorption & immersion: lap up (v), sponge (n), wallow (v)
- activity: abuzz (activity), bee (busy as a bee), crawl (activity), dormant (adj), fly (activity), frenzy (feeding frenzy), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), hibernation (in hibernation), hibernation (other), hornet's nest, hum (n), lie low (and lay low), roar (activity), swarm (v), swarm (n)
- accusation & criticism: savage (v), venom (n), venomous (adj)

- achievement, recognition & praise: lion (liberal lion, etc.), lionized
- affliction: albatross (n), animal (insult), back (get off my back, etc.), backbiter (person), badger (v), barnacle (affliction), bete noire (black beast), bird-dog (v), bite (resemblance), biting (adj), dog (afflict), dog (dogs of war), dogged (hounded), eat (mental health), eat (destroy), encrustation (affliction), gadfly (person), gnaw (v), gnawing (gnawing doubt, etc.), hound (v), hounded (dogged), leech (person), monkey (monkey on one's back, etc.), octopus (n), parasite (person), pest (person), pester (v), piranha (predation), pursue (afflict), riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.), shark (predation), tentacle (n), vulture (behavior), wolf (predation)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: horse (switch horses), horse (back the wrong horse), rat (betray), rat (a snitch), shark (thrown to the sharks), turn (turn against / turn on something), wolf (throw somebody to the wolves), wolf (thrown to the wolves)
- amelioration & renewal: barnacle (scrape the barnacles, etc.), calm (v), tame (v)
- amount: drove (herd or flock), lion's share
- amount & effect: swarm (v), swarm (n)
- appearance: ruffled (feathers)
- appearance & disappearance: black swan (rarity), blue whale, ground (go to ground), woodwork (come out of the woodwork, etc.)
- appearance & reality: chameleon (change), chameleonic (adj), paper tiger, wolf (wolf in sheep's clothing)
- area: stamping grounds (and stamping grounds)
- assembling: call (cattle call), rounded up, round up (assemble)
- attachment: barnacle, earworm (n), encrustation (affliction), pit bull (person), teeth (sink one's teeth into something), worm (v)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: chest (beat one's chest, etc.), low (lie low), trotted out
- attenuation: defang (v), tame (adj), teeth (take the teeth out), toothless (adj)
- avoidance & separation: duck (avoid)
- behavior: animal (party animal, etc.), ape (v), astray (direction), backbiting, badger (v), bask (v), bear (a bear of an epidemic, etc.), beaver (v), bee (busy as a bee), bloodthirsty (adj), circle (predation), claw (v), crab (crab in a bucket, etc.), deer (deer in the headlights), dog (mad dog / epithet), donkey (insult), drove (herd or flock), duck (ducks in a row), eat (eat one's own, etc.), feather (ruffle feathers), feral (behavior), ferret out (v), flock (v), fox (subterfuge), frenzy (feeding frenzy), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), herd (herd mentality, etc.), hog (v), hog (n), hyena (person), lemming (consciousness), lone wolf (person), magpie (bird), mole (n), morning lark (person), night owl (person), outfox (v), pack rat (person), pecking order, pig (insult), pit bull (person), predator (people), prey (prey on something), prowl (on the prowl), rabid (behavior), rabidly, rear (v), rogue (n), savage (v), scratch (scratch and claw, etc.), shark (predation), sheep (consciousness), squirreled away, stampede (n), stray (behavior), stud (male), swarm (v), swarm (n), swine (behavior), tame (v), trough (greed), jugular (go for the jugular, etc.), vulture (behavior), wallow (v), weasel (v), wild (behavior), wild (run wild), wolf (predation), wolf down (food), wound (lick one's wounds)
- branching system: multipronged, prong (river), prong (part)
- character & personality: animal (party animal, etc.), bear (mama bear), beast (power), black sheep, bloodthirsty (adj), chameleon (change), chameleonic (adj), coyote (predation), creature (creature of habit, etc.), donkey (insult), dove (person), feather (ruffle feathers), feisty (adj), ferocious (other), gadfly (person), grub (person), hawk (person), hawkish (adj), hyena (person), jackal (n), jackass, leech (person), leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.), lone wolf (person), maneater (female), maverick (person), mule-headed, pack rat (person), piranha (predation), predator (people), rogue (n), rooster (person), scavenger (n), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.), shark (predation), snake (insult), stud (male), whine (v), whiner (person), wolf (predation)
- characterization: pigeonhole (n), pigeonholed
- coercion & motivation: bone (throw a bone to someone), dog (attack dog), goad (v), herd (ride herd), herded, pit bull (person)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: roar back (v), roaring back (come roaring back, etc.)
- commitment & determination: badger (v), dogged (determined), pit bull (person)

- comparison & contrast: bestial (adj)
- competition: cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective), dog-eat-dog, dogfight (n), game (game of cat and mouse), heel (nip at somebody's heels), jockey (v), law (law of the jungle, etc.), minnow (n), pack (competition), rat race, sardine (n), underdog (competition)
- complexity: warren (n)
- computer: worm (computers)
- concealment & lack of concealment: burrow (burrow into), ground (go to ground), mole (n)
- condition & status: belly-up (adj)
- configuration: dovetail (v), honeycomb (v), honeycombed, nestled, perch (v), perched, piggyback (v), riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.), sardined
- conflict: back (get off my back, etc.), back (get one's back up, etc.), backbiting, back down (v), bearbaiting, blink (conflict), blood (smell blood), blood (out for blood), blood (draw blood), blood sport (n), bone (bone of contention), chest (beat one's chest, etc.), claw (v), corral (v), dogfight (n), game (game of chicken), growl (v), hackles (raise hackles), head (butt heads), head-on, head-to-head, horn (lock horns), hornet's nest, jugular (go for the jugular, etc.), pit (bear pit), rear (v), roll over (v), scratch (scratch and claw, etc.), snake pit, teeth (danger), throat (predation), tooth and nail (fight tooth and nail, etc.), wound (lick one's wounds), wrangle (v), wrangler (person), wrangling
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: blink (conflict), duck (avoid), head-on, sand (stick one's head in the sand), teeth (in / into the teeth of)
- consciousness & awareness: frog (frog in boiling water), sheep
- constraint & lack of constraint: cage (a gilded cage, etc.), choke chain (n), hamstrung, hobble (v), hobbled, hogtie (v), leash (on a leash / off a leash, etc.), muzzle (v), penned (penned into, etc.), rein (free rein), shackle (n), wild (run wild)
- consumption: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.), food (meat), ground (feeding ground), lap up (v), meat (fresh meat, etc.), meat (red meat, etc.)
- content: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.)
- control & lack of control: calm (v), corral (v), corralled, harness (v), herd (v), herd (ride herd), horse (hold your horses), lead (restraint), leash (on a leash / off a leash, etc.), rein (rein in), rein (reins of power, etc.), reined in, rope in (v), rogue, runaway (control), run away (v), tame (v), tiger (n), wild (control), wrangle (v), wrangler (person), wrangling
- cost & benefit: egg (golden egg), goose (golden goose)
- courage & lack of courage: chicken-hearted, chicken out (v), game (game of chicken), lion (courage)
- creation & transformation: breed (create), breeding ground, chameleon (change), calve (v), calving, chameleonic (adj), rookery (n), spawn (v), spawned, web (spin a web)
- danger: hornet's nest, lurking (lurking danger, etc.), predation (n), predatory (adj), sitting duck, snake pit, teeth (in / into the teeth of), tiger (n), wolf (predation)
- decline: breed (dying breed, etc.)
- dependency: lapdog (n)
- destruction: carcass (n), devour (destroy), eat (mental health), eat (destroy), ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other), gored, lamb (lamb to the slaughter), nibble (nibble at, etc.), roadkill (n), sheep (predation), slaughtered, snake (cut off the head of the snake, etc.), teeth (danger), trample (v), trampled
- difficulty, easiness & effort: beaver (v), canter (n), canter (v), claw (v), scratch (scratch and claw, etc.), trot (on the trot)
- directing: drive (v), goad (v), herd (v), herd (ride herd), herded, husband (v), shepherd (v)
- direction: bellwether (n), cow (bell cow)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: cull (n), cull (v), factory (glue factory), pasture (put something out to pasture), pasture (put out to pasture), perch (knock something off its perch)
- disruption: feather (ruffle feathers), rattle (disrupt), ruffled (feathers)

- dominance & submission: back down (v), blink (conflict), dog (big dog), game (game of chicken), ground (hold / stand one's ground), lapdog (n), poodle (n), tail (turn tail), tail (tail between one's legs), top (dominance / winning)
- eagerness & reluctance: bay (bay for blood, etc.), chops (lick one's chops), dog (dog won't hunt), horse (hold your horses), lips (lick one's lips), pounce (v)
- empathy & lack of empathy: ruthless (sun, etc.)
- enthusiasm: bookworm (person), hound (autograph hound, etc.), pet (pet cause, etc.), rat (lab rat, etc.)
- environment: frog (frog in boiling water), hornet's nest, snake pit, zoo (environment)
- epithet: badger ("The Badger, etc.), bear (Soviet Bear, etc.), beast ('The Beast' Mugabi, etc.), dog (mad dog / epithet), lion (the Lion of Panjshir, etc.), lioness (England's Lionesses, etc.), pack (the Rat Pack, etc.), savage (Savage Mountain, etc.), tiger (Arkan's Tigers, etc.), tiger (tiger mother, etc.), whale (epithet)
- evidence: canary (canary in the coal mine / cave), fishy (something smells fishy, etc.), rat (smell a rat)
- experience: cub (n), greenhorn (person), rodeo (first rodeo)
- experimentation: guinea pig
- extent & scope: octopus (n), tentacle (n)
- failure, accident & impairment: astray (direction), belly-up (adj), stray (behavior), stray (direction)
- fantasy & reality: rabbit hole (fantasy)
- fate, fortune & chance: bite (bite him in the end, etc.), black swan (rarity), blue whale, chicken (come home to roost), jaw (jaws of defeat, jaws of victory, etc.), snake (snake-bit)
- feeling, emotion & effect: bask (v), biting (adj), bristle (emotional arousal), calm (v), devoured (by an emotion, etc.), eat (mental health), eaten alive (by debt, rage, etc.), eggshell (walking on eggshells), feather (ruffle feathers), gnaw (v), hackles (raise hackles), ruffled (feathers), tear (crocodile tears), venom (n), venomous (adj), vulnerability (emotional, etc.), vulnerable (emotionally, etc.), wild (behavior)
- fictive motion: snake (a trail can snake, etc.)
- flaws & lack of flaws: fly (fly in the ointment), riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.)
- force: bear (a bear of an epidemic, etc.), beast (power), bull (bull in a china shop), ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other), paper tiger, roar back (v), roaring back (come roaring back, etc.), savage (adj), savagery (n), teeth (force), teeth (take the teeth out), toothless (adj)
- functioning: hamstrung, hobble (v), hobbled
- geography: spider (Spider Rock, etc.)
- gossip: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.)
- group, set & collection: covey (group), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), herd (herd immunity, etc.), menagerie (group), nest (of vipers, etc.), pack (group), stable (n), zoo (group)
- growth & development: fledgling (adj), fry (small fry), full-fledged (adj), lamb (n), rookery (n)
- haste: gallop (haste)
- help & assistance: mother (den mother, etc.), mother hen, wing (under one's wing)
- hierarchy: bee (queen bee), food chain, lion (liberal lion, etc.), pecking order, top dog (hierarchy), underdog (hierarchy)
- history: pedigree (n)
- idea: sacred cow
- identity & nature: animal (political animal, etc.), breed (type), chameleon (change), chameleonic (adj), creature (creature of habit, etc.), feral (behavior), leopard (HMS Leopard, etc.), pedigree (n), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.), shape (form)
- importance & significance: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n), mole hill (and molehill), sardine (n), whale (epithet)
- insult: animal (insult), beast (insult), cockroach (n), dog (insult), donkey (insult), grub (person), hyena (person), jackal (n), jackass (n), lapdog (n), leech (person), monkey (insult), parasite (person), pig (insult), scavenger (n), snake (insult), swine (behavior), termite (n), worm (insult)
- involvement: dog (dog in the fight), horse (horse in the race), wallow (v), web (entanglement)

- isolation & remoteness: carapace (protection), shell (protection)
- judgment: bite (bite him in the end, etc.), chicken (come home to roost), kangaroo court
- mental health: devoured (by an emotion, etc.), eat (mental health), eaten alive (by debt, rage, etc.), vulnerability (emotional, etc.), vulnerable (emotionally, etc.)
- military: cannon fodder (military), foxhole (military), leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.), nest (military), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.), trap (military / noun)
- money: nest egg
- movement: canter (n), canter (v), duck (v), fishtail (v), flock (v), gallop (v), hop (v), leapfrog (v), lurk (v), porpoising (movement), pounce (v), prowl (on the prowl), slink (slink in, etc.), sluggish (adj), snake (a trail can snake, etc.), stalk (v), stampede (n), swarm (v), swoop (v), trot (on the trot), weasel (v)
- occurrence: black swan (rarity), blue whale
- oppression: back (get off my back, etc.), cage (jail, prison), goad (v), kangaroo court, lighten (v), scapegoat (n), shackle (n), trample (v), yoke (under the yoke), yoke (from the yoke), yoke (other)
- orientation: flank (side), nose (orientation), snout (orientation), tail (orientation)
- past & present: breed (dying breed, etc.), dinosaur (n), dodo (n), extinct (adj), fossil (n), fossilize (v), fossilized
- perception: bird's-eye (bird's-eye view)
- performance: chest (beat one's chest, etc.), dog-and-pony show (n), pony (one-trick pony)
- person: backbiter (person), cowboy (person), dog (big dog), dog (mad dog / epithet), dog (attack dog), dog (insult), dove (person), fat cat, gadfly (person), greenhorn (person), grub (person), hawk (person), hyena (person), leech (person), lion (courage), magpie (bird), man eater (female), maverick (person), morning lark (person), night owl (person), parasite (person), piranha (predation), rooster (person), shark (predation), snake (insult), stud (male), vulture (behavior), whiner (person), wolf (predation), wrangler (person)
- place: den (den of thieves, etc.), nest (empty nest), perch (n), rookery (n)
- power: beast (power), fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n), oats (feel one's oats), sardine (n)
- presence & absence: elephant (elephant in the room, etc.), fly (fly on the wall), gorilla (800-pound gorilla), lurk (v), lurking (lurking danger, etc.), wait (in wait)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: breed (dying breed, etc.), dinosaur (n), dodo (n), extinct (adj), fossil (n), fossilize (v), fossilized, species (vanishing species)
- progress & lack of progress: leapfrog (v), tail (chase one's tail)
- proper name: horn (Horn of Africa, etc.), leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.), lion (the Bronze Lion, etc.), lioness (Lioness.co, etc.), nest (Bird's Nest, etc.), Predator (the Predator drone, etc.), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.), spider (Spider Rock, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: bolt-hole (and bolthole), bristle (with security, etc.), carapace (protection), ground (go to ground), hedgehog (protection), holed up, hole up (v), shell (protection), sitting duck, underbelly (soft underbelly, etc.), vulnerability (emotional, etc.), vulnerable (emotionally, etc.), watchdog (n), wolf (wolf at the door)
- punishment & recrimination: blood (out for blood), doghouse (in the doghouse, etc.), scapegoat (n)
- pursuit, capture & escape: bark (bark up the wrong tree, etc.), bird-dog (v), bloodhound (n), cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective), claw (n), dragnet (n), dragnet (cast a dragnet), expedition (fishing expedition), game (game of cat and mouse), ground (go to ground), hound (v), hounded (dogged), jaw (jaws of defeat, jaws of victory, etc.), land (land a job, etc.), low (lie low), octopus (n), pincer (n), pincered, poach (v), poached, prey (prey on something), prey (fall prey to something), prey (prey and predator, etc.), stalk (v), tentacle (n), victim (fall victim to something)
- readiness & preparedness: groom (prepare)
- relationship: breed (create), lapdog (n), pet (pet cause, etc.)
- repetition: ape (v), parrot (v)
- resemblance: barnacle (resemblance), bite (resemblance), carcass (n), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), nest (resemblance), snake (a trail can snake, etc.), tail (orientation)

- resiliency: horse (get back on the horse), saddle (get back in the saddle)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: back (get one's back up, etc.), back down (v), blink (conflict), buck (v), ground (give ground), ground (hold / stand one's ground), howl (n), howl (v), roll over (v), squeal (protest), stare down (v), stare-down (n), tail (turn tail), tail (tail between one's legs), tooth and nail (fight tooth and nail, etc.)
- responsibility: bite (bite him in the end, etc.), chicken (come home to roost)
- restraint & lack of restraint: animal (party animal, etc.), wild (behavior), wild (control), wild (run wild)
- reversal: bite (bite him in the end, etc.), chicken (come home to roost), come back (to bite, haunt, etc.), tail (turn tail), tail (tail between one's legs)
- role: mother (den mother, etc.)
- route: alley (Bat Alley, etc.)
- sacrifice: lamb (sacrificial lamb), scapegoat (n)
- sanctioning, authority & nonconformity: black sheep, buck (v), crab (crab in a bucket, etc.), maverick (person), rogue (n), sacred cow
- searching & discovery: bloodhound (n), expedition (fishing expedition), feeler (put out feelers, etc.), ferret out (v)
- sex: maneater (female), stud (male)
- shape: butterfly (shape), dogleg (shape), honeycomb (shape), horn (shape), nest (shape), plume (shape), web (spider web and cobweb, etc.)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: tear (crocodile tears)
- situation: doghouse (in the doghouse, etc.), frog (frog in boiling water), web (situation)
- size: beast (power), elephant (elephant in the room, etc.), fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), gorilla (800-pound gorilla), jumbo (large), mammoth (size), minnow, mouse (size), whale (epithet)
- society: herd (herd mentality, etc.), lemming (consciousness), lone wolf (person), rogue (n), sheep (consciousness)
- sound: bark (v), gallop (sound), growl (v), howl (n), howl (v), roar (n), snarl (speech), squeal (protest), whining (n), whiny (adj)
- speech: badger (v), bark (v), bleat (v), growl (v), howl (n), howl (v), savage (v), snarl (speech), squeal (protest), venom (n), venomous (adj), weasel (weasel words, etc.), whining (n), whiny (adj), yapping (n)
- speed: breakneck (adj), canter (n), canter (v), fly (activity), gallop (v), galloping (speed), sluggish (adj), snail (at a snail's pace), snail (snail's pace / other)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: tail end (the finish of something)
- strength & weakness: defang (v), eggshell (n), ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other), fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n), oats (feel one's oats), paper tiger, sardine (n), sheep (predation), teeth (force), teeth (take the teeth out) toothless (adj), underdog (competition)
- substance & lack of substance: bark (more bark than bite, etc.), paper tiger, toothless (adj)
- subterfuge: burrow (burrow into), fox (n), mole (n), outfox (v), slink (slink in, etc.), snake oil (n), web (spin a web), wolf (wolf in sheep's clothing)
- success & failure: dog (dog won't hunt)
- superiority & inferiority: horse (high horse), tail (tail between one's legs), top (dominance / winning), top dog (hierarchy), underdog (competition)
- superlative: GOAT (greatest of all time)
- surveillance: eagle eye, fly (fly on the wall), watchdog (n)
- suspicion: fishy (something smells fishy, etc.), rat (smell a rat)
- taking & removing: fleeced, poach (v), poached
- taxonomy & classification: animal (different animal, etc.), beast (different beast, etc.), bestiary (n), breed (type), creature (creature of habit, etc.), fish (different kettle of fish), species (type), stripe (of all stripes)
- time: dinosaur (n), dodo (n), extinct (adj), fossil (n), fossilize (v), fossilized
- transmission: slink (slink in, etc.), weasel (v)
- transportation: cart (cart off), drag, haul (v), hauled in, hauled off, mule (drug mule, etc.)

- unanimity & consensus: crab (crab in a bucket, etc.), duck (ducks in a row), groupthink (and herdthink, etc.), herd (herd mentality, etc.), lemming (consciousness), sheep (consciousness)
- violence: cockroach (n), dove (person), hawk (person), hawkish (adj), termite (n)
- vocative: pet (vocative)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: whale (White Whale)
- warning: watchdog (n), wolf (cry wolf)
- wolf: wolf (wolf in sheep's clothing)
- work & duty: beaver (v), harness (in harness), horse (the willing horse, etc.), rat race, workhorse (n)
- worth & lack of worth: cow (cash cow), egg (golden egg), goose (golden goose), horse (a gift horse), snake oil (n), spoils (of war, etc.), white elephant

## ANTIQUES (2)

- past & present: antique (adj), antique (n), museum (n)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: antique (adj), antique (n), museum (n)
- time: antique (adj), antique (n), museum (n)

## APPEAL (1)

- heart: cri de coeur
- military: call (call to arms), cry (rallying cry)
- sound: call (the mountains are calling, etc.), call (call of duty, etc.), call (appeal), call (call to arms), cri de coeur
- speech: call (the mountains are calling, etc.), call (call of duty, etc.), call (appeal), call for (appeal), cri de coeur, cry (cry for help), cry (v), cry out (v)
- verb: call (the mountains are calling, etc.), call for (appeal), cry out (v)

## APPEARANCE (1) (see also resemblance)

- air: air (air of authority, etc.), aura (n)
- allusion: Adonis (handsome)
- animal: ruffled (feathers)
- atmosphere: air (air of authority, etc.), aura (n)
- baby: baby (baby face, etc.)
- bird: ruffled (feathers)
- books & reading: book (books and covers)
- cards: poker-faced (adj)
- clothing & accessories: robe (n)
- creature: angel (appearance), angel (angel-faced), cherubic (adj)
- eye: eye (for the eyes), eye (eye candy), eye (on the eyes), eyesore (n), look like (resemble)
- face: baby (baby face, etc.), face (appearance), game (game face), poker-faced (adj), stone-faced (adj)
- gambling: poker-faced (adj)
- health & medicine: eyesore (n), pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, scar (resemblance / verb)
- hole: pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked
- infrastructure: street (cloud street, etc.)
- light & dark: bedazzled (decorated), gloss (appearance)
- mark: pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, scar (resemblance / verb)
- materials & substances: gloss (appearance), stone-faced (adj)
- moon: moonscape (n)
- object: Barbie (and Barbie Doll)
- religion: angel (appearance), angel (angel-faced), cherubic (adj)
- sign, signal, symbol: cherubic (adj)
- sports & games: game (game face)
- verb: pockmark (v), scar (resemblance / verb)

- wounds & scars: scar (resemblance / verb)

## **APPEARANCE & DISAPPEARANCE (1) (see also occurrence; presence & absence; searching & discovery)**

- air: air (into thin air), air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.), ether (into the ether), nowhere (come out of nowhere, etc.), sky (a clear blue sky, etc.)
- animal: black swan (rarity), blue whale, ground (go to ground), woodwork (come out of the woodwork, etc.)
- atmosphere: air (into thin air), air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.), ether (into the ether), nowhere (come out of nowhere, etc.), sky (a clear blue sky)
- baseball: left field (out of left field, etc.)
- bird: black swan (rarity)
- boat: dredge up (v), sink (disappearance)
- bodily reaction: swallow (disappearance)
- bubble: bubble up (v)
- burial: exhume (v)
- center & periphery: background (background noise, etc.), foreground (n)
- color: black swan (rarity), blue (out of the blue, etc.), blue whale
- creature: ghost (verb), ghost (abandoned, etc.), ghosted, phantom
- death & life: disappear (extinction), exhume (v), lose (through extinction), lost (extinction), vanish (extinction), vanishing (disappearance)
- direction: arise (v), come (occur, develop), come back (from extinction, etc.), come forward (v), come up (appear), fall (fall of the radar screen, etc.), pop up (v), turn out (rally), turnout
- eye: disappear (from the scene, etc.), peek (v), view (out of view)
- face: face (in the face of)
- farming & agriculture: crop up (v)
- fox: ground (go to ground)
- ground, terrain & land: dig up (v), dredge up (v), excavate (v), ground (go to ground), turn up (appear), uncover (v), unearth (v), unearthed
- head: head (rear its head, etc.)
- heating water: bubble up (v)
- hole: ground (go to ground)
- house: woodwork (come out of the woodwork, etc.)
- hunting: ground (go to ground)
- insect: woodwork (come out of the woodwork, etc.)
- light & dark: fade (v), fade away, light (come to light), light (bring something to light), light (see the light)
- lightning: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
- magic: magic up (verb)
- map: map (drop off the map, etc.)
- mining: dig up (v), excavate (v), unearth (v), unearthed
- movement: come (occur, develop), come along (appearance), come back (from extinction, etc.), go away (v)
- picture: background (background noise, etc.), foreground (n), foreground (v)
- plane: parachute (v)
- plant: bud (nipped in the bud), budding, crop up (v), emerge (v), emerging (adj), mushroom (v), pop up (v), spring up (v), sprout (v)
- position: background (background noise, etc.), foreground (n)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: bubble up (v), come up (appear), crop up (v), dredge up (v), pop up (v), show up (v), spring up (v)
- sea: blue whale, sink (disappearance), wash up (v)

- sky: air (into thin air), air (out of thin air), black swan (rarity), blue (out of the blue, etc.), ether (into the ether), nowhere (come out of nowhere, etc.), sky (a clear blue sky, etc.)
- snow & ice: melt away
- sports & games: left field (out of left field, etc.)
- temperature: bubble up (v)
- theater: curtain call, scene (come onto the scene)
- tools & technology: radar (drop off the radar)
- verb: arise (v), background (background noise, etc.), bubble up (v), come (occur, develop), come along (appearance), come back (from extinction, etc.), come forward (v), come up (appear), crop up (v), dig up (v), disappear (from the scene, etc.), disappear (extinction), dissolve (v), dissolve (break up), dissolve (fade away), dredge up (v), dry up (v), emerge (v), evaporate (v), excavate (v), exhume (v), fade (v), fade away (v), fall (fall off the radar screen, etc.), ghost (verb), go away (v), ground (go to ground), head (rear its head, etc.), light (come to light), light (bring something to light), light (see the light), lose (through extinction), map (drop off the map, etc.), melt (v), melt away (v), mushroom (v), pop up (v), radar (drop off the radar), resurface (v), show up (v), sink (disappearance), spring up (v), sprout (v), surface (intransitive), surface (bring to the surface), swallow (disappearance), turn out (rally), turn up (appear), uncover (v), unearth (v), vanish (extinction), wash up (v)
- water: bubble up (v), dissolve (v), dissolve (break up), dissolve (fade away), dry up (v), emerge (v), emerging (adj), evaporate (v), resurface (v), surface (intransitive), sink (disappearance), surface (intransitive), surface (bring to the surface), wash up (v)
- wave: wash up (v)
- window: window (out the window)

## **APPEARANCE & REALITY (1) (see also concealment & lack of concealment)**

- allusion: chalice (poisoned chalice)
- animal: chameleon (change), chameleonic (adj), paper tiger, wolf (wolf in sheep's clothing)
- books & reading: book (books and covers)
- breadth: patina (appearance), veneer (appearance)
- clothing & accessories: clothes (deception), dressed (dressed up, etc.), dress up (v), fashion (n), naked (unadorned), nakedly, wolf (wolf in sheep's clothing)
- death & life: reality (real, truth, lies, etc.)
- direction: underneath (basis)
- eye: eye (more than meets the eye), see (see through something)
- face: face (brave face, etc.), mask (drop the mask, etc.), mask (hide), masquerade (v)
- finger: manicured
- food & drink: chalice (poisoned chalice)
- ground, terrain & land: fool's gold
- hygiene: artwash (v), sportswash (v), sportswashing (n)
- infrastructure: airbrushed, astroturf (v), astroturf (n), astroturfer (n), astroturfing, facade (n), paint (coat of paint), whitewash (n), whitewash (v)
- light & dark: gloss (appearance)
- materials & substances: airbrushed, ersatz (substitute), gilded (other), gloss (appearance), imposter (n), lipstick (appearance), paint (coat of paint), patina (appearance), sugarcoat (and candy-coat), unvarnished (adj), veneer (appearance), whitewash (n), whitewash (v)
- military: ersatz (substitute), warrior (ironic)
- mining: fool's gold
- mountains & hills: valley (the uncanny valley, etc.)
- orientation: underbelly (concealment), underside (n)
- part of speech: look (a bad look, etc.)
- person: imposter (n), warrior (ironic)

- predation: wolf (wolf in sheep's clothing)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: underneath (basis)
- snow & ice: iceberg (the tip of the iceberg)
- stomach: underbelly (concealment), underside (n)
- taste: sugarcoat (and candy-coat), sugarcoated, sugarcoating (n)
- tiger: paper tiger
- theater: theater (appearance), trial (show trial)
- verb: artwash (v), astroturf (v), mask (drop the mask, etc.), mask (hide), masquerade (v), see (see through something), sportswash (v), sugarcoat (and candy-coat), whitewash (v)
- water: surface (on the surface), surface (under the surface)
- wolf: wolf (wolf in sheep's clothing)

## APPLE (2)

- achievement, recognition & praise: apple (Golden Apple / education)
- character & personality: apple (bad apple / rotten apple)
- corruption: apple (bad apple / rotten apple)
- perception, perspective & point of view: apple (proverb)
- product: apple (the apple doesn't fall far from the tree, etc.)
- relationship: apple (the apple doesn't fall far from the tree, etc.)
- transmission: Johnny Appleseed

## AREA (1) (see also environment; location; place)

- affix: dom (memedom, etc.), land (clubland, etc.), scape (threatscape, etc.), sphere (cryptosphere, etc.), verse (metaverse, etc.)
- astronomy: metaverse (n), multiverse (n), Twitterverse (n), universe (n)
- animal: stomping grounds (and stamping grounds)
- boat: waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- center & periphery: corner (in remote corners, etc.), corner (other)
- clothing & accessories: belt (area)
- corner: corner (in remote corners, etc.)
- direction: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- earth & world: sphere (in the sphere), world (exploration)
- forest: woods (neck of the woods)
- ground, terrain & land: area (territory), borderland (n), contour (n), demesne (control), ecosystem (n), fiefdom (control), ground (area), land (clubland, etc.), landscape (n), lay of the land, scape (threatscape, etc.), terrain (known and unknown terrain), terrain (area), territory (area), territory (assigned area), topography (n), turf (control), wilderness (area)
- health & medicine: alley (Cancer Alley, etc.)
- house: neighborhood (area)
- journeys & trips: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), waters (uncharted waters, etc.), wilderness (area)
- map: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- Middle Ages: fiefdom (control)
- military: no man's land (danger)
- picture: scape (threatscape, etc.)
- place: place (destination)
- royalty: kingdom (control), realm (area)
- school & education: sandbox (area)

- shape: beak (area), belt (area), boot (Italy's boot, etc.), corridor (area), horn, neck (area), panhandle (area), triangle (area)
- sea: waters (uncharted waters, etc.)

## ARM (2)

- acceptance & rejection: arm (open arms), embrace (v), embraced
- affliction: octopus (n), tentacle (n)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: arm (link arms), embrace (v), embraced, pull (pull for someone)
- attachment: embrace (v), embraced
- attainment: push (a number), reach (beyond reach), reach (within reach)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: push (promote)
- attraction & repulsion: embrace (v), embraced
- avoidance & separation: arm (open arms), arm (at arm's length), push (push somebody away, etc.)
- behavior: overreach (v), overreach (n), overstretch (v), pushy (people)
- character & personality: elbow (sharp elbows, etc.), pushy (people)
- coercion & motivation: arm (twist arms, etc.), arm (long arm), arm-twisting, dangle (v), nudge (v), nudge (n), nudged, push (coercion and motivation), pushed around, pushy (people), shove (n), strong-arm (v)
- commitment & determination: embrace (v), pushing (keep on pushing, etc.)
- comprehension & incomprehension: arm (get one's arms around something)
- configuration: arm (configuration), hug (configuration)
- constraint & lack of constraint: hold back (obstacle), overreach (v), overreach (n), overstretch (v)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: push (summit push, etc.), pushover (n)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: cast aside (v), elbowed (elbowed out, etc.), pushed out, throw out (v), toss out (v)
- division: arm (arm of an organization)
- division & connection: arm (open arms), arm (at arm's length), embrace (v), embraced, reach out (v)
- epithet: elbow (the Elbow of the Andes, etc.)
- extent & scope: arm (long arm), far-reaching, octopus (n), reach (extent and scope), tentacle (n)
- feeling, emotion & effect: arm (wrap one's arm around something / consolation), elbow (sharp elbows, etc.), hold back (restraint)
- force: elbow (force), nudge (v), nudge (n), nudged, push (force), push (push comes to shove), push (coercion and motivation), shove (n)
- geography: elbow (Elbow Lake, etc.)
- importance & significance: arm (right arm)
- obstacles & impedance: drag down (v), hold back (obstacle), hold off (v)
- possession: reach (beyond reach), reach (within reach)
- proper name: elbow (Elbow Lake, etc.)
- proximity: reach (beyond reach), reach (within reach), stone's throw
- resemblance: arm (configuration)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: hold off (v), push (push comes to shove), push (push against, etc.), pushback (n), push back (v), pushed around
- restraint & lack of restraint: hold back (restraint), overreach (v), overreach (n), overstretch (v)
- searching & discovery: feeler (put out feelers, etc.)
- throwing, putting & planting: cast (cast doubt), cast (light), cast (other), hurl (v), hurled, throw (accusations, etc.), thrown out (cast), throw out (v), toss out (v)
- unanimity & consensus: arm (link arms), pull together (v)
- welcome: arm (open arms), embrace (v)
- work & duty: pull together (v)

## **ASSEMBLING (1) (see also group, set & collection)**

- animal: call (cattle call), rounded up, round up (assemble)
- flags & banners: rally (v)
- military: draft (v), muster (muster courage, etc.), rally (v)
- theater: call (cattle call)
- verb: draft (v), muster (muster courage, etc.), rally (v), round up (assemble)

## **ASTRONOMY (2) (see also moon; star; sun)**

- access & lack of access: black hole
- achievement, recognition & praise: rising (rising star, etc.), star (rock star), star (person), star (achievement), star (five stars, etc.), star (Silver Star, etc.), supernova (achievement), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
- area: metaverse (n), multiverse (n), Twitterverse (n), universe (n)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: big bang (in a big bang), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), outshine (v), supernova (attention)
- attraction & repulsion: center of gravity, drawn in, drawn into, gravitate (v), gravitational (adj), orbit (n), pull (tidal pull), pull (attraction), pulled in, pulled into, revolve (revolve around something), satellite (n), tilt (tilt towards, etc.)
- bases: center of gravity, orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- character & personality: eye (stars in one's eyes)
- comparison & contrast: astronomical (adj)
- competition: outshine (v)
- computer: metaverse (n), Twitterverse (n)
- concealment & lack of concealment: black hole
- configuration: constellation (n), orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- consciousness & awareness: black hole
- decline: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), nadir (at the nadir), nadir (since the nadir), nadir (other), star (decline), wane (on the wane), wane (v)
- destruction: meteorite (n)
- development: wane (v), wax and wane
- difficulty, easiness & effort: moonshot (n)
- direction: lodestar (n), lodestone (n), star (north star)
- division & connection: cusp (on the cusp), orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- environment: firmament (n), metaverse (n), multiverse (n), Twitterverse (n), universe (n)
- epithet: big bang ("Big Bang" of country music, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: star (fate), star-crossed (adj)
- feeling, emotion & effect: moon (over the moon)
- geography: moon (Valle de la Luna, etc.)
- group, set & collection: constellation (n), galaxy (n)
- growth & development: apogee (at an apogee), apogee (n), supernova (achievement)
- importance & significance: planet (n)
- increase & decrease: wane (v), wax and wane
- involvement: drawn in, drawn into, pulled in, pulled into
- isolation & remoteness: black hole
- judgment: star (five stars, etc.)
- movement: orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- oppression: Dark Star
- origin: big bang ("Big Bang" of country music, etc.)
- person: star (rock star), star (person)

- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: apogee (at an apogee), apogee (n), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), nadir (at the nadir), nadir (since the nadir), nadir (other), outshine (v), star (achievement), star (decline), supernova (achievement), wane (on the wane), wane (v), wax and wane, zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
- proper name: moon (Valle de la Luna, etc.), star (Silver Star, etc.)
- proximity: cusp (on the cusp), light year (light years away, etc.)
- relationship: orbit (n), pull (tidal pull), pull (attraction), revolve (revolve around something), satellite (n)
- resemblance: Martian (adj)
- shape: moon (shape), star (shape)
- size: astronomical (adj)
- speed: meteoric (adj), meteorically (adverb)
- success & failure: star-crossed (adj)
- superiority & inferiority: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), outshine (v)
- superlative: star (rock star), star (person), star (achievement), stellar (adj), supernova (achievement)
- time: light year (a long time)

## **ATMOSPHERE (2) (see also air; sky; wind)**

- activity: cyclone (n), gale (strong wind), hurricane (n), whirlwind (n)
- affliction: fallout (effect)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: hang (hang somebody out to dry), hung (hung out to dry), wind (dangle in the wind)
- amelioration & renewal: air (clear the air), air (breath of fresh air)
- amount: glimmer (glimmer of hope, etc.), ray (ray of hope, etc.)
- amount & effect: cyclone (n), downdraft (n), gale (strong wind), hurricane (n), storm (amount and effect), tempest (n), whirlwind (n)
- appearance: air (air of authority, etc.), aura (n)
- appearance & disappearance: air (into thin air), air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.), ether (into the ether), nowhere (come out of nowhere, etc.), sky (a clear blue sky, etc.)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: flagpole (run something up the flagpole), trial balloon
- behavior: bask (v)
- biodiversity, nature & life: lung (atmosphere)
- certainty & uncertainty: air (up in the air)
- comparison & contrast: sky-high
- concealment & lack of concealment: air (expose)
- conflict: turbulence
- consciousness & awareness: cloud (consciousness), cloud (v), clouded, cloudy (consciousness), drift (consciousness)
- control & lack of control: drift (move), drift (control), whirlwind (ride the whirlwind, etc.)
- corruption: miasma (n)
- destruction: balloon (puncture a balloon, etc.), prick (v), puncture (v)
- direction: drift (control)
- dismissal: wind (throw something to the wind)
- division & connection: drift (drift apart)
- driving force: wind (wind of change, etc.)
- effect: air (take the air out of a room, etc.), fallout (effect)
- environment: air (environment), air (anger in the air, etc.), atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), climate (work climate, etc.), weather (environment)
- evidence: cloud (sign), glimmer (glimmer of hope, etc.), ray (ray of hope, etc.)
- experimentation: flagpole (run something up the flagpole), float (a plan, etc.), floated, trial balloon

- extent & scope: sky-high, stratosphere, stratospheric (adj)
- failure, accident & impairment: balloon (puncture a balloon, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: sky (the sky can fall)
- feeling, emotion & effect: afterglow (in the afterglow), afterglow (other), air (take the air out of a room, etc.), air (breath of fresh air), air (air of authority, etc.), air (anger in the air, etc.), atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), aura (n), bask (v), climate (work climate, etc.), cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), deflate (emotion), deflated, fallout (effect), pump up (v), pumped (feeling)
- flaws & lack of flaws: airtight (adj), overinflated (adj), tempestuous (adj), turbulent (turbulent childhood, etc.)
- force: downdraft (n), headwind (n), wind (wind of change, etc.)
- geography: rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.)
- growth & development: oxygen (fuel)
- identity & nature: air (environment)
- increase & decrease: balloon (v), ballooning (adj), flation (lunchflation, etc.), inflate (v), inflated (expectations, etc.), inflation (n), overinflated (adj), oxygen (fuel), pump up (v), stratospheric (adj)
- initiation: oxygen (fuel)
- journeys & trips: skyway
- mixture: rainbow (mixture)
- movement: drift (move)
- obstacles & impedance: headwind (n)
- oppression: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), cloud (cast a cloud)
- origin: air (out of thing air), blue (out of the blue, etc.)
- presence & absence: air (anger in the air, etc.), vacuum (n), void (n)
- progress & lack of progress: headwind (n)
- proper name: rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.)
- resemblance: cloud (resemblance), rainbow (color)
- restraint & lack of restraint: wind (throw something to the wind)
- searching & discovery: rainbow (searching and discovery)
- size: skyscraper
- speech: air (hot air), breezy (speech), empty (empty words, etc.), hollow (hollow promises, etc.), long-winded (adj), vapor (n)
- substance & lack of substance: air (hot air), breezy (speech), empty (empty words, etc.), gas (substance), gravity (substance), hollow (hollow promises, etc.), vapor (n)

### **ATTACHMENT (1) (see also division & connection)**

- animal: earworm (n), encrustation (affliction), barnacled, pit bull (person), teeth (sink one's teeth into something), worm (v)
- arm: embrace (v), embraced
- boat: anchored, barnacled, encrustation (affliction), tow (in tow)
- burden: barnacled, encrustation (affliction)
- chemistry: bond (n)
- cloth: dyed-in-the-wool, entwined, ingrained, pin (attach), pinned, pinned (pinned down)
- clothing & accessories: buckle (attachment)
- color: dyed-in-the-wool, ingrained
- cooking: bake in (and bake into), baked in (and baked into), folded in (and folded into), fold in (v), pepper in (attach)
- dog: pit bull (person), teeth (sink one's teeth into something)
- doors & thresholds: locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
- ear: earworm (n)

- gesture: embrace (v)
- ground, terrain & land: embed (v), embedded
- hand: cling (v), clingy (adj), hold on to (v)
- infrastructure: built in
- journeys & trips: accompany (attachment), attend (v), come with (and come along with / attachment)
- love, courtship & marriage: married, wedded
- magic: spellbinding (adj), spellbound (adj)
- materials & substances: adhere (adhere to something), attached (attributed), attachment (n), cement (v), cemented, encrusted, glued, mortar (n), stick (stick by / stick with somebody), stick (adhere to, follow), stick (persist), stick together (v), Teflon, Velcro (attachment), wall (throw something at a wall and see what sticks)
- mechanism: linchpin (n)
- movement: accompany (attachment), attend (v), come with (and come along with / attachment)
- river: tow (in tow)
- rope: bind (connect), entwined, string (attachment), tethered, tied
- sea: barnacled, encrustation (affliction)
- teeth: pit bull (person), teeth (sink one's teeth into something)
- tools & technology: riveted, riveting (adj)
- verb: accompany (attachment), adhere (adhere to something), attend (v), bind (connect), cement (v), cling (v), come with (and come along with / attachment), embed (v), embrace (v), fold in (v), hold on to (v), pin (attach), stick (stick by / stick with somebody), stick (adhere to, follow), stick (persist), stick together (v), wall (throw something at a wall and see what sticks), worm (v)

## **ATTAINMENT (1) (see also success & failure)**

- arm: push (a number), reach (beyond reach), reach (within reach)
- baseball: big league (and big leagues)
- boat: sail (sail to victory, etc.)
- direction: climb (scale), mountain (at the top of the mountain), scale (climb), sights (lower one's sights)
- distance: far (progress), mile (the last mile)
- finger: finger (slip through one's fingers), touch (nobody will touch this, etc.)
- food & drink: cakewalk (dance)
- hand: empty-handed, finger (slip through one's fingers), grasp (in one's grasp), grasp (out of one's grasp), grasp (attainment), palm (in the palm of one's hand)
- height: peak (peak sexy, etc.), sights (lower one's sights)
- infrastructure: milestone (n)
- journeys & trips: arrive at (an answer, etc.), far (progress), get (get somewhere), mile (the last mile), milestone (n), reach (a place on a journey), way (all the way)
- line: line (over the line / finishing), line (finish line)
- money: deal (close the deal)
- mountains & hills: climb (scale), Mariana Trench (epithet), mountain (at the top of the mountain), Mount Everest (and Everest), scale (climb), sights (lower one's sights)
- movement: arrive at (an answer, etc.), climb (scale), coast (coast to victory), far (progress), reach (secure), reach (a place on a journey), sail (sail to victory, etc.), scale (climb), stroll (stroll to success, etc.), waltz (waltz to success, etc.)
- music: waltz (waltz to success, etc.)
- number: approach (a number, etc.), hit (hit \$30, etc.), notch (a number), push (a number), reach (a number)
- part of speech: peak (peak sexy, etc.)
- position: mountain (at the top of the mountain)
- sign, signal, symbol: milestone (n)
- size: big league (and big leagues)

- sports & games: big league (and big leagues), line (over the line / finishing), line (finish line)
- verb: arrive at (an answer, etc.), climb (scale), coast (coast to victory), deal (close the deal), finger (slip through one's fingers), get (get somewhere), hit (hit \$30, etc.), meet (attain), notch (a number), push (a number), reach (secure), reach (a number), reach (a place on a journey), sail (sail to victory, etc.), scale (climb), stroll (stroll to success, etc.), touch (nobody will touch this, etc.), waltz (waltz to success, etc.)
- walking, running & jumping: stroll (stroll to success, etc.)

## **ATTEMPT (1)**

- direction: go for it (and go for broke, etc.)
- hand: hand (try one's hand)
- knife: stab (attempt)
- movement: go for it (and go for broke, etc.), go (have a go at something)
- sound: crack (attempt)
- verb: go for it (and go for broke, etc.), hand (try one's hand)
- weapon: shot (attempt, opportunity), shot (best shot)

## **ATTENTION, SCRUTINY & PROMOTION (1) (see also center & periphery; importance & significance; priority; superiority & inferiority)**

- affix: first (metaverse-first, etc.), forward (future forward, etc.)
- allusion: Barnum (and P.T. Barnum), it girl (and it drug, etc.), shot (shot heard round the world), Streisand (Streisand effect)
- animal: chest (beat one's chest, etc.), low (lie low), trotted out
- arm: push (promote)
- astronomy: big bang (in a big bang), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), outshine (v), supernova (attention)
- atmosphere: flagpole (run something up the flagpole), trial balloon
- ball: ball (take one's eye off the ball)
- balloon: trial balloon
- bell: ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.)
- boat: showboat (v)
- center & periphery: background (background noise, etc.), center (center their voices, etc.), fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), foreground (n), front (front and center)
- circus: Barnum (and P.T. Barnum), carnival (n), circus (media circus, etc.), freak show (n)
- container: showcase (v), showcase (n)
- crime: steal (steal the show, etc.)
- direction: fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), forward (bring something forward, etc.), forwardness (n), front (front and center), heighten (v), raise (attention), skyrocket (to attention, etc.)
- doors & thresholds: door (behind closed doors)
- ear: ear (have somebody's ear), ear (attention), listen (as noun)
- epithet: Barnum (and P.T. Barnum)
- exclamation: exclamation point
- explosion: blockbuster (n), blow up (blow up on TikTok, etc.), blowup (attention / noun), bomb (drop a bomb), bombshell (n), burst on / onto the scene, etc., dynamite (n), explode (onto the scene, etc.), firebomb (n), Krakatoan (adj)
- eye: disappear (from the scene, etc.), eye (catch one's eyes), eye (public eye), eye (attention), eye (eyes and ears / attention), eyeball (attention), eyeball (eyeball-popping), eye-catching, focus (v), focus (n), lens (through a lens), lens (other), look at (analysis), look into (v), microscope (under a microscope), overlook (v), view (out of view), view (attention)
- film: it girl (and it drug, etc.), marquee (attention), screen (split screen)
- finger: point out (v)
- fire: blaze (in a blaze of glory), flare (n)

- flags & banners: flag (raise a flag, etc.), flagpole (run something up the flagpole)
- food & drink: teapot (internet teapot, etc.)
- game: ball (related to attention)
- gesture: chest (beat one's chest, etc.), eyeball (eyeball-popping), head (turn heads), point out (v)
- government: ambassador (role)
- hand: grabbing (attention-grabbing)
- head: head (turn heads)
- heating water: teapot (internet teapot, etc.)
- height: heighten (v), loom (loom large, etc.), low (lie low), profile (low profile), profile (high profile), profile (attention), raise (attention), relief (in bold relief)
- horse: trotted out
- house: house (hype house), room (back room, etc.)
- hunting: catchy (attention), low (lie low)
- insect: buzz (attention), buzzed (buzzed about, etc.)
- letters & characters: asterisk (attention), exclamation point, footnote (n), full stop, punctuate (v), underline (attention), underscore (attention)
- light & dark: blaze (in a blaze of glory), dim (overshadow), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), flare (n), glare (attention), highlight (v), light (shine a light), limelight (in the limelight), outshine (v), overshadow (v), penumbra (n), shadow (attention), spotlight (in / under the spotlight), spotlight (into the spotlight), spotlight (out of the spotlight), spotlight (shine a spotlight), spotlight (steal the spotlight), spotlight (other), sunlight (concealment), supernova (attention)
- map: map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.)
- Middle Ages: champion (v), champion (n), championed
- military: blitz (campaign), bombshell (n), drum (beat the drum / bang the drum, etc.), drumbeat (n), drum up (v), dynamite (n), shot (shot heard round the world), trumpet (v)
- mixture: blend in (v)
- money: brand (non-product), peddle (v), sell (promote)
- moon: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)
- music: bandwagon (n), fanfare (attention)
- nose: nose (attention)
- number: first (metaverse-first, etc.)
- object: it girl (and it drug, etc.), moment (have a moment / attention), new (orange is the new black, etc.), thing (fad, etc.), thing (the next big thing)
- part of speech: listen (as noun), platform (as verb)
- person: ambassador (role), cheerleader (person), namecheck (and name-check), namechecked, pusher (drug pusher, etc.), showman (person), tout (person)
- picture: background (background noise, etc.), billboard (n), foreground (n), foreground (v), photobomb (v)
- plane: barnstorm (v)
- position: background (background noise, etc.), center (center their voices, etc.), first (metaverse-first, etc.), fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), foreground (n), forward (bring something forward, etc.), forward (future forward, etc.), front (front and center)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: drum up (v), forward (bring something forward, etc.), play down (v)
- radio: tuned (stay tuned)
- rocket: skyrocket (to attention, etc.)
- royalty: court (hold court), herald (v), herald (n)
- school & education: cheerlead (v), cheerleader (person)
- shadow: dim (overshadow), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), overshadow (v), penumbra (n), shadow (attention)
- sign, signal, symbol: billboard (n), eyeball (attention)
- sky: skyrocket (to attention, etc.)

- smell: stink (n), stink (raise a stink)
- society: scene (behind the scenes), room (back room, etc.)
- sound: bang (with a bang), bell (bells and whistles), big bang (in a big bang), blaring (headlines, etc.), bomb (drop a bomb), bombshell (n), buzz (attention), buzzed (buzzed about, etc.), buzzy (adj), clamor (v), din (attention), drum (beat the drum / bang the drum, etc.), drumbeat (n), drum up (v), dynamite (n), explode (onto the scene, etc.), full-throated (adj), hailed, Krakatoan (adj), loud (attention), noise (attention, conflict, and controversy), ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.), shot (shot heard round the world), shout (v), shout-out (n), table (loudest seat at the table), teapot (internet teapot, etc.), thunder (steal thunder, etc.), thunderclap (n), trumpet (blow one's own trumpet), trumpet (v)
- speech: dialogue (global dialogue, etc.), ear (attention), pitch (promote), statement (statement victory, etc.), touted
- sports & games: ball (take one's eye off the ball)
- standing, sitting & lying: chest (beat one's chest, etc.), lie low (and lay low), low (lie low), stand out (attention), standout (n)
- star: supernova (attention)
- storm: thunder (steal thunder, etc.), thunderclap (n)
- sun: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), sunlight (concealment)
- table: table (loudest seat at the table)
- target: profile (low profile)
- temperature: hot (popularity, attention, etc.)
- theater: backstage (adj), downplay (v), limelight (in the limelight), marquee (attention), photobomb (v), platform (as verb), platform (n), play down (v), scene (behind the scenes), scene (come onto the scene), show (steal the show), showboat (v), showman (person), stage (center stage), stage (attention), spotlight (in / under the spotlight), spotlight (into the spotlight), spotlight (out of the spotlight), spotlight (shine a spotlight), spotlight (steal the spotlight), spotlight (other), upstage (v)
- tools & technology: lens (through a lens), lens (other), magnifying glass (under a magnifying glass), microscope (under a microscope), radar (on the radar), radar (below / under the radar), radar (drop off the radar), radar (under the radar screen), radar (radar screen), riveted, riveting (adj)
- train: bell (bells and whistles), express (Biden express, etc.), train (hype train)
- verb: background (background noise, etc.), ball (take one's eye off the ball), barnstorm (v), blend in (v), blow up (blow up on TikTok, etc.), bomb (review-bomb, etc.), burst on / onto the scene, etc., center (center their voices, etc.), champion (v), cheerlead (v), clamor (v), dim (overshadow), disappear (from the scene, etc.), downplay (v), drum (beat the drum / bang the drum, etc.), drum up (v), eclipse (v), explode (onto the scene, etc.), flag (raise a flag, etc.), focus (v), forward (bring something forward, etc.), heighten (v), herald (v), herald (n), highlight (v), jump out (v), lie low (and lay low), light (shine a light), look at (analysis), look into (v), loom (loom large, etc.), low (lie low), map (drop off the map, etc.), namecheck (and name-check), outshine (v), overshadow (v), peddle (v), photobomb (v), pitch (promote), play down (v), point out (v), punctuate (v), push (promote), radar (drop off the radar), raise (attention), ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.), sell (promote), shout (v), show (steal the show), showboat (v), showcase (v), skyrocket (to attention, etc.), spotlight (shine a spotlight), spotlight (steal the spotlight), stand out (attention), steal (steal the show, etc.), stink (raise a stink), tout (v), trumpet (blow one's own trumpet), trumpet (v), tuned (stay tuned), underline (attention), underscore (attention), upstage (verb)
- volcano: Krakatoan adj)
- walking, running & jumping: jump out (v)
- water: splash (effect), splashy (effect)
- wave: splash (effect), splashy (effect)
- weapon: blitz (campaign), blockbuster (n), bomb (review-bomb, etc.), bomb (drop a bomb), bombshell (n), dynamite (n), firebomb (n), photobomb (v), shot (shot heard round the world)
- writing & spelling: signature (signature issue, etc.)

## **ATTENUATION (1) (see also strength & weakness)**

- air: deflate (pressure)
- animal: defang (v), tame (adj), teeth (take the teeth out), toothless (adj)
- direction: tone down (v)
- hardness & softness: cushion (v), soften (v)
- health & medicine: atrophy (v), castrated, castration (n), emasculated (adj), emasculating (adj), eunuch (n), impotence (weakness), impotent (adj), neuter (v), potency (strength), potent (adj)
- light & dark: shadow (devalitized), tarnish (v), tarnished
- mechanism: dampening (adj), damper (n)
- plant: husk (husk of his former self, etc.)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: play down (v), tone down (v), water down (v)
- pressure: deflate (pressure)
- sea: shell (shell of his former self, etc.)
- shadow: shadow (devalitized)
- skin, muscle & bone: atrophy (v)
- snake: defang (v)
- sound: tone down (v)
- speech: tone down (v)
- teeth: teeth (take the teeth out), toothless (adj)
- theater: downplay (v), play down (v)
- tree: hollowed out, hollow out (v)
- verb: dampen (v), defang (v), deflate (pressure), downplay (v), hollow out (v), play down (v), soften (v), tarnish (v), teeth (take the teeth out), tone down (v), water down (v)
- walking, running & jumping: lame (lame excuse, etc.)
- water: dampen (v), diluted (water), drained (attenuation), water down (v), watered down

## **ATTRACTION & REPULSION (1)**

- allusion: pied piper, siren (siren call / siren song), siren (other)
- arm: embrace (v), embraced
- astronomy: center of gravity, drawn in, drawn into, gravitate (v), gravitational (adj), orbit (n), pull (tidal pull), pull (attraction), pulled in, pulled into, revolve (revolve around something), satellite (n), tilt (tilt towards, etc.)
- chemistry: valence (attraction)
- color: pasture (greener pastures)
- crashes & collisions: hit it off (v)
- electricity: lightning rod
- epithet: pied piper
- farming & agriculture: pasture (greener pastures)
- fire: moth (a moth to a flame, etc.)
- fish: bait (v), bait (n), chum (n), lure (n), lure (v)
- food & drink: candy (n), delicious (adj), juicy (adj), marmite (n), mouthwatering (adj), tasty (adj), tea (cup of tea)
- gesture: beckon (v), embrace (v)
- hand: beckon (v)
- health & medicine: antibody (n)
- hunting: bait (v), bait (n), chum (n), clickbait (n), dangle (v), lure (n), lure (v)
- Iliad & Odyssey: siren (siren call / siren song), siren (other)
- insect: moth (a moth to a flame, etc.)
- light & dark: moth (a moth to a flame, etc.)
- lightning: lightning rod

- love, courtship & marriage: alluring (adj), court (v), courtship (n), darling (n), flirt (v), seduced, seductive (adj), sexy (adj), swoon (v), woo (v), wooed
- magic: charm (v), charm (n), charmed (charmed by something, etc.), charming (people), pied piper, spell (under a spell)
- movement: draw (attract), draw in (v), drawn in, drawn into, drawn to, orbit (n), pulled in, pulled into, recoil (v), revolve (revolve around something), vortex (n)
- part of speech: sexy (as noun)
- person: darling (n), girl (golden girl), golden boy, sweetheart (other)
- place: mecca (mecca of bluegrass, etc.), pilgrimage (trip)
- religion: charisma (attraction), mecca (mecca of bluegrass, etc.), pilgrimage (trip)
- sea: pull (tidal pull)
- sex: alluring (adj), lust (n), porn (food porn, etc.), seduced, seductive (adj), sexy (adj)
- sound: call (call of duty, etc.)
- speech: call (call of duty, etc.), invite (v), invitation (n), inviting
- taste: candy (n), delicious (adj), juicy (adj), mouthwatering (adj), sweetheart (other), tasty (adj)
- tide: pull (tidal pull)
- tools & technology: magnet (attraction), magnetic (adj) magnetism (n), recoil (v)
- verb: bait (v), beckon (v), charm (v), court (v), dangle (v), draw (attract), draw in (v), embrace (v), flee (v), flirt (v), gravitate (v), hit it off (v), invite (v), lure (v), recoil (v), revolve (revolve around something), swoon (v), woo (v)
- walking, running & jumping: flee (v)

## **AVOIDANCE & SEPARATION (1) (see also division & connection)**

- animal: duck (avoid)
- arm: arm (open arms), arm (at arm's length), push (push somebody away, etc.)
- bird: duck (avoid)
- blade: parry (v), parry (n)
- boat: berth (a wide berth), steer (steer clear of something)
- bubble: bubble (isolation), bubble (quarantine)
- clothing & accessories: skirt (skirt an issue, etc.)
- container: bubble (isolation), bubble (quarantine), out (want out), stay out (v)
- direction: inward (turn inward, etc.)
- distance: arm (open arms), arm (at arm's length), distance (v)
- dog: bay (at bay)
- electricity: insulated
- football: end run (n)
- gesture: shrug off (v)
- hand: hands-on, hands-off
- health & medicine: allergic (adj), allergy (n), quarantine (v)
- horse: shy (and shy away)
- insect: cocoon (v), cocoon (isolation), cocooned
- mechanism: steer (steer clear of something)
- mental health: escape (mental health / verb), escape (mental health / noun)
- movement: bypass (v), dodge (v), end run (n), go around (v), sidestep (v)
- nuclear energy: radioactive (adj)
- person: hermit (person)
- place: cloistered
- prep, adv, adj, particle: apart (division), hands-off, hands-on, inward (turn inward, etc.)
- proximity: distance (v)

- religion: cloistered
- shoulder: shrug off (v)
- sound: bay (at bay)
- sports & games: end run (n)
- sword: parry (v), parry (n)
- verb: back away (v), bypass (v), cocoon (v), dance (dance around something), distance (v), dodge (v), duck (avoid), escape (mental health / verb), flee (v), go around (v), out (want out), parry (v), pull back (v), push (push somebody away, etc.), quarantine (v), shrug off (v), shy (and shy away), sidestep (v), skirt (skirt an issue, etc.), stay away (v), stay out (v), steer (steer clear of something), step back (step back from something), walk (walk away from something), walk on by (v)
- walking, running & jumping: back away (v), bypass (v), dance (dance around something), dodge (v), end run (n), flee (v), go around (v), sidestep (v), step back (step back from something), walk (walk away from something), walk on by (v)
- water: bubble (isolation), bubble (quarantine)
- weapon: parry (v), parry (n)

## **AX (2) (see also blade; knife; sword; weapon)**

- curtailment: ax (n), axed (curtailed), cut (budget cuts, etc.), cut (cut the budget, etc.)
- destruction: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), decapitate (v), head (heads will roll, etc.)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: ax (n), chop (get the chop, etc.), chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), cut (a person from a team, etc.), decapitate (v), head (heads will roll, etc.), slash (v), slash-and-burn (adj), trim (trim the fat, etc.)
- division & connection: sever (v)
- fate, fortune & chance: ax (ax to fall, etc.), chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), head (heads will roll, etc.)
- person: hatchet man (person)
- punishment & recrimination: ax (ax to grind, axe to grind), head (heads will roll, etc.), head (have one's head handed to oneself, etc.)

## **BABY (2) (see also birth)**

- amelioration & renewal: newborn
- appearance: baby (baby face, etc.)
- behavior: apron strings, baby (insult), brat (insult), child (spoiled child, etc.), crybaby (person), mama's boy (and mummy's boy, etc.), tantrum (n)
- character & personality: apron strings, baby (insult), brat (insult), child (spoiled child, etc.), crybaby (person), mama's boy (and mummy's boy, etc.)
- curtailment: cradle (strangled in the cradle, etc.)
- dependency: babysit (v), babysitter (role), nanny (person), wean (v)
- destruction: cradle (strangled in the cradle, etc.)
- enthusiasm: baby (relationship)
- epithet: baby: cradle (cradle of Islam, etc.)
- experience: baby (novice), grownup (person)
- failure, accident & impairment: miscarriage (of justice, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: baby (relationship)
- growth & development: baby (development), baby (younger), infancy (in infancy), infancy (other), infant (n), nascent (beginning), newborn, nourished, nurture (v), nurtured, stillborn (adj), teeth (cut one's teeth), teething, wean (v), young (adj)
- help & assistance: nursemaid (help)

- insult: apron strings, baby (insult), brat (insult), child (spoiled child, etc.), crybaby (person), mama's boy (and mummy's boy, etc.)
- origin: cradle (cradle of Islam, etc.)
- person: adult (development), apron strings, baby (insult), babysitter (role), big boy (person), brat (insult), child (spoiled child, etc.), crybaby (person), grownup (person), mama's boy (and mummy's boy, etc.), nanny (person)
- progress & lack of progress: step (baby steps, etc.)
- relationship: baby (relationship)
- size: baby (size)
- survival, persistence & endurance: stillborn (adj), viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
- vocative: baby (vocative)

## BACK (2)

- acceptance & rejection: back (turn one's back)
- achievement, recognition & praise: back (pat on the back / verb), back (pat on the back / noun)
- affliction: back (get off my back, etc.), backbiter (person)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: back (support / verb), back (behind somebody's back), backed, backing (support), backstabber (person), backstabbing (n), stab (stab somebody in the back)
- bases: backbone (basis), central nervous system (basis), nerve center (basis), spine (branching)
- behavior: backbiting, backstabber (person), backstabbing (n)
- branching system: backbone (branching system), spine (branching)
- character & personality: backstabber (person)
- conflict: back (get off my back, etc.), back (get one's back up, etc.), backbiting, back down (v)
- courage & lack of courage: back (courage), backbone (courage), spine (courage), spineless (courage)
- danger: back (watch your back, etc.), back (have somebody's back), back (stab in the back)
- destruction: back (break the back)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: back (carry something on one's back), backbreaking (adj)
- dominance & submission: back down (v)
- help & assistance: back (carry something on one's back)
- person: backbiter (person), backstabber (person)
- protection & lack of protection: back (watch your back, etc.), back (have somebody's back), back (stab in the back)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: back (back to the wall), back (get one's back up, etc.), back down (v)
- social interaction: back (scratch somebody's back)
- strength & weakness: back (courage), backbone (courage), spine (courage), spineless (courage)
- subterfuge: back (behind somebody's back)
- survival, persistence & endurance: back (back to the wall)

## BALL (2)

- action, inaction & delay: ball (the ball is in somebody's court), roll (slow-roll)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: ball (take one's eye off the ball)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: rebound (rebound headache, etc.)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: ball (the ball is in somebody's court), toss back (v)
- consciousness & awareness: ball (take one's eye off the ball)
- failure, accident & impairment: ball (take one's eye off the ball), ball (drop the ball), caught out, fumble (v), fumble (n), fumbled
- flaws & lack of flaws: roll (on a roll)
- increase & decrease: rebound (numbers)
- movement: bounce (v), ping-pong (v), pinball (v), ping-pong (n), rebound (recover), rebound (v), roll (move), roll in (v), rolling (moving)

- position, policy & negotiation: ball (the ball is in somebody's court)
- progress & lack of progress: roll (v), roll (on a roll)
- resiliency: bounce back (v), bounce back (n), rebound (recover), rebound (on the rebound)
- responsibility: ball (the ball is in somebody's court)
- reversal: roll back (v)
- social interaction: ball (the ball is in somebody's court)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: ball (get the ball rolling, etc.), roll (on a roll), roll (v)
- subterfuge: curveball (n)
- success & failure: ball (drop the ball), fumble (n)

## BALLOON (2)

- attention, scrutiny & promotion: trial balloon
- destruction: balloon (puncture a balloon, etc.)
- experimentation: float (a plan, etc.), floated, trial balloon
- failure, accident & impairment: balloon (puncture a balloon, etc.)
- increase & decrease: balloon (v), ballooning (adj), flation (lunchflation, etc.), inflate (v), inflated (expectations, etc.), inflation (n)

## BASES (1)

- astronomy: center of gravity, orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- back: backbone (basis), central nervous system (basis), nerve center (basis), spine (branching)
- blood: lifeblood (n)
- boat: anchor (n), boat (boat of science, etc.), mainstay (n), ship (ship of state, etc.)
- body: body (body of the plane, etc.), body (body economic, etc.), body (body of literacy, etc.), body politic
- center & periphery: core (basis)
- chemistry: essence (n)
- cloth: fabric (fabric of society, etc.)
- death & life: lifeblood (n)
- depth: deep-rooted (adj)
- direction: behind (basis), boil down to (v), bottom (get to the bottom of something), come down to (v), underlie, underlying (adj), underneath (basis)
- earth & world: earth (close to the earth, etc.), tectonic (adj)
- earthquake: tectonic (adj)
- engine: hood (look under the hood, etc.)
- epithet: ship (ship of state, etc.)
- family: mother (mother of NPR, etc.)
- food & drink: bread and butter (livelihood), bread-and-butter (adj), mother (mother's milk)
- foot: footing (solid footing, etc.), footing (find one's footing, etc.)
- fortification: Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative)
- government: ship (ship of state, etc.)
- ground, terrain & land: bedrock (n), footing (solid footing, etc.), footing (find one's footing, etc.), grassroots (grassroots level, etc.), ground (prepare the ground), grounded, groundwork (n), monolith (n), monolithic (adj), outcrop (and outcropping), rock (support), rooted, tectonic (adj), underlie (v), underlying (adj)
- heart: heart (basis), heart (beating heart), heart and soul
- heating water: boil down to (v)
- house: edifice (n), foundation (n), foundational (adj)
- infrastructure: building block, cornerstone, infrastructure (n), keystone, pillar (basis), plank (n), plumbing (n)
- leg: leg (leg to stand on), leg (last legs)
- mechanism: kingpin (person), linchpin (n), nuts and bolts, workings (n)
- military: Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative)

- mountains & hills: monolith (n), monolithic (adj), outcrop (and outcropping), Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative)
- movement: orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- plant: deep-rooted (adj), root (at the root), root (root cause), root (root of the problem, etc.), rooted
- position: behind (basis)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: behind (basis), underneath (basis)
- religion: heart and soul, mythology (n)
- shoulder: shoulder (stand on somebody's shoulders)
- sign, signal, symbol: anchor (n), bread and butter (livelihood), ship (ship of state, etc.)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: backbone (basis), central nervous system (basis), nerve center (basis)
- standing, sitting & lying: leg (leg to stand on), leg (last legs), stand on (v)
- statue: plinth (n)
- stomach: guts (insides)
- temperature: boil down to (v)
- tent: tentpole (movies, etc.)
- tree: root (at the root), root (root cause), root (root of the problem, etc.), rooted
- verb: boil down to (v), come down to (v), ground (prepare the ground), revolve (revolve around something), shoulder (stand on somebody's shoulders), stand on (v), underlie (v)
- walking, running & jumping: footing (solid footing, etc.), footing (find one's footing, etc.)
- water: boil down to (v)

### **BASEBALL (2) (see also sports & games)**

- allegiance, support & betrayal: bat (go to bat for somebody, etc.)
- appearance & disappearance: left field (out of left field, etc.)
- attainment: big league (and big leagues)
- commitment & determination: home run (swing for a home run, etc.), plate (step up to the plate)
- development: inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: home run (swing for a home run, etc.)
- failure, accident & impairment: bat (batting zero), error (unforced error), strike out (v)
- judgment: call (close call / judgment), call (the right call), scorecard (n), strike (three strikes, etc.)
- position, policy & negotiation: hardball (n)
- punishment & recrimination: one-strike-and-you're-out
- responsibility: plate (step up to the plate)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: inning (extra innings)
- subterfuge: curveball (n)
- success & failure: bat (batting zero), big league (and big leagues), grand slam, home run (success), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), major league (success), park (hit something out of the park), strike out (v), swing (swing and a miss)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning)

### **BASKETBALL (2) (see also sports & games)**

- certainty & uncertainty: jump ball (n), layup (n), slam-dunk
- commitment & determination: full-court (full-court press, etc.)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: full-court (full-court press, etc.), layup (n), slam-dunk

### **BEHAVIOR (1) (see also character & personality; identity & nature)**

- activity: gaggle (press gaggle, etc.)
- addiction: addictive (adj), holic (shopaholic, etc.)
- affix: holic (shopaholic, etc.), overboard (behavior), overreach (v)

- alcohol: binge (on a binge), binge (other), drunk (adj), holic (shopaholic, etc.), inebriate (v), intoxicate (v), intoxicated
- allusion: Lady Macbeth (epithet), Lord of the Flies, Machiavelli (Trump's Machiavelli, etc.)
- animal: animal (party animal, etc.), ape (v), astray (direction), backbiting, badger (v), bask (v), bear (a bear of an epidemic, etc.), beaver (v), bee (busy as a bee), bloodthirsty (adj), circle (predation), claw (v), crab (crab in a bucket, etc.), deer (deer in the headlights), dog (mad dog / epithet), donkey (insult), drove (herd or flock), duck (ducks in a row), eat (eat one's own, etc.), feather (ruffle feathers), feral (behavior), ferret out (v), flock (v), fox (subterfuge), frenzy (feeding frenzy), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), herd (herd mentality, etc.), hog (v), hog (n), hyena (person), jugular (go for the jugular, etc.), lemming (consciousness), lone wolf (person), magpie (bird), mole (n), morning lark (person), night owl (person), outfox (v), pack rat (person), pecking order, pig (insult), pit bull (person), predator (people), prey (prey on something), prowl (on the prowl), rabid (behavior), rabidly, rear (v), rogue (n), savage (v), scratch (scratch and claw, etc.), shark (predation), sheep (consciousness), squirreled away, stampede (n), stray (behavior), stud (male), swarm (v), swarm (n), swine (behavior), tame (v), trough (greed), vulture (behavior), wallow (v), weasel (v), wild (behavior), wild (run wild), wolf (predation), wolf down (food), wound (lick one's wounds)
- arm: overreach (v), overreach (n), overstretch (v), pushy (people)
- atmosphere: bask (v)
- baby: apron strings, baby (insult), brat (insult), child (spoiled child, etc.), crybaby (person), mama's boy (and mummy's boy, etc.), tantrum (n)
- back: backbiting, backstabber (person), backstabbing (n)
- bird: circle (predation), duck (ducks in a row), feather (ruffle feathers), flock (v), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), magpie (bird), morning lark (person), night owl (person), pecking order, vulture (behavior)
- blade: cutthroat (competition)
- blood: bloodthirsty (adj), jugular (go for the jugular, etc.)
- boat: overboard (behavior), showboat (v)
- boundary: backstop (n), belt (below the belt), boundary (behavior), bounds (no bounds, etc.), edge (over the edge), guardrail (behavior), limit (push the limits, etc.), line (out of line), line (over the line / behavior), line (behavior), line (cross the line), line (red line), line (line in the sand), overreach (v), overreach (n), overstep (v), overstretch (v)
- boxing: belt (below the belt), glove (the gloves are off), punch (sucker punch / verb)
- cards: wild card (person)
- circus: circus (media circus, etc.), clown (v)
- control & lack of control: control (behavior)
- cows & cattle: stampede (n)
- creature: angel (behavior), devil (behavior), diabolical (adj), fiend (behavior), troll (noun / computers), zombie (behavior)
- crime: mob (group), riot (run riot), riot (other)
- death & life: vulture (behavior)
- direction: above (above the fray, etc.), astray (direction), below (behavior), beneath (behavior), crooked (adj), descend (v), fall down (v), fray (above the fray), go (behavior), ground (moral high ground, etc.), gutter (in the gutter / behavior), gutter (out of the gutter), gutter (gutter politics, etc.), low (base, bad / adjective), low (base, bad / noun), raise (your image, etc.), rise (rise above something), road (the high road / the low road), shifty (adj), sink (behavior), standard (higher standard), stoop (behavior), straight (the straight and narrow), straight arrow (person), stray (behavior), top (over the top), upright (upright man, etc.), upstanding (adj)
- distance: far (too far), go (behavior), length (go to any lengths, etc.), overreach (v), overreach (n), overstretch (v), ski (over one's skis, etc.), stop (stop at nothing)
- dog: dog (mad dog / epithet), pit bull (person), rabid (behavior), rabidly
- epithet: Lady Macbeth (epithet), Machiavelli (Trump's Machiavelli, etc.), tiger (tiger mother, etc.), Trump (Trump of the Tropics, etc.)

- explosion: self-destructive (adj)
- food & drink: spoiled (spoiled child, etc.), trough (greed), wolf down (food)
- force: pushy (people), rage (v), raging (adj)
- fox: fox (subterfuge), outfox (v)
- fruits & vegetables: nuts (crazy)
- government: diplomacy (n), diplomatic (adj)
- ground, terrain & land: badlands (environment), edge (over the edge), mud (in the mud), wild West
- head: hothead (person), hotheaded (and hot-headed)
- health & medicine: addictive (adj), delirious (adj), delirium (n), demented, fever (behavior), frenzied (adj), frenzy (other), mania (n), moral panic (n), panic (n), rabid (behavior), rabidly, schizophrenic (adj)
- height: above (above the fray, etc.), gutter (in the gutter / behavior), low (base, bad / adjective), low (base, bad / noun), mud (in the mud), raise (your image, etc.), rise (rise above something), road (the high road / the low road), stoop (behavior), upright (upright man, etc.), upstanding (adj)
- history: badlands (environment), barbaric (behavior), Caligulan, cowboy (person), Roaring Twenties, wild West
- horse: rear (v), skittish (adj), stampede (n), stud (male)
- hunting: deer (deer in the headlights), hotshot (person)
- hygiene: act (clean up one's act), dirty (behavior)
- infrastructure: guardrail (behavior), gutter (in the gutter / behavior), gutter (out of the gutter), gutter (gutter politics, etc.)
- insect: bee (busy as a bee), descend (descend on), swarm (v), swarm (n)
- knife: backstabber (person), backstabbing (n), cutthroat (competition)
- line: edge (over the edge), line (out of line), line (over the line / behavior), line (behavior), line (cross the line), line (red line), line (line in the sand)
- love, courtship & marriage: infidelity (n)
- manufacturing: mold (n)
- materials & substances: brazen (adj)
- mental health: amok (run amok), bedlam (n), berserk, craze (n), crazed (crazed fans, etc.), crazy (behavior), crazy (enthusiasm), demented, fiend (behavior), frenzied (adj), frenzy, mania (n), nuts (crazy), rage (v), raging (adj), schizophrenic (adj), wall (ricochet off the wall)
- military: cannon (loose cannon), hostile (adj)
- mining: gold-digging
- mountains & hills: edge (over the edge)
- movement: go (behavior), rage (v), raging (adj), wall (ricochet off the wall)
- person: backstabber (person), bad boy (person), cannon (loose cannon), cowboy (person), choirboy (behavior), diva (person), girl (mean girl), hell-raiser (person), hothead (person), hotshot (person), predator (people), prima donna (person), straight arrow (person), stud (male), vulture (culture vulture), wild card (person)
- plane: autopilot (on autopilot), helicopter (helicopter mom, etc.), helicopter (v)
- position: duck (ducks in a row)
- predation: backbiting, bloodthirsty (adj), circle (predation), frenzy (feeding frenzy), jugular (go for the jugular, etc.), lone wolf (person), predator (people), prey (prey on something), prowl (on the prowl), savage (v), shark (predation), wolf (predation), wound (lick one's wounds)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: above (above the fray, etc.), below (behavior), beneath (behavior), line (over the line / behavior)
- religion: angel (behavior), choirboy (behavior), devil (behavior), diabolical (adj), hagiographic (superlative), halo (n), hell (raise hell), hell-raiser (person), hell-raising, picnic (church picnic), religiously, ritual (n), saint (superlative)
- ruins: self-destructive (adj)
- school & education: fight (food fight), lesson (n), slip (permission slip)
- sex: slut (enthusiasm), whore (attention whore, etc.)

- shark: circle (predation), shark (predation)
- sheep: flock (v), sheep (consciousness)
- sign, signal, symbol: halo (n)
- sleep: morning lark (person), night owl (person)
- society: challenge (TikTok, etc.), hostile (adj), mob (society), rage (road rage, etc.)
- sports & games: cheap shot, free-for-all (control), game (social interaction / life), gamed (manipulated), gamification (n), played (manipulated), scrum (reporters)
- temperature: bask (v), hothead (person)
- theater: diva (person), drama (and drama queen, etc.), dramatic (dramatic child, etc.), on (performing), prima donna (person), showboat (v)
- throat: jugular (go for the jugular, etc.)
- tools & technology: compass (moral compass), compass (other)
- train: rail (off the rails)
- verb: act (clean up one's act), ape (v), badger (v), bask (v), beaver (v), circle (predation), claw (v), clown (v), descend (v), eat (eat one's own, etc.), end (go off the deep end), fall down (v), feather (ruffle feathers), ferret out (v), flock (v), go (behavior), helicopter (v), hell (raise hell), hog (v), inebriate (v), intoxicate (v), limit (push the limits, etc.), line (cross the line), outfox (v), overreach (v), overstep (v), overstretch (v), prey (prey on something), rage (v), raise (your image, etc.), rear (v), rise (rise above something), savage (v), scratch (scratch and claw, etc.), showboat (v), sink (behavior), stoop (behavior), stop (stop at nothing), stray (behavior), swarm (v), tame (v), jugular (go for the jugular, etc.), wall (ricochet off the wall), wallow (v), weasel (v), wild (run wild), wolf down (food)
- violence: cheap shot, cutthroat (competition)
- walking, running & jumping: overstep (v)
- wall: wall (constraint)
- waste: trashy (adj)
- water: end (go off the deep end)
- weapon: cannon (loose cannon), cheap shot, hotshot (person)
- wolf: lone wolf (person), rabid (behavior), rabidly, wolf (predation), wolf down (food)

## **BELL (2)**

- attention, scrutiny & promotion: ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.)
- consciousness & awareness: bell (ring a bell)
- curtailment: knell (death knell / obsolescence)
- destruction: knell (death knell / destruction)
- inauguration: ring in (the New Year, etc.)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: knell (death knell / obsolescence)
- reversal: bell (unring a bell)
- shape: bell curve (shape)
- sound: ring out (a shot rang out, etc.)
- speech: ring out (voice)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.)
- warning: bell (warning)

## **BIBLE (2) (see also religion)**

- accusation & criticism: jeremiad (bitter lament)
- affliction: geddon (chipageddon, etc.), pocalypse (gas-pocalypse, etc.)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: Judas (betrayal)
- amelioration & renewal: Lazarus (Bible)
- biodiversity, nature & life: Eden (n), Edenic (adj), Garden of Eden, Noah's Ark

- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: exodus (n)
- consciousness & awareness: road (road to Damascus)
- destruction: apocalypse (n), Armageddon, geddon (chipageddon, etc.), kiss of death, pocalypse (gas-pocalypse, etc.)
- enthusiasm: bible (enthusiasm)
- environment: Eden (n), Edenic (adj), Garden of Eden, Promised Land
- fate, fortune & chance: handwriting (handwriting on the wall), kiss of death, writing (writing on the wall)
- flaws & lack of flaws: Eden (n), Edenic (adj), Garden of Eden
- group, set & collection: Noah's Ark
- judgment: Solomonic (adj)
- message: gospel (preach the gospel, etc.), jeremiad (bitter lament), messiah (n), messianic (adj), Moses (n), prophet (person), pulpit (bully pulpit, etc.), sermon (message)
- migration: exodus (n)
- past & present: antediluvian (old), Methuselah, relic (n)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: antediluvian (old), Methuselah, relic (n)
- revenge: tooth (a tooth for a tooth)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: Bible (authority)
- searching & discovery: grail (holy grail)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: bible (hand on the bible, etc.)
- size: behemoth (n), David (David and Goliath, etc.), Goliath (Bible), leviathan (n)
- strength & weakness: David (David and Goliath, etc.), Goliath (Bible)
- superlative: Promised Land
- survival, persistence & endurance: Lazarus (Bible), Methuselah
- time: antediluvian (old), Methuselah, relic (n)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: grail (holy grail)

## **BIODIVERSITY, NATURE & LIFE (1)**

- allusion: Noah's Ark
- atmosphere: lung (atmosphere)
- breathing: lung (atmosphere)
- Bible: Eden (n), Edenic (adj), Garden of Eden, Noah's Ark
- color: green (environment)
- epithet: Amazon (epithet / biodiversity), Galapagos (Galapagos of Europe, etc.), lung (atmosphere), mother (Mother Nature), Noah's Ark, rainforest (rainforests of the sea, etc.), Serengeti (Serengeti of the North, etc.)
- family: mother (Mother Nature)
- ground, terrain & land: biodiversity (n)
- island: Galapagos (Galapagos of Europe, etc.)
- place: Eden (n), Edenic (adj), Galapagos (Galapagos of Europe, etc.), Garden of Eden, Serengeti (Serengeti of the North, etc.)
- religion: Eden (n), Edenic (adj), Garden of Eden, Noah's Ark

## **BIOLOGY (2)**

- computer: virus (computers)
- creation & transformation: mutate (v)
- growth & development: embryo (n), embryonic (adj), evolve (evolve the sport, etc.), evolution, Peter Pan, petri dish
- identity & nature: DNA (in the DNA), DNA (other), gene (in one's genes), gene (other)
- presence & absence: endemic (adj)
- transmission: vector (n)
- source: vector (n)

## BIRD (2) (see also animal)

- achievement, recognition & praise: nightingale (Nightingale of India, etc.)
- activity: fly (activity), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.)
- affliction: albatross (n), vulture (behavior)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: coop (fly the coop)
- appearance: ruffled (feathers)
- appearance & disappearance: black swan (rarity)
- avoidance & separation: duck (avoid)
- behavior: circle (predation), duck (ducks in a row), feather (ruffle feathers), flock (v), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), magpie (bird), morning lark (person), night owl (person), pecking order, vulture (behavior)
- branching system: wing (building)
- character & personality: dove (person), feather (ruffle feathers), hawk (person), hawkish (adj), rooster (person)
- characterization: pigeonhole (n), pigeonholed
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: blow-in (n)
- complexity: nest (mare's nest)
- configuration: dovetail (v), nestled, perch (v), perched
- conflict: game (game of chicken)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: duck (avoid), sand (stick one's head in the sand)
- constraint & lack of constraint: cooped up, fly (constraint), wing (clip / stretch one's wings)
- cost & benefit: egg (golden egg), goose (golden goose)
- courage & lack of courage: chicken-hearted, chicken out (v), game (game of chicken)
- creation & transformation: incubator (n), rookery (n)
- danger: sitting duck
- dismissal, removal & resignation: perch (knock something off its perch)
- disruption: feather (ruffle feathers), ruffled (feathers)
- division: wing (division)
- dominance & submission: game (game of chicken)
- environment: incubator (n)
- evidence: auger (v), auspicious (adj), canary (canary in the coal mine / cave)
- fate, fortune & chance: auger (v), auspicious (adj), black swan (rarity), chicken (come home to roost)
- feeling, emotion & effect: eggshell (walking on eggshells), feather (ruffle feathers), ruffled (feathers)
- geography: beak (Parrot's Beak, etc.)
- group, set & collection: covey (group), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), nest (of vipers, etc.)
- growth & development: fledgling (adj), full-fledged (adj), incubator (n), rookery (n)
- haste: fly (on the fly), wing (wing it)
- heart: chicken-hearted
- help & assistance: mother hen, wing (under one's wing)
- hierarchy: pecking order
- initiation: hatch (v), hatched
- isolation & remoteness: cooped up
- judgment: chicken (come home to roost)
- migration: blow-in (n)
- military: next (military)
- mixture: cocktail (n)
- money: nest egg
- movement: duck (v), flock (v), swoop (v)
- occurrence: black swan (rarity)
- perception, perspective & point of view: bird's eye (bird's-eye view)

- person: dove (person), hawk (person), magpie (bird), morning lark (person), night owl (person), rooster (person), vulture (behavior)
- place: nest (empty nest), perch (n), rookery (n)
- proper name: beak (Parrot's Beak, etc.), nest (Bird's Nest, etc.), raptor (Raptor Technologies, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: sitting duck
- readiness & preparedness: fly (on the fly), wing (wing it)
- relationship: chicken (chicken and egg)
- repetition: parrot (v)
- resemblance: gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), nest (resemblance)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: face (fly in the face), game (game of chicken)
- responsibility: chicken (come home to roost)
- reversal: chicken (come home to roost)
- shape: beak (area), nest (shape), nest (Bird's Nest, etc.), plume (shape)
- speech: crow (v), parrot (v)
- speed: fly (activity)
- strength & weakness: eggshell (n)
- superlative: nightingale (Nightingale of India, etc.)
- surveillance: eagle eye
- unanimity & consensus: duck (ducks in a row)
- violence: dove (person), hawk (person), hawkish (adj)
- worth & lack of worth: egg (golden egg), goose (golden goose)

## **BIRTH (2) (see also baby)**

- amelioration & renewal: newborn, rebirth (n), reborn, renaissance (n)
- configuration: umbilical (connection)
- creation & transformation: beget (v), birth (create), birth (creation), birthday (creation), birthed (created), born (creation), born-on (adj), calve (v), calving, conceived, germinate (v), gestate (v), gestation (film, etc.), labor pains, midwife (person), midwife (as verb), old (a year old, etc.), pregnant (adj), seminal (adj), spawn (v), spawned
- division & connection: umbilical (connection)
- epithet: birthplace (the birthplace of democracy, etc.)
- failure, accident & impairment: miscarriage (of justice, etc.)
- growth & development: embryo (n), embryonic (adj), gestate (v), gestation (film, etc.), nascent (beginning), newborn, rebirth (n), reborn, renaissance (n), stillborn (adj)
- identity & nature: birthright (n), born (born teacher, etc.)
- importance & significance: seminal (adj)
- origin: birthplace (the birthplace of democracy, etc.), cradle (cradle of Islam, etc.)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: rebirth (n), reborn, renaissance (n)
- relationship: beget (v)
- resemblance: umbilical (connection)
- survival, persistence & endurance: stillborn (adj), viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: gestate (v), gestation (film, etc.)

## **BLADE (2) (see also ax; knife; sword; weapon)**

- ability & lack of ability: edge (lose one's edge)
- accusation & criticism: hatchet job (n)
- affliction: cut (a thousand cuts)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: cutthroat (competition)
- amelioration & renewal: hack (fix), hack (a fix), hacking (fixing), hone (v), sharpen (v)
- amount: slice (piece), sliver (piece)

- avoidance & separation: parry (v), parry (n)
- behavior: cutthroat (competition)
- coercion & motivation: hatchet man (person)
- competition: cutthroat (competition)
- computer: hack (break into), hack (fix), hack (a fix), scrape (v)
- conflict: hatchet job (n), stab (v)
- condition & status: honed, sharp
- creation & transformation: carved out, carve out (v), scissor (genetic scissors, etc.)
- curtailment: ax (n), axed (curtailed), cut (budget cuts, etc.), cut (cut the budget, etc.), cut off (v), cut short (v)
- danger: close shave
- decline: whittled, whittling (whittling down)
- destruction: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), decapitate (v), gut (destroy), gutted (destroyed), head (heads will roll, etc.), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart), knife (sharpen one's knife)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: ax (n), chop (get the chop, etc.), chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), cut (a person from a team, etc.), cut off (v), decapitate (v), head (heads will roll, etc.), scrape (v), shave (removal), slash (v), trim (trim the fat, etc.), whittled, whittling (whittling down)
- division & connection: sever (v)
- driving force: cutting edge (on the cutting edge), cutting edge (other)
- effect: sword (double-edged sword)
- extent & scope: hilt (to the hilt)
- fate, fortune & chance: ax (ax to fall, etc.), chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), head (heads will roll, etc.), shave (removal), stab (stab in the dark), sword (fate), Sword of Damocles
- feeling, emotion & effect: cut (cut both ways), dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), double-edged (sword), gutted (feeling), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart), rapier (n), sword (double-edged sword), sword (two-edged sword)
- fictive motion: cut (road cuts, etc.), slice (road slices, etc.)
- flaws & lack of flaws: dull (adj), edge (lose one's edge)
- functioning: honed, sharp (skills, etc.)
- help & assistance: hack (a fix), hacking (fixing)
- increase & decrease: appetite (whet the appetite), sharpen (v), whet (whet the appetite)
- movement: scissor (resemblance)
- person: hatchet man (person)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: cutting edge (on the cutting edge), cutting edge (other)
- protection & lack of protection: hack (break into)
- proximity: edge (at the edge)
- punishment & recrimination: ax (ax to grind, axe to grind), hatchet job (n), head (heads will roll, etc.), head (have one's head handed to oneself, etc.), knife (sharpen one's knife)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: hatchet (bury the hatchet)
- relationship: double-edged (sword)
- resemblance: scissor (resemblance), slice (v)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: parry (v), parry (n)
- searching & discovery: scrape (v)
- shape: knife-edged, sickle (shape)
- speech: barbed (speech), blunt (speech), cut off (speech), sharp (speech), sharp-tongued
- survival, persistence & endurance: scrape by (v)
- taking & removing: chip away (v), scrape (v)
- verb: hack (get inside)

## BLANKET (2)

- configuration: blanket (v), blanket (under a blanket), blanket (cover), blanketed
- cover: blanket (v), blanket (cover), blanketed
- extent & scope: blanket (blanket amnesty, etc.)

## BLOOD (2)

- access & lack of access: vein (tap a vein)
- bases: lifeblood (n)
- behavior: bloodthirsty (adj), jugular (go for the jugular, etc.)
- branching system: artery (route), system (circulatory system)
- character & personality: bloodthirsty (adj), coldblooded (and cold-blooded), hot-blooded (adj), vein (ice in one's veins, etc.)
- coercion & motivation: nose (bloody nose)
- condition & status: hemorrhage (v), hemorrhage (n), pulse (n)
- conflict: blood (bad blood), blood (smell blood), blood (out for blood), blood (draw blood), bloodbath (n), bloodletting (n), blood sport (n), bloody (conflict), jugular (go for the jugular, etc.), pit (bear pit)
- death & life: blood (blood represents life), red (blood)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: blood (effort)
- division & connection: blood brother (connection)
- enthusiasm: bleed (bleed black and gold, etc.)
- experience: blood (young blood, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: blood (blood in one's eyes, etc.), blood (blood runs cold), blood (in cold blood), blush (embarrassment), coldblooded (and cold-blooded), hot-blooded (adj), livid (adj), mist (red mist), red (see red), sanguine (adj), vein (ice in one's veins, etc.)
- guilt: blood (blood on one's hands, etc.), bloody (guilt), hand (bloody hands, etc.)
- hierarchy: blue blood
- identity & nature: bleed (bleed black and gold, etc.), blood (in one's blood), blood (identity), vein (tap a vein)
- involvement: blood (blood on one's hands, etc.), hand (bloody hands, etc.)
- journeys & trips: artery (route)
- leaking: bleed (v), bleed (n), bleeding, hemorrhage (v), hemorrhage (n)
- measurement: pulse (n)
- mental health: blood (blood in one's eyes, etc.), mist (red mist)
- punishment & recrimination: blood (out for blood), nose (bloody nose, etc.)
- relationship: blood brother (connection)
- responsibility: blood (blood on one's hands, etc.), bloody (guilt), hand (bloody hands, etc.)
- sacrifice: blood (effort), iron and blood (effort, sacrifice)
- source: vein (source)
- superiority & inferiority: blue blood
- violence: blood (blood in one's eyes, etc.), mist (red mist), red (see red)

## BOAT (2)

- ability & lack of ability: wheelhouse (n)
- accusation & criticism: broadside (n), salvo (n), shot (shot across the bow, etc.), volley (volley of abuse, etc.)
- affliction: barnacle (affliction), encrustation (affliction)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: board (on board), mutineer (person), mutinous (adj), mutiny (n), overboard (throw somebody overboard), rat (sinking ship), ship (abandon ship / jump ship)
- amelioration & renewal: bailout (n), bail out (save), barnacle (scrape the barnacles, etc.), damage control, righted, salvage (v), ship (right the ship, etc.)
- amount: armada (n), boatload (amount), fleet (amount), flotilla (flotilla of icebergs, etc.), raft (amount)
- amount & effect: swamp (v), swamped

- appearance & disappearance: dredge up (v), sink (disappearance)
- area: waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- attachment: barnacled, encrustation (affliction), tow (in tow)
- attainment: sail (sail to victory, etc.)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: showboat (v)
- avoidance & separation: berth (a wide berth), steer (steer clear of something)
- bases: anchor (n), boat (boat of science, etc.), mainstay (n), ship (ship of state, etc.)
- behavior: overboard (behavior), showboat (v)
- certainty & uncertainty: waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- character & personality: buccaneer (person), pirate (person), showboat (v)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: ship (abandon ship / jump ship)
- commitment & determination: hand (all hands on deck)
- computer: navigation (cyberspace)
- concealment & lack of concealment: dredge up (v)
- condition & status: dead (dead in the water)
- conflict: broadside (n), salvo (n), shot (shot across the bow, etc.)
- constraint & lack of constraint: leeway (n)
- control & lack of control: adrift (adj), drift (control), helm (at the helm), helm (v), helm (n), helmsman (the Great Helmsman, etc.), rudderless, ship (tight ship, etc.)
- danger: coast (coast is clear), lighthouse (protection), rock (on the rocks), Scylla and Charybdis, shoal (n), strait (dire straits, etc.), waters (dangerous waters, etc.)
- decline: ship (a sinking ship)
- destruction: founder (v), rock (on the rocks), scupper (v), scuttle (v), scuttled, shipwreck (n), shoal (n), sink (destroy), *Titanic* (the ship), torpedo (v), torpedo (n), water (blow something out of the water)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: sail (sail to victory, etc.), sailing (smooth sailing)
- directing: pilot (v), steer (v)
- direction: adrift (adj), chart (v), course (change course, etc.), course (stay the course), course (reverse course), drift (control), jibe (v), lighthouse (protection), navigate (v), navigating, navigation, rudderless, sea (at sea), steer (v), tack (v), tack (n)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: jettison (v), jettisoned, overboard (throw somebody overboard), ship out (remove)
- disruption: boat (rock the boat)
- division & connection: adrift (adj), anchored, drift (drift apart), unmoored
- driving force: figurehead (n)
- empathy & lack of empathy: boat (in the same boat)
- epithet: helmsman (the Great Helmsman, etc.)
- equilibrium & stability: boat (rock the boat), keel (even keel), righted, ship (right the ship, etc.)
- experience: rope (learn the ropes, etc.), salt (sailor), sea legs, wheelhouse (n)
- extent & scope: leeway (n), stem (from stem to stern)
- failure, accident & impairment: aground (run aground), founder (v), rock (on the rocks), ship (a sinking ship), shipwreck (n), shoal (n)
- fate, fortune & chance: *Titanic* (the ship)
- feeling, emotion & effect: navigate (feelings, emotions), stack (blow one's stack)
- force: headwind (n), wind (wind at one's back, etc.)
- group, set & collection: armada (n), fleet (amount), flotilla (flotilla of icebergs, etc.)
- help & assistance: steward (role), wind (wind at one's back, etc.)
- initiation: ship (launched a thousand ships)
- knowledge & intelligence: rope (learn the ropes, etc.)
- mental health: distress (mental, etc.), navigate (feelings, emotions)

- movement: anchored, swamp (v)
- obstacles & impedance: headwind (n), shoal (n)
- person: buccaneer (person), mutineer (person), pirate (person)
- progress & lack of progress: adrift (adj), anchored, dead (dead in the water), doldrums (n), headway (n), headwind (n), moored, wind (wind at one's back, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: batten (batten down), harbor (v), harbor (safe harbor), haven (safety), lighthouse (protection)
- pursuit, capture & escape: trawl (v)
- readiness & preparedness: batten (batten down)
- representation: figurehead (n), flag (flag of convenience)
- resemblance: barnacle (resemblance), flotilla (flotilla of icebergs, etc.)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: mutineer (person), mutinous (adj), mutiny (n)
- responsibility: wheelhouse (n)
- restraint & lack of restraint: overboard (behavior)
- reversal: aircraft carrier (turn an aircraft carrier), course (reverse course), row (row back), ship (turn the ship, etc.)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: boat (rock the boat)
- searching & discovery: dredge up (v), naut (Argonaut, etc.), trawl (v)
- sequence: wake (in the wake of)
- situation: boat (in the same boat), strait (dire straits, etc.)
- society: boat (rock the boat)
- speech: broadside (n), salvo (n), shot (shot across the bow, etc.), volley (volley of abuse, etc.)
- speed: boat (slow boat to China), speed (full speed ahead)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: course (change course, etc.), course (stay the course), course (reverse course), embark (embark on something), set sail (v), underway
- superlative: flagship (superlative)
- survival, persistence & endurance: bailout (n), bail out (save), bailed out, batten (batten down), hand (all hands on deck), lifeline (n), life raft, ride out (v), storm (weather the storm)
- taking & removing: buccaneer (person), pirate (person)
- time: wake (in the wake of / at a later time)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: boat (slow boat to China), ship (ship has sailed, etc.)
- transportation: ship (ship of the desert)
- unanimity & consensus: board (on board), boat (in the same boat), boat (rock the boat), row (row in the same direction, etc.)
- warning: shot (shot across the bow, etc.)
- worth & lack of worth: bilge (n)

## **BODILY REACTION (2) (see also breathing; gesture)**

- acceptance & rejection: choke (v), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up)
- admiration & contempt: laughed out (of court, etc.)
- affliction: choke (v)
- appearance & disappearance: swallow (disappearance)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: flinch (v), shudder (v)
- consumption: choke (v), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), swallow (disappearance)
- courage & lack of courage: cower (v), flinch (v), shudder (v)
- creation & transformation: spit out (v)
- danger: exhale (v), sigh (sigh of relief)
- decline: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.)
- destruction: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.)

- difficulty, easiness & effort: sweat (work)
- eagerness & reluctance: chops (lick one's chops), drool (v), juicy (adj), lips (lick one's lips), mouthwatering (adj), salivate (v)
- extent & scope: yawning (adj)
- failure, accident & impairment: hiccup (n)
- fate, fortune & chance: breath (hold one's breath), laugh (last laugh)
- feeling, emotion & effect: ASMR, blush (embarrassment), breath (take a breath, etc.), breath (take one's breath away), breathless (adj), breathtaking (adj), cringe (v), cringe-worthy (adj), cringey (adj), exhale (v), face (red face, red-faced, etc.), gasp (very "gasp," etc.), goosebumps, juicy (adj), mouthwatering (adj), nail (bite one's nails), nail biter (n), nail-biting (fingernails), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), shiver (n), sigh (sigh of relief), startling (adj), sweat (feeling), tear (crying), teeth (gnash one's teeth), yawn (n)
- flaws & lack of flaws: hiccup (n)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: cough up (v)
- hyperbole: horrific (adj), horrifically, horrified, horrifying (adj), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up)
- obstacles & impedance: choke (v)
- relationship: sneeze (v)
- resemblance: belch (v), breathe (caves breathe, etc.), spit (spit down), spit (v), swallow (disappearance), yawn (v)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.)
- revenge: laugh (last laugh)
- speech: spew (speech)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.)
- throwing, putting & planting: spew (speech), spit out (v)
- transmission: sneeze (v)
- work & duty: sweat (work)

## **BODY (2)**

- bases: body (body of the plane, etc.), body (body economic, etc.), body (body of literacy, etc.), body politic

## **BOOKS & READING (2) (see also letters & characters; writing & spelling)**

- ability & lack of ability: illiteracy (n), illiterate (adj), literacy (n), literate (adj)
- allusion: Arthurian (adj), Big Brother (oppression), brave new world, Brobdingnagian (adj), Byron (epithet), Casanova (Serbian Casanova, etc.), Catch-22, Cinderella, Colonel Blimp, curiouser and curiouser, Dantesque (adj), Darwinian (adj), Dickensian (adj), Don Juan, Faust (n), Faustian (adj), Frankenstein (product), Frankenstein (a monster), gargantuan (size), Goldilocks (Goldilocks zone, etc.), Good Earth (Pearl Buck), Great Gatsby, Hamlet (Hamlet on the Hudson, etc.), Jekyll (Jekyll and Hyde), Kafkaesque (adj), Kipling (the Canadian Kipling, etc.), Lady Macbeth (epithet), Lawrence (T.E.), Lilliputian (adj), lily (gild the lily), Looking Glass, love (love that dare not speak its name), Lord of the Flies, Machiavelli (Trump's Machiavelli, etc.), Mark Twain (the Yiddish Mark Twain, etc.), monster (create a monster, etc.), never-never land; nineteen eighty four (and 1984), O. Henry, Orwell, Orwellian (adj), Panglossian (adj), Peter Pan, pied piper, pitchfork (oppression), Pollyanna, Pollyannaish, profile in courage (JFK), Quixote (Don Quixote), quixotic (adj), rabbit hole (fantasy), Robin Hood, Robinson Crusoe, Romeo and Juliet (epithet), Shakespeare ("hillbilly Shakespeare," etc.), Shakespearean (adj), Shangri-la, Sherlock Holmes, Sisyphian (adj), shot (shot heard round the world), sleeping beauty, soul (sell one's soul to the devil, etc.), story (Just-so story), Svengali (allusion), Tale of Two Cities, Voldemort, Walter Mitty, whale (White Whale), windmill (tilt at windmills, etc.), wolf (cry wolf), world (lost world)
- alternatives & choices: Catch-22
- amount: encyclopedia (amount), library (amount), trilogy (n)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: biography (non-human, etc.), misread (v), read (read something into something), read (analyze)

- appearance: book (books and covers)
- appearance & reality: book (books and covers)
- certainty & uncertainty: open-and-shut (adj)
- character & personality: book (open book), book (by the book), Casanova (Serbian Casanova, etc.), Don Juan, Hamlet (Hamlet on the Hudson, etc.), profile in courage (JFK)
- concealment & lack of concealment: love (love that dare not speak its name), tell-all (book)
- consciousness & awareness: sleeping beauty
- constraint & lack of constraint: book (rule book), book (by the book)
- creation & transformation: author (person)
- curtailment: book (close the book)
- development: book (close the book), book (development), bookend (development), chapter (other), page (development), plot (n), plot line (development)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: shelve (v)
- enthusiasm: bookworm (person)
- experience: story (war story)
- extent & scope: encyclopedic (adj)
- fantasy & reality: curiouser and curiouser, fairy tale (fantasy, delusion), fantasy (fairy tale, etc.), Looking Glass, never-never land, rabbit hole (fantasy)
- fictive communication: read (the sign read don't enter, etc.)
- flaws & lack of flaws: story (horror story), storybook (storybook romance, etc.)
- gossip: tell-all (book)
- group, set & collection: library (tool library, etc.)
- importance & significance: Who's Who
- judgment: book (books and covers)
- knowledge & intelligence: encyclopedia (knowledge), encyclopedic (adj), textbook (n)
- message: manifesto (n)
- oppression: brave new world, Cyclops (creature), nineteen eighty four (and 1984), Voldemort
- person: author (person), bookworm (person), character (non-human)
- punishment & recrimination: book (throw the book at somebody)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: book (close the book), chapter (close a chapter, etc.), page (turn the page), slate (a clean slate, etc.), word (the last word)
- resemblance: fairy tale (happy), fantasy (fairy tale, etc.), story (horror story), storybook (storybook romance, etc.)
- restraint & lack of restraint: tell-all (book)
- reversal: O. Henry
- script: book (by the book), book (rule book), handbook (script), playbook (n), textbook (n)
- sex: Casanova (Serbian Casanova, etc.), Don Juan
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: book (open book)
- situation: Catch-22
- success & failure: story (success story)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: book (close the book), bookend (development), chapter (close a chapter, etc.), word (the last word)
- superlative: Shakespeare ("hillbilly Shakespeare," etc.), Shakespearean (adj), storybook (storybook romance, etc.)
- unanimity & consensus: page (on the same page)

## **BOTTLE (2)**

- access & lack of access: bottled up (emotions), bottle up (emotions), lid (keep the lid on something)
- commitment & determination: bottle (British English / noun)

- courage & lack of courage: bottle (British English / noun)
- feeling, emotion & effect: bottled up (emotions), bottle up (emotions)
- geography: bottleneck (the Bottleneck, etc.)
- initiation: uncork (v)
- mental health: bottled up (emotions)
- obstacles & impedance: bottled up (emotions), bottleneck (n), bottle up (emotions)
- proper name: bottleneck (the Bottleneck, etc.)
- shape: bottleneck (n)
- success & failure: bottle (British English / verb)

## **BOUNDARY (2) (see also line)**

- amount: boundless
- behavior: backstop (n), belt (below the belt), boundary (behavior), bounds (no bounds, etc.), edge (over the edge), guardrail (behavior), limit (push the limits, etc.), line (out of line), line (over the line / behavior), line (behavior), line (cross the line), line (red line), line (line in the sand), overreach (v), overreach (n), overstep (v), overstretch (v)
- configuration: border (proximity), bounded
- constraint & lack of constraint: backstop (n), border (doctors without borders, etc.), boundary (behavior), bounds (no bounds, etc.), guardrail (behavior), limits (push something to its limits), line (line in the sand), open (open marriage, etc.), overreach (v), overreach (n), overstep (v), overstretch (v), space (personal space)
- destruction: edge (push something over the edge)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: limits (push something to its limits)
- division & connection: borderland (n), boundary (division), corner (corner cases, etc.), edge (edge cases, etc.), fuzzy (adj), intersect (v), intersection (n), line (n), line (division), line (categories)
- extent & scope: boundless (adj), bounds (no bounds, etc.), compass (within / outside the compass)
- fate, fortune & chance: line (tread a line, etc.)
- possession: claim (stake a claim), reclaim (his place, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: guardrail (behavior)
- proximity: border (proximity), borderland (n)
- restraint & lack of restraint: belt (below the belt), limit (push the limits, etc.), limits (push something to its limits), overreach (v), overreach (n), overstep (v), overstretch (v)
- speech: fuzzy (adj)
- survival, persistence & endurance: limits (push something to its limits)

## **BOXING (2) (see also sports & games)**

- ability & lack of ability: shape (in fighting shape, etc.)
- accusation & criticism: come (come out swinging), jab (n), pummel (v), punching bag (n)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: corner (in one's corner)
- behavior: belt (below the belt), glove (the gloves are off), punch (sucker punch / verb)
- condition & status: shape (in fighting shape, etc.)
- conflict: bare-knuckled (adj), brawl (n), come (come out swinging), glove (the gloves are off), jab (n), punch (punch back), rumble (v), spar (v), square off (v), swing (take a swing, etc.), slug (slug something out), toe-to-toe (go toe-to-toe, etc.), uppercutting
- constraint & lack of constraint: box (box somebody into a corner), corner (in a tight corner, etc.)
- curtailment: knock out (v)
- development: round (boxing)
- effect: punch (punch in the gut, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: blow (body blow, etc.), chin (take something on the chin), knockout (knockout voice, etc.), knock over (v), pummeled, punch (punch in the gut, etc.)
- force: chin (take something on the chin), hitter (heavy hitter), knockout (knockout blow, etc.)

- help & assistance: sparring partner (role)
- involvement: weigh in (v)
- power: heavyweight (n), punch (punch above one's weight, etc.), weight (punch above one's weight, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: guard (lower one's guard, drop one's guard, etc.), guard (keep one's guard up)
- punishment & recrimination: punching bag (n)
- readiness & preparedness: guard (lower one's guard, drop one's guard, etc.), guard (keep one's guard up), punch (beat somebody to the punch), punch (sucker punch / verb)
- resiliency: punch (roll with the punches)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: come (come out swinging), counted out (boxing), fighter (person), punch (punch back), towel (throw in the towel)
- restraint & lack of restraint: belt (below the belt), glove (the gloves are off), punch (pull a punch), punch (sucker punch / verb)
- sequence: blow-by-blow (a blow-by-blow account, etc.), punch (beat somebody to the punch)
- situation: box (box somebody into a corner), corner (in a tight corner, etc.)
- speech: blow-by-blow (a blow-by-blow account, etc.), come (come out swinging), jab (n), punch (pull a punch)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: counted out (boxing)
- strength & weakness: glass jaw
- substance & lack of substance: heavyweight (n), lightweight (n), punch (punch above one's weight, etc.), weight (punch above one's weight, etc.)
- subterfuge: punch (sucker punch / verb)
- superlative: Muhammad Ali (Muhammad Ali of her generation, etc.)
- survival, persistence & endurance: punch (roll with the punches), rope (on the ropes)
- time: round (boxing)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: round (boxing)

## **BRANCHING SYSTEM (1) (see also division; taxonomy & classification)**

- animal: multipronged, prong (river), prong (part)
- back: backbone (branching system), spine (branching)
- bird: wing (building)
- blood: artery (route), system (circulatory system)
- family: family tree
- horn: multipronged, prong (part)
- horse: spur (shape)
- mechanism: hub (branching system)
- plant: offshoot, tendril (growth)
- river: confluence (n), feed (feed into), prong (river), stream (bloodstream, etc.), tributary (n)
- shape: fork (the Forks of the Ohio, etc.)
- tent: tentpole (movies, etc.)
- tree: branch (taxonomy), branch out (v), family tree, tree (branching system), trunk (branching system)
- verb: branch out (v), feed (feed into)
- water: stream (bloodstream, etc.)

## **BREADTH (2) (see also fatness & thinness)**

- amount: thick (adj), thin (thin on the ground, etc.)
- appearance & reality: patina (appearance), veneer (appearance)
- comparison & contrast: hair's breadth (come within a hair's breadth, etc.), pancake-flat (comparison), razor (razor-thin), skin-deep
- danger: strait (dire straits, etc.)
- extent & scope: broad (adj), pancake-flat (comparison), patina (appearance), thin (substance), skin-deep, veneer (appearance)

- mind: narrow-minded (adj), narrowness (n)
- presence & absence: thin (thin on the ground, etc.)
- proximity: hair's breadth (come within a hair's breadth, etc.), whisker (come within a whisker, etc.)
- size: narrow (breadth), razor (razor-thin), slim (small), thin (size)
- situation: strait (dire straits, etc.)
- substance & lack of substance: patina (appearance), thin (substance), skin-deep, veneer (appearance)
- subterfuge: patina (appearance), veneer (appearance)

## **BREATHING (2) (see also bodily reaction; gesture; throat)**

- absorption & immersion: eat (eat and breathe, etc.), inhale (v), live (live and breathe, live to)
- acceptance & rejection: choke (v)
- affliction: choke (v)
- amelioration & renewal: breathing space (and breathing room), life (breathe life)
- amount & effect: smother (amount & effect)
- biodiversity, nature & life: lung (atmosphere)
- commitment & determination: eat (eat and breathe, etc.)
- condition & status: wheezing (condition)
- constraint & lack of constraint: choke chain (n)
- consumption: choke (v), eat (eat and breathe, etc.), inhale (v), live (live and breathe, live to)
- cover: smother (cover)
- danger: exhale (v), sigh (sigh of relief)
- decline: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.)
- destruction: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.), strangle (v), strangled, strangulation, suffocated
- dismissal, removal & resignation: blow off (v)
- enthusiasm: eat (eat and breathe, etc.), live (live and breathe, live to)
- fate, fortune & chance: breath (hold one's breath)
- feeling, emotion & effect: breath (take a breath, etc.), breath (take one's breath away), breathless (adj), breathtaking (adj), exhale (v), gasp (very "gasp," etc.), hyperventilate (v), hyperventilation (n), sigh (sigh of relief), suffocating
- identity & nature: live (live and breathe, live to)
- obstacles & impedance: choke (v), choked, chokepoint (n)
- oppression: smother (oppress), stifle (v), stifling (adj), strangle (v), strangled, stranglehold, strangulation, strangled, suffocate (v), suffocating
- resemblance: breathe (caves breathe, etc.)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.)
- success & failure: choke (fail)
- survival, persistence & endurance: life (breathe life), oxygen (life)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: aspirational (adj)

## **BRIDGE (2)**

- amelioration & renewal: bridge (v), bridge-building (through bridge-building), bridge-building
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: bridge (burn one's bridges)
- confronting, dealing with & avoiding things: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it)
- division & connection: bridge (n), bridge (air bridge, etc.), bridge (v), bridge-building (through bridge-building), bridge-building, stepping stone
- fate, fortune & chance: bridge (burn one's bridges)
- future: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it)
- help & assistance: stepping stone
- past & present: bridge (water under the bridge)

- presence & absence: bridgehead (n)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: bridge (water under the bridge)
- restraint & lack of restraint: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.)
- route: bridge (air bridge, etc.)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: bridge (a bridge to sell)
- survival, persistence & endurance: bridgehead (n)
- time: bridge (water under the bridge), bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it)
- timeliness & lack of timelessness: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it)
- transportation: bridge (air bridge, etc.)

## **BUBBLE (2)**

- activity: bubble (v), bubble (activity), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj)
- appearance & disappearance: bubble up (v)
- avoidance & separation: bubble (isolation), bubble (quarantine)
- character & personality: bubbly (personality), effervescent (personality)
- initiation: bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj)
- isolation & remoteness: bubble (isolation), bubble (quarantine)
- protection & lack of protection: bubble (quarantine)
- resemblance: bubble (bubble canopy, etc.)
- substance & lack of substance: bubble (activity)

## **BULLET (2) (see also military; weapon)**

- allegiance, support & betrayal: bullet (take a bullet for somebody)
- amelioration & renewal: bullet (magic or silver bullet, etc.)
- commitment & determination: bullet (take a bullet for somebody), bullet (bite the bullet)
- fate, fortune & chance: bullet (dodge a bullet)
- flaws & lack of flaws: bulletproof (adj)
- shape: bullet (shape)
- speed: bullet (velocity)
- survival, persistence & endurance: bullet (bite the bullet)

## **BURDEN (2) (see also weight)**

- affliction: barnacle (affliction), bear (a weight, etc.), burden (v), burden (n), encrustation (affliction), heavy (oppression), weigh (weigh heavily), weigh (oppress), weighed down, weight (effect), weight (under the weight)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: pull (pull for someone)
- amelioration & renewal: barnacle (scrape the barnacles, etc.), get out (get out from under)
- attachment: barnacled, encrustation (affliction)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: back (carry something on one's back), drag (v)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: pull out (v)
- eagerness & reluctance: drag (drag somebody into something)
- failure, accident & impairment: strain (v)
- flaws & lack of flaws: overload (n), overloaded
- help & assistance: back (carry something on one's back), carry (assist)
- history: baggage (n), freighted, loaded
- involvement: drag (drag somebody into something)
- obstacles & impedance: drag (drag on the economy, etc.)
- oppression: baggage (n), bear (a weight, etc.), burden (v), burden (n), freighted, get out (get out from under), heavy (oppression), loaded, overload (n), overloaded, weigh (weigh heavily), weigh (oppress), weighed down, weight (effect), weight (under the weight)

- resemblance: barnacle (resemblance)
- resiliency: carry on (v)
- speech: freighted, loaded
- starting, going, continuing & ending: carry on (v), drag on (v), pull out (v)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: overload (n), overloaded
- survival, persistence & endurance: carry on (v)
- time: drag on (v), haul (long haul)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: drag on (v)
- unanimity & consensus: pull together (v)
- work & duty: lifting (heavy lifting), load (work), pull together (v), strain (v), weight (pull one's weight)

## **BURIAL (2)**

- absorption & immersion: bury (bury oneself in something, etc.)
- amelioration & renewal: ghost (bury the ghost)
- appearance & disappearance: exhume (v)
- concealment & lack of concealment: bury (conceal), exhume (v)
- condition & status: buried (dead and buried, etc.)
- consciousness & awareness: graveyard (whistle past the graveyard)
- curtailment: bury (kill), knell (death knell / obsolescence)
- death & life: cemetery (people), graveyard (people)
- destruction: buried (dead and buried, etc.), bury (kill), coffin (nail in the coffin, etc.), epitaph (n), funeral (one's funeral), grave (dig one's grave), graveyard (of diplomacy, etc.), knell (death knell / destruction)
- fate, fortune & chance: coffin (nail in the coffin, etc.), funeral (one's funeral), grave (dig one's grave)
- feeling, emotion & effect: funereal (adj), lament (v), pall (cast a pall)
- involvement: buried (buried in debt, etc.)
- oppression: pall (cast a pall)
- place: cemetery (things), grave (place), graveyard (things), place (resting place)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: knell (death knell / obsolescence)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: ghost (bury the ghost), rest (put / lay something to rest), rest (put / laid to rest), sleep (put something to sleep)
- searching & discovery: exhume (v)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: grave (end point), rest (put / lay something to rest), rest (put / laid to rest), sleep (put something to sleep)

## **CAMPAIGN (1)**

- Middle Ages: crusade (on a crusade), crusade (in a crusade), crusade (n), crusader (role)
- military: blitz (campaign), offensive (charm offensive, etc.)
- person: crusader (role)
- religion: crusade (on a crusade), crusade (in a crusade), crusade (n), crusader (role)
- sound: drum (beat the drum / bang the drum, etc.)
- weapon: blitz (campaign)

## **CANAL (2)**

- route: canal (birth canal, etc.)
- shape: canal (birth canal, etc.)
- transportation: canal (birth canal, etc.)

## **CARDS (2) (see also gambling; sports & games)**

- action, inaction & delay: double down (v), in (all in), pass (cards)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: in (all in)
- amount: spade (in spades)

- amount & effect: spade (in spades)
- appearance: poker-faced (adj)
- behavior: wild card (person)
- certainty & uncertainty: bet (all bets are off)
- character & personality: card (hold one's cards close), wild card (person)
- commitment & determination: bet (hedge one's bets), double down (v), in (all in), pass (cards)
- computer: wildcard (computers)
- concealment & lack of concealment: card (hold one's cards close), card (cards on the table), hold (close held, etc.), poker-faced (adj), tip (tip one's hand), vest (close to the vest, etc.)
- curtailment: fold (v)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: discard (v), fold (v)
- disruption: deck (re-shuffle the deck)
- failure, accident & impairment: hand (overplay one's hand), overplay (v)
- fate, fortune & chance: bet (all bets are off), card (in the cards), card (dealt cards), deck (deck is stacked), draw (luck of the draw), hand (dealt a hand), odds (fate), wild card (other)
- feeling, emotion & effect: poker-faced (adj)
- obstacles & impedance: card (the cards are stacked against us, a stacked deck, etc.)
- position, policy & negotiation: bluff (v), bluff (n), hand (overplay one's hand)
- power: hand (strengthen one's hand)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: fold (v)
- restraint & lack of restraint: hand (overplay one's hand)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: bluff (v), bluff (n), card (cards on the table)
- strategy: ace (n), bluff (v), bluff (n), card (guilt card, etc.), card (play one's cards), move (chess move, etc.), poker (game)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: fold (v)
- strength & weakness: ace (n), bluff (v), bluff (n), card (strong card), card (trump card), card (hold all the cards)
- substance & lack of substance: house of cards
- subterfuge: aboveboard (adj), bluff (v), bluff (n)
- success & failure: ace (n), flush (busted flush), hand (hot hand)
- unanimity & consensus: suit (follow suit)

## **CARPETS & RUGS (2)**

- allegiance, support & betrayal: rug (pull the rug out)
- concealment & lack of concealment: carpet (under the carpet, etc.), rug (under the rug)
- configuration: carpet (v), carpet (a carpet of flowers, etc.), carpeted
- cover: carpet (v), carpet (a carpet of flowers, etc.), carpeted
- identity & nature: tapestry (n)
- mixture: tapestry (n)
- proper name: carpet (Operation Magic Carpet, etc.)
- resemblance: carpet (v), carpet (a carpet of flowers, etc.), carpeted
- superiority & inferiority: red carpet (treatment)
- transportation: carpet (magic carpet / other)
- welcome: mat (welcome mat), red carpet (treatment)

## **CAT (2) (see also animal)**

- competition: cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective), game (game of cat and mouse)
- concealment & lack of concealment: cat (cat out of the bag, etc.)
- money: fat cat
- person: fat cat

- pursuit, capture & escape: cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective), cat (cat out of the bag, etc.), game (game of cat and mouse)
- repetition: copycat (n)

## **CENTER & PERIPHERY (1) (see also attention, scrutiny & promotion; importance & significance; priority; superiority & inferiority)**

- cloth: fringe (edge), fringe (versus mainstream), fringe (on the fringe)
- container: outside (outside world, etc.)
- direction: background (background noise, etc.), fringe (on the fringe), fringe (versus mainstream), foreground (n), netherworld (n), underworld (n)
- earth & world: outside (outside world, etc.)
- earthquake: epicenter (n)
- ground, terrain & land: coast (n)
- heart: heart (center), heartland (n), heartwood
- mechanism: hub (center)
- picture: background (background noise, etc.), foreground (n)
- position: background (background noise, etc.), foreground (n), front (front and center), middle-of-the-road, middle-of-the-roader
- prep, adv, adj, particle: outside (outside world, etc.)
- river: backwater (n), mainstream (society)
- society: fringe (on the fringe), fringe (versus mainstream), mainstream (society), netherworld (n), underworld (n)
- sports & games: sideline (on the sideline), sideline (involvement), sidelined (adj)
- storm: storm (eye / center of the storm)
- theater: stage (attention), stage (center stage), wing (in the wings)

## **CENTER & PERIPHERY (2)**

- appearance & disappearance: background (background noise, etc.), foreground (n)
- area: corner (in remote corners, etc.), corner (area)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: background (background noise, etc.), center (center their voices, etc.), fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), foreground (n), front (front and center)
- bases: core (basis)
- importance & significance: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), background (background noise, etc.), burner (front burner), centerpiece (n), central (adj), foreground (n), sideshow (n)
- inclusion & exclusion: centered (survivor-centered, etc.), centric (Afro-centric, etc.)
- involvement: sideline (on the sideline), sideline (involvement)
- perception, perspective & point of view: background (background noise, etc.), foreground (n), outside (perspective)
- power: inner circle (n), insider (person), outsider (person)
- priority: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), burner (front burner)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: outlier (n)
- society: center (society), fit in (v), fringe (on the fringes), fringe (versus mainstream), inner circle (n), insider (person), mainstream (society), margin (on the margins), netherworld (n), outlier (n), outsider (person), underground (n), underworld (n)
- situation: middle (in the middle)
- superiority & inferiority: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), burner (front burner)

## **CERTAINTY & UNCERTAINTY (1)**

- air: air (up in the air)

- allusion: Bermuda Triangle
- atmosphere: air (up in the air)
- basketball: jump ball (n), layup (n), slam-dunk
- boat: waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- books & reading: open-and-shut (adj)
- cards: bet (all bets are off)
- cloud: cloudy (certainty)
- color: gray (gray area)
- container: bag (in the bag)
- direction: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- eye: clear (crystal clear), clear (unambiguous), murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj)
- gambling: bet (all bets are off)
- ground, terrain & land: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (in uncharted territory), uncharted (adj)
- hand: grab (up for grabs)
- head: no-brainer (n)
- history: Bermuda Triangle
- horse: hands down (certainty)
- journeys & trips: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), uncharted (adj), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- justice: jury (the jury is out)
- letters & characters: question mark
- light & dark: clear (crystal clear), clear (unambiguous), cloudy (certainty), murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), open-and-shut (adj), shadow (beyond a shadow of a doubt, etc.), twilight (in a legal twilight, etc.), unclear (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
- map: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), uncharted (adj), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- money: deal (done deal)
- movement: shifting (adj)
- picture: sketchy (adj)
- position: shifting (adjective)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: air (up in the air)
- religion: agnostic (adj), limbo (in limbo)
- sea: uncharted (adj), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- shadow: shadow (beyond a shadow of a doubt, etc.)
- speech: riddle (n)
- sports & games: bet (all bets are off), game (guessing game), jump ball (n), layup (n), slam-dunk
- verb: waters (muddy the waters)
- water: murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
- weapon: surefire (a surefire investment, etc.)

## CHAIN (2)

- configuration: chain (configuration)
- constraint & lack of constraint: chain (oppression), choke chain (n), fetter (n), fettered, unfettered, unshackle (v)
- functioning: fetter (n), fettered, unfettered
- hierarchy: chain of command (and chain)
- oppression: chain (oppression)
- sequence: chain (chain of events), chain (other), chain reaction
- strength & weakness: link (weak link)

## CHARACTER & PERSONALITY (1) (see also behavior; identity & nature, person)

- allusion: Byron (epithet), Casanova (Serbian Casanova, etc.), Colonel Blimp, Don Juan, Hamlet (Hamlet on the Hudson, etc.), Jekyll (Jekyll and Hyde), Lady Macbeth (epithet), Machiavelli (Trump's Machiavelli, etc.), Machiavellian (adj), Panglossian (adj), Pollyanna, Pollyannaish (adj), stoic (adj), Svengali (allusion)
- animal: animal (party animal, etc.), bear (mama bear), beast (power), black sheep, bloodthirsty (adj), chameleon (change), chameleonic (adj), coyote (predation), creature (creature of habit, etc.), donkey (insult), dove (person), feather (ruffle feathers), feisty (adj), ferocious (other), gadfly (person), grub (person), hawk (person), hawkish (adj), hyena (person), jackal (n), jackass, leech (person), leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.), lone wolf (person), maneater (female), maverick (person), mule-headed, pack rat (person), piranha (predation), pit bull (person), predator (people), rogue (n), rooster (person), scavenger (n), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.), shark (predation), snake (insult), stud (male), whine (v), whiner (person), wolf (predation)
- arm: pushy (people), elbow (sharp elbows, etc.)
- astronomy: eye (stars in one's eyes)
- baby: apron strings, baby (insult), brat (insult), child (spoiled child, etc.), crybaby (person), mama's boy (and mummy's boy, etc.)
- back: backstabber (person)
- bird: dove (person), feather ruffle feathers), hawk (person), hawkish (adj), rooster (person)
- blood: bloodthirsty (adj), coldblooded (and cold-blooded), hot-blooded (adj), vein (ice in one's veins, etc.)
- boat: buccaneer (person), pirate (person), showboat (v)
- books & reading: book (open book), book (by the book), Casanova (Serbian Casanova, etc.), Don Juan, profile in courage (JFK), Hamlet (Hamlet on the Hudson, etc.)
- bubble: bubbly (personality), effervescent (personality)
- cards: card (hold one's cards close), wild card (person)
- circus: clown (person), daredevil (person)
- cloth: cloth (cut from the same cloth, etc.)
- clothing & accessories: boot (too big for one's boots)
- color: black sheep, colorful (politician, etc.), plain (plain people, etc.)
- cows & cattle: maverick (person)
- creature: angel (behavior), creature (creature of habit, etc.), devil (behavior), diabolical (adj), giant (gentle giant), monster (affliction), monster (power), nerd (word nerd, etc.), ogre (person), sphinx (n), troll (noun / computers), witch (insult)
- crime: buccaneer (person), made man (experience), pirate (person)
- depth: deep (person), shallow (person)
- direction: buoyant (personality), crooked (adj), down to earth (adj), ground (moral high ground, etc.), high-minded (adj), shifty (adj), straight (honest), straight (the straight and narrow), straightforward, straight arrow, twisted (character), upright (upright man, etc.), upstanding (adj)
- dog: feisty (adj), hot dog (person)
- earth & world: down to earth (adj), earthiness (character), eye (stars in one's eyes), mother (earth mother)
- electricity: incandescent (character), live wire (person)
- engine: driven (adj)
- epithet: British (British of South America, etc.), bulldozer (epithet), Byron (epithet), Casanova (Serbian Casanova, etc.), Don Juan, Harvey Weinstein (epithet), iron (Iron Lady, etc.), Lady Macbeth (epithet), Machiavelli (Trump's Machiavelli, etc.), Napoleon (the Napoleon of surgery, etc.), tiger (tiger mother, etc.)
- equilibrium & stability: levelheaded
- explosion: fuse (n), grenade (person), hotshot (person), self-destructive (v), time bomb (person)
- eye: eye (stars in one's eyes)
- family: mother (earth mother)

- feeling, emotion & effect: irritating
- film: guy (good guy, etc.), hero (character), villain (character)
- fire: fiery (character), fire (through the fire, etc.), incandescent (character)
- fish: piranha (predation)
- fist: fist (a boss with an iron fist, etc.)
- food & drink: bitter (personality), marmite (n), sour (personality), spoiled (spoiled child, etc.), sweet (personality)
- foot: doormat (person), toe (step on toes)
- force: bulldozer (epithet), pushy (people)
- fruits & vegetables: apple (bad apple / rotten apple), nut (person)
- gambling: card (hold one's cards close)
- gesture: elbow (sharp elbows, etc.), handwringer (person)
- ground, terrain & land: ground (both feet on the ground), grounded
- hand: clingy (adj), handwringer (person)
- hardness & softness: hard (character), hardheaded (and hard-headed), hard man (character), hard-nosed, snowflake (person), softheaded (and soft-headed), teacup (person), teddy bear
- hat: black hat (bad), helmet (pith helmet), white hat (good)
- head: coolheaded (and cool-headed), hardheaded (and hard-headed), hothead (person), hotheaded (and hot-headed), softheaded (and soft-headed)
- health & medicine: incurable (adj), pain (pain in the neck, etc.)
- heart: bighearted (and big-hearted), good-hearted, hardhearted (and hard-hearted), heart (young at heart, etc.), kindhearted (and kind-hearted), softhearted (and soft-hearted)
- height: cavalier (adj), upright (upright man, etc.), upstanding (adj)
- history: Caligulan, carpetbagger (person), Colonel Blimp, cowboy (person), gladiator (n), helmet (pith helmet), warrior (other)
- horse: cavalier (adj), gadfly (person), hard-charging (adj), maverick (person), stud (noun)
- hunting: hotshot (person)
- hygiene: hot mess (person), mess (person)
- insect: butterfly (social butterfly), gadfly (person), grub (person)
- journeys & trips: easygoing (adj)
- knife: backstabber (person)
- light & dark: brilliant (superlative), incandescent (character), light (shining light), light up (a room, etc.), scintillating (adj)
- love, courtship & marriage: odd couple
- magic: charming
- mark: streak (violent streak, etc.)
- materials & substances: behavior (fire, etc.), clay (n), flexible (character), hard (character), hard man (character), inflexible (character), made of (character), mercurial (adj), putty (n), rigid (character), slippery (character), smooth (character)
- mechanism: full on (personality), wound (tightly wound)
- mental health: Jekyll (Jekyll and Hyde), nut (person)
- military: cannon (loose cannon), general (floor general, etc.), gladiator (n), strongman (power), warrior (other), wingman (person)
- mining: gold digger (person)
- money: mercenary
- mouth: loudmouth (person)
- movement: flexible (character) / inflexible (character), rigid (character)
- neck: pain (pain in the neck, etc.)
- nose: hard-nosed (adj)

- part of speech: crazy (as noun), rugged (as noun)
- person: backstabber (person), badass (power), bad boy (person), big boy (person), boy (blue-eyed boy), buccaneer (person), butterfly (social butterfly), cannon (loose cannon), carpetbagger (person), clown (person), cowboy (person), coyote (predation), cruel (adj), dandelion (character), daredevil (person), diva (person), doormat (person), dove (person), firebrand (person), flower (wilting flower, etc.), gadfly (person), girl (golden girl), girl (big girl), girl (mean girl), gladiator (n), gold digger (person), golden boy, goods (damaged goods), grub (person), guy (good guy, etc.), handwringer (person), hawk (person), hero (character), hot dog (person), hothead (person), hot mess (person), ingenue (person), Jekyll (Jekyll and Hyde), killjoy (person), leech (person), live wire (person), maneater (female), maverick (person), mercenary (person), nerd (word nerd, etc.), nut (person), orchid (character), pain (pain in the neck, etc.), pirate (person), predator (people), prima donna (person), scold (person), shrinking violet (person), snake (insult), snowflake (person), straight arrow (person), strongman (power), stud (male), teacup (person), villain (character), warrior (other), whiner (person), wild card (person), witch (insult)
- plane: helicopter (helicopter mom, etc.), pants (fly by the seat of one's pants), wingman (person)
- plant: dandelion (character), flower (wilting flower, etc.), orchid (character), shrinking violet (person)
- predation: coyote (predation), dove (person), ferocious (other), hawk (person), hawkish (adj), leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.), lone wolf (person), maneater (female), piranha (predation), predator (people), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.), shark (predation), wolf (predation)
- product: goods (damaged goods)
- religion: angel (behavior), devil (behavior), diabolical (adj), evil (non-human), public-spirited
- ruins: self-destructive (adj)
- sea: buccaneer (person), pirate (person)
- sensation: abrasive (adj), elbow (sharp elbows, etc.), irritating, nerveless (adj), pain (pain in the neck, etc.), sensitive (feelings), smooth (character), thick-skinned (adj), thin-skinned (adj), toe (step on toes), touchy (personality)
- shark: piranha (predation), shark (predation)
- sheep: black sheep
- sign, signal, symbol: Barbie (and Barbie Doll), black hat (bad), doormat (person), helmet (pith helmet), white hat (good)
- size: boot (too big for one's boots), giant (gentle giant)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: nerveless (adj), sensitive (feelings), thick-skinned (adj), thin-skinned (adj), touchy (personality)
- snake: snake (insult)
- snow & ice: snowflake (person)
- sound: whine (v), whiner (person)
- speech: loudmouth (person), whine (v)
- sports & games: card (hold one's cards close)
- statue: sphinx (n)
- storm: nature (force of nature)
- taste: bitter (personality), flavor (regional flavor, etc.), salt (flavor), sour (personality), sweet (personality)
- temperature: cold (feeling), coldblooded (and cold-blooded), coolheaded (and cool-headed), fiery (character), firebrand (person), hot-blooded (adj), hot dog (person), hothead (person), hotheaded (and hot-headed), hot mess (person), incandescent (character), vein (ice in one's veins, etc.), warmhearted (adj)
- theater: diva (person), drama (and drama queen, etc.), dramatic (dramatic child, etc.), hero (character), on (performing), prima donna (person), showboat (v), villain (character)
- tools & technology: bulldozer (epithet)
- verb: card (hold one's cards close), feather (ruffle feathers), light up (a room, etc.), swagger (v), toe (step on toes), whine (v)
- walking, running & jumping: highway (my way or the highway), swagger (n), swagger (v), toe (step on toes)

- waste: trashy (adj)
- water: bubbly (personality), buoyant (personality), deep (person), effervescent (personality), shallow (person)
- weapon: cannon (loose cannon), fuse (n), hotshot (person), time bomb (person)
- wolf: ferocious (other), lone wolf (person), wolf (predation)

## CHARACTERIZATION (1)

- animal: pigeonhole (n), pigeonholed
- bird: pigeonhole (n), pigeonholed
- clothing & accessories: cameo (n)
- color: mark (black mark)
- container: box (labeling)
- creature: demonization (n), demonize (v), demonized
- fire: brand (v), stigma (n), stigmatization (oppression), stigmatize (and destigmatize / verb), stigmatizing
- health & medicine: victim (groups), victimization (or victimisation)
- infrastructure: frame (n), frame (characterize)
- manufacturing: cast (characterize), cast (characterized), recast (v), recast
- mark: brand (v), mark (black mark), stigma (n), stigmatization (oppression), stigmatize (and destigmatize / verb), stigmatizing, trademark (n)
- part of speech: special (as noun)
- person: guy (good guy, etc.), man (big man, little man, etc.), people (little people, etc.)
- picture: brush (characterization), cameo (n), frame (n), frame (characterize), framed (characterized), illustrate (v), illustration (n), paint (characterize), painted (characterized), picture (view), portrait (view), profile, reframe (characterize), snapshot (picture)
- religion: christen (v)
- verb: brand (v), cast (characterize), christen (v), demonize (v), frame (characterize), illustrate (v), paint (characterize), recast (v), reframe (characterize), stigmatize (and destigmatize / verb)

## CHEMISTRY (2)

- accusation & chemistry: vitriol (n)
- activity: ferment (v), ferment (n)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: distill (v), essence (n)
- attachment: bond (n)
- attraction & repulsion: valence (attraction)
- bases: essence (n)
- creation & transformation: alchemist (n)
- division & connection: bond (n)
- evidence: litmus test
- experimentation: experiment (n), litmus test
- feeling, emotion & effect: acid (acid debate, etc.), acid-tongued, caustic (adj), corrosive (adj), vitriol (n)
- flaws & lack of flaws: rust (functioning), rusty (adj)
- functioning: chemistry, rust (functioning), rusty (adj)
- growth & development: oxygen (fuel)
- increase & decrease: oxygen (fuel)
- initiation: catalyst (n), catalyze (v), oxygen (fuel), precursor (n)
- mixture: chemistry
- person: alchemist (n)
- presence & absence: residue (n)
- resemblance: rust (resemblance)
- speech: acid (acid debate, etc.), acid-tongued, caustic (adj), caustically, vitriol (n)

## **CHESS (2) (see also sports & games)**

- control & lack of control: check (in check)
- power: pawn (n)
- progress & lack of progress: stalemate (n)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: checkmate (v), checkmate (n)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: endgame (n)
- strategy: chess (n), chessboard (n), chess match (n), endgame (n), gambit (n), game (chess game), move (chess move, etc.)
- strength & weakness: pawn (n)

## **CIRCUS (2) (see also theater)**

- ability & lack of ability: acrobat (person), acrobatic (adj), juggle (v), juggling
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: Barnum (and P.T. Barnum), carnival (n), circus (media circus, etc.), freak show (n)
- behavior: circus (media circus, etc.), clown (v)
- character & personality: clown (person), daredevil (person)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: acrobat (person), acrobatic (adj), acrobatics (n), high wire (fate), hoop (jump through hoops, etc.), tightrope (fate)
- directing: ringmaster (person)
- fate, fortune & chance: daredevil (person), high wire (fate), tightrope (fate)
- importance & significance: sideshow (n)
- insult: clown (person)
- obstacles & impedance: hoop (jump through hoops, etc.)
- performance: carnival (n), circus (media circus, etc.), freak show (n)
- person: acrobat (person), clown (person), ringmaster (role)
- protection & lack of protection: safety net
- resemblance: carnival (n), circus (media circus, etc.), freak show (n)

## **CITY (2) (see place)**

### **CLICHE (2)**

- death & life: soul (death)
- language: best life (cliché), nothing-burger, there (let's not go there), there (there is no there there, etc.), you've never heard of

### **CLOCK (2)**

- action, inaction & delay: clock (run the clock, etc.)
- competition: clock (race with the clock)
- direction: clock (around the clock)
- fate, fortune & chance: midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.)
- past & present: clock (turn back the clock), moment (this moment), moment (that moment), moment (other), wind back (v)
- shape: hourglass (shape)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: tick on (and tick by), tick-tock (n), wind down (v)
- time: clock (turn back the clock), clock (types), clock (race with the clock), clock (clock winds down, etc.), clock (clock is ticking, etc.), clock (reset the clock), clock (run the clock, etc.), moment (this moment), moment (that moment), moment (other), stroke (stroke of midnight, etc.), tick on (and tick by), tick-tock (n), wind back (v), wind down (v)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: clock (race with the clock), clock (clock winds down, etc.), clock (clock is ticking, etc.), clock (reset the clock), countdown (n), hourglass (time), midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.), minute (last minute)

## CLOTH (2) (see also clothing & accessories)

- amelioration & renewal: iron out (v), patch (and patch up), patched, untangle (v)
- amount: shred (shred of hope, etc.)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: curtain (pull back the curtain, look behind the curtain, etc.), pick apart (analyze), tease out (v), thread (investigation), unpick (v), unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.), unraveled (explained), unspool (v), untangle (v), unwind (analyze)
- attachment: dyed-in-the-wool, entwined, ingrained, pin (attach), pinned, pinned (pinned down)
- avoidance & separation: skirt (skirt an issue, etc.)
- basis: fabric (fabric of society)
- center & periphery: fringe (edge), fringe (versus mainstream), fringe (on the fringe)
- character & personality: cloth (cut from the same cloth, etc.)
- complexity: detangle (v), skein (entanglement), tangle (n), tangled
- concealment & lack of concealment: bare (lay bare), bare (laid bare), bare (v), cloak (conceal), cloak (under a cloak), cloak (in a cloak), cloak (cloak of secrecy, etc.), cloaked (concealed), come out (the truth, etc.), cover (under cover), covered up, cover up (v), coverup (n), curtain (pull back the curtain, look behind the curtain, etc.), shrouded (concealment), wrap (under wraps), wrap (take the wraps off something / concealment)
- condition & status: tatters (in tatters), threadbare (adj)
- configuration: blanket (v), blanket (under a blanket), blanket (cover), blanketed, fringe (configuration), fringed, laced (adj), overlapped, shrouded (covered), tucked, wraparound
- conflict: velvet (Velvet Revolution)
- cover: blanket (v), blanket (under a blanket), blanket (cover), blanketed, shroud (n), shrouded (covered), wrapped (covered)
- creation & transformation: embroider (v), patch (patch together), patchwork (n), stitch together (v), stitched together, weave (create)
- destruction: shred (v), undoing (destruction), undone (destruction)
- development: unfold (develop), unfolding (developing), unspool (v), unwind (analyze)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: needle (thread the needle, etc.), needle (eye of the needle, needle's eye)
- division & connection: entwined, intertwined, interwoven, knit (knit together), knit (tightly knit), seamless, seamlessly, strand (connection), thread (connection), thread (v), tight-knit, weave together (v), woven
- environment: fabric (fabric of society, etc.)
- extent & scope: blanket (blanket amnesty, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: thread (by a thread)
- failure, accident & impairment: fray (v), frayed (degraded), tatters (in tatters), thread (lose the thread), undoing (destruction), undone (destruction), unravel (fail)
- feeling, emotion & effect: pall (cast a pall)
- fictive motion: weave (a trail can weave, etc.), thread (a trail can thread, etc.)
- flaws & lack of flaws: fray (v), frayed (degraded), ragged (adj), seamless (adj), tatters (in tatters), wrinkle (n)
- identity & nature: cloth (cut from the same cloth, etc.), dyed-in-the-wool, tapestry (n)
- impression: dyed-in-the-wool, ingrained
- inauguration: wrap (take the wraps off something / inauguration)
- involvement: detangle (v), entwined, skein (entanglement), tangle (n), tangled, web (entanglement), wrapped (wrapped up in something)
- mixture: lace (v), tapestry (n), weave (mixture)
- money: rope (velvet rope), threadbare (adj)
- movement: weave (move)
- oppression: pall (cast a pall)
- proper name: needle (the Needles, etc.), ribbon (Ribbon Reef, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: curtain (curtain wall, etc.)

- relationship: entwined, tight-knit
- resemblance: curtain (curtain wall, etc.), strand (strand of hair, etc.), unfolding (opening), wrapped (covered)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: done and dusted, sewn up, sew up (v), wrap up (v)
- searching & discovery: curtain (pull back the curtain, look behind the curtain, etc.), thread (investigation), unfold (discover), unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.)
- shape: needle (shape), ribbon (ribbon of moonlight, etc.)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: done and dusted, wrap up (v)
- subterfuge: covered up, cover up (v), coverup (n), curtain (the con man behind the curtain, etc.), Wizard of Oz
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: threadbare (adj)
- superiority & inferiority: rope (velvet rope)
- taxonomy & classification: cloth (cut from the same cloth, etc.), strand (n), stripe (of all stripes)

## **CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES (2) (see also cloth)**

- affliction: shoe (a stone in the shoe)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: hang (hang somebody out to dry), hung (hung out to dry)
- amount: laundry (laundry list)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: strip (strip something down)
- appearance: robe (n)
- appearance & reality: dressed (dressed up, etc.), dress up (v), clothes (deception), fashion (n), naked (unadorned), nakedly, wolf (wolf in sheep's clothing)
- area: belt (area)
- attachment: buckle (attachment)
- character & personality: boot (too big for one's boots)
- characterization: cameo (n)
- computer: search (digital strip search, etc.)
- concealment & lack of concealment: aired (and aired out), bare (lay bare), bare (laid bare), bare (v), bootleg (adj), cloak (conceal), cloak (under a cloak), cloak (in a cloak), cloak (cloak of secrecy, etc.), cloaked (concealed), dirty laundry, dress up (v), fig leaf, launder (v), lay (lay bare), naked (unadorned), nakedly, sleeve (on one's sleeve), sleeve (up one's sleeve), unmask (v), veil (concealment), veil (under a veil), veiled
- condition & status: tatters (in tatters), threadbare (adj)
- configuration: belt (area), buckle (attachment), cloaked (covered), girdled, necklace (configuration), skirt (configuration)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: skirt (skirt an issue, etc.)
- cover: cloaked (covered), veil (covering)
- creation & transformation: cobble together (v), one-size-fits-all, procrustean (adj), size (one size fits all), tailor (v), tailored, tailor-made (adj)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: sleeve (roll up one's sleeves)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: boot (get the boot), boot out (v)
- dominance & submission: trousers (wear the trousers, etc.)
- empathy & lack of empathy: shoe (in somebody's shoes)
- experience: belt (under one's belt), hat (old hat)
- failure, accident & impairment: clotheslined, shirt (lose one's shirt), tatters (in tatters)
- fate, fortune & chance: shoe (a shoe can drop or fall)
- feeling, emotion & effect: boot (shake in one's boots), pearl (clutch one's pearls), shoe (a stone in the shoe)
- flaws & lack of flaws: ragged (adj), tatters (in tatters)
- help & assistance: eye (naked eye)
- hyperbole: pants (scare the pants off somebody)
- inauguration: unveil (make public)
- money: shoestring (n), threadbare (adj), rags-to-riches

- oppression: boot (oppression), procrustean (adj), size (one size fits all), wringer (through the wringer)
- perception, perspective & point of view: shoe (in somebody's shoes)
- person: skirt (woman)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: fashion (out of fashion), hat (old hat)
- proper name: Necklace (Necklace Nebula, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: naked (protection)
- readiness & preparedness: pants (caught with one's pants down)
- removal: strip (v), stripped
- representation: hat (role), mantle (n)
- resemblance: robe (n), veil (covering)
- reversal: shoe (the shoe is on the other foot)
- role: mantle (n), pants (big girl pants, etc.), hat (role), trousers (wear the trousers, etc.)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: mantle (n)
- searching & discovery: search (digital strip search, etc.)
- sex: pants (get in somebody's pants)
- shape: belt (area), boot (Italy's boot, etc.), washboard (bumpy)
- size: seam (burst at the seams)
- substance & lack of substance: clothes (the emperor has no clothes), dress up (v), fashion (n), fig leaf, naked (substance), strip (strip something down)
- subterfuge: bootleg (adj), cloak and dagger, clothes (deception), dressed (dressed up, etc.), launder (v), sleeve (up one's sleeve), wolf (wolf in sheep's clothing)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: shoestring (n), threadbare (adj)
- superiority & inferiority: shoe (big shoes), trousers (wear the trousers, etc.)
- taking & removing: strip (v)
- work & duty: sleeve (roll up one's sleeves)

## LOUD (2)

- certainty & uncertainty: cloudy (certainty)
- consciousness & awareness: cloud (v), cloud (consciousness), clouded, cloudy (consciousness)
- evidence: cloud (sign)
- feeling, emotion & effect: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.)
- oppression: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.)
- resemblance: cloud (resemblance), nimbus (cloud)

## COERCION & MOTIVATION (1)

- allusion: hector (v)
- animal: bone (throw a bone to someone), dog (attack dog), goad (v), herd (ride herd), herded, pit bull (person)
- arm: arm (twist arms, etc.), arm (long arm), arm-twisting, dangle (v), nudge (v), nudge (n), nudged, push (coercion and motivation), pushed around, pushy (people), shove (n), strong-arm (v)
- blade: hatchet man (person)
- blood: nose (bloody nose, etc.)
- cooking: grill (v), grilled
- courtship & marriage: marriage (shotgun marriage)
- crime: kneecap (v), kneecapped, strong-arm (v)
- dog: dog (attack dog), pit bull (person)
- finger: prod (v)
- fire: feet (hold somebody's feet to the fire), fire (light a fire under somebody), fire (hold somebody's feet to the fire), fire up (v), grill (v), grilled
- food & drink: bone (throw a bone to someone)
- force: push (coercion and motivation), pushed around, pushy (people), press (v), prod (v)

- fruits & vegetables: carrot (reward), carrot-and-stick
- gesture: nudge (v), nudge (n), nudged, push (coercion and motivation), shove (n)
- hand: hand (force someone's hand), squeeze (coerce), squeeze (put the squeeze on something), squeezed (oppressed), whip hand (n), wring (coerce)
- head: head (hold something over one's head)
- history: hatchet man (person)
- horse: spur (v)
- Iliad & Odyssey: hector (v)
- knee: kneecap (v), kneecapped
- nose: nose (bloody nose, etc.)
- nuclear energy: option (nuclear option)
- person: bully (person), hatchet man (person)
- plant: carrot (reward), carrot-and-stick
- pressure: clampdown (n), clamp down (v), press (v), pressure (under pressure), pressured, screw (tighten / loosen the screws), squeeze (coerce), squeeze (put the squeeze on something), squeezed (oppressed), wring (coerce)
- school & education: bullied, bully (v), bully (person)
- sign, signal, symbol: nose (bloody nose, etc.)
- speech: cudgel (n), goad (v), stick (n)
- temperature: heat (turn up the heat, etc.)
- tools & technology: screw (tighten / loosen the screws)
- train: railroad (v), railroaded
- verb: arm (twist arms, etc.), bully (v), clamp down (v), crack down (v), dangle (v), feet (hold somebody's feet to the fire), fire (hold somebody's feet to the fire), fire (light a fire under somebody), fire up (v), goad (v), grill (v), gun (hold a gun to one's head, etc.), hand (force someone's hand), head (hold something over one's head), hector (v), herd (ride herd), kneecap (v), lean on (coercion), nudge (v), press (v), prod (v), push (coercion and motivation), railroad (v), screw (tighten / loosen the screws), spur (v), squeeze (coerce), squeeze (put the squeeze on something), strong-arm (v), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), wring (coerce)
- violence: arm-twisting, billy club, crackdown (n), crack down (v), cudgel (n), feet (hold somebody's feet to the fire), fire (hold somebody's feet to the fire), fire (light a fire under somebody), goad (v), hatchet man (person), kneecap (v), kneecapped, stick (n), strong-arm (v), waterboarding (n), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n)
- weapon: billy club, cudgel (n), gun (hold a gun to one's head, etc.), hatchet man (person), stick (n)
- weight: lean on (coercion)
- whip: crackdown (n), crack down (v), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n)

## COLLOCATION (2)

- language: collocation (language)

## COLOR (2)

- acceptance & rejection: blackball (v), blackballed, blacklist (v), blacklisted
- access & lack of access: black box (n), black hole
- accusation & criticism: pot (pot calls the kettle black)
- affliction: bete noire (black beast)
- alternatives & choices: palette (n)
- amount: palette (n)
- appearance & disappearance: black swan (rarity), blue (out of the blue, etc.), blue whale
- attachment: dyed-in-the-wool, ingrained
- attraction & repulsion: pasture (greener pastures)
- biodiversity, nature & life: green (environment)

- certainty & uncertainty: gray (gray area)
- character & personality: black sheep, colorful (politician, etc.), plain (plain people, etc.)
- characterization: mark (black mark)
- concealment & lack of concealment: black (covert), black box (n), black hole
- consciousness & awareness: black hole, black out (v)
- constraint & lack of constraint: color (color outside the lines, etc.)
- danger: zone (red zone, etc.)
- death & life: evergreen (adj), red (blood)
- epithet: eye (the Blue Eye of Siberia, etc.), gold (black gold, etc.)
- experience: green (experience), greenhorn (person)
- fate, fortune & chance: black swan (rarity), blue (out of the blue, etc.), blue whale
- feeling, emotion & effect: black (feeling), black (black day, etc.), blood (blood in one's eyes, etc.), blue (feeling), blues (the blues), bruise (v), bruised, bruising (adj), dog (black dog / mental health), face (red face, red-faced, etc.), green (green with envy), livid (adj), mist (red mist), red (see red), sanguine (adj)
- flaws & lack of flaws: black eye
- geography: black (Black Sea, etc.), rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.), red (Red Sea, etc.), white (White Sea, etc.), yellow (Yellow Sea, etc.)
- group, set & collection: palette (n)
- hierarchy: blue blood
- identity & nature: blue (politics), chocolate (African Americans), red (politics)
- impression: dyed-in-the-wool, ingrained
- inclusion & exclusion: color (communities of color, etc.), colorism (groups), rainbow (groups)
- isolation & remoteness: black hole
- occurrence: black swan (rarity), blue whale
- oppression: blackball (v), blackballed, blacklist (v), blacklisted
- origin: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
- person: greenhorn (person)
- proper name: black (Black Sea, etc.), rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.), red (Red Sea, etc.), white (White Sea, etc.), yellow (Yellow Sea, etc.)
- readiness & preparedness: red alert (on red alert)
- reputation: black eye, mark (black mark)
- resemblance: rainbow (color)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: white flag (surrender)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: amber (traffic light), black sheep, green (green list, etc.), green light (n), green light (v), green-lighted (and green-lit), red (red list, etc.), traffic light (or traffic signal)
- speech: colorful (language)
- subterfuge: black (covert), greenwash (n), greenwashing (n)
- superiority & inferiority: blue blood, red carpet (treatment)
- violence: blood (blood in one's eyes, etc.), mist (red mist), red (see red)
- warning: black (warning), red flag (warning)
- welcome: red carpet (treatment)
- worth & lack of worth: black tulip (rarity), white elephant

## **COMING, ARRIVING, STAYING, LEAVING & RETURNING (1) (see also starting, going, continuing & ending)**

- allusion: migration (#TwitterMigration, etc.)
- animal: roar back (v), roaring back (come roaring back, etc.)
- ball: rebound (rebound headache, etc.)
- bell: ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.)

- Bible: exodus (n)
- bird: blow-in (n)
- boat: ship (abandon ship / jump ship)
- bridge: bridge (burn one's bridges)
- day: day (day has arrived, etc.), sunset (ride into the sunset)
- direction: arrive (a time can arrive), arrive (the equator is arriving, etc.), circle back (return), come (winter is coming, etc.), come (occur, develop), come and go (currency), come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), comeback (n), day (day has arrived, etc.), go back (and get back), intervening (adj), return (and return to), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (time has passed), turnover (work), upcoming (adj)
- doors & thresholds: exit (n), revolving door, usher in (v)
- engine: parked (movement)
- explosion: burst on / onto the scene, etc.
- film: sunset (ride into the sunset)
- foot: footstep (retrace one's footsteps)
- head: head (rear its head, etc.)
- history: migration (#TwitterMigration, etc.)
- horse: cavalcade (n), sunset (ride into the sunset)
- infrastructure: ramp (on ramp and off ramp, etc.)
- insect: descend (descend on)
- journeys & trips: bag (pack one's bags), circle back (return), get (get somewhere), reach (the news reached him, etc.)
- light & dark: fade away (v)
- mechanism: conveyor belt, parked (movement)
- military: last hurrah
- movement: arrive (a time can arrive), arrive (the equator is arriving, etc.), cavalcade (n), circle back (return), come (winter is coming, etc.), come (occur, develop), come and go (currency), come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), conga line, conveyor belt, day (day has arrived, etc.), footstep (retrace one's footsteps), go (not go anywhere, etc.), coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: go away (v), go back (and get back), here (here to stay, etc.), hover (other), intervening (adj), linger (v), lingering, loiter (v), musical chairs, pageant (n), parade (n), parked (movement), reach (the news reached him, etc.), remain (v), return (and return to), return (n), revisit (v), revolving door, time (time has passed), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), upcoming (adj), waltz in (v)
- music: musical chairs, waltz in (v)
- place: here (here to stay, etc.)
- plane: bail out (leave), land (arrive, affect, decide), parachute (drop in), parachute (golden parachute), parachute (v), parachuted
- prep, adv, adj, particle: back (return)
- religion: exodus (n)
- river: bridge (burn one's bridges)
- royalty: herald (v), herald (n)
- sea: wash up (v)
- sound: last hurrah, ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.), roar back (v), roaring back (come roaring back, etc.)
- sports & games: carrousel (n), merry-go-round, musical chairs
- sun: sunset (ride into the sunset)
- surveying: stake (pull up stakes)
- table: table (come back to the table)
- tent: tent (fold one's tent)
- theater: bow out (v), curtain call, encore (n), exit (n), usher in (v)

- verb: arrive (a time can arrive), arrive (the equator is arriving, etc.), bag (pack one's bags), bail out (leave), bow out (v), burst on / onto the scene, etc., circle back (return), come (winter is coming, etc.), come (occur, develop), come and go (currency), come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), come back (to bite, haunt, etc.), day (day has arrived, etc.), descend (descend on), fade away (v), footstep (retrace one's footsteps), get (get somewhere), go (not go anywhere, etc.), go away (v), go back (and get back), head (rear its head, etc.), herald (v), hit (arrive), hover (other), jump (leave), land (arrive, affect, decide), linger (v), loiter (v), reach (the news reached him, etc.), remain (v), return (and return to), revisit (v), ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.), roar back (v), ship (abandon ship / jump ship), stake (pull up stakes), stay around (v), table (come back to the table), tent (fold one's tent), time (time has passed), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), usher in (v), walk (walk away from something), waltz in (v), wash up (v)
- walking, running & jumping: jump (leave), pageant (n), parade (n)
- water: bridge (burn one's bridges), wash up (v)
- wave: wash up (v)
- weapon: boomerang (n)
- wind: blow-in (n)

## COMMITMENT & DETERMINATION (1)

- allusion: believer (true believer), boat (burn one's boats), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.), shield (on one's shield)
- animal: badger (v), dogged (determined), pit bull (person)
- arm: embrace (v), pushing (keep on pushing, etc.)
- baseball: home run (swing for a home run, etc.), plate (step up to the plate)
- basketball: full-court (full-court press, etc.)
- boat: hand (all hands on deck)
- bottle: bottle (British English / noun)
- breathing: eat (eat and breathe, etc.)
- bullet: bullet (take a bullet for somebody), bullet (bite the bullet)
- cards: bet (hedge one's bets), double down (v), in (all in), pass (cards)
- container: out (all out, etc.)
- depth: dig deep (determination)
- death & life: live (live and die / commitment)
- direction: down (down for something), go for it (and go for broke, etc.), live up to (something), up (up for something)
- dog: dogged (determined), pit bull (person)
- engine: gas (step on the gas / step off the gas), pedal (pedal to the metal), tank (empty the tank, etc.), throttle (full throttle, etc.)
- epithet: badger (The Badger, etc.), iron (Iron Lady, etc.)
- equilibrium & stability: waver (v), unwavering (adj), wobble (commitment), wobbly (commitment)
- eye: blind (disregarding evidence, logic), blindly
- face: game (game face)
- fire: fire (fire and desire, etc.)
- flags & banners: flag (plant one's flag)
- food & drink: eat (eat and breathe, etc.), eat (eat and sleep, etc.), egg (put all one's eggs in a basket, etc.), Kool-Aid (drink the Kool-Aid, etc.)
- force: pushing (keep on pushing, etc.)
- gambling: bet (hedge one's bets), double down (v), in (all in)
- gesture: embrace (v), lean into (v), step into (v)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: bring (bring it), leave it (leave it all on the field, etc.)
- ground, terrain & land: dig deep (determination), flag (plant one's flag), last-ditch (adj)

- hand: hand (all hands on deck)
- hardness & softness: hard (hard “no,” etc.)
- heart: half-hearted, heart (commitment), heart and soul
- history: boat (burn one’s boats), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.), shield (on one’s shield)
- horse: bit (bit between its teeth), charge (in, into, ahead, etc.)
- journeys & trips: boat (burn one’s boats), return (point of no return), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
- materials & substances: grit (political grit, etc.), hard (hard “no,” etc.)
- mechanism: full on (adj), full out (adj), gas (step on the gas / step off the gas), pedal (pedal to the metal), tank (empty the tank, etc.), throttle (full throttle, etc.)
- military: charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), flag (plant one’s flag), gung ho (and gung-ho), hill (resistance), last-ditch (adj), locked in (target), mission (on a mission), mission (other), shield (on one’s shield), warrior through (v)
- mining: dig deep (determination)
- money: buy-in (n), cost (at all costs, etc.), invest (v), investment (n), soul (sell one’s soul to the devil, etc.)
- movement: budge (v), charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), go for it (and go for broke, etc.), immovable (adj), leap (leap into action, etc.), move (not move an inch, etc.), waver (v), unwavering (adj), wobble (commitment), wobbly (commitment)
- music: stop (pull out all the stops)
- number: percent (one hundred and ten percent)
- person: hand (all hands on deck)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: down (down for something), in (all in), out (all out, etc.), up (up for something)
- religion: agnostic (adj), born-again, heart and soul, heaven (move heaven and earth), hellbent, vow (v), vow (n)
- river: boat (burn one’s boats), heart and soul, Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
- size: go big (v)
- sleep: eat (eat and sleep, etc.)
- speech: hard (hard “no,” etc.), talk (talk the talk)
- sports & games: bet (hedge one’s bets), full-court (full-court press, etc.), game (game face), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), plate (step up to the plate)
- standing, sitting & lying: lean into (v), stand (stand firm)
- stomach: gut out (v), guts (courage)
- table: table (bring everything to the table)
- target: locked in (target)
- tent: tent (fold one’s tent)
- throwing, putting & planting: throw (throw oneself into something), throw (throw it all, etc.)
- verb: all (give something one’s all, etc.), badger (v), bit (bit between its teeth), bring (bring it), budge (v), bullet (bite the bullet), charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), dig deep (determination), double down (v), dive in (v), eat (eat and breathe, etc.), eat (eat and sleep, etc.), embrace (v), go big (v), go for it (and go for broke, etc.), gut out (v), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), invest (v), lean into (v), leap (leap into action, etc.), leave it (leave it all on the field, etc.), live up to (something), move (not move an inch, etc.), pass (cards), plate (step up to the plate), soul (sell one’s soul to the devil, etc.), stand (stand firm), step into (v), stop (pull out all the stops), table (bring everything to the table), talk (talk the talk), tent (fold one’s tent), throw (throw oneself into something), throw (throw it all, etc.), vow (v), walk (walk the walk), warrior through (v), waver (v), wobble (commitment)
- walking, running & jumping: leap (leap into action, etc.), leap (leap of faith, etc.), step into (v), walk (walk the walk)
- water: dive in (v), throw (throw oneself into something)
- weapon: bullet (take a bullet for somebody), bullet (bite the bullet), gun (stick to one’s guns), locked in (target)

## COMPARISON & CONTRAST (1)

- affix: acrobatic (adj), anthemic (adj), Arthurian (adj), astronomical (adj), bestial (adj), California (California of Europe, etc.), Caligulan, cavernous (adj), chameleonic (adj), cherubic (adj), Churchillian (adj), combative (adj),

Cromwellian (adj), Dantesque (adj), Darwinian (adj), demonic (adj), Dickensian (adj), diplomatic (adj), draconian (adj), Edenic (adj), elegiac (adj), encyclopedic (adj), Faustian (adj), fetishistic (adj), foundational (adj), funereal (adj), Gandhian (adj), glacial (adj), hellish (adj), Homeric (adj), herculean (adj), iconic (adj), ish (androgyny-ish, etc.), Kafkaesque (adj), Krakatoan (adj), Lawrence of Arabia-esque, like (Svengali-like, etc.), Machiavellian (adj), magnetic (adj), Manichean (adj), Martian (adj), McCarthyite, meteoric (adj), motherly (adj), mountainous (adj), murderous (murderous hail of bullets, etc.), Napoleonic (adj), nightmarish (adj), nomadic (adj), O. Henry-esque (adj), Orwellian (adj), palatial (adj), Panglossian (adj), paradisiacal (and paradisaal), parasitical (adj), piratical (adj), Pollyannaish (adj), procrustean (adj), promethean (adj), quixotic (adj), robotic (movement), Shakespearean (adj), shaped (anvil-shaped, etc.), Sisyphean (adj), size (and sized / affix), skeletal (adj), Solomonian (adj), spartan (adj), talismanic (adj), thunderous (adj), torturous, volcanic, y (pulpy, etc.)

- analogy: analogy (and analogize, etc.)
- animal: bestial (adj)
- atmosphere: sky-high
- breadth: hair's breadth (come within a hair's breadth, etc.), pancake-flat (comparison), razor (razor-thin), skin-deep
- epithet: Alcatraz (Alcatraz of the South, etc.), Amazon (epithet / biodiversity), Amazon (epithet / the company), answer (Britain's answer to Bill Gates, etc.), Appalachia (and Pineapplachia, etc.), Bhopal (Australia's Bhopal, etc.), black tulip (rarity), Caesar (Chinese Caesar, etc.), Carnegie Hall (epithet), Chernobyl (rainforest Chernobyl, etc.), Chicago (China's Chicago, etc.), Chris Farley (Chris Farley of silent cinema, etc.), Detroit (India's Detroit, etc.), "El Chapo" (Asia's El Chapo, etc.), Ellis Island (Ellis Island of the West, etc.), Freud (sex), Fuji (Mount Fuji of the US, etc.), Galen (Galen of Islam, etc.), Grand Canyon (Grand Canyon of the South, etc.), Hannibal (American Hannibal, etc.), Harvey Weinstein (epithet), Hawaii (China's Hawaii, etc.), Hugo Chavez (Gallic Hugo Chavez, etc.), Jerusalem (Jerusalem of the North, etc.), Kansas (Kansas of China, etc.), Kipling (the Canadian Kipling, etc.), Krakatoa (Krakatoa of the Middle Ages, etc.), Leonardo da Vinci, Madeleine McCann (Ireland's Madeleine McCann, etc.), Madonna (Russian Madonna, etc.), Mark Twain (the Yiddish Mark Twain, etc.), *Mayflower* (*Mayflower* of the Third Aliyah, etc.), Mona Lisa (Mona Lisa of baseball cards, etc.), Mother Teresa (epithet), new (new Floyd Mayweather, etc.), Niagara (Niagara of the South, etc.), Nile (America's Nile, etc.), Nobel (Nobel Prize of the Arab World, etc.), Oscars (Oscars of surfing, etc.), Pablo Escobar (of the Middle East, etc.), Panama Canal (of its day, etc.), Pearl Harbor (Australia's Pearl Harbor, etc.), Pirlo (the Yorkshire Pirlo, etc.), Romeo and Juliet (epithet), Ruhr Valley (new Ruhr Valley, etc.), Sahara (Sahara of snow, etc.), Serengeti (Serengeti of the North, etc.), Sicily (Mexico's Sicily, etc.), Silicon Valley (of China, etc.), Spartan (Spartans of Australasia, etc.), Stonehenge (America's Stonehenge, etc.), Uber (the Uber of towing, etc.), Vietnam (Egypt's Vietnam, etc.), Woodstock (whitewater Woodstock, etc.), Yosemite (Yosemite of the East, etc.), Zuckerberg (the Russian Mark Zuckerberg, etc.)
- family: akin (adjective)
- film: screen (split screen)
- hair: hair's breadth (come within a hair's breadth, etc.)
- hand: hand (on the one / other hand)
- history: Chernobyl (rainforest Chernobyl, etc.)
- light & dark: night (night and day and day and night)
- materials & substances: rock (rock-solid)
- negation: Einstein (intelligence, or lack), no (no Jack Kennedy, etc.), not (and not so much / sarcasm)
- nuclear energy: Chernobyl (rainforest Chernobyl, etc.)
- number: equate (v), equivalent (n)
- object: postage stamp (size), shaped (anvil-shaped, etc.), size (and sized / affix)
- place: Chernobyl (rainforest Chernobyl, etc.)
- royalty: queen-size (and queen sized)
- shape: shaped (anvil-shaped, etc.)

- size: queen-size (and queen sized), size (and sized / affix)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: skin-deep
- sky: sky-high
- verb: equate (v)

## **COMPETITION (1) (see also hierarchy; society; superiority & inferiority)**

- allusion: Darwinian (adj), Hunger Games (film), race (arms race)
- animal: cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective), dog-eat-dog, dogfight (n), game (game of cat and mouse), heel (nip at somebody's heels), jockey (v), law (law of the jungle, etc.), minnow (n), pack (competition), rat race, sardine (n), underdog (competition)
- astronomy: outshine (v)
- blade: cutthroat (competition)
- cat: cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective), game (game of cat and mouse)
- clock: clock (race with the clock)
- direction: ahead (competition), behind (competition), dust (leave somebody in the dust), fall behind (competition and progress), front (in front / competition), outrun (v), slipstream (in a slipstream), trail (competition and progress)
- distance: further (further along, etc.), light year (light years ahead)
- dog: dog-eat-dog, dogfight (n), pack (competition), heel (nip at somebody's heels), underdog (competition)
- film: Hunger Games (film)
- fish: minnow (n), sardine (n)
- football: football (conflict)
- ground, terrain & land: turf (turf war, etc.)
- government: race (elections)
- ground, terrain & land: jungle (competition)
- history: joust (v), jousting (conflict), race (arms race), tilt (world-title tilt, etc.)
- horse: close (and close-run), dead heat, dust (leave somebody in the dust), jockey (v), neck and neck (adj)
- hunting: cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective), game (game of cat and mouse)
- journeys & trips: catch up (catch up to something), fall behind (competition and progress), keep up (progress), lag (progress), pass (progress), trail (competition and progress)
- jungle: himself (every man for himself), jungle (competition), law (law of the jungle, etc.)
- knife: cutthroat (competition)
- light & dark: outshine (v), overshadow (v), shadow (attention)
- Middle Ages: joust (v), jousting (conflict), tilt (world-title tilt, etc.)
- military: race (arms race)
- money: marketplace (n)
- movement: ahead (competition), behind (competition), catch up (catch up to something), dust (leave somebody in the dust), fall behind (competition and progress), keep up (progress), lag (progress), pass (progress), race (competition), race (hurry), slipstream (in a slipstream), trail (competition and progress), wake (in a wake)
- neck: neck and neck (adj)
- person: front-runner (n), pace-setter (n)
- plane: slipstream (in a slipstream)
- position: ahead (competition), behind (competition), front (in front / competition), outrun (v), slipstream (in a slipstream), underdog (competition)
- predation: dog-eat-dog, heel (nip at somebody's heels), law (law of the jungle, etc.)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: ahead (competition), behind (competition), outgunned, outrun (v), outshine (v), outweigh (power)
- proximity: light year (light years ahead)
- rat: rat race

- shadow: overshadow (v), shadow (attention)
- sports & games: ahead (competition), behind (competition), cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective), catch up (catch up to something), contest (n), dust (leave somebody in the dust), fall behind (competition and progress), football (conflict), front (in front / competition), front-runner (n), game (game of cat and mouse), jockey (v), keep up (progress), lose out (v), outrun (v), pace-setter (n), pacesetting (adj), playing field (uneven playing field, etc.), playing field (level the playing field), race (politics), race (arms race), race (competition), race (race against time, the clock, etc.), right (bragging rights), trail (competition and progress), winner (n)
- verb: catch up (catch up to something), fall behind (competition and progress), front (in front / competition), heel (nip at somebody's heels), jockey (v), joust (v), keep up (progress), lag (progress), lose out (v), outrun (v), outshine (v), overshadow (v), pass (progress), playing field (level the playing field), race (hurry), trail (competition and progress)
- violence: cutthroat (competition)
- walking, running & jumping: ahead (competition), behind (competition), catch up (catch up to something), fall behind (competition and progress), front (in front / competition), front-runner (n), jump (get the jump), keep up (progress), lag (progress), outpace (v), outrun (v), pace-setter (n), pacesetting (adj), race (arms race), race (politics), race (competition), race (hurry), race (race against time, the clock, etc.), step (a step ahead / competition), trail (competition and progress)
- water: wake (in a wake)
- weapon: duel (n), dueling (adj)
- wind: slipstream (in a slipstream)
- wolf: heel (nip at somebody's heels), pack (competition)

## COMPLEXITY (1)

- allusion: Gordian knot, labyrinth (n)
- animal: warren (n)
- bird: nest (mare's nest)
- cloth: detangle (v), skein (entanglement), tangle (n), tangled
- creature: worm (can of worms)
- food & drink: spaghetti (snarl)
- ground, terrain & land: morass (n)
- history: baroque (adj), byzantine
- horse: nest (mare's nest)
- infrastructure: labyrinth (n), maze (terrain), maze (structures), maze (bureaucracy, etc.), warren (n)
- mechanism: part (moving parts)
- music: note (one note)
- picture: puzzle (problem)
- puzzle: puzzle (problem)
- rope: detangle (v), Gordian knot, tangle (n), tangled
- sound: note (one note)
- sports & games: jigsaw puzzle (n)
- verb: detangle (v)

## COMPREHENSION & INCOMPREHENSION (1) (see also consciousness & awareness)

- allusion: babel (n), Delphic (adjective), eureka (moment, etc.), Rosetta Stone
- arm: arm (get one's arms around something)
- container: take in (comprehend)
- day: dawn (verb / comprehension)
- depth: fathom (v), unfathomable (adj)
- electricity: lightning bolt (comprehension)

- exclamation: Aha! (Aha! moment), eureka (moment, etc.)
- eye: clear (crystal clear), clear (perception), eye (believe one's eyes), eye (roll one's eyes), eye-roll (dismissal), murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), see (comprehension)
- fist: hit (comprehension)
- food & drink: digest (v), digestible (adj)
- force: hit (comprehension)
- gesture: eye (roll one's eyes), eye-roll (dismissal), head (scratch one's head), head (shake one's head), head-scratching
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: get (understand), take in (comprehend)
- hand: grasp (comprehend)
- head: head (scratch one's head), head (shake one's head), head (go over one's head / comprehension), head (get one's head around something, etc.), head-scratching, mind (wrap / get one's mind around something, etc.), mind-bending (adj)
- history: Latin (Latin of Korea, etc.), Rosetta Stone
- journeys & trips: follow (argument), go (argument)
- light & dark: clarify (v), clear (crystal clear), clear (perception), clear (unambiguous), dark (in the dark), dawn (verb / comprehension), illuminate (v), illuminating (adj), light bulb (and lightbulb, bulb), lighthouse (illumination), murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), opacity (n), opaque (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
- lightning: lightning bolt (comprehension)
- manufacturing: process (v)
- movement: follow (argument), go (argument)
- physics: dark (Dark Matter, etc.)
- picture: puzzle (problem)
- puzzle: puzzle (problem), puzzling (adj)
- religion: Delphic (adj)
- sea: fathom (v), unfathomable (adj)
- sign, signal, symbol: light bulb (and lightbulb, bulb)
- speech: Aha! (Aha! moment), joke (you must be joking, etc.)
- storm: lightning bolt (comprehension)
- verb: arm (get one's arms around something), clarify (v), dawn (verb / comprehension), digest (v), eye (roll one's eyes), follow (argument), get (understand), go (argument), grasp (comprehend), head (scratch one's head), head (shake one's head), head (go over one's head / comprehension), head (get one's head around something, etc.), hit (comprehension), illuminate (v), mind (wrap / get one's mind around something, etc.), process (v), see (comprehension), sink in (v), take in (comprehend), waters (muddy the waters)
- water: murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), sink in (v), sunk in, unfathomable (adj), waters (muddy the waters)

## COMPUTER (1)

- animal: worm (computers)
- astronomy: metaverse (n), Twitterverse (n)
- blade: hack (break into), hack (fix), hack (a fix), scrape (v)
- biology: virus (computers)
- boat: navigation (cyberspace)
- cards: wildcard (computers)
- clothing & accessories: search (digital strip search, etc.)
- container: locker (computer)
- creature: troll (verb / computers), troll (noun / computers), unicorn (tech "Unicorn," etc.), zombie (computers)
- doors & thresholds: door (back door / computer), trapdoor (computers)

- earth & world: blogosphere (in the blogosphere), blogosphere (other)
- explosion: bomb (review-bomb, etc.), bomb (code bomb)
- farming & agriculture: farm (computers), harvest (harvest data, etc.)
- fire: firewall (computers), war (flame war)
- food & drink: menu (computer), rot (computer)
- force: hit (computer)
- health & medicine: disinfect (v), infect (computers), infected, quarantine (v), viral (computers), virus (computers)
- hunting: clickbait (n)
- hygiene: clean (computer / verb), disinfect (v)
- Iliad & Odyssey: Trojan horse (computers)
- infrastructure: warehousing (data)
- knife: scrape (v)
- light & dark: darknet
- military: bomb (review-bomb, etc.), war (flame war)
- mining: mine (bitcoin mine, etc.)
- money: paywall (obstacle)
- number: two point zero, two point oh (2.0)
- place: blogosphere (in the blogosphere), blogosphere (other), Silicon Valley, etc., water cooler (digital water cooler, etc.)
- plant: root (root server)
- puppet: puppet (sockpuppet / internet)
- sports & games: surf (computers)
- tree: hole (tree hole)
- verb: bomb (review-bomb, etc.), clean (computer / verb), disinfect (v), hack (break into), hack (fix), harvest (harvest data, etc.), infect (computers), quarantine (v), scrape (v), surf (computers), troll (verb / computers)
- wall: firewall (computers), paywall (obstacle)
- warehouse: warehousing (data)
- weapon: bomb (review-bomb, etc.), bomb (code bomb)

## **CONCEALMENT & LACK OF CONCEALMENT (1) (see also appearance & reality)**

- air: air (expose)
- alcohol: bootleg (adj), bootlegger
- allusion: love (love that dare not speak its name), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), Streisand (Streisand effect)
- animal: burrow (burrow into), ground (go to ground), mole (n)
- astronomy: black hole
- atmosphere: air (expose)
- boat: dredge up (verb)
- books & reading: love (love that dare not speak its name), tell-all (book)
- burial: bury (conceal), exhume (v)
- cards: card (hold one's cards close), card (cards on the table), hold (close held, etc.), poker-faced (adj), tip (tip one's hand), vest (close to the vest, etc.)
- carpets & rugs: carpet (under the carpet, etc.), rug (under the rug)
- cat: cat (cat out of the bag, etc.)
- cloth: bare (lay bare), bare (laid bare), bare (v), cloak (conceal), cloak (under a cloak), cloak (in a cloak), cloak (cloak of secrecy, etc.), cloaked (concealed), come out (the truth, etc.), cover (under cover), covered up, cover up (v), coverup (n), curtain (pull back the curtain, look behind the curtain, etc.), shrouded (concealment), wrap (under wraps), wrap (take the wraps off something / concealment)

- clothing & accessories: aired (and aired out), bare (lay bare), bare (laid bare), bare (v), bootleg (adj), cloak (conceal), cloak (under a cloak), cloak (in a cloak), cloak (cloak of secrecy, etc.), cloaked (concealed), dirty laundry, dress up (v), fig leaf, launder (v), lay (lay bare), naked (unadorned), nakedly, sleeve (on one's sleeve), sleeve (up one's sleeve), unmask (v), veil (concealment), veil (under a veil), veiled
- color: black (covert), black box (n), black hole
- container: cat (cat out of the bag, etc.), genie (initiation), open (honest), out (reveal), out (gay), outed (concealment), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), toothpaste (put the toothpaste back in the tube)
- creature: genie (initiation), ghostwriter (n), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.)
- crime: omerta (n)
- death & life: exhume (v), life (hidden life, hidden lives), life (secret life, secret lives)
- direction: basement (concealment), hide (hide behind something), netherworld, underground (n), underworld (n)
- doors & thresholds: door (behind closed doors), trapdoor (computers)
- earth & world: netherworld (n), underworld (n)
- engine: hood (look under the hood, etc.)
- eye: clarity (adjective), hidden, see (see through something), murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), sight (in plain sight), transparency (n), transparent (adj)
- face: mask (drop the mask, etc.), mask (hide), masquerade (v), poker-faced (adj), stone-faced (adj)
- fire: smoke out (v), smokescreen (concealment)
- fox: ground (go to ground)
- gambling: card (hold one's cards close), card (cards on the table), hold (close held, etc.), poker-faced (adj), tip (tip one's hand), vest (close to the vest, etc.)
- gesture: tight-lipped (adj)
- ground, terrain & land: bury (conceal), buried (concealment), dig up (v), dredge up (v), excavate (v), ground (go to ground), open (in the open / into the open), out (and out there), there (out there, etc.), uncover (v), unearth (v), unearthed
- hand: hold (close held, etc.), vest (close to the vest, etc.)
- history: history (secret history)
- hole: ground (go to ground)
- house: basement (concealment), closet (secret), room (back room, etc.), skeleton (secret)
- hunting: Easter egg, footprint (conceal one's footsteps, etc.), ground (go to ground), track (cover one's tracks, etc.)
- hygiene: aired (and aired out), artwash (v), clean (come clean), dirty laundry, launder (v), pasteurized, sanitize (v), sanitized, sanitizing, scrub (remove), scrubbed (removed), sportswash (v), sportswashing (n)
- infrastructure: airbrushed, astroturf (v), astroturf (n), astroturfer (n), astroturfing, ceiling (glass ceiling), facade (n), paint (coat of paint), whitewash (n), whitewash (v)
- key: lock (lock something away), lock (under lock and key), unlock (v)
- light & dark: black hole, bury (conceal), clarity (adj), dark (in the dark), dark (concealment), day (the light of day), gloss (appearance), gloss over (v), light (shed light), murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), shadow (concealment), shadowy, sunlight (concealment), transparency (n), transparent (adj)
- love, courtship and marriage: infidelity (n)
- magic: sleight of hand
- materials & substances: airbrushed, gloss (appearance), lipstick (appearance), paint (coat of paint), stone-faced (adj), sugarcoat (and candy-coat), unvarnished (adj), whitewash (n), whitewash (v)
- military: camouflage (v), camouflage (concealment), infiltrate (v), smokescreen (concealment)
- mining: dig up (v), excavate (v), unearth (v), unearthed
- mixture: blend in (v)
- music: undertone (n)
- orientation: underbelly (concealment), underside (n)

- part of speech: air (expose), reveal (big reveal, etc.), tell-all (book)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: dredge up (v), out (gay)
- puppet (sockpuppet / internet)
- religion: Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), soul (bare one's soul)
- river: undercurrent (n)
- shadow: shadow (concealment), shadowy
- skeleton: skeleton (secret)
- society: room (back room, etc.), netherworld (n), scene (behind the scenes), underworld (n)
- sound: silent (silent epidemic, etc.), undertone (n)
- speech: omerta (n), tight-lipped (adj)
- sports & games: cards (hold one's cards close), card (cards on the table), hold (close held, etc.), tip (tip one's hand), vest (close to the vest, etc.)
- standing, sitting & lying: sit (sit on something)
- stomach: underbelly (concealment), underside (n)
- sun: sunlight (concealment)
- taste: sugarcoat (and candy-coat), sugarcoated, sugarcoating (n)
- theater: backstage (adj), behind-the-scenes, curtain (pull back the curtain, look behind the curtain, etc.), scene (behind the scenes)
- tools & technology: black box (n)
- tree: hole (tree hole)
- verb: artwash (v), astroturf (v), bare (lay bare), bare (v), betray (reveal, show), blend in (v), bury (conceal), camouflage (v), card (hold one's cards close), clean (come clean), cloak (conceal), come out (the truth, etc.), cover up (v), dig up (v), dredge up (v), excavate (v), gloss over (v), ground (go to ground), exhume (v), hide (hide behind something), infiltrate (v), launder (v), lay (lay bare), light (shed light), lock (lock something away), mask (drop the mask, etc.), mask (hide), masquerade (v), out (reveal), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), reveal (v), sanitize (v), scrub (remove), see (see through something), sit (sit on something), smoke out (v), sportswash (v), sugarcoat (and candy-coat), surface (intransitive), surface (bring to the surface), track (cover one's tracks, etc.), uncover (v), unearth (v), unlock (v), unmask (v), whitewash (v), wrap (take the wraps off something / concealment)
- water: murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), surface (intransitive), surface (under the surface), surface (bring to the surface)
- weapon: weapon (secret weapon)

## CONDITION & STATUS (1)

- animal: belly-up (adj)
- blade: honed, sharp
- blood: hemorrhage (v), hemorrhage (n), pulse (n)
- boat: dead (dead in the water)
- boxing: shape (in fighting shape, etc.)
- breathing: wheezing (condition)
- burial: buried (dead and buried, etc.)
- cloth: tatters (in tatters), threadbare (adj)
- clothing & accessories: tatters (in tatters), threadbare (adj)
- death & life: alive (status), alive (alive and well), belly-up (adj), brain-dead (adj), buried (dead and buried, etc.), dead (status), dead (dead on arrival), death (decline and death), deathbed (n), die (non-human), dying (dying industry, etc.), last rites (n), life support (on life support), live (alive / non-human), moribund (adj), obituary (n), pulse (n), spiral (death spiral), throe (death throes)
- direction: down (functioning), knee (bring to one's knees), knee (on knees), laid low (condition, etc.), spiral (death spiral)

- engine: hum (hum along), neutral (in neutral), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled (progress)
- equilibrium & status: shaky (condition), wobbly (condition)
- fish: belly-up (adj)
- flying & falling: spiral (death spiral)
- health & medicine: ailing (adj), anemic (adj), atrophy (v), basket case, bill of health, brain-dead (adj), brain death (n), comatose (adj), dead (dead on arrival), deathbed (n), diseased, exhausted (condition), exhaustion (other), fatigue (n), fit (adj), handicapped, health (in good health / in bad health), health (condition), healthy (condition), hemorrhage (v), hemorrhage (n), hurting, ill (ills of society, etc.), last rites (n), life support (on life support), malaise (decline), moribund (adj), prognosis (n), pulse (n), robust (adj), sclerotic (adj), shape (condition), sick (condition), sluggish (adj), temperature (the political temperature, etc.), test (stress test), throe (death throes), tired (condition), unhealthy (condition), unscathed (adj), well (health), well-being (status), wellness (status), wheezing (condition), wounded (condition)
- knee: knee (bring to one's knees), knee (on knees)
- knife: honed, sharp
- leg: leg (last legs)
- mark: unscathed (adj)
- materials & substances: breaking point (at the breaking point), breaking point (to the breaking point), breaking point (other)
- mechanism: broken (failure), comatose (adj), down (functioning), hum (hum along), neutral (in neutral), speed (up to speed), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled (progress), wheel (wheels are falling off, etc.), wheel (spin one's wheels)
- mental health: troubled
- military: AWOL, hors de combat, missing in action (MIA)
- movement: dead (dead in the water), handicapped, limp (v), ongoing (investigation, etc.), sluggish (adj), speed (up to speed), spiral (death spiral), stall (v), stalled (progress), wheel (spin one's wheels)
- place: place (situation), place (place where), where (situation / development)
- plane: spiral (death spiral)
- position: laid low (condition, etc.)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: down (functioning)
- religion: last rites (n)
- shape: spiral (death spiral)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: atrophy (v)
- sleep: comatose (adj)
- sound: hum (hum along), sputter (v)
- standing, sitting & lying: knee (bring to one's knees), knee (on knees), leg (last legs)
- temperature: temperature (the political temperature, etc.)
- verb: die (non-human), hemorrhage (v), hum (hum along), knee (bring to one's knees), limp (v), sputter (v), stall (v)
- walking, running & jumping: limp (v)
- wounds & scars: unscathed (adj)

## CONFIGURATION (1)

- animal: dovetail (v), honeycomb (v), honeycombed, nestled, perch (v), perched, piggyback (v), riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.), sardined
- arm: arm (configuration), hug (configuration)
- astronomy: constellation (n), orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- bird: dovetail (v), nestled, perch (v), perched
- birth: umbilical (connection)
- blanket: blanket (v), blanket (under a blanket), blanket (cover), blanketed

- boundary: border (proximity), bounded
- carpets & rugs: carpet (v), carpet (a carpet of flowers, etc.), carpeted
- chain: chain (configuration)
- cloth: blanket (v), blanket (under a blanket), blanket (cover), blanketed, fringe (configuration), fringed, laced (adj), overlapped, shrouded (covered), tucked, wraparound
- clothing & accessories: belt (area), buckle (attachment), cloaked (covered), girdled, necklace (configuration), skirt (configuration)
- cooking: bake in (and bake into), baked in (and baked into), folded in (and folded into), fold in (v), pepper in (attach)
- container: package (benefits, etc.), package (commercial)
- doors & thresholds: locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
- epithet: bride (Bride of the Red Sea, etc.)
- farming & agriculture: sown (mine-sown, etc.)
- fish: sardined
- flying & falling: hover (numbers)
- food & drink: pancake (v), pancake (n), pancaked, sandwiched, spaghetti (snarl)
- health & medicine: pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked
- hole: pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.)
- horse: astride (position), bridle (mechanical bridle, etc.), saddle (support), straddle (configuration)
- house: neighbor (v), neighbor (n), neighboring (adj)
- infrastructure: built, built in, built-in
- insect: honeycomb (v), honeycombed, riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.)
- island: archipelago (n)
- key: locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
- leg: astride (position), straddle (configuration)
- letters & characters: punctuate (configuration)
- light & dark: shadow (rain shadow, etc.)
- line: straddle (configuration)
- mark: dot (v), dotted (arrangement), pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, speckled (configuration)
- materials & substances: encrusted, marbled
- movement: orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- pendulum: suspended
- person: neighbor (n)
- picture: mosaic (configuration)
- plant: sown (mine-sown, etc.)
- pressure: sardined, squeeze (fit), squeezed (fitted)
- rain: sprinkle (v), sprinkled (configuration)
- sea: archipelago (n), pearl (string of pearls)
- shadow: shadow (rain shadow, etc.)
- shape: belt (area), girdled, ringed (circled)
- sports & games: jigsaw puzzle (n)
- standing, sitting & lying: astride (position), sprawl (n), sprawling (adj), straddle (configuration)
- stomach: waist (n)
- verb: blanket (v), dot (v), dovetail (v), fold in (v), honeycomb (v), hover (numbers), hug (configuration), neighbor (v), pancake (v), perch (v), piggyback (v), pockmark (v), punctuate (v), revolve (revolve around something), skirt (configuration), sprinkle (v), squeeze (fit), straddle (configuration)
- weapon: scattershot (adj)
- wedge: wedged
- waste: littered

## **CONFLICT (1) (see also accusation & criticism; punishment & recrimination; resistance, opposition & defeat)**

- air: turbulence
- allusion: cold war, Gandhian (adj)
- animal: back (get off my back, etc.), back (get one's back up, etc.), backbiting, back down (v), bearbaiting, blink (conflict), blood (smell blood), blood (out for blood), blood (draw blood), blood sport (n), bone (bone of contention), chest (beat one's chest, etc.), claw (v), corral (v), dogfight (n), game (game of chicken), growl (v), hackles (raise hackles), head (butt heads), head-on, head-to-head, horn (lock horns), hornet's nest, jugular (go for the jugular, etc.), pit (bear pit), rear (v), roll over (v), scratch (scratch and claw, etc.), snake pit, teeth (danger), throat (predation), tooth and nail (fight tooth and nail, etc.), wound (lick one's wounds), wrangle (v), wrangler (person), wrangling
- atmosphere: turbulence
- back: back (get off my back, etc.), back (get one's back up, etc.), backbiting, back down (v)
- bird: game (game of chicken)
- blade: hatchet job (n), stab (v)
- blood: blood (bad blood), blood (smell blood), blood (out for blood), blood (draw blood), bloodbath (n), bloodletting (n), blood sport (n), bloody (conflict), jugular (go for the jugular, etc.), pit (bear pit)
- boat: broadside (n), salvo (n), shot (shot across the bow, etc.)
- boxing: bare-knuckled (adj), come (come out swinging), glove (the gloves are off), jab (n), punch (punch back), rumble (v), spar (v), square off (v), swing (take a swing, etc.), slug (slug something out), toe-to-toe (go toe-to-toe, etc.), uppercutting
- cows & cattle: beef (conflict)
- cloth: velvet (Velvet Revolution)
- cows & cattle: corral (v), wrangle (v), wrangler (person), wrangling
- crashes & collisions: collide (v), collision (n), course (on a collision course), head-on, head-to-head, horn (lock horns)
- crime: drive-by (conflict), hatchet job (n), hit (mob hit, etc.), job (hit job, etc.)
- day: day (win the day)
- death & life: drive-by (conflict), hit (mob hit, etc.), job (hit job, etc.)
- direction: side (conflict)
- dog: back (get one's back up, etc.), dogfight (n), hackles (raise hackles), roll over (v)
- epithet: war (epithet / figurative)
- explosion: blowup (conflict), fireworks (conflict)
- eye: blink (conflict)
- face: face (conflict), face (in one's face)
- farming & agriculture: slash-and-burn (adj)
- film: match (death match), wagon (circle the wagons)
- fire: fire (conflict), flame (conflict), scorched-earth (and scorched earth), slash-and-burn (adj)
- fist: assault (n), bare-knuckled (adj), brawl (n), tit-for-tat (adj), trounce (v), trounced
- football: football (conflict)
- fortification: battering ram, parapet (n), siege (under siege)
- gesture: blink (conflict), chest (beat one's chest, etc.)
- ground, terrain & land: last-ditch (adj), turf (turf war, etc.)
- hair: hackles (raise hackles)
- hardness & softness: velvet (Velvet Revolution)
- head: head (butt heads), head-on, head-to-head, horn (lock horns)
- history: arena (in / inside the arena), cold war, joust (v), jousting (conflict), match (death match), tilt (world-title tilt, etc.), wagon (circle the wagons), warpath (on the warpath)

- hole: pit (bear pit), snake pit
- horn: head (butt heads), head-on, head-to-head, horn (lock horns)
- horse: corral (v), rear (v), wrangle (v), wrangler (person), wrangling
- infrastructure: arena (in / inside the arena)
- insect: hornet's nest
- light & dark: Manichean (adj)
- love, courtship & marriage: honeymoon (n)
- Middle Ages: gauntlet (lay down a gauntlet, etc.), joust (v), jousting (conflict), tilt (world-title tilt, etc.)
- military: ally (other), attack (v), attack (under attack, etc.), barracked, battering ram, battle (v), battle (n), battle cry, battleground (conflict), broadside (n), ceasefire (n), civil war (n), combat (v), combat (n), combative (adj), counterattack (n), day (win the day), embattled, enemy (conflict), fight (n), fight (v), firefight (and fire fight), force (show of force), fray (above the fray), fray (conflict), front (conflict), front line (on the front line), front line (other), hostile (adjective), last-ditch (adj), line (battle lines, etc.), outgunned, partisan (n), rebellion (n), reprisal (n), saboteur (person), salvo (n), scorched-earth (and scorched earth), shot (warning shot), shot (shot across the bow, etc.), siege (under siege), skirmish (n), truce (n), wagon (circle the wagons), war (at war), war (conflict), warfare (n), war zone, zone (combat zone)
- person: black belt (person), enemy (conflict), gun (hired gun), partisan (n), saboteur (person), wrangler (person)
- physics: friction (conflict)
- predation: backbiting, blood (smell blood), blood (out for blood), blood (draw blood), blood sport (n), jugular (go for the jugular, etc.), pit (bear pit), teeth (danger), throat (predation), tooth and nail (fight tooth and nail, etc.), wound (lick one's wounds)
- pressure: blowup (conflict)
- religion: Manichean (adj), picnic (church picnic)
- school & education: fight (food fight)
- shape: vicious circle
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: war of nerves
- smell: stink (n), stink (raise a stink)
- snake: snake pit
- society: hostile (adj), tribal (groups), tribalism (groups)
- sound: barracked, bewail (v), clamor (v), clash (n), clash (v), decry (v), din (attention), fireworks (conflict), growl (v), howl (n), howl (v), moan (v), moaning, noisy (debate, etc.), noise (attention, conflict, and controversy), outcry (n), quiet (adj), scream (v), scream (scream for action, etc.), tumult (disruption), uproar (controversy), volume (turn up the volume, etc.), wail (v)
- speech: fireworks (conflict)
- sports & games: arena (in / inside the arena), beat (defeat / verb), black belt (person), blood sport (n), football (conflict), game (game of chicken), match (death match), pit (bear pit), rumble (v), tug of war
- standing, sitting & lying: back down (v), chest (beat one's chest, etc.), standoff (n)
- storm: storm (eye / center of the storm), storm (in the storm), storm (conflict)
- sword: cross (cross someone), sword (cross swords), sword (at swords' points)
- teeth: teeth (danger)
- temperature: cold war
- throat: jugular (go for the jugular, etc.), throat (predation)
- toe: toe-to-toe (go toe-to-toe, etc.)
- verb: back (get one's back up, etc.), back down (v), barb (trade barbs, etc.), battle (v), beat (defeat / verb), bewail (v), blink (conflict), blood (smell blood), clamor (v), clash (v), claw (v), collide (v), combat (v), corral (v), cross (cross someone), decry (v), feud (v), fight (v), gauntlet (lay down a gauntlet, etc.), growl (v), howl (v), hackles (raise hackles), head (butt heads), horn (lock horns), joust (v), jugular (go for the jugular, etc.), moan (v), punch (punch back), rear (v), roll over (v), rumble (v), scratch (scratch and claw, etc.), scream (v), scream (scream for action, etc.), slug (slug something out), spar (v), square off (v), stink (raise a stink), swing

(take a swing, etc.), sword (cross swords), toe-to-toe (go toe-to-toe, etc.), thrash (v), trounce (v), wagon (circle the wagons), wail (v), wrangle (v)

- violence: assault (n), bearbaiting, bloodbath (n), bloodletting (n), blood sport (n), brawl (n), drive-by (conflict), feud (v), feud (n), fighter (fighter), hatchet job (n), hit (mob hit, etc.), job (hit job, etc.), pit (bear pit), reprisal (n), thrash (v), thrashed, thrashing, vendetta (n), warpath (on the warpath)
- water: turbulence
- weapon: arm (up in arms), attack (under attack, etc.), barb (trade barbs, etc.), blowup (conflict), broadside (n), crossfire (n), duel (n), dueling (adj), gun (hired gun), hatchet job (n), outduel (v), outgunned, shoot-out (n), salvo (n), shot (opening shot), shot (parting shot), shot (warning shot), shot (shot across the bow, etc.)
- whip: thrash (v), thrashed, thrashing

## **CONFRONTING, DEALING WITH & IGNORING THINGS (1) (see also action, inaction & delay)**

- animal: blink (conflict), duck (avoid), head-on, sand (stick one's head in the sand), teeth (in / into the teeth of)
- ball: ball (the ball is in somebody's court), toss back (v)
- bird: duck (avoid), sand (stick one's head in the sand)
- bodily reaction: flinch (v), shudder (v)
- bridge: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it)
- clothing & accessories: skirt (skirt an issue, etc.)
- crashes & collisions: head-on
- desert: sand (stick one's head in the sand)
- direction: come forward (v), face up (face up to something), man up (v), retreat (withdraw), rise (rise to the challenge, etc.)
- ear: ear (turn a deaf ear), deaf (fall on deaf ears)
- eye: blind (noticing, understanding, judging), blind spot, blink (conflict), eye (turn a blind eye), look (look the other way / look away), stare (stare at defeat, etc.)
- face: face (look something in the face), face (face facts, etc.), face (face anger, etc.), face (in the face of), face (in one's face), face up (face up to something)
- football: punt (v), punt (n), tackle (v)
- gesture: blink (conflict), lean in (v), shrug (gesture)
- hand: go (let something go), grip (come to grips), hand (take matters into one's hands), hand (wash one's hands of something), handle (deal with), handled, handling
- head: head-on
- health & medicine: triage (n)
- height: rise (rise to the challenge, etc.)
- horn: head-on
- horse: shy (and shy away)
- hygiene: hand (was one's hands)
- journeys & trips: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), road (go down that road, etc.), there (let's not go there)
- light & dark: gloss over (v)
- military: retreat (withdraw)
- movement: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), can (kick the can down the road), hand (sit on one's hands), road (go down that road, etc.), sidestep (v), there (let's not go there)
- place: there (let's not go there)
- river: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it)
- shoulder: shrug (gesture)
- speech: address (v)
- sports & games: ball (the ball is in somebody's court), field (v), grapple (v), tackle (v), wrestle (v)

- standing, sitting & lying: hand (sit on one's hands), lean in (v), sit by (v)
- teeth: teeth (in / into the teeth of)
- verb: address (v), bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), blink (conflict), can (kick the can down the road), come forward (v), dance (dance around something), duck (avoid), eye (turn a blind eye), face (look something in the face), face (face facts, etc.), face (face anger, etc.), face up (face up to something), flinch (v), gloss over (v), go (let something go), grapple (v), grip (come to grips), hand (take matters into one's hands), hand (sit on one's hands), hand (wash one's hands of something), handle (deal with), lean in (v), look (look the other way / look away), meet (meet the moment, etc.), put up with (v), punt (v), rise (rise to the challenge, etc.), road (push something down the road), shudder (v), shy (and shy away), sidestep (v), sit by (v), skirt (skirt an issue, etc.), stare (stare at defeat, etc.), step up (rise to the occasion), tackle (v), toss back (v), wrestle (v)
- walking, running & jumping: can (kick the can down the road), dance (dance around something), road (push something down the road), sidestep (v), step up (rise to the occasion), tackle (v)
- wrestling: grapple (v), wrestle (v)

## **CONSCIOUSNESS & AWARENESS (1) (see also comprehension & incomprehension)**

- addiction: opiate (n), opium (n)
- alcohol: black out (v)
- allusion: frog (frog in boiling water), road (road to Damascus)
- animal: frog (frog in boiling water), lemming (consciousness), sheep (consciousness)
- astronomy: black hole
- atmosphere: cloud (v), cloud (consciousness), clouded, cloudy (consciousness), drift (consciousness)
- ball: ball (take one's eye off the ball)
- bell: bell (ring a bell)
- Bible: road (road to Damascus)
- books & reading: sleeping beauty
- burial: graveyard (whistle past the graveyard)
- cloud: cloud (v), cloud (consciousness), clouded, cloudy (consciousness)
- color: black hole, black out (v)
- creature: giant (sleeping giant), zombie (behavior)
- day: dawn (verb / comprehension)
- depth: deep (deep sleep, etc.)
- direction: fall (fall into a coma, etc.), see (see something coming), sink (sink into a coma, etc.)
- door: open up (consciousness)
- ear: deaf (adj), ear (fall on deaf ears), tone-deaf (adj)
- exclamation: Aha! (Aha! moment)
- eye: blind (noticing, understanding, judging), blinded, blinder (n), blindfold (n), blindsided, blind spot, clear-eyed (adj), envision (envision the future, etc.), eye (open eyes, etc.), eye (closed eyes, etc.), eye-opening, eye-opener, eye-opening, farsighted (adj), myopic (adj), nearsighted (adj), see (see something coming), see (see through something), sight (lose sight), view (out of view), view (long view), vision (n)
- face: slap (awareness)
- fog: fog (fog of war, etc.), fog (mental fog, etc.), foggy (adj)
- frog: frog (frog in boiling water)
- fruits & vegetables: potato (couch potato), vegetable (consciousness)
- gesture: slap (awareness)
- ground, terrain & land: open (in the open / into the open)
- hand: hand (the right hand vs. the left hand)
- head: head (clear head), mindful (adj), mindfully, mindfulness (n), purposeful (adj)

- health & medicine: amnesia (n), brain-dead (adj), chloroform (n), comatose (adj), conscious (aware), dream (fever dream, etc.), fall (fall into a coma, etc.), opiate (n), opium (n)
- heating water: frog (frog in boiling water)
- horse: blinder (n), blinkered (adj), blinkers (n)
- journeys & trips: find (find oneself in a place, etc.), road (road to Damascus)
- light & dark: black hole, dark (in the dark), dawn (verb / comprehension), haze (perception), illuminate (v), illuminating (adj), light (come to light), light (bring something to light), light bulb (and lightbulb, bulb), opaque (adj)
- map: map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.)
- mechanism: automata (n), comatose (adj), metronomic (operation), robot (n), wheel (asleep at the wheel)
- military: fog (fog of war, etc.)
- mirror: mirror (n)
- movement: drift (consciousness), see (see something coming)
- music: tone-deaf (adj)
- nose: nose (under somebody's nose)
- part of speech: know (in the know)
- place: find (find oneself in a place, etc.)
- plane: autopilot (on autopilot), blind (fly blind)
- proximity: nose (under somebody's nose)
- radio: tune (stayed tuned)
- religion: road (road to Damascus)
- sensation: daze (in a daze), numb (adj), slap (awareness)
- sheep: sheep (consciousness)
- sign, signal, symbol: light bulb (and lightbulb, bulb)
- size: giant (sleeping giant)
- sleep: arouse (v), asleep (adj), asleep (at the switch, etc.), awake (adj), awaken (awareness), awakened (adj), awakening, call (wake-up call), comatose (adj), dream (fever dream, etc.), giant (sleeping giant), nap (n), sleeping (consciousness), sleepwalk (v), slumber (n), wake up (awareness)
- snow & ice: blizzard (consciousness)
- sound: bell (ring a bell)
- speech: Aha! ("Aha" moment), tone-deaf (adj)
- sports & games: ball (take one's eye off the ball), game (get one's head into the game)
- temperature: frog (frog in boiling water), shower (cold shower)
- tools & technology: antenna (n), radar (on the radar), radar (below / under the radar), radar (drop off the radar), radar (under the radar screen), radar (radar screen), radar (other)
- train: asleep (asleep at the switch)
- verb: arouse (v), awaken (awareness), ball (take one's eye off the ball), bell (ring a bell), black out (v), cloud (verb), dawn (verb / comprehension), drift (consciousness), envision (envision the future, etc.), fall (fall into a coma, etc.), illuminate (v), keep up (awareness), light (come to light), light (bring something to light), map (drop off the map, etc.), open up (consciousness), radar (drop off the radar), see (see something coming), see (see through something), sight (lose sight), sink (sink into a coma, etc.), slap (awareness), sleepwalk (v), tuned (stay tuned), wake up (awareness)
- walking, running & jumping: keep up (awareness), sleepwalk (v)
- warning: wake-up call
- water: deep (deep sleep, etc.), frog (frog in boiling water), shower (cold shower), sink (sink into a coma, etc.)
- weather: blizzard (consciousness), fog (fog of war, etc.), fog (mental fog, etc.), foggy (adj)

## **CONSTRAINT & LACK OF CONSTRAINT (1) (see also control & lack of control; restraint & lack of restraint)**

- affix: overreach (v)
- allusion: envelope (push the envelope)
- animal: cage (a gilded cage, etc.), choke chain (n), hamstring, hobble (v), hobbled, hogtie (v), leash (on a leash / off a leash, etc.), muzzle (v), penned (penned into, etc.), rein (free rein), shackle (n), wild (run wild)
- arm: hold back (obstacle), overreach (v), overreach (n), overstretch (v)
- bird: cooped up, fly (constraint), wing (clip / stretch one's wings)
- boat: leeway (n)
- books & reading: book (rule book), book (by the book)
- boundary: backstop (n), border (doctors without borders, etc.), boundary (behavior), bounds (no bounds, etc.), guardrail (behavior), limits (push something to its limits), line (line in the sand), open (open marriage, etc.), overreach (v), overreach (n), overstep (v), overstretch (v), space (personal space)
- boxing: box (box somebody into a corner), corner (in a tight corner, etc.)
- breathing: choke chain (n)
- chain: chain (oppression), choke chain (n), fetter (n), fettered, unfettered, unshackle (v)
- color: color (color outside the lines, etc.)
- container: box (in / out / outside the box), boxed in (v), corner (in a tight corner, etc.), open-minded (adj), openness (n), penned (penned into, etc.), pent-up (constrained), room (wiggle room), spot (tight spot, etc.)
- corner: box (box somebody into a corner), corner (in a tight corner, etc.)
- crime: captive (held captive, etc.), captivity (n), fetter (n), fettered, Geneva Convention (cyber, etc.), handcuff (v), handcuffed, hostage (held hostage), hostage (other), imprisoned, manacle (n), prison (constraint), prisoner (constraint), riot (run riot), riot (other), shackle (n), unfettered, unshackle (v)
- dam: dam (psychological dam, etc.), floodgate (open the floodgates / sluice gates), floodgate (other)
- distance: overreach (v), overreach (n), overstretch (v)
- dog: choke chain (n), leash (on a leash / off a leash, etc.), unleash (v), unleashed
- doors & thresholds: lockdown (n)
- farming & agriculture: siloed
- flood: floodgate (open the floodgates / sluice gates), floodgate (other)
- flying & falling: fly (constraint)
- ground, terrain & land: room (wiggle room), spot (tight spot, etc.)
- hand: hand (tie one's hands, etc.), handcuff (v), handcuffed
- health & medicine: hamstring, handicapped, hobble (v), hobbled
- history: Geneva Convention (cyber, etc.)
- horse: bit (bit between its teeth), bridle (v), rein (free rein), unbridled
- infrastructure: ceiling (glass ceiling), ceiling (debt ceiling, etc.), guardrail (behavior), lane (experience), outlet (n), road (rules of the road)
- justice: Geneva Convention (cyber, etc.)
- key: lockdown (n)
- leg: fetter (n), fettered, hamstring, hobble (v), hobbled, unfettered
- line: color (color outside the lines, etc.), line (line in the sand)
- manufacturing: mold (fit a mold, etc.)
- map: latitude (wide latitude, etc.)
- materials & substances: elastic (adj), flexible (adj), rigid (constraint), supple (adj)
- mental health: straitjacket (n)
- military: Geneva Convention (cyber, etc.)
- money: budget (attention budget, etc.)

- movement: box (box somebody into a corner), corner (in a tight corner, etc.), fetter (n), fettered, flexible (adj), hamstrung, handicapped, hobble (v), hobbled, jump (rivers can jump their banks, etc.), jump (transmission), outlet (n), rigid (constraint), spot (tight spot, etc.), supple (adj), unfettered
- picture: color (color outside the lines, etc.)
- place: spot (tight spot, etc.)
- plane: envelope (push the envelope)
- pressure: choke chain (n), outlet (n), tight (constraint)
- river: dam (psychological dam, etc.), floodgate (open the floodgates / sluice gates), floodgate (other)
- rope: bind (constraint), bind (constrain), binding (adj), bound (constraint), hand (tie one's hands, etc.), loose (get looser, etc.), slack (n), tied (constraint)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: hidebound (adj)
- sky: sky (blue sky thinking)
- snow & ice: ice (put on ice)
- space: room (opportunity), room (space)
- speech: gag (gag order, etc.), muffled
- sports & games: book (rule book), box (box somebody into a corner), no-holds-barred (and no holds barred)
- temperature: ice (put on ice)
- verb: bind (constrain), bit (bit between its teeth), box (box somebody into a corner), bridle (v), color (color outside the lines, etc.), envelope (push the envelope), fly (constraint), hand (tie one's hands, etc.), handcuff (v), hobble (v), hogtie (v), hold back (obstacle), jump (rivers can jump their banks, etc.), jump (lines), jump (transmission), limits (push something to its limits), muzzle (v), overreach (v), overstep (v), overstretch (v), unleash (v), unshackle (v), wild (run wild), wing (clip / stretch one's wings)
- violence: choke chain (n)
- walking, running & jumping: fetter (n), fettered, hamstrung, hobble (v), hobbled, jump (rivers can jump their banks, etc.), jump (lines), overstep (v), unfettered
- wall: wall (constraint)
- walking, running & jumping: hobble (v), hobbled, jump (rivers can jump their banks, etc.), jump (transmission), jump (lines)
- water: dam (psychological dam, etc.), floodgate (open the floodgates / sluice gates), floodgate (other), outlet (n), outpouring, spigot (open / close, etc.)
- wrestling: no-holds-barred (and no holds barred)

## CONSUMPTION (1)

- animal: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.), food (meat), ground feeding ground), lap up (v), meat (fresh meat, etc.), meat (red meat, etc.)
- bodily reaction: choke (v), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), swallow (disappearance)
- breathing: choke (v), eat (eat and breathe, etc.), inhale (v), live (live and breathe, live to)
- death & life: live (live and breathe, live to)
- farming & agriculture: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.), commodity (n)
- fire: burn through (v)
- fish: hook (hook, line and sinker)
- food & drink: appetite (appetite for fur, etc.), bellyful (amount), bitter (a bitter blow, etc.), candy (n), chew (and chew up), chew over (v), choke (v), consume (consumption), consumer (of information, etc.), consumption (n), delicious (adj), devour (devour the classics, etc.), diet (n), digest (v), digestible (adj), drink in (v), eat (endure), eat (eat and breathe, etc.), eat (eat and sleep, etc.), eat up (consume), famine (n), feast (v), feast (n), fed up (adj), feed (fuel), feed (supply), feed (satisfy), feed (feed on / off something), food (food for thought), force-feed (and force feed), gobble up (v), go down (digestion), glutton (person), gluttonous (adj), gorge (gorge on), hook (hook, line and sinker), hunger (n), hungry (adj), imbibe (v), ingest (v), insatiable (adj), juicy (adj), Kool-Aid (drink the Kool-Aid, etc.), lap up (v), lunch (destruction), mouthwatering (adj), omnivorous (adj), palatable

(adj), piquancy (n), potato chip, ravenous (adj), ravenously, regurgitate (v), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), serve up (v), side (food), sour (adj), spicy (adj), stomach (accept), sustenance (n), swallow (accept), swallowed, sweet (sweet dreams, etc.), taste (taste freedom, etc.), taste (taste of freedom, etc.), taste (taste for violence, etc.), taste (a bad taste, etc.), tasty (adj), thirst (n), thirsty (adj), unpalatable (adj), unsavory (adj), voracious (adj), voraciously

- health & medicine: pill (bitter pill, etc.)
- meat: food (meat), meat (fresh meat, etc.), meat (red meat, etc.), meat (piece of meat)
- military: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.), food (meat)
- person: consumer (of information, etc.), glutton (person), gluttonous (adj)
- plant: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.)
- predation: food (meat), ground (feeding ground), meat (fresh meat, etc.), meat (red meat, etc.)
- sleep: eat (eat and sleep, etc.)
- speech: saccharine (adj)
- stomach: bellyful (amount), fed up (adj), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), stomach (accept), swallow (accept)
- taste: bitter (a bitter blow, etc.), cake (icing on the cake, etc.), candy (n), delicious (adj), juicy (adj), mouthwatering (adj), palatable (adj), piquancy (n), saccharine (adj), sour (adj), spicy (adj), taste (taste freedom, etc.), taste (a bad taste, etc.), tasty (adj), unpalatable (adj), unsavory (adj)
- throat: choke (v), swallow (accept), sweet (sweet dreams, etc.), throat (ram something down the throat)
- tongue: lap up (v)
- verb: burn through (v), chew (and chew up), chew over (v), choke (v), consume (consumption), devour (devour the classics, etc.), digest (v), eat (endure), eat (eat and breathe, etc.), eat (eat and sleep, etc.), eat up (consume), feed (fuel), feed (supply), force-feed (and force feed), gobble up (v), go down (digestion), gorge (gorge on), imbibe (v), inhale (v), lap up (v), live (live and breathe, live to), regurgitate (v), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), run out (of gas, etc.), serve up (v), stomach (accept), swallow (accept), swallow (disappearance), throat (ram something down the throat)
- walking, running & jumping: run out (of gas, etc.)
- water: thirst (n), thirsty (adj)

## CONSUMPTION (2)

- creation & transformation: cannibalism (n)
- death & life: bill (butcher's bill, etc.), hamburger (Hamburger Hill, etc.), meat grinder (military)
- destruction: cannibalism (n)
- environment: meat grinder (military)
- experience: meat grinder (military)
- mental health: devoured (by an emotion, etc.), eat (mental health), eaten alive (by debt, rage, etc.)
- military: bill (butcher's bill, etc.), cannon fodder (military), hamburger (Hamburger Hill, etc.), meat grinder (military)
- speech: eat (eat one's words, etc.)
- taking & removing: cannibalized
- time: time (borrowed time), time (steal time, etc.), time (give time), time (run out of time), time (time left), time (waste time), time (use time), time (time off), time (take your time), time (take time, etc.), time (lose time, etc.)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: time (run out of time), time (waste time), time (time left), time (lose time, etc.)

## CONTAINER (2)

- acceptance & rejection: in (inclusion), left out (excluded), out (exclusion)
- access & lack of access: bottled up (emotions), bottle up (emotions), lid (keep the lid on something), open up (access)
- affliction: genie (initiation), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: out (want out)

- amount: bag (collection), bottomless (adj), brim (v), full (adj), package (benefits, etc.), package (commercial), truckload (amount)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: unpack (v)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: showcase (v), showcase (n)
- avoidance & separation: bubble (isolation), bubble (quarantine), out (want out), stay out (v)
- center & periphery: outside (outside world, etc.)
- certainty & uncertainty: bag (in the bag)
- characterization: box (labeling)
- commitment & determination: out (all out, etc.)
- comprehension & incomprehension: take in (comprehend)
- computer: locker (computer)
- concealment & lack of concealment: cat (cat out of the bag, etc.), genie (initiation), open (honest), out (reveal), out (gay), outed (concealment), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), toothpaste (put the toothpaste back in the tube)
- configuration: package (benefits, etc.), package (commercial)
- constraint & lack of constraint: box (in / out / outside the box), boxed in (v), corner (in a tight corner, etc.), open-minded (adj), openness (n), penned (penned into, etc.), pent up (constrained), room (wiggle room), spot (tight spot, etc.)
- danger: strait (dire straits, etc.)
- death & life: life (container)
- enthusiasm: into (be into something)
- epithet: cauldron (the Cauldron, etc.), oven (the Oven, etc.)
- environment: cauldron (n), crucible (n), oven (the Oven, etc.), pressure cooker (in a pressure cooker, etc.), pressure cooker (other)
- extent & scope: full (adj)
- fate, fortune & chance: lap (fall into one's lap / a windfall)
- feeling, emotion & effect: bottled up (emotions), bottle up (emotions), drained (feeling), emptiness (depression), empty (depression), hold in (emotions), in (in pain, in anger, etc.), inside (emotions), open (honest), open up (emotions, speech, etc.), pent-up (constrained), place (in a dark place, etc.), space (in a dark space, etc.), spill out (speech, emotions, etc.)
- future: future (in the future), hold (the future can hold something), tap (on tap), time (in time / future)
- group, set & collection: bag (collection), package (benefits, etc.), package (commercial)
- heart: heart (container)
- idea: box (in / out / outside the box)
- identity & nature: in (the cowboy in me, etc.), inner (inner sloth, etc.), melting pot (n)
- initiation: genie (initiation), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.)
- involvement: get in / get into (involvement), hole (situation), in (involvement), into (involvement)
- isolation & remoteness: bubble (isolation), bubble (quarantine)
- mental health: emptiness (depression), empty (depression), open (honest), shell (mental health)
- mind: close-minded (adj), mind (container), mind (open mind), open-minded
- mixture: melting pot (n)
- money: coffer (n)
- obstacles & impedance: bottle up (impede)
- past & present: past (in the past), time (in our time, etc.), time capsule
- perception, perspective & point of view: outside (perspective)
- possession: lap (fall into one's lap / a windfall)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: time capsule
- protection & lack of protection: bubble (quarantine)

- pursuit, capture & escape: cat (cat out of the bag, etc.), exit (n), genie (initiation), get out (and get out of), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), trap (in a trap), way (way out / escape), toothpaste (put the toothpaste back in the tube)
- responsibility: lap (responsibility)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: open (honest)
- situation: bind (in a bind), corner (in a tight corner, etc.), drawn in, drawn into, exit (n), get out (and get out of), hole (situation), in (situation), jam (situation), lap (lap of luxury), limbo (in limbo), out (want out), pulled in, pulled into, room (wiggle room), space (in a space, etc.), spot (tight spot, etc.), stay out (v), stuck (adj), trap (in a trap), trap (Chinese finger trap), trouble (in trouble), way (way out / escape)
- speech: chatterbox (person), open up (emotions, speech, etc.), spill out (speech, emotions, etc.)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: brim (v)
- taxonomy & classification: basket (category), bucket (category)
- time: future (in the future), hold (the future can hold something), past (in the past), time (in our time, etc.), time (in time / future), time capsule (n)
- worth & lack of worth: lap (fall into one's lap / a windfall)

## CONTEMPO-SPEAK (1) (see also inclusion & exclusion, language)

- adverb: absolutely (contempo-speak), actually (contempo-speak), basically (contempo-speak), definitely (contempo-speak), even (contempo-speak), exactly (contempo-speak), extremely (contempo-speak), kind of (contempo-speak), maybe (contempo-speak), obviously (contempo-speak), pretty (contempo-speak), really (and REEE•lee, etc.), so (gushing), sort of (contempo-speak), totally (contempo-speak), very (contempo-speak)
- affix: adjacent (rich-adjacent, etc.), centered (survivor-centered, etc.), core (cottagecore, etc.), ery (badassery, etc.), curious (bi-curious, etc.), fication (adultification, etc.), hyper (hypersexualized, etc.), ify (mainstreamify, etc.), informed (trauma-informed, etc.), ish (androgyny-ish, etc.), ization (marginalization, etc.), ize (racialize, etc.), ized (invisibilized, etc.), meta (affix), over (overshare, etc.), self (self-love, etc.), uber (uber-interesting, etc.), y (websites, drug names, etc.), y (pulpy, etc.)
- filler: feel like (and felt like, etc.), frickin' (fricking, freaking, friggin', etc.), just (filler), kind of (contempo-speak), kind of like (contempo-speak), like (filler), sort of like (contempo-speak), stuff (like vampires and stuff, etc.), think (I think, etc.), you know (filler)
- introductory: right (introductory), so (introductory), sure (introductory), well (introductory), yeah (introductory)
- language: aesthetic (and aesthetics), agnostic (adj), clap back (contempo-speak / verb), clap back (contempo-speak / noun), concretize (v), concretized, curate (v), curated, cognitive dissonance, dive (deep dive), gaslight (v), gaslighting (n), heavy (serious), intersection (n), landscape (n), like (not like), look like (resemble), mindful (adj), navigate (v), not (when is a Mastodon not, etc.), plus-one (boyfriend, purposeful (adj), girlfriend, etc.), point (decision point, etc.), space (groups, etc.), thing (a matter, issue), transactional (adj), zeitgeist (n)
- mental health: intentional (adj), intentionality (n), intentionally, mindful (adj), mindfully, mindfulness (n), purposeful (adj), vulnerable (emotionally, etc.)
- mixture: word salad
- part of speech: architect (as verb), ified (Principified, etc.), ify (mainstreamify, etc.), platform (as verb), surface (as transitive verb)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: on (brag on, etc.), out (nerd out, etc.), up (science up, etc.)
- reported speech: like (reported speech)
- upspeak: upspeak (contempo-speak)
- vocal fry (contempo-speak)

## CONTENT (1)

- animal: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.)
- farming & agriculture: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.), grist (grist for the mill, etc.), hay (make hay, etc.)
- food & drink: filling (content), food (food for thought)
- ground, terrain & land: dirt (political dirt, etc.)

- house: furniture (contents)
- manufacturing: mill (grist for the mill), mill (gossip / rumor mill)
- object: stuff (content)
- plant: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.), grist (grist for the mill, etc.), hay (make hay, etc.)
- wheat: grist (grist for the mill, etc.)

### **CONTEXT (1) (see also analysis, interpretation & explanation; picture)**

- part of speech: picture (big picture / verb), whataboutism, etc.
- picture: backdrop (against a backdrop), picture (in the big picture), picture (big picture / noun), step back (perspective)
- position: step back (perspective)
- theater: backdrop (against a backdrop)
- verb: step back (perspective)

### **CONTROL & LACK OF CONTROL (1) (see also constraint & lack of constraint; restraint & lack of restraint)**

- alcohol: drunk (adj)
- allusion: King Canute, Lady Macbeth (epithet)
- animal: calm (v), corral (v), corralled, harness (v), herd (v), herd (ride herd), horse (hold your horses), lead (restraint), leash (on a leash / off a leash, etc.), rein (rein in), rein (reins of power, etc.), reined in, rogue, rope in (v), runaway (control), run away (v), tame (v), tiger (n), wild (control), wrangle (v), wrangler (person), wrangling
- arm: arm (get one's arms around something)
- atmosphere: drift (move), drift (control), whirlwind (ride the whirlwind, etc.)
- boat: adrift (adj), drift (control), helm (at the helm), helm (v), helm (n), helmsman (the Great Helmsman, etc.), rudderless, ship (tight ship, etc.)
- chess: check (in check)
- cows & cattle: corral (v), corralled, herd (v), rope in (v), wrangle (v), wrangler (person), wrangling
- creature: zombie (control)
- crime: captive (held captive, etc.), captivity (n), hijack (v), hijacked, usurp (v)
- death & life: hand (dead hand)
- direction: adrift (adj), hand (upper hand), helm (at the helm), helm (v), helm (n), top (on top / control)
- dog: leash (on a leash / off a leash, etc.)
- doors & thresholds: gatekeeper (person)
- electricity: circuit breaker (n)
- engine: seat (in the driver's seat)
- epithet: general (Bobby Knight, "The General," etc.), helmsman (the Great Helmsman, etc.), Lady Macbeth (epithet)
- equilibrium & stability: lurch (v)
- film: sheriff (new sheriff in town)
- fist: fist (a boss with an iron fist, etc.)
- force: rage (v), raging (adj)
- gate: gatekeeper (person)
- ground, terrain & land: badlands (environment), colonialism (data, etc.), demesne (control), turf (control), wild West
- hand: grip (v), grip (in the grip), grip (control), hand (dead hand), hand (get out of hand), hand (upper hand), hand (in hand), hand (control), handle (get a handle on something), handle (deal with), handled, handling, hands-off, hands-on
- head: head (keep / lose one's head), hothead (person), hotheaded (and hot-headed)
- health & medicine: incontinent (fiscally incontinent, etc.)

- history: badlands (environment), cowboy (person), wild West
- horse: bit (bit between its teeth), bridle (v), corral (v), corralled, harness (v), horse (hold your horses), lead (restraint), rein (rein in), rein (reins of power, etc.), reined in, rope in (v), runaway (control), run away (v), saddle (in the saddle), unbridled, wrangle (v), wrangler (person), wrangling
- infrastructure: faucet (n), tap (n)
- justice: police (v)
- magic: hypnotize (v)
- materials & substances: putty (n)
- mechanism: accelerator (control), brake (control), bus (control / allegiance), lever (levers of power, etc.), steering wheel (control), truck (control), wheel (control), wheel (asleep at the wheel)
- mental health: amok (run amok), berserk, crazy (behavior), flow (go with the flow, etc.), rage (v), raging (adj)
- Middle Ages: fiefdom (control)
- military: cannon (loose cannon), general (floor general, etc.), no man's land (danger), no man's land (regulatory, etc.)
- movement: accelerator (control), brake (control), carried away, check (in check), rage (v), raging (adj), spin (out of control), spiral (out of control)
- person: cannon (loose cannon), chaperon (person), cowboy (person), gatekeeper (person), hothead (person), hotheaded (and hot-headed), police (and cop, etc.)
- plane: spin (spin out of control), spiral (spiral out of control, etc.)
- possession: lose it (mentally)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: hands-off, hands-on
- puppet: puppet (control), puppeteer (n), string (pull strings)
- purses & wallets: pocket (in the pocket)
- religion: god (play god, etc.)
- rope: lead (restraint)
- royalty: kingdom (control), rule (v), ruled, usurp (v)
- sea: King Canute
- society: gatekeeper (person)
- sex: passion (enthusiasm), passionate, passionately
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: knee-jerk (adj), reflex (n), twitch (quick-twitch)
- sleep: asleep (at the switch, etc.)
- speech: tongue (hold one's tongue)
- sports & games: check (in check), free-for-all (control)
- storm: whirlwind (ride the whirlwind, etc.)
- temperature: hothead (person), hotheaded (and hot-headed)
- theater: puppet (control)
- tide: King Canute
- tiger: tiger (n)
- tongue: tongue (hold one's tongue)
- tools & technology: circuit breaker (n)
- train: rail (off the rails), train (runaway train)
- verb: arm (get one's arms around something), bit (bit between its teeth), calm (v), corral (v), drift (move), grip (v), hand (get out of hand), handle (get a handle on something), handle (deal with), harness (v), head (keep / lose one's head), helm (v), herd (v), herd (ride herd), hijack (v), horse (hold your horses), lurch (v), police (v), rage (v), rein (rein in), rope in (v), run away (v), rule (v), shot (call the shots), spin (spin out of control), spiral (spiral out of control, etc.), string (pull strings), tame (v), usurp (v), wrangle (v)
- walking, running & jumping: highway (my way or the highway), lurch (v), runaway (control), run away (v)
- water: faucet (n), fluid (adj), tap (n)
- weapon: cannon (loose cannon), shot (call the shots)

- wind: drift (move), drift (control), whirlwind (ride the whirlwind, etc.)

## **CONTROL & LACK OF CONTROL (2)**

- behavior: control (behavior)
- fate, fortune & chance: control (out of one's control)
- feeling, emotion & effect: control (in control)
- restraint & lack of restraint: control (out of control), control (in control), control (under control)

## **COOKING (2) (see also food & drink; fruits & vegetables; meat; taste)**

- accusation & criticism: grill (v), grilled, pot (pot calls the kettle black), skewer (v), skewered
- affliction: skewer (v), skewered
- amelioration & renewal: reheat (v)
- attachment: bake in (and bake into), baked in (and baked into), folded in (and folded into), fold in (v), pepper in (attach)
- coercion & motivation: grill (v), grilled
- configuration: bake in (and bake into), baked in (and baked into), folded in (and folded into), fold in (v), pepper in (attach)
- creation & transformation: concoct (v), concoction (n), cook up (v), cooked up, kitchen (creation), stir up (v)
- effect: stir (effect)
- fate, fortune & chance: frying pan (jump from the frying pan into the fire)
- feeling, emotion & effect: stir (effect)
- flaws & lack of flaws: half-baked (adj)
- identity & nature: bake in (and bake into), baked in (and baked into), folded in (and folded into), fold in (v), pepper in (attach)
- initiation: stir (v), stir up (v)
- insult: skewer (v), skewered
- mixture: concoction (n), fold in (v)
- relationship: bake in (and bake into), baked in (and baked into), folded in (and folded into), fold in (v), pepper in (attach)
- resemblance: stir up (resemblance)
- situation: frying pan (jump from the frying pan into the fire)
- speech: grill (v), grilled, mince (v), roast (v), skewer (v), skewered
- starting, going, continuing & ending: toast (finished)

## **CORNER (2)**

- allegiance, support & betrayal: corner (in one's corner)
- area: corner (in remote corners, etc.)
- constraint & lack of constraint: box (box somebody into a corner), corner (in a tight corner, etc.)
- development: corner (turn the corner)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: corner (cut corners)
- future: corner (spring is just around the corner)
- movement: box (box somebody into a corner), corner (in a tight corner, etc.)
- progress & lack of progress: corner (turn the corner)
- proximity: corner (spring is just around the corner)
- situation: box (box somebody into a corner), corner (in a tight corner, etc.)
- time: corner (spring is just around the corner)

## **CORRUPTION (1)**

- air: miasma (n)
- apple: apple (bad apple / rotten apple)
- atmosphere: miasma (n)

- direction: twist (twist the truth, etc.), twisted (corruption)
- environment: cesspool
- food & drink: apple (bad apple / rotten apple), curdle (v), fresh (fresh evidence, etc.), rancid (adj), rot (v), rot (n), rotten (adj), sour (adj), sour (v), spoil (v), spoiled (spoiled child, etc.), stale (adj), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory (adj)
- ground, terrain & land: swamp (fever swamp), swamp (drain the swamp), swamp (swamp of cliches, etc.)
- health & medicine: contagion (n), corrupting, corruption (n), fester (v), festering (adj), ill (ills of society, etc.), infect (corrupt), infected, infection (corruption), malignant (adj), sickness (n)
- hygiene: filthy (corruption)
- light & dark: shady (adj), tarnish (v), tarnished
- materials & substances: contaminate (v), contaminated, contamination, poison (v), taint (n), taint (v), tainted
- plant: blight (v), blight (n), blighted
- shadow: shady (adj)
- size: stunted
- smell: cesspit (n), cesspool (n), miasma (n), noxious (adj), reek (v), stink (v)
- swamp: swamp (fever swamp), swamp (drain the swamp), swamp (swamp of cliches, etc.)
- taste: sour (v), sour (adj), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory (adj)
- verb: blight (v), contaminate (v), curdle (corruption), fester (v), infect (corrupt), poison (v), pollute (v), reek (v), rot (v), sour (v), spoil (v), stink (v), swamp (drain the swamp), taint (v), tarnish (v), twist (twist the truth, etc.), water (poison the water / waters)
- water: pollute (v), polluted, pollution (n), swamp (fever swamp), swamp (drain the swamp), swamp (swamp of cliches, etc.), water (poison the water / waters), well (poison the well)

### **COST & BENEFIT (1) (see also worth & lack of worth)**

- allusion: egg (golden egg), goose (golden goose), Pyrrhic victory (figurative)
- animal: egg (golden egg), goose (golden goose)
- bird: egg (golden egg), goose (golden goose)
- distance: mileage, way (go a long way)
- explosion: boom (jade boom, etc.), bust (oil bust, etc.)
- food & drink: gravy (n), gravy train, meal ticket (n)
- gift: gift (benefit)
- history: gold rush, Pyrrhic victory (figurative)
- letters & characters: box (tick a box, etc.), plus (benefit)
- military: Pyrrhic victory (figurative)
- mining: bonanza (n), gold rush
- money: afford (v), bonanza (n), bottom line, capital (value), cash in (v), cost (v), cost (at a cost), cost (at all costs, etc.), costly (adj), dividend (pay dividends, etc.), expense (at the expense), gold rush, pay (benefit), pay (pay a price), pay off, payoff, price (n), price tag, prize (n), prized, profit (v), reward (v), reward (n), rewarding, spend (energy, etc.), toll (take a toll, etc.), toll (other), worth (benefit)
- religion: blessed, blessing (benefit), graced, miracle (other)
- scale: outweigh (cost and benefit)
- sound: bang (bang for the buck, etc.)
- ticket: meal ticket (n), pass (free pass), ticket (and punch one's ticket, etc.)
- train: gravy train
- verb: afford (v), cash in (v), cost (v), outweigh (cost and benefit), pay (benefit), pay (pay a price), pay off (v), profit (v), reward (v), spend (spend energy, etc.), toll (take a toll, etc.)
- weight: outweigh (cost and benefit)

## **COUNTRY (see place)**

### **COURAGE & LACK OF COURAGE (1)**

- animal: chicken-hearted, chicken out (v), game (game of chicken), lion (courage)
- back: back (courage), backbone (courage), spine (courage), spineless (courage)
- bird: chicken-hearted, chicken out (v), game (game of chicken)
- bodily reaction: cower (v), flinch (v), shudder (v)
- bottle: bottle (British English / noun)
- epithet: lion (the Lion of Panjshir, etc.)
- heart: chicken-hearted, faint-hearted (the faint-hearted)
- lion: lion (courage)
- military: warrior through (v)
- person: brave (the brave), lion (courage)
- proper name: lioness (Lioness.co, etc.)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: nerve (courage)
- sports & games: game (game of chicken)
- stomach: gut out (v), guts (courage)
- verb: brave (v), chicken out (v), cower (v), flinch (v), gut out (v), pants (scare the pants off somebody), shudder (v), warrior through (v)

### **COURSE (1) (see also direction; route)**

- direction: adrift (adj), direction (the right / wrong direction, etc.), direction (a new direction, etc.), direction (course / on a course), direction (purpose), direction (symbol)
- flying & falling: trajectory (n)
- infrastructure: road (road from / to something), road (along / on the road)
- journeys & trips: adrift (adj), detour (n), direction (course / on a course), direction (purpose), direction (symbol), journey (in one's journey), journey (on a journey), journey (n), passage (journey), path (path of peace, etc.), road (road from / to something), road (along / on the road), road (long road), route (course), trajectory (n), way (along the way)
- movement: journey (n), passage (journey)
- path: path (path of peace, etc.)
- physics: trajectory (n)
- shape: trajectory (n)

### **COVER (1)**

- blanket: blanket (v), blanket (under a blanket), blanket (cover), blanketed
- breathing: smother (cover)
- carpets & rugs: carpet (v), carpet (a carpet of flowers, etc.), carpeted
- cloth: blanket (v), blanket (under a blanket), blanket (cover), blanketed, shroud (n), shrouded (covered), wrapped (covered)
- clothing & accessories: cloaked (covered), veil (covering)
- materials & substances: encrusted
- umbrella: umbrella (under an umbrella)
- verb: blanket (v), carpet (v), smother (cover)

### **COWS & CATTLE (2) (see also animal)**

- amelioration & renewal: beefed up, beef up (v)
- behavior: stampede (n)
- character & personality: maverick (person)
- conflict: beef (conflict), corral (v), wrangle (v), wrangler (person), wrangling
- control & lack of control: corral (v), corralled, herd (v), rope in (v), wrangle (v), wrangler (person), wrangling

- creation & transformation: calve (v), calving
- directing: herd (v)
- direction: cow (bell cow)
- force: bull (bull in a china shop)
- idea: sacred cow
- movement: stampede (n)
- person: cowboy (person), wrangler (person)
- product: ranch (enterprise)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: maverick (person), sacred cow
- strength & weakness: beefed up, beef up (v)
- taking & removing: milk (v)
- worth & lack of worth: cow (cash cow)

## **CRASHES & COLLISIONS (2)**

- attraction & repulsion: hit it off (v)
- conflict: collide (v), collision (n), course (on a collision course), head-on, head-to-head, horn (lock horns)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: head-on
- destruction: crash (crash and burn), crash (car crash), shipwreck (n), train wreck, wreck (v), wreck (person), wreckage (n), wrecked
- failure, accident & impairment: crash (population crash, etc.), crash (car crash), crash-land (v), shipwreck (n), T-bone (v), T-boned, train wreck, wreck (v), wreck (person)
- feeling, emotion & effect: whiplash (n), wreck (person)
- functioning: crash (population crash, etc.)
- haste: crash (crash course, etc.)
- obstacles & impedance: run (run into something), wall (hit a wall, etc.)
- progress & lack of progress: wall (hit a wall, etc.)
- relationship: knock-on (effect, etc.)

## **CREATION & TRANSFORMATION (1)**

- affix: Franken (Frankenfoods, etc.)
- allusion: chimera (n), chimeric (and chimerical), Franken (Frankenfoods, etc.), Frankenstein (product), muse (person), Phoenix (myth), procrustean (adj)
- animal: breed (create), breeding ground, calve (v), calving, chameleon (change), chameleonic (adj), rookery (n), spawn (v), spawned, web (spin a web)
- biology: mutate (v)
- bird: incubator (n), rookery (n)
- birth: beget (v), birth (create), birth (creation), birthday (creation), birthed (created), born (creation), born-on (adj), calve (v), calving, conceived, germinate (v), gestate (v), gestation (film, etc.), labor pains, midwife (person), midwife (as verb), old (a year old, etc.), pregnant (adj), seminal (adj), spawn (v), spawned
- blade: carved out, carve out (v), scissor (genetic scissors, etc.)
- bodily reaction: spit out (v)
- books & reading: author (person)
- chemistry: alchemist (n)
- cloth: embroider (v), patch (patch together), patchwork (n), stitch together (v), stitched together, weave (create)
- clothing & accessories: cobble together (v), one-size-fits-all, procrustean (adj), size (one size fits all), tailor (v), tailored, tailor-made (adj)
- consumption: cannibalism (n)
- cooking: concoct (v), concoction (n), cook up (v), cooked up, kitchen (creation), stir up (v)
- cows & cattle: calve (v), calving
- creature: chimera (n), chimeric (and chimerical), Franken (Frankenfoods, etc.), Frankenstein (product)

- direction: turn (transform), turn out (create)
- epithet: Edison (Edison of the Internet, etc.), Elon Musk (epithet), father (father of India, etc.), godmother (Godmother of Title IX, etc.), Gutenberg, mother (mother of NPR, etc.)
- family: beget (v), brainchild (n), father (v), father (father of India, etc.), mother (mother of NPR, etc.)
- farming & agriculture: hothouse (n), nursery (n), plant (create), pruned, seed (n), sow (v)
- finger: finger (snap one's fingers, etc.)
- fire: ashes (from the ashes), Phoenix (myth)
- fish: spawn (v), spawned
- food & drink: concoction (n), hash out (v)
- gesture: finger (snap one's fingers, etc.)
- glacier: calve (v), calving
- hammer: hammer out (v), hammered out
- hand: artisanal (adj), fashion (v), shape (v), shape (form), shaped (shaped by coal, etc.), reshape (v)
- head: brainchild (n)
- health & medicine: doctored
- house: house (house that somebody built, etc.)
- infrastructure: architect (as verb), architect (creator), architected, build (create), drawing board (on the drawing board), drawing board (other), engineered, engineering (n)
- insect: web (spin a web)
- knife: carved out, carve out (v)
- magic: finger (snap one's fingers, etc.), magic up (v)
- manufacturing: artisanal (adj), assembly line (n), byproduct (n), churn out (v), conveyor belt, fabricate (v), fabricated, fabrication, factory (creation), forge (v), forged, grind out (v), hammered out, hammer out (v), industry (n), machine (publicity machine, etc.), making (creation), manufacture (v), manufactured, mill (n), mold (v), product (n), recast (v), recast, reshape (v), shape (v), shape (form), shaped (shaped by coal, etc.), strike (strike a deal, etc.), turn out (create)
- materials & substances: clay (n), putty (n)
- meat: meat grinder (other)
- mechanism: machine (publicity machine, etc.), meat grinder (other)
- military: drum up (v)
- money: coin (v), coined, mint (v), minted
- movement: spin-off (n), spin up (v), spun up
- nuclear energy: breeder reactor (n)
- part of speech: architect (as verb), Frankenstein (as verb), midwife (as verb)
- person: alchemist (n), architect (creator), author (person), midwife (person), muse (person)
- picture: art (work of art), masterpiece (engineering masterpiece, etc.)
- plant: germinate (v), hothouse (n), kernel (n), nursery (n), planted (create), pruned, seed (n), shoot (plant), sow (v)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: cook up (v), drum up (v), make up (v)
- pressure: squeeze (squeeze something from / out of something), wring (create)
- religion: born-again, muse (person), reincarnation (n)
- sea: change (sea change)
- sign, signal, symbol: Phoenix (myth)
- snow & ice: calve (v), calving
- sound: drum up (v)
- speech: translate (v)
- spider: web (spin a web)
- tools & technology: churn out (v), grind out (v), scissor (genetic scissors, etc.)
- tree: pruned

- verb: architect (as verb), beget (v), birth (create), breed (create), build (create), calve (v), carve out (v), churn out (v), cobble together (v), coin (v), concoct (v), cook up (v), drum up (v), edit (v), embroider (v), excite (v), fabricate (v), father (v), forge (v), Frankenstein (as verb), germinate (v), gestate (v), grind out (v), hammer out (verb), hash out (v), make up (v), manufacture (v), midwife (as verb), mint (v), mold (v), mutate (v), patch (patch together), plant (create), recast (v), reshape (v), shape (v), sow (v), spawn (v), spin up (v), spit out (v), squeeze (squeeze something from / out of something), stitch together (v), strike (strike a deal, etc.), tailor (v), translate (v), turn (transform), turn out (create), weaponize (v), weave (create), wring (create)
- weapon: weaponization (n), weaponize (v), weaponized
- writing & spelling: edit (v), edited (genes, etc.), editing (n), rewritten (changed), write (create)

## CREATURE (2)

- ability & lack of ability: genie (knowledge), ninja (person), wizard (person), wizard (Wizard of Menlo Park, etc.), wizardry (n)
- affliction: devil (evil), Frankenstein (product), Minotaur, monster (create a monster, etc.), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), zilla (bridezilla, etc.)
- accusation & criticism: demonization (n), demonize (v), demonized
- achievement, recognition & praise: giant (achievement), titan (n)
- activity: ghost town
- affliction: bedevil (v), bedeviled, bogeyman (and boogeyman), demon (affliction), Dracula (n), Franken (Frankenfoods, etc.), Frankenstein (a monster), fury (creature), genie (initiation), ghost (memory), gremlin (n), haunt (v), haunted, monster (affliction), pursue (afflict), specter (n), troll (verb / computers), vampire (n)
- amelioration & renewal: exorcise (v), ghost (bury the ghost)
- appearance: angel (appearance), angel (angel-faced), cherubic (adj)
- appearance & disappearance: ghost (verb), ghost (abandoned, etc.), ghosted, phantom
- behavior: angel (behavior), devil (behavior), diabolical (adj), fiend (behavior), nerd (word nerd, etc.), troll (noun / computers), zombie (behavior)
- character & personality: angel, creature (creature of habit, etc.), devil (behavior), diabolical (adj), giant (gentle giant), monster (affliction), monster (power), ogre (person), sphinx (n), troll (noun / computers), witch (insult)
- characterization: demonization (n), demonize (v), demonized
- complexity: worm (can of worms)
- computer: troll (verb / computers), troll (noun / computers), unicorn (tech "Unicorn," etc.), zombie (computers)
- concealment & lack of concealment: genie (initiation), ghostwriter (n), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.)
- consciousness & awareness: giant (sleeping giant), zombie (behavior)
- control & lack of control: zombie (control)
- creation & transformation: chimera (n), chimeric (and chimerical), Franken (Frankenfoods, etc.), Frankenstein (product)
- destruction: heart (stake through the heart, etc.)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: exorcise (v)
- enthusiasm: nerd (word nerd, etc.)
- epithet: angel (Angel of the Battlefield, etc.), death (Angel of Death, etc.), devil (Lady Devils, etc.), unicorn (unicorns of the sea, etc.), unicorn (tech "Unicorn," etc.), wizard (Wizard of Menlo Park, etc.)
- fantasy & reality: ghost (fantasy and delusion), heffalump (creature), phantom
- feeling, emotion & effect: demonic (adj), haunt (v), haunted, haunting (adj), spook (v), spooked (feeling), zombie (behavior)
- force: Godzilla (force), monster (power),
- geography: Frankenstein (Frankenstein Cliff, etc.)
- group, set & collection: devil (Lady Devils, etc.)
- help & assistance: angel (guardian angel), angel (help and assistance), godmother (fairy godmother)

- identity & nature: creature (creature of habit, etc.), unicorn (Scotland, etc.)
- importance & significance: giant (achievement), titan (n)
- initiation: genie (initiation), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), worm (can of worms)
- insult: devil (evil), monster (affliction), witch (insult)
- knowledge & intelligence: genie (knowledge), wizardry (n)
- mental health: demon (mental health)
- oppression: Cyclops (creature), pitchfork (oppression)
- oppression: pitchfork (oppression), witch hunt
- person: genie (knowledge), ninja (person), ogre (person), troll (noun / computers), wizard (person)
- power: giant (sleeping giant), monster (power)
- presence & absence: ghost town, phantom
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: ghost (ghost signs, etc.)
- product: Frankenstein (product)
- proper name: angel (the Los Angeles Angels, etc.), devil (Devil's Falls, etc.), dragon (Dragon's Jaw, etc.), elf (Elves Chamber, etc.), fairy (Fairy Bridge, etc.), Frankenstein (Frankenstein Cliff, etc.), giant (Giants Causeway, etc.), monster (Monster.com, etc.), Titan (Tennessee Titans, etc.), troll (Troll Wall, etc.), Wizards (Washington Wizards, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: angel (guardian angel)
- pursuit, capture & escape: genie (initiation), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: bury (bury the ghosts, etc.), exorcise (v), ghost (bury the ghost), haunt (v)
- resemblance: dragon (resemblance)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: ghost (unregistered, etc.)
- shape: angel (snow angel)
- size: behemoth (n), giant (size), Godzilla (force), leviathan (n), monster (size), titan (n)
- society: ghost (unregistered, etc.)
- subterfuge: ghostwriter (n)
- superlative: angel (superlative)
- survival, persistence & endurance: zombie (can't kill it, back from the dead)
- taking & removing: vampire (n)
- taxonomy & classification: creature (creature of habit, etc.)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: creature comfort
- worth & lack of worth: unicorn (tech "Unicorn," etc.)

## CRIME (2)

- access & lack of access: door (back door / illegality)
- accusation & criticism: drive-by (conflict), hatchet job (n), hit (mob hit, etc.), hot seat (n), job (hit job, etc.), mugged (mugged by the officials, etc.)
- amount: mob (group)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: steal (steal the show, etc.)
- behavior: mob (group), riot (run riot), riot (other)
- character & personality: buccaneer (person), made man (experience), pirate (person)
- coercion & motivation: kneecap (v), kneecapped, strong-arm (v)
- concealment & lack of concealment: omerta (n)
- conflict: drive-by (conflict), hatchet job (n), hit (mob hit, etc.), job (hit job, etc.)
- constraint & lack of constraint: captive (held captive, etc.), captivity (n), fetter (n), fettered, Geneva Convention (cyber, etc.), handcuff (v), handcuffed, hostage (held hostage), hostage (other), imprisoned, manacle (n), prison (constraint), prisoner (constraint), riot (run riot), riot (other), shackle (n), unfettered, unshackle (v)
- control & lack of control: hijack (v), usurp (v)

- death & life: murderous (murderous hail of bullets, etc.)
- destruction: arson (n), vandal (n), vandalism (n)
- experience: made man (experience), OG (and original gangster)
- functioning: fetter (n), fettered, unfettered
- group, set & collection: mafia (group), mob (group), posse (group)
- hyperbole: murder (v), murderer (shame is a murderer, etc.)
- judgment: crime (fashion crime, etc.), hot seat (n)
- person: bandit (n), buccaneer (person), OG (and original gangster), pirate (person), police (and cop, etc.)
- possession: captive (held captive, etc.), captivity (n), hijack (v), hijacked, loot (v), time (steal time, etc.), usurp (v)
- punishment & recrimination: drive-by (conflict), hatchet job (n), job (hit job, etc.)
- pursuit, capture & escape: poach (v)
- resemblance: riot (riot of color, etc.)
- role: cop (good cop, bad cop)
- subterfuge: cop (good cop, bad cop)
- taking & removing: bandit (n), buccaneer (person), captive (held captive, etc.), captivity (n), heist (n), hijack (v), hijacked, hold up (rob), loot (v), piracy (n), pirate (person), piratical (adj), plunder (v), plundered, poach (v), poached, rob (v), robbed, robbery (n), Robin Hood, steal (steal the show, etc.), steal (steal customers, etc.), steal (steal dreams, etc.), stolen (taken), strip-mine (v), thief (thief of joy, etc.), usurp (v)

## **CURTAILMENT (1) (see also dismissal, removal & resignation; starting, going, continuing & ending)**

- ax: ax (n), axed (curtailed), cut (budget cuts, etc.), cut (cut the budget, etc.)
- baby: cradle (strangled in the cradle, etc.)
- bell: knell (death knell / obsolescence)
- blade: ax (n), axed (curtailed), cut (budget cuts, etc.), cut (cut the budget, etc.), cut off (v), cut short (v)
- books & reading: book (close the book)
- boxing: knock out (v)
- burial: bury (kill), knell (death knell / obsolescence)
- cards: fold (v)
- death & life: bury (kill), kill (v), kill off (v), knell (death knell / obsolescence)
- doors & thresholds: door (closure), lockdown (n)
- electricity: circuit breaker (n)
- farming & agriculture: cut short (v)
- fire: snuff (v)
- fist: knock out (v)
- hand: break off (v)
- infrastructure: dismantle (v), plug (pull the plug)
- journeys & trips: track (stop something in its tracks)
- key: lockdown (n)
- knife: cut (budget cuts, etc.), cut (cut the budget, etc.), cut off (v), cut short (v)
- light & dark: dark (go dark, etc.)
- mechanism: shut down (v), shut off (v), switch (kill switch)
- movement: end (come to an end, etc.), track (stop something in its tracks)
- plant: bud (nipped in the bud), root (tear something out by the roots, etc.)
- sound: knell (death knell / obsolescence), silent (fall silent)
- sports & games: sidelined (adj)
- tools & technology: ax (n), circuit breaker (n)
- tree: root (tear something out by the roots, etc.)

- verb: book (close the book), break off (v), bury (kill), cut (cut the budget, etc.), cut off (v), cut short (v), dark (go dark, etc.), dismantle (v), dissolve (terminate), fold (v), kill (v), kill off (v), plug (pull the plug), root (tear something out by the roots, etc.), shut down (v), shut off (v), snuff (v), track (stop something in its tracks)
- walking, running & jumping: track (stop something in its tracks)
- water: dissolve (terminate), dissolved (ended), plug (pull the plug)
- window: shuttered (adj)

## DAM (2)

- amount: reservoir (amount)
- amount & effect: floodgate (open the floodgates / sluice gates), floodgates (other)
- constraint & lack of constraint: dam (psychological dam, etc.), floodgate (open the floodgates / sluice gates), floodgate (other)
- driving force: powerhouse (n)
- obstacles & impedance: dam (psychological dam, etc.)
- past & present: dam (water over the dam)
- power: powerhouse (n)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: dam (water over the dam)
- source: reservoir (source)
- strength & weakness: powerhouse (n)
- time: dam (water over the dam)

## DANGER (1)

- allusion: kryptonite (n), Scylla and Charybdis
- animal: hornet's nest, lurking (lurking danger, etc.), predation (n), predatory (adj), sitting duck, snake pit, teeth (in / into the teeth of), tiger (n), wolf (predation)
- back: back (watch your back, etc.), back (have somebody's back), back (stab in the back)
- bird: sitting duck
- blade: close shave
- boat: coast (coast is clear), lighthouse (protection), rock (on the rocks), Scylla and Charybdis, shoal (n), strait (dire straits, etc.), waters (dangerous waters, etc.)
- bodily reaction: exhale (v), sigh (sigh of relief)
- breadth: strait (dire straits, etc.)
- breathing: exhale (v), sigh (sigh of relief)
- color: zone (red zone, etc.)
- container: strait (dire straits, etc.)
- direction: back (watch your back, etc.), back (have somebody's back), back (stab in the back)
- electricity: rail (third rail)
- epithet: Mount Everest (and Everest), savage (Savage Mountain, etc.)
- explosion: bomb (danger), booby trap, booby-trapped, landmine (and land mine), minefield, powder keg, time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.), tripwire (danger)
- eye: evil eye
- forest: clear (in the clear / into the clear), patch (rough patch), woods (out of the woods)
- ground, terrain & land: edge (on the edge of a cliff, etc.), jungle (competition), precipice (at / on the precipice), precipice (other), slope (on a slippery slope), slope (slippery slope), terrain (dangerous terrain, etc.)
- hair: close shave
- hole: pitfall (n)
- hunting: ensnare (v), pitfall (n), sitting duck, snare (v), snare (n), trap (v), trap (other)
- Iliad & Odyssey: Scylla and Charybdis
- insect: hornet's nest
- journeys & trips: clear (in the clear / into the clear), patch (rough patch), woods (out of the woods)

- jungle: jungle (competition)
- knife: back (stab in the back)
- military: bomb (danger), booby trap, booby-trapped, firing line (n), landmine (and land mine), line of fire, milk run (n), minefield, no man's land (danger), powder keg, tripwire (danger)
- mountains & hills: edge (on the edge of a cliff, etc.), Mount Everest (and Everest), precipice (at / on the precipice), precipice (other), slope (on a slippery slope), slope (slippery slope)
- position: back (watch your back, etc.), back (have somebody's back), back (stab in the back)
- predation: lurking (lurking danger, etc.), predation (n), predatory (adj), wolf (predation)
- proximity: close call (danger), close shave
- rope: ensnare (v)
- route: way (in harm's way), way (out of harm's way)
- sea: coast (coast is clear), lighthouse (protection), rock (on the rocks), shoal (n), strait (dire straits, etc.), Scylla and Charybdis, waters (dangerous waters, etc.)
- sign, signal, symbol: zone (red zone, etc.)
- snake: snake pit
- speech: tongue (danger)
- teeth: teeth (in / into the teeth of)
- tiger: tiger (n)
- tongue: tongue (danger)
- train: rail (third rail)
- verb: ensnare (v), back (watch your back, etc.), back (have somebody's back), exhale (v), tread (tread carefully, etc.)
- walking, running & jumping: landmine (and land mine), minefield, pitfall (n), snare (v), step (watch one's step), tread (tread carefully, etc.)
- water: waters (dangerous waters, etc.)
- weapon: bomb (danger), booby trap, booby-trapped, firing line (n), kryptonite (n), landmine (and land mine), line of fire, minefield, powder keg, Russian roulette, time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.), tripwire (danger)
- wolf: wolf (predation)

## DAY (2)

- achievement, recognition & praise: heyday (n)
- amount: Christmas (Christmas list)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: day (at the end of the day)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: day (day has arrived, etc.), sunset (ride into the sunset)
- comprehension & lack of comprehension: dawn (verb / comprehension)
- conflict: day (win the day)
- death & life: day (last day / final day / death), night (death / actual)
- decline: evening (decline), twilight (in / into the twilight, etc.)
- epithet: Christmas
- fantasy & reality: Groundhog Day (film)
- fate, fortune & chance: midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.), noon (high noon), strike (his hour had struck, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: day (dark day)
- future: dawn (verb / start), day (a new day), day (day has arrived, etc.), day (day after tomorrow), tomorrow (future)
- growth & development: day (early days), evening (decline)
- past & present: day (back in the day), day (days of yore), day (of one's day / of its day), day (of the day), day (these days), day (those days), day (in the old days, etc.), day (old days), day (day has arrived, etc.), day

(modern day), day (latter-day), hour (of one's hour / of the hour), minute (at this minute), old (of old), old-fashioned (adj), outdated (adj), today (the present), yesterday (the past), yesteryear

- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day (in the old days, etc.), day (old days), day (back in the day), day (days of yore), day (of one's day / of its day), day (of the day), day (those days), day (have one's day), day (glory days, etc.), day (modern day), evening (decline), future (the future), future (of the future), heyday (n), hour (of one's hour / of the hour), latest (the latest / most recent), moment (have a moment / attention), old-fashioned (adj), outdated (adj), sun (currency and obsolescence), sunset (sunset years, etc.), twilight (in / into the twilight, etc.)
- proximity: eve (on the eve)
- repetition: Groundhog Day (film)
- speed: overnight
- starting, going, continuing & ending: dawn (verb / start), dawn (from / since the dawn), dawn (n), day (a new day), day (early days), day (call it a day)
- success & failure: day (win the day)
- superlative: Christmas
- time: dawn (n), dawn (verb / start), day (a new day), day (day has arrived, etc.), day (in the old days, etc.), day (old days), day (back in the day), day (days of yore), day (day after tomorrow), day (of one's day / of its day), day (of the day), day (these days), day (those days), day (latter-day), evening (decline), hour (of one's hour / of the hour), minute (at this minute), old (of old), old-fashioned (adj), outdated (adj), today (the present), tomorrow (future), twilight (in into the twilight, etc.), yesterday (the past), yesteryear
- timeliness and lack of timeliness: day (early / late in the day), day (early days), early (timeliness), eve (on the eve), late (timeliness), midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.), morning (early in the morning), noon (high noon), yesterday (I need it yesterday, etc.)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: Christmas (Christmas list)

## DEATH & LIFE (1)

- affix: cide (femicide, etc.)
- blood: blood (blood represents life), red (blood)
- burial: cemetery (people), graveyard (people)
- cliché: soul (death)
- color: evergreen (adj), red (blood)
- consumption: bill (butcher's bill, etc.), hamburger (Hamburger Hill, etc.), meat grinder (military)
- container: life (container)
- crime: murderous (murderous hail of bullets, etc.)
- day: day (last day / final day / death), night (death / actual)
- direction: fallen (dead), fallen (the fallen), laid low (killed), life (lay down one's life, etc.)
- epithet: alley (Ambush Alley, etc.), alley (Death Alley / U.S. 61, etc.), butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.), death (Angel of Death, etc.), Golgotha (Golgotha of Norilisk, etc.), graveyard (people), hamburger (Hamburger Hill, etc.), killer (silent killer, etc.)
- euphemism: board (off the board / euphemism), carried off (died), claim (kill), demise (death / actual), disappeared (detained, murdered, etc.), encounter (kill), ended (his life was ended, etc.), fallen (dead), fallen (the fallen), feet (feet first), gone (dead), laid low (killed), leave (death), life (life was cut short), life (lose one's life), life (take one's life), life (give one's life, etc.), life (steal a life), liquidate (kill), liquidated (killed), lose (through death), loss (death), lost (death), make it (didn't make it), neutralize (kill), neutralized (shot, killed, etc.), pass (die), pass away (v), passing (death / actual), remove (kill), rest (laid to rest / death), succumb (die / actual), take down (kill), taken (through death), take out (kill), terminated (killed), transition (die), west (go west / obsolete), with us (no longer with us)
- exclamation: farewell (death)
- farming & agriculture: cut down (killed), Grim Reaper (death), reaper (Reaper drone, etc.), sickle (death)

- fire: flame (life is a flame)
- infrastructure: life (life is a building)
- journeys & trips: dead (dead and gone), journey (life is a journey), road (fork in the road, etc.), way (along the way)
- justice: death sentence (literal), death warrant (literal)
- meat: bill (butcher's bill, etc.), hamburger (Hamburger Hill, etc.), meat grinder (military)
- mechanism: meat grinder (military)
- military: body count (actual)
- money: bill (butcher's bill, etc.), cheap (life is cheap, etc.), precious (life is precious, etc.)
- movement: dead (dead and gone), gone (dead), leave (death), pass (die), pass away (v), passing (death / actual)
- position: laid low (killed), succumb (die / actual)
- possession: life (give one's life, etc.), life (lose one's life), life (take one's life), life (steal a life)
- presence & absence: disappeared (detained, murdered, etc.), gone (dead), leave (death), lose (through death), with us (no longer with us)
- proper name: Predator (the Predator drone, etc.), reaper (Reaper drone, etc.)
- religion: Golgotha (Golgotha of Norilisk, etc.)
- season: season (life), winter (decline)
- sign, signal, symbol: blood (blood represents life), coffin (death / actual), cradle (symbol), grave (symbol), Grim Reaper (death), night (death / actual), red (blood), sickle (death)
- speech: farewell (death)
- sports & games: game (social interaction / life)
- standing, sitting & lying: succumb (die / actual)
- theater: stage (life is a stage)
- tree: evergreen (adj)
- verb: encounter (kill), killed (by disease, etc.), life (lose one's life), life (take one's life), life (give one's life, etc.), life (steal a life), lose (through death), pass (die), pass away (v), remove (kill), succumb (die / actual), take down (kill), take out (kill)
- violence: murderous (murderous hail of bullets, etc.)
- weapon: Russian roulette (you could actually die)

## **DEATH & LIFE (2) (see also destruction)**

- absorption & immersion: live (live and breathe, live to)
- accusation & criticism: drive-by (conflict), hit (mob hit, etc.), job (hit job, etc.)
- activity: alive (activity), alive (come alive), dead (activity), dormant (adj), hibernation (in hibernation), hibernation (other), life (spring to life), suspended animation, zone (dead zone, etc.)
- amelioration & renewal: alive (come alive), Fountain of Youth, invigorate (v), Lazarus (Bible), life (give life), life (bring to life), life (breathe life), newborn, reinvigorate (v), resurrect (v), resurrection (n), resuscitate (v), revive (v), revivify (v)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: autopsy (analysis), biopsy (analysis), dissect (v), post-mortem (analysis), vivisect (v)
- appearance & disappearance: disappear (extinction), exhume (v), lose (through extinction), lost (extinction), vanish (extinction), vanishing (disappearance)
- appearance & reality: reality (real, truth, lies, etc.)
- bases: lifeblood (n)
- behavior: vulture (behavior)
- commitment & determination: live (live and die / commitment)
- concealment & lack of concealment: exhume (v), life (hidden life, hidden lives), life (secret life, secret lives)
- condition & status: alive (status), alive (alive and well), belly-up (adj), brain-dead (adj), buried (dead and buried, etc.), dead (status), dead (dead on arrival), death (decline and death), deathbed (n), die (non-human),

- dying (dying industry, etc.), last rites (n), life support (on life support), live (alive / non-human), moribund (adj), obituary (n), pulse (n), spiral (death spiral), throe (death throes)
- conflict: drive-by (conflict), hit (mob hit, etc.), job (hit job, etc.)
  - consumption: live (live and breathe, live to)
  - control & lack of control: hand (dead hand)
  - curtailment: bury (kill), kill (v), kill off (v), knell (death knell / obsolescence)
  - death & life: dead (feeling)
  - decline: death (decline and death), death rattle, die down (v), doomed, dying (dying industry, etc.), gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.), life support (on life support), passing (death / figurative), requiem (n), twilight (in / into the twilight, etc.)
  - destruction: buried (dead and buried, etc.), bury (kill), coup de grace (deathblow), dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), deadly (adj), dead man walking, death (decline and death), deathblow (n), death rattle, death sentence (figurative), demise (political demise, etc.), epitaph (n), fatal (adj), fatally (fatally wounded, etc.), funeral (one's funeral), gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.), grave (dig one's grave), graveyard (of diplomacy, etc.), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), heart (stake through the heart, etc.), kill (v), kill off (v), kiss of death, knell (death knell / destruction), knife (knife in the heart), martyrdom (n), martyred, mortal (adj), mortally (mortally wounded, etc.), noose (fate), roadkill (n), spiral (death spiral), suicide (career suicide, etc.)
  - dismissal, removal & resignation: body count (figurative)
  - enthusiasm: live (live and breathe, live to)
  - epithet: undertaker (The Undertaker, etc.)
  - failure, accident & impairment: belly-up (adj), casualty (n), dust (bite the dust)
  - fate, fortune & chance: death (cheat death), doomed, funeral (one's funeral), grave (dig one's grave), kiss of death, live (live and die / fate), noose (fate), stand (stand and fall / fate)
  - feeling, emotion & effect: dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), deadening (effect), funereal (adj), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), killjoy (person), knife (knife in the heart)
  - functioning: dead (functioning)
  - help & assistance: rescue (v), rescue (n)
  - hyperbole: death (to death), death (death by PowerPoint, etc.), die (hyperbole), executed (animals, etc.), murder (v), murderer (shame is a murderer, etc.)
  - identity & nature: live (live and breathe, live to)
  - initiation: life (spring to life)
  - mental health: dead (feeling)
  - neck: neck (save one's neck)
  - oppression: disappear (oppression / transitive verb), disappearance (oppression)
  - person: vulture (behavior)
  - place: cemetery (things), dwell (location), grave (place), graveyard (things), live (location), reside (v), residence (n), place (resting place)
  - presence & absence: exist (v), life (hidden life, hidden lives), life (secret life, secret lives), live (location), live (that's where I live, etc.), reside (v), residence (n)
  - primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: demise (political demise, etc.), doomed, dying (dying industry, etc.), knell (death knell / obsolescence), live on (v), living (adj), old (traditional), passing (death / figurative), vanishing (disappearance)
  - punishment & recrimination: drive-by (conflict), job (hit job, etc.)
  - relationship: grow up (grow up together, etc.)
  - resistance, opposition & defeat: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.)
  - searching & discovery: exhume (v)
  - speech: elegy (n), eulogy (n)
  - starting, going, continuing & ending: alive (status), death rattle, die (non-human), die out (end), dying (dying industry, etc.), gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.), grave (end point), life (begin life), life (spring to life), life

(things), life (hidden life, hidden lives), life (secret life, secret lives), live (alive / non-human), live on (v), requiem (n), suspended animation

- substance & lack of substance: flesh and blood, life (bring to life)
- success & failure: crush (verb / accomplishment), flatline (v), kill (verb / accomplishment), killer (killer story, etc.)
- superlative: killer (killer story, etc.)
- survival, persistence & endurance: alive (keep something alive), die (non-human), Lazarus (Bible), life (survival), life (give life), life (breathe life), life (life of its own), lifeline (n), life raft, live (live and die / fate), live (live with something), live on (v), perish (v), rescue (v), rescue (n), resurrection (n), resuscitate (v), revive (v), revivify (v), save (v), shelf life (and sell-by date), stand (stand and fall / fate), stillborn (adj), viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
- time: dying (dying seconds, etc.), time (dead time)

## **DECLINE (1) (see also increase & decrease)**

- animal: breed (dying breed, etc.)
- astronomy: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), nadir (at the nadir), nadir (since the nadir), nadir (other), star (decline), wane (on the wane), wane (v)
- blade: whittled, whittling (whittling down)
- boat: ship (a sinking ship)
- bodily reaction: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.)
- breathing: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.)
- day: evening (decline), twilight (in / into the twilight, etc.)
- death & life: death (decline and death), death rattle, die down (v), doomed, dying (dying industry, etc.), gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.), life support (on life support), passing (death / figurative), requiem (n), twilight (in / into the twilight, etc.)
- direction: basement (basement price, etc.), bottom (hit bottom), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), crater (v), descend (v), descent (decline), dip (decrease), dip (n), direction (the right / wrong direction, etc.), dive (n), down (decline), downfall (n), downhill (go downhill, etc.), downturn (n), fall (fall ill, etc.), fall (n), fall (numbers), fall (money), fall (fall on / upon), fall (fall into chaos, etc.), fall off (v), falloff (n), free fall (in free fall), free fall (other), go down (decrease), grace (fall from grace), gutter (in the gutter / decline), gutter (end up in the gutter), gutter (gutter politics, etc.), knee (bring to one's knees), knee (on knees), low (decline), nadir (at the nadir), nosedive (verb / decline), nosedive (noun / decline), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline / decrease), race (race to the bottom), rock-bottom (adj), sag (v), sink (decline), slide (slide to perdition, etc.), slide (v), slip (fail), slip (sales have slipped, etc.), slump (v), south (go south, etc.), spiral (spiral downward, etc.), spiral (in a spiral), spiral (into a spiral), spiral (on a downward spiral), spiral (downward spiral, etc.), spiral (other), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble)
- erosion: crumble (v), erode, eroding, erosion (n)
- farming & agriculture: haywire (go haywire, etc.)
- fire: burn out (v), burnout (n), die (die down), flame (life is a flame)
- flying & falling: crater (v), free fall (in free fall), free fall (other), nosedive (verb / decline), nosedive (noun / decline), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline / decrease), spiral (spiral downward, etc.), spiral (in a spiral), spiral (into a spiral), spiral (on a downward spiral), spiral (downward spiral, etc.), spiral (other)
- ground, terrain & land: cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), rock-bottom (adj)
- health & medicine: fall (fall ill, etc.), life support (on life support)
- history: dark ages (in the dark ages), dark ages (other)
- infrastructure: gutter (in the gutter / decline), gutter (end up in the gutter), gutter (gutter politics, etc.)
- journeys & trips: direction (the right / wrong direction, etc.)
- knife: whittled, whittling (whittling down)
- ground, terrain & land: precipitous (adj), sinkhole (n)

- knee: knee (bring to one's knees), knee (on knees)
- leg: leg (last legs)
- light & dark: dim (decline), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), fade (v), star (decline), twilight (in / into the twilight, etc.)
- moon: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)
- mountains & hills: cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), downhill (go downhill, etc.), hill (over the hill), precipitous (adj)
- movement: passing (death / figurative), slide (slide to perdition, etc.), slide (v), stagnant (adj), stagnate (v) tailspin (in a tailspin)
- music: requiem (n)
- plane: crater (v), nosedive (verb / decline), nosedive (noun / decline), tailspin (into a tailspin), tailspin (in a tailspin)
- plant: bloom (bloom has faded, etc.), shrivel (v), vine (wither on the vine), wilt (v), wither (v)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: down (decline), go down (decrease)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: fall (n)
- ruins: crumble (v)
- sea: ebb (decline), ebb (at a low ebb), ebb (on the ebb), ship (a sinking ship), washed-up (adj)
- season: autumn (in the autumn), winter (decline)
- shadow: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)
- shape: trough (direction)
- size: shrink (decline), shrivel (v)
- sound: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.), requiem (n)
- sports & games: race (race to the bottom)
- standing, sitting & lying: knee (bring to one's knees), knee (on knees), leg (last legs)
- star: star (decline)
- sun: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)
- tide: ebb (decline), ebb (at a low ebb), ebb (on the ebb)
- verb: burn out (v), crater (v), crumble (v), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), descend (v), die down (v), dim (decline), dip (decrease), ebb (decline), eclipse (v), erode (v), fade (v), fall (fall ill, etc.), fall (numbers), fall (money), fall (fall into chaos, etc.), fall off (v), go down (decrease), haywire (go haywire, etc.), knee (bring to one's knees), nosedive (verb / decline), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline / decrease), sag (v), shrink (decline), shrivel (v), sink (decline), slide (v), slip (fail), slip (sales have slipped, etc.), slump (v), south (go south, etc.), spiral (spiral downward, etc.), stagnate (v), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble), vine (wither on the vine), wane (v), wilt (v), wither (v)
- walking, running & jumping: race (race to the bottom), slip (fail), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble)
- water: stagnant (adj), stagnate (v), washed-up (adjective)
- wave: washed-up (adj)

## DEPENDENCY (1)

- addiction: addicted (dependency), addiction (dependency)
- allusion: banana republic
- animal: lapdog (n)
- baby: babysit (v), babysitter (role), nanny (person), wean (v)
- dog: lapdog (n)
- family: babysit (v), babysitter (role), nanny (person)
- health & medicine: addicted (dependency), addiction (dependency)
- history: banana republic, satrapy (n)
- lap: lapdog (n)
- mechanism: wheel (training wheels)
- person: babysitter (role), nanny (person), slave (slave to fashion, etc.)
- riding: ride (ride on something)

- standing, sitting & lying: crutch (n), lean on (support)
- verb: babysit (v), lean on (support), ride (ride on something), wean (v)

## DEPTH (2)

- ability & lack of ability: depth (out of one's depth)
- absorption & immersion: end (deep end)
- amount: bottomless (adj)
- bases: deep-rooted (adj)
- character & personality: deep (person), shallow (person)
- commitment & determination: dig deep (determination)
- comprehension & incomprehension: fathom (v), unfathomable (adj)
- consciousness & awareness: deep (deep sleep, etc.)
- experience: depth (out of one's depth)
- extent & scope: bottom (no bottom), bottomless (adj), deep (situation), deep (extent and scope), deepen (v), deeply, depth (extent), shallow (adj), sound (measure)
- feeling, emotion & effect: deep (emotion)
- involvement: deep (situation), deep (in deep), end (deep end), head (get in over one's head, etc.)
- knowledge & intelligence: depth (out of one's depth)
- measurement: sound (measure)
- person: deep (person), shallow (person)
- situation: deep (situation), deep (in deep), depth (out of one's depth), head (get in over one's head, etc.)
- substance & lack of substance: deep (extent and scope), depth (substance), shallow (adj)
- survival, persistence & endurance: head (get in over one's head, etc.)
- time: deep (deep past, etc.), depth (depths of winter, etc.)

## DESERT (2)

- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: sand (stick one's head in the sand)
- environment: desert (environment), oasis (environment), Sahara (Sahara of snow, etc.), sand (political sands, etc.)
- epithet: ship (ship of the desert)
- fantasy & reality: mirage (n)
- proper name: oasis (Oasis of the Seas, etc.)
- resemblance: desert (environment), Sahara (Sahara of snow, etc.)
- substance & lack of substance: mirage (n)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: desert (food desert, etc.)

## DESTRUCTION (1) (see also failure, accident & impairment)

- affix: breaker (deal-breaker, etc.), geddon (chipageddon, etc.), pocalypse (gas-pocalypse, etc.)
- air: balloon (puncture a balloon, etc.), prick (v), puncture (v)
- allusion: apocalypse (n), Armageddon, geddon (chipageddon, etc.), heart (stake through the heart, etc.), kiss of death, kryptonite (n), holocaust (n), Phoenix (myth), pocalypse (gas-pocalypse, etc.), *Titanic* (the ship), vandal (n), vandalism (n)
- animal: carcass (n), devour (destroy), eat (mental health), eat (destroy), ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other), gored, lamb (lamb to the slaughter), nibble (nibble at, etc.), roadkill (n), sheep (predation), slaughtered, snake (cut off the head of the snake, etc.), teeth (danger), trample (v), trampled
- astronomy: meteorite (n)
- atmosphere: balloon (puncture a balloon, etc.), prick (v), puncture (v)
- ax: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), decapitate (v), head (heads will roll, etc.)
- baby: cradle (strangled in the cradle, etc.)
- back: back (break the back)

- balloon: balloon (puncture a balloon, etc.)
- bell: knell (death knell / destruction)
- Bible: apocalypse (n), Armageddon, geddon (chipageddon, etc.), kiss of death, pocalypse (gas-pocalypse, etc.)
- blade: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), decapitate (v), gut (destroy), gutted (destroyed), head (heads will roll, etc.), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart), knife (sharpen one's knife)
- boat: founder (v), rock (on the rocks), scupper (v), scuttle (v), scuttled, shipwreck (n), shoal (n), sink (destroy), *Titanic* (the ship), torpedo (v), torpedo (n), water (blow something out of the water)
- bodily reaction: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.)
- boundary: edge (push something over the edge)
- breathing: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.), strangle (v), strangled, strangulation, suffocated
- burial: buried (dead and buried, etc.), bury (kill), coffin (nail in the coffin, etc.), epitaph (n), funeral (one's funeral), grave (dig one's grave), graveyard (of diplomacy, etc.), knell (death knell / destruction)
- cloth: shred (v), undoing (destruction), undone (destruction)
- consumption: cannibalism (n)
- crashes & collisions: crash (crash and burn), crash (car crash), shipwreck (n), train wreck, wreck (v), wreck (person), wreckage (n), wrecked
- creature: heart (stake through the heart, etc.)
- crime: arson (n), vandal (n), vandalism (n)
- death & life: buried (dead and buried, etc.), bury (kill), coup de grace (deathblow), dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), deadly (adj), dead man walking, death (decline and death), deathblow (n), death rattle, death sentence (figurative), demise (political demise, etc.), epitaph (n), fatal (adj), fatally (fatally wounded, etc.), funeral (one's funeral), gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.), grave (dig one's grave), graveyard (of diplomacy, etc.), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), heart (stake through the heart, etc.), kill (v), kill off (v), kiss of death, knell (death knell / destruction), knife (knife in the heart), martyrdom (n), martyred, mortal (adj), mortally (mortally wounded, etc.), noose (fate), roadkill (n), spiral (death spiral), suicide (career suicide, etc.)
- direction: bring down (v), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), crash (crash down), downfall (n), fell (v), grind down (v), spiral (death spiral), takedown (n), topple (v)
- epithet: cannibal (the Cannibal, etc.), Chernobyl (rainforest Chernobyl, etc.), Hiroshima (epithet), Pompeii (Pompeii of the East, etc.)
- equilibrium & stability: topple (v)
- erosion: crumble (v), disintegrate (v), disintegration
- explosion: atomic bomb, blasted apart, blast radius (n), blown away (destruction), blow up (destroy / disrupt), explode (destroy / disrupt), implode (v), implosion (n), self-destructive (adj)
- farming & agriculture: rake (destroy), slash-and-burn (adj)
- fire: arson (n), ashes (from the ashes), auto da fe, consume (destroy), consumed (destroyed), crash (crash and burn), extinguish (v), extinguished, flame (in flames), holocaust (n), Phoenix (myth), scorched-earth (and scorched earth), slash-and-burn (adj), snuff (v)
- fist: crush (destroy), pound (pound targets, etc.)
- flying & falling: crash (crash and burn), shot down (and shot down in flames), spiral (death spiral)
- food & drink: consume (destroy), consumed (destroyed), devour (destroy), devoured (by an emotion, etc.), eat (mental health), eat (destroy), eaten alive (by debt, rage, etc.), eat up (destroy), lunch (destruction), nibble (nibble at, etc.)
- foot: stamp out (v), trample (v), trampled
- force: crushed (destroyed), crushing (adj)
- ground, terrain & land: abyss (n), cliff (glass cliff), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), edge (push something over the edge)
- hand: crush (destroy)

- head: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), decapitate (v), head (heads will roll, etc.), snake (cut off the head of the snake, etc.)
- health & medicine: chalice (poisoned chalice), dismember (v), dismembered, dismemberment (n), dissection (n), eviscerate (v), eviscerated, evisceration (n), fatal (adj), fatally (fatally wounded, etc.), lacerate (v), mortal (adj), mortally (mortally wounded, etc.), pill (poison pill), poisonous (adj), toxic (adj)
- heart: heart (knife in the heart, etc.), heart (stake through the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart)
- history: Chernobyl, genocidal (adj), genocide (groups), Hiroshima (epithet), holocaust (n), *Titanic* (the ship), vandal (n), vandalism (n)
- hole: balloon (puncture a balloon, etc.), prick (v), puncture (v)
- horse: founder (v)
- house: roof (a roof can cave in)
- hunting: gut (destroy), gutted (destroyed)
- infrastructure: buckle (give way), collapse (v), collapse (n), crash (crash down), demolition (n), drain (go down the drain, etc.), pipe (go down the pipes), roadkill (n), ruin (verb), ruin (in ruins, etc.), ruin (road to ruin), ruined, tear down (v), tube (go down the tubes), tumble down (v)
- justice: dead man walking, death sentence (figurative), death warrant (figurative), wheel (break someone on the wheel, etc.)
- knife: dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), gut (destroy), gutted (destroyed), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart), knife (sharpen one's knife)
- line: edge (push something over the edge)
- manufacturing: unmaking (destruction)
- materials & substances: meltdown (failure), poison (n), poison (v), radioactive (adj), shatter (destroy), shattered (destroyed), shattering (ear-shattering, etc.), toxic (adj)
- mechanism: break (destroy / disrupt), break down (destroy), breaker (deal-breaker, etc.), grind down (v)
- Middle Ages: wheel (break someone on the wheel, etc.)
- military: attacked, blast radius (n), carnage (n), collateral damage (n), invader (n), sabotage (v), sabotage (n), sabotaged, saboteur (person), scorched-earth (and scorched earth), shot down (and shot down in flames), strike (preemptive strike, etc.), waste (lay waste), water (blow something out of the water), weapon (political weapon, etc.)
- mountains & hills: abyss (n), cliff (glass cliff), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), edge (push something over the edge)
- movement: spiral (death spiral)
- neck: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), decapitate (v), head (heads will roll, etc.), neck (save one's neck)
- nuclear energy: atomic bomb, Chernobyl, Hiroshima (epithet), meltdown (failure), radioactive (adj)
- person: cannibal (the Cannibal, etc.), invader (n), vandal (n), wreck (person)
- physics: implode (v), implosion (n)
- place: Chernobyl, Hiroshima (epithet)
- plane: crash (crash and burn), shoot down (v), shot down (and shot down in flames), spiral (death spiral)
- plant: root (tear something out by the roots, etc.), root out (v), uproot (v)
- predation: consume (destroy), consumed (destroyed), devour (destroy), devoured (by an emotion, etc.), eat (mental health), eat (destroy), eaten alive (by debt, rage, etc.), ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other), lamb (lamb to the slaughter), sheep (predation), nibble (nibble at, etc.), teeth (danger)
- religion: apocalypse (n), kiss of death, martyrdom (n), martyred, perdition (n)
- river: swept away (removal)
- roof: roof (a roof can cave in)
- rope: undoing (destruction), undone (destruction)
- ruins: bring down (v), buckle (give way), collapse (v), collapse (n), collateral damage (n), crash (crash down), crumble (v), damage (n), debris (n), demolition (n), destruction (n), flatten (v), roof (a roof can cave in), rubble (in the rubble), rubble (other), ruin (v), ruin (financial ruin, etc.), ruin (in ruins, etc.), ruin (road to ruin), ruined,

self-destructive (adj), smash (smash a record, etc.), topple (v), tumble down (v), waste (lay waste), wreck (v), wreck (persons), wreckage (n), wrecked

- sea: founder (v), rock (on the rocks), scupper (v), scuttle (v), scuttled, shoal (n), sink (destroy), swept away (removal), torpedo (v), torpedo (n), water (blow something out of the water)
- season: winter (nuclear winter, etc.)
- shape: spiral (death spiral)
- sheep: lamb (lamb to the slaughter), sheep (predation)
- sign, signal, symbol: Phoenix (myth)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: dismember (v), dismembered, dismemberment (n), dissection (n), eviscerate (v), eviscerated, evisceration (n), lacerate (v)
- snake: snake (cut off the head of the snake, etc.)
- sound: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.), knell (death knell / destruction)
- speech: shoot down (v)
- stomach: gut (destroy), gutted (destroyed)
- taking & removing: take (destroy)
- teeth: teeth (danger)
- tools & technology: blowtorch (n), bulldoze (v), bulldozer (n), buzz saw (n), chainsaw (n), demolition (n), rake (destroy), run over (v), sledgehammer (n), steamroll (v), steamrolled (and steamrollered), wrecking ball (n)
- train: train wreck
- tree: root (tear something out by the roots, etc.), root out (v), uproot (v)
- verb: back (break the back), blow up (destroy / disrupt), break (destroy / disrupt), brink down (v), buckle (give way), break down (destroy), bury (kill), bulldoze (v), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), collapse (v), consume (destroy), crash (crash and burn), crash (crash down), crumble (v), crush (destroy), decapitate (v), devour (destroy), disintegrate (v), dismember (v), drain (go down the drain), eat (mental health), eat (destroy), eat up (destroy), eviscerate (v), extinguish (v), fell (v), flatten (v), grave (dig one's grave), grind down (v), gut (destroy), implode (v), kill (v), kill off (v), lacerate (v), nibble (nibble at, etc.), pipe (go down the pipes), poison (v), pound (pound targets, etc.), prick (v), puncture (v), root (tear something out by the roots, etc.), rake (destroy), root out (v), ruin (v), run over (v), sabotage (v), scupper (v), scuttle (v), shatter (destroy), shoot down (v), shred (v), sink (destroy), smash (smash a record, etc.), snuff (v), squash (v), stamp out (v), steamroll (v), strangle (v), tear apart (v), tear down (v), tear up (v), topple (v), torpedo (v), trample (v), tube (go down the tubes), uproot (v), waste (lay waste), water (blow something out of the water), wreck (v)
- violence: coup de grace (deathblow), dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), genocidal (adj), genocide (groups), head (heads will roll, etc.), pound (pound targets, etc.), rape (v), rape (n), slaughtered, wheel (break someone on the wheel, etc.)
- water: pop (bubble popped, etc.), swept away (removal)
- weapon: attacked, blown away (destruction), coup de grace (deathblow), dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), deathblow (n), kryptonite (n), shoot down (v), shot down (and shot down in flames), strike (preemptive strike, etc.), weapon (political weapon, etc.), weaponization (n)
- weight: squash (v)
- wolf: ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other)

## **DESTRUCTION (2) (see also death & life)**

- amelioration & renewal: piece (pick up the pieces)
- division & connection: torn (divided)
- feeling, emotion & effect: destroy (emotion), devastated (emotion), devastating (feeling), shatter (emotions), shattered (mentally, etc.), shattering (emotions), torn up, wreck (person)
- oppression: crush (confidence, spirit, etc.)
- mental health: destroy (emotions), shatter (emotions), shattered (mentally, etc.), shattering (emotions)
- resiliency: piece (pick up the pieces)

## DEVELOPMENT (1)

- astronomy: wane (v), wax and wane
- baseball: inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning)
- books & reading: book (close the book), book (development), bookend (development), chapter (other), page (development), plot (n), plot line (development)
- boxing: round (boxing)
- cloth: unfold (develop), unfolding (developing), unspool (v), unwind (analyze)
- corner: corner (turn the corner)
- direction: come (occur, develop), follow (it follows that, etc.), fulcrum (n), go (develop), head (development), hinge (hinge event, etc.), inflection point, lead (one thing leads to another), pivot (n), pivot (v), pivotal (adj), point (decision point, etc.), point (tipping point), point (pivot point), roller coaster (development), seesaw (n), swing (swing around), turn (take a turn), turn (development), turning point (n), turn out (develop), twist (n), twist (twist and turn / twists and turns), upon (tragedy upon tragedy, etc.), ups and downs, way (go the other way, etc.)
- distance: along (further along)
- eye: see (see something coming)
- film: unspool (v), unwind (analyze)
- flying & falling: trajectory (n)
- food & drink: appetizer (n), hors d'oeuvres (n), main course (and main dish), table (set the table)
- force: wave (ride a wave, etc.)
- geometry: circle (a circle can close), circle (full circle)
- health & medicine: head (come to a head)
- horse: homestretch (n)
- journeys & trips: come (come a long way), course (development), crossroad (at a crossroad), crossroad (other), get (get somewhere), go (where are we going, etc.), journey (n), odyssey (on an odyssey), odyssey (other), passage (journey), path (a path can turn / development), reach (a place on a journey), return (point of no return), road (turn in the road, etc.), saga (n), take (take somebody somewhere), trajectory (n), turn (take a turn), turn (development), way (to the other way, etc.)
- mechanism: fulcrum (n), pivotal (adj), point (tipping point), point (pivot point), turning point (n)
- military: shot (warning shot)
- moon: wane (v), wax and wane
- mountains & hills: watershed (n)
- movement: along (further along), come (occur, develop), come (come a long way), come to (development), follow (it follows that, etc.), get (not get anywhere, get nowhere), go (go wrong, etc.), go (go right, etc.), go (not go anywhere, go nowhere), go (develop), go (where are we going, etc.), head (development), here (go from here), hinge (hinge event, etc.), journey (n), lead (one thing leads to another), move on (development), pendulum (reversal), progress (v), reach (a place on a journey), roller coaster (development), see (see something coming), seesaw (n), stand still (progress), swing (swing around), swing (development), turn (take a turn), turn (development), turning point (n), twist (n), where (situation / development)
- music: crescendo (n)
- number: point (decision point, etc.), zero (from hero to zero, etc.)
- odyssey (on an odyssey), odyssey (other)
- path: path (a path can turn / development)
- pendulum: pendulum (reversal), swing (development)
- physics: trajectory (n)
- place: here (situation), here (go from here), place (situation), place (place where), point (point where), point (at a point), where (situation / development)
- position: upon (tragedy upon tragedy, etc.)

- prep, adv, adj, particle: upon (tragedy upon tragedy, etc.)
- radio: tuned (stay tuned)
- religion: hejira (and hejira)
- river: watershed (n)
- rope: play out (v)
- route: course (development)
- scale: scale (tip the scales)
- sea: ebb (development), tide (turn the tide, etc.), wave (ride a wave, etc.)
- season: season (life)
- shape: circle (a circle can close), circle (full circle), trajectory (n)
- snow & ice: frozen (development)
- sound: crescendo (n)
- sports & games: game (game-changer), homestretch (n), inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning), roller coaster (development), round (boxing), seesaw (n)
- standing, sitting & lying: stand still (development)
- storm: storm (calm before the storm)
- table: table (set the table)
- theater: act (development), anticlimax (n), climax (n), finale (n), intermission (n), plot (n), plot line (development), script (to script), script (off script, etc.), stage (set the stage, etc.)
- tide: ebb (development), tide (turn the tide, etc.)
- verb: come (occur, develop), come to (development), corner (turn the corner), follow (it follows that, etc.), get (get somewhere), go (develop), head (development), lead (one thing leads to another), play out (v), progress (v), reach (a place on a journey), scale (tip the scales), see (see something coming), stage (set the stage, etc.), take (take somebody somewhere), tide (turn the tide, etc.), tuned (stay tuned), turn (take a turn), turn out (develop), unfold (develop), unspool (v), unwind (analyze), wane (v), wax and wane
- water: wave (ride a wave, etc.)
- wave: wave (ride a wave, etc.)
- weapon: shot (warning shot), shot (opening shot), shot (parting shot)
- weight: camel (break the camel's back), scale (tip the scales), stand still (development), straw (last straw / final straw)

## **DIFFICULTY, EASINESS & EFFORT (1) (see also work & duty)**

- allusion: hard (space is hard), herculean (adj), Manhattan Project, Marshall Plan, New Deal (Green New Deal, etc.), promethean (adj), Sisyphean (adj)
- animal: beaver (v), canter (n), canter (v), claw (v), scratch (scratch and claw, etc.), trot (on the trot)
- arm: push (summit push, etc.), pushover (n)
- astronomy: moonshot (n)
- back: back (carry something on one's back), backbreaking (adj)
- baseball: home run (swing for a home run, etc.)
- basketball: full-court (full-court press, etc.), layup (n), slam-dunk
- blood: blood (effort)
- boat: hand (all hands on deck), sail (sail to victory, etc.), sailing (smooth sailing)
- bodily reaction: sweat (work)
- boundary: limits (push something to its limits)
- burden: back (carry something on one's back), drag (v)
- circus: acrobat (person), acrobatic (adj), acrobatics (n), high wire (fate), hoop (jump through hoops, etc.), juggle (v), juggling, tightrope (fate)
- cloth: needle (thread the needle, etc.), needle (eye of the needle, needle's eye)
- clothing & accessories: sleeve (roll up one's sleeves)

- corner: corner (cut corners)
- direction: current (swim with the current, etc.), current (swim against the current, etc.), downhill (easy), hill (difficulty), uphill (difficult), upstream (swim upstream)
- distance: corner (cut corners), length (go to any lengths, etc.), marathon (effort and time), mile (go the extra mile), shortcut (v), shortcut (n)
- engine: gear up (v)
- epithet: Mount Everest (and Everest)
- farming & agriculture: plow (plow on, plow through, etc.), row (row to hoe)
- finger: finger (lift a finger)
- food & drink: cakewalk (dance), picnic (no picnic), picnic (other), platter (silver platter)
- force: push (summit push, etc.), pushover (n)
- forest: patch (rough patch)
- fruits & vegetables: fruit (low-hanging fruit)
- gesture: sleeve (roll up one's sleeves)
- ground, terrain & land: last-ditch (adj), rock (turn over every rock, etc.), stone (turn over every stone, etc.)
- hand: finger (lift a finger), hand (have one's hands full), hand (all hands on deck)
- head: no-brainer (n)
- history: Manhattan Project, Marshall Plan, New Deal (Green New Deal, etc.), slave (v), trail of tears, via dolorosa
- horse: canter (n), canter (v), hands down (easily), trot (on the trot)
- hunting: turkey shoot
- journeys & trips: corner (cut corners), mile (go the extra mile), patch (rough patch), path (tough / easy path, etc.), path (clear a path), road (long road), road (tough / easy road, etc.), shortcut (v), shortcut (n), slog (v), slog (long hard slog, etc.), trail of tears, via dolorosa, way (go out of one's way), yellow brick road
- materials & substances: hard (space is hard), platter (silver platter), slippery (difficult)
- mechanism: gear up (v), grind (daily grind, etc.), grind away (v), grinding (grinding poverty, etc.), maintenance (high maintenance, etc.)
- military: battle (uphill battle, etc.), Dunkirk (digital Dunkirk, etc.), Gallipoli (a Gallipoli of an interview, etc.), last-ditch (adj), Manhattan Project, Marshall Plan, milk run (n), slog (lang hard slog, etc.)
- money: taxing (adj)
- moon: moonshot (n)
- mountains & hills: downhill (easy), hill (difficulty), mountain (difficulty), Mount Everest (and Everest), uphill (difficult)
- movement: acrobatic (adj), acrobatics (n), coast (coast to victory, etc.), canter (n), canter (v), drag (v), gymnastic (adj), gymnastics (effort), park (walk in the park), sail (sail to victory, etc.), scramble (v), shortcut (v), shortcut (n), stroll (stroll to success, etc.), trot (on the trot), waltz (waltz to success, etc.)
- music: stop (pull out all the stops), waltz (waltz to success, etc.)
- orientation: current (swim with the current, etc.), current (swim against the current, etc.), upstream (swim upstream)
- party: party (garden party)
- path: path (tough / easy path, etc.), path (clear a path), yellow brick road
- person: acrobat (person), hand (all hands on deck)
- pressure: hard-pressed (adj)
- religion: heaven (move heaven and earth), promethean (adj), via dolorosa
- river: current (swim with the current, etc.), current (swim against the current, etc.), upstream (swim upstream)
- sign, signal, symbol: blood (effort), platter (silver platter), sweat (work)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: sinew (effort)
- snow & ice: sledding (tough sledding)

- sports & games: acrobatic (adj), acrobatics (n), bar (bar is set high, etc.), eight ball (behind the eight ball, etc.), full-court (full-court press, etc.), gymnastic (adj), gymnastics (effort), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), hoop (jump through hoops, etc.), juggle (v), juggling, knuckle down (v), layup (n), marathon (effort and time), slam-dunk, softball (n), whack-a-mole (and whack a mole)
- speech: tongue twister, tongue-twisting
- speed: canter (n)
- standing, sitting & lying: bend (bend over backwards)
- stomach: gut out (v)
- target: target (moving target), target (hard target, etc.), target (easy target, soft target, etc.)
- tongue: tongue twister, tongue-twisting
- tree: fruit (low-hanging fruit)
- verb: beaver (v), bend (bend over backwards), canter (v), claw (v), coast (coast to victory, etc.), drag (v), finger (lift a finger), gear up (v), grind away (v), gut out (v), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), hoop (jump through hoops, etc.), juggle (v), knuckle down (v), limits (push something to its limits), path (clear a path), plow (plow on, plow through, etc.), rock (turn over every rock, etc.), sail (sail to victory, etc.), scramble (v), scratch (scratch and claw, etc.), shortcut (v), stone (turn over every stone, etc.), slave (v), slog (v), stop (pull out all the stops), stroll (stroll to success, etc.), waltz (waltz to success, etc.), way (go out of one's way)
- walking, running & jumping: canter (n), canter (v), downhill (easy), marathon (effort and time), park (walk in the park), scramble (v), slog (v), slog (long hard slog, etc.), stroll (stroll to success, etc.), trail of tears, uphill (difficult), walkover (n)
- weapon: shot (best shot), target (hard target, etc.), target (easy target, soft target, etc.), turkey shoot
- weight: back (carry something on one's back), lift (heavy lift)

## **DIRECTION (1) (see also course; route)**

- air: weather vane (n)
- allusion: breadcrumb (evidence)
- animal: bellwether (n), cow (bell cow)
- astronomy: lodestar (n), lodestone (n), star (north star)
- atmosphere: drift (control)
- boat: adrift (adj), chart (v), course (change course, etc.), course (stay the course), course (reverse course), drift (control), jibe (v), lighthouse (protection), navigate (v), navigating, navigation, sea (at sea), rudderless, steer (v), tack (v), tack (n)
- clock: clock (around the clock)
- cows & cattle: cow (bell cow)
- fire: beacon (n)
- foot: footstep (in the footsteps)
- ground, terrain & land: landmark (n), navigate (v), negotiate (terrain, etc.), uncharted (adj), way (know one's way around)
- infrastructure: lighthouse (protection)
- journeys & trips: beacon (n), bearing (direction), bound (destination), chart (v), course (on course), course (change course, etc.), course (stay the course), course (reverse course), course (course of action, etc.), crossroad (at a crossroad), crossroad (other), detour (n), follow (a path, route, road, etc.), footstep (in the footsteps), fork (a fork in the road, etc.), go (direction), guide (v), guide (person), guide (nonperson), head (development), headed, landmark (n), lead (one thing leads to another), light (guiding light), lodestar (n), lodestone (n), lost (direction), mislead (v), misleading (adj), navigate (v), negotiate (terrain, etc.), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.) plot (v), road (turn in the road, etc.), stray (direction), uncharted (adj), way (lose one's way), way (find one's way), way (the wrong way), way (know one's way around), way (part ways)
- light & dark: beacon (n), light (guiding light), lighthouse (protection)

- map: chart (v), course (change course, etc.), course (stay the course), course (reverse course), navigate (v), plot (v), uncharted (adj)
- mechanism: steer (v)
- mountains & hills: watershed (n)
- movement: approach (a better approach, etc.), bound (destination), follow (a path, route, road, etc.), footstep (in the footsteps), head (development), lead (one thing leads to another), meander (v), move (direction), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), stray (direction), wind (wind its way)
- number: neighborhood (numbers), north (numbers), south (numbers)
- person: guide (person)
- river: meander (v), watershed (n), wind (wind its way)
- sea: lighthouse (protection), sea (at sea), uncharted (adj)
- shape: corkscrew (v), corkscrew (shape)
- sheep: bellwether (n)
- sign, signal, symbol: weather vane (n)
- star: star (north star)
- tools & technology: bearing (direction), compass (moral compass), compass (other), lodestone (n), weather vane (n)
- train: track (direction), track (on track)
- verb: chart (v), corkscrew (v), course (change course, etc.), course (stay the course), course (reverse course), follow (a path, route, road, etc.), go (direction), guide (v), head (development), jibe (v), meander (v), mislead (v), move (direction), navigate (v), negotiate (terrain, etc.), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), plot (v), steer (v), stray (direction), tack (v), way (lose one's way), way (find one's way), way (part ways), wind (wind its way)
- weather & climate: weather vane (n)
- wind: drift (control), weather vane (n)

## **DIRECTION (2) (see also height; position)**

- acceptance & rejection: turn down (v)
- accusation & criticism: come down on (v), takedown (n)
- achievement, recognition & praise: apex (achievement), elevate (v), elevation (n), height (at the height), heights (to new heights, etc.), rise (achievement), rise (achieve), rising (rising star, etc.), top (excellence)
- activity: time (down time / activity)
- admiration & contempt: below (behavior), beneath (behavior), high (noble), look down on (something), look up to (somebody), low (base, bad / adjective), low (base, bad / noun), nose (look down one's nose), talk down to somebody)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: back (support / verb), bring around (v), down (down for something), lean towards (v), side (on one's side / person), side with (v), time (time on one's side), turn (turn against / turn on something), up (up for something)
- alternatives & choices: turn (turn to something, etc.)
- amelioration & renewal: feet (get back on one's feet, etc.), straighten out (v), turn around (turn things around, etc.)
- amount: bottomless (adj), low (low on food, etc.)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: boil down to (v), bottom (get to the bottom of something), come down to (v), drill (analysis), follow (it follows that, etc.), follow (the facts, etc.)
- appearance & disappearance: arise (v), come (occur, develop), come back (from extinction, etc.), come forward (v), come up (appear), fall (fall off the radar screen, etc.), pop up (v), turn out (rally), turnout
- appearance & reality: underneath (basis)
- area: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- attainment: climb (scale), scale (climb), sights (lower one's sights)

- attempt: go for it (and go for broke, etc.)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), forward (bring something forward, etc.), forwardness (n), front (front and center), heighten (v), raise (attention), skyrocket (to attention, etc.)
- attenuation: tone down (v)
- avoidance & separation: inward (turn inward, etc.)
- bases: behind (basis), boil down to (v), bottom (get to the bottom of something), come down to (v), underlie, underlying (adj), underneath (basis)
- behavior: above (above the fray, etc.), astray (direction), below (behavior), beneath (behavior), crooked (adj), descend (v), fall down (v), fray (above the fray), go (behavior), ground (moral high ground, etc.), gutter (in the gutter / behavior), gutter (out of the gutter), gutter (gutter politics, etc.), low (base, bad / adjective), low (base, bad / noun), raise (your image, etc.), rise (rise above something), road (the high road / the low road), shifty (adj), sink (behavior), standard (higher standard), stoop (behavior), straight (the straight and narrow), straight arrow (person), stray (behavior), top (over the top), upright (upright man, etc.), upstanding (adj)
- center & periphery: background (background noise, etc.), foreground (n), fringe (on the fringe), fringe (versus mainstream), netherworld (n), underworld (n)
- certainty & uncertainty: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- character & personality: buoyant (personality), crooked (adj), down to earth (adj), ground (moral high ground, etc.), high-minded (adj), shifty (adj), straight (honest), straight (the straight and narrow), straightforward, straight arrow, twisted (character), upright (upright man, etc.), upstanding (adj)
- cloth: weave (move)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: arrive (a time can arrive), arrive (the equator is arriving, etc.), circle back (return), come (winter is coming, etc.), come (occur, develop), come and go (currency), come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), comeback (n), day (day has arrived, etc.), go back (and get back), intervening (adj), return (and return to), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (time has passed), turnover (work), upcoming (adj)
- commitment & determination: down (down for something), go for it (and go for broke, etc.), live up to (something), up (up for something)
- competition: ahead (competition), behind (competition), dust (leave somebody in the dust), fall behind (competition and progress), front (in front / competition), outrun (v), slipstream (in a slipstream), trail (competition and progress)
- concealment & lack of concealment: basement (concealment), hide (hide behind something), netherworld (n), underground (n), underworld (n)
- condition & status: down (functioning), knee (bring to one's knees), knee (on knees), laid low (condition, etc.), spiral (death spiral)
- conflict: side (conflict)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: come forward (v), face up (face up to something), man up (v), retreat (withdraw), rise (rise to the challenge, etc.)
- consciousness & awareness: fall (fall into a coma, etc.), see (see something coming), sink (sink into a coma, etc.)
- control & lack of control: adrift (adj), hand (upper hand), helm (at the helm), helm (v), helm (n), top (on top / control)
- corruption: twist (twist the truth, etc.), twisted (corruption)
- course: adrift (adj), direction (the right / wrong direction, etc.), direction (a new direction, etc.), direction (course / on a course), direction (purpose), direction (symbol)
- creation & transformation: turn (transform), turn out (create)
- danger: back (watch your back, etc.), back (have somebody's back), back (stab in the back)
- death & life: fallen (dead), fallen (the fallen), laid low (killed), life (lay down one's life, etc.)

- decline: basement (basement price, etc.), bottom (hit bottom), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), crater (v), descend (v), descent (decline), dip (decrease), dip (n), direction (the right / wrong direction, etc.), dive (n), down (decline), downfall (n), downhill (go downhill, etc.), downturn (n), drop, fall (fall ill, etc.), fall (n), fall (numbers), fall (money), fall (fall on / upon), fall (fall into chaos, etc.), fall off (v), falloff (n), free fall (in free fall), free fall (other), go down (decrease), grace (fall from grace), gutter (in the gutter / decline), gutter (end up in the gutter), gutter (gutter politics, etc.), knee (bring to one's knees), knee (on knees), low (decline), nadir (at the nadir), nosedive (verb / decline), nosedive (noun / decline), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline / decrease), race (race to the bottom), rock-bottom (adj), sag (v), sink (decline), slide (slide to perdition, etc.), slide (v), slip (fail), slip (sales have slipped, etc.), slump (v), south (go south, etc.), spiral (spiral downward, etc.), spiral (in a spiral), spiral (into a spiral), spiral (on a downward spiral), spiral (downward spiral, etc.), spiral (other), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble)
- destruction: bring down (v), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), crash (crash down), downfall (n), fell (v), grind down (v), spiral (death spiral), takedown (n), topple (v)
- development: come (occur, develop), follow (it follows that, etc.), fulcrum (n), go (develop), head (development), hinge (hinge event, etc.), inflection point, lead (one thing leads to another), pivot (n), pivot (v), pivotal (adj), point (decision point, etc.), point (tipping point), point (pivot point), roller coaster (development), seesaw (n), swing (swing around), turn (take a turn), turn (development), turning point (n), turn out (develop), twist (n), twist (twist and turn / twists and turns), ups and downs, way (go the other way, etc.)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: current (swim with the current, etc.), current (swim against the current, etc.), downhill (easy), hill (difficulty), uphill (difficult), upstream (swim upstream)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: drop (drop a case, etc.), drop out (v), overthrow (v), overturn (v), overturned, step down (v), strike down (v), struck down, take down (v), topple (v)
- disruption: flipped, head (turn something on its head, etc.), overthrow (v), overturn (v), overturned, topple (v), topsy-turvy (upside down), upend (v), upside down
- division & connection: polarizing (adj), side (conflict)
- dominance & submission: bow (and bow down), hand (upper hand), knee (bring to one's knees), knee (risen from its knees, etc.), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), kowtow (v), talk (talk over somebody), top (dominance / winning), unbowed (adj)
- eagerness & reluctance: look forward to (v)
- environment: netherworld (n), underground (n), underworld (n)
- extent & scope: bottomless (adj), direction (in every direction), left and right, roof (through the roof), stratospheric (adj)
- failure, accident & impairment: astray (direction), circle (go in circles), direction (the right / wrong direction, etc.), downhill (go downhill, etc.), fall through (v), let down (fail), sidetracked, sideways (go sideways), sink (sink into the mud, etc.), south (go south, etc.), step (a step in the wrong direction), stray (behavior), stray (direction), toilet (in the toilet), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble), turn (wrong turn), west (go west / obsolete)
- fate, fortune & chance: cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), rise (rise and fall / verb)
- feeling, emotion & effect: ballistic (go ballistic), buoy (v), buoyant (feeling), buoyant (personality), buoyed, depression (mental illness), descent (decline), down (feeling), downhearted, fall (fall into a rage, etc.), fall (an emotion can fall), fall (fall in love), feeling (sinking feeling), fly (fly into a rage, etc.), head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high), head (hang one's head), heart (heart sank), high (on a high), high (emotion), high-spirited, lay low (emotion), lift (feeling), lift (v), low (emotion), point (low point / emotion), raise (feeling), soar (a heart can soar), retreat (withdraw), roller coaster (emotional roller coaster, etc.), sink (sink into despair, etc.), sinking (sinking feeling, etc.), slide (v), up (feeling), upbeat (adj), world (on top of the world, etc.)
- fictive motion: dip (a route can dip), wind (wind its way)
- fictive transportation: back (in time), take (take us back / time)

- flaws & lack of flaws: downside (n), over (overshare, etc.), sag (v), slump (v), twisted (corruption), under (underdeliver, etc.), upside (n), warp (v), warped
- force: march (march ahead, etc.)
- functioning: down (functioning)
- future: ahead (the future is ahead, etc.), approach (winter is approaching, etc.), approach (the approach of summer, etc.), approaching, arrive (a time can arrive), before (at a future time), come (to come), come (for a time to come), come (come after / at a later time), come up on (a date, etc.), coming (in the coming months, etc.), day (day has arrived, etc.), draw near (winter is drawing near, etc.), facing (future-facing, etc.), forerunner (n), foresight (n), forward (every year forward, etc.), forward-looking, front (the future is in front of us), head (head into the future, etc.), headed, lie (lie ahead), look forward to (v), near (v), on (30 years on, etc.), pass (its time has passed, etc.), road (come down the road / pike), road (road ahead, etc.), road (down the road, etc.), see (see something coming), time (time has passed), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), train (future), up-and-coming, way (autumn is on the way, etc.)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: hand down / out (punishment, etc.), turn in (give)
- growth & development: apex (highest point), apogee (at an apogee), apogee (n), arise (v), ascent (on the ascent), ascent (with the ascent), ascent, fall behind (competition and progress), rise (rise and fall / noun), rise (rise of agriculture, etc.), rise (on the rise), trail (competition and progress)
- heart: downhearted, heart (heart sank), soar (a heart can soar)
- help & assistance: ladder (ladders of opportunity, etc.), pick up (pick somebody up, etc.), turn (turn to something, etc.)
- hierarchy: above (hierarchy), apex (apex animal, etc.), basement (hierarchy), bottom (at the bottom), chain of command (and chain), head (go over one's head / hierarchy), higher-up (person), ladder (hierarchy), mountain (at the top of the mountain), move (move up), pyramid (hierarchy), tier (hierarchy), top (hierarchy), top dog (hierarchy), totem pole, under (hierarchy)
- importance & significance: burner (front burner), back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), back seat (take a back seat), breakthrough (n), fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), front (front and center), hinge (hinge event, etc.), mind (top of mind), mind (front of mind), mind (back of mind)
- increase & decrease: boost (v), boost (n), ceiling (high point), climb (increase), dial (dial down), dip (decrease), dip (n), drop (prices dropped, etc.), drop (drop in sales, etc.), elevated, fall off (v), falloff (n), floor (low point), free fall (in free fall), go down (decrease), go up (increase), heighten (v), jack up (v), jump (increase / verb), jump (n), ladder (increase), level (take something to a higher level), level off (v), level up (as verb), nosedive (noun / decrease), notch (take something up a notch), pick up (increase), pile up (v), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (noun / decline), plunge (decline / decrease), ratchet up (v), rise (prices rise, etc.), rise (increase / noun), rise (on the rise), rocket (increase), roller coaster (development), roof (through the roof), sag (v), shoot up (v), soar (v), skyrocket (increase), slip (sales have slipped, etc.), slump (v), spiral (downward or upward), spiraling (increase), stratospheric (adj), surge (intransitive verb / increase), up (increase / verb), up (higher), upsurge (n), uptick (n), upturn (n), yo-yo (yo-yo dieting, etc.)
- initiation: dial up (order)
- involvement: get in / get into (involvement), leave (leave something alone)
- judgment: hand down / out (punishment, etc.), thumbs-down, upvote (and downvote)
- mental health: depression (mental illness), down (feeling), lay low (emotion), meltdown (emotions), melt down (emotions), pick up (pick somebody up, etc.)
- mind: high-minded (adj)
- movement: bounce (v), cascade (v), oscillate (v), ping-pong (v), ping-pong (n), retreat (glaciers, etc.), roll (move), roller coaster (development), seesaw (n), weave (move), yo-yo (v), yo-yo (yo-yo dieting, etc.), zig-zag (v)
- obstacles & impedance: breakthrough (n), hump (n), sink (sink into the mud, etc.)
- occurrence: arise (v), come (occur, develop), fall (on Friday, etc.), fall (night fell, etc.), fall (silence fell, etc.), go down (happen), up (what's up, etc.)

- oppression: come down on (v), fall (weight)
- orientation: belly (orientation), current (swim with the current, etc.), current (swim against the current, etc.), floor (pelvic floor, etc.), foot (orientation), head (orientation), lower (river, etc.), nose (orientation), snout (orientation), roof (roof of the mouth, etc.), tail (orientation), upper (river, etc.), upstage (v), upstream (swim upstream)
- past & present: ancestor (go before), back (in time), back (back then), backwards (past), before (at an earlier time), behind (in the past), circle back (return), clock (turn back the clock), come (a time comes along), come (come before / at an earlier time), day (day has arrived, etc.), descendant (come after / down), down (down through the centuries, etc.), forefather (n), forerunner (n), go (the time has gone, etc.), go back (verb / time), gone (those days are gone, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), hindsight (n), last (last night, etc. / at an earlier time), look back (v), mirror (in the rear-view mirror), pass (its time has passed, etc.), passed down (by ancestors, etc.), predecessor (go away before), present (up to the present), revisit (v), take (take us back / time), throwback (n), time (time has passed), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (a man out of time, etc.), up (up to now, up to date, etc.), walk (walk somebody back)
- perception, perspective & point of view: facing (future-facing, etc.), forward-looking, slanted (news, etc.)
- performance: top (over the top)
- person: guide (person)
- position, policy & negotiation: back (back and forth), give-and-take
- possession: fall (fall into the hands, etc.)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: accession (n), apex (highest point), apogee (at an apogee), apogee (n), arrive (attainment), ascent (on the ascent), ascent (with the descent), ascent (other), bottom (hit bottom), bring down (v), come and go (currency), comer (up-and-comer, etc.), downfall (n), fall (fall from power, etc.), gone (those days are gone, etc.), grace (fall from grace), height (at the height), heights (to new heights, etc.), in (and in thing, etc.), low (decline), nadir (at the nadir), out (fashion), overthrow (v), overturn (v), overturned, pass (its time has passed, etc.), peak (careers, etc. / verb), plunge (noun / decline), return (animals, etc.), rise (rise and fall / noun), rise (rise of agriculture, etc.), rising (upcoming), sink (sink into obscurity, etc.), throwback (n), time (time has passed), time (a man out of time, etc.), topple (v), up (time is finished, etc.), up-and-coming, up and down
- priority: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), back seat (take a back seat), fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), front (front and center), front burner, line (at the front / back of the line), mind (top of mind), mind (front of mind), mind (back of mind)
- progress & lack of progress: adrift (adj), advance (v), advance (n), ahead (progress), ahead (adv), backwards (progress), behind (progress), breakthrough (n), circle (go in circles), climb (scale), direction (the right / wrong direction, etc.), fall behind (competition and progress), forward (move forward, go forward, etc.), left (left behind), look up (v), march (march ahead, etc.), move (move up), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), runaround, scale (climb), set back (v), setback (progress), sidetracked, sideways (go sideways), step (a step in the right direction), step (a step forward), step (a step back / backwards), tail (chase one's tail), trail (competition and progress), wheel (hamster wheel), wind (wind its way)
- protection: back (watch your back, etc.), back (have somebody's back), back (stab in the back)
- proximity: front (in front / proximity)
- punishment & recrimination: hand down / out (punishment, etc.)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: behind (put something behind), bottom (get to the bottom of something)
- relationship: behind (basis), come (occur, develop), follow (result, sequence), follow (it follows that, etc.), guide (person), lead (one thing leads to another), underlying (adj), underneath (basis)
- reputation: raise (your image, etc.)
- resiliency: behind (put something behind), comeback (n), come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), feet (get back on one's feet, etc.), head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high), pick (pick oneself up), positive (sex positive, etc.)

- resistance, opposition & defeat: backlash (n), bow (and bow down), fall (defeat), heel (on one's heels), knee (bring to one's knees), knee (risen from its knees, etc.), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), kowtow (v), lie down (and lay down), retreat (reverse / verb), step (not one step back), unbowed (adj), uprising (resistance)
- responsibility: behind (responsibility), fall (devolve), live up to (something), man up (v)
- restraint & lack of restraint: over-the-top (adj), top (over the top)
- reversal: about-face (in an about-face), about-face, about-turn, back (no way back, etc.), backlash (n), backpedal (v), backtrack (reversal), boomerang (v), climb down (v), climbdown (n), course (reverse course), flip (v), flip-flop (v), flip-flop (v), flip-flopping (reversal), flipped, hinge (hinge event, etc.), oscillate (v), overturn (v), overturned, pivot (n), pivot (v), retreat (reverse / verb), retreat (reverse / noun), row (row back), turnabout (reversal), turn around (turn things around, etc.), turnaround, U-turn (n)
- route: climb (roads, etc.)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: high (from on high)
- searching & discovery: bottom (get to the bottom of something), come up with (discovery), turned up (discovered)
- sequence: after (at a later time), ancestor (go before), before (at an earlier time), descendant (come after / down), follow (at a later time), following (at a later time), forefather (n), forenoon (at an earlier time), forerunner (n), last (last night, etc. / at an earlier time), next (at a later time), precede (at an earlier time), preceding (at an earlier time), predecessor (go away before), train (in one's train / at a later time), upon (tragedy upon tragedy, etc.), wake (in the wake of / at a later time)
- shape: bell curve (shape), dogleg (shape), elbow (shape), hairpin (shape), peak (peaks and troughs, etc.), plateau (n), trough (direction), valley (n), U-turn (n), zig-zag (v)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: crooked (adj), straight (honest), straight shooter (speech), straight-talking, twist (twist the truth, etc.)
- situation: go back (and get back), return (and return to)
- social interaction: get along (v), go along (v), give-and-take, street (two-way street)
- society: fringe (on the fringe), fringe (versus mainstream), netherworld (n), underground (n), underworld (n)
- sound: fall (silence fell, etc.)
- speech: straight shooter (speech), straight-talking, talk down to (somebody), twist (twist the truth, etc.)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: ahead (progress), ahead (go ahead), drop out, level off (v), march (march ahead, etc.), step down (v)
- strength & weakness: sag (v), slump (v)
- subterfuge: aboveboard (adj), shifty (adj), table (under the table), underhanded (or underhand)
- success & failure: fall (fall short), fall down (v), fall through (v), let down (fail), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), rise (rise and fall / verb)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: over (overshare, etc.), under (underdeliver, etc.)
- superiority & inferiority: above (above the law, etc.), back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), back seat (take a back seat), burner (front burner), dust (leave somebody in the dust), fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), front (front and center), highbrow (and lowbrow, middlebrow), knee (risen from its knees, etc.), low (base, bad / adjective), mind (top of mind), mind (front of mind), mind (back of mind), slipstream (in a slipstream), top (dominance / winning), top dog (hierarchy)
- survival, persistence & endurance: buoyed, come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), comeback (n), return (animals, etc.), sink (sink into debt, etc.)
- taxonomy & classification: fall (fall into a category, etc.)
- time: advance (in advance, etc.), advance (a day can advance, etc.), after (at a later time), afternoon (at a later time), ahead (the future is ahead, etc.), ancestor (go before), approach (winter is approaching, etc.), approaching (adj), arrive (a time can arrive), back (in time), back (back then), backwards (past), before (at an earlier time), before (at a future time), behind (in the past), clock (turn back the clock), come (to come), come (a time comes along), come (come before / at an earlier time), come (come after / at a later time), come up on (a date, etc.), coming (in the coming months, etc.), day (day has arrived, etc.), descendant (come after / down), down (down

through the centuries, etc.), draw near (winter is drawing near, etc.), facing (future-facing, etc.), follow (at a later time), following (at a later time), forenoon (at an earlier time), forefather (n), forerunner (n), foresight (n), forward (every year forward, etc.), forward-looking, front (the future is in front of us), go (the time has gone, etc.), go back (verb / time), gone (those days are gone, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), head (head into the future, etc.), hindsight (n), last (last night, etc. / at an earlier time), lie (lie ahead), look back (v), look forward to (v), mirror (in the rear-view mirror), near (v), next (at a later time), on (30 years on, etc.), onrushing (future, etc.), pass (its time has passed, etc.), passed down (by ancestors, etc.), precede (at an earlier time), preceding (at an earlier time), predecessor (go away before), revisit (v), road (come down the road / pike), road (road ahead, etc.), road (down the road, etc.), see (see something coming), take (take us back / time), throwback (n), time (down time / activity), time (a man out of time, etc.), time (time on one's side), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (time has passed), train (future), train (in one's train / at a later time), up (up to now, up to date, etc.), up-and-coming, wake (in the wake of / at a later time), walk (walk somebody back), way (autumn is on the way, etc.), yesterday

- timeliness & lack of timeliness: advance (in advance, etc.), ahead (ahead of schedule, etc.), behind (behind schedule, etc.), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (past time), up (time finished, etc.)
- transmission: handed down (by ancestors, etc.), passed down (by ancestors, etc.)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: sights (lower one's sights)
- warning: heads-up (warning)

## **DIRECTING (1) (see also supplying)**

- animal: drive (v), goad (v), herd (v), herd (ride herd), herded, husband (v), shepherd (v)
- boat: pilot (v), steer (v)
- circus: ringmaster (role)
- cows & cattle: herd (v)
- food & drink: fed (supplied), feed (direct)
- health & medicine: inject (put), injection (n)
- infrastructure: pipe (n), pipeline (other)
- journeys & trips: (guide (v), guide (person), shepherd (v), take (take somebody somewhere)
- mechanism: steer (v)
- music: orchestrate (v), orchestrated
- person: guide (person), ringmaster (role)
- pumped: pumped (directed)
- sea: lighthouse (protection)
- sheep: shepherd (v)
- speech: goad (v)
- sports & games: coach (n), coach (v)
- theater: choreographed, parade (v), stage (v), staged (directed), stage-manage (v), stage-managed
- tide: surge (transitive verb)
- verb: coach (v), channel (direct), drive (v), feed (direct), funnel (v), goad (v), guide (v), herd (v), herd (ride herd), husband (v), inject (put), orchestrate (v), parade (v), pilot (v), plow (put), pour (put), pump (direct), shepherd (v), steer (v), shot (call the shots), siphon (v), stage (v), stage-manage (v), surge (transitive verb), take (take somebody somewhere), whip (violence)
- violence: goad (v), whip (violence)
- water: channel (direct), channeled, drip-fed, funnel (direct), funneled (directed), infusion (n), pipe (n), pipeline (other), pour (put), pump (direct), pumped (directed), siphon (v), surge (transitive verb)
- weapon: shot (call the shots)
- whip: whip (violence)

## **DISMISSAL, REMOVAL & RESIGNATION (1) (see also curtailment; starting, gong, continuing & ending)**

- air: filter (v)
- animal: cull (n), cull (v), factory (glue factory), pasture (put something out to pasture), pasture (put out to pasture), perch (knock something off its perch)
- arm: cast aside (v), elbowed (elbowed out, etc.), pushed out, throw out (v), toss out (v)
- atmosphere: wind (throw something to the wind)
- ax: ax (n), chop (get the chop, etc.), chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), cut (a person from a team, etc.), decapitate (v), head (heads will roll, etc.), slash (v), slash-and-burn (adj), trim (trim the fat, etc.)
- bird: perch (knock something off its perch)
- blade: ax (n), chop (get the chop, etc.), chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), cut (a person from a team, etc.), cut off (v), decapitate (v), head (heads will roll, etc.), scrape (v), shave (removal), slash (v), trim (trim the fat, etc.), whittled, whittling (whittling down)
- boat: jettison (v), jettisoned, overboard (throw somebody overboard), ship out (remove)
- books & reading: shelve (v)
- breathing: blow off (v)
- burden: pull out (v)
- cards: discard (v), fold (v)
- clothing & accessories: boot (get the boot), boot out (v), strip (v), stripped
- creature: exorcise (v)
- death & life: body count (figurative)
- direction: drop (drop a case, etc.), drop out (v), overthrow (v), overturn (v), overturned, step down (v), strike down (v), struck down, take down (v), topple (v)
- disruption: overturned
- doors & thresholds: door (shown the door, etc.), door (check something at the door, etc.)
- equilibrium & stability: overthrow (v), overturn (v), overturned, topple (v), unseat (v)
- farming & agriculture: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), prune (v), weed out (v), slash-and-burn (adj), winnow (v)
- fire: slash-and-burn (adj)
- foot: kicked off, kicked out, kick out (v)
- force: pushed out
- government: oust (v), ousted (removed)
- hair: shave (removal), shed (v)
- hand: brush aside (v), brush off (v), brush-off
- head: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), decapitate (v), head (heads will roll, etc.)
- health & medicine: amputate (remove)
- horse: factory (glue factory), pasture (put something out to pasture), pasture (put out to pasture), unseat (v)
- hygiene: clean out (v), cleanse (make clean), filter (v), flush (remove), scrub (remove), scrubbed
- infrastructure: dismantle (v), plug (pull the plug)
- insect: mothball (v), mothballed
- knife: bone (cut something to the bone, etc.), cut (a person from a team, etc.), cut off (v), pare (v), pared (pared to the bone), scrape (v), slash (v), trim (trim the fat, etc.), whittled, whittling (whittling down)
- leg: kicked off, kicked out, kick out (v)
- manufacturing: factory (glue factory), scrap (v), scrapped
- military: body count (figurative), coup (power), drummed out, guard (changing of the guard)
- movement: shake (remove)

- neck: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), decapitate (v), head (heads will roll, etc.)
- person: outcast (person)
- pile: dump (v), dumped
- plane: bail out (leave)
- plant: prune (v), root (tear something out by the roots, etc.), root out (v), transplant (n), weed out (v), uprooted
- prep, adv, adj, particle: kick out (v)
- religion: exorcise (v)
- river: swept away (removal)
- royalty: dethrone (v), dethroned
- ruins: topple (v)
- sea: swept away (removal)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: amputate (remove), bone (cut something to the bone, etc.), pared (pared to the bone)
- snow & ice: ice (put on ice / constrained)
- society: banish (v), banished, banishment (n), cold (in the cold), exile (in exile), exile (n), exiled, outcast (person), Siberia (exile), wilderness (voice in the wilderness), wilderness (in / into the wilderness), wilderness (society)
- sports & games: bench (v), sidelined (adj)
- table: table (off the table)
- temperature: ice (put on ice / constrained)
- theater: bow out (v), curtain (lower the curtain, etc.)
- throwing, putting & planting: eject (v), outcast (person)
- tools & technology: ax (n), chop (get the chop, etc.)
- tree: prune (v), root (tear something out by the roots, etc.), root out (v), uprooted
- verb: amputate (remove), bail out (leave), banish (v), bow out (v), bench (v), blow off (v), boot out (v), brush aside (v), brush off (v), cast aside (v), chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), clean out (v), cleanse (make clean), cull (v), cut off (v), decapitate (v), dethrone (v), discard (v), dismantle (v), drop (drop a case, etc.), drop out (v), dump (v), eject (v), exorcise (v), flush (remove), fold (v), jettison (v), kick out (v), leach (v), lift (amelioration), mothball (v), oust (v), overboard (throw somebody overboard), overthrow (v), overturn (v), pare (v), plug (pull the plug), pull out (v), prune (v), retire (v), root (tear something out by the roots, etc.), root out (v), scrap (v), scrape (v), scrub (remove), shake (remove), shave (removal), shed (v), shelve (v), ship out (remove), slash (v), step aside (v), step away (v), step down (v), strike down (v), strip (v), take down (v), throw out (v), topple (v), toss out (v), trim (trim the fat, etc.), unseat (v), weed out (v), wind (throw something to the wind), winnow (v)
- violence: head (heads will roll, etc.), overboard (throw somebody overboard)
- walking, running & jumping: run out (of town on a rail, etc.), step aside (v), step away (v), step down (v)
- waste: curb (kick something to the curb)
- water: cleanse (make clean), dissolve (terminate), filter (v), flush (remove), leach (v), plug (pull the plug), swept away (removal)
- weight: lift (amelioration)
- wheat: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), winnow (v)
- wind: wind (throw something to the wind)
- window: window (out the window)
- work & duty: retire (v), retired
- writing & spelling: write (write out / off), written off

## DISRUPTION (1)

- affix: breaker (deal-breaker, etc.)

- allusion: Bolshevik, Che Guevara, Danton, Jacobin
- animal: feather (ruffle feathers), rattle (disrupt), ruffled (feathers)
- area: zone (one's comfort zone)
- bird: feather (ruffle feathers), ruffled (feathers)
- boat: boat (rock the boat)
- cards: deck (re-shuffle the deck)
- direction: flipped, head (turn something on its head, etc.), overthrow (v), overturn (v), overturned, topple (v), topsy-turvy (upside down), upend (v), upside down
- earthquake: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
- engine: gear (throw sand in the gears, etc.), wrench (throw a wrench into something)
- equilibrium & stability: balance (off balance), balance (out of balance), destabilize (v), destabilizing (adj), earthquake (effect), head (turn something on its head, etc.), imbalanced, overthrow (v), overturn (v), overturned, rattle (disrupt), reel (v), rock (v), rocked (disruption), shake (disrupt), shaken (disruption), shake up (v), shake-up (n), stagger (v), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), topple (v), topsy-turvy (upside down), trip up (v), unseat (v), upend (v), upheaval (disruption), upside down
- explosion: blow up (destroy / disrupt), grenade (disruption), Molotov cocktail
- fire: Molotov cocktail
- foot: toe (step on toes)
- ground, terrain & land: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
- head: head (turn something on its head, etc.)
- history: Bolshevik, Che Guevara, Danton, Jacobin, revolution (n), revolutionary (person), revolutionary (adj), revolutionize (v)
- horse: stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), unseat (v)
- house: broom (broom of reform, etc.), house (clean house)
- hygiene: broom (broom of reform, etc.), house (clean house)
- infrastructure: tear down (v)
- mechanism: break (destroy / disrupt), breaker (deal-breaker, etc.), gear (throw sand in the gears, etc.), wrench (throw a wrench into something), gum up (v), misbehave (machine)
- military: grenade (disruption), sabotage (v), sabotage (n), sabotaged, saboteur (person)
- mixture: scramble (disrupt)
- movement: stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.)
- music: cognitive dissonance, discordant (adj)
- person: revolutionary (person)
- ruins: smash (smash a record, etc.), topple (v)
- scale: balance (off balance), balance (out of balance), imbalanced
- sensation: toe (step on toes)
- sound: cognitive dissonance, discordant (adj), rattle (disrupt), tumult (disruption)
- sports & games: game (throw somebody off their game), game (game-changer)
- table: table (turn the tables)
- theater: script (off script, etc.)
- toe: toe (step on toes)
- verb: blow up (destroy / disrupt), break (destroy / disrupt), destabilize (v), feather (ruffle feathers), gear (throw sand in the gears, etc.), gum up (v), head (turn something on its head, etc.), house (clean house), misbehave (machine), overthrow (v), overturn (v), rattle (disrupt), reel (v), revolutionize (v), rock (v), roil (v), sabotage (v), scramble (disrupt), shake (disrupt), shake up (v), smash (smash a record, etc.), stagger (v), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), table (turn the tables), tear down (v), toe (step on toes), topple (v), trip up (v), unseat (v), upend (v), wrench (throw a wrench into something)
- violence: Bolshevik, Danton, Jacobin
- walking, running & jumping: reel (v), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), toe (step on toes), trip up (v)

- water: roil (v)

## **DISTANCE (2) (see also proximity)**

- amount: few and far between
- attainment: far (progress), mile (the last mile)
- avoidance & separation: arm (open arms), arm (at arm's length), distance (v)
- behavior: far (too far), go (behavior), length (go to any lengths, etc.), overreach (v), overreach (n), overstretch (v), ski (over one's skis, etc.), stop (stop at nothing)
- competition: further (further along, etc.), light year (light years ahead)
- constraint & lack of constraint: overreach (v), overreach (n), overstretch (v)
- cost & benefit: mileage, way (go a long way)
- development: along (further along)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: corner (cut corners), length (go to any lengths, etc.), marathon (effort and time), mile (go the extra mile), shortcut (v), shortcut (n)
- division & connection: arm (open arms), arm (at arm's length), close (feeling), distance (v), distance (n), distant (separation), tight (relationship)
- extent & scope: distant (a distant second, etc.), far-flung (adj), far-reaching, length (go to any lengths, etc.), mile (by a mile), mile (go the extra mile), span (v), way (go a long way)
- failure, accident & impairment: far (too far), ski (over one's skis, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: close (feeling), detached (emotions), tight (relationship)
- future: away (a week away, etc.), close (future), corner (spring is just around the corner), day (day after tomorrow), distant (future), draw near (winter is drawing near, etc.), end (no end in sight, etc.), future (in the distant future), go (a month to go, etc.), horizon (on the horizon), near (near future, etc.), near (v), remote (future), road (down the road, etc.), run (in / over the long run), sight (in sight), way (a long way off)
- measurement: span (lifespan, etc.), span (v)
- past & present: deep (deep past, etc.), distance (time), distant (past), far (farther on / time), far-off (time), past (in the distant past, etc.), past (distant past, etc.), remote (past)
- perception, perspective & point of view: farsighted (adj), myopic (adj), view (long view)
- progress & lack of progress: far (progress), go (a distance to go, etc.), way (come a long way, etc.)
- proximity: away (a week away, etc.), close (feeling), close (close to, etc.), close (future), corner (spring is just around the corner), far (far from, etc.), light year (light years away, etc.), near (near future, etc.), way (a long way from, etc.)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: end (no end in sight, etc.)
- relationship: close (feeling), distant (relationship), tight (relationship)
- restraint & lack of restraint: far (too far), length (go to any lengths, etc.), overreach (v), overreach (n), overstretch (v), ski (over one's skis, etc.), stop (stop at nothing)
- social interaction: close (feeling), tight (relationship)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: end (no end in sight, etc.)
- survival, persistence & endurance: distance (go the distance)
- time: advance (in advance, etc.), away (a week away, etc.), close (future), corner (spring is just around the corner), day (day after tomorrow), deep (deep past, etc.), dim (the dim past, etc.), distance (time), distant (past), distant (future), draw near (winter is drawing near, etc.), end (no end in sight, etc.), far (farther on / time), far (far from, etc.), far-off (time), future (in the distant future), go (a month to go, etc.), haul (long haul), horizon (on the horizon), long (a long time, etc.), long-run (adj), longtime (adj), marathon (effort and time), near (near future, etc.), near (v), passage (passage of time), past (in the distant past, etc.), past (distant past, etc.), remote (past), remote (future), road (down the road, etc.), run (in / over the long run), running (continuing), short (a short time, etc.), sight (in sight), span (lifespan, etc.), time (over time), time (course of time), time (long time / short time), way (a long way off)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: advance (in advance)

## **DIVISION (1) (see also branching system; taxonomy & classification)**

- arm: arm (arm of an organization)
- bird: wing (division)
- family: parent (parent company, etc.)
- military: camp (division)

## **DIVISION & CONNECTION (1) (see also attachment; avoidance & separation)**

- allusion: apartheid (separation), iron curtain, Maginot Line, Paradise Lost (allusion), Yugoslavia (Asian Yugoslavia, etc.)
- arm: arm (open arms), arm (at arm's length), embrace (v), embraced, reach out (v)
- astronomy: cusp (on the cusp), orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- atmosphere: drift (drift apart)
- ax: sever (v)
- birth: umbilical (connection)
- blade: sever (v)
- blood: blood brother (connection)
- boat: adrift (adj), anchored, drift (drift apart), unmoored
- boundary: borderland (n), boundary (division), corner (corner cases, etc.), edge (edge cases, etc.), fuzzy (adj), intersect (v), intersection (n), line (division), line (categories)
- bridge: bridge (n), bridge (air bridge, etc.), bridge (v), bridge-building (through bridge-building), bridge-building, stepping stone
- chemistry: bond (n)
- cloth: entwined, intertwined, interwoven, knit (knit together), knit (tightly knit), seamless, seamlessly, strand (connection), thread (connection), thread (v), tight-knit, weave together (v), woven
- destruction: torn (divided)
- direction: polarizing (adj), side (conflict)
- distance: arm (open arms), arm (at arm's length), close (feeling), distance (v), distance (n), distant (separation), tight (relationship)
- doors & thresholds: locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
- earthquake: fault (fault line)
- electricity: insulated, plugged in / into
- epithet: iron curtain, Yugoslavia (Asian Yugoslavia, etc.), wall (blue wall, etc.)
- family: blood brother (connection), brother (brother in arms, etc.), brotherhood (n), brothers and sisters, kindred (kindred spirits, etc.), kinship (n), mother (mother ship, etc.), orphan (n), orphaned, parent (cat parents, etc.), sister (redneck sisters, etc.), sisterhood (n), twin (relationship)
- farming & agriculture: silo (v), silo (academic silos, etc.), siloed
- fence: fence (division)
- finger: touch (lose touch), touch (other)
- foot: foot (one foot / the other foot), foot (foot in both worlds, etc.)
- fortification: drawbridge (protection), moated
- gate: gate (society)
- geometry: intersect (v), intersection (n)
- gesture: embrace (v)
- ground, terrain & land: balkanization (n), Balkanized, barrier (n), chasm (n), crack (division), divide (n), fault (fault line), fissure (n), gap (n), ground (common ground), ground (middle ground), isthmus (shape), rift (division), shore (far shore), stranded (separated)
- hand: hand in hand (go hand in hand, etc.), handshake (n)
- health & medicine: amputate (remove), hip (joined at the hip)

- history: apartheid (separation), balkanization (n), Balkanized, Ceuta and Melilla, iron curtain, Maginot Line, Yugoslavia (Asian Yugoslavia, etc.)
- infrastructure: wall (obstacle)
- insect: cocoon (v), cocoon (isolation), cocooned
- island: insular (adj), island (society), island (island of affluence, etc.), shore (far shore), stranded (separated)
- journeys & trips: stepping stone, traverse (v), way (part ways)
- key: locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
- knife: sever (v)
- leg: foot (one foot / the other foot), foot (foot in both worlds, etc.), straddle (connect)
- light & dark: daylight (division)
- line: borderland (n), edge (edge cases, etc.), foot (one foot / the other foot), foot (foot in both worlds, etc.), line (division), line (categories), straddle (connect)
- love, courtship & marriage: divorce (n), divorce (v), marriage (relationship), marriage (shotgun marriage), married, matchmaker (person), wedded
- materials & substances: fractured (separated), split (n), split (v), split (split apart / up, etc.)
- military: drawbridge (protection), Maginot Line
- mechanism: rupture (n)
- mountains & hills: traverse (v), watershed (n)
- movement: orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- number: common denominator
- part of speech: together (as noun)
- pendulum: suspended
- physics: atomization (n)
- place: cloistered
- prep, adv, adj, particle: apart (division), between (come between, etc.)
- proximity: close (feeling), daylight (division), distance (v), distance (n), tight (relationship)
- religion: cloistered, Paradise Lost (allusion), schism (n)
- river: bridge (n), bridge (air bridge, etc.), bridge (v), bridge-building (through bridge-building), bridge-building, stepping stone, watershed (n)
- rope: bind (connect), entwined, tie (v), tied, tie together (v)
- school & education: breakout (breakout sessions, etc.)
- sea: gulf (division), insular (adj), island (society), island (island of affluence, etc.), shore (far shore), stranded (separated)
- sensation: fuzzy (adj), limb (phantom limb)
- shadow: daylight (division)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: amputate (remove), limb (phantom limb)
- snow & ice: ice (break the ice)
- society: caste (n), meet (connect)
- standing, sitting & lying: foot (one foot / the other foot), foot (foot in both worlds, etc.), straddle (connect)
- star: cusp (on the cusp)
- stomach: waist (n)
- temperature: ice (break the ice)
- tools & technology: connect (v), coupled, disconnect (n), hook up (connect), wedge (drive a wedge, etc.)
- train: track (across the tracks, etc.)
- verb: amputate (remove), bind (connect), bridge (v), cocoon (v), connect (v), distance (v), divorce (v), drift (drift apart), embrace (v), hook up (connect), ice (break the ice), intersect (v), knit (knit together), reach out (v), revolve (revolve around something), sever (v), silo (v), split (v), split (split apart / up, etc.), straddle (connect), thread (v), tie (v), tie together (v), touch (lose touch), traverse (v), way (part ways), weave together (v), wedge (drive a wedge, etc.)

- wall: barrier (n), wall (obstacle)
- water: bridge (burn one's bridges)
- wedge: wedge (drive a wedge, etc.)
- wind: drift (drift apart)

## **DIVISION AND CONNECTION (2)**

- inclusion & exclusion: criminalization (groups), criminalize (groups), criminalized (groups), equality (groups), inequality (groups), marginalization (groups), marginalize (groups), marginalized (groups), minoritize (groups), minoritized (groups), moral panic (n), other (the other, etc.), other (verb / groups, etc.), othered, othering, otherism (n), otherize (groups), otherness (n), race (groups), racial (groups), racialize (groups), racialized (groups), racially (groups), racism (groups), racist (groups)

## **DOCUMENT (2)**

- amelioration & renewal: lease (lease on life)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: license (n), passport (n)

## **DOG (2) (see also animal)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: head (pat on the head)
- affliction: bird-dog (v), dog (afflict), dog (dogs of war), dogged (hounded), hound (v), hounded (dogged)
- attachment: pit bull (person), teeth (sink one's teeth into something)
- avoidance & separation: bay (at bay)
- behavior: dog (mad dog / epithet), pit bull (person), rabid behavior, rabidly
- character & personality: feisty (adj), hot dog (person), pit bull (person)
- coercion & motivation: dog (attack dog), pit bull (person)
- commitment & determination: dogged (determined), pit bull (person)
- competition: dog-eat-dog, dogfight (n), pack (competition), heel (nip at somebody's heels), underdog (competition)
- conflict: back (get one's back up, etc.), dogfight (n), hackles (raise hackles), roll over (v)
- constraint & lack of constraint: choke chain (n), leash (on a leash / off a leash, etc.), unleash (v), unleashed
- control & lack of control: leash (on a leash / off a leash, etc.)
- dependency: lapdog (n)
- dominance & submission: dog (big dog), lapdog (n), poodle (n), tail (turn tail), tail (tail between one's legs)
- eagerness & reluctance: bay (bay for blood, etc.), dog (dog won't hunt)
- enthusiasm: hound (autograph hound, etc.)
- epithet: dog (mad dog / epithet), pack (the Rat Pack, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: bristle (emotional arousal), hackles (raise hackles)
- hierarchy: top dog (hierarchy), underdog (hierarchy)
- initiation: unleash (v), unleashed
- insult: dog (insult), lapdog (n)
- involvement: dog (dog in the fight)
- person: dog (big dog), dog (mad dog / epithet), dog (attack dog), dog (insult)
- progress & lack of progress: tail (chase one's tail)
- protection & lack of protection: watchdog (n)
- punishment & recrimination: doghouse (in the doghouse, etc.)
- pursuit, capture & escape: bark (bark up the wrong tree, etc.), bird-dog (v), bloodhound (n), hound (v), hounded (dogged)
- relationship: lapdog (n)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: back (get one's back up, etc.), howl (n), howl (v), roll over (v), tail (turn tail), tail (tail between one's legs)
- reversal: tail (turn tail), tail (tail between one's legs)

- searching & discovery: bloodhound (n)
- shape: dogleg (shape)
- situation: doghouse (in the doghouse, etc.)
- sound: bark (v)
- speech: bark (v), growl (v), howl (n), howl (v), snarl (speech), whining (n), whiny (adj), yapping (n)
- strength & weakness: underdog (competition)
- substance & lack of substance: bark (more bark than bite, etc.)
- superiority & inferiority: tail (tail between one's legs), top dog (hierarchy), underdog (competition)
- success & failure: dog (dog won't hunt)
- surveillance: watchdog (n)
- warning: watchdog (n)

## **DOMINANCE & SUBMISSION (1) (see also resistance, opposition & defeat; superiority & inferiority)**

- animal: back down (v), blink (conflict), dog (big dog), game (game of chicken), ground (hold / stand one's ground), lapdog (n), poodle (n), tail (turn tail), tail (tail between one's legs), top (dominance / winning)
- back: back down (v)
- bird: game (game of chicken)
- clothing & accessories: trousers (wear the trousers, etc.)
- direction: bow (and bow down), hand (upper hand), knee (bring to one's knees), knee (risen from its knees, etc.), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), kowtow (v), top (dominance / winning), talk (talk over somebody), unbowed (adj)
- dog: dog (big dog), lapdog (n), poodle (n), tail (turn tail), tail (tail between one's legs)
- eye: blink (conflict)
- farming & agriculture: field hand (person)
- fist: knuckle under (v)
- foot: doormat (person)
- gesture: blink (conflict)
- ground, terrain & land: ground (hold / stand one's ground)
- hand: hand (upper hand)
- insult: doormat (person)
- knee: knee (bring to one's knees), knee (risen from its knees, etc.), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), kowtow (v)
- lap: lapdog (n)
- mountains & hills: overhang (n)
- person: dog (big dog), doormat (person), field hand (person), servant (dominated), slave (slave to fashion, etc.), slave (dominated)
- position: knuckle under (v), over (dominance), top (dominance / winning)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: over (dominance), talk (talk over somebody)
- religion: bow (and bow down), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), kowtow (v), unbowed (adj)
- sign, signal, symbol: doormat (person)
- size: dog (big dog)
- speech: talk (talk over somebody)
- sports & games: game (game of chicken)
- standing, sitting & lying: back down (v), bow (and bow down), cower (v), knee (bring to one's knees), knee (rise from its knees, etc.), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), kowtow (v), prostrate (v), supine (adj), supinely, unbowed (adj)
- verb: back down (v), blink (conflict), bow (and bow down), cower (v), knee (bring to one's knees), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), knuckle under (v), kowtow (v), prostrate (v), tail (turn tail)
- violence: knuckle under (v)

## DOORS & THRESHOLDS (2) (see also gate; house; roof)

- acceptance & rejection: shut out (adj), shut out (v)
- access & lack of access: camel (camel's nose in the tent, etc.), door (back door / front door), door (and doorway / access), foot (foot in the door), gatekeeper (person), key (access), shut out (adj), shut out (v)
- amelioration & renewal: open (after lockdown, etc.)
- attachment: locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
- attention, scrutiny and promotion: door (behind closed doors)
- computer: door (back door / computer), trapdoor (computers)
- concealment & lack of concealment: door (behind closed doors), trapdoor (computers)
- configuration: locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
- constraint & lack of constraint: lockdown (n)
- control & lack of control: gatekeeper (person)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: exit (n), revolving door, usher in (v)
- consciousness & awareness: open up (consciousness)
- curtailment: door (closure), lockdown (n)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: door (shown the door, etc.), door (check something at the door, etc.)
- division & connection: locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
- epithet: keyhole (the Keyhole, etc.)
- fantasy & reality: unhinged (adj)
- inauguration: usher in (v)
- measurement: threshold (below the threshold), threshold (measurement)
- mind: open up (consciousness)
- movement: revolving door
- opportunities & possibilities: door (opportunity), door (hold the door open, etc.), door (leave the door open), door (get one's foot in the door), door (close a door, etc.)
- person: doormat (person), gatekeeper (person)
- portal: door (portal), portal (entrance), threshold (cross the threshold), threshold (portal)
- proper name: door (Durdle Door, etc.), keyhole (the Keyhole, etc.)
- proximity: door (knock at / on the door), doorstep (on / at the doorstep), threshold (on the threshold)
- responsibility: door (at someone's door, etc.)
- sanctioning, authority & nonconformity: gatekeeper (person)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: camel (camel's nose in the tent, etc.), door (get one's foot in the door), door (close a door, etc.)
- subterfuge: trapdoor (computers)

## DRIVING FORCE (1)

- atmosphere: wind (wind of change, etc.)
- blade: cutting edge (on the cutting edge), cutting edge (other)
- boat: figurehead (n)
- dam: powerhouse (n)
- electricity: powerhouse (n)
- engine: drive (v), engine (engine room), engine (person), engine (driving force), motor (driving force), seat (in the driver's seat)
- fist: fist (armored fist, etc.)
- horse: charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), outrider (n)
- journeys & trips: pathbreaking (adj), pathfinder (person), pioneer (person), way (lead the way)
- military: advance guard, charge (lead the charge, etc.), charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), fist (armored fist, etc.), march (on the march), march (n), point man (and point person), spear (tip of the spear), vanguard, vanguard (in the vanguard), vanguard (other)

- movement: charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), march (on the march), march (n)
- path: pathbreaking (adj), pathfinder (person)
- person: pace-setter (n), pathfinder (person), pioneer (person), point man (and point person)
- river: powerhouse (n)
- sports & games: pace-setter (n), pacesetting (adj)
- tools & technology: wedge (edge of the wedge)
- verb: charge (lead the charge, etc.), charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), drive (v), spearhead (v), way (lead the way)
- walking, running & jumping: march (on the march), march (n), pace-setter (n), pacesetting (adj)
- weapon: spear (tip of the spear), spearhead (v), spearhead (n)
- wedge: wedge (edge of the wedge)
- wind: wind (wind of change, etc.)

## EAGERNESS & RELUCTANCE (1)

- animal: bay (bay for blood, etc.), chops (lick one's chops), dog (dog won't hunt), horse (hold your horses), lips (lick one's lips), pounce (v)
- bodily reaction: chops (lick one's chops), drool (v), lips (lick one's lips), mouthwatering (adj), salivate (v)
- burden: drag (drag somebody into something)
- direction: look forward to (v)
- dog: bay (bay for blood, etc.), dog (dog won't hunt)
- eye: look forward to (v)
- food & drink: drool (v), hungry (adj), juicy (adj), mouthwatering (adj), stomach (eagerness)
- foot: feet (cold feet), foot-dragging, heel (dig in one's heels), kicking and screaming
- gesture: hand (rub one's hands), nose (hold one's nose)
- hand: hand (rub one's hands), handwringing (n)
- heart: faint-hearted (the faint-hearted), heart (eagerness and reluctance)
- heel: heel (dig in one's heels)
- horse: balk (v), bit (champ at the bit), charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), go (raring to go, etc.), horse (hold your horses), skittish (adj)
- hunting: bay (bay for blood, etc.), dog (dog won't hunt), pounce (v)
- insect: itchy (adj)
- journeys & trips: path (beat a path), road (go down that road, etc.), there (let's not go there)
- leg: kicking and screaming
- love, courtship & marriage: coy (adj), marriage (shotgun marriage), shy (adj)
- military: charge (in, into, ahead, etc.)
- mouth: chops (lick one's chops), lips (lick one's lips), salivate (v)
- movement: charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), jump (jump at the chance, etc.), leap (leap into action, etc.), pounce (v), road (go down that road, etc.), spring (spring into action, etc.), there (let's not go there)
- nose: nose (hold one's nose)
- path: path (beat a path)
- place: there (let's not go there)
- predation: pounce (v)
- sensation: itch (v), itchy (adj)
- sex: slut (enthusiasm), whore (attention whore, etc.)
- smell: nose (hold one's nose)
- sound: bay (bay for blood, etc.), kicking and screaming
- sports & games: gun (jump the gun)
- stomach: stomach (eagerness)
- taste: juicy (adj), mouthwatering (adj)
- temperature: cold feet, lukewarm (feeling), shower (cold shower), water (throw cold water on something)

- verb: balk (v), bay (bay for blood, etc.), bit (champ at the bit), charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), drag (drag somebody into something), drool (v), gun (jump the gun), heel (dig in one's heels), horse (hold your horses), itch (v), jump (jump at the chance, etc.), leap (leap into action, etc.), path (beat a path), pounce (v), salivate (v), spring (spring into action, etc.), water (throw cold water on something)
- walking, running & jumping: foot-dragging, jump (jump at the chance, etc.), leap (leap into action, etc.), pounce (v), spring (spring into action, etc.)
- water: shower (cold shower), water (throw cold water on something)
- weapon: gun-shy (adj)

## **EAR (2)**

- amount: earful (amount)
- attachment: earworm (n)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: ear (have somebody's ear), ear (attention), listen (as noun)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: ear (turn a deaf ear), ear (fall on deaf ears)
- consciousness & awareness: deaf (adj), ear (fall on deaf ears), tone-deaf (adj)
- feeling, emotion & effect: ear (music to one's ears)
- flaws & lack of flaws: tin ear (n), tin-eared (adj), tone-deaf (adj)
- proper name: ear (Ear of the Wind, etc.)
- resemblance: ear (ear of corn, etc.)
- surveillance: ear (surveillance)

## **EARTH & WORLD (2)**

- amount & effect: tectonic (adj)
- area: sphere (in the sphere), world (exploration)
- bases: earth (close to the earth, etc.), tectonic (adj)
- center & periphery: outside (outside world, etc.)
- character & personality: down to earth (adj), earthiness (character), eye (stars in one's eyes), mother (earth mother)
- computer: blogosphere (in the blogosphere), blogosphere (other)
- concealment & lack of concealment: netherworld (n), underworld (n)
- environment: netherworld (n), sphere (in the sphere), world (in the world, in her world, etc.), world (into a world), world (exploration), world (other), underworld (n)
- experience: horizon (expand one's horizons)
- extent & scope: earth (to the ends of the earth, etc.), polar (polar opposite, etc.), tectonic (adj), world (a world of difference, etc.), world (the whole world, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: world (on top of the world, etc.), world (means the world to me, etc.)
- fantasy & reality: world (fantasy)
- past & present: world (lost world)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: world (lost world)
- proper name: world (Disney World, etc.)
- searching & discovery: earth (to the ends of the earth, etc.)
- time: world (lost world)

## **EARTHQUAKE (2) (see also volcano)**

- amount & effect: earthquake (effect), earthshaking (adj), seismic (adj), seismically, tectonic (adj), tremor (n)
- bases: tectonic (adj)
- center & periphery: epicenter (n)
- disruption: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
- division & connection: fault (fault line)
- effect: aftershock (n), earthquake (effect), shock wave, tremor (n), upheaval (disruption)

- equilibrium & stability: earthquake (effect), earthshaking (adj)
- evidence: tremor (n)
- extent & scope: earthshaking (adj), seismic (adj), seismically, tectonic (adj)
- feeling, emotion & effect: aftershock (n), earthquake (effect), shock wave, upheaval (disruption)
- initiation: tremor (n)
- location: epicenter (n)
- place: epicenter (n)

## **EFFECT (1)**

- air: air (take the air out of a room, etc.)
- atmosphere: air (take the air out of a room, etc.), fallout (effect)
- blade: sword (double-edged sword)
- boxing: punch (punch in the gut, etc.)
- cooking: stir (effect)
- earthquake: aftershock (n), earthquake (effect), shock wave, tremor (n), upheaval (disruption)
- equilibrium & stability: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
- explosion: blast radius (n), ground zero, shock wave
- fist: hit (affect), hit (affected), punch (punch in the gut, etc.), struck (affected)
- force: hit (affect), hit (affected), impact (affect), impact (effect), impacted (affected), punch (punch in the gut, etc.), strike (affect), struck (affected)
- ground, terrain & land: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
- house: home (hit home)
- military: blast radius (n)
- nuclear energy: fallout (effect), ground zero
- mark: mark (effect)
- sea: wave (make waves, etc.)
- sensation: hit (affect), hit (affected), impact (affect), impact (effect), impacted (affected), punch (punch in the gut, etc.), strike (affect), struck (affected)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: nerve (strike a nerve, etc.)
- sound: chord (strike a chord), echo (noun / effect), resonate (v), repercussion (n), reverberate (v), reverberation (n)
- sports & games: domino (domino effect, etc.)
- sword: sword (double-edged sword)
- tools & technology: needle (move the needle, etc.)
- verb: chord (strike a chord), hit (affect), home (hit home), impact (affect), needle (move the needle, etc.), resonate (v), reverberate (v), reverberation (n), roil (v), strike (affect), wave (make waves, etc.)
- violence: punch (punch in the gut, etc.)
- volcano: tremor (n)
- water: ripple (v), ripple (ripple effect), ripple (n), roil (v), splash (effect), splashy (effect), wake (effect), wave (make waves, etc.)
- wave: ripple (v), ripple (ripple effect), ripple (n), splash (effect), splashy (effect), wake (effect), wave (make waves, etc.)

## **ELECTRICITY (2)**

- accusation & criticism: hot seat (n)
- amelioration & renewal: battery (recharge one's batteries, etc.)
- attraction & repulsion: lightning rod
- avoidance & separation: insulated
- character & personality: incandescent (character), live wire (person)
- comprehension & incomprehension: lightning bolt (comprehension)

- control & lack of control: circuit breaker (n)
- curtailment: circuit breaker (n)
- danger: rail (third rail)
- division & connection: insulated, plugged in / into
- driving force: powerhouse (n)
- failure, accident & impairment: short-circuit (v)
- fate, fortune & chance: blue (out of the blue, etc.), lightning (fate)
- feeling, emotion & effect: amped (feeling), charged (highly charged, etc.), current (feeling), electric (feeling), electricity (feeling), electrified, electrify (v), galvanize (v), jolt (n), lightning bolt (and bolt of lightning, etc.), shock (v), shock (in shock), shock (feeling), shocked (adj), shocker (n), shocking (feeling, emotion and effect), thunderstruck (adj)
- identity & nature: wired (and hardwired)
- increase & decrease: amp up (v), step up (increase)
- initiation: galvanize (v), spark plug
- isolation & remoteness: insulate (v), insulated, insulation (n)
- judgment: hot seat (n)
- operation: wired (and hardwired)
- person: live wire (person)
- power: powerhouse (n)
- protection & lack of protection: insulate (v), insulated, insulation (n)
- strength & weakness: amped (strength), powerhouse (n)
- superlative: incandescent (character)

## **EMPATHY & LACK OF EMPATHY (1)**

- animal: ruthless (sun, etc.)
- boat: boat (in the same boat)
- clothing & accessories: shoe (in somebody's shoes)
- feeling, emotion & effect: stone (heart of stone)
- heart: coldhearted (adj), heart (empathy), heartless, kindhearted (and kind-hearted), stone-hearted
- sensation: feel (I feel you, etc.)
- shoulder: shoulder (a shoulder to cry on)
- temperature: coldhearted (adj), coldly

## **ENGINE (2) (see also manufacturing; mechanism; tools & technology)**

- action, inaction & delay: bus (park the bus)
- activity: gear (kick into gear, etc.), hum (hum along), neutral (in neutral), overdrive (in / into overdrive)
- amelioration & renewal: tune (and tune up), tune-up (n)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: hood (look under the hood, etc.), test-drive (v)
- bases: hood (look under the hood, etc.)
- character & personality: driven (adj)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: parked (movement)
- commitment & determination: gas (step on the gas / step off the gas), pedal (pedal to the metal), tank (empty the tank, etc.), throttle (full throttle, etc.)
- concealment & lack of concealment: hood (look under the hood, etc.)
- condition & status: hum (hum along), neutral (in neutral), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled (progress)
- control & lack of control: seat (in the driver's seat)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: gear up (v)
- disruption: gear (throw sand in the gears, etc.), wrench (throw a wrench into something)
- driving force: drive (v), engine (engine room), engine (person), engine (driving force), motor (driving force), seat (in the driver's seat)

- failure, accident & impairment: flameout (n), flame out (v), gas (run out of gas), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled (progress)
- feeling, emotion & effect: gasket (blow a gasket, etc.), go (go from zero to one hundred, etc.), revved (revved up)
- functioning: cylinder (fire on all cylinders, etc.), gear (high gear, low gear, etc.), hum (hum along), hyperdrive (into hyperdrive), neutral (in neutral), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled (progress), throttle (full throttle, etc.)
- increase & decrease: gear up (v), rev up (v), supercharge (v), supercharged, turbocharge (v), turbocharged
- initiation: gear (kick into gear, etc.), jump-start (v), jump-start (n), kick in (start), kick-start (v)
- movement: parked (movement), stall (v), stalled (progress)
- power: supercharge (v), supercharged, tank (empty the tank, etc.), turbocharge (v), turbocharged
- progress & lack of progress: stall (v), stalled (progress)
- readiness & preparedness: tune (and tune up), tune-up (n), warmed-up
- reversal: gear (switch gears, shift gears, etc.)
- searching & discovery: hood (look under the hood, etc.)
- speed: downshift (v), go (go from zero to one hundred, etc.), supercharge (v), supercharged, turbocharge (v), turbocharged
- starting, going, continuing & ending: downshift (v), flameout (n), flame out (v), gas (run out of gas), gear (kick into gear, etc.), jump-start (v), jump-start (n), kick in (start), kick-start (v), parked (movement), stall (v), stalled (progress), warmed-up
- strength & weakness: supercharge (v), supercharged, turbocharge (v), turbocharged
- verb: supercharge (v), turbocharge (v)

## ENTHUSIASM (1)

- addiction: addict (chess addict, etc.), addicted (enthusiasm), addiction (enthusiasm), addictive (adj), crave (fans crave the bout, etc.), fix (daily fix, etc.), habit (enthusiasm), high (enthusiasm), hooked, junkie (game junkie, etc.), withdrawal (feeling)
- affix: head (Deadhead, etc.), maniac (Hulkamaniac, etc.)
- alcohol: intoxicating (adj)
- animal: bookworm (person), hound (autograph hound, etc.), pet (pet cause, etc.), rat (lab rat, etc.)
- baby: baby (relationship)
- Bible: bible (enthusiasm)
- blood: bleed (bleed black and gold, etc.)
- books & reading: bookworm (person)
- breathing: eat (eat and breathe, etc.), live (live and breathe, live to)
- container: into (be into something)
- creature: nerd (word nerd, etc.)
- death & life: live (live and breathe, live to)
- dog: hound (autograph hound, etc.)
- fish: hooked
- food & drink: crave (fans crave the bout, etc.), eat (eat and breathe, etc.), eat (eat and sleep, etc.), glutton (person), gluttonous (adj), taste (taste for violence, etc.)
- government: ambassador (role)
- health & medicine: addict (chess addict, etc.), addicted (enthusiasm), addiction (enthusiasm), crave (fans crave the bout, etc.), delirious (adj), delirium (n), disease (enthusiasm), fever (enthusiasm), flu (enthusiasm), infection (enthusiasm), junkie (game junkie, etc.), mad (crazy), madness (enthusiasm), maniac (Hulkamaniac, etc.), rabid (enthusiasm), sickness (enthusiasm), withdrawal (feeling)
- hunting: hound (autograph hound, etc.)
- insect: bitten (enthusiasm), bug (enthusiasm), itch (enthusiasm)

- love, courtship & marriage: fall (fall in love), infatuated (enthusiasm), love (fall in love), love (enthusiasm / noun), love (enthusiasm / verb), lover (enthusiasm / person), romance (n)
- mental health: craze (n), crazed (crazed fans, etc.), crazy (enthusiasm), mad (crazy), madness (enthusiasm), maniac (Hulkamaniac, etc.), obsessed, obsession (n), rabid (enthusiasm), rage (enthusiasm), rave (v), rave (rave review, etc.)
- military: army (Arnie's Army, etc.)
- music: Woodstock (whitewater Woodstock, etc.)
- object: thing (one's thing)
- person: acolyte (person), addict (chess addict, etc.), ambassador (role), bookworm (person), cheerleader (person), convert (person), devotee (person), disciple (person), evangelist (person), fanatic (person), fanboy (person), follower (social media, etc.), glutton (person), head (Deadhead, etc.), hound (autograph hound, etc.), junkie (game junkie, etc.), lover (enthusiasm / person), maniac (Hulkamaniac, etc.), missionary (person), nation (Who Dat Nation, etc.), nerd (word nerd, etc.), rat (lab rat, etc.)
- place: cathedral (Big Snowbird Creek, etc.), mecca (mecca of bluegrass, etc.)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: into (be into something)
- rat: rat (lab rat, etc.)
- religion: acolyte (person), bible (enthusiasm), cathedral (Big Snowbird Creek, etc.), church (n), convert (person), cult (cult following, etc.), devotee (person), disciple (person), evangelist (person), fanatic (person), fanaticism (enthusiasm), faithful (the faithful, etc.), fanatic (person), fanboy (person), mecca (mecca of bluegrass, etc.), pilgrimage (trip), religion (enthusiasm), religiously, shrine (reverence), temple (n), worship (v), worship (n)
- school & education: cheerlead (v), cheerleader (person)
- sensation: bitten (enthusiasm), itch (enthusiasm)
- sex: lust (n), passion (enthusiasm), passionate, passionately, slut (enthusiasm), whore (attention whore, etc.)
- sleep: eat (eat and sleep, etc.)
- sound: cheer on (v)
- speech: pitch (promote)
- taste: distaste (n), taste (taste for violence, etc.)
- temperature: shower (cold shower), water (throw cold water on something)
- verb: bleed (bleed black and gold, etc.), cheer on (v), crave (fans crave the bout, etc.), eat (eat and breathe, etc.), eat (eat and sleep, etc.), live (live and breathe, live to), pitch (promote), rave (v), water (throw cold water on something), worship (v)
- water: shower (cold shower), water (throw cold water on something)

## **ENVIRONMENT (1) (see also area; location; place)**

- affix: dom (memedom, etc.), land (clubland, etc.), scape (threatscape, etc.), sphere (cryptosphere, etc.), verse (metaverse, etc.)
- air: air (environment), air (anger in the air, etc.), atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), climate (work climate, etc.), weather (environment)
- allusion: Dantesque (adj), Dickensian (adj), frog (frog in boiling water), never-never land, Promised Land
- animal: frog (frog in boiling water), hornet's nest, snake pit, zoo (environment)
- astronomy: firmament (n), metaverse (n), multiverse (n), Twitterverse (n), universe (n)
- atmosphere: air (environment), air (anger in the air, etc.), atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), climate (work climate, etc.), weather (environment)
- Bible: Eden (n), Edenic (adj), Garden of Eden, Promised Land
- bird: incubator (n)
- cloth: fabric (fabric of society, etc.)
- consumption: meat grinder (military)

- container: cauldron (n), crucible (n), oven (the Oven, etc.), pressure cooker (in a pressure cooker, etc.), pressure cooker (other)
- desert: desert, oasis (environment), Sahara (Sahara of snow, etc.), sand (political sands, etc.)
- direction: netherworld (n), underground (n), underworld (n)
- earth & world: netherworld (n), sphere (in the sphere), underworld (n), world (in the world, in her world, etc.), world (into a world), world (exploration), world (other)
- fire: cauldron (n), crucible (n), furnace (n), oven (the Oven, etc.)
- fish: fish (fish out of water), fishbowl (in a fishbowl), fishbowl (other)
- frog: frog (frog in boiling water)
- ground, terrain & land: badlands (environment), borderland (n), contour (n), desert (environment), ecosystem (n), here (out here), jungle (n), land (clubland, etc.), landscape (n), lay of the land, morass (n), oasis (environment), sand (political sands, etc.), scape (threatscape, etc.), swamp (fever swamp), swamp (swamp of cliches, etc.), terrain (area), territory (area), wasteland (environment), wild West
- heating water: cauldron (n), frog (frog in boiling water)
- history: badlands (environment), wild West
- hole: hellhole, pit (bear pit), snake pit
- hygiene: cesspit (n), cesspool (n)
- infrastructure: warehouse (neglect)
- insect: beehive (activity), hornet's nest
- island: island (island of affluence, etc.)
- jungle: jungle (competition)
- manufacturing: crucible (n), oven (the Oven, etc.)
- meat: meat grinder (military), meat grinder (other)
- mechanism: meat grinder (military), meat grinder (other)
- mental health: asylum (insane asylum, etc.), bedlam (n), madhouse (place), snake pit, warehouse (neglect)
- military: no man's land (danger), war zone, zone (combat zone)
- moon: moonscape (n)
- picture: scape (threatscape, etc.)
- pressure: pressure cooker (in a pressure cooker, etc.), pressure cooker (other)
- religion: Dantesque (adj), Eden (n), Edenic (adj), Garden of Eden, heaven (environment, food, etc.), hell (macro), hell (micro), hellhole, limbo (in limbo), paradise (n), Promised Land, purgatory (n)
- school & education: playground (n)
- sea: island (island of affluence, etc.), sea (in a sea), sea (environment)
- sky: firmament (n)
- snake: snake pit
- society: netherworld (n), underworld (n)
- swamp: swamp (fever swamp), swamp (swamp of cliches, etc.)
- temperature: cauldron (n), crucible (n), frog (frog in boiling water), furnace (n), oven (the Oven, etc.)
- warehouse: warehouse (neglect)
- water: fishbowl (in a fishbowl), fishbowl (other), frog (frog in boiling water), sea (in a sea), sea (environment), swamp (fever swamp), swamp (swamp of cliches, etc.)
- weather & climate: atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), climate (work climate, etc.), microclimate, weather (environment)
- zoo: zoo (environment)

## **EPISTEMOLOGY (2)**

- inclusion & exclusion: authentic (groups), authentically (live authentically, etc.), authenticity (groups), construct (social construct, etc.), constructed (socially constructed, etc.), construction (of gender, etc.), fluid (gender fluid, etc.), fluidity (gender fluidity, etc.), gender (groups), hood (personhood, etc.), identify (identify

as, etc.), inauthentic (groups), inauthenticity (groups), intersection (n), intersectional (groups), intersectionality (groups), lived experience (groups, etc.), lived reality (groups, etc.), me (like me, look like me, speak like me, be like me, etc.), ness (Asian-ness, etc.), norm (groups), normal (groups), normalcy (groups), normalization (groups), normalize (groups), normalized (groups), normalizing (groups), normative (groups), normativity (groups), right (and rights / groups), self (authentic self, true self, etc.), true (true to oneself, etc.), truth (speak one's truth, etc. / groups), victimhood (groups), voice (groups), woke (groups), wokeness (groups)

## EPITHET (1)

- animal: badger (“The Badger, etc.), bear (Soviet Bear, etc.), beast (‘The Beast’ Mugabi, etc.), dog (mad dog / epithet), lion (the Lion of Panjshir, etc.), lioness (England’s Lionesses, etc.), pack (the Rat Pack, etc.), savage (Savage Mountain, etc.), tiger (Arkan’s Tigers, etc.), tiger (tiger mother, etc.), whale (epithet)
- arm: elbow (the Elbow of the Andes, etc.)
- astronomy: big bang (“Big Bang” of country music, etc.)
- baby: cradle (cradle of Islam, etc.)
- birth: birthplace (the birthplace of democracy, etc.)
- boat: helmsman (the Great Helmsman, etc.)
- color: eye (the Blue Eye of Siberia, etc.), gold (black gold, etc.)
- container: cauldron (the Cauldron, etc.), oven (the Oven, etc.)
- creature: angel (Angel of the Battlefield, etc.), death (Angel of Death, etc.), devil (Lady Devils, etc.), unicorn (unicorns of the sea, etc.), unicorn (tech “Unicorn,” etc.), wizard (Wizard of Menlo Park, etc.)
- day: Christmas
- dog: dog (mad dog / epithet), pack (the Rat Pack, etc.)
- death & life: undertaker (The Undertaker, etc.)
- eye: eye (the Blue Eye of Siberia, etc.)
- explosion: dynamite (Michael “Dynamite” Dokes, etc.)
- family: father (Father of Waters, etc.), father (father of India, etc.), Father Time, godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.), godmother (Godmother of Title IX, etc.), mother (mother of NPR, etc.), mother (mother earth, etc.), mother (Mother Nature)
- fire: cauldron (the Cauldron, etc.), oven (the Oven, etc.)
- force: bulldozer (epithet)
- heating water: cauldron (the Cauldron, etc.), oven (the Oven, etc.)
- history: Luddite (allusion)
- lion: lion (the Lion of Panjshir, etc.), lioness (England’s Lionesses, etc.)
- magic: wizard (Wizard of Menlo Park, etc.)
- materials & substances: gold (black gold, etc.), iron (Iron Lady, etc.), jewel (jewel of Syria, etc.), oil (new oil, etc.), pearl (Pearl of the Orient, etc.), rock (Rock of Chickamauga, etc.)
- military: general (Bobby Knight, “The General,” etc.), Waterloo (figurative)
- mountains & hills: Mariana Trench (epithet), Mount Everest (and Everest)
- part of speech: wet (the wet, the dry, etc.)
- person: cannibal (the Cannibal, etc.)
- religion: angel (Angel of the Battlefield, etc.), Golgotha (Golgotha of Norilisk, etc.), Mother Teresa (epithet), Prometheus (epithet)
- royalty: king (king cobra, etc.), king (products), king (person), monarch (MS *Monarch*, etc.), prince (epithet), queen (Queen of Soul, etc.), Versailles (Russian Versailles, etc.)
- school & education: dean (person), West Point (epithet)
- season: spring (Arab Spring, etc.)
- shape: fork (the Forks of the Ohio, etc.), keyhole (the Keyhole, etc.), pipeline (Mexican Pipeline, etc.), slot (the Slot, etc.)
- size: great (the Great Resignation, etc.)

- spider: spider (Eljif “the Spider” Elmas, etc.)
- temperature: cauldron (the Cauldron, etc.), oven (the Oven, etc.)
- tiger: tiger (tiger mother, etc.)
- tools & technology: Luddite (allusion)
- wall: wall (blue wall, etc.), wall (red wall, etc.)
- weather & climate: tornado (Tartan Tornado, etc.)
- wolf: pack (the Rat Pack, etc.)

## EPITHET (2)

- ability & lack of ability: wizard (Wizard of Menlo Park, etc.)
- access & lack of access: gate (Gates of Hell, etc.)
- achievement, recognition & praise: Academy Awards, America (America’s sweetheart, etc.), Baryshnikov (Baryshnikov of football, etc.), Eaton (Eaton of Africa, etc.), Elvis (Afghanistan’s Elvis, etc.), Harvard (epithet), Hollywood (Hollywood of Africa, etc.), Michael Jordan (Michael Jordan of the dog-show world, etc.), Mozart (Mozart of Rock, etc.), Muhammad Ali (Muhammad Ali of her generation, etc.), Napoleon (the Napoleon of surgery, etc.), nightingale (Nightingale of India, etc.), Nobel (Nobel Prize of the Arab World, etc.), Obama (Russia’s Obama, etc.), Oscars (Oscars of surfing, etc.), Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.), savior (the savior of mothers, etc.), Springsteen (epithet), teacher (teacher’s teacher, etc.)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative)
- amelioration & renewal: spring (Arab Spring, etc.)
- amount: Saudi Arabia (Saudi Arabia of coal, etc.)
- amount & effect: wall (red wall, etc.)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: Barnum (and P.T. Barnum)
- attraction & repulsion: pied piper
- bases: ship (ship of state, etc.)
- behavior: Lady Macbeth (epithet), Machiavelli (Trump’s Machiavelli, etc.), tiger (tiger mother, etc.), Trump (Trump of the Tropics, etc.)
- biodiversity, nature & life: Amazon (epithet / biodiversity), Galapagos (Galapagos of Europe, etc.), lung (atmosphere), mother (Mother Nature), Noah’s Ark, rainforest (rainforests of the sea, etc.), Serengeti (Serengeti of the North, etc.)
- character & personality: British (British of South America, etc.), bulldozer (epithet), Byron (epithet), Casanova (Serbian Casanova, etc.), Don Juan, Harvey Weinstein (epithet), iron (Iron Lady, etc.), Lady Macbeth (epithet), Machiavelli (Trump’s Machiavelli, etc.), Napoleon (the Napoleon of surgery, etc.), tiger (tiger mother, etc.)
- commitment & determination: badger (The Badger, etc.), iron (Iron Lady, etc.)
- comparison & contrast: Alcatraz (Alcatraz of the South, etc.), Amazon (epithet / biodiversity), Amazon (epithet / the company), answer (Britain’s answer to Bill Gates, etc.), Appalachia (and Pineapplachia, etc.), Bhopal (Australia’s Bhopal, etc.), black tulip (rarity), Caesar (Chinese Caesar, etc.), California (California of Europe, etc.), Carnegie Hall (epithet), Chernobyl (rainforest Chernobyl, etc.), Chicago (China’s Chicago, etc.), Chris Farley (Chris Farley of silent cinema, etc.), Detroit (India’s Detroit, etc.), “El Chapo” (Asia’s El Chapo, etc.), Ellis Island (Ellis Island of the West, etc.), Freud (sex), Fuji (Mount Fuji of the US, etc.), Galen (Galen of Islam, etc.), Grand Canyon (Grand Canyon of the South, etc.), Hannibal (American Hannibal, etc.), Harvey Weinstein (epithet), Hawaii (China’s Hawaii, etc.), Hugo Chavez (Gallic Hugo Chavez, etc.), Jerusalem (Jerusalem of the North, etc.), Kansas (Kansas of China, etc.), Kipling (the Canadian Kipling, etc.), Krakatoa (Krakatoa of the Middle Ages, etc.), Leonardo da Vinci, Madeleine McCann (Ireland’s Madeleine McCann, etc.), Madonna (Russian Madonna, etc.), Mark Twain (the Yiddish Mark Twain, etc.), *Mayflower* (*Mayflower* of the Third Aliyah, etc.), Mona Lisa (Mona Lisa of baseball cards, etc.), Mother Teresa (epithet), new (new Floyd Mayweather, etc.), Niagara (Niagara of the South, etc.), Nile (America’s Nile, etc.), Nobel (Nobel Prize of the Arab World, etc.), Oscars (Oscars of surfing, etc.), Pablo Escobar (of the Middle East, etc.), Panama Canal (of its day, etc.), Pearl Harbor (Australia’s Pearl Harbor, etc.), Pirlo (the Yorkshire Pirlo, etc.), Romeo

and Juliet (epithet), Ruhr Valley (new Ruhr Valley, etc.), Sahara (Sahara of snow, etc.), Serengeti (Serengeti of the North, etc.), Sicily (Mexico's Sicily, etc.), Silicon Valley (of China, etc.), Spartan (Spartans of Australasia, etc.), Stonehenge (America's Stonehenge, etc.), Uber (the Uber of towing, etc.), Vietnam (Egypt's Vietnam, etc.), Woodstock (whitewater Woodstock, etc.), Yosemite (Yosemite of the East, etc.), Zuckerberg (the Russian Mark Zuckerberg, etc.)

- configuration: bride (Bride of the Red Sea, etc.)
- control & lack of control: general (Bobby Knight, "The General," etc.), helmsman (the Great Helmsman, etc.), Lady Macbeth (epithet)
- conflict: war (epithet / figurative)
- courage & lack of courage: lion (the Lion of Panjshir, etc.)
- creation & transformation: Edison (Edison of the Internet, etc.), Elon Musk (epithet), father (father of India, etc.), Gutenberg, mother (mother of NPR, etc.)
- danger: Mount Everest (and Everest), savage (Savage Mountain, etc.)
- death & life: alley (Ambush Alley, etc.), alley (Death Alley / U.S. 61, etc.), butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.), death (Angel of Death, etc.), Golgotha (Golgotha of Norilisk, etc.), hamburger (Hamburger Hill, etc.), killer (silent killer, etc.)
- destruction: cannibal (the Cannibal, etc.), Chernobyl (rainforest Chernobyl, etc.), Hiroshima (epithet), Pompeii (Pompeii of the East, etc.)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: Mount Everest (and Everest)
- division & connection: iron curtain, Yugoslavia (Asian Yugoslavia, etc.), wall (blue wall, etc.)
- failure, accident & impairment: Bhopal (Australia's Bhopal, etc.), Chernobyl (rainforest Chernobyl, etc.)
- farming & agriculture: bowl (Vietnam's rice bowl, etc.), bowl (America's salad bowl, etc.), breadbasket (Pakistan's breadbasket, etc.), garden (the Garden of France, etc.), granary (Granary of Mexico, etc.), Kansas (Kansas of China, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: curse (Curse of Caricola, etc.), miracle (Miracle on the Hudson, etc.), miracle (Miracle of Istanbul, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: sorrow (China's Sorrow, etc.), tear (Harbor of Tears, etc.)
- force: beast ("The Beast" Mugabi, etc.), dynamite (Michael "Dynamite" Dokes, etc.), express (Pineapple Express, etc.), tornado (Tartan Tornado, etc.)
- functioning: machine (the Swiss Machine, etc.)
- geography: alley (Cyclone Alley, etc.), Amazon (epithet / biodiversity), Appalachia (and Pineapplachia, etc.), California (California of Europe, etc.), capital (capital of the world, etc.), capital (Black Bear capital, etc.), crossroad (Crossroads of the World, etc.), door (Durdle Door, etc.), eye (the Blue Eye of Siberia, etc.), father (Father of Waters, etc.), fork (the Forks of the Ohio, etc.), Fuji (Mount Fuji of the US, etc.), Grand Canyon (Grand Canyon of the South, etc.), Hawaii (China's Hawaii, etc.), key (the Keyhole, etc.), Krakatoa (Krakatoa of the Middle Ages, etc.), Niagara (Niagara of the South, etc.), Nile (America's Nile, etc.), Norway (the Norway of Arabia, etc.), pearl (Pearl of the Orient, etc.), pipeline (Mexican Pipeline, etc.), Pompeii (Pompeii of the east, etc.), riviera (Riviera of the Midwest, etc.), roof (Roof of the World, etc.), Serengeti (Serengeti of the North, etc.), slot (the Slot, etc.), sorrow (China's Sorrow, etc.), Venice (Venice of the North, etc.), Versailles (Russian Versailles, etc.), Yosemite (Yosemite of the East, etc.)
- group, set & collection: Noah's Ark
- help & assistance: godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.)
- history: Caesar (Chinese Caesar, etc.), Columbus (Chinese Columbus, etc.), Galen (Galen of Islam, etc.), Lexington (of China, etc.), Machiavelli (Trump's Machiavelli, etc.), Marco Polo (Muslim Marco Polo, etc.), nine eleven (Australia's 9/11, etc.), Pearl Harbor (Australia's Pearl Harbor, etc.)
- identity & nature: British (British of South America, etc.), teacher (teacher's teacher, etc.)
- importance & significance: Alexander (Muslim Alexander, etc.), great (the Great Resignation, etc.), pharmacy (Pharmacy of the World, etc.), Pope (Pope of Beaujolais, etc.), Ptolemy (Chinese Ptolemy, etc.), Zuckerberg (the Russian Mark Zuckerberg, etc.)

- isolation & remoteness: hermit (the Hermit Kingdom, etc.), North Korea (epithet), Timbuktu (remoteness)
- judgment: sword (*Sayf* Allah, etc.), Supreme Court
- knowledge & intelligence: Athens (Athens of Asia, etc.), Florence (Florence on the Elbe, etc.), Harvard (epithet), Leonardo da Vinci, Oxford (Oxford of China, etc.)
- message: apostle (Apostle of the Sioux, etc.)
- migration: British (British of South America, etc.), Ellis Island (Ellis Island of the West, etc.), Jew (Jews of the Caribbean, etc.), *Mayflower* (*Mayflower* of the Third Aliyah, etc.)
- military: Alexander (Muslim Alexander, etc.), alley (Ambush Alley, etc.), angel (Angel of the Battlefield, etc.), butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.), Caesar (Chinese Caesar, etc.), Churchillian (adj), death (Death Valley, etc.), Eaton (Eaton of Africa, etc.), express (Tokyo Express, etc.), Florence Nightingale (our Florence Nightingale, etc.), Gandhi (Gandhi of the Balkans, etc.), general (General Winter, etc.), hamburger (Hamburger Hill, etc.), Hannibal (American Hannibal, etc.), heartbreak (Heartbreak Hotel, etc.), Iliad (Japanese Iliad, etc.), Lawrence (T.E.), Lexington (of China, etc.), lion (the Lion of Panjshir, etc.), Napoleon (the Black Napoleon, etc.), nine eleven (Australia's 9/11, etc.), Patton (the Patton of Asia, etc.), Pearl Harbor (Australia's Pearl Harbor, etc.), Quisling (Quisling of China, etc.), Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / war), Sparta (Sparta of the North, etc.), Spartacus (the Black Spartacus, etc.), Spartan (Spartans of Australasia, etc.), Stalingrad (Stalingrad of the East, etc.), Thermopylae (Britain's Thermopylae, etc.), tiger (Arkan's Tigers, etc.), war (the war to end all wars, etc.), West Point (epithet)
- money: Great Gatsby, Lucullus (epithet), Wall Street (Wall Street of fish, etc.)
- oppression: butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.), Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.)
- origin: big bang ("Big Bang" of country music, etc.), birthplace (the birthplace of democracy, etc.), cradle (cradle of Islam, etc.)
- portal: gate (Gates of Hell, etc.)
- place: epithet: crossroad (Crossroads of the World, etc.), graveyard (things)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: last (the last / epithet), next (next Steve Jobs, etc.)
- pursuit, capture & escape: Houdini
- relationship: bride (Bride of the Red Sea, etc.), mother (mother earth, etc.)
- resemblance: spider (Eljif "the Spider" Elmas, etc.), unicorn (unicorns of the sea, etc.), washing machine
- route: road (Whale Road, etc.), Silk Road (maritime Silk Road, etc.)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: Mormon (Mormons of the Middle East)
- searching & discovery: Columbus (Chinese Columbus, etc.), grail (holy grail)
- sequence: next (next Steve Jobs, etc.)
- sex: Casanova (Serbian Casanova, etc.), Don Juan, Freud (sex)
- shape: elbow (the Elbow of the Andes, etc.), pipeline (Mexican Pipeline, etc.)
- size: Amazon (epithet / the company), bear (Soviet Bear, etc.), Facebook (the Facebook of knitting, etc.), king (king cobra, etc.), mosquito (Mosquito Fleet, etc.), Mount Everest (and Everest), Uber (the Uber of towing, etc.), whale (epithet)
- strength & weakness: iron (Iron Lady, etc.), mosquito (Mosquito Fleet, etc.), rock (Rock of Chickamauga, etc.)
- subterfuge: Belichick (the racing Bill Belichick, etc.), Machiavelli (Trump's Machiavelli, etc.)
- superlative: Academy Awards, Baryshnikov (Baryshnikov of football, etc.), capital (capital of the world, etc.), Carnegie Hall (epithet), Christmas, Harvard (epithet), jewel (jewel of Syria, etc.), king (products), king (person), monarch (MS *Monarch*, etc.), Muhammad Ali (Muhammad Ali of her generation, etc.), Oscars (Oscars of surfing, etc.), Paris (epithet), pearl (Pearl of the Orient, etc.), Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.), prince (epithet), queen (Queen of Soul, etc.), Shakespeare ("hillbilly Shakespeare," etc.), Shakespearean (adj), Shangri-la, Super Bowl, teacher (teacher's teacher, etc.), team (dream team)
- time: Father Time
- transmission: apostle (Apostle of the Sioux, etc.), Johnny Appleseed
- transportation: Panama Canal (of its day, etc.), ship (ship of the desert)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: grail (holy grail)

- wheat: breadbasket (Pakistan’s breadbasket, etc.), granary (Granary of Mexico, etc.)
- worth & lack of worth: Amazon (epithet / the company), black tulip (rarity), gold (black gold, etc.), Mona Lisa (Mona Lisa of baseball cards, etc.), oil (new oil, etc.), unicorn (tech “Unicorn,” etc.)

## **EQUILIBRIUM & STABILITY (1)**

- boat: boat (rock the boat), keel (even keel), righted, ship (right the ship, etc.)
- earthquake: earthquake (effect), earthshaking (adj)
- foot: footing (find one’s footing, etc.)
- ground, terrain & land: earthquake (effect), earthshaking (adj), footing (find one’s footing, etc.), ground (shaky ground, etc.), ground (firm ground, etc.)
- scale: balance (v), balance (out of balance), balance (off balance), balance (work & job, etc.), balance (n), balanced, balance of power, counterbalance (v), counterbalance (n), counterweight (n), disequilibrium (n), equilibrium (n), imbalanced
- verb: balance (v), counterbalance (v), ship (right the ship, etc.)
- walking, running & jumping: footing (find one’s footing, etc.), sea legs, stride (in stride)

## **EQUILIBRIUM & STABILITY (2)**

- amelioration & renewal: counterbalance (v), counterbalance (n), counterweight (n), right (right a wrong, etc.), stabilize (v)
- amount & effect: earthquake (effect)
- character & personality: levelheaded
- commitment & determination: waver (v), unwavering (adj), wobble (commitment), wobbly (commitment)
- condition & status: shaky (condition), wobbly (condition)
- control & lack of control: lurch (v)
- destruction: topple (v)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: overthrow (v), overturn (v), overturned, topple (v), unseat (v)
- disruption: balance (off balance), balance (out of balance), destabilize (v), destabilizing (adj), earthquake (effect), head (turn something on its head, etc.), imbalanced, overthrow (v), overturn (v), overturned, rattle (disrupt), reel (v), rock (v), rocked (disruption), shake (disrupt), shaken (disruption), shake up (v), shake-up (n), stagger (v), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), topple (v), topsy-turvy (upside down), trip up (v), unseat (v), upend (v), upheaval (disruption), upside down
- effect: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
- failure, accident & impairment: misstep (n), slip (n), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), stumble (v), stumble (n), trip up v, unseat (v)
- fate, fortune & chance: balance (in the balance), teeter (v)
- feeling, emotion & effect: destabilize (v), destabilizing (adj), dizzying (adj), earthquake (effect), edge (on edge), feet (knock somebody off their feet), flattened, floored (emotion), head-spinning, knock over (v), rattled (feeling), reel (v), rock (v), rocked (disruption), shake (disrupt), shaken (feeling), stagger (v), upheaval (disruption)
- flaws & lack of flaws: balance (off balance), balance (out of balance), balanced, disequilibrium (n), imbalanced, misstep (n), shaky (condition), slip (n), solid (adj), stumble (v), stumble (n), sure-footed (adj), unstable (adj), wobbly (condition)
- functioning: stability (n)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: overthrow (v), overturn (v), overturned, topple (v)
- readiness & preparedness: balance (off balance), brace (v), braced, poised (adj)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: settle down (v)
- reversal: overturn (v), overturned
- strength & weakness: solid (adj)
- substance & lack of substance: solid (adj)

## **EROSION (2)**

- decline: crumble (v), erode, eroding, erosion (n)
- destruction: crumble (v), disintegrate (v), disintegration
- failure, accident & impairment: crumble (v), disintegrate (v), disintegration, erode (v), eroding, erosion (n)

## **EUPHEMISM (1)**

- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: skin (save one's skin)
- verb: skin (save one's skin)

## **EUPHEMISM (2)**

- death & life: board (off the board / euphemism), carried off (died), claim (kill), demise (death / actual), disappeared (detained, murdered, etc.), encounter (kill), ended (his life was ended, etc.), fallen (dead), fallen (the fallen), feet (feet first), gone (dead), laid low (killed), leave (death), life (life was cut short), life (lose one's life), life (take one's life), life (give one's life, etc.), life (steal a life), liquidate (kill), liquidated (killed), lose (through death), loss (death), lost (death), make it (didn't make it), neutralize (kill), neutralized (shot, killed, etc.), pass (die), pass away (v), passing (death / actual), remove (kill), rest (laid to rest / death), succumb (die / actual), take down (kill), taken (through death), take out (kill), terminated (killed), transition (die), west (go west / obsolete), with us (no longer with us)
- language: complex (euphemism / adjective), plus-one (boyfriend, girlfriend, etc.)
- mental health: damaged (mental illness), dog (black dog / mental health), mental (adj), mental health (n), mentally (mentally unwell, etc.), mental wellbeing (and mental well-being), mental wellness (groups), nut (person), nuts (crazy), pieces (go to pieces), self-care (and self care), sick (mentally ill), there (not all there), unhinged (adj), welfare (mental, etc.), wellbeing (n), wellness (groups)
- oppression: disappeared (detained, murdered, etc.), encounter (kill), neutralize (kill), neutralized (shot, killed, etc.)
- sex: bedroom (sex), birds and the bees, couch (casting couch), easy (sex), loose (loose woman), pants (get in somebody's pants)
- violence: cleanse (violence), cleansing (ethnic cleansing), cleanup (military)

## **EVALUATION (see judgment)**

### **EVIDENCE (1) (see also message; suspicion; warning)**

- activity: alight
- allusion: breadcrumb (evidence)
- animal: canary (canary in the coal mine / cave), fishy (something smells fishy, etc.), rat (smell a rat)
- atmosphere: cloud (sign), glimmer (glimmer of hope, etc.), ray (ray of hope, etc.)
- bird: auger (v), auspicious (adj), canary (canary in the coal mine / cave)
- chemistry: litmus test
- cloud: cloud (sign)
- earthquake: tremor (n)
- finger: fingerprint (n)
- fire: fire (evidence), smoke (evidence), smoking gun
- fish: fishy (something smells fishy, etc.)
- health & medicine: symptom (n)
- hunting: sign (evidence), trail (digital trail, etc.)
- infrastructure: signpost (as verb), signpost (n)
- journeys & trips: signpost (as verb), signpost (n)
- light & dark: glimmer (glimmer of hope, etc.), ray (ray of hope, etc.)
- mark: fingerprint (n), hallmark, trademark (n)
- materials & substances: taint (n)
- mining: canary (canary in the coal mine / cave)

- music: undertone (n)
- object: calling card
- picture: illustrate (v), illustration (n), picture (view), portrait (view), show (the data show, etc.)
- rat: rat (smell a rat)
- religion: auger (v), auspicious (adj), sign (evidence)
- sign, signal, symbol: sign (sign of the times, etc.), signal (v), signpost (as verb), signpost (n), symptom (n)
- sound: chord (evidence), silence (deafening silence, etc.), tenor (n), undertone (n)
- smell: fishy (something smells fishy, etc.), off (not right), rat (smell a rat), scent (evidence), smell (evidence), sniff out (v), stench (n), test (smell test), whiff (n), wind (get / catch wind of something)
- speech: hint (v), hint (n), hint at (v), lie (tell an untruth), scream (scream “premium,” etc.), speak for (speak for itself, etc.), suggest (indicate), suggestion (evidence), tell (data can tell us something, etc.), telling, testimony (n)
- verb: auger (v), betray (reveal, show), hint (v), hint at (v), illustrate (v), lie (tell an untruth), reveal (v), scream (scream “premium,” etc.), show (the data show, etc.), sign (v), signal (v), signpost (as verb), sniff out (v), speak for (speak for itself, etc.), suggest (indicate), tell (data can tell us something, etc.), wind (get / catch wind of something)
- volcano: tremor (n)
- weapon: smoking gun
- wind: wind (get / catch wind of something)
- writing & spelling: sign (v), signature (evidence), written (written on it, etc.)

## EXCLAMATION (2)

- attention, scrutiny & promotion: exclamation point
- comprehension & incomprehension: Aha! (Aha! moment), eureka (moment, etc.)
- consciousness & awareness: Aha! (Aha! moment)
- death & life: farewell (death)
- feeling, emotion & effect: gasp (very “gasp,” etc.), meh (n), sweet (exclamation), welcome (welcome news, etc.), whoa (exclamation), wow (v), wow (as noun)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: farewell (leaving), goodbye (say goodbye, etc.), valedictory (farewell)
- welcome: welcome (v)

## EXPERIENCE (1)

- animal: cub (n), greenhorn (person), rodeo (first rodeo)
- baby: baby (novice), grownup (person)
- blood: blood (young blood, etc.)
- boat: rope (learn the ropes, etc.), salt (sailor), sea legs, wheelhouse (n)
- books & reading: story (war story)
- clothing & accessories: belt (under one's belt), hat (old hat)
- color: green (experience), greenhorn (person)
- consumption: meat grinder (military)
- crime: made man (experience), OG (and original gangster)
- depth: depth (out of one's depth)
- earth & world: horizon (expand one's horizons)
- education: freshman (adj)
- eye: see (see action, etc.)
- film: ingenue (person)
- fire: fire (through the fire, etc.), trial (trial by fire)
- food & drink: chew (and chew up), diet (n), eat (endure), medicine (a taste of one's own medicine), taste (taste freedom, etc.), taste (taste of freedom, etc.), treat (in for a treat)
- ground, terrain & land: there (been there, etc.)

- hand: hand (work), old hand (experience)
- hardness & softness: hardened (battle-hardened, etc.)
- hat: hat (old hat)
- health & medicine: medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)
- horizon: horizon (expand one's horizons)
- horn: greenhorn (person)
- horse: mustang (n), ride (rough ride, etc.), rodeo (first rodeo), spur (earn one's spurs, etc.)
- house: armchair (armchair traveller, etc.)
- infrastructure: alley (up one's alley), block (around the block), lane (experience)
- journeys & trips: to through (endure, etc.), journey (n), passage (journey), road (down a road before), there (been there, etc.)
- life span: grownup (person), grow up (grow up! etc.)
- love, courtship & marriage: coming out (party, etc.), debutant (n), ingenue (person), innocence (n), maiden (adj), virgin (n)
- materials & substances: hardened (battle-hardened, etc.)
- mechanism: meat grinder (military), meat grinder (other), mill (through the mill), wringer (through the wringer)
- meat: meat grinder (military), meat grinder (other), raw (raw recruit, etc.)
- mechanism: meat grinder (other)
- money: pay (pay one's dues)
- military: boot camp (education, etc.), doyen (squad leader), front line (on the front line), spur (earn one's spurs, etc.), story (war story), stripe (earn one's stripes, etc.), trench (in the trenches), trench (other), veteran (n), veteran (adj)
- mining: coalface (and coal face)
- movement: been through (endure, etc.), go through (endure, etc.), journey (n), passage (journey), ride (rough ride, etc.), road (down a road before)
- music: chops (expertise)
- person: adult (development), chaperon (person), debutant (n), doyen (squad leader), greenhorn (person), grownup (person), ingenue (person), neophyte (n), new (new teacher, etc.), stranger (and no stranger)
- place: road (down a road before), there (been there, etc.)
- plant: neophyte (n)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: in for (a ride, etc.)
- religion: baptism, baptized
- riding: ride (rough ride, etc.)
- rope: rope (learn the ropes, etc.)
- school & education: school (v), school (experience), schooled, university (experience)
- sea: rope (learn the ropes, etc.), salt (sailor), salty (experience)
- season: seasoned (experienced)
- sex: coming out (party, etc.), debutant (n), maiden (adj), virgin (n)
- sky: horizon (expand one's horizons)
- sports & games: varsity (n)
- taste: medicine (a taste of one's own medicine), salt (sailor), salty (experience), taste (taste freedom, etc.), taste (taste of freedom, etc.)
- verb: chew (and chew up), eat (endure), go through (endure, etc.), grow up (grow up! etc.), see (see action, etc.), pay (pay one's dues), taste (taste freedom, etc.)
- walking, running & jumping: sea legs
- water: baptism, baptized, depth (out of one's depth), feet (get one's feet wet)
- wolf: cub (n)

## EXPERIMENTATION (1)

- animal: guinea pig
- atmosphere: flagpole (run something up the flagpole), float (a plan, etc.), floated, trial balloon
- balloon: float (a plan, etc.), floated, trial balloon
- chemistry: experiment (n), litmus test
- flags & banners: flagpole (run something up the flagpole)
- foot: toe (dip one's toes in water, etc.)
- place: laboratory
- toe: toe (dip one's toes in water, etc.)
- verb: float (a plan, etc.), toe (dip one's toes in water, etc.), waters (test the waters)
- water: toe (dip one's toes in water, etc.), waters (test the waters)

## EXPLOSION (2) (see also military)

- accusation & criticism: blast (criticize), incoming (criticism)
- activity: boom (jade boom, etc.), boom (increase), burst (activity), bust (oil bust, etc.)
- amelioration & renewal: defuse (v)
- amount & effect: blockbuster (n), blow up (attention /verb), bomb (drop a bomb), bombard (v), bombarded, bombardment (n), bombing (n), bombshell (n), firebomb (n), Krakatoan (adj)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: blockbuster (n), blow up (blow up on TikTok, etc.), blowup (attention / noun), bombshell (n), burst on / onto the scene, etc., dynamite (n), explode (onto the scene, etc.), Krakatoan (adj)
- behavior: self-destructive (adj)
- character & personality: fuse (n), grenade (person), hotshot (person), self-destructive (adj), time bomb (person)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: burst on / onto the scene, etc.
- computer: bomb (review-bomb, etc.), bomb (code bomb)
- conflict: blowup (conflict), fireworks (conflict)
- cost & benefit: boom (jade boom, etc.), bust (oil bust, etc.)
- danger: bomb (danger), booby trap, booby-trapped, landmine (and land mine), minefield, powder keg, time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.), tripwire (danger)
- destruction: atomic bomb, blasted apart, blast radius (n), blown away (destruction), blow up (destroy / disrupt), explode (destroy / disrupt), implode (v), implosion (n), self-destructive (adj)
- disruption: blow up (destroy / disrupt), grenade (disruption), Molotov cocktail
- effect: blast radius (n), ground zero, shock wave
- explosion: dynamite (Michael "Dynamite" Dokes, etc.)
- failure, accident & impairment: dud (n), fizzle (and fizzle out)
- feeling, emotion & effect: blockbuster (n), blown away (feeling), blow up (emotion), bombshell (n), burst (burst into tears, etc.), dynamite (a dynamite cast, etc.), erupt (feeling), explode (emotion), gasket (blow a gasket, etc.), go off (v), outburst (n), set off (feeling and emotion), shellshocked, shock wave, stack (blow one's stack), steam (v), top (blow one's top)
- flaws & lack of flaws: bombproof (adj)
- force: blast radius (n)
- growth & development: explode (increase)
- increase & decrease: boom (increase), booming (adj), explode (increase), exploding (adj), explosion (increase), explosive (increase), blow up (blow up on TikTok, etc.), blowup (attention / noun)
- initiation: blow up (blow up on TikTok, etc.), blowup (attention / noun), blow up (emotion), blowup (conflict), burst (burst into violence, etc.), detonate (v), detonator (n), explode (emotion), explode (initiation), explode (increase), explosion (violence, etc.), explosive (violence, etc.), fuse (n), go off (v), match (light / strike a match, etc.), powder keg, prime (v), primed (ready), set off (initiate), time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.), tripwire (initiation), volatile
- mental health: time bomb (person)

- person: grenade (person), time bomb (person)
- power: explosive (power)
- readiness & preparedness: prime (v), primed (ready)
- resemblance: bomb (roach bomb, etc.)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: blowback (n)
- reversal: blowback (n), blow up (blow up in one's face), face (blow up in one's face)
- situation: time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.)
- sound: explosion (sound)
- speech: blast (criticize), bomb (F-bomb, etc.), fireworks (conflict)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: fizzle (and fizzle out)
- success & failure: blockbuster (n), bomb (fail), dud (n)
- warning: tripwire (warning)

## **EXTENT & SCOPE (1)**

- animal: octopus (n), tentacle (n)
- arm: arm (long arm), far-reaching, octopus (n), reach (extent and scope), tentacle (n)
- atmosphere: sky-high, stratosphere, stratospheric (adj)
- blade: hilt (to the hilt)
- blanket: blanket (blanket amnesty, etc.)
- boat: leeway (n), stem (from stem to stern)
- bodily reaction: yawning (adj)
- books & reading: encyclopedic (adj)
- boundary: boundless (adj), bounds (no bounds, etc.), compass (within / outside the compass)
- breadth: broad (adj), pancake-flat (comparison), patina (appearance), thin (substance), skin-deep, veneer (appearance)
- cloth: blanket (blanket amnesty, etc.)
- container: full (adj)
- depth: bottom (no bottom), bottomless (adj), deep (situation), deep (extent and scope), deepen (v), deeply, depth (extent), shallow (adj), sound (measure)
- direction: bottomless (adj), direction (in every direction), left and right, roof (through the roof), stratospheric (adj)
- distance: distant (a distant second, etc.), far-flung (adj), far-reaching, span (v), length (go to any lengths, etc.), mile (by a mile), mile (go the extra mile), way (go a long way)
- earth & world: earth (to the ends of the earth, etc.), polar (polar opposite, etc.), tectonic (adj), world (a world of difference, etc.), world (the whole world, etc.)
- earthquake: earthshaking (adj), seismic, tectonic
- fan: fan out (v)
- fish: hook (hook, line and sinker)
- flood: high-water (high-water mark)
- flying & falling: roof (through the roof)
- food & drink: hook (hook, line and sinker)
- ground, terrain & land: earthshaking (adj), ground (cover ground), high and low, tectonic (adj)
- hand: span (v)
- health & medicine: epidemic (n), pandemic (n)
- height: high and low, roof (through the roof), stratospheric (adj)
- horizon: horizon (extent and scope)
- house: roof (through the roof)
- journeys & trips: ground (cover ground), mile (go the extra mile)
- map: latitude (wide latitude, etc.)

- materials & substances: patina (appearance), stretch (extent), veneer (appearance)
- mechanism: full on (adj), full out (adj)
- movement: sweeping, swing (in full swing)
- neck: neck (up to one's neck), neck-deep (in debt, etc.)
- pendulum: sweeping, swing (in full swing)
- plant: tendril (growth)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: full (adj)
- river: catchment (n), run (run deep / high / strong)
- roof: roof (through the roof)
- school & education: extracurricular
- sea: high tide
- sign, signal, symbol: octopus (n), tentacle (n)
- size: big (big fan, etc.), Big (comprehension, scope), go big (v), hugely, small-minded
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: skin-deep, surface (scratch the surface)
- sky: horizon (extent and scope), sky-high
- standing, sitting & lying: sprawl (n), sprawling (adj)
- sword: hilt (to the hilt)
- teeth: teeth (to the teeth)
- theater: dramatic (extent), dramatically
- throwing, putting & planting: far-flung (adj)
- tide: high tide
- tools & technology: bandwidth (n), compass (within / outside the compass)
- verb: deepen (v), go big (v), ground (cover ground), sound (measure), surface (scratch the surface)
- wall: wall (wall-to-wall)
- walking, running & jumping: way (every step of the way)
- water: bottom (no bottom), catchment (n), deep (situation), deep (extent and scope), deepen (v), deeply, depth (extent), shallow (adj), sound (measure), stretch (extent)
- weapon: full-bore (and full bore), hilt (to the hilt), scattershot (adj)

## EYE (2)

- admiration & contempt: look down on (something), look up to (somebody), nose (look down one's nose)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: look at (analysis), look into (v), look like (analysis), microscope (under a microscope)
- appearance: eye (for the eyes), eye (eye candy), eye (on the eyes), eyesore (n), look like (resemble)
- appearance & disappearance: disappear (from the scene, etc.), peek (v), view (out of view)
- appearance & reality: eye (more than meets the eye), see (see through something)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye (catch one's eyes), eye (public eye), eye (attention), eye (eyes and ears / attention), eyeball (attention), eyeball (eyeball-popping), eye-catching, disappear (from the scene, etc.), focus (v), focus (n), lens (through a lens), lens (other), look at (analysis), look into (v), microscope (under a microscope), overlook (v), view (out of view), view (attention)
- certainty & uncertainty: clear (crystal clear), clear (unambiguous), murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj)
- character & personality: eye (stars in one's eyes)
- commitment & determination: blind (disregarding evidence, logic), blindly
- comprehension & incomprehension: clear (crystal clear), clear (perception), eye (believe one's eyes), eye (roll one's eyes), eye-roll (dismissal), murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), see (comprehension)
- concealment & lack of concealment: clarity (adj), hidden, murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), see (see through something), sight (in plain sight), transparency (n), transparent (adj)
- conflict: blink (conflict)

- consciousness & awareness: blind (noticing, understanding, judging), blinded, blindfold (n), blindsided, blind spot, blinder (n), blinkered (adj), blinkers (n), clear-eyed (adj), envision (envision the future, etc.), eye (open eyes, etc.), eye (closed eyes, etc.), eye-opener, eye-opening, farsighted (adj), myopic (adj), nearsighted (adj), see (see something coming), see (see through something), sight (lose sight), view (out of view), view (long view), vision (n)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: blind (noticing, understanding, judging), blind spot, blink (conflict), eye (turn a blind eye), look (look the other way / look away), stare (stare at defeat, etc.)
- danger: evil eye
- development: see (see something coming)
- dominance & submission: blink (conflict)
- eagerness & reluctance: look forward to (v)
- epithet: eye (the Blue Eye of Siberia, etc.)
- experience: see (see action, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: blind (not controlled by intelligence)
- feeling, emotion & effect: blink (conflict), eye (bat an eye / eyelash), eyeball (eyeball-popping), eyebrow (raise eyebrows, etc.), eyebrow-raising (adj), eyebrow-raising (n), eye-popping
- fictive communication: nudge (communication), wink (n), winking (adj)
- fictive meeting & seeing: eye (met our eyes, etc.), see (fictive), see (a date can see something, etc.), stare (stare at defeat, etc.), witness (n), witness (v)
- flaws & lack of flaws: beautiful (adj), black eye, eyesore (n), pretty (adj), ugly (adj)
- future: end (no end in sight, etc.), envision (envision the future, etc.), facing (future-facing, etc.), farsighted (adj), foresight (n), forward-looking, horizon (on the horizon), look forward to (v), look like (future), myopia (n), myopic (adj), nearsighted (adj), see (see something coming), see (future), seen (future), seer (person), shortsighted, sight (in sight), view (long view), vision (n), visionary (adj), visionary (person)
- geography: eye (the Eye of Kuruman, etc.)
- involvement: eyeball (up to one's eyeballs)
- judgment: eye (side eye, stink eye, etc.)
- message: seer (person)
- oppression: Cyclops (creature)
- past & present: hindsight (n), look back (v)
- perception, perspective & point of view: blinded, blinder (n), blind spot, blinkered (adj), blinkers (n), clear (perception), eye (perception), facing (future-facing, etc.), farsighted (adj), fisheye (fisheye view, etc.), forward-looking, God's-eye, hindsight (n), lens (through a lens), lens (other), Martian's-eye, murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), myopia (n), myopic (adj), nearsighted (adj), optics (n), see (perceive), seen (perceived), shortsighted, tunnel vision, view (perspective), view (perceive), view (in somebody's view), view (opinion), view (long view), viewed (perceived), viewpoint (perspective), vision (n), visionary (adj), visionary (person), worm's-eye (adj)
- progress & lack of progress: look up (v)
- proper name: eye (the Eye of Kuruman, etc.)
- proximity: sight (in sight)
- punishment & recrimination: eye (poke someone in the eye, etc.)
- readiness & preparedness: blindsided
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: end no end in sight, etc.)
- reference: see (refer to)
- relationship: view (in view of)
- reputation: black eye
- resemblance: blink (light), eye (resemblance), peek (v)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: blink (conflict), stare down (v), stare-down (n)
- revenge: eye (an eye for an eye)

- searching & discovery: look for (v), look into (v)
- shape: eye (resemblance)
- sight: blind (hard to see, hidden), blind date, blinding, blind side (from the blind side), eye (v), eye (met our eyes, etc.), eyeball (sight)
- social interaction: see (visit / meet)
- speed: blink (in the blink of an eye)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: end (no end in sight, etc.)
- subterfuge: eye (subterfuge), nudge (communication), wink (n), winking (adj)
- surveillance: eagle eye, eye (surveillance), eye (eyes and ears / surveillance)
- time: dim (the dim past, etc.), end (no end in sight, etc.), envision (envision the future, etc.), facing (future-facing, etc.), foresight (n), forward-looking, hindsight (n), horizon (on the horizon), look back (v), look forward to (v), look like (future), myopia (n), see (see something coming), see (future), seen (future), seer (person), sight (in sight)
- unanimity & consensus: eye (see eye to eye, etc.)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: eye (goal)

## FACE (2)

- amelioration & renewal: facelift (n)
- appearance: baby (baby face, etc.), face (appearance), game (game face), poker-faced (adj), stone-faced (adj)
- appearance & disappearance: face (in the face of)
- appearance & reality: face (brave face, etc.), mask (drop the mask, etc.), mask (hide), masquerade (v)
- commitment & determination: game (game face)
- concealment & lack of concealment: mask (drop the mask, etc.), mask (hide), masquerade (v), poker-faced (adj), stone-faced (adj)
- conflict: face (conflict), face (in one's face)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: face (look something in the face), face (face facts, etc.), face (face anger, etc.), face (in the face of), face (in one's face), face up (face up to something)
- consciousness & awareness: slap (awareness)
- feeling, emotion & effect: face (red face, red-faced, etc.), face (face-palm, face palm), poker-faced (adj), stone-faced (adj)
- fictive meeting & seeing: face (face anger, etc.)
- flaws & lack of flaws: face (egg on one's face, etc.)
- identity & nature: face (identity and nature), faceless (adj)
- insult: slap (slap in the face, etc.), spit (spit in the face / noun)
- judgment: frown (v), frowned upon, smile (v)
- punishment & recrimination: slap (punish)
- representation: face (public face, etc.)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: face (in one's face), face (in the face of)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: frown (v), frowned upon, smile (v)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: face (concept)
- social interaction: face (concept), face-saving
- society: face (concept), face-saving (concept)
- subterfuge: mask (drop the mask, etc.), mask (hide), masquerade (v)
- success & failure: face (fall on one's face, etc.)

## FAILURE, ACCIDENT & IMPAIRMENT (1) (see also destruction)

- affix: mis (misbehave, etc.)
- air: balloon (puncture a balloon, etc.)
- animal: astray (direction), belly-up (adj), stray (behavior), stray (direction)
- atmosphere: balloon (puncture a balloon, etc.)

- baby: miscarriage (of justice, etc.)
- ball: ball (take one's eye off the ball), ball (drop the ball), caught out, fumble (v), fumble (n), fumbled
- balloon: balloon (puncture a balloon, etc.)
- baseball: bat (batting zero), error (unforced error), strike out (v)
- birth: miscarriage (of justice, etc.)
- boat: aground (run aground), founder (v), rock (on the rocks), ship (a sinking ship), shipwreck (n), shoal (n)
- bodily reaction: hiccup (n)
- burden: strain (v)
- cards: hand (overplay one's hand), overplay (v)
- cloth: fray (v), frayed (degraded), tatters (in tatters), thread (lose the thread), undoing (destruction), undone (destruction), unravel (fail)
- clothing & accessories: clotheslined, shirt (lose one's shirt), tatters (in tatters)
- crashes & collisions: crash (population crash, etc.), crash (car crash), crash-land (v), shipwreck (n), T-bone (v), T-boned, train wreck, wreck (v), wreck (person)
- death & life: belly-up (adj), casualty (n), dust (bite the dust)
- direction: astray (direction), circle (go in circles), direction (the right / wrong direction, etc.), down (functioning), downhill (go downhill, etc.), fall through (v), let down (fail), sidetracked, sideways (go sideways), sink (sink into the mud, etc.), south (go south, etc.), step (a step in the wrong direction), stray (behavior), stray (direction), toilet (in the toilet), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble), turn (wrong turn), west (go west / obsolete)
- distance: far (too far), ski (over one's skis, etc.)
- electricity: short-circuit (v)
- engine: flameout (n), flame out (v), gas (run out of gas), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled (progress)
- epithet: Bhopal (Australia's Bhopal, etc.), Chernobyl (rainforest Chernobyl, etc.)
- equilibrium & stability: misstep (n), slip (n), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), stumble (v), stumble (n), trip up (v), unseat (v)
- erosion: crumble (v), disintegrate (v), disintegration, erode (v), eroding, erosion (n)
- explosion: dud (n), fizzle (and fizzle out)
- farming & agriculture: haywire (go haywire, etc.)
- film: dust (bite the dust)
- fire: fizzle (and fizzle out), flame (in flames)
- fish: belly-up (adj), get away (escape)
- foot: shoot (shoot oneself in the foot)
- football: fumble (v), fumble (n), fumbled
- fruits & vegetables: banana (n), lemon (n)
- ground, terrain & land: crack (fall through the cracks, etc.), sink (sink into the mud, etc.)
- hand: ball (drop the ball), fumble (v), fumble (n), fumbled
- head: head (come down on one's head, etc.)
- health & medicine: injure (v), malpractice (n), miscarriage (of justice, etc.), misdiagnose (v), mutilate (v)
- history: Chernobyl
- hole: balloon (puncture a balloon, etc.)
- horse: founder (v), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), unseat (v)
- house: roof (a roof can cave in)
- infrastructure: buckle (give way), collapse (v), collapse (n), drain (go down the drain, etc.), pipe (go down the pipes), pothole (noun), toilet (in the toilet), tube (go down the tubes), tumble down (v)
- journeys & trips: circle (go in circles), cul-de-sac, dead end, direction (the right / wrong direction, etc.), mislead (v), misleading (adj), pothole (n), sidetracked, sideways (go sideways), step (a step in the wrong direction), turn (wrong turn), way (lose one's way), way (the wrong way)
- letters & characters: T-bone (v), T-boned

- light & dark: tarnish (v), tarnished
- manufacturing: unmaking (destruction)
- materials & substances: breaking point (at the breaking point), breaking point (to the breaking point), breaking point (other), crack (v), fracture (failure), meltdown (failure), snap (v), split (n), split (v), split (split apart / up, etc.), unglued (emotionally)
- meat: butcher (v)
- mechanism: break down (functioning), broken (failure), down (functioning), fall apart (v), gum up (v), halt (grind to a halt, etc.), malfunction (v), rupture (n), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled (progress), wheel (wheels are falling off, etc.)
- mental health: pieces (go to pieces), unhinged (adj)
- military: casualty (n), wound (self-inflicted wound)
- mining: cave in (v), undercut (v), undermine (v)
- mountains & hills: downhill (go downhill, etc.)
- movement: circle (go in circles), falter (v), flounder (v), go (go wrong, etc.), go (go right, etc.), halt (grind to a halt, etc.), momentum (lose momentum), sidetracked, sideways (go sideways), stall (v), stalled (progress), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), turn (wrong turn)
- nuclear energy: Chernobyl, meltdown (failure)
- part of speech: fail (a big fail, etc.)
- person: wreck (person)
- place: Chernobyl
- plane: crash-land (v), flameout (n), flame out (v)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: break down (functioning), down (functioning)
- roof: roof (a roof can cave in)
- rope: snap (v), undoing (destruction), undone (destruction), unravel (fail)
- ruins: buckle (give way), collapse (v), collapse (n), crumble (v), roof (a roof can cave in), tumble down (v), wreck (v), wreck (person)
- sea: founder (v), rock (on the rocks), ship (a sinking ship), shoal (n)
- shape: pear (pear-shaped / failure), T-bone (v), T-boned
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: shot (nerves are shot, etc.), strain (v), stretch (v), stretched (stretched thin, etc.), mutilate (v)
- sleep: asleep (at the switch, etc.)
- sound: sputter (v), stutter (v), stuttering (adj)
- speech: tongue (slip of the tongue)
- sports & games: ball (take one's eye off the ball), ball (drop the ball), bat (batting zero), baton (drop the baton), belly flop (n), caught out, error (unforced error), fumble (v), fumble (n), fumbled, goal (own goal), miscue (n), overplay (v), strike out (v)
- target: fall (fall short)
- tongue: tongue (slip of the tongue)
- tools & technology: screw up (v)
- train: derail (v), derailed, rail (off the rails), sidetracked, train (failure), train wreck
- verb: aground (run aground), ball (take one's eye off the ball), ball (drop the ball), bat (batting zero), betray (fail), break down (functioning), circle (go in circles), collapse (v), crack (v), crack (fall through the cracks, etc.), buckle (give way), butcher (v), cave (cave in), crack (v), crash-land (v), crumble (v), derail (v), drain (go down the drain, etc.), erode (v), fall apart (v), fall down (v), fall through (v), fizzle (and fizzle out), flame out (v), flounder (v), founder (v), fray (v), fumble (v), gas (run out of gas), get away (escape), gum up (v), halt (grind to a halt, etc.), hand (overplay one's hand), haywire (go haywire, etc.), injure (v), jump (jump a curb, etc.), let down (fail), malfunction (v), misdiagnose (v), mislead (v), momentum (lose momentum), mutilate (v), overplay (v), pipe (go down the pipes), screw up (v), shoot (shoot oneself in the foot), short-circuit (v), sideways (go sideways), sink (sink into the mud, etc.), slip up (fail), split (split apart / up, etc.), snap (v), south

(go south, etc.), split (v), sputter (v), stall (v), strain (v), stray (behavior), stray (direction), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), strike out (v), stumble (v), stutter (v), tarnish (v), thread (lose the thread), trip up (v), tube (go down the tubes), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble), tumble down (v), undercut (v), undermine (v), unravel (v), unseat (v), west (go west / obsolete), wreck (v)

- walking, running & jumping: fall down (v), falter (v), flounder (v), jump (jump a curb, etc.), misstep (n), slip (n), slip up (fail), slip-up (failure), step (a step in the wrong direction), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), stumble (v), stumble (n), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble), trip up (v)
- water: belly flop (n)
- weapon: dud (n), flash in the pan, misfire (failure), shoot (shoot oneself in the foot), wound (self-inflicted wound)

## FAMILY (2)

- acceptance & rejection: adopt (v), adopted (adopted state, etc.), adopted
- accusation & criticism: scold (v)
- achievement, recognition & praise: America (America's sweetheart, etc.), boy (blue-eyed boy), favorite son
- amount: twin (two)
- bases: mother (mother of NPR, etc.)
- biodiversity, nature & life: mother (Mother Nature)
- branching system: family tree
- character & personality: mother (earth mother)
- comparison & contrast: akin (adjective)
- creation & transformation: beget (v), brainchild (n), father (v), father (father of India, etc.), mother (mother of NPR, etc.)
- dependency: babysit (v), babysitter (role), nanny (person)
- division: parent (parent company, etc.)
- division & connection: blood brother (connection), brother (brother in arms, etc.), brotherhood (n), brothers and sisters, kindred (kindred spirits, etc.), kinship (n), mother (mother ship, etc.), orphan (n), orphaned, parent (cat parents, etc.), sister (redneck sisters, etc.), sisterhood (n), twin (relationship)
- epithet: father (Father of Waters, etc.), father (father of India, etc.), Father Time, godfather (God father of Soul, etc.), mother (mother of NPR, etc.), mother (mother earth, etc.), mother (Mother Nature)
- feeling, emotion & effect: kindred (kindred spirits, etc.), kinship (n)
- geography: mother (Mother Mountain, etc.)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: heir (n), heirloom (n), inherit (v), inheritance (n), legacy (history)
- group, set & collection: brotherhood (n), brothers and sisters, family (gang / group), sisterhood (n)
- help & assistance: brother (big brother, etc.), godfather (v), godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.), godmother (Godmother of Title IX, etc., godmother (fairy godmother), mother (den mother, etc.), mother hen, sister (big sister, etc.)
- history: pedigree (n)
- idea: brainchild (n)
- identity & nature: child (child of the Soviet Union, etc.), daughter (daughter of Brooklyn, etc.), pedigree (n), son (son of the South, etc.)
- importance & significance: big daddy (authority)
- language: mother tongue
- origin: ancestor (go before), background
- person: boy (blue-eyed boy), brother (brother in arms, etc.), child (bastard child), cousin (relationship), father (father of India, etc.), favorite son, godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.), godmother (Godmother of Title IX, etc.), mother (mother of NPR, etc.), mother (mother ship, etc.), orphan (n), sister (redneck sisters, etc.), stepchild (and stepson, etc.)
- possession: adopt (v)

- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: legacy (obsolescence)
- product: daughter (n), offspring
- proper name: mother (Mother Mountain, etc.), sister (the Seven Sisters, etc.), twin (the Twins, etc.)
- relationship: akin (adj), ancestor (go before), beget (v), big brother (relationship), blood brother (connection), brother (Instagram's brother, etc.), brother (brother in arms, etc.), brotherhood (n), brothers and sisters, child (bastard child), cousin (relationship), daughter (n), descendant (n), family (group), father (father of progress, etc.), godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.), godmother (Godmother of Title IX, etc.), hip (joined at the hip), incestuous (adj), incestuousness (n), kin (n), kindred (kindred spirits, etc.), kinship (n), mother (mother ship, etc.), mother (mother earth, etc.), offspring, orphan (n), orphaned, parent (parent company, etc.), parent (cat parents, etc.), relative (relationship), Siamese twins, sibling, sister (redneck sisters, etc.), sister (sister ship, etc.), sisterhood (n), stepchild (and stepson, etc.), stepmother (cruelty), twin (relationship)
- reputation: legacy (reputation)
- role: mother (den mother, etc.)
- speech: mother tongue
- superlative: boy (blue-eyed boy), favorite son, granddaddy (and grandfather), mother (mother of all battles, etc.)
- taxonomy & classification: family (plants), family (animals), family (viruses), family (products), family (languages), generation (products, etc.)
- time: Father Time
- transmission: heir (n), heirloom (n), inherit (v), inheritance (n), legacy (obsolescence), legacy (history), legacy (reputation)
- weather & climate: mother (Mother Nature)
- worth & lack of worth: boy (blue-eyed boy), child (bastard child), favorite son, illegitimate (adj), stepchild (and stepson, etc.)

## FAN (2)

- extent & scope: fan out (v)
- movement: fan out (v)
- resemblance: fan (shape)
- shape: fan (shape)

## FANTASY & REALITY (1)

- addiction: opium (n), pipe dream, rabbit hole (fantasy)
- allusion: Arthurian (adj), Bermuda Triangle, Black Mirror, curiouser and curiouser, El Dorado, Groundhog Day (film), heffalump (creature), Kafkaesque (adj), never-never land, Quixote (Don Quixote), quixotic (adj), rabbit hole (fantasy), Star Wars (film), surreal (adj), Twilight Zone, Walter Mitty, windmill (tilt at windmills, etc.)
- animal: rabbit hole (fantasy)
- books & reading: curiouser and curiouser, fairy tale (fantasy, delusion), fantasy (fairy tale, etc.), Looking Glass, never-never land, rabbit hole (fantasy)
- creature: ghost (fantasy and delusion), heffalump (creature), phantom
- day: Groundhog Day (film)
- desert: mirage (n)
- doors & thresholds: unhinged (adj)
- earth & world: world (fantasy)
- film: Groundhog Day (film), Hollywood (Hollywood ending, etc.), Star Wars (film)
- ground, terrain & land: La-La land
- health & medicine: demented, dream (fever dream, etc.), opium (n), swamp (fever swamp)
- history: Arthurian (adj), Bermuda Triangle, El Dorado
- hole: rabbit hole (fantasy), wormhole (n)
- magic: magic (versus reality), magical (versus reality), make-believe (n), make-believe (adj)

- mental health: delusion (under a delusion), delusion, demented, fantasy (delusion), pipe dream, rabbit hole (fantasy), world (fantasy)
- person: Arthurian (adj), Kafkaesque, Quixote (Don Quixote), quixotic (adj), rabbit hole (fantasy), Walter Mitty
- physics: wormhole (n)
- sleep: dream (fever dream, etc.)
- theater: theater of the absurd

## **FARMING & AGRICULTURE (1)**

- epithet: bowl (Vietnam's rice bowl, etc.), bowl (America's salad bowl, etc.), breadbasket (Pakistan's breadbasket, etc.), garden (the Garden of France, etc.), granary (Granary of Mexico, etc.), Kansas (Kansas of China, etc.)
- sign, signal, symbol: bowl (Vietnam's rice bowl, etc.), bowl (America's salad bowl, etc.), breadbasket (Pakistan's breadbasket, etc.), granary (Granary of Mexico, etc.)

## **FARMING & AGRICULTURE (2) (see also plant; wheat)**

- amount: bumper (bumper crop)
- appearance & disappearance: crop up (v)
- attraction & repulsion: pasture (greener pastures)
- computer: farm (computers), harvest (harvest data, etc.)
- configuration: sown (mine-sown, etc.)
- conflict: slash-and-burn (adj)
- constraint & lack of constraint: siloed
- consumption: commodity (n), fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.)
- content: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.), grist (grist for the mill, etc.), hay (make hay, etc.)
- creation & transformation: hothouse (n), nursery (n), plant (create), pruned, seed (n), sow (v)
- curtailment: cut short (v)
- death & life: cut down (killed), Grim Reaper (death), reaper (Reaper drone, etc.), sickle (death)
- decline: haywire (go haywire, etc.)
- destruction: rake (destroy), slash-and-burn (adj)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: plow (plow on, plow through, etc.), row (row to hoe)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), prune (v), weed out (v), slash-and-burn (adj), winnow (v)
- division & connection: silo (v), silo (academic silos, etc.), siloed
- dominance & submission: field hand (person)
- failure, accident & impairment: haywire (go haywire, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: barn burner, harrowing (adj)
- gossip: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.), grist (grist for the mill, etc.)
- growth & development: crop (n), cultivate (v), cultivated, cultivation (n), drought (in a drought), drought (play-off drought, etc.), fallow (adj), fertile (adj), field (fertile field, etc.), fruition (n), green shoots, ground (fertile ground), grow (develop), grow (grow the economy, etc.), hotbed (n), hothouse (n), nursery (n), plant (create), plow (plow a field, etc.), rainmaker (person), seed (n), seed money, soil (fertile soil, etc.), sow (v), spell (in a dry spell), spell (into a dry spell), spell (throughout a dry spell), spell (dry spell / other)
- importance & significance: ground (break ground), groundbreaking
- isolation & remoteness: silo (v), silo (academic silos, etc.), siloed
- military: cannon fodder (military), harvest (war's chief harvest, etc.)
- product: commodity (n), crop (n), farm (computers), farm (enterprise), fruit (product), reap (v), harvest (v), harvest (war's chief harvest, etc.), harvested
- proper name: reaper (Reaper drone, etc.)
- searching & discovery: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), glean (v), gleaned, sieve (n), winnow (v)
- speech: straw man (n)

- starting, going, continuing & ending: ground (break ground), plow (plow on, plow through, etc.)
- subterfuge: straw man (n)
- superiority & inferiority: field hand (person)
- throwing, putting & planting: plant (put), plow (put), sow (v), sown (planted)
- work & duty: plow (plow on, plow through, etc.), row (row to hoe)
- worth & lack of worth: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), commodity (n), fruit (product), fruitful (adj), fruitless (adj), wheat (separate the wheat from the chaff), winnow (v)

## FATE, FORTUNE & CHANCE (1)

- air: sky (the sky can fall)
- allusion: boat (burn one's boats), chalice (poisoned chalice), Chinatown (the film), devil (deal with the devil), Faust (n), Faustian (adj), kiss of death, midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.), Sword of Damocles, *Titanic* (the ship)
- animal: bite (bite him in the end, etc.), black swan (rarity), blue whale, chicken (come home to roost), jaw (jaws of defeat, jaws of victory, etc.), snake (snake-bit)
- astronomy: star (fate), star-crossed (adj)
- atmosphere: sky (the sky can fall)
- ax: axe (ax to fall, etc.), chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), head (heads will roll, etc.)
- Bible: handwriting (handwriting on the wall), kiss of death, writing (writing on the wall)
- bird: auger (v), auspicious (adj), black swan (rarity), chicken (come home to roost)
- blade: ax (ax to fall, etc.), chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), head (heads will roll, etc.), close shave, stab (stab in the dark), sword (fate), Sword of Damocles
- boat: *Titanic* (the ship)
- bodily reaction: breath (hold one's breath), laugh (last laugh)
- boundary: line (tread a line, etc.)
- breathing: breath (hold one's breath)
- bridge: bridge (burn one's bridges)
- bullet: bullet (dodge a bullet)
- burial: coffin (nail in the coffin, etc.), funeral (one's funeral), grave (dig one's grave)
- cards: bet (all bets are off), card (in the cards), card (dealt cards), deck (deck is stacked), draw (luck of the draw), hand (dealt a hand), odds (fate), wild card (other)
- circus: daredevil (person), high wire (fate), tightrope (fate)
- clock: midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.)
- cloth: thread (by a thread)
- clothing & accessories: shoe (a shoe can drop or fall)
- color: black swan (rarity), blue (out of the blue), blue whale
- container: lap (fall into one's lap / a windfall)
- cooking: frying pan (jump from the frying pan into the fire)
- control & lack of control: control (out of one's control)
- day: midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.), noon (high noon), strike (his hour had struck, etc.)
- death & life: death (cheat death), doomed, funeral (one's funeral), grave (dig one's grave), kiss of death, live (live and die / fate), noose (fate), stand (stand and fall / fate)
- direction: cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), rise (rise and fall / verb)
- electricity: blue (out of the blue, etc.), lightning (fate)
- epithet: curse (Curse of Caricola, etc.), miracle (Miracle on the Hudson, etc.), miracle (Miracle of Istanbul, etc.)
- equilibrium & stability: balance (in the balance), teeter (v)
- eye: blind (not controlled by intelligence)
- film: Chinatown (the film), noon (high noon)

- finger: finger (cross one's fingers, etc.)
- fire: fire (play with fire), frying pan (jump from the frying pan into the fire)
- food & drink: chalice (poisoned chalice), medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)
- football: go (go long), Hail Mary
- gambling: bet (all bets are off), card (in the cards), card (dealt cards), dice (n), die (the die is cast, etc.), draw (luck of the draw), gamble (n), gamble (v), lot (lot in life, etc.), lottery (win the lottery, etc.), odds (fate), roulette (n), wheel (spin of the wheel, etc.)
- geometry: circle (a circle can close)
- gesture: finger (cross one's fingers, etc.)
- ground, terrain & land: brink (on the brink), brink (to the brink), brink (from the brink), brinkmanship (n), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), edge (on the edge of a cliff, etc.), last-ditch (adj), precipice (at / on the precipice), precipice (other), slope (on a slippery slope), slope (slippery slope), territory (come with the territory, etc.)
- hair: close shave
- hand: hand (fate)
- head: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), head (heads will roll, etc.)
- health & medicine: medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)
- height: rise (rise and fall / verb)
- history: boat (burn one's boats), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.), *Titanic* (the ship)
- hunting: jaw (jaws of defeat, jaws of victory, etc.)
- infrastructure: highway (highway to hell)
- justice: bite (bite him in the end, etc.), chicken (come home to roost), jury (the jury is out), reprieve (n), stay (stay of execution)
- journeys & trips: back (no way back, etc.), boat (burn one's boats), path (cross paths), return (point of no return), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
- knife: stab (stab in the dark)
- lap: lap (fall into one's lap / a windfall)
- lightning: blue (out of the blue, etc.), lightning (fate)
- line: line (tread a line, etc.), line (on the line)
- love, courtship & marriage: dance (dance with death, etc.), flirt (v)
- magic: charmed (charmed life, etc.), crystal ball, curse (n), cursed, evil eye, magic (trail magic, etc.), tea leaves
- mechanism: wheel (wheel of fate or fortune, etc.)
- military: last-ditch (adj)
- money: windfall (n)
- mountains & hills: cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), edge (on the edge of a cliff, etc.), precipice (at / on the precipice), precipice (other), slope (on a slippery slope), slope (slippery slope)
- neck: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), head (heads will roll, etc.), neck (save one's neck), neck (fate), neck (stick one's neck out)
- number: number (number is up, etc.), numbered (days are numbered, etc.)
- path: path (cross paths)
- person: daredevil (person)
- predation: jaw (jaws of defeat, jaws of victory, etc.)
- proximity: close (and close-run), close call (danger), close shave
- religion: auger (v), auspicious (adj), curse (n), cursed, devil (deal with the devil), evil eye, Faust (n), Faustian (adj), god (mountain gods, etc.), Hail Mary, handwriting (handwriting on the wall), karma (fate), kiss of death, miracle (other), miraculous (adj), original sin (other), writing (writing on the wall), written (fate)
- river: boat (burn one's boats), bridge (burn one's bridges), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
- scale: balance (in the balance)
- sea: blue whale
- shape: circle (a circle can close)

- sky: black swan (rarity), blue (out of the blue, etc.), lightning (fate), sky (the sky can fall)
- snake: snake (snake-bit)
- snow & ice: ice (on thin ice)
- sound: laugh (last laugh)
- speech: time (time will tell)
- sports & games: bet (all bets are off), card (in the cards), cards (dealt cards), deck (deck is stacked), dice (n), die (the die is cast, etc.), draw (luck of the draw), gamble (v), gamble (n), game (guessing game), go (go long), Hail Mary, roulette (n), wheel (spin of the wheel, etc.)
- star: star (fate), star-crossed (adj)
- storm: blue (out of the blue, etc.), lightning (fate)
- sun: noon (high noon)
- sword: sword (fate), Sword of Damocles
- target: shot (chance), shot (shot in the dark)
- taste: medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)
- tree: chip (chips fall, etc.), limb (go out on a limb), windfall (n)
- verb: auger (v), balance (in the balance), bite (bite him in the end, etc.), breath (hold one's breath), bullet (dodge a bullet), chicken (come home to roost), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), finger (cross one's fingers, etc.), fire (play with fire), flirt (v), gamble (v), grave (dig one's grave), head (hold something over one's head), lap (fall into one's lap / a windfall), limb (go out on a limb), line (tread a line, etc.), path (cross paths), rise (rise and fall / verb), shoe (a shoe can drop or fall), spell (spell disaster, etc.), teeter (v)
- violence: head (heads will roll, etc.)
- walking, running & jumping: leap (leap of faith, etc.), line (tread a line, etc.)
- water: bridge (burn one's bridges)
- weapon: bullet (dodge a bullet), gun (under the gun), long shot, Russian roulette, shot (chance), shot (shot in the dark), stab (stab in the dark)
- wind: windfall (n)
- writing & spelling: handwriting (handwriting on the wall), spell (spell disaster, etc.), writing (writing on the wall), written (fate)

## **FATNESS & THINNESS (2) (see also breadth)**

- ability & lack of ability: flabby (adj), lean (size)
- flaws & lack of flaws: flabby (adj), lean (size)
- money: fat cat
- size: bloated (size), flabby (adj), lean (size), slender (adj), slim (small)
- strength & weakness: flabby (adj), lean (size)
- substance & lack of substance: skinny (adj)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: fat (adj), flabby (adj), lean (size), lean (lean times, etc.)

## **FEELING, EMOTION & EFFECT (1) (see also mental health)**

- addiction: addictive (adj), narcotic (n), withdrawal (feeling)
- air: air (breath of fresh air), air (air of authority, etc.), air (take the air out of a room, etc.), air (anger in the air, etc.), atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), aura (n), climate (work climate, etc.), deflate (emotion), deflated, pump up (v), pumped (feeling)
- alcohol: drunk (adj), hangover (alcohol), intoxicate (v), intoxicated, intoxicating (adj), sober (v), sober (adj), sobering (adj)
- allusion: Chinatown (the film), stoic (adj)
- animal: bask (v), biting (adj), bristle (emotional arousal), calm (v), devoured (by an emotion, etc.), eat (mental health), eaten alive (by debt, rage, etc.), eggshell (walking on eggshells), feather (ruffle feathers), gnaw (v), gnawing (gnawing doubt, etc.), hackles (raise hackles), ruffled (feathers), tear (crocodile tears), venom (n), venomous (adj), vulnerability (emotional, etc.), vulnerable (emotionally, etc.), wild (behavior)

- arm: arm (wrap one's arm around something / consolation), elbow (sharp elbows, etc.), hold back (restraint)
- astronomy: moon (over the moon)
- atmosphere: afterglow (in the afterglow), afterglow (other), air (take the air out of a room, etc.), air (breath of fresh air), air (air of authority, etc.), air (anger in the air, etc.), atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), aura (n), bask (v), climate (work climate, etc.), cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), deflate (emotion), deflated, fallout (effect), pump up (v), pumped (feeling)
- baby: baby (relationship)
- bird: eggshell (walking on eggshells), feather (ruffle feathers), ruffled (feathers)
- blade: cut (cut both ways), dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), double-edged (sword), gutted (feeling), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart), rapier (n), sword (double-edged sword), sword (two-edged sword)
- blood: blood (blood in one's eyes, etc.), blood (blood runs cold), blood (in cold blood), blush (embarrassment), coldblooded (and cold-blooded), hot-blooded (adj), livid (adj), mist (red mist), red (see red), sanguine (adj), vein (ice in one's veins, etc.)
- boat: navigate (feelings, emotions), stack (blow one's stack)
- bodily reaction: ASMR, blush (embarrassment), breath (take a breath, etc.), breath (take one's breath away), breathless (adj), breathtaking (adj), cringe (v), cringe-worthy (adj), cringey (adj), exhale (v), face (red face, red-faced, etc.), gasp (very "gasp," etc.), goosebumps, juicy (adj), mouthwatering (adj), nail (bite one's nails), nail biter (n), nail-biting (fingernails), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), shiver (n), sigh (sigh of relief), startling (adj), sweat (feeling), tear (crying), teeth (gnash one's teeth), yawn (n)
- bottle: bottled up (emotions), bottle up (emotions)
- boxing: blow (body blow, etc.), chin (take something on the chin), knockout (knockout voice, etc.), knock over (v), pummeled, punch (punch in the gut, etc.)
- breathing: breath (take a breath, etc.), breath (take one's breath away), breathless (adj), breathtaking (adj), exhale (v), gasp (very "gasp," etc.), hyperventilate (v), hyperventilation (n), sigh (sigh of relief), suffocating
- burial: funereal (adj), lament (v), pall (cast a pall)
- cards: poker-faced (adj)
- chemistry: acid (acid debate, etc.), acid-tongued, caustic (adj), corrosive (adj), vitriol (n)
- cloth: pall (cast a pall)
- clothing & accessories: boot (shake in one's boots), pearl (clutch one's pearls), shoe (a stone in the shoe)
- cloud: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.)
- color: black (feeling), black (black day, etc.), blood (blood in one's eyes, etc.), blue (feeling), blues (the blues), bruise (v), bruised, bruising (adj), dog (black dog / mental health), face (red face, red-faced, etc.), green (green with envy), livid (adj), mist (red mist), red (see red), sanguine (adj)
- container: bottled up (emotions), bottle up (emotions), drained (feeling), emptiness (depression), empty (depression), hold in (emotions), in (in pain, in anger, etc.), inside (emotions), open (honest), open up (emotions, speech, etc.), pent-up (constrained), place (in a dark place, etc.), space (in a dark space, etc.), spill out (speech, emotions, etc.)
- control & lack of control: control (in control)
- cooking: stir (effect)
- crashes & collisions: whiplash (n), wreck (person)
- creature: demonic (adj), haunt (v), haunted, haunting (adj), spook (v), spooked (feeling), zombie (behavior)
- day: day (dark day)
- death & life: dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), dead (feeling), deadening (effect), funereal (adj), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), killjoy (person), knife (knife in the heart)
- depth: deep (emotion)
- destruction: destroy (emotion), devastated (emotion), devastating (feeling), shatter (emotions), shattered (mentally, etc.), shattering (emotions), torn up, wreck (person)

- direction: ballistic (go ballistic), buoy (v), buoyant (feeling), buoyant (personality), buoyed, depression (mental illness), descent (decline), down (feeling), downhearted, fall (fall into a rage, etc.), fall (an emotion can fall), fall (fall in love), feeling (sinking feeling), fly (fly into a rage, etc.), head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high), head (hang one's head), heart (heart sank), high (on a high), high (emotion), high-spirited, lay low (emotion), lift (feeling), lift (v), low (emotion), point (low point / emotion), raise (feeling), retreat (withdraw), roller coaster (emotional roller coaster, etc.), sink (sink into despair, etc.), sinking (sinking feeling, etc.), soar (a heart can soar), slide (v), up (feeling), upbeat (adj), world (on top of the world, etc.)
- distance: close (feeling), detached (emotions), tight (relationship)
- dog: bristle (emotional arousal), hackles (raise hackles)
- ear: ear (music to one's ears)
- earthquake: aftershock (n), earthquake (effect), shock wave, upheaval (disruption)
- earth & world: world (on top of the world, etc.), world (means the world to me, etc.)
- electricity: amped (feeling), charged (highly charged, etc.), current (feeling), electric (feeling), electricity (feeling), electrified, electrify (v), galvanize (v), jolt (n), lightning bolt (and bolt of lightning, etc.), shock (v), shock (in shock), shock (feeling), shocked (adj), shocker (n), shocking (feeling, emotion and effect), thunderstruck (adj)
- engine: gasket (blow a gasket), go (go from zero to one hundred, etc.), revved (revved up)
- epithet: sorrow (China's Sorrow, etc.), tear (Harbor of Tears, etc.)
- equilibrium & stability: destabilize (v), destabilizing (adj), dizzying (adj), earthquake (effect), edge (on edge), feet (knock somebody off their feet), flattened (emotion), floored (emotion), head-spinning, knock over (v), rattled (feeling), reel (v), rock (v), rocked (disruption), shake (disrupt), shaken (feeling), stagger (v), upheaval (disruption)
- exclamation: gasp (very "gasp," etc.), meh (n), sweet (exclamation), welcome (welcome news, etc.), whoa (exclamation), wow (v), wow (as noun)
- explosion: blockbuster (n), blown away (feeling), blow up (emotion), bombshell (n), burst (burst into tears, etc.), dynamite (a dynamite cast, etc.), erupt (feeling), explode (emotion), gasket (blow a gasket, etc.), go off (v), outburst (n), set off (feeling and emotion), shellshocked, shock wave, stack (blow one's stack), steam (v), top (blow one's top)
- eye: blink (conflict), eye (bat an eye / eyelash), eyeball (eyeball-popping), eyebrow (raise eyebrows, etc.), eyebrow-raising (adj), eyebrow-raising (n), eye-popping
- face: face (red face, red-faced, etc.), face (face-palm, face palm), poker-faced (adj), stone-faced (adj)
- family: kindred (kindred spirits, etc.), kinship (n)
- farming & agriculture: barn burner, harrowing (adj)
- film: Chinatown (the film), scratch (record scratch)
- finger: nail (bite one's nails), nail biter (n), nail-biting, pinch (pinch of hunger, etc.), pinched, touch (verb / emotion), touching (adj)
- fire: ablaze (adj), aflame (adj), alight (fire), barn burner, burn (reputational burn, etc.), burned (hurt), burned-out (and burnt-out), burning (burning desire, etc.), burn out (v), burnout (n), consume (emotions), consumed (emotion), fire (on fire / feeling), fire (fire and desire, etc.), fired up, firebrand (person), fume (v), hair (hair on fire), incendiary, inflame (v), inflammatory (adj), scorching (adj), searing (adj)
- fist: beating (take a beating, etc.), blow (body blow, etc.), blow (bitter blow, etc.), hit (take a hit, etc.), hit (affect), hit (affected), hit (affect), knockout (knockout voice, etc.), knock over (v), punch (punch in the gut, etc.), pummeled, smitten (effect), strike (tragedy, etc.), striking (adj), struck (affected), stunned (feeling), stunning (adj)
- flying & falling: ballistic (go ballistic), depression (mental illness), fly (fly into a rage, etc.), soar (a heart can soar)
- food & drink: bellyful (amount), bitter (personality), bitter (bitter weather, etc.), bitter (a bitter blow, etc.), bittersweet (adj), devoured (by an emotion, etc.), eat (mental health), eaten alive (by debt, rage, etc.), fed up

(adj), juicy (adj), mouthwatering (adj), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), savor, sour (v), sweet (exclamation), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory (adj)

- foot: kick (kick in the teeth, etc.), teeth (kick in the teeth), toe (step on toes)
- force: crush (love), crushed (feeling), daze (in a daze), devastated (emotion), devastating (feeling), feet (knock somebody off their feet), flattened (emotion), floored (emotion), hit (affect), hit (affected), impact (affect), impact (effect), impacted (affected), jolt (n), knock over (v), punch (punch in the gut, etc.), rage (v), raging (adj), shock (v), shock (in shock), shock (feeling), shocked (adj), shocking (feeling, emotion and effect), smitten (effect), strike (affect), striking (adj), struck (affected), stun (v), stunned (feeling), stunning (adj), surge (surge of anger, etc.)
- functioning: broken (feeling), broken-hearted, heart (a broken heart, etc.), heart (broken heart), heart (a broken heart, etc.), heartbreak (n), heartbreaking (adj), heartbroken, paralyzed (feeling)
- gambling: poker-faced (adj)
- gesture: arm (wrap one's arm around something / consolation), cringe (verb), cringe-worthy (adj), cringey (adj), elbow (sharp elbows, etc.), eye (bat an eye / eyelash), eyeball (eyeball-popping), eyebrow (raise eyebrows, etc.), eyebrow-raising (adj), eyebrow-raising (n), face (face-palm, face palm), flex (bragging), hand (wring one's hand), hat (hold on to your hat), head (turn heads), head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high), head (hang one's head), jaw-dropper, jaw-dropping, nail (bite one's nails), nail biter (n), nail-biting (fingernails), whoa (exclamation)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: give (give a start, etc.)
- ground, terrain & land: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
- hair: bristle (emotional arousal), hackles (raise hackles), hair (hair on fire), hair-raising
- hand: clingy (adj), crush (confidence, spirit, etc.), face (face-palm, face palm), gripped, gripping (adj), hand (wring one's hand), handwringing (n), hold (noun / emotion), hold in (emotions), possess (v), possessed (emotion), seized (by an emotion), whoa (exclamation)
- hardness & softness: hard (feelings, etc.), harden (feelings), hardened
- hat: hat (hold on to your hat)
- head: coolheaded (and cool-headed), head (keep / lose one's head), head (turn heads), head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high), head (hang one's head), headspace (frame of mind), head-spinning, hothead (person), hotheaded (and hot-headed)
- health & medicine: addictive (adj), anodyne (adj), anxiety (n), apoplectic (adj), bromide (n), bruise (v), bruised, bruising (adj), contagious (emotion), crippling, exhausting (mental health), febrile (adj), heartsick, hurt (feeling and emotion / verb), hurt (damage, injure), hyperventilate (v), hyperventilation (n), hysteria (n), inject (fresh blood, etc.), injury (other), lacerating (adj), moral injury (n), moral panic (n), narcotic (n), nostrum (n), pain (economic pain, etc.), pain (emotional), painful (adj), panic (n), paralyzed (feeling), paroxysm (emotion), pill (bitter pill, etc.), sanguine (adj), scar (psychologically / verb), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring, shock (in shock), shot (shot in the arm, etc.), sick (disgusted), sick (with anxiety, etc.), sick and tired (feeling), soothe (sensation), tonic (effect), toxic (adj), traumatic (mental health), withdrawal (feeling), wound (figurative wounds of Vietnam, etc.), wounded (emotionally)
- heart: broken-hearted, coldhearted (adj), downhearted, heart (miscellaneous), heart (heart sank), heart (a broken heart, etc.), heart (heavy heart), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), heartache (n), heartbreak (n), heartbreaking (adj), heartfelt, heartsick, heart-stopping, heartthrob, heartwarming (adj), heart-wrenching, heavy-hearted (adj), knife (knife in the heart), light-hearted (adj), soar (a heart can soar)
- heating water: boiling point, boil over (v), seethe (v)
- height: depression (mental illness), head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high), head (hang one's head), low (emotion), moon (over the moon), point (low point / emotion), raise (feeling)
- history: trail of tears, via dolorosa
- hole: depression (mental illness), hole (feeling)
- horse: whoa (exclamation)
- house: home (feel at home), home (hit home), home (close to home), welcome (welcome news, etc.)

- hunting: gutted (feeling)
- insect: butterfly (butterflies in stomach), sting (n), stinging (adj), stung (feeling)
- journeys & trips: follow (follow a feeling or emotion), trail of tears, via dolorosa
- key: lock (lock something away)
- knife: stab (stab of pain, etc.), stabbing (stabbing pain, etc.)
- leg: kick (kick one's butt, etc.)
- knife: cut (cut both ways), dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), gutted (feeling), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart), lacerating (adj), stab (sensation)
- leg: kick (kick in the teeth, etc.)
- light & dark: brighten (v), cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), dark (dark mood, etc.), darken (v), darkness (depression), day (dark day), dazzle (v), dim (hope, etc.), gloom (n), gloomy (adj), illuminating (adj), scintillating (adj), shadow (cast a shadow), shadow (in / under a shadow), shadow (dark shadow, etc.), sunny (adj)
- lightning: lightning bolt (and bolt of lightning, etc.), thunderstruck (adj)
- love, courtship & marriage: crush (love), honeymoon (n), swoon (v)
- magic: bewitch (v), bewitched, bewitching (adj), charm (v), charmed (charmed by something, etc.), enthralled, enthralling (adj), entranced, entrancing (adj), magic (effect), magic (magic moment, etc.), magical (effect), mesmerizing (adj), spell (under a spell), spell (cast a spell), spellbinding (adj), spellbound (adj), thrall (n)
- manufacturing: process (v)
- mark: bruise (v), bruised, bruising (adj), dent (n), mark (effect), scar (psychologically / verb), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring, wound (figurative wounds of Vietnam, etc.)
- materials & substances: acid (acid debate, etc.), acid-tongued, breaking point (at the breaking point), breaking point (to the breaking point), breaking point (other), brittle (emotionally brittle, etc.), caustic (adj), corrosive (adj), crack (verb / emotion), eggshell (walking on eggshells), fragile (feelings), fragility (feelings), hard (feelings, etc.), noxious (adj), poisonous (adj), shatter (emotions), shattered (mentally, etc.), shattering (emotions), snap (v), stone-faced (adj), toxic (adj), shatter (destroy), unglued (emotionally), vitriol (n)
- mechanism: automata (n), breakdown (nervous breakdown, etc.), break down (emotionally), broken (feeling), button (push a button / emotion), button (panic button), button (hot button), fall apart (emotionally), gasket (blow a gasket, etc.), grinding (grinding poverty, etc.), heart (a broken heart, etc.), metronomic (operation), pump up (v), revved (revved up), robot (n), turned off, turned on (sex), turn on (excite), turn-off (disgust), turn-on, wind down (relax), wound (tightly wound)
- military: bombshell (n), combative (adj), dynamite (a dynamite cast, etc.), hostile (adj), post-traumatic stress disorder (and PTSD), retreat (withdraw), shellshocked
- moon: moon (over the moon)
- mouth: jaw-dropper, jaw-dropping, lip (stiff upper lip)
- movement: carried away, carry (carry me away, etc.), cartwheel (do cartwheels, etc.), follow (follow a feeling or emotion), frozen (emotion), paralyzed (feeling), paroxysm (emotion), petrified (adj), pulsating (adj), rage (v), raging (adj), roller coaster (emotional roller coaster, etc.), send (emotion or effect), slide (v), wall (ricochet off the wall)
- music: blues (the blues), cognitive dissonance, ear (music to one's ears), lament (v), note (note of caution, etc.)
- nuclear energy: fallout (effect), meltdown (emotions), melt down (emotions)
- part of speech: cringe (as adjective), funny (as noun), happy (as noun), horrible (as noun), hurt (as noun), overwhelm (as noun), sad (as noun), scary (as noun), wow (as noun)
- person: firebrand (person), hothead (person), killjoy (person)
- place: come from (emotion), place (in a dark place, etc.), space (in a dark space, etc.)
- plane: autopilot (on autopilot), land (arrive, affect, decide)
- plant: withering (adj)
- position: lay low (emotion)
- possession: hold (noun / emotion), lose (one's temper, etc.), lose it (mentally), possess (v), possessed (emotion)

- predation: devoured (by an emotion, etc.), eat (mental health), eaten alive (by debt, rage, etc.)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: break down (emotionally), down (feeling), hate on (something), inside (emotions), love on (something), love up (and love up on, etc.), pump up (v), up (feeling)
- pressure: blow up (emotion), decompression (n), explode (emotion), gasket (blow a gasket, etc.), pressure (under pressure), pressure (n), pressured, pressure-filled, relax (feeling), steam (v), steam (blow / let off steam), valve (relief valve), vent (v)
- proximity: close (feeling), cozy (adj), detached (emotions), distance (feeling), distant (feeling), tight (relationship)
- pump: pump up (v), pumped (feeling)
- religion: dispirited (adj), godforsaken, hell (hell hath no fury), hellish (adj), miraculous (adj), paradisiacal (and paradisa), possess (v), possessed (emotion), spirit (feeling), via dolorosa
- river: run (run deep / high / strong), swept away (emotion)
- rocket: ballistic (go ballistic)
- rope: frayed (emotions), loosen up (feelings), pull (pull yourself together, etc.), rope (at the end of one's rope), snap (v), strain (pressure), strained, taut (nerves, etc.), tension (n)
- ruins: destroy (emotion), devastated (emotion), devastating (feeling), wreck (person)
- sea: swept away (emotion), wave (make waves, etc.)
- sensation: abrasive (adj), biting (adj), blistering (adj), blow (body blow, etc.), blow (bitter blow, etc.), bruise (v), bruised, bruising (adj), burned (hurt), burned-out (and burnt-out), burning (burning desire, etc.), buzz (sensation), caustic (adj), corrosive (adj), dizzying (adj), elbow (sharp elbows, etc.), gnaw (v), gnawing (gnawing doubt, etc.), grate (v), gut-wrenching (adj), hair (hair on fire), heartache (n), heartfelt, heartthrob, heart-wrenching, hit (affect), hit (affected), hurt (feeling and emotion / verb), hurt (damage, injure), impact (affect), impact (effect), impacted (affected), irritant (n), irritated, irritating, irritation, jolt (n), kick (kick one's butt, etc.), kick (kick in the teeth, etc.), lacerating (adj), nerveless adj, nerve-racking, numb (adj), pain (economic pain, etc.), pain (emotional), painful (adj), palpable (adj), pinch (pinch of hunger, etc.), pinched, pins and needles, prickle (prickle of anxiety, etc.), pummeled, punch (punch in the gut, etc.), raw (emotions, etc.), raw nerve (feeling), rub (rub somebody the wrong way, scorching (adj), searing (adj), sensitive (adj), shoe (a stone in the shoe), smart (v), soothe (sensation), sore (sensation), sorely, stab (stab of pain, etc.), stabbing (stabbing pain, etc.), sting (n), stinging (adj), strike (affect), struck (affected), striking (adj), stun (v), stunned (feeling), stunning (adj), stung (feeling), teeth (kick in the teeth), thick-skinned (adj), thin-skinned (adj), toe (step on toes), touchy (adj), whiplash (n), wrenching (adj)
- sex: passion (enthusiasm), passionate, passionately, turned on (sex)
- shadow: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), shadow (cast a shadow), shadow (in / under the shadow), shadow (dark shadow, etc.)
- shape: vicious circle
- sign, signal, symbol: tear (crying)
- size: enormously (exciting, etc.), great (great hatred, etc.), huge (huge gratitude, etc.)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: anxiety (n), blistering (adj), blush (embarrassment), bruise (v), bruised, bruising (adj), chill (feeling), crawl (skin can crawl, etc.), flex (bragging), gutted (feeling), lacerating (adj), loosen up (feelings), nerve (anxiety), nerve (strike a nerve, etc.), nerveless (adj), nerve-racking, raw (emotions, etc.), raw nerve (feeling), sensitive adj, shiver (n), shot (nerves are shot, etc.), skin (feeling), skin (jump out of one's skin), sore (sensation), sorely, startling (adj), strain (pressure), strained, taut (nerves, etc.), thick-skinned (adj), thin-skinned (adj), touchy (adj)
- sky: afterglow (in the afterglow), afterglow (other)
- sleep: exhausting (mental health), nightmare (n), nightmare (worst nightmare), nightmarish (adj), sick and tired (feeling), tired (feeling), weary (feeling)
- smell: noxious (adj)
- snake: venom (n), venomous (adj)
- snow & ice: frostily, frosty (adj), frozen (emotion), ice (break the ice), ice-cold (adj)

- society: hostile (adj), rage (road rage, etc.)
- sound: alarm (feeling), bang (with a bang), bang (bang for the buck, etc.), bombshell (n), buzz (sensation), chord (strike a chord), cognitive dissonance, din (attention), drip (and drip-drip, etc.), dynamite (a dynamite cast, etc.), lament (v), moan (v), moaning, noise (attention, conflict, and controversy), noisy (debate, etc.), note (on a note), note (note of caution, etc.), outcry (n), repercussion (n), resonate (v), reverberate (v), reverberation (n), scratch (record scratch), thunderstruck (adj), wail (v)
- speech: welcome
- sports & games: domino (domino effect, etc.)
- stomach: bellyful (amount), butterfly (butterflies in stomach), fed up (adj), gut (n), gutted (feeling), gut-wrenching (adj), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), stomach (turn one's stomach), stomach (the pit of one's stomach)
- storm: lightning bolt (and bolt of lightning, etc.), thunderstruck (adj)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: insecurity (food insecurity, etc.)
- sun: sunny (adj)
- sword: double-edged (sword), rapier (n), sword (double-edged sword), sword (two-edged sword)
- taste: bitter (personality), bitter (bitter weather, etc.), bittersweet (adj), cake (icing on the cake, etc.), juicy (adj), mouthwatering (adj), saccharine (adj), salty (slang), savor (v), sour (v), sweet (exclamation), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory (adj)
- teeth: biting (adj), gnaw (v), gnawing (gnawing doubt, etc.), teeth (gnash one's teeth), teeth (kick in the teeth)
- temperature: barn burner, bask (v), boil (initiation), blood (blood runs cold), blood (in cold blood), blood (blood boils), boiling point, boil over (v), button (hot button), chill (feeling), chilling (adj), chilly (adj), cold (feeling), coldblooded (and cold-blooded), coldhearted (adj), coldly, cool (feeling), cool down (v), coolly (adverb), cool off (v), cozy (adj), febrile (adj), fire (on fire / feeling), frigid (adj), frostily, frosty (adj), frozen (emotion), heartwarming (adj), heat (in the heat of passion, etc.), heated (emotion), heatedly, hot (controversial), hot (emotion), hot-blooded (adj), hothead (person), hotheaded (and hot-headed), hotly, ice (break the ice), ice-cold (adj), incendiary (speech), lukewarm (feeling), overheated (adj), scorching (adj), seethe (v), shower (cold shower), steam (v), temperature (raise / lower the temperature), tepid (adj), vein (ice in one's veins, etc.), warm (v), warm (adj), warmly, warmth, water (throw cold water on something)
- theater: drama (tense drama, etc.), dramatic (the dramatic), dramatic (effect), farce (n), melodrama (n), melodramatic (adj), operatic (adj), theater of the absurd, tragedy (n), travesty (n), vaudeville (n)
- toe: toe (step on toes)
- tongue: acid-tongued
- tools & technology: riveted, riveting (adj), valve (relief valve)
- verb: bask (v), beating (take a beating, etc.), bewitch (v), blow up (emotion), boil (initiation), boil over (v), bottle up (emotions), break down (emotionally), breath (take one's breath away), breath (take a breath, etc.), bristle (emotional arousal), brighten (v), bruise (v), buoy (v), burn out (v), burst (burst into tears, etc.), button (push a button / emotion), calm (v), carry (carry me away, etc.), cartwheel (do cartwheels, etc.), charm (v), chord (strike a chord), come from (emotion), consume (emotions), cool down (v), cool off (v), crack (verb / emotion), crawl (skin can crawl, etc.), cringe (v), crush (confidence, spirit, etc.), dampen (v), darken (v), dazzle (v), deflate (emotion), destabilize (v), dim (hope, etc.), dissolve (emotions), drain (an emotion, etc.), eat (mental health), electrify (v), erupt (feeling), excite (v), exhale (v), explode (emotion), eye (bat an eye / eyelash), fall (fall into a rage, etc.), fall apart (emotionally), feather (ruffle feathers), feet (knock somebody off their feet), fire up (v), fly (fly into a rage, etc.), follow (follow a feeling or emotion), fume (v), galvanize (v), give (give a start, etc.), gnaw (v), go off (v), grate (v), hackles (raise hackles), hand (wring one's hand), harden (feelings), hat (hold on to your hat), haunt (v), head (keep / lose one's head), head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high), head (hang one's head), hit (take a hit, etc.), hit (affect), hold in (emotions), hold back (restraint), home (hit home), home (feel at home), hurt (feeling and emotion / verb), hurt (damage, injure), hyperventilate (v), ice (break the ice), impact (affect), inflame (v), intoxicate (v), kick (kick one's butt, etc.), kick (kick in the teeth, etc.), lament (v), land (arrive, affect, decide), lay low (emotion), lift (v), lighten (lighten things up, etc.), lock

(lock something away), loosen up (feelings), love on (something), love up (and love up on, etc.), melt down (emotions), moan (v), moment (have a moment / emotion), nail (bite one's nails), nerve (strike a nerve, etc.), open up (emotions, speech, etc.), pall (cast a pall), possess (v), process (v), rage (v), raise (feeling), reel (v), resonate (v), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), reverberate (v), ripple (v), rock (v), roil (v), rub (rub somebody the wrong way), savor (v), scar (psychologically / verb), seethe (v), send (emotion or effect), set off (feeling and emotion), shake (disrupt), shatter (emotions), shock (v), sink (sink into despair, etc.), skin (jump out of one's skin), slide (v), smart (v), snap (v), sober (v), soothe (sensation), sour (v), spell (cast a spell), spill out (speech, emotions, etc.), spook (v), stack (blow one's stack), stagger (v), steam (v), steam (blow / let off steam), stomach (turn one's stomach), strike (affect), strike (tragedy, etc.), stun (v), stung (feeling), swoon (v), teeth (gnash one's teeth), temperature (raise / lower the temperature), toe (step on toes), top (blow one's top), touch (verb / emotion), turn on (excite), unwind (relax), vent (v), wail (v), warm (v), wall (ricochet off the wall), water (throw cold water on something), wave (make waves, etc.), wind down (relax), wow (v)

- violence: dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), punch (punch in the gut, etc.), tortured, torturous
- volcano: erupt (feeling), top (blow one's top), vent (v), volcanic (adj)
- walking, running & jumping: reel (v), toe (step on toes), trail of tears
- wall: wall (emotions)
- water: boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), buoy (v), buoyant (feeling), buoyed, calm (emotion), dampen (v), deep (emotion), dissolve (emotions), drain (an emotion, etc.), drained (feeling), drip (and drip-drip, etc.), frozen (emotion), ripple (ripple effect), ripple (n), ripple (v), roil (v), seethe (v), shower (cold shower), sink (sink into despair, etc.), sinking (sinking feeling, etc.), spill out (speech, emotions, etc.), splash (effect), splashy (effect), surge (surge of anger, etc.), swept away (emotion), wake (effect), water (throw cold water on something), wave (make waves, etc.)
- wave: ripple (v), ripple (ripple effect), ripple (n), splash (effect), splashy (effect), swept away (emotion), wake (effect), wave (make waves, etc.)
- weapon: blockbuster (n), blown away (feeling), blow up (emotion), dynamite (a dynamite cast, etc.), dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), explode (emotion), shrapnel (n), smitten (effect), trigger (emotion, memory, etc.)
- weather & climate: atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), climate (work climate, etc.)
- weight: heart (heavy heart), heavy (emotion), heavy-hearted (adj), lighten (lighten things up, etc.), light-hearted (adj)
- whip: whiplash n
- wind: air (breath of fresh air), calm (emotion), hat (hold on to your hat)
- wounds & scars: scar (psychologically / verb), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring, wound (figurative wounds of Vietnam, etc.)

## **FENCE (2)**

- allegiance, support & betrayal: fence (on the fence, etc.), fence (straddle the fence), fence (fence-straddling)
- amelioration & renewal: fence (mend fences)
- division & connection: fence (division)
- position, policy & negotiation: fence (on the fence, etc.), fence (straddle the fence), fence (fence-straddling)
- protection & lack of protection: backstop (v)

## **FICTIVE COMMUNICATION (1)**

- books & reading: read (the sign read don't enter, etc.)
- eye: nudge (communication), wink (n), winking (adj)
- gesture: beckon (v), nudge (communication), wink (n), winking (adj)
- hand: beckon (v)
- house: welcome (v)
- military: interrogate (v)
- picture: illustrate (v), show (the data show, etc.)

- sound: call (the mountains are calling, etc.)
- speech: ask (ask for it, etc.), address (v), answer (respond), answer (response), answer (solution), boast (v), call (Orwell called, etc. / sarcasm), call (the mountains are calling, etc.), call for (a recipe can call for something), command (deserve and get), cry (v), cry out (v), declare (v), demand (v), demand (n), dictate (v), encouraging (adj), groan (amount), hint (v), hint (n), hint at (v), inform (v), introduce (v), invitation (n), interrogate (v), interrogated, interrogating (questioning), interrogation (questioning), invite (v), lie (tell an untruth), listen (listen to something), nag (v), nagging (adj), offer (v), remind (v), say (a sign can say something, etc.), scream (scream “premium,” etc.), speak for (speak for itself, etc.), speak to (speak to something), suggest (indicate), suggestion (evidence), talk (money talks, etc.), tell (data can tell us something, etc.), testimony (n), threaten (v), time (time will tell), warn (a sign can warn, etc.), welcome (v)
- tools & technology: telegraph (v), telegraphed
- verb: address (v), answer (respond), ask (ask for it, etc.), beckon (v), betray (reveal, show), boast (v), call (Orwell called, etc. / sarcasm), call (the mountains are calling, etc.), call for (a recipe can call for something), command (deserve and get), cry (v), cry out (v), declare (v), demand (v), dictate (v), groan (amount), hint (v), hint at (v), illustrate (v), inform (v), interrogate (v), introduce (v), invite (v), lie (tell an untruth), nag (v), offer (offer hope, etc.), read (the sign read don’t enter, etc.), remind (v), say (a sign can say something, etc.), scream (scream “premium,” etc.), show (the data show, etc.), speak for (speak for itself, etc.), speak to (speak to something), suggest (v), talk (money talks, etc.), telegraph (v), tell (data can tell us something, etc.), threaten (v), warn (a sign can warn, etc.), welcome (v)

### **FICTIVE MEETING & SEEING (1)**

- eye: eye (met our eyes, etc.), see (fictive), see (a date can see something, etc.), stare (stare at defeat, etc.), witness (n), witness (v)
- face: face (face anger, etc.)
- house: welcome (v)
- speech: greet (v), greeted, welcome (v)
- verb: brush up against, encounter (difficulties, etc.), face (face anger, etc.), find (a date can find us, etc.), greet (v), meet (something can meet you), meet (non-human), met (met by anger, etc.), see (fictive), see (a date can see something, etc.), stare (stare at defeat, etc.), stumble (stumble across / on / upon), welcome (v), witness (v)
- walking, running & jumping: stumble (stumble across / on / upon)

### **FICTIVE MOTION (1) (see also leaking; movement)**

- animal: snake (a trail can snake, etc.)
- blade: cut (road cuts, etc.), slice (road slices, etc.)
- cloth: thread (a trail can thread, etc.), weave (a train can weave, etc.)
- direction: dip (a route can dip), wind (wind its way)
- knife: cut (road cuts, etc.), slice (road slices, etc.)
- materials & substances: stretch (extent)
- river: meander (v)
- shape: fork (a trail can fork, etc.), funnel (a road can funnel through, etc.)
- snake: snake (a trail can snake, etc.)
- verb: climb (roads, etc.), cross (a bridge can cross a river, etc.), cut (road cuts, etc.), dip (a route can dip), draw alongside, follow (a road can follow, etc.), fork (a trail can fork, etc.), funnel (a road can funnel through, etc.), go (a road can go, etc.), meander (v), run (a road can run, etc.), slice (road slices, etc.), snake (a trail can snake, etc.), stretch (extent), strike (a road can strike a river, etc.), thread (a trail can thread, etc.), weave (a trail can weave, etc.), wind (wind its way)
- walking, running & jumping: go (a road can go, etc.), run (a road can run, etc.)

### **FICTIVE POSITION (1)**

- horse: astride (position), straddle (configuration)

- leg: astride (position), straddle (configuration)
- line: straddle (configuration)
- standing, sitting & lying: astride (position), lie (position), repose (position), sit (a house can sit somewhere, etc.), stand (a lamp can stand, etc.), straddle (configuration)
- verb: lie (position), repose (position), sit (a house can sit somewhere, etc.), stand (a lamp can stand, etc.), straddle (configuration)

### **FICTIVE POSSESSION (1) (see also possession)**

- hand: capture (v), capture (n), captured, catch (catch the imagination, etc.), caught (other), claim (take), grab (v), grabbing (attention-grabbing), grip (v), grip (in the grip), gripped, gripping (adj), hold (verb / possession), hold (noun / possession), hold (noun / emotion), hold (take hold), possess (v), possessed (emotion), recapture (v), seize (v), seized (by an emotion), snatch (v)
- house: inhabit (v), occupy (v)
- verb: belong (v), capture (v), catch (catch the imagination, etc.), claim (take), grab (v), grip (v), hold (verb / possession), hold (take hold), inhabit (v), occupy (v), possess (v), recapture (v), seize (v), snatch (v)

### **FICTIVE TRANSPORTATION (1) (see also transportation)**

- direction: back (in time), take (take us back / time)
- horse: ride (ride something to fame, etc.)
- journeys & trips: take (take somebody somewhere)
- movement: back (back in time), carried away, carry (carry me away, etc.), transport (in time)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: back (back in time)
- riding: ride (ride on something), ride (ride something to fame, etc.)
- verb: back (in time), bring (v), carry (carry me away, etc.), carry (transport), deliver (v), get across (v), ride (ride something to fame, etc.), send (transport), send (cause to move), take (take somebody somewhere), take (take us back / time), transport (in time), ride (ride on something)

### **FILLER (2)**

- contempo-speak: feel like (and felt like, etc.), frickin' (fricking, freaking, friggin', etc.), just (filler), kind of (contempo-speak), kind of like (contempo-speak), like (filler), sort of like (contempo-speak), stuff (like vampires and stuff, etc.), think (I think, etc.), you know (filler)

### **FILM & TV (2)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: Academy Awards, Oscars (Oscars of surfing, etc.)
- allusion: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.), Chinatown (the film), Chris Farley (Chris Farley of silent cinema, etc.), Dracula (n), game of thrones, Groundhog Day (film), Hunger Games (film), Mini-Me, Rashomon (point of view), Oh, my! (sarcasm), Rosebud (allusion), Star Wars (film), Twilight Zone, Wizard of Oz, yellow brick road, zilla (bridezilla, etc.)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: unspool (v), unwind (analyze)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: it girl (and it drug, etc.), marquee (attention), screen (split screen)
- character & personality: guy (good guy, etc.), hero (character), villain (character)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: sunset (ride into the sunset)
- comparison & contrast: screen (split screen)
- competition: Hunger Games (film)
- conflict: match (death match), wagon (circle the wagons)
- control & lack of control: sheriff (new sheriff in town)
- development: unspool (v), unwind (analyze)
- experience: ingenue (person)
- failure, accident & impairment: dust (bite the dust)
- fantasy & reality: Groundhog Day (film), Hollywood (Hollywood ending, etc.), Star Wars (film)
- fate, fortune & chance: Chinatown (the film), noon (high noon)

- feeling, emotion & effect: Chinatown (the film), scratch (record scratch)
- force: Godzilla (force)
- importance & significance: marquee (attention)
- oppression: Hunger Games (film), Voldemort
- past & present: rewind (v), spool (spool back)
- perception, perspective & point of view: Rashomon (point of view), zoom out (v), zoom-out (n)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: it girl (and it drug, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: wagon (circle the wagons)
- relationship: Mini-Me
- repetition: Groundhog Day (film)
- resemblance: Mini-Me, show (horror show)
- reversal: rewind (v), spool (spool back)
- sound: crickets (silence), scratch (record scratch)
- speech: gaslight (v), gaslighting (n), gaslit (and gaslighted)
- strategy: game of thrones
- subterfuge: curtain (the con man behind the curtain, etc.), gaslight (v), gaslighting (n), gaslit (and gaslighted), Wizard of Oz
- superiority & inferiority: popcorn (n)
- superlative: Academy Awards, Oscars (Oscars of surfing, etc.)
- time: rewind (v), spool (spool back)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: noon (high noon)

## FINGER (2)

- accusation & criticism: finger (point a finger), finger-pointing, finger-wagging
- affliction: pinch (pinch of hunger, etc.), pinched
- appearance & reality: manicured
- attainment: finger (slip through one's fingers), touch (nobody will touch this, etc.)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: point out (v)
- coercion & motivation: prod (v)
- creation & transformation: finger (snap one's fingers, etc.)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: finger (lift a finger)
- division & connection: touch (lose touch), touch (other)
- evidence: fingerprint (n)
- fate, fortune & chance: finger (cross one's fingers, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: nail (bite one's nails), nail biter (n), nail-biting, pinch (pinch of hunger, etc.), pinched, touch (verb / emotion), touching (adj)
- help & assistance: finger (lift a finger)
- identity & nature: fingertip (to one's fingertips)
- insult: finger (middle finger), flip off (v)
- location: finger (put one's finger on something)
- possession: finger (slip through one's fingers)
- proper name: finger (Finger Lakes, etc.)
- proximity: fingertip (at one's fingertips)
- punishment & recrimination: eye (poke someone in the eye, etc.)
- pursuit, capture & escape: finger (slip through one's fingers)
- shape: finger (shape)
- speed: finger (in the snap of a finger)
- survival, persistence & endurance: pinch (pinch of hunger, etc.), pinched

## **FIRE (2) (see also temperature)**

- accusation & criticism: grill (v), grilled
- activity: ablaze (adj), aflame (adj), alight (fire), burning (slow-burning), smolder (v)
- amelioration & renewal: ashes (from the ashes), burn off (v)
- amount: scintilla (scintilla of doubt, etc.), spark (spark of hope, etc.)
- amount & effect: conflagration (n), fire (n), fire (flash fire), firestorm (n)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: blaze (in a blaze of glory), flare (n)
- attraction & repulsion: moth (a moth to a flame, etc.)
- character & personality: firebrand (person), fire (through the fire, etc.), incandescent (character)
- characterization: brand (v), stigma (n), stigmatization (oppression), stigmatize (and destigmatize / verb), stigmatizing
- coercion & motivation: feet (hold somebody's feet to the fire), fire (light a fire under somebody), fire (hold somebody's feet to the fire), fire up (v), grill (v), grilled
- commitment & determination: fire (fire and desire, etc.)
- computer: firewall (computers), war (flame war)
- concealment & lack of concealment: smoke out (v), smokescreen (concealment)
- conflict: fire (conflict), flame (conflict), scorched-earth (and scorched earth), slash-and-burn (adj)
- consumption: burn through (v)
- creation & transformation: ashes (from the ashes), Phoenix (myth)
- curtailment: snuff (v)
- death & life: flame (life is a flame)
- decline: burn out (v), burnout (n), die (die down), flame (life is a flame)
- destruction: arson (n), ashes (from the ashes), auto da fe, consume (destroy), consumed (destroyed), crash (crash and burn), extinguish (v), extinguished, flame (in flames), holocaust (n), Phoenix (myth), scorched-earth (and scorched earth), slash-and-burn (adj), snuff (v)
- direction: beacon (n)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: slash-and-burn (adj)
- disruption: Molotov cocktail
- environment: cauldron (n), crucible (n), furnace (n), oven (the Oven, etc.)
- epithet: cauldron (the Cauldron, etc.), oven (the Oven, etc.)
- evidence: fire (evidence), smoke (evidence), smoking gun
- experience: fire (through the fire, etc.), trial (trial by fire)
- failure, accident & impairment: fizzle (and fizzle out), flame (in flames)
- fate, fortune & chance: fire (play with fire), frying pan (jump from the frying pan into the fire)
- feeling, emotion & effect: ablaze (adj), aflame (adj), alight (fire), barn burner, burn (reputational burn, etc.), burned (hurt), burned-out (and burnt-out), burning (burning desire, etc.), burn out (v), burnout (n), consume (emotions), consumed (emotion), fire (on fire / feeling), fire (fire and desire, etc.), fired up, firebrand, fume (v), hair (hair on fire), incendiary, inflame (v), inflammatory (adj), scorching (adj), searing (adj)
- growth & development: oxygen (fuel)
- identity & nature: melting pot (n)
- impression: burned (impressed), seared
- increase & decrease: accelerant (n), fan (v), fire (fuel on the fire, etc.), flare-up (n), fuel (v), fuel (n), fuel (pour fuel on something, etc.), fueled, gas (pour gas on something, etc.), inflame (v), inflammatory (adj), kindle (v), oil (pour oil), oxygen (fuel), stoke (v), stoked (increased)
- initiation: ablaze (adj), aflame (adj), alight (fire), combustible (adj), fan (v), fiery (character), fiery (speech), fire (catch fire), flare (v), flare up (v), flare-up (n), flashpoint (n), fuel (v), fuel (n), fuel (pour fuel on something, etc.), fueled, gas (pour gas on something, etc.), ignite (v), incendiary (speech), incendiary (other), inflame (v),

inflammatory (adj), kindle, match (light / strike a match, etc.), oxygen (fuel), re-ignite, rekindle, spark (v), spark (n), stoke (v), stoked (increased), tinderbox (violence, etc.), volatile

- mental health: burnout (n)
- message: flare (n)
- mixture: melting pot (n)
- origin: ashes (from the ashes), Phoenix (myth)
- person: firebrand (person)
- proper name: furnace (Furnace Creek, etc.), hellfire (Hellfire missile, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: firewall (computers), firewall (other)
- pursuit, capture & escape: smoke out
- punishment & recrimination: coal (rake somebody over the coals)
- representation: torch (carry a torch), torch (other), torchbearer (person)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: smoke (smoke clears)
- resemblance: aflame (resemblance), tinderbox (resemblance)
- sacrifice: holocaust (n)
- situation: frying pan (jump from the frying pan into the fire)
- speech: coal (rake somebody over the coals), combustible (adj), fiery (speech), grill (v), grilled, incendiary (speech), inflammatory (adj), roast (v)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: aflame (adj), die out (end), fire (catch fire), fizzle (and fizzle out), ignite (v), rekindle (v), smolder (v), torch (pass the torch)
- substance & lack of substance: fire (substance)
- subterfuge: smokescreen (concealment)
- superlative: incandescent (character)
- survival, persistence & endurance: flame (keeper of the flame, etc.), Phoenix (myth), trial (trial by fire)
- transmission: torch (pass the torch), torch (other)
- warning: flare (n)

## **FISH (2) (see also animal)**

- acceptance & rejection: hook (hook, line and sinker)
- affliction: piranha (predation)
- attraction & repulsion: bait (v), bait (n), chum (n), lure (v), lure (n)
- character & personality: piranha (predation)
- competition: minnow (n), sardine (n)
- condition & status: belly-up (adj)
- configuration: sardined
- consumption: hook (hook, line and sinker)
- creation & transformation: spawn (v), spawned
- enthusiasm: hooked
- environment: fish (fish out of water), fishbowl (in a fishbowl), fishbowl (other)
- evidence: fishy (something smells fishy, etc.)
- extent & scope: hook (hook, line and sinker)
- failure, accident & impairment: belly-up (adj), get away (escape)
- growth & development: fry (small fry)
- importance & significance: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n), sardine (n), whale (epithet)
- movement: fishtail (v), porpoising (movement)
- perception, perspective & point of view: fisheye (fisheye view, etc.)
- person: piranha (predation)
- power: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n), sardine (n)

- punishment & recrimination: hook (off the hook)
- pursuit, capture & escape: bait (v), bait (n), catch (catch and release), catch (marriage), dragnet (cast a dragnet), dragnet (n), expedition (fishing expedition), fish (v), get away (escape), hook (off the hook), land (land a job, etc.), lure (v), lure (n), net (cast a net), nibble (n), reel in (v), trawl (v), troll (fish / verb)
- searching & discovery: expedition (fishing expedition), trawl (v)
- size: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n), sardine (n), whale (epithet)
- strength & weakness: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow
- suspicion: fishy (something smells fishy, etc.)
- taxonomy & classification: fish (different kettle of fish)

## **FIST (2) (see also hand)**

- accusation & criticism: backhand (v), bash (v), bashed (criticism), bashing (n), beaten (beaten up), clobber (v), pummel (v)
- achievement, recognition & praise: fist bump (n)
- affliction: smitten (afflicted)
- character & personality: fist (a boss with an iron fist, etc.)
- comprehension & incomprehension: hit (comprehension)
- conflict: assault (n), bare-knuckled (adj), brawl (n), tit-for-tat (adj), trounce (v), trounced
- curtailment: knock out (v)
- control & lack of control: fist (a boss with an iron fist, etc.)
- destruction: crush (destroy), pound (pound targets, etc.)
- dominance & submission: knuckle under (v)
- driving force: fist (armored fist, etc.)
- effect: hit (affect), hit (affected), punch (punch in the gut, etc.), struck (affected)
- feeling, emotion & effect: beating (take a beating, etc.), blow (body blow, etc.), blow (bitter blow, etc.), hit (take a hit, etc.), hit (affect), hit (affected), hit (affect), knockout (knockout voice, etc.), knock over (v), pummeled, punch (punch in the gut, etc.), smitten (effect), strike (tragedy, etc.), striking (adj), struck (affected), stunned (feeling), stunning (adj)
- force: beat (beat down / the sun, etc.), buffeted, fist (armored fist, etc.), fist (a leader with an iron fist), hitter (heavy hitter), knockout (knockout blow, etc.), strike (forces of nature)
- mental health: beat (beat oneself up)
- occurrence: strike (forces of nature), strike (tragedy, etc.)
- oppression: beat down (v), fist (a leader with an iron fist), ironfisted
- power: clout (n)
- punishment & recrimination: beat (beat oneself up)
- readiness & preparedness: punch (sucker punch / verb)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: beat back (v), fist (wave one's fist), hit back (v), knuckle under (v)
- restraint & lack of restraint: punch (pull a punch), punch (sucker punch / verb)
- revenge: tit-for-tat (adj)
- social interaction: tit-for-tat (adj)
- speech: backhand (v), bash (v), bashed (criticism), bashing (n)
- subterfuge: punch (sucker punch / verb)
- success & failure: crush (verb / accomplishment), smash (smash a record, etc.)
- violence: fist (a leader with an iron fist)

## **FLAGS & BANNERS (2)**

- allegiance, support & betrayal: banner (under the banner), banner (behind the banner), banner (banner of Islam, etc.), flag (rally around the flag), rally (v)
- assembling: rally (v)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: flag (raise a flag, etc.), flagpole (run something up the flagpole)

- commitment & determination: flag (plant one's flag)
- experimentation: flagpole (run something up the flagpole)
- identity & nature: colors (true colors, etc.)
- person: flag-bearer, standard-bearer
- possession: flag (plant one's flag)
- representation: banner (carry a banner, etc.), flag (raise a flag, etc.), flag (flag of convenience), flag-bearer, standard-bearer
- resistance, opposition & defeat: flag (plant one's flag), stand (last stand, etc.), white flag (surrender)
- size: banner (size)
- subterfuge: false flag (subterfuge)
- warning: red flag (warning)

## FLAWS & LACK OF FLAWS (1)

- affix: over (overshare, etc.), under (underdeliver, etc.)
- air: airtight (adj), overinflated (adj), tempestuous (adj), turbulent (turbulent childhood, etc.)
- allusion: Goldilocks (Goldilocks zone, etc.), Panglossian (adj)
- animal: fly (fly in the ointment), riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.)
- atmosphere: airtight (adj), overinflated (adj), tempestuous (adjective), turbulent (turbulent childhood, etc.)
- ball: roll (on a roll)
- Bible: Eden (n), Edenic (adj), Garden of Eden
- blade: dull (adj), edge (lose one's edge)
- bodily reaction: hiccup (n)
- books & reading: story (horror story), storybook (storybook romance, etc.)
- bullet: bulletproof (adj)
- burden: overload (n), overloaded
- chemistry: rust (functioning), rusty (adj)
- cloth: fray (v), frayed (degraded), ragged (adj), seamless (adj), tatters (in tatters), wrinkle (n)
- clothing & accessories: ragged (adj), tatters (in tatters)
- color: black eye
- cooking: half-baked (adj)
- direction: downside (n), over (overshare, etc.), sag (v), slump (v), twisted (corruption), under (underdeliver, etc.), upside (n), warp (v), warped
- ear: tin ear (n), tin-eared (adj), tone-deaf (adj)
- equilibrium & stability: balance (off balance), balance (out of balance), balanced, disequilibrium (n), imbalanced, misstep (n), shaky (condition), slip (n), solid (adj), stumble (v), stumble (n), sure-footed (adj), unstable (adj), wobbly (condition)
- explosion: bombproof (adj)
- eye: beautiful (adj), black eye, eyesore (n), pretty (adj), ugly (adj)
- face: face (egg on one's face, etc.)
- fatness & thinness: flabby (adj), lean (size)
- food & drink: palatable (adj), stale (adj), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory (adj)
- foot: foot (on the right foot / on the wrong foot)
- fruits & vegetables: lemon (n), peach (n), plum (desirable)
- ground, terrain & land: bumpy (adj), ground (shaky ground, etc.), ground (firm ground, etc.), mired (stuck), pit (money pit, etc.), rocky (adj), terrain (dangerous terrain, etc.)
- hardness & softness: edge (rough edges, etc.), smooth (lack of flaws)
- health & medicine: fit (adj), fitness (ability), flabby (adj), lean (size), lethargic (adj), pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, surgical (adj)

- hole: chink (flaw), hole (flaw), pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.), Swiss cheese (n)
- hygiene: chaotic (adj), clean (a clean record, etc.), dirty (dirty energy, etc.), hot mess (situation, etc.), mess (n), messy (adj), sloppy (adj)
- insect: fly (fly in the ointment), riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.)
- journeys & trips: bump (speed bump), bump (bump in the road, etc.), path (the right / wrong path, etc.), path (tough / easy path, etc.), road (tough / easy road, etc.)
- knife: dull (adj), edge (lose one's edge)
- light & dark: bright (bright side), polished (adj), shine (n), side (dark side), tarnish (v), tarnished
- mark: blemish (n), black eye, blot (n), mark (black mark), pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, scar (blemish / noun), scar (blemish / verb), scarred (battle-scarred, etc.), smear (n), smear (v), smeared, stain (n), stain (v), unblemished
- materials & substances: coarse (speech), crack (flaw), crude (speech), flawed (adj), flawless (adj), flimsy (adj), ironclad (adj), jewel (n), lapidary (adj), lily (gild the lily), polish (v), polished (adj), rough (adj), sag (v), slump (v), smooth (lack of flaws), solid (adj), sound (solid), sticky (a sticky situation, etc.), warp (v), warped, unpolished, weak (fragile)
- mechanism: broken (failure), misbehave (machine), point (sticking / friction point)
- mining: lapidary (adj)
- movement: roll (on a roll)
- music: note (right note), pitch-perfect (adj), tin ear (n), tin-eared (adj), tone-deaf (adj), tune (out of tune)
- orientation: downside (n), underbelly (concealment), underside (n), upside (n)
- part of speech: bad (my bad, etc.), good (good crazy, etc.)
- path: path (the right / wrong path, etc.), path (tough / easy path, etc.)
- person: goods (damaged goods)
- picture: picture (picture-perfect), sketchy (adj)
- plant: thorny (adj)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: off (not right)
- religion: Eden (n), Edenic (adj), Garden of Eden, heaven (environment, food, etc.), paradise (n)
- rope: kink (n), strain (pressure), strained
- scale: balance (off balance), balance (out of balance), balanced, imbalanced
- sensation: rough (adj), smooth (lack of flaws), thorny (adj)
- shape: warp (v), warped
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: strain (pressure), strained, stretch (v), stretched (stretched thin, etc.)
- smell: reek (v), stink (v)
- speech: broken (English, etc.), clumsy (adj), note (right note), pitch-perfect (adj), stumble (stumble over one's words), tin ear (n), tin-eared (adj), tone-deaf (adj)
- sports & games: level (fairness), playing field (uneven playing field, etc.), track record (bad)
- stomach: underbelly (concealment), underside (n)
- storm: stormy (adj), tempestuous (adj)
- taste: palatable (adj), sweet spot, taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory (adj)
- teeth: teething
- verb: fray (v), pockmark (v), polish (v), reek (v), sag (v), scar (blemish / verb), slump (v), smear (v), stink (v), stretch (v), stumble (v), stumble (stumble over one's words), tarnish (v), warp (v), water (hold water)
- walking, running & jumping: foot (on the right foot / on the wrong foot), lame (lame excuse, etc.), misstep (n), slip (n), stumble (v), stumble (n), stumble (stumble over one's words), sure-footed (adj)
- water: water (hold water), waterproof (adj), watertight (adj), turbulent (turbulent childhood, etc.)
- weight: overload (n), overloaded
- wind: tempestuous (adj)
- weapon: bulletproof (adj), surefire (a surefire investment, etc.)

- wounds & scars: scar (blemish / noun), scar (blemish / verb), scarred (battle-scarred, etc.)

## **FLOOD (2)**

- amount & effect: deluge (n), deluged, flood (flood of refugees, etc.), flood (amount / verb), flooded, floodgate (open the floodgates / sluice gates), floodgate (other), floodwaters, inundate (v), inundated
- constraint & lack of constraint: floodgate (open the floodgates / sluice gates), floodgate (other)
- extent & scope: high-water (high-water mark)
- movement: deluge (n), flood (move)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: high-water (high-water mark)

## **FLYING & FALLING (2)**

- activity: flurry (activity), fly (activity)
- amount & effect: flurry (activity)
- condition & status: spiral (death spiral)
- configuration: hover (numbers)
- constraint & lack of constraint: fly (constraint)
- course: trajectory (n)
- decline: crater (v), free fall (in free fall), free fall (other), nosedive (verb / decline), nosedive (noun / decline), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline / decrease), spiral (spiral downward, etc.), spiral (in a spiral), spiral (into a spiral), spiral (on a downward spiral), spiral (downward spiral, etc.), spiral (other)
- destruction: crash (crash and burn), shot down (and shot down in flames), spiral (death spiral)
- development: trajectory (n)
- extent & scope: roof (through the roof)
- feeling, emotion & effect: ballistic (go ballistic), depression (mental illness), fly (fly into a rage, etc.), soar (a heart can soar)
- growth & development: ground (get off the ground), take off (v)
- heart: soar (a heart can soar)
- inauguration: drop (product launch), launch (n)
- increase & decrease: nosedive (verb / decrease), nosedive (noun / decrease), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (noun / decline), plunge (decline / decrease), rocket (increase), roof (through the roof), soar (v), take off (v)
- initiation: launch (n), take off (v)
- involvement: plunge (plunge into something), plunge (involvement)
- movement: swoop (v)
- speed: fly (activity)

## **FOG (2)**

- consciousness & awareness: fog (fog of war, etc.), fog (mental fog, etc.), foggy (adj)

## **FOOD & DRINK (2) (see also cooking; fruits & vegetables; meat; taste)**

- absorption & immersion: drink in (v), eat (eat and breathe, etc.), eat (eat and sleep, etc.), imbibe (v), ingest (v), lap up (v)
- acceptance & rejection: choke (v), go down (digestion), hook (hook, line and sinker), Kool-Aid (drink the Kool-Aid, etc.), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), stomach (accept), swallow (accept)
- affliction: choke (v), eat (mental health), eat (destroy)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: egg (put all one's eggs in a basket, etc.), Kool-Aid (drink the Kool-Aid, etc.)
- alternatives & choices: buffet (n), cornucopia (variety), menu (computer), menu (other), smorgasbord (n)
- amelioration & renewal: beefed up, beef up (v), fresh (fresh evidence, etc.), spice up (v), thirst (quench one's thirst, etc.)

- amount: bellyful (amount), buffet (n), cornucopia (variety), crumb (amount), dollop (n), fed up (adj), helping (amount), lion's share, menu (other), morsel (amount), pie (piece of the pie, etc.), plate (full plate), scrap (n), smorgasbord (n), taste (taste of freedom, etc.)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: nutshell (in a nutshell)
- appearance & reality: chalice (poisoned chalice)
- attainment: cakewalk (dance)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: teapot (internet teapot, etc.)
- attraction & repulsion: candy (n), delicious (adj), juicy (adj), marmite (n), mouthwatering (adj), tasty (adj), tea (cup of tea)
- bases: bread and butter (livelihood), bread-and-butter (adj), mother (mother's milk)
- behavior: spoiled (spoiled child, etc.), trough (greed), wolf down (food)
- character & personality: bitter (personality), marmite (n), sour (personality), spoiled (spoiled child, etc.), sweet (personality)
- commitment & determination: eat (eat and breathe, etc.), eat (eat and sleep, etc.), egg (put all one's eggs in a basket, etc.), Kool-Aid (drink the Kool-Aid, etc.)
- complexity: spaghetti (snarl)
- comprehension & incomprehension: digest (v), digestible (adj)
- computer: menu (computer), rot (computer)
- configuration: pancake (v), pancake (n), pancaked, sandwiched, spaghetti (snarl)
- consumption: appetite (appetite for fur, etc.), bellyful (amount), bitter (a bitter blow, etc.), candy (n), chew (and chew up), chew over (v), choke (v), consume (consumption), consumer (of information, etc.), consumption (n), delicious (adj), devour (devour the classic, etc.), diet (n), digest (v), digestible (adj), drink in (v), eat (endure), eat (eat and breathe, etc.), eat (eat and sleep, etc.), eat up (consume), famine (n), feast (v), feast (n), fed up (adj), feed (fuel), feed (supply), feed (satisfy), feed (feed on / off something), food (food for thought), force-feed (and force feed), glutton (person), gluttonous (adj), gobble up (v), go down (digestion), gorge (gorge on), hook (hook, line and sinker), hunger (n), hungry (adj), imbibe (v), ingest (v), insatiable (adj), juicy (adj), Kool-Aid (drink the Kool-Aid, etc.), lap up (v), lunch (destruction), mouthwatering (adj), omnivorous (adj), palatable (adj), piquancy (n), potato chip, ravenous (adj), ravenously, regurgitate (v), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), serve up (v), side (food), sour (adj), spicy (adj), stomach (accept), sustenance (n), swallow (accept), swallowed, sweet (sweet dreams, etc.), taste (taste freedom, etc.), taste (taste of freedom, etc.), taste (taste for violence, etc.), taste (a bad taste), tasty (adj), thirst (n), thirsty (adj), unpalatable (adj), unsavory (adj), voracious (adj), voraciously
- content: filling (content), food (food for thought)
- corruption: apple (bad apple / rotten apple), curdle (v), fresh (fresh evidence, etc.), rancid (adj), rot (v), rot (n), rotten (adj), sour (adj), sour (v), spoil (v), spoiled (spoiled child, etc.), stale (adj), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory (adj)
- cost & benefit: gravy (n), gravy train, meal ticket (n)
- creation & transformation: concoction (n), hash out (v)
- destruction: consume (destroy), consumed (destroyed), devour (destroy), devoured (by an emotion, etc.), eat (mental health), eat (destroy), eaten alive (by debt, rage, etc.), eat up (destroy), lunch (destruction), nibble (nibble at, etc.)
- development: appetizer (n), hors d'oeuvres (n), main course (and main dish), table (set the table)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: cakewalk (dance), picnic (no picnic), picnic (other), platter (silver platter)
- directing: fed (supplied), feed (direct)
- eagerness & reluctance: drool (v), hungry (adj), juicy (adj), mouthwatering (adj), stomach (eagerness)
- enthusiasm: crave (fans crave the bout, etc.), eat (eat and breathe, etc.), eat (eat and sleep, etc.), glutton (person), gluttonous (adj), taste (taste for violence, etc.)
- experience: chew (and chew up), diet (n), eat (endure), medicine (a taste of one's own medicine), taste (taste freedom, etc.), taste (taste of freedom, etc.), treat (in for a treat)

- extent & scope: hook (hook, line and sinker)
- fate, fortune & chance: chalice (poisoned chalice), medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)
- feeling, emotion & effect: bitter (personality), bitter (bitter weather, etc.), bitter (a bitter blow, etc.), bittersweet (adj), eat (mental health), fed up (adj), juicy (adj), mouthwatering (adj), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), savor (v), sour (v), sweet (exclamation), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory
- flaws & lack of flaws: palatable (adj), stale (adj), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory (adj)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: dish out (v), fork over (v), pepper (v), peppered
- gossip: tea (gossip)
- group, set & collection: buffet (n), cornucopia (variety), menu (other), smorgasbord (n)
- hyperbole: retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), supersizing (linguistic supersizing)
- identity & nature: bowl (salad bowl / mixture), gumbo (mixture), jambalaya (mixture), pie (apple pie)
- importance & significance: bread and butter (livelihood), bread-and-butter (adj), mother (mother's milk), nothing-burger
- increase & decrease: feed (fuel), feed (feed on / off something), supersize (v), supersizing (linguistic supersizing)
- initiation: pot (stir the pot)
- judgment: taste (in good taste, etc.), taste (judgment)
- mixture: alphabet (letters), bouillabaisse (mixture), bowl (salad bowl / mixture), brew (mixture), cocktail (n), concoction (n), farrago (confused mixture), gumbo (mixture), ingredient (n), jambalaya (mixture), soup (mixture), stew (mixture)
- money: platter (silver platter)
- person: glutton (person)
- possession: fork over (v)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: expiration date
- proper name: punch bowl (Punch Bowl Falls, etc.)
- relationship: feed (fuel)
- resemblance: pie (shape), spaghetti (snarl)
- revenge: dish (revenge is a dish best served cold)
- reversal: medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)
- sacrifice: belt (tighten one's belt), belt-tightening
- script: recipe (vaccine recipe, etc.), recipe (for conflict, etc.)
- sequence: table (set the table)
- shape: burrito (shape), doughnut (doughnut-shaped), pancake (pancake ice, etc.), pie (shape), punch bowl (shape)
- size: supersized (adj)
- speech: fat (chew the fat)
- strength & weakness: beefed up, beef up (v)
- substance & lack of substance: food (food for thought), gruel (thin gruel, etc.), meat (substance), meaty (substance), nothing-burger, puff (puff piece), tea (weak tea)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: bellyful (amount), belt (tighten one's belt), belt-tightening, cornucopia (variety), famine (n), feast (n), fed up (adj), glut (n), glutton (person), gluttonous (adj), gorge (gorge on), insatiable (adj), lean (lean times, etc.), starvation (n), starvation wages (n)
- superlative: bread (sliced bread), cream (superlative), feast (n)
- supplying: fed (supplied), feed (fuel), feed (direct), feed (supply), feed (feed on / off something), force-feed (and force feed), serve up (v)
- survival, persistence & endurance: hand-to-mouth (live hand to mouth, etc.), shelf life (and sell-by date)
- taxonomy & classification: fish (different kettle of fish), vintage (similar vintage, etc.)
- transmission: feed (video, etc.)

- wants, needs, hopes & goals: crave (v), feed (satisfy), hunger (n), hungry (adj), ravenous (adj), starved, stomach (food), taste (taste for violence, etc.), thirst (n), thirsty (adj)
- work & duty (plate (on one's plate)
- worth & lack of worth: meal ticket (n)

## **FOOT (2) (see also heel; leg; toe)**

- access & lack of access: foot (foot in the door)
- action, inaction & delay: feet (drag one's feet), foot-dragging
- admiration & contempt: doormat (person), feet (wipe one's feet on somebody)
- amelioration & renewal: feet (get back on one's feet, etc.)
- bases: footing (solid footing, etc.), footing (find one's footing, etc.)
- character & personality: doormat (person), toe (step on toes)
- coercion & motivation: bone (throw a bone to someone)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: footstep (retrace one's footsteps)
- destruction: stamp out (v), trample (v), trampled
- direction: footstep (in the footsteps)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: kicked off, kicked out, kick out (v)
- disruption: toe (step on toes)
- division & connection: foot (one foot / the other foot), foot (foot in both worlds, etc.)
- dominance & submission: doormat (person)
- eagerness & reluctance: feet (cold feet), foot-dragging, heel (dig in one's heels), kicking and screaming
- equilibrium & stability: footing (find one's footing, etc.)
- experimentation: toe (dip one's toes in water, etc.)
- failure, accident & impairment: shoot (shoot oneself in the foot)
- feeling, emotion & effect: kick (kick in the teeth, etc.), teeth (kick in the teeth), toe (step on toes)
- flaws & lack of flaws: foot (on the right foot / on the wrong foot)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: kickback (corruption)
- haste: feet (think on one's feet)
- initiation: kick in (start), kick off (v), kickoff (n), kick up (v)
- insult: doormat (person), feet (wipe one's feet on somebody)
- involvement: toe (dip one's toes in water, etc.)
- oppression: foot (under the foot), heel (under the heel), trample (v)
- orientation: foot (orientation)
- position, policy & negotiation: footing (position)
- presence & absence: foothold (n), footprint (n), toehold (n)
- punishment & recrimination: kick (kick oneself)
- readiness & preparedness: feet (think on one's feet), flatfooted (caught flatfooted), foot (on the back foot / on the front foot), foot (back foot / front foot), toe (on one's toes)
- representation: foot (put a foot forward)
- resiliency: feet (get back on one's feet, etc.)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: foot (put one's foot down), heel (dig in one's heels), kicking and screaming
- responsibility: feet (lay blame at the feet, etc.)
- social interaction: kickback (corruption)
- speed: pace (at a pace), pace (speed)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: foot (on the right foot / on the wrong foot), kick in (start), kick off (v), kickoff (n)
- superiority & inferiority: doormat (person), feet (wipe one's feet on somebody)
- survival, persistence & endurance: toehold (n), foothold (n)

## FOOTBALL (2)

- ability & lack of ability: triple threat
- action, inaction & delay: clock (run the clock, etc.), tackle (v)
- avoidance & separation: end run (n)
- competition: football (conflict)
- conflict: football (conflict)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: punt (v), punt (n), tackle (v)
- failure, accident & impairment: fumble (v), fumble (n), fumbled
- fate, fortune & chance: go (go long), Hail Mary
- initiation: kick off (v), kickoff (n)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: kick off (v), kickoff (n)
- success & failure: football (spike the football), fumble (n), goalpost (target), goal line (across the goal line)
- superlative: Super Bowl
- target: goalpost (target)

## FORCE (1) (see also power)

- air: downdraft (n)
- allusion: zilla (bridezilla, etc.)
- animal: bear (a bear of an epidemic, etc.), beast (power), bull (bull in a china shop), ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other), paper tiger, roar back (v), roaring back (come roaring back, etc.), savage (adj), savagery (n), teeth (force), teeth (take the teeth out), toothless (adj)
- arm: elbow (force), nudge (v), nudge (n), nudged, push (force), push (push comes to shove), push (coercion and motivation), shove (n)
- atmosphere: downdraft (n), headwind (n), wind (wind of change, etc.)
- boat: headwind (n), wind (wind at one's back, etc.)
- boxing: chin (take something on the chin), hitter (heavy hitter), knockout (knockout blow, etc.)
- cows & cattle: bull (bull in a china shop)
- creature: Godzilla (force), monster (power)
- direction: march (march ahead, etc.)
- epithet: beast ('The Beast' Mugabi, etc.), dynamite (Michael "Dynamite" Dokes, etc.), express (Pineapple Express, etc.), tornado (Tartan Tornado, etc.)
- explosion: blast radius (n)
- film: Godzilla (force)
- fist: beat (beat down / the sun, etc.), buffeted, fist (armored fist, etc.), fist (a leader with an iron fist), hitter (heavy hitter), knockout (knockout blow, etc.), strike (forces of nature)
- gesture: nudge (v), nudge (n), nudged, push (coercion and motivation), shove (n)
- hammer: anvil (military), hammer (hammer of the law, etc.)
- health & medicine: castrated, castration (n), emasculated (adj), emasculating (adj), eunuch (n), impotence (weakness), impotent (adj), neuter (v), potency (strength), potent (adj), steroids (on steroids)
- height: wave (crest of a wave)
- horse: hard-charging (adj)
- love, courtship & marriage: crush (love)
- military: blast radius (n), force (show of force), hot (come in hot, go in hot), onslaught (n)
- movement: barrel (v), churn (move), hurtle (v), march (march ahead, etc.), momentum (gain momentum, etc.), momentum (n), muscle (muscle its ways through, etc.), rip through (v), tear through (v), traction (gain / build / get traction), unstoppable (force, etc.)
- plane: headwind (n), tailwind (n), wind (wind at one's back, etc.)
- predation: ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other)
- religion: juggernaut (n)

- river: current (n), Niagara (the river and falls), undercurrent (n)
- sea: floodtide (n), wave (crest of a wave)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: flex (power, etc.), muscle (political muscle, etc.), muscle (muscle its way through, etc.), muscular (adj)
- sound: roar back (v), roaring back (come roaring back, etc.)
- sports & games: hitter (heavy hitter), wave (crest of a wave)
- teeth: teeth (take the teeth out), teeth (force), toothless (adj)
- tide: floodtide (n)
- tiger: paper tiger
- tools & technology: anvil (military), blowtorch (n), bulldoze (v), bulldozed, bulldozer (n), buzz saw (n), chainsaw (n), hammer (hammer of the law, etc.), leverage (n), leverage (v), run over (v), sledgehammer (n), steamroll (v), steamrolled (and steamrollered), steamroller (n), wrecking ball (n)
- train: freight train (force), steam (pick up steam, etc.), steam (lose steam), steam (full steam, etc.), steam (take the steam out, etc.), train (runaway train)
- verb: barrel (v), beat (beat down / the sun, etc.), bulldoze (v), churn (move), elbow (force), flex (power, etc.), hurtle (v), march (march ahead, etc.), momentum (gain momentum, etc.), muscle (muscle its way through, etc.), nudge (v), push (force), push (coercion and motivation), rip through (v), roar back (v), run over (v), steam (pick up steam, etc.), steam (lose steam), steam (take the steam out, etc.), steamroll (v), storm (v), strike (forces of nature), tear through (v), teeth (take the teeth out), traction (gain / build / get traction)
- violence: beat (beat down / the sun, etc.), brutality (n), buffeted
- walking, running & jumping: march (march ahead, etc.)
- water: floodtide (n), Niagara (the river and falls), wave (crest of a wave)
- wave: buffeted, wave (crest of a wave)
- weapon: hot (come in hot, go in hot)
- weather & climate: tornado (Tartan Tornado, etc.), tornado (force)
- wind: buffeted, downdraft (n), headwind (n), tailwind (n), tornado (force), wind (wind of change, etc.), wind (wind at one's back, etc.)
- wolf: ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other)

## FORCE (2)

- accusation & criticism: backhand (v), blast (criticize), hammer (criticize), lay (lay into), slam (v)
- activity: rage (v), raging (adj)
- behavior: pushy (people), rage (v), raging (adj)
- character & personality: bulldozer (epithet), pushy (people)
- coercion & motivation: push (coercion and motivation), pushed around, pushy (people), press (v), prod (v)
- commitment & determination: pushing (keep on pushing, etc.)
- comprehension & incomprehension: hit (comprehension)
- computer: hit (computer)
- control & lack of control: rage (v), raging (adj)
- destruction: crushed (destroyed), crushing (adj)
- development: wave (ride a wave, etc.)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: push (summit push, etc.), pushover (n)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: pushed out
- effect: hit (affect), hit (affected), impact (affect), impact (effect), impacted (affected), punch (punch in the gut, etc.), strike (affect), struck (affected)
- epithet: bulldozer (epithet)
- feeling, emotion & effect: crush (love), crushed (feeling), daze (in a daze), devastated (emotion), devastating (feeling), feet (knock somebody off their feet), flattened (emotion), floored (emotion), hit (affect), hit (affected), impact (affect), impact (effect), impacted (affected), jolt (n), knock over (v), punch (punch in the gut, etc.), rage

(v), raging (adj), shock (v), shock (in shock), shock (feeling), shocked (adj), shocking (feeling, emotion and effect), smitten (effect), strike (affect), striking (adj), struck (affected), stun (v), stunned (feeling), stunning (adj), surge (surge of anger, etc.)

- heart: faint-hearted (the faint-hearted)
- increase & decrease: boost (v), boost (n)
- movement: barrel (v), churn (move), hurtle (v), muscle (muscle its way through), rip through (v), tear through (v)
- person: badass (power), bad boy (person), big shot (person)
- relationship: drive (drive somebody to do something)
- resiliency: push on (v)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: push (push comes to shove), push (push against, etc.), push back (v), pushback (n), pushed around
- speech: backhand (v), blunt (speech), fulminate (speech), lay (lay into), slam (v), strong (language, etc.)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: push on (v)
- storm: batter (the hurricane battered the city), beat up (storm), blast (blasted the Bahamas, etc.), clobbered (by rain, etc.), hammer (blizzards hammered the Karakoram, etc.), knock out (v), lash (a storm lashed the Philippines), maul (a storm mauled the Bahamas, etc.), nature (force of nature), pound (snowfalls pounded the Northeast, etc.), pummel (the storm pummeled the island, etc.), punch (the storm packed a punch, etc.), storm (v), storm (by storm), strike (forces of nature), thrash (Nicole is thrashing the Bahamas, etc.)
- success & failure: crush (verb / accomplishment), destroy (verb / accomplishment), smash (smash a record, etc.)
- survival, persistence & endurance: push on (v), stubborn (non-human)
- time: onrushing (future, etc.)

## **FOREST (2) (see also tree)**

- amount: forest (a forest of cranes, etc.)
- area: woods (neck of the woods)
- danger: clear (in the clear / into the clear), patch (rough patch), woods (out of the woods)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: patch (rough patch)
- group, set & collection: forest (a forest of cranes, etc.)
- identity & nature: rainforest (society is a rainforest)
- location: woods (neck of the woods)
- mixture: rainforest (society is a rainforest)
- obstacles & impedance: clear (in the clear / into the clear), patch (rough patch), woods (out of the woods)
- resemblance: forest (a forest of cranes, etc.)
- survival, persistence & endurance: clear (in the clear / into the clear), patch (rough patch), woods (out of the woods)

## **FORTIFICATION (2) (see also military)**

- allegiance, support & betrayal: insider (insider attack, etc.)
- amount & effect: besiege (v), besieged, siege (under siege), siege (other)
- bases: Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative)
- conflict: battering ram, parapet (n), siege (under siege)
- division & connection: drawbridge (protection), moated
- importance & significance: salient (important)
- isolation & remoteness: moated
- proper name: castle (Castle Peaks, etc.), citadel (the Citadel, etc.), rampart (Upper Ramparts, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: bastion (n), breach (v), breach (n), breached, bristle (with security, etc.), bulwark (protection), bunker (n), castle (protection), citadel (n), dig in (v), drawbridge (protection), dug in, entrenched, fort (hold down the fort), fortress, harden (protect), loophole (n), moat (n), moated, parapet (n), rampart (protection), redoubt (n), Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative), stronghold (n)

- resemblance: bulwark (resemblance), palisade (n), rampart (resemblance)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: dig in (v), dug in, entrenched, siege (under siege), siege (other)
- strength & weakness: Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative)
- survival, persistence & endurance: dig in (v), dug in, entrenched

## **FOUNTAIN (2)**

- amelioration & renewal: Fountain of Youth
- resemblance: fountain (resemblance)
- source: fountain (source), fountainhead

## **FOX (2) (see also animal)**

- appearance & disappearance: ground (go to ground)
- behavior: fox (subterfuge), outfox (v)
- concealment & lack of concealment: ground (go to ground)
- military: foxhole (military)
- protection & lack of protection: foxhole (Keynesians in a foxhole, etc.), ground (go to ground), holed up, hole up (v)
- pursuit, capture & escape: ground (go to ground)
- subterfuge: fox (subterfuge), outfox (v)

## **FROG (2) (see also animal)**

- consciousness & awareness: frog (frog in boiling water)
- environment: frog (frog in boiling water)
- situation: frog (frog in boiling water)

## **FRUITS & VEGETABLES (2) (see also cooking; food & drink; meat; taste)**

- activity: potato (couch potato)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: layer (analysis), onion (n), peel (peel back the layers, etc.)
- behavior: nuts (crazy)
- character & personality: apple (bad apple / rotten apple), nut (person)
- coercion & motivation: carrot (reward), carrot-and-stick
- consciousness & awareness: potato (couch potato), vegetable (consciousness)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: fruit (low-hanging fruit)
- failure, accident & impairment: banana (n), lemon (n)
- flaws & lack of flaws: lemon (n), peach (n), plum (desirable)
- growth & development: bloomer (late bloomer), fruition (n), ripe (adj)
- person: potato (couch potato)
- product: apple (the apple doesn't fall far from the tree, etc.), bear (bear fruit, etc.), fruit (product)
- proper name: turnip (Turnip Rock, etc.)
- relationship: apple (the apple doesn't fall far from the tree, etc.)
- superlative: peach (n), plum (desirable)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: bloomer (late bloomer), ripe (adj)
- worth & lack of worth: fruit (product), fruitful (adj), fruitless (adj), peach (n), plum (desirable)

## **FUNCTIONING (1) (see also operation)**

- animal: hamstrung, hobble (v), hobbled
- blade: honed, sharp (skills, etc.)
- chain: fetter (n), fettered, unfettered
- chemistry: chemistry, rust (functioning), rusty (adj)
- crashes & collisions: crash (population crash, etc.)
- crime: fetter (n), fettered, unfettered
- death & life: dead (functioning)

- direction: down (functioning)
- engine: cylinder (fire on all cylinders, etc.), gear (high gear, low gear, etc.), hum (hum along), hyperdrive (into hyperdrive), neutral (in neutral), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled (progress), throttle (full throttle, etc.)
- epithet: machine (the Swiss Machine, etc.)
- equilibrium & stability: stability (n)
- government: machinery (government, etc.)
- health & medicine: atrophy (v), basket case, comatose (adj), cripple (v), crippled, hamstrung, handicapped, hobble (v), hobbled, impotence (weakness), impotent (adj), paralyze (v), paralyzed (functioning), paralysis (n), potency (strength), potent (adj)
- knife: honed, sharp (skills, etc.)
- leg: fetter (n), fettered, hamstrung, hobble (v), hobbled, unfettered
- manufacturing: machine (publicity machine, etc.)
- mechanism: break down (functioning), broken (failure), cog (cog in the machine, etc.), comatose (adj), cylinder (fire on all cylinders, etc.), down (functioning), full on (adj), full out (adj), gear (high gear, low gear, etc.), gum up (v), hum (hum along), hyperdrive (into hyperdrive), machine (publicity machine, etc.), machinery (government, etc.), malfunction (v), misbehave (machine), neutral (in neutral), speed (up to speed), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled (progress), throttle (full throttle, etc.)
- military: hors de combat
- movement: cripple (v), crippled, fetter (n), fettered, hamstrung, handicapped, hobble (v), hobbled, paralysis (n), paralyze (v), paralyzed (functioning), speed (up to speed), stall (v), unfettered
- possession: tongue (lose one's tongue)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: break down (functioning), down (functioning)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: atrophy (v)
- sleep: comatose (adj)
- snow & ice: freeze (computers, etc.)
- sound: click (v), hum (v), sputter (v)
- speech: tongue (lose one's tongue)
- sports & games: game (at the top of one's game), marble (marbles)
- tongue: tongue (lose one's tongue)
- tools & technology: mechanics (n)
- verb: break down (functioning), click (v), cripple (v), freeze (computers, etc.), gum up (v), hobble (v), hum (hum along), malfunction (v), misbehave (machine), paralyze (v), sputter (v), stall (v)
- walking, running & jumping: fetter (n), fettered, hamstrung, hobble (v), hobbled, unfettered

## FUNCTIONING (2)

- feeling, emotion & effect: broken (feeling), broken-hearted, heart (a broken heart, etc.), heart (broken heart), heartbreak (n), heartbreaking (adj), heartbroken, paralyzed (feeling)
- heart: broken-hearted, heart (a broken heart, etc.), heartbeat (n), heartbreak (n), heartbreaking (adj), heartbroken (adj)
- mental health: breakdown (nervous breakdown, etc.)
- speech: broken (English, etc.)

## FUNNY LANGUAGE (2)

- language: funny language

## FUTURE (1) (see also past & present, time)

- bridge: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it)
- container: future (in the future), hold (the future can hold something), tap (on tap), time (in time / future)
- corner: corner (spring is just around the corner)

- day: dawn (verb / start), day (a new day), day (day has arrived, etc.), day (day after tomorrow), tomorrow (future)
- direction: ahead (the future is ahead, etc.), approach (winter is approaching, etc.), approach (the approach of summer, etc.), approaching (adj), arrive (a time can arrive), before (at a future time), come (winter is coming, etc.), come (to come), come (for a time to come), come (come after / at a later time), come up on (a date, etc.), coming (in the coming months, etc.), day (day has arrived, etc.), draw near (winter is drawing near, etc.), facing (future-facing, etc.), forerunner (n), foresight (n), forward (every year forward, etc.), forward-looking, front (the future is in front of us), head (head into the future, etc.), headed, intervening (adj), lie (lie ahead), look forward to (v), near (v), on (30 years on, etc.), onrushing (future, etc.), pass (its time has passed, etc.), road (come down the road / pike), road (road ahead, etc.), road (down the road, etc.), see (see something coming), time (time has passed), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), train (future), up-and-coming, upcoming (adj), way (autumn is on the way, etc.)
- distance: away (a week away, etc.), close (future), corner (spring is just around the corner), day (day after tomorrow), distant (future), draw near (winter is drawing near, etc.), end (no end in sight, etc.), future (in the distant future), go (a month to go, etc.), horizon (on the horizon), near (near future, etc.), near (v), remote (future), road (down the road, etc.), run (in / over the long run), sight (in sight), way (a long way off)
- eye: end (no end in sight, etc.), envision (envision the future, etc.), facing (future-facing, etc.), farsighted (adj), foresight (n), forward-looking, horizon (on the horizon), look forward to (v), look like (future), myopia (n), myopic (adj), nearsighted (adj), see (see something coming), see (future), seen (future), seer (person), shortsighted, sight (in sight), view (long view), vision (n), visionary (adj), visionary (person)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: future (the future can bring something)
- health & medicine: prognosis (n)
- horizon: horizon (on the horizon)
- journeys & trips: ahead (the future is ahead, etc.), bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), end (no end in sight, etc.), go (where are we going, etc.), lie (lie ahead), road (road ahead, etc.), road (down the road, etc.)
- magic: crystal ball, fortuneteller (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person), tea leaves
- mechanism: time machine
- movement: approach (winter is approaching, etc.), approach (the approach of summer, etc.), approaching (adj), arrive (a time can arrive), bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), come (winter is coming, etc.), come (to come), come (for a time to come), come (come after / at a later time), come and go (time), come up on (a date, etc.), coming (in the coming months, etc.), day (day has arrived, etc.), draw near (winter is drawing near, etc.), forward (every year forward, etc.), go (where are we going, etc.), go (a month to go, etc.), head (head into the future, etc.), headed, intervening (adj), near (v), on (30 years on, etc.), onrushing (future, etc.), pass (its time has passed, etc.), road (come down the road / pike), run (run into next week, etc.), run (in / over the long run), see (see something coming), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (time has passed), train (future), up-and-coming, upcoming (adj), way (autumn is on the way, etc.)
- person: fortuneteller (person), oracle (person), prophet (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person), visionary (person)
- place: future (where the future lies, etc.), hereafter (from now onwards)
- position: ahead (the future is ahead, etc.), ahead (before a future event), before (at a future time), day (day after tomorrow), forerunner (n), front (the future is in front of us), hereafter (from now onwards), intervening (adj), near (near future, etc.), time (ahead of his time, etc.)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: ahead (the future is ahead, etc.), ahead (before a future event), away (a week away, etc.), before (at a future time), day (day after tomorrow), forerunner (n), foresight (n), forward (every year forward, etc.), front (the future is in front of us), hereafter (from now onwards), near (near future, etc.), on (30 years on, etc.), time (ahead of his time, etc.)
- religion: handwriting (handwriting on the wall), oracle (person), prophet (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person), spell (spell disaster, etc.), writing (writing on the wall), written (fate)

- river: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it)
- sky: horizon (on the horizon)
- speech: time (time will tell)
- train: train (future)
- verb: approach (winter is approaching, etc.), arrive (a time can arrive), bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), come (winter is coming, etc.), come (come after / at a later time), come and go (time), come up on (a date, etc.), coming (in the coming months, etc.), dawn (verb / start), day (day has arrived, etc.), draw near (winter is drawing near, etc.), envision (envision the future, etc.), future (the future can bring something), head (head into the future, etc.), hold (the future can hold something), lie (lie ahead), look forward to (v), near (v), pass (its time has passed, etc.), road (come down the road / pike), see (see something coming), see (future), spell (spell disaster, etc.), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (time has passed)
- walking, running & jumping: run (run into next week, etc.), run (in / over the long run)
- water: tap (on tap)

## **GAMBLING (2) (see also cards; sports & games)**

- action, inaction & delay: double down (v), in (all in), pass (cards)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: horse (back the wrong horse), in (all in)
- appearance: poker-faced (adj)
- certainty & uncertainty: bet (all bets are off)
- character & personality: card (hold one's cards close)
- commitment & determination: bet (hedge one's bets), double down (v), in (all in)
- concealment & lack of concealment: card (hold one's cards close), card (cards on the table), hold (close held, etc.), poker-faced (adj), tip (tip one's hand), vest (close to the vest, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: bet (all bets are off), card (in the cards), card (dealt cards), dice (n), die (the die is cast, etc.), draw (luck of the draw), gamble (n), lot (lot in life, etc.), lottery (win the lottery, etc.), odds (fate), roulette (n), wheel (spin of the wheel, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: poker-faced (adj)
- importance & significance: stake (importance), stake (high stakes)
- obstacles & impedance: card (the cards are stacked against us, a stacked deck, etc.)
- position, policy & negotiation: bluff (v), bluff (n), chip (bargaining chip)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: bluff (v), bluff (n), card (cards on the table)
- strategy: ace (n), bluff (v), bluff (n), card (play one's cards), card (guilt card, etc.), chip (bargaining chip), gamble (v), gamble (n), poker (game)
- strength & weakness: ace (n), bluff (v), bluff (n), card (strong card), card (trump card), card (hold all the cards)
- subterfuge: bluff (v), bluff (n)
- success & failure: ace (n), flush (busted flush), jackpot (hit the jackpot), lottery (win the lottery, etc.), sweepstakes (win the sweepstakes)

## **GATE (2) (see also doors & thresholds; house; roof)**

- access & lack of access: gateway (gateway to India, etc.), gate (society), gatekeeper (person)
- control & lack of control: gatekeeper (person)
- division & connection: gate (society)
- geography: gate (Iron Gate, etc.), gateway (gateway to India, etc.)
- obstacles & impedance: gate (obstacle), gate (society)
- person: gatecrasher (person), gatekeeper (person)
- portal: gate (portal), gateway (portal), portal (entrance)
- proper name: gate (Iron Gate, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: gate (beat at the gate, etc.)
- route: gateway (gateway to India, etc.)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: gatecrasher (person), gatekeeper (person)

- society: gate (society)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: gate (out of the gate)

## **GEOGRAPHY (1)**

- allusion: Frankenstein (Frankenstein Cliff, etc.)
- animal: horn (Horn of Africa, etc.), spider (Spider Rock, etc.)
- arm: elbow (Elbow Lake, etc.)
- astronomy: moon (Valle de la Luna, etc.)
- atmosphere: rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.)
- bird: beak (Parrot's Beak, etc.)
- bottle: bottleneck (the Bottleneck, etc.)
- color: black (Black Sea, etc.), rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.), red (Red Sea, etc.), white (White Sea, etc.), yellow (Yellow Sea, etc.)
- creature: Frankenstein (Frankenstein Cliff, etc.)
- epithet: alley (Cyclone Alley, etc.), alley (Bat Alley, etc.), Amazon (epithet / biodiversity), Appalachia (and Pineapplachia, etc.), California (California of Europe, etc.), capital (capital of the world, etc.), capital (Black Bear capital, etc.), Chicago (China's Chicago, etc.), crossroad (Crossroads of the World, etc.), door (Durdle Door, etc.), eye (the Blue Eye of Siberia, etc.), father (Father of Waters, etc.), fork (the Forks of the Ohio, etc.), Fuji (Mount Fuji of the US, etc.), Grand Canyon (Grand Canyon of the South, etc.), Hawaii (China's Hawaii, etc.), key (the Keyhole, etc.), Krakatoa (Krakatoa of the Middle Ages, etc.), Niagara (Niagara of the South, etc.), Nile (America's Nile, etc.), Norway (the Norway of Arabia, etc.), pearl (Pearl of the Orient, etc.), pipeline (Mexican Pipeline, etc.), Pompeii (Pompeii of the East, etc.), riviera (Riviera of the Midwest, etc.), roof (Roof of the World, etc.), Serengeti (Serengeti of the North, etc.), slot (the Slot, etc.), sorrow (China's Sorrow, etc.), Venice (Venice of the North, etc.), Versailles (Russian Versailles, etc.), Yosemite (Yosemite of the East, etc.)
- eye: eye (the Eye of Kuruman, etc.)
- family: mother (Mother Mountain, etc.)
- gate: gate (Iron Gate, etc.), gateway (gateway to India, etc.)
- geometry: triangle (Ilemi Triangle, etc.)
- horn: horn (Horn of Africa, etc.)
- infrastructure: alley (Cyclone Alley, etc.), buttress (Castle Buttress, etc.), corridor (Siliguri Corridor, etc.)
- insect: spider (Spider Rock, etc.)
- moon: moon (Valle de la Luna, etc.)
- neck: bottleneck (the Bottleneck, etc.)
- proper name: battleground (Battle Ground, Indiana, etc.), beak (Parrot's Beak, etc.), black (Black Sea, etc.), bottleneck (the Bottleneck, etc.), buttress (Castle Buttress, etc.), cathedral (Cathedral Cave, etc.), dome (Half Dome, etc.), elbow (Elbow Lake, etc.), Frankenstein (Frankenstein Cliff, etc.), gap (the Monastir Gap, etc.), hammer (Thor's Hammer, etc.), horn (Horn of Africa, etc.), lion (Lion Rock, etc.), moon (Valle de la Luna, etc.), mother (Mounter Mountain, etc.), pulpit (Devils pulpit, etc.), punch bowl (Punch Bowl Falls, etc.), rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.), red (Red Sea, etc.), scar (the Scar, etc.), shelf (Sahul Shelf, etc.), spider (Spider Rock, etc.), triangle (Ilemi Triangle, etc.), white (White Sea, etc.), yellow (Yellow Sea, etc.)
- religion: cathedral (Cathedral Cave, etc.), hammer (Thor's Hammer, etc.), pulpit (Devils pulpit, etc.)
- shape: alley (Cyclone Alley, etc.), beak (Parrot's Beak, etc.), boot (Italy's boot, etc.), dome (Half Dome, etc.), elbow (Elbow Lake, etc.), eye (the Eye of Kuruman, etc.), gap (the Monastir Gap, etc.), horn (Horn of Africa, etc.), moon (Valle de la Luna, etc.), pulpit (Devils pulpit, etc.), punch bowl (Punch Bowl Falls, etc.), shelf (Sahul Shelf, etc.), triangle (Ilemi Triangle, etc.)
- sky: rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.)
- spider: spider (Spider Rock, etc.)

## **GEOMETRY (2)**

- analysis, interpretation & explanation: angle (from an angle), curve (behind / ahead of the curve)

- development: circle (a circle can close), circle (full circle)
- division & connection: intersect (v), intersection (n)
- fate, fortune & chance: circle (a circle can close)
- geography: triangle (Ilemi Triangle, etc.)
- perception, perspective & point of view: angle (from an angle), slanted (news, etc.)
- proper name: triangle (Ilemi Triangle, etc.)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: circle (a circle can close)
- relationship: triangle (fire triangle, etc.), triangle (love triangle, etc.)
- speech: tangent (on a tangent)

## **GESTURE (2) (see also bodily reaction; breathing)**

- acceptance & rejection: embrace (v)
- accusation & criticism: finger (point a finger), finger-pointing, finger-wagging
- achievement, recognition & praise: applaud (v), applauded, back (pat on the back / verb), back (pat on the back / noun), bow (take a bow), cap (tip one's cap), fist bump (n), hat (take off one's hat to somebody, etc.), head (pat on the head), high five (n), nod (acknowledge), nod (acknowledgement), salute (v), toast (v), toast (acknowledgment), thumbs-up
- action, inaction & delay: hand (throw up one's hands), shoulder (shrug one's shoulders), shrug (gesture)
- admiration & contempt: look down on (something), look up to (somebody), nose (look down one's nose)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: embrace (v), hand (raise one's hand)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: tire (kick the tires)
- attachment: embrace (v)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: chest (beat one's chest, etc.), eyeball (eyeball-popping), head (turn heads), point out (v)
- attraction & repulsion: beckon (v), embrace (v)
- avoidance & separation: shrug off (v)
- character & personality: elbow (sharp elbows, etc.), handwringer (person)
- coercion & motivation: nudge (v), nudge (n), nudged, push (coercion and motivation), shove (n)
- commitment & determination: embrace (v), lean into (v), step into (v)
- comprehension & incomprehension: eye (roll one's eyes), eye-roll (dismissal), head (scratch one's head), head (shake one's head), head-scratching
- concealment & lack of concealment: tight-lipped (adj)
- conflict: blink (conflict), chest (beat one's chest, etc.)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: blink (conflict), lean in (v), shrug (gesture)
- consciousness & awareness: slap (awareness)
- creation & transformation: finger (snap one's fingers, etc.)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: sleeve (roll up one's sleeves)
- division & connection: embrace (v)
- dominance & submission: blink (conflict)
- eagerness & reluctance: hand (rub one's hands), nose (hold one's nose)
- eye: eye (roll one's eyes), eye (side eye, stink eye, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: finger (cross one's fingers, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: arm (wrap one's arm around something / consolation), cringe (v), cringe-worthy (adj), cringey (adj), elbow (sharp elbows, etc.), eye (bat an eye / eyelash), eyeball (eyeball-popping), eyebrow (raise eyebrows, etc.), eyebrow-raising (adj), eyebrow-raising (n), face (face-palm, face palm), flex (bragging), hand (wring one's hand), hat (hold on to your hat), head (turn heads), head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high), head (hang one's head), jaw-dropper, jaw-dropping, nail (bite one's nails), nail biter (n), nail-biting (fingernails), whoa (exclamation)
- fictive communication: beckon (v), nudge (communication), wink (n), winking (adj)

- force: nudge (v), nudge (n), nudged, push (coercion and motivation), shove (n)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: give (give a wink, etc.)
- insult: finger (middle finger), flip off (v), nose (thumb one's nose), slap (slap in the face, etc.), spit (spit in the face / noun), tongue (stick one's tongue out, etc.)
- judgment: frown (v), frowned upon, smile (v), thumbs-down, thumbs-up
- location: finger (put one's finger on something)
- performance: chest (beat one's chest, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: head (keep one's head down)
- punishment & recrimination: slap (punish)
- resiliency: head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high), shake (shake something off)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: blink (conflict), clap back (contempo-speak / verb), clap back (contempo-speak / noun), fist (wave one's fist), nose (thumb one's nose)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: applaud (v), applauded, frown (v), frowned upon, nod (permission), smile (v)
- speed: finger (in the snap of a finger)
- subterfuge: nudge (communication), wink (n), winking (adj)
- transmission: give (give a wink, etc.)
- unanimity & consensus: nod (agree)
- welcome: embrace (v)
- work & duty: sleeve (roll up one's sleeves)

## **GIFT (2)**

- ability & lack of ability: gift (gift for languages, etc.), gifted
- cost & benefit: gift (benefit)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: gift (as verb)
- worth & lack of worth: gift (benefit)

## **GIVING, RECEIVING, BRINGING & RETURNING (1) (see also taking & removing)**

- bodily reaction: cough up (v)
- direction: hand down / out (punishment, etc.), turn in (give)
- family: heir (n), heirloom (n), inherit (v), inheritance (n), legacy (history)
- food & drink: dish out (v), fork over (v), pepper (v), peppered
- foot: kickback (corruption)
- gesture: give (give a wink, etc.)
- gift: gift (as verb)
- hand: handed (given), hand down / out (punishment, etc.), handed down / out (punishment, etc.), hand over (v), handed over (possession), handover (n), hold out (offer)
- history: heir (n), heirloom (n), inherit (v), inheritance (n), legacy (history)
- justice: hand down / out (punishment, etc.), handed down / out (punishment, etc.)
- money: heir (n), heirloom (n), inherit (v), inheritance (n), legacy (history), lend (lend a hand, etc.)
- part of speech: get (a big get, etc.), gift (as verb)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: handed over (possession), hand over (v), handover (n)
- speech: command (deserve and get)
- tools & technology: rake in (v)
- verb: bring (v), command (deserve and get), deliver (v), dish out (v), fork over (v), furnish (give), gift (as verb), give (give a wink, etc.), give (give a start, etc.), hand down / out (punishment, etc.), hand over (v), hold out (offer), inherit (v), leave (leave a mark, etc.), lend (lend a hand, etc.), offer (v), pepper (v), rake in (v), turn in (give)

## **GIVING, RECEIVING, BRINGING & RETURNING (2)**

- amelioration & renewal: bring back (restore)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: come away with (v), get across (v), take (and hot take), takeaway (n), take away (a message, etc.)
- commitment & determination: bring (bring it), leave it (leave it all on the field, etc.)
- comprehension & incomprehension: get (understand), take in (comprehend)
- feeling, emotion & effect: give (give a start, etc.)
- future: future (the future can bring something)
- position, policy & negotiation: give-and-take
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: bring back (restore)
- survival, persistence & endurance: bring back (restore)
- time: future (the future can bring something)
- transmission: received (wisdom, etc.)

## **GLACIER (2) (see also snow & ice)**

- creation & transformation: calve (v), calving
- speed: glacial (adj)

## **GOSSIP (1) (see also social interaction; society)**

- animal: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.)
- books & reading: tell-all (book)
- farming & agriculture: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.), grist (grist for the mill, etc.)
- food & drink: tea (gossip)
- manufacturing: mill (gossip / rumor mill), mill (grist for the mill)
- part of speech: talk (as transitive verb), tell-all (book)
- place: water cooler (digital water cooler, etc.)
- plant: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.), grapevine (through / over the grapevine), grist (grist for the mill, etc.)
- wheat: grist (grist for the mill, etc.)

## **GOVERNMENT (2)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: Obama (Russia's Obama, etc.), statesman (elder statesman, etc.), stateswoman (elder stateswoman, etc.)
- action, inaction & delay: red tape
- allegiance, support & betrayal: vote (n)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: ambassador (role)
- behavior: diplomacy (n), diplomatic (adj)
- bases: ship (ship of state, etc.)
- competition: race (elections)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: oust (v), ousted (removed)
- enthusiasm: ambassador (role)
- functioning: machinery (government, etc.)
- group, set & collection: parliament (group)
- obstacles & impedance: red tape
- operation: apparatus (government), machinery (government, etc.), organ (of government, etc.), wheel (wheels of justice, etc.)
- oppression: edict (n), tyrant (n)
- person: ambassador (role), baron (power), diplomat (n), strongman (power)
- power: czar (and tsar), emperor (power), strongman (power), tyrant (n)
- representation: ambassador (role), diplomat (n), tribune (person)
- role: ambassador (role), diplomacy (n), diplomatic (adj)

- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: embargo (n), franchise (n), license (n), magisterial (adj), passport (n)

## GRAMMAR (2)

- language: grammar (language)

## GROUND, TERRAIN & LAND (2)

- ability: way (know one's way around)
- accusation & criticism: dirt (political dirt, etc.), mud (drag something through the mud), mud (dragged through the mud), mudslinging (n), stone (throw stones, etc.), sully (v)
- achievement, recognition & praise: height (at the height), heights (to new heights, etc.)
- action, inaction & delay: dust (collect dust)
- amelioration & renewal: swamp (drain the swamp)
- amount: acre (amount), pasture (amount)
- amount & effect: earthquake (effect), earthshaking (adj), landslide (in a landslide), landslide (by a landslide), landslide (other), tectonic (adj)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: contour (n), dig deep (analysis), dig into (v), dig up (v), drill (drill down, etc.), excavate (v), lay of the land, unearth (v), unearthed
- appearance & disappearance: dig up (v), dredge up (v), excavate (v), ground (go to ground), turn up (appear), uncover (v), unearth (v), unearthed
- appearance & reality: fool's gold
- area: area (territory), borderland (n), contour (n), demesne (control), ecosystem (n), fiefdom (control), ground (area), land (clubland, etc.), lay of the land, landscape (n), scape (threatscape, etc.), terrain (known and unknown terrain), terrain (area), territory (area), territory (assigned area), topography (n), turf (control), wilderness (area)
- attachment: embed (v), embedded
- bases: bedrock (n), footing (solid footing, etc.), footing (finding one's footing, etc.), grassroots (grassroots level, etc.), ground (prepare the ground), grounded, groundwork (n), monolith (n), monolithic (adj), outcrop (and outcropping), rock (support), rooted, tectonic (adj), underlie (v), underlying (adj)
- behavior: badlands (environment), edge (over the edge), mud (in the mud), wild West
- biodiversity, nature & life: ecosystem (n)
- center & periphery: coast (n)
- certainty & uncertainty: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), uncharted (adj)
- character & personality: ground (both feet on the ground), grounded
- commitment & determination: dig deep (determination), flag (plant one's flag), last-ditch (adj)
- competition: jungle (competition), turf (turf war, etc.)
- complexity: morass (n)
- concealment & lack of concealment: bury (conceal), buried (concealment), dig up (v), dredge up (v), excavate (v), ground (go to ground), open (in the open / into the open), out (and out there), there (out there, etc.), uncover (v), unearth (v), unearthed
- conflict: last-ditch (adj), turf (turf war, etc.)
- consciousness & awareness: open (in the open / into the open)
- constraint & lack of constraint: room (wiggle room), spot (tight spot, etc.)
- content: dirt (political dirt, etc.)
- control & lack of control: badlands (environment), colonialism (data, etc.), demesne (control), turf (control), wild West
- corruption: swamp (fever swamp), swamp (drain the swamp), swamp (swamp of cliches, etc.)
- danger: edge (on the edge of a cliff, etc.), jungle (competition), precipice (at / on the precipice), precipice (other), slope (on a slippery slope), slope (slippery slope), terrain (dangerous terrain, etc.)
- decline: cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), precipitous (adj), rock-bottom (adj), sinkhole (n)

- destruction: abyss (n), edge (push something over the edge), cliff (glass cliff), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: last-ditch (adj), rock (turn over every rock, etc.), stone (turn over every stone, etc.)
- direction: landmark (n), navigate (v), negotiate (terrain, etc.), uncharted (adj), way (know one's way around)
- disruption: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
- division & connection: balkanization (n), Balkanized, barrier (n), chasm (n), crack (division), divide (n), fault (fault line), fissure (n), gap (n), ground (common ground), ground (middle ground), isthmus (shape), rift (division), shore (far shore), stranded (separated)
- dominance & submission: ground (hold / stand one's ground)
- effect: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
- environment: badlands (environment), borderland (n), contour (n), desert (environment), ecosystem (n), here (out here), jungle (environment), land (clubland, etc.), landscape (n), lay of the land, morass (n), oasis (environment), sand (political sands, etc.), scape (threatscape, etc.), swamp (fever swamp), swamp (swamp of cliches, etc.), terrain (area), territory (area), wasteland (environment), wild West
- equilibrium & stability: earthquake (effect), earthshaking (adj), footing (find one's footing, etc.), ground (shaky ground, etc.), ground (firm ground, etc.)
- experience: there (been there, etc.)
- extent & scope: earthshaking (adj), ground (cover ground), high and low, tectonic (adj)
- fantasy & reality: La-La land
- fate, fortune & chance: brink (on the brink), brink (to the brink), brink (from the brink), brinksmanship (n), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), edge (on the edge of a cliff, etc.), last-ditch (adj), precipice (at / on the precipice), precipice (other), slope (on a slippery slope), slope (slippery slope), territory (come with the territory, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
- failure, accident & impairment: crack (fall through the cracks, etc.), sink (sink into the mud, etc.)
- flaws & lack of flaws: bumpy (adj), ground (shaky ground, etc.), ground (firm ground, etc.), mired (stuck), pit (money pit, etc.), rocky (adj), terrain (easy & difficult terrain)
- growth & development: ground (get off the ground), ground (fertile ground)
- identity & nature: embed (v), embedded
- importance & significance: ground (break ground), groundbreaking, landmark (n), salient (important)
- impression: embed (v), embedded
- involvement: thick (in the thick of things)
- isolation & remoteness: cold (in the cold), Mongolia (Outer Mongolia), Siberia (exile), wilderness (in / into the wilderness)
- knowledge & intelligence: way (know one's way around)
- mental health: La-La land
- obstacles & impedance: barrier (n), bog down (v), ditch (stuck in a ditch, etc.), bogged down, mired (stuck), morass (n), mud (sink in the mud), quagmire (n), quicksand (in / into the quicksand), rut (in a rut), sink (sink into the mud, etc.), stuck (adj), thicket (n)
- occurrence: outcrop (and outcropping)
- oppression: buried (buried in debt, etc.), rock (between a rock and a hard place)
- perception, perspective & point of view: grassroots (grassroots level, etc.), ground (on the ground, etc.), level (ground level, etc.), worm's-eye (adj)
- possession: claim (stake a claim), colonialism (data, etc.), flag (plant one's flag), reclaim (his place, etc.), soil (on one's soil), territory (stake out territory)
- position, policy & negotiation: brinksmanship (n)
- presence & absence: endemic (adj), footprint (n), ground (on the ground, etc.), territory (come with the territory, etc.), there (out there, etc.)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: height (at the height), heights (to new heights, etc.)
- progress & lack of progress: bog down (v), ditch (stuck in a ditch, etc.), ground (gain ground), ground (lose ground, etc.), mired (stuck), morass (n), mud (sink in the mud), quagmire (n), rut (in a rut), stuck (adj)

- protection & lack of protection: dig in (v), dug in, entrenched, ground (go to ground), holed up, hole up (v)
- proximity: brink (on the brink), brink (to the brink), brink (back from the brink), edge (on the edge of a cliff, etc.), precipice (at / on the precipice), precipice (other), verge (on the verge), verge (to the verge)
- pursuit, capture & escape: ground (go to ground), rock (turn over every rock, etc.), stone (turn over every stone, etc.)
- readiness & preparedness: ground (prepare the ground)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: dust (dust settles)
- relationship: embed (v), embedded
- reputation: dirt (worthless), mud (drag something through the mud), mud (dragged through the mud)
- resemblance: canyon (resemblance), cavernous (adj), desert (environment)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: dig in (v), dug in, entrenched, flag (plant one's flag), ground (hold / stand one's ground), ground (give ground), last-ditch (adj)
- searching & discovery: come up with (discovery), dig (search for), dig deep (analysis), dig into (v), dig through (v), dig up (v), dredge up (v), excavate (v), fool's gold, frontier (n), ground (cover ground), pay dirt, rock (turn over every rock, etc.), stone (turn over every stone, etc.), turned up (discovered), turn up (discover), uncover (v), unearth (v), unearthed
- shape: isthmus (shape)
- situation: rock (between a rock and a hard place), room (wiggly room), spot (tight spot, etc.), trapped
- size: cavernous (adj)
- society: cold (in the cold), exile (in exile), exile (n), exiled, shore (far shore), Siberia (exile), stranded (separated), wilderness (voice in the wilderness), wilderness (in / into the wilderness), wilderness (society)
- source: aquifer (n)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: ground (break ground), slope (on a slippery slope), slope (slippery slope)
- success & failure: fool's gold, hole (dry hole), pay dirt
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: desert (food desert, etc.)
- survival, persistence & endurance: brink (back from the brink), dig in (v), dug in, entrenched, last-ditch (adj)
- taking & removing: colonialism (data, etc.)
- worth & lack of worth: dirt (worthless), fool's gold, pay dirt

## **GROUP, SET & COLLECTION (1) (see also assembling)**

- allusion: cornucopia (variety), Noah's Ark
- animal: covey (group), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), herd (herd immunity, etc.), menagerie (group), nest (of vipers, etc.), pack (group), stable (n), zoo (group)
- astronomy: constellation (n), galaxy (n)
- Bible: Noah's Ark
- bird: covey (group), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), nest (of vipers, etc.)
- boat: armada (n), fleet (amount), flotilla (flotilla of icebergs, etc.)
- books & reading: library (tool library, etc.)
- center & periphery: inner circle (n)
- color: palette (n)
- container: bag (collection), package (benefits, etc.), package (commercial)
- crime: mafia (group), mob (group), posse (group)
- creature: devil (Lady Devils, etc.)
- epithet: Noah's Ark
- family: brotherhood (n), brothers and sisters, family (gang / group), sisterhood (n)
- food & drink: buffet (n), cornucopia (variety), menu (other), smorgasbord (n)
- forest: forest (a forest of cranes, etc.)
- government: parliament (group)
- history: horde (people)

- horse: cavalcade (n), posse (group), stable (n)
- house: house (hype house), nest (of vipers, etc.)
- infrastructure: suite (suite of tools, etc.)
- military: armada (n), armory (n), army (Arnie's Army, etc.), arsenal (amount), fleet (amount), panoply (n)
- money: bank (tissue bank, etc.), brain trust, treasure trove (and trove), treasure house
- movement: cavalcade (n), pageant (n), parade (n)
- person: army (Arnie's Army, etc.), nation (Who Dat Nation, etc.), tribe (group)
- picture: curate (v), curated
- plant: bouquet (collection), garden (resemblance)
- religion: cult (n), Noah's Ark
- river: reservoir (group)
- school & education: boys' club (boy's club, boys club), fraternity (n), Old Boy (Old Boy network, etc.)
- sea: armada (n), fleet (amount)
- sports & games: all-star (adj), scrum (reporters), team (dream team), varsity (n)
- star: galaxy (n)
- theater: cast (cast of candidates, etc.), repertoire (n)
- tools & technology: set (skill set), toolbox (n), toolkit (n), toolshed (n)
- verb: curate (v), pool (v)
- walking, running & jumping: pageant (n), parade (n)
- water: pool (v), pool (people), pool (things), reservoir (group)
- weapon: armory (n), arsenal (amount), quiver (n)
- zoo: menagerie (group), zoo (group)

## **GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT (1) (see also progress & lack of progress)**

- air: oxygen (fuel)
- animal: fledgling (adj), fry (small fry), full-fledged (adj), lamb (n), rookery (n)
- astronomy: apogee (at an apogee), apogee (n), supernova (achievement)
- atmosphere: oxygen (fuel)
- baby: baby (development), baby (younger), infancy (in infancy), infancy (other), infant (n), nascent (beginning), newborn, nourished, nurture (v), nurtured, stillborn (adj), teeth (cut one's teeth), teething, wean (v), young (adj)
- biology: embryo (n), embryonic (adj), evolve (evolve the sport, etc.), evolution (n), Peter Pan, petri dish
- bird: fledgling (adj), full-fledged (adj), incubator (n), rookery (n)
- birth: embryo (n), embryonic (adj), germinate (v), gestate (v), gestation (film, etc.), nascent (beginning), newborn, rebirth (n), reborn, renaissance (n), stillborn (adj)
- chemistry: oxygen (fuel)
- day: day (early days), evening (decline)
- direction: apex (highest point), apogee (at an apogee), apogee (n), arise (v), ascent (on the ascent), ascent (with the ascent), ascent, rise (rise and fall / noun), fall behind (competition and progress), rise (rise of agriculture, etc.), rise (on the rise), trail (competition and progress)
- explosion: explode (increase)
- farming & agriculture: crop (n), cultivate (v), cultivated, cultivation (n), drought (in a drought), drought (play-off drought, etc.), fallow (adj), fertile (adj), field (fertile field, etc.), fruition (n), green shoots, ground (fertile ground), grow (develop), grow (grow the economy, etc.), hotbed (n), hothouse (n), nursery (n), plant (create), plow (plow a field, etc.), rainmaker (person), seed (n), seed money, soil (fertile soil, etc.), sow (v), spell (in a dry spell), spell (into a dry spell), spell (throughout a dry spell), spell (dry spell / other)
- fire: oxygen (fuel)
- fish: fry (small fry)
- flying & falling: ground (get off the ground), take off (v)

- fruits & vegetables: bloomer (late bloomer), fruition (n), ripe (adj)
- ground, terrain & land: ground (get off the ground), ground (fertile ground)
- hand: hold (take hold)
- health & medicine: cancer (n), cancerous (adj), growth (cancerous, etc.), malignant (adj), metastasize (v), metastasizing (adj), tumor (n)
- height: rise (rise and fall / noun), rise (on the rise), rise (rise of agriculture, etc.)
- history: dark ages (in the dark ages), dark ages (other), gilded (Gilded Age), golden age (and golden era), medieval (adj), Middle Ages (history), Neanderthal, renaissance (n), revolution (n), revolutionary (adj), revolutionize (v), Stone Age
- insect: cross-pollination
- journeys & trips: fall behind (competition and progress), lag (progress), passage (n), rite (rite of passage), trail (competition and progress)
- leg: leg (grow legs, have legs, etc.)
- life span: adolescence (n), adult (development), age (come of age), apron strings, baby (development), big boy (person), birthday (creation), bloomer (late bloomer), boy (n), brat (insult), brought up, career (n), child (spoiled child, etc.), crisis (mid-life crisis), crybaby (person), dowager (old), embryo (n), embryonic (adj), feet (stand on one's own two feet), girl (big girl), grande dame (old), grow (develop), grow up (grow up! etc.), growing pains, grownup (person), grow up (grow up together, etc.), infancy (in infancy), infancy (other), infant (n), innocence (n), life (begin life), life span (n), living (adj), mama's boy (and mummy's boy, etc.), mature (v), maturity, newborn, old (a year old, etc.), pants (big girl pants, etc.), raised (reared), reared (raised), stillborn (adj), walk (crawl, walk, run), youngster (n), youth (development)
- light & dark: supernova (achievement)
- mechanism: wheel (training wheels)
- money: seed money
- movement: fall behind (competition and progress), lag (progress), trail (competition and progress)
- part of speech: evolve (evolve the sport, etc.), grow (grow the economy, etc.)
- person: dowager (old), grande dame (old), neophyte (n)
- plane: ground (get off the ground), take off (v)
- plant: bloom (v), bloomer (late bloomer), blossom (v), bud (nipped in the bud), budding, burgeoning (adj), cross-pollination, cultivate (v), cultivated, cultivation (n), drought (in a drought), drought (play-off drought, etc.), fallow (adj), field (fertile field, etc.), flourish (v), flower (v), flowering, fruition (n), germinate (v), ground (fertile ground), grow (develop), grow (grow the economy, etc.), hotbed (n), hothouse (n), kernel (n), neophyte (n), nourished, nursery (n), nurture (v), nurtured, plant (create), plow (plow a field, etc.), rainmaker (person), root (growth), ripe (adj), seed (n), seed money, shoot (plant), soil (fertile soil, etc.), sow (v), spell (in a dry spell), spell (into a dry spell), spell (throughout a dry spell), spell (dry spell / other), tendril (growth), thrive (v), transplant (n)
- predation: lamb (n)
- rain: drought (in a drought), drought (play-off drought, etc.), rainmaker (person), spell (in a dry spell), spell (into a dry spell), spell (throughout a dry spell), spell (dry spell / other)
- religion: rite (rite of passage)
- school: graduate (v)
- season: autumn (in the autumn), spring (Arab Spring, etc.), winter (decline)
- sheep: lamb (n)
- size: stunted
- sports & games: fall behind (competition and progress), trail (competition and progress)
- standing, sitting & lying: feet (stand on one's own two feet)
- star: supernova (achievement)
- teeth: teeth (cut one's teeth), teething
- tree: branch out (v), root (take root, etc.)

- verb: arise (v), bloom (v), blossom (v), branch out (v), cultivate (v), explode (increase), fall behind (competition and progress), flourish (v), flower (v), gestate (v), graduate (v), ground (get off the ground), grow (grow the economy, etc.), grow up (grow up together, etc.), grow up (grow up! etc.), hold (take hold), lag (progress), leg (grow legs, have legs, etc.), life (begin life), mature (v), metastasize (v), nurture (v), plant (create), plow (plow a field, etc.), revolutionize (v), sow (v), take off (v), thrive (v), trail (competition and progress), wean (v)
- walking, running & jumping: fall behind (competition and progress), lag (progress), trail (competition and progress)
- weather & climate: drought (in a drought), drought (play-off drought, etc.), rainmaker (person), spell (in a dry spell), spell (into a dry spell), spell (throughout a dry spell), spell (dry spell / other)

## **GUILT (1) (see also responsibility)**

- blood: blood (blood on one's hands, etc.), bloody (guilt), hand (bloody hands, etc.)
- hand: blood (blood on one's hands, etc.), hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.), hand (bloody hands, etc.)
- hygiene: hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.)
- justice: get away (get away with something)
- light & dark: clear (clear conscience)

## **HAIR (2)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: scalp (n)
- comparison & contrast: hair's breadth (come within a hair's breadth, etc.)
- conflict: hackles (raise hackles)
- danger: close shave
- dismissal, removal & resignation: shave (removal), shed (v)
- fate, fortune & chance: close shave
- feeling, emotion & effect: bristle (emotional arousal), hackles (raise hackles), hair (hair on fire), hair-raising
- proximity: hair's breadth (come within a hair's breadth, etc.), whisker (come within a whisker, etc.)
- punishment & recrimination: scalp (n)
- repetition: rinse and repeat
- resemblance: hair (resemblance)
- searching & discovery: comb (v)
- shape: hairpin (shape)
- success & failure: scalp (n)
- survival, persistence & endurance: scalp (save one's scalp)

## **HAMMER (2)**

- accusation & criticism: hammer (criticize)
- creation & transformation: hammer out (v), hammered out
- force: anvil (military), hammer (hammer of the law, etc.)
- proper name: hammer (Thor's Hammer, etc.)

## **HAND (2) (see also fist)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: high five (n), thumbs-up
- action, inaction & delay: hand (throw up one's hands), hand (sit on one's hands), handle (deal with), handled, handwringing (n), hold (on hold), holdup (n)
- affliction: squeeze (pressure / noun)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: hand (raise one's hand)
- alternatives & choices: hand (on the one / other hand)
- amount: handful (amount)
- attachment: cling (v), clingy (adj), hold on to (v)
- attainment: empty-handed, fingers (slip through one's fingers), grasp (in one's grasp), grasp (out of one's grasp), grasp (attainment), palm (in the palm of one's hand)

- attempt: hand (try one's hand)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: grabbing (attention-grabbing)
- attraction & repulsion: beckon (v)
- avoidance & separation: hands-on, hands-off
- certainty & uncertainty: grab (up for grabs)
- character & personality: clingy (adj), handwringer (person)
- coercion & motivation: hand (force someone's hand), squeeze (coerce), squeeze (put the squeeze on something), squeezed (oppressed), whip hand (n), wring (coerce)
- commitment & determination: hand (all hands on deck)
- comparison & contrast: hand (on the one / other hand)
- comprehension & incomprehension: grasp (comprehend)
- concealment & lack of concealment: hold (close held, etc.), vest (close to the vest, etc.)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: go (let something go), grip (come to grips), hand (take matters into one's hands), hand (wash one's hands of something), handle (deal with), handled, handling
- consciousness & awareness: hand (the right hand vs. the left hand)
- constraint & lack of constraint: hand (tie one's hands, etc.), handcuff (v), handcuffed
- control & lack of control: grip (v), grip (in the grip), grip (control), hand (dead hand), hand (get out of hand), hand (upper hand), hand (in hand), hand (control), handle (get a handle on something), handle (deal with), handled, handling, hands-off, hands-on
- creation & transformation: artisanal (adj), fashion (v), shape (v), shape (form), shaped (shaped by coal, etc.), reshape (v)
- curtailment: break off (v)
- destruction: crush (destroy)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: finger (lift a finger), hand (have one's hands full), hand (all hands on deck)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: brush aside (v), brush off (v), brush-off
- division & connection: hand in hand (go hand in hand, etc.), handshake (n)
- dominance & submission: hand (upper hand)
- eagerness & reluctance: hand (rub one's hands), handwringing (n)
- experience: hand (work), old hand (experience)
- extent & scope: span (v)
- failure, accident & impairment: ball (drop the ball), fumble (v), fumble (n), fumbled
- fate, fortune & chance: hand (fate)
- feeling, emotion & effect: clingy (adj), crush (confidence, spirit, etc.), face (face-palm, face palm), gripped, gripping (adj), hand (wring one's hand), handwringing (n), hold (noun / emotion), hold in (emotions), possess (v), possessed (emotion), seized (by an emotion), whoa (exclamation)
- fictive communication: beckon (v)
- fictive possession: capture (v), capture (n), captured, catch (catch the imagination, etc.), caught (other), claim (take), grab (v), grabbing (attention-grabbing), grip (v), grip (in the grip), gripped, gripping (adj), hold (verb / possession), hold (noun / possession), hold (noun / emotion), hold (take hold), possess (v), possessed (emotion), recapture (v), seize (v), seized (by an emotion), snatch (v)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: handed (given), hand down / out (punishment, etc.), handed down / out (punishment, etc.), handed over (possession), hand over (v), handover (n), hold out (offer)
- growth & development: hold (take hold)
- guilt: blood (blood on one's hands, etc.), hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.), hand (bloody hands, etc.)
- help & assistance: finger (lift a finger), hand (bite the hand that feeds one), hand (help), handmaiden (help), handout (n)
- importance & significance: right-hand (right-hand man, etc.)
- involvement: blood (blood on one's hands, etc.), hand (at the hands), hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.), hand (bloody hands, etc.)

- judgment: even-handed (adj), hand down / out (punishment, etc.), handed down / out (punishment, etc.), thumbs-down, thumbs-up
- location: finger (put one's finger on something)
- measurement: span (v)
- mental health: hold (noun / emotion), possess (v), possessed (emotion)
- obstacles & impedance: hold up (obstruct), holdup (n)
- oppression: crush (confidence, spirit, etc.), grip (control), hand (iron hand, etc.), ham-handed, heavy-handed, squeeze (coerce), squeeze (put the squeeze on something), squeezed (oppressed), thumb (under the thumb), whip hand (n), wring (coerce)
- person: handmaiden (help)
- possession: cling (v), clingy (adj), empty-handed, fall (fall into the hands, etc.), finger (slip through one's fingers), go (let something go), grab (v), grab (up for grabs), grab (land grab, etc.), grasp (in one's grasp), grasp (out of one's grasp), grasp (possession), grip (v), grip (in the grip), grip (control), gripped, gripping (adj), hand (possession), handed, handed over (possession), hand-me-down, hand over (v), handover (n), hang on to (v), hold (long-held), hold (verb / possession), hold (noun / possession), hold (noun / emotion), hold on to (v), palm (in the palm of one's hand), possess (v), possessed (emotion), seize (v), seized (by an emotion)
- presence & absence: hand (on hand)
- proper name: thumb (Devils Thumb, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: hand (hands off)
- proximity: fingertip (at one's fingertips), hand (at hand)
- punishment & recrimination: hand down / out (punishment, etc.), handed down / out (punishment, etc.), slap (punish), wrist (slap on the wrist)
- pursuit, capture & escape: finger (slip through one's fingers)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: go (let something go)
- relationship: hand in hand (go hand in hand, etc.), handmaiden (help)
- resiliency: go (let something go), hang in there, hang on (v), hold on (survival), pick (pick oneself up)
- responsibility: blood (blood on one's hands, etc.), hand (at the hands), hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.), hand (bloody hands, etc.)
- restraint & lack of restraint: hand (get out of hand), loose (let loose)
- shape: handle (shape)
- situation: hold (on hold)
- social interaction: hand (one hand washes the other)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: hand (wash one's hands of something)
- subterfuge: underhanded (or underhand)
- success & failure: ball (drop the ball), crush (verb / accomplishment), fumble (n)
- survival, persistence & endurance: cling (v), hand (all hands on deck), hold on (survival)
- starting, stopping & continuing: break off (v)
- taking & removing: claim (take), grab (v), seize (v), seized (by an emotion), snatch (v)
- transmission: handed down (by ancestors, etc.), hand-me-down, passed down (by ancestors, etc.), passed down (by ancestors, etc.), pass on (v)
- work & duty: hand (work), hand (worker), hand (all hands on deck)

## **HARDNESS & SOFTNESS (2)**

- amelioration & renewal: cushion (v), cushion (n), smooth (v), soften (speech)
- attenuation: cushion (v), soften (v)
- character & personality: hard (character), hardheaded (and hard-headed), hard man (character), hard-nosed, snowflake (person), softheaded (and soft-headed), teacup (person), teddy bear
- commitment & determination: hard (hard "no," etc.)
- conflict: velvet (Velvet Revolution)

- experience: hardened (battle-hardened, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: hard (feelings, etc.), harden (feelings), hardened
- flaws & lack of flaws: edge (rough edges, etc.), smooth (lack of flaws)
- heart: hardhearted (and hard-hearted), softhearted (and soft-hearted)
- increase & decrease: harden (increase)
- insult: softheaded (and soft-headed)
- protection & lack of protection: harden (protect)
- speech: soften (speech)
- strength & weakness: hardened (battle-hardened, etc.), soft (soft on crime, etc.), snowflake (person), teacup (person)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: soft (soft opening, etc.)

## **HASTE (1) (see also speed)**

- animal: gallop (haste)
- bird: fly (on the fly), wing (wing it)
- crashes & collisions: crash (crash course, etc.)
- foot: feet (think on one's feet)
- health & medicine: rash (hasty)
- horse: gallop (haste), headlong, hoof (on the hoof), spur (spur of the moment)
- justice: rush (rush to judgment)
- movement: gallop (haste), jump (jump at the chance, etc.), run (on the run / haste), rush (oil rush, etc.), scramble (v)
- train: track fast track
- verb: jump (jump at the chance, etc.), scramble (v)
- walking, running & jumping: gallop (haste), jump (jump at the chance, etc.), run (on the run / haste), scramble (v)

## **HAT (2)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: cap (tip one's cap), hat (take off one's hat to somebody, etc.)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: hat: hat (hang one's hat on something)
- character & personality: black hat (bad), helmet (pith helmet), white hat (good)
- experience: hat (old hat)
- feeling, emotion & effect: hat (hold on to your hat)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: hat (old hat)
- representation: hat (role)
- role: hat (role)

## **HEAD (2)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: head (pat on the head)
- amount & effect: head (come down on one's head, etc.)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: head (reason)
- appearance & disappearance: head (rear its head, etc.)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: head (turn heads)
- behavior: hothead (person), hotheaded (and hot-headed)
- certainty & uncertainty: no-brainer (n)
- character & personality: coolheaded (and cool-headed), hardheaded (and hard-headed), hothead (person), hotheaded (and hot-headed), softheaded (and soft-headed)
- coercion & motivation: head (hold something over one's head)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: head (rear its head, etc.)

- comprehension & incomprehension: head (scratch one's head), head (shake one's head), head (go over one's head / comprehension), head (get one's head around something, etc.), head-scratching, mind (wrap / get one's mind around something, etc.), mind-bending (adj)
- conflict: head (butt heads), head-on, head-to-head, horn (lock horns)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: head-on
- consciousness & awareness: head (clear head), mindful (adj), mindfully, mindfulness (n), purposeful (adj)
- control & lack of control: head (keep / lose one's head), hothead (n), hotheaded (and hot-headed)
- creation & transformation: brainchild (n)
- destruction: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), decapitate (v), head (heads will roll, etc.), snake (cut off the head of the snake, etc.)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: no-brainer (n)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), decapitate (v), head (heads will roll, etc.)
- disruption: head (turn something on its head, etc.)
- failure, accident & impairment: head (come down on one's head, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), head (heads will roll, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: coolheaded (and cool-headed), head (keep / lose one's head), head (turn heads), head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high), head (hang one's head), headspace (frame of mind), head-spinning, hothead (n), hotheaded (and hot-headed)
- gesture: nod (agree)
- hierarchy: head (head of the school, etc.), head (go over one's head / hierarchy)
- idea: brainchild (n), brainstorm (v), brainstorm (n)
- insult: softheaded (and soft-headed)
- involvement: head (get in over one's head, etc.)
- knowledge & intelligence: brain (n), brain drain (and brain gain), brain trust, head (intelligence)
- leaking: brain drain (and brain gain)
- mental health: headspace (frame of mind)
- orientation: head (orientation)
- person: hothead (person)
- protection & lack of protection: head (keep one's head down)
- punishment & recrimination: head (heads will roll, etc.), head (have one's head handed to oneself, etc.), head (put a head on a wall), head (put a head on a stake, etc.)
- pursuit, capture & escape: head (put a head on a wall), head (put a head on a stake, etc.)
- resiliency: head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: nod (permission)
- situation: head (get in over one's head, etc.)
- survival, persistence & endurance: head (get in over one's head, etc.), scalp (save one's scalp)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: head start
- violence: brainwash (v), brainwashed
- warning: heads-up (warning)

## **HEALTH & MEDICINE (2) (see also addiction) (wounds & scars; skin, muscle, nerves & bone)**

- ability & lack of ability: fit (adj), fitness (ability), flabby (adj), handicapped, lean (size)
- acceptance & rejection: leper (person), quarantine (v)
- accusation & criticism: eviscerate (v), eviscerated, lacerate (v), vivisection (n)
- activity: comatose (adj), convulse (v), convulsed, convulsion (n), febrile (adj), fevered (adj), feverish (adj), feverishly, fever pitch (n), frenzied (adj), frenzy (other), lethargic (adj), paroxysm (other), spasm (n), torpor (n)

- addiction: addict (sex addict, etc.)
- affliction: boil (affliction), cancer (n), cancerous (adj), contagion (n), convulse (v), convulsed, convulsion (n), demic (infodemic, etc.), disease (affliction), epidemic (n), fester (v), festering (adj), gall (v), growth (cancerous, etc.), headache (n), hives (n), ill (ills of society, etc.), infection (corruption), malignant (adj), metastasize (v), metastasizing (adj), migraine (n), neck (pain in the neck), pain (economic pain, etc.), pain (pain in the neck, etc.), paroxysm (other), pathology (n), patient zero, plague (v), plague (n), plagued, pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, rash (affliction), scar (psychologically / verb), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring, scathing (adj), sickness (n), smitten (afflicted), sore (affliction), spasm (n), spasmodic (adj), syndrome (n), tumor (n), ulcer (n), virus (affliction), wound (figurative wounds of Vietnam, etc.)
- amelioration & renewal: anodyne (adj), antidote (n), balm (n), Band-Aid (n), bromide (n), cure (n), cure (v), cure-all, detox (and detoxification, etc.), disinfect (v), disinfectant (n), heal (v), healing (n), inject (fresh blood, etc.), invigorate (v), lance (v), lanced, life (breathe life), mend (on the mend), nostrum (n), panacea, pill (miracle pill), prescribe (v), prescription (n), reinvigorate (v), remedy (v), remedy (n), resuscitate (v), revive (v), revivify (v), salve (n), shot (shot in the arm, etc.), soothe (sensation), surgery (n), tonic (effect)
- amount: dose (amount), rash (affliction)
- amount & effect: epidemic (n), plague (n), rash (affliction)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: autopsy (analysis), biopsy (analysis), diagnosis (n), dissect (v), misdiagnose (v), post-mortem, vivisection (v), x-ray (n)
- appearance: eyesore (n), pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, scar (resemblance / verb)
- area: alley (Cancer Alley, etc.)
- attenuation: atrophy (v), castrated, castration (n), emasculated (adj), emasculating (adj), eunuch (n), impotence (weakness), impotent (adj), neuter (v), potency (strength), potent (adj)
- attraction & repulsion: antibody (n)
- avoidance & separation: allergic (adj), allergy (n), quarantine (v)
- behavior: addictive (adj), delirious (adj), delirium (n), demented, fever (behavior), frenzied (adj), frenzy (other), mania (n), moral panic (n), panic (n), rabid (behavior), rabidly, schizophrenic (adj)
- characterization: victim (groups), victimization (or victimisation)
- character & personality: incurable (adj), pain (pain in the neck, etc.)
- computer: disinfect (v), infect (computers), infected, quarantine (v), viral (computers), virus (computers)
- condition & status: ailing (adj), anemic (adj), atrophy (v), basket case, bill of health, brain-dead (adj), brain death (n), comatose (adj), dead (dead on arrival), deathbed (n), diseased, exhausted (condition), exhaustion (other), fatigue (n), fit (adj), handicapped, health (in good health / in bad health), health (condition), healthy (condition), hemorrhage (v), hemorrhage (n), hurting, ill (ills of society, etc.), last rites (n), life support (on life support), malaise (decline), moribund (adj), prognosis (n), pulse (n), robust (adj), sclerotic (adj), shape (condition), sick (condition), sluggish (adj), temperature (the political temperature, etc.), test (stress test), throe (death throes), tired (condition), unhealthy (condition), unscathed (adj), well (health), well-being (status), wellness (status), wheezing (condition), wounded (condition)
- configuration: pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: triage (n)
- consciousness & awareness: amnesia (n), brain-dead (adj), chloroform (n), comatose (adj), conscious (aware), dream (fever dream, etc.), fall (fall into a coma, etc.), opiate (n), opium (n)
- constraint & lack of constraint: hamstrung, handicapped, hobble (v), hobbled
- consumption: pill (bitter pill, etc.)
- control & lack of control: incontinent (fiscally incontinent, etc.)
- corruption: contagion (n), corrupting, corruption (n), fester (v), festering (adj), ill (ills of society, etc.), infect (corrupt), infected, infection (corruption), malignant (adj), sickness (n)
- creation & transformation: doctored
- decline: fall (fall ill, etc.), life support (on life support)
- dependency: addicted (dependency), addiction (dependency)

- destruction: chalice (poisoned chalice), dismember (v), dismembered, dismemberment (n), dissection (n), eviscerate (v), eviscerated, evisceration (n), fatal (adj), fatally (fatally wounded, etc.), lacerate (v), mortal (adj), mortally (mortally wounded, etc.), pill (poison pill), poisonous (adj), toxic (adj)
- development: head (come to a head)
- directing: inject (put), injection (n)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: amputate (remove)
- division & connection: amputate (remove), hip (joined at the hip)
- enthusiasm: addict (chess addict, etc.), addicted (enthusiasm), addiction (enthusiasm), crave (fans crave the bout, etc.), delirious (adj), delirium (n), disease (enthusiasm), fever (enthusiasm), flu (enthusiasm), infection (enthusiasm), junkie (game junkie, etc.), mad (crazy), madness (enthusiasm), maniac (Hulkamaniac, etc.), rabid (enthusiasm), sickness (enthusiasm), withdrawal (feeling)
- euphemism: apoplectic (adj)
- evidence: symptom (n)
- experience: medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)
- extent & scope: epidemic (n), pandemic (n)
- failure, accident & impairment: injure (v), malpractice (n), miscarriage (of justice, etc.), misdiagnose (v), mutilate (v)
- fantasy & reality: demented, dream (fever dream, etc.), opium (n), swamp (fever swamp)
- fate, fortune & chance: medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)
- feeling, emotion & effect: addictive (adj), anodyne (adj), anxiety (n), apoplectic (adj), bromide (n), bruise (v), bruised, bruising (adj), contagious (emotion), crippling, exhausting (mental health), febrile (adj), heartsick, hurt (feeling and emotion / verb), hurt (damage, injure), hyperventilate (v), hyperventilation (n), hysteria (n), inject (fresh blood, etc.), injury (other), lacerating (adj), moral injury (n), moral panic (n), narcotic (n), nostrum (n), pain (economic pain, etc.), pain (emotional), painful (adj), panic (n), paralyzed (feeling), paroxysm (emotion), pill (bitter pill, etc.), sanguine (adj), scar (psychologically / verb), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring, shock (in shock), shot (shot in the arm, etc.), sick (disgusted), sick (with anxiety, etc.), sick and tired (feeling), soothe (sensation), tonic (effect), toxic (adj), traumatic (mental health), withdrawal (feeling), wound (figurative wounds of Vietnam, etc.), wounded (emotionally)
- flaws & lack of flaws: fit (adj), fitness (ability), flabby (adj), lean (size), lethargic (adj), pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, surgical (adj)
- force: castrated, castration (n), emasculated (adj), emasculating (adj), eunuch (n), impotence (weakness), impotent (adj), neuter (v), potency (strength), potent (adj), steroids (on steroids)
- functioning: atrophy (v), basket case, comatose (adj), cripple (v), crippled, hamstring, handicapped, hobble (v), hobbled, impotence (weakness), impotent (adj), paralyze (v), paralyzed (functioning), paralysis (n), potency (strength), potent (adj)
- future: prognosis (n)
- growth & development: cancer (n), cancerous (adj), growth (cancerous, etc.), malignant (adj), metastasize (v), metastasizing (adj), tumor (n)
- haste: rash (hasty)
- heart: heartsick
- identity & nature: incurable (adj)
- inclusion & exclusion: atrocity (non-military), exhausted (groups), exhausting (groups), exhaustion (groups), fear (of criticism, etc.), genocidal (adj), genocide (groups), harm (groups / noun), harm (groups / verb), harmed (groups), harmful (groups), healing (n), horrific (adj), insecurity (food insecurity, etc.), mental (adj), mental health (n), mentally (mentally unwell, etc.), mental wellbeing (and mental well-being), mental wellness (groups), pain (emotional), retraumatize (v), revictimization (or revictimisation), revictimized (groups), self-care (and self care), shame (period shame, etc.), shame (body-shame / verb, etc.), shamed (groups), shaming (slut shaming, etc.), suffer (groups), survivor (groups), trauma (groups, etc.), traumatic (groups), traumatization (groups), traumatize (v), traumatized (groups), traumatizing (groups), trigger (groups / verb), triggered (groups),

triggering (groups), victim (groups), victimhood (groups), victimization (or victimisation), victimize (groups), victimized (groups), vulnerability (emotional, etc.), vulnerable (emotionally, etc.), weariness (groups), weather (groups / verb), weathered (groups), weathering (groups), welfare (mental, etc.), wellbeing (n), wellness (groups)

- increase & decrease: demic (infodemic, etc.), steroids (on steroids), swell (v)
- initiation: patient zero
- judgment: triage (v), triage (n)
- leaking: bleed (v), bleed (n), bleeding, hemorrhage (v), hemorrhage (n)
- measurement: pulse (n), temperature (the political temperature, etc.)
- mental health: anxiety (n), detox (and detoxification, etc.), exhausting (mental health), FOMO (fear of missing out), heal (v), healing (n), hysteria (n), mania (n), mental health (n), mental wellness (groups), moral injury (n), pain (emotional), painful (adj), recover (mental health), scar (psychologically / verb), self-care (and self care), sick (disgusted), sick (with anxiety, etc.), sick and tired (feeling), trauma (groups, etc.), traumatic (groups), traumatic (mental health), traumatization (groups), traumatize (v), traumatized (groups), traumatizing (groups), welfare (mental, etc.), wellbeing (n), wellness (groups), wound (figurative wounds of Vietnam, etc.), wounded (emotionally)
- power: potency (strength), potent (adj), steroids (on steroids)
- proper name: fever (fever tree, etc.), scar (the Scar, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: antibody (n), immune (adj), immunity (n), inoculate (v), inoculation (n), quarantine (v)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: fester (v), festering (adj), heal (v), healing (n)
- relationship: hip (joined at the hip), Siamese twins, sneeze (v)
- resemblance: rash (road rash, etc.), scar (resemblance / noun), scar (resemblance / verb)
- reversal: medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)
- script: prescribe (v), prescription (n)
- size: bloated (size), flabby (adj), lean (size)
- society: leper (person)
- speech: bromide (n), eviscerate (v), eviscerated, lacerate (v), scathing (adj), vivisection (n)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: fester (v), festering (adj), heal (v), spasmodic (adj)
- strength & weakness: anemic (adj), castrated, castration (n), emasculated (adj), emasculating (adj), eunuch (n), flabby (adj), healthy (strength), impotence (weakness), impotent (adj), lean (size), neuter (v), potency (strength), potent (adj), puny (adj), robust (adj), stalwart (n), steroids (on steroids)
- substance & lack of substance: Band-Aid (n)
- subterfuge: chalice (poisoned chalice), pill (poison pill), snake oil (n)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: flabby (adj), lean (size), overdose (n)
- superlative: sick (slang)
- survival, persistence & endurance: life (breathe life), resuscitate (v), revive (v), revivify (v)
- taxonomy & classification: strain (type)
- throwing, putting & planting: inject (put), injection (n)
- time: prognosis (n)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: golden hour
- transmission: contagion (n), contagious (emotion), infectious (adj), sneeze (v), viral, virulent (adj)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: crave (v)
- worth & lack of worth: snake oil (n)

## HEART (1)

- bird: chicken-hearted
- container: heart (container)
- direction: downhearted, heart (heart sank), soar (a heart can soar)

- flying & falling: soar (a heart can soar)
- force: faint-hearted (the faint-hearted)
- functioning: broken-hearted, heart (a broken heart, etc.), heartbeat (n), heartbreak (n), heartbreaking (adj), heartbroken (adj)
- hardness & softness: hardhearted (and hard-hearted), softhearted (and softhearted)
- health & medicine: heartsick
- materials & substances: heart (heart of stone, etc.), stone-hearted
- mechanism: broken-hearted, heart (a broken heart, etc.), heartbreak (n), heartbreaking (adj), heartbroken (adj)
- memorization: heart (by heart)
- person: sweetheart (other)
- size: bighearted (and big-hearted)
- sound: heartbeat (n)
- taste: sweetheart (other)
- temperature: coldhearted (adj), heartwarming (adj), warmhearted (adj)
- weight: heart (heavy heart), heavy (heavy heart, etc.), heavy-hearted, light-hearted (adj)

## HEART (2)

- allegiance, support & betrayal: heart (allegiance), heart (change of heart), hearts and minds
- amount: heart (half-hearted, etc.)
- appeal: cri de coeur
- bases: heart (basis), heart (beating heart), heart and soul
- center & periphery: heart (center), heartland (n), heartwood
- character & personality: good-hearted, hardhearted (and hard-hearted), heart (young at heart, etc.), kindhearted (and kind-hearted), softhearted (and soft-hearted)
- commitment & determination: half-hearted, heart (commitment), heart and soul
- courage & lack of courage: chicken-hearted, faint-hearted (the faint-hearted)
- destruction: heart (knife in the heart, etc.), heart (stake through the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart)
- eagerness & reluctance: faint-hearted (the faint-hearted), heart (eagerness and reluctance)
- empathy & lack of empathy: coldhearted (adj), heart (empathy), heartless, kindhearted (and kind-hearted), stone-hearted
- feeling, emotion & effect: broken-hearted, coldhearted (adj), downhearted, heart (a broken heart, etc.), heart (heart sank), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), heart (miscellaneous), heartache (n), heartbreaking (adj), heartfelt, heartsick, heart-stopping, heartthrob, heartwarming (adj), heart-wrenching, heavy-hearted (adj), knife (knife in the heart), light-hearted (adj), soar (a heart can soar)
- identity & nature: heart (young at heart, etc.), heart (identity), heart and soul, heartland (n)
- person: sweetheart (other)
- place: heartland (n)
- reversal: heart (change of heart)
- shape: heart (shape)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: cri de coeur, heart (sincerity), heartfelt (adj), heart-to-heart
- size: bighearted (and big-hearted)
- speed: heartbeat (in a heartbeat)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: heart-stopping
- strength & weakness: faint-hearted (the faint-hearted)
- vocative: sweetheart (vocative)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: heart (goal)

## HEATING WATER (2)

- activity: boil (initiation), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), percolate (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity)

- analysis, interpretation & explanation: boil down to (v)
- appearance & disappearance: bubble up (v)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: teapot (internet teapot, etc.)
- bases: boil down to (v)
- consciousness & awareness: frog (frog in boiling water)
- environment: cauldron (n), frog (frog in boiling water)
- epithet: cauldron (the Cauldron, etc.), oven (the Oven, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: boiling point, boil over (v), seethe (verb)
- initiation: boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), percolate (v), seethe (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity)
- situation: frog (frog in boiling water), hot water (in hot water)

## **HEEL (2) (see also foot; leg; toe)**

- eagerness & reluctance: heel (dig in one's heels)
- oppression: heel (under the heel)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: heel (dig in one's heels), heel (on one's heels)
- sequence: heel (on the heels)

## **HEIGHT (2) (see also direction; position)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: elevate (v), elevation (n), height (at the height), heights (to new heights, etc.), lofty (adj), peak (at the peak), pinnacle (achievement), rise (achievement), rise (achieve), rising (rising star, etc.), summit (at the summit), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
- admiration & contempt: high (noble), look up to (somebody), look down (look down on somebody), low (base, bad / adjective), low (base, bad / noun), nose (look down one's nose), pedestal (on a pedestal, etc.), pedestaled, talk down to (somebody)
- amount: low (low on food, etc.)
- amount & effect: peak (peak sexy, etc.)
- attainment: peak (peak sexy, etc.), sights (lower one's sights)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: heighten (v), loom (loom large, etc.), low (lie low), profile (low profile), profile (high profile), profile (attention), raise (attention), relief (in bold relief)
- behavior: above (above the fray, etc.), gutter (in the gutter / behavior), low (base, bad / adjective), low (base, bad / noun), mud (in the mud), raise (your image, etc.), rise (rise above something), road (the high road / the low road), stoop (behavior), upright (upright man, etc.), upstanding (adj)
- character & personality: cavalier (adj), upright (upright man, etc.), upstanding (adj)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: rise (rise to the challenge, etc.)
- extent & scope: high and low, roof (through the roof), stratospheric (adj)
- fate, fortune & chance: rise (rise and fall / verb)
- feeling, emotion & effect: depression (mental illness), head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high), head (hang one's head), low (emotion), moon (over the moon), point (low point / emotion), raise (feeling)
- force: wave (crest of a wave)
- growth & development: rise (rise and fall / noun), rise (on the rise), rise (rise of agriculture, etc.)
- hierarchy: cavalier (adj), higher-up (person)
- importance & significance: capstone (n), paramount (adj), towering (towering figure, etc.)
- increase & decrease: ceiling (high point), elevated (level), floor (low point), heighten (v), peak (at the peak), rise (on the rise), roof (through the roof), stratospheric (adj)
- orientation: lower (river, etc.), upper (river, etc.)
- past & present: descendant (come after / down), down (down through the centuries, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), hangover (relic), passed down (by ancestors, etc.), present (up to the present), up (up to now, up to date, etc.)

- perception, perspective & point of view: bird's-eye (bird's-eye view), grassroots (grassroots level, etc.), ground (on the ground, etc.), level (ground level, etc.), weed (in the weeds), worm's-eye (adj), zoom out (v)
- presence & absence: loom (loom large, etc.)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: dwarf (v), head (head and shoulders above), height (at the height), heights (to new heights, etc.), peak (at the peak), rise (rise and fall / noun), rise (rise of agriculture, etc.), rising (upcoming), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
- progress & lack of progress: point (low point / high point)
- protection & lack of protection: profile (low profile)
- pursuit, capture & escape: low (lie low)
- reputation: raise (you image, etc.), standing (reputation)
- resiliency: head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: pedestaled
- sequence: descendant (come after / down)
- speech: talk down to (somebody)
- success & failure: rise (rise and fall / verb)
- superiority & inferiority: cavalier (adj), dwarf (v), head (head and shoulders above), horse (high horse), loom (loom large, etc.), low (base, bad / adjective)
- superlative: peak (peak experience, etc.), peak (peak sexy, etc.)
- survival, persistence & endurance: hangover (relic)
- time: descendant (come after / down), down (down through the centuries, etc.), fall (on Friday, etc.), fall (night fell, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), hangover (relic), passed down (by ancestors, etc.), up (up to now, up to date, etc.)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: sights (lower one's sights)

## **HELP & ASSISTANCE (1) (see also allegiance, support & betrayal; resiliency; survival, persistence & endurance)**

- allusion: Marshall Plan, New Deal (Green New Deal, etc.)
- animal: mother (den mother, etc.), mother hen, wing (under one's wing)
- baby: nursemaid (help)
- back: back (carry something on one's back)
- bird: mother hen, wing (under one's wing)
- blade: hack (a fix), hacking (fixing)
- boat: steward (n), wind (wind at one's back, etc.)
- boxing: sparring partner (role)
- bridge: stepping stone
- burden: back (carry something on one's back), carry (assist)
- clothing & accessories: eye (naked eye)
- creature: angel (guardian angel), angel (help and assistance), godmother (fairy godmother)
- death & life: rescue (v), rescue (n)
- direction: ladder (ladders of opportunity, etc.), pick up (pick somebody up, etc.), turn (turn to something, etc.)
- epithet: godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.)
- family: brother (big brother, etc.), godfather (v), godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.), godmother (Godmother of Title IX, etc.), godmother (fairy godmother), mother (den mother, etc.), mother hen, sister (big sister, etc.)
- finger: finger (lift a finger)
- hand: finger (lift a finger), hand (bite the hand that feeds one), hand (help), handmaiden (help), handout (n)
- history: logroll (v), logrolling (n), Marshall Plan, New Deal (Green New Deal, etc.)
- horse: cavalry (n)
- infrastructure: caretaker (role), custodian (role), scaffold (v), scaffolding (n)
- journeys & trips: stepping stone

- ladder: ladder (ladders of opportunity, etc.)
- magic: magic (trail magic, etc.)
- mechanism: hotline (988, etc.), wheel (training wheels)
- Middle Ages: knight (knight in shining armor), white knight
- military: ally (other), armed, armory (n), arrow (weapon), arsenal (amount), bow (weapon), cavalry (n), Marshall Plan, weapon (help), wingman (person)
- money: lend (lend a hand, etc.)
- mountains & hills: Sherpa (n)
- part of speech: thanks (thanks to something)
- person: caretaker (role), custodian (role), friend (n), friendly (adj), godmother (Godmother of Title IX, etc.), godmother (fairy godmother), gun (hired gun), handmaiden (help), knight (knight in shining armor), mother (den mother, etc.), mother hen, nursemaid (help), servant (help), Sherpa (n), sparring partner (role), steward (n), white knight, wingman (person)
- plane: steward (role), tailwind (n), wind (wind at one's back, etc.), wingman (person)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: handout (n), pick up (pick somebody up, etc.)
- religion: angel (guardian angel), angel (help and assistance), godsend (n), patron saint, salvation (n), savior (n)
- river: stepping stone
- royalty: handmaiden (help)
- speech: thanks (thanks to something)
- sports & games: locker (sports)
- standing, sitting & lying: crutch (n), lean on (support)
- theater: repertoire (n)
- throwing, putting & planting: pitch in (help)
- tools & technology: instrument, tool (help)
- train: steward (role)
- tree: logroll (v), logrolling (n)
- verb: carry (assist), finger (lift a finger), godfather (v), lean on (support), lend (lend a hand, etc.), logroll (v), pick up (pick somebody up, etc.), pitch in (help), rescue (v), scaffold (v)
- weapon: armed, armory (n), arrow (weapon), arsenal (amount), bow (weapon), gun (hired gun), weapon (help)
- weight: back (carry something on one's back), carry (assist)
- wind: tailwind (n), wind (wind at one's back, etc.)

## **HIERARCHY (1) (see also competition; society; superiority & inferiority)**

- allusion: patrician
- animal: bee (queen bee), food chain, lion (liberal lion, etc.), pecking order, top dog (hierarchy), underdog (hierarchy)
- bird: pecking order
- blood: blue blood
- chain: chain of command (and chain)
- color: blue blood
- direction: above (hierarchy), apex (apex animal, etc.), basement (hierarchy), bottom (at the bottom), chain of command (and chain), head (go over one's head / hierarchy), higher-up (person), ladder (hierarchy), mountain (at the top of the mountain), pyramid (hierarchy), tier (hierarchy), top (hierarchy), top dog (hierarchy), totem pole, under (hierarchy)
- dog: top dog (hierarchy), underdog (hierarchy)
- head: head (head of the school, etc.), head (go over one's head / hierarchy)
- height: cavalier (adj), higher-up (person)
- history: patrician, pyramid (hierarchy)
- horse: cavalier (adj)

- insect: bee (queen bee)
- ladder: ladder (hierarchy), rung (on the bottom rung), rung (bottom rung), rung (other)
- line: rank-and-file (adj)
- lion: lion (liberal lion, etc.)
- materials & substances: brass (leader)
- military: brass (leader), chain of command (and chain), foot soldier (duty), rank-and-file (adj)
- mountains & hills: mountain (at the top of the mountain)
- movement: move (move up)
- person: higher-up (person), lion (liberal lion, etc.), top dog (hierarchy)
- position: above (hierarchy), apex (apex animal, etc.), barrel (at the bottom of the barrel), bottom (at the bottom), head (go over one's head / hierarchy), mountain (at the top of the mountain), over (dominance), table (head of the table), tier (hierarchy), top (hierarchy), top dog (hierarchy), totem pole, under (hierarchy), underdog (hierarchy)
- predation: food chain
- prep, adv, adj, particle: above (hierarchy), over (dominance), under (hierarchy), work (work one's way up)
- royalty: bee (queen bee), blue blood
- school & education: boys' club (boy's club, boys club), Old Boy (Old Boy network, etc.)
- shape: pyramid (hierarchy)
- sign, signal, symbol: brass (leader)
- society: Brahmin (person), caste (n), untouchable (person)
- table: table (head of the table)
- ticket: second-class (adj)
- verb: head (go over one's head / hierarchy)

## HISTORY (1)

- allusion: Machiavelli (Trump's Machiavelli, etc.)
- animal: pedigree (n)
- burden: baggage (n), freighted, loaded
- epithet: Caesar (Chinese Caesar, etc.), Columbus (Chinese Columbus, etc.), Galen (Galen of Islam, etc.), Lexington (of China, etc.), Machiavelli (Trump's Machiavelli, etc.), Marco Polo (Muslim Marco Polo, etc.), nine eleven (Australia's 9/11, etc.), Pearl Harbor (Australia's Pearl Harbor, etc.)
- family: pedigree (n)
- journeys & trips: baggage (n), freighted, loaded
- sign, signal, symbol: helmet (pith helmet)
- sports & games: track record (good), track record (bad)
- weight: baggage (n), freighted, loaded

## HISTORY (2)

- accusation & criticism: tar (tar and feather, etc.), tarred
- achievement, recognition & praise: belt (notch in a belt), laurels (praise), scalp (n)
- action, inaction & delay: fabius (Fabius Maximus), fiddle (while Rome burns, etc.), Gordian knot
- activity: gold rush
- allegiance, support & betrayal: fealty (n), river (sell somebody down the river), wagon (hitch one's wagon to something)
- allusion: fiddle (while Rome burns, etc.)
- amelioration & renewal: renaissance (n)
- amount: horde (people)
- amount & effect: gold rush
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: Rosetta Stone

- behavior: badlands (environment), barbaric (behavior), Caligulan, cowboy (person), Roaring Twenties, wild West
- birth: renaissance (n)
- certainty & uncertainty: Bermuda Triangle
- character & personality: Caligulan, carpetbagger (person), Colonel Blimp, cowboy (person), gladiator (n), helmet (pith helmet), warrior (other)
- coercion & motivation: hatched man (person)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: migration (#TwitterMigration, etc.)
- commitment & determination: boat (burn one's boats), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.), shield (on one's shield)
- comparison & contrast: Chernobyl (rainforest Chernobyl, etc.)
- competition: joust (v), jousting (conflict), race (arms race), tilt (world-title tilt, etc.)
- complexity: baroque (adj), byzantine
- comprehension & incomprehension: Latin (Latin of Korea, etc.), Rosetta Stone
- concealment & lack of concealment: history (secret history)
- conflict: arena (in / inside the arena), cold war, joust (v), jousting (conflict), match (death match), tilt (world-title tilt, etc.), wagon (circle the wagons), warpath (on the warpath)
- constraint & lack of constraint: Geneva Convention (cyber, etc.)
- control & lack of control: badlands (environment), cowboy (person), wild West
- cost & benefit: gold rush, Pyrrhic victory (figurative)
- decline: dark ages (in the dark ages), dark ages (other)
- dependency: banana republic, satrapy (n)
- destruction: Chernobyl, genocidal (adj), genocide (groups), Hiroshima (epithet), holocaust (n), *Titanic* (the ship), vandal (n), vandalism (n)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: Manhattan Project, Marshall Plan, New Deal (Green New Deal, etc.), slave (v), trail of tears, via dolorosa
- disruption: Bolshevik, Che Guevara, Danton, Jacobin, revolution (n), revolutionary (person), revolutionary (adj), revolutionize (v)
- division & connection: apartheid (separation), balkanization (n), Balkanized, Ceuta and Melilla, iron curtain, Maginot Line, Yugoslavia (Asian Yugoslavia, etc.)
- environment: badlands (environment), wild West
- epithet: Luddite (allusion)
- failure, accident & impairment: Chernobyl
- fantasy & reality: Arthurian (adj), Bermuda Triangle, El Dorado
- fate, fortune & chance: boat (burn one's boats), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.), *Titanic* (the ship)
- feeling, emotion & effect: trail of tears, via dolorosa
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: heir (n), heirloom (n), inherit (v), inheritance (n), legacy (history)
- group, set & collection: horde (people)
- growth & development: dark ages (in the dark ages), dark ages (other), gilded (Gilded Age), golden age (and golden era), medieval (adj), Middle Ages (history), Neanderthal, renaissance (n), revolution (n), revolutionary (adj), revolutionize (v), Stone Age
- help & assistance: logroll (v), logrolling (n), Marshall Plan, New Deal (Green New Deal, etc.)
- hierarchy: patrician, pyramid (hierarchy)
- hyperbole: slave (v)
- identity & nature: carpetbagger (person), patrician, time (a man of his time, etc.)
- importance & significance: blaze (verb), pioneer (person), pioneering, revolution (n), revolutionary, revolutionize (v), triumvirate (n)
- judgment: auto da fe, inquisition (n), lynched, lynching (media lynching, etc.), lynch mob, star chamber (n)
- knowledge & intelligence: Dark Ages (in the Dark Ages), Dark Ages (other), medieval (adj), prehistoric (adj)

- migration: Lazarus (Emma Lazarus), migration (#TwitterMigration, etc.), trail of tears
- money: gilded (Gilded Age)
- oppression: auto da fe, baggage (n), Cromwellian (adj), genocidal (adj), genocide (groups), Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.), inquisition (n), lynched, lynching (media lynching, etc.), lynch mob, McCarthy, McCarthyism, McCarthyite, mob (society), puritanism (n), reign of terror / fear, etc., star chamber (n), tar (tar and feather, etc.), tarred, tyrant (n), witch hunt
- past & present: ancien regime, dark ages (in the dark ages), dark ages (other), descendant (come after / down), down (down through the centuries, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), medieval (adj), Middle Ages (history), Neanderthal, passed down (by ancestors, etc.), prehistoric (adj), present (up to the present), Stone Age, up (up to now, up to date, etc.)
- power: baron (power), complex (military-industrial complex, etc.), czar (and tsar), emperor (power), empire (enterprise), mogul (n), overlord (person), pharaoh (power), tyrant (n)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: ancien regime, gilded (Gilded Age), golden age (and golden era), legacy (obsolescence), medieval (adj), Neanderthal, old guard, prehistoric (adj), renaissance (n), Stone Age
- protection & lack of protection: Great Wall of China, praetorian guard, wagon (circle the wagons)
- punishment & recrimination: scalp (n), tar (tar and feather, etc.), tarred
- pursuit, capture & escape: underground railroad
- relationship: banana republic, satrapy (n)
- reputation: legacy (reputation)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: barricade (storm the barricades, etc.), Pyrrhic victory (figurative), underground railroad, Young Turk
- restraint & lack of restraint: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: Young Turk
- searching & discovery: El Dorado, trail (blaze a trail)
- sequence: descendant (come after / down)
- sex: puritanism (n)
- size: Pharaonic (adj)
- social interaction: logroll (v), logrolling (n)
- speech: tar (tar and feather, etc.), tarred
- success & failure: Pyrrhic victory (figurative), scalp (n)
- superlative: golden age (and golden era)
- survival, persistence & endurance: trail of tears, via dolorosa
- time: age (age of Trump, etc.), ancien regime, dark ages (in the dark ages), dark ages (other), descendant (come after / down), down (down through the centuries, etc.), era (time), gilded (Gilded Age), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), medieval (adj), Middle Ages (history), Neanderthal, passed down (by ancestors, etc.), prehistoric (adj), Roaring Twenties, Stone Age, time (a man of his time, etc.), up (up to now, up to date, etc.)
- transmission: heir (n), heirloom (n), inherit (v), inheritance (n), legacy (history)
- violence: auto da fe
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: El Dorado
- work & duty: slave (v)
- worth & lack of worth: gold rush

## HOLE (2)

- affliction: pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.)
- appearance: pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked
- appearance & disappearance: ground (go to ground)
- concealment & lack of concealment: ground (go to ground)
- configuration: pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.)
- conflict: pit (bear pit), snake pit

- danger: pitfall (n)
- destruction: balloon (puncture a balloon, etc.), prick (v), puncture (v)
- environment: hellhole, pit (bear pit), snake pit
- failure, accident & impairment: balloon (puncture a balloon, etc.)
- fantasy & reality: rabbit hole (fantasy), wormhole (n)
- feeling, emotion & effect: depression (mental illness), hole (feeling)
- flaws & lack of flaws: chink (flaw), hole (flaw), pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.), Swiss cheese (n)
- involvement: hole (situation)
- military: foxhole (military), spider hole (military)
- portal: rabbit hole (fantasy), wormhole (n)
- protection & lack of protection: bolt-hole (and bolthole), foxhole (Keynesians in a foxhole, etc.), ground (go to ground), holed up, hole up (v)
- pursuit, capture & escape: ground (go to ground)
- situation: hole (situation), dig out (v)

## **HORIZON (2)**

- experience: horizon (expand one's horizons)
- extent & scope: horizon (extent and scope)
- future: horizon (on the horizon)
- time: horizon (on the horizon)

## **HORN (2)**

- branching system: multipronged, prong (part)
- conflict: head (butt heads), head-to-head, horn (lock horns)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: head-on
- experience: greenhorn (person)
- proper name: horn (Horn of Africa, etc.)
- shape: horn (shape)

## **HORSE (2) (see also animal)**

- ability & lack of ability: pony (one-trick pony)
- achievement, recognition & praise: spur (earn one's spurs, etc.)
- affliction: gadfly (person), pester (v), saddle (a burr in the saddle)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: horse (switch horses), horse (back the wrong horse), wagon (hitch one's wagon to something)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: trotted out
- avoidance & separation: shy (and shy away)
- behavior: rear (v), skittish (adj), stampede (n), stud (male)
- branching system: spur (shape)
- certainty & uncertainty: hands down (certainty)
- character & personality: cavalier (adj), gadfly (person), hard-charging (adj), maverick (person), stud (male)
- coercion & motivation: spur (v)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: cavalcade (n), sunset (ride into the sunset)
- commitment & determination: bit (bit between its teeth), charge (in, into, ahead, etc.)
- competition: close (and close-run), dead heat, dust (leave somebody in the dust), jockey (v), neck and neck (adj)
- complexity: nest (mare's nest)
- configuration: astride (position), bridle (mechanical bridle, etc.), saddle (support), straddle (configuration)
- conflict: corral (v), rear (v), wrangle (v), wrangler (person), wrangling
- consciousness & awareness: blinder (n), blinkered (adj), blinkers (n)

- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: shy (and shy away)
- consciousness & awareness: blinkered (adj), blinkers (n)
- constraint & lack of constraint: bit (bit between its teeth)
- control & lack of control: bit (bit between its teeth), bridle (v), corral (v), corralled, harness (v), horse (hold your horses), lead (restraint), rein (rein in), rein (reins of power, etc.), reined in, rope in (v), runaway (control), run away (v), saddle (in the saddle), unbridled, wrangle (v), wrangler (person), wrangling
- constraint & lack of constraint: bridle (v), rein (free rein), unbridled
- destruction: founder (v)
- development: homestretch (n)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: canter (n), canter (v), hands down (easily), trot (on the trot)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: factory (glue factory), pasture (put something out to pasture), pasture (put out to pasture), unseat (v)
- disruption: stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), unseat (v)
- driving force: charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), outrider (n)
- eagerness & reluctance: balk (v), bit (champ at the bit), charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), go (raring to go, etc.), horse (hold your horses), skittish (adj)
- experience: mustang (n), ride (rough ride, etc.), rodeo (first rodeo), spur (earn one's spurs, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: whoa (exclamation)
- failure, accident & impairment: founder (v), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), unseat (v)
- fictive position: astride (position), straddle (configuration)
- fictive transportation: ride (ride something to fame, etc.)
- force: hard-charging (adj)
- group, set & collection: cavalcade (n), posse (group), stable (n)
- haste: gallop (haste), headlong, hoof (on the hoof), spur (spur of the moment)
- help & assistance: cavalry (n)
- hierarchy: cavalier (adj)
- initiation: spur (v), spurred
- involvement: horse (horse in the race)
- military: cavalry (mechanized cavalry, etc.), mustang (n)
- movement: canter (n), canter (v), gallop (v), stampede (n), trot (on the trot)
- oppression: saddle (oppress), saddled
- perception, perspective & point of view: blinder (n), blinkered (adj), blinkers (n)
- performance: dog-and-pony show (n), pony (one-trick pony)
- person: cowboy (person), stud (male), wrangler (person)
- position, policy & negotiation: horse-trading
- progress & lack of progress: inroads (make inroads)
- power: oats (feel one's oats)
- proper name: saddle (Saddle Island, etc.), spur (Geneva Spur, etc.)
- readiness & preparedness: groom (prepare), hoof (on the hoof)
- resiliency: horse (get back on the horse), saddle (get back in the saddle)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: balk (v), bridle (v), buck (v), cavalry (n)
- restraint & lack of restraint: bridle (v), unbridled
- role: saddle (acting saddle, etc.)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: buck (v), maverick (person)
- sequence: horse (cart before the horse)
- sex: stud (male)
- shape: horseshoe (shape), saddle (shape), spur (shape)
- sound: gallop (sound)
- speed: breakneck (adj), canter (n), canter (v), gallop (v), galloping (speed)

- starting, going, continuing & ending: balk (v), gate (out of the gate), homestretch (n), saddle (saddle up)
- strength & weakness: oats (feel one's oats), workhorse (n)
- subterfuge: stalking-horse (n)
- superiority & inferiority: cavalier (adj), dust (leave somebody in the dust), horse (high horse)
- superlative: thoroughbred (n)
- survival, persistence & endurance: distance (go the distance)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: head start, wire (down to the wire)
- work & duty: harness (in harness), horse (the willing horse, etc.), workhorse (n)
- worth & lack of worth: horse (a gift horse), thoroughbred (n)

## HOOR (2)

- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: hour (finest hour, etc.)
- superlative: hour (finest hour, etc.)
- time: hour (finest hour, etc.), hour (timeliness)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: golden hour, hour (timeliness), zero hour (n)

## HOUSE (2) (see also doors & thresholds; gate; roof)

- acceptance & rejection: room (inclusivity), welcome (v), welcome (n)
- amelioration & renewal: broom (broom of reform, etc.), house (a house in order), house (clean house)
- appearance & disappearance: woodwork (come out of the woodwork, etc.)
- area: neighborhood (area)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: house (hype house), room (back room, etc.)
- bases: edifice (n), foundation (n), foundational (adj)
- concealment & lack of concealment: basement (hierarchy), closet (secret), room (back room, etc.), skeleton (secret)
- configuration: neighbor (v), neighbor (n), neighboring (adj)
- creation & transformation: house (house that somebody built, etc.)
- destruction: roof (a roof can cave in)
- disruption: broom (broom of reform, etc.), house (clean house)
- effect: home (hit home)
- extent & scope: roof (through the roof)
- failure, accident & impairment: roof (a roof can cave in)
- feeling, emotion & effect: home (hit home), home (feel at home), home (close to home), welcome (welcome news, etc.)
- fictive communication: welcome (v)
- fictive meeting & seeing: welcome (v)
- fictive possession: inhabit (v), occupy (v)
- group, set & collection: house (hype house), nest (of vipers, etc.)
- house: furniture (contents)
- increase & decrease: ceiling (high point), floor (low point), roof (through the roof)
- judgment: bed (lie in one's bed / make one's bed)
- location: dwell (location), home (home of golf, etc.), home (home for the archive, etc.), home (home to), live (location), reside (v), residence (n)
- orientation: floor (pelvic floor, etc.), roof (roof of the mouth, etc.)
- origin: home (home of golf, etc.), house (origin), house (house that somebody built, etc.)
- place: den (den of thieves, etc.), dwell (location), home (home for the archive, etc.), live (location), nest (empty nest), reside (v), residence (n)
- presence & absence: furniture (contents)
- proper name: nest (Bird's Nest, etc.), shelf (Sahul Shelf, etc.), staircase (Devil's Staircase, etc.), stairway (Stairway Falls, etc.)

- protection & lack of protection: home (home in Islam, etc.)
- proximity: backyard (in somebody's backyard), backyard (other), doorstep (on / at the doorstep), home (hit home), home (close to home)
- resemblance: nest (resemblance)
- responsibility: bed (lie in one's bed, make one's bed)
- shape: nest (shape), shelf (ice shelf, etc.)
- substance & lack of substance: house of cards
- welcome: home (feel at home), inhospitable (adj), welcome (v), welcome (n), welcoming (other)

## HUNTING (2)

- accusation & criticism: go after (attack)
- affliction: bird-dog (v), follow (afflict), hound (v), hounded (dogged)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: find (discover), sign (evidence)
- appearance & disappearance: ground (go to ground)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: catchy (attention), low (lie low)
- attraction & repulsion: bait (v), bait (n), chum (n), clickbait (n), dangle (v), lure (n), lure (v)
- behavior: deer (deer in the headlights), hotshot (person)
- character & personality: hotshot (person)
- competition: cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective), game (game of cat and mouse)
- computer: clickbait (n)
- concealment & lack of concealment: Easter egg, footstep (conceal one's footsteps, etc.), ground (go to ground), track (cover one's tracks, etc.)
- danger: ensnare (v), pitfall (n), sitting duck, snare (v), snare (n), trap (v), trap (other)
- destruction: gut (destroy), gutted (destroyed)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: turkey shoot
- eagerness & reluctance: bay (bay for blood, etc.), dog (dog won't hunt), pounce (v)
- enthusiasm: hound (autograph hound, etc.)
- evidence: sign (evidence), trail (digital trail, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: jaw (jaws of defeat, jaws of victory, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: gutted (feeling)
- involvement: caught up (in or by something), dog (dog in the fight), ensnare (v), ensnared, snare (v), trap (v), trapped
- military: trap (military / noun)
- movement: lurk (v), pounce (v), stalk (v)
- past & present: catch up (his past caught up to him, etc.)
- person: hunter (plants), hunter (other), tracker (person)
- presence & absence: lurk (v)
- protection & lack of protection: ground (go to ground), sitting duck
- punishment & recrimination: head (put a head on a wall), head (put a head on a stake, etc.)
- pursuit, capture & escape: bait (v), bait (n), bark (bark up the wrong tree, etc.), bird-dog (v), bloodhound (n), capture (v), capture (n), captured, cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective), catch (catch the imagination, etc.), catch (marriage), catch up (his past caught up to him, etc.), caught, caught up (in or by something), claw (n), clickbait (n), come after (and come for), cornered (adj), elusive (adj), ensnare (v), ensnared, expedition (fishing expedition), fish (v), follow (afflict), footstep (conceal one's footsteps, etc.), game (game of cat and mouse), go after (attack), ground (go to ground), head (put a head on a wall), head (put a head on a stake, etc.), headhunter (n), hound (v), hounded (dogged), hunt (v), hunt (n), hunt (in the hunt), hunt down (v), hunter (plant), hunter (other), jaw (jaws of defeat, jaws of victory, etc.), low (lie low), lure (v), lure (n), octopus (n), out (leave somebody an out, etc.), pincer (n), pincer, pursue (pursue a dream, etc.), pursuit (in pursuit), pursuit (other), recapture (v), scent (throw somebody off the scent), snare (v), snare (n), stalk (v), tentacle (n), track (cover

one's tracks, etc.), track down (v), tracked (followed), tracker (person), tracking, trail (follow), trail (throw somebody off the trail, etc.), trail (digital trail, etc.), trap (in a trap), trap (other), trapped

- searching & discovery: bloodhound (n), Easter egg, expedition (fishing expedition), find (discover), find (hope, etc.), search (for truth, cure, etc.), track down (v), trail (digital trail, etc.)
- situation: caught up (in or by something), ensnare (v), ensnared, trap (in a trap)
- speech: go after (attack)
- subterfuge: elusive (adj), footstep (conceal one's footsteps, etc.), scent (throw somebody off the scent), stalking-horse, track (cover one's tracks, etc.), snare (n), trail (throw somebody off the trail, etc.), trap (other)
- success & failure: dog (dog won't hunt)

## HYGIENE (2)

- accusation & criticism: trash (n)
- amelioration & renewal: act (clean up one's act), broom (broom of reform, etc.), clean (come clean), clean (v), cleanse (make clean), clean up (improve), disinfect (v), disinfectant (n), house (clean house), order (get something in order, etc.)
- amount: laundry (laundry list)
- appearance & reality: artwash (v), sportswash (v), sportswashing (n)
- behavior: act (clean up one's act), dirty (behavior)
- character & personality: hot mess (person), mess (person)
- computer: clean (computer / verb), disinfect (v)
- concealment & lack of concealment: aired (and aired out), artwash (v), clean (come clean), dirty laundry, launder (v), pasteurized, sanitize (v), sanitized, sanitizing, scrub (remove), scrubbed, sportswash (v), sportswashing (n)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: hand (wash one's hands of something)
- corruption: filthy (corruption)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: clean out (v), cleanse (make clean), filter (v), flush (remove), scrub (remove), scrubbed
- disruption: broom (broom of reform, etc.), house (clean house)
- environment: cesspit (n), cesspool (n)
- flaws & lack of flaws: chaotic (adj), clean (a clean record, etc.), dirty (dirty energy, etc.), hot mess (situation, etc.), mess (n), messy (adj), sloppy (adj)
- guilt: hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.)
- insult: dirty (dirty people, etc.), filth (insult), scum (insult), trash (n)
- involvement: hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.)
- person: hot mess (person)
- responsibility: hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.)
- sex: dirty (sex), filthy (sex), purity (sex)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: clean (come clean)
- situation: hot mess (situation, etc.), mess (n)
- speech: clean up (speech), dirty (dirty word), filthy (language)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: hand (wash one's hands of something)
- subterfuge: greenwash (n), greenwashing (n), launder (v)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: filthy (filthy rich)
- superlative: filthy (slang)
- violence: brainwash (v), brainwashed, cleanse (violence), cleansing (ethnic cleansing), cleanup (military), filth (insult), flush (remove), scum (insult)
- worth & lack of worth: filth (insult), filthy (bad), scum (insult), trash (n)

## HYPERBOLE (1)

- bodily reaction: horrific (adj), horrifically, horrified, horrifying (adj), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up)

- clothing & accessories: pants (scare the pants off somebody)
- crime: murder (v), murderer (shame is a murderer, etc.)
- death & life: die (hyperbole), death (to death), death (death by PowerPoint, etc.), executed (animals, etc.), murder (v), murderer (shame is a murderer, etc.)
- food & drink: retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), supersizing (linguistic supersizing)
- history: slave (v)
- military: atrocity (non-military)
- money: soul (sell one's soul to the devil, etc.)
- person: murderer (shame is a murderer, etc.)
- size: supersizing (linguistic supersizing)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: skin (jump out of one's skin)
- stomach: retch (and puke, vomit, throw up)
- verb: pants (scare the pants off somebody), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), skin (jump out of one's skin), slave (v), soul (sell one's soul to the devil, etc.)
- violence: atrocity (non-military)

## IDEA (1)

- animal: sacred cow
- container: box (in / out / outside the box)
- family: brainchild (n)
- head: brainchild (n), brainstorm (v), brainstorm (n)
- light & dark: light bulb (and lightbulb, bulb)
- religion: iconoclasm (n), iconoclast (person), iconoclastic (adj), piety (n), sacred cow, shibboleth
- sign, signal, symbol: light bulb (and lightbulb, bulb)
- sky: sky (blue sky thinking)
- storm: brainstorm (n), brainstorm (v)
- verb: brainstorm (v)

## IDENTITY & NATURE (1) (see also behavior; character & personality)

- affix: ness (Asian-ness, etc.)
- air: air (environment)
- allusion: believer (true believer), no (no Jack Kennedy, etc.), patrician
- animal: animal (political animal, etc.), breed (type), chameleon (change), chameleonic (adj), creature (creature of habit, etc.), feral (behavior), leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.), pedigree (n), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.), shape (form)
- atmosphere: air (environment)
- biology: DNA (in the DNA), DNA (other), gene (in one's genes), gene (other)
- birth: birthright (n), born (born teacher, etc.)
- blood: bleed (bleed black and gold, etc.), blood (in one's blood), blood (identity), vein (tap a vein)
- breathing: live (live and breathe, live to)
- carpets & rugs: tapestry (n)
- cloth: cloth (cut from the same cloth, etc.), dyed-in-the-wool, tapestry (n)
- color: blue (politics), chocolate (African Americans), red (politics)
- container: in (the cowboy in me, etc.), inner (inner sloth, etc.), melting pot (n)
- cooking: bake in (and bake into), baked in (and baked into), folded in (and folded into), fold in (v), pepper in (attach)
- creature: creature (creature of habit, etc.), unicorn (Scotland, etc.)
- death & life: live (live and breathe, live to)
- electricity: wired (and hardwired)
- epithet: British (British of South America, etc.), teacher (teacher's teacher, etc.)

- face: face (identity and nature), faceless (adj)
- family: child (child of the Soviet Union, etc.), daughter (daughter of Brooklyn, etc.), pedigree (n), son (son of the South, etc.)
- finger: fingertip (to one's fingertips)
- fire: melting pot (n)
- flags & banners: colors (true colors, etc.)
- food & drink: bowl (salad bowl / mixture), gumbo (mixture), jambalaya (mixture), pie (apple pie)
- forest: rainforest (society is a rainforest)
- ground, terrain & land: embed (v), embedded
- health & medicine: incurable (adj)
- heart: heart (young at heart, etc.), heart (identity), heart and soul, heartland (n)
- history: carpetbagger (person), patrician, time (a man of his time, etc.)
- infrastructure: built in
- manufacturing: product (n)
- mark: streak (violent streak, etc.)
- materials & substances: ersatz (substitute)
- mechanism: wired (and hardwired)
- mental health: identity crisis
- military: ersatz (substitute)
- mining: melting pot (n)
- mixture: rainforest (society is a rainforest)
- money: brand (non-product)
- music: anthem (n), anthemic (adj), symphony (identity)
- person: carpetbagger (person), child (child of the Soviet Union, etc.), daughter (daughter of Brooklyn, etc.), son (son of the South, etc.)
- plant: root (origin), transplant (n)
- predation: leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: in (the cowboy in me, etc.), inner (inner sloth, etc.)
- religion: born-again, heart and soul, soul (identity)
- sign, signal, symbol: pie (apple pie), unicorn (Scotland, etc.)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: bone (racist bone, etc.)
- society: tribal (groups), tribalism (groups)
- taste: flavor (regional flavor, etc.)
- temperature: melting pot (n)
- time: time (a man of his time, etc.)
- tree: root (origin)
- verb: bleed (bleed black and gold, etc.), define (v), fold in (v), live (live and breathe, live to)
- writing & spelling: define (verb)

## **ILIAD & ODYSSEY (2)**

- affliction: hector (v)
- alternatives & choices: Scylla and Charybdis
- attraction & repulsion: siren (siren call / siren song), siren (other)
- coercion & motivation: hector (v)
- computer: Trojan horse (computers)
- danger: Scylla and Charybdis
- development: odyssey (on an odyssey), odyssey (other)
- initiation: ship (launched a thousand ships)
- message: Cassandra

- oppression: Cyclops (creature)
- proper name: Odyssey (Mars Odyssey, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: Achilles' heel (n)
- speech: pander (v)
- strength & weakness: Achilles' heel
- subterfuge: Trojan horse (subterfuge)
- superlative: epic (n), Homeric (adj)

## **IMPORTANCE & SIGNIFICANCE (1) (see also attention, scrutiny & promotion; center & periphery; priority; superiority & inferiority)**

- allusion: titan (n), triumvirate (n)
- animal: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n), mole hill (and molehill), sardine (n), whale (epithet)
- arm: arm (right arm)
- astronomy: planet (n)
- birth: seminal (adj)
- books & reading: Who's Who
- center & periphery: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), background (background noise, etc.), burner (front burner), centerpiece (n), central (adj), foreground (n), sideshow (n)
- circus: sideshow (n)
- creature: giant (achievement), titan (n)
- direction: burner (front burner), back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), back seat (take a back seat), breakthrough (n), fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), front (front and center), hinge (hinge event, etc.), mind (top of mind), mind (front of mind), mind (back of mind)
- epithet: Alexander (Muslim Alexander, etc.), great (the Great Resignation, etc.), pharmacy (Pharmacy of the World, etc.), Pope (Pope of Beaujolais, etc.), Ptolemy (Chinese Ptolemy, etc.), Zuckerberg (the Russian Mark Zuckerberg, etc.)
- family: big daddy (authority)
- farming & agriculture: ground (break ground), groundbreaking
- film: marquee (attention)
- fish: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n), sardine (n), whale (epithet)
- food & drink: bread and butter (livelihood), bread-and-butter (adj), mother (mother's milk), nothing-burger
- fortification: salient (important)
- gambling: stake (importance), stake (high stakes)
- ground, terrain & land: ground (break ground), groundbreaking, landmark (n), salient (important)
- hand: right-hand (right-hand man, etc.)
- height: capstone (n), paramount (adj), towering (towering figure, etc.)
- history: pioneer (person), pioneering, revolution (n), revolutionary, revolutionize (v), trail (blaze a trail), triumvirate (n)
- infrastructure: capstone (n), ground (break ground), milestone (n), monument (n), monumental (adj), towering (towering figure, etc.)
- journeys & trips: landmark (n), milestone (n), pathbreaking (adj), pioneer (person), pioneering, trail (blaze a trail), trailblazer (person), trailblazing
- key: key (important)
- light & dark: leading light (person), luminary (person)
- mark: trail (blaze a trail)
- mechanism: cog (cog in the machine, etc.), fulcrum (n), hinge (hinge event, etc.), kingpin (person), linchpin (n), pivotal (adj), point (tipping point), point (pivot point), turning point (n)
- military: big gun (and heavy gun), breakthrough (n), salient (important)

- money: million-dollar
- mountains & hills: paramount (adj), watershed (n)
- movement: breakthrough (n), hinge (hinge event, etc.), turning point (n)
- music: fiddle (second fiddle)
- number: fiddle (second fiddle), trinity (Holy Trinity), triumvirate (n), zero (place and time, etc.)
- object: thing (a matter, issue)
- path: pathbreaking (adj)
- person: big gun (and heavy gun), big shot (person), bigwig (person), guy (the guy), immortal (person), leading light (person), luminary (person), man (big man, little man, etc.), nobody (a nobody), people (little people, etc.), pioneer (person), somebody (a somebody), trailblazer (person), Who's Who
- picture: background (background noise, etc.), foreground (n)
- position: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), background (background noise, etc.), back seat (take a back seat), burner (front burner), centerpiece (n), central (adj), fiddle (second fiddle), fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), foreground (n), front (front and center), mind (top of mind), mind (front of mind), mind (back of mind), right-hand (right-hand man, etc.)
- potato: potato (small potatoes)
- religion: fetish (n), fetishistic (adj), fetishistically, fetishize (v), fetishized, god (importance), hallowed (adj), idol (person), idolized, immortal (person), Olympus (Mount Olympus), pantheon (n), sacred (adj), trinity (Holy Trinity), Valhalla (n), venerate (v), venerated, worship (v), worship (n)
- river: watershed (n)
- sign, signal, symbol: milestone (n)
- size: big (significance), big (big name, etc.), Big (comprehension, scope), Big One (earthquake, etc.), big daddy (authority), big gun (and heavy gun), big league (and big leagues), big shot (person), bigwig (person), blip (n), colossus (n), fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), giant (achievement), huge (significant), man (big man, little man, etc.), minnow (n), mole hill (and molehill), monumental (adj), people (little people, etc.), potato (small potatoes), sardine (n), teacup (storm in a teacup), titan (n), towering (towering figure, etc.), whale (epithet)
- sound: keynote (n)
- sports & games: big league (and big leagues), game (game-changer)
- statue: colossus (n)
- theater: role (function or part)
- tools & technology: blip (n)
- verb: background (background noise, etc.), fetishize (v), revolutionize (v), trail (blaze a trail), venerate (v), worship (v)
- weapon: big gun (and heavy gun), big shot (person)
- weight: gravity (substance), heavy (substance), weighty (substance)

## IMPRESSION (1)

- cloth: dyed-in-the-wool, ingrained
- color: dyed-in-the-wool, ingrained
- fire: burned (impressed), seared
- ground, terrain & land: embed (v), embedded
- mark: burned (impressed), engraved (impression), etch (v), etched, imprint (n), inscribed, mark (effect), seared, stamp (impression), stamped
- materials & substances: plastered (impression)
- sensation: burned (impressed), sensation
- tools & technology: engraved (impression), etch (v), etched, inscribed, stamp (impression), stamped
- verb: embed (v), etch (v)

## INAUGURATION (1)

- bell: ring in (the New Year, etc.)
- cloth: unveil (make public), wrap (take the wraps off something / inauguration)
- doors & thresholds: usher in (v)
- flying & falling: drop (product launch), launch (n)
- love, courtship & marriage: party (coming-out party)
- mechanism: drop (product launch), drop (a product, etc.), roll out (v), rollout (n)
- party: party (coming-out party)
- sound: ring in (the New Year, etc.)
- theater: usher in (v)
- verb: drop (a product, etc.), hit (hit the market, etc.), launch (v), ring in (the New Year, etc.), roll out (v), unveil (make public), usher in (v), wrap (take the wraps off something / inauguration)

## INCLUSION & EXCLUSION (1) (see also **contempo-speak, language**)

- acceptance & rejection: ally (groups), allyship (groups), baiter (red-baiter, etc.), baiting (queerbaiting, etc.), box (check the box, etc.), colorism (groups), friendly (queer-friendly, etc.), gesture (groups), intention (n), intentional (adj), intentionality (n), intentionally, microaggression (groups), misgender (groups), misgendered (groups), performance (groups), performative (groups), performative allyship, perform (perform values, etc.), safe (groups), safety (groups), uncomfortable (groups), welcome (noun / groups), welcoming (and unwelcoming / groups)
- affirmation: agency (groups), amazing (groups), beautiful (groups), bold (groups), boldly (groups), brave (girls and women, etc.), bravery (groups), celebrate (groups), celebrated (groups), celebration (groups), community (groups), courage (groups), courageous (groups), courageously, empower (groups), empowered (groups), empowering (groups), empowerment (groups), fearless (girls and women, etc.), fearlessly, fearlessness (n), ferocious (groups), ferocity (groups), fierce (girls and women / groups, etc.), fiercely (girls and women / groups, etc.), fierceness (groups), girlboss (and girl boss), hero (person, child, queer, dog, rat, etc.), heroic (groups), heroism (groups), heroize (v), honor (noun / groups), honor (verb / groups), joy (Black joy, etc.), liberation (groups), matter (Black lives matter, etc.), positive (sex positive, etc.), positivity (body positivity, etc.), power (power to the people, etc.), pride (groups), proud (groups), savage (groups), superpower (groups), tribute (groups), warrior (girls and women)
- affix: anti (antiracist, etc.), centered (survivor-centered, etc.), centric (Afro-centric, etc.), cide (femicide, etc.), curious (bi-curious, etc.), de (defund, etc.), face (yellowface, etc.), fication (adultification, etc.), fishing (Latino-fishing, etc.), friendly (queer-friendly, etc.), hood (personhood, etc.), informed (trauma-informed, etc.), ism (racism, etc.), ist (racist, etc.), ity (intersectionality, etc.), ization (marginalization, etc.), ize (racialize, etc.), ized (invisibilized, etc.), ness (Asian-ness, etc.), phobe (vaxophobe, etc.), phobia (fatphobia, etc.), phobic (transphobic, etc.), ship (allyship, etc.), un (unhoused, etc.), wash (straightwash, etc.), x (Chicanx, etc.)
- center & periphery: centered (survivor-centered, etc.), centric (Afro-centric, etc.)
- color: color (communities of color, etc.), colorism (groups), rainbow (groups)
- division & connection: criminalization (groups), criminalize (groups), criminalized (groups), equality (groups), inequality (groups), marginalization (groups), marginalize (groups), marginalized (groups), minoritize (groups), minoritized (groups), moral panic (n), other (the other, etc.), other (verb / groups, etc.), othered, othering, otherism (n), otherize (groups), otherness (n), race (groups), racial (groups), racialize (groups), racialized (groups), racially (groups), racism (groups), racist (groups), stigma (n), stigmatization (oppression), stigmatize (and destigmatize / verb), stigmatizing
- epistemology: authentic (groups), authentically (live authentically, etc.), authenticity (groups), construct (social construct, etc.), constructed (socially constructed, etc.), construction (of gender, etc.), fluid (gender fluid, etc.), fluidity (gender fluidity, etc.), gender (groups), me (like me, look like me, speak like me, be like me, etc.), hood (personhood, etc.), identify (identify as, etc.), inauthentic (groups), inauthenticity (groups), intersection (n), intersectional (groups), intersectionality (groups), lived experience (groups, etc.), lived reality (groups, etc.),

- ness (Asian-ness, etc.), norm (groups), normal (groups), normalcy (groups), normalization (groups), normalize (groups), normalized (groups), normalizing (groups), normative (groups), normativity (groups), right (and rights / groups), self (authentic self, true self, etc.), true (true to oneself, etc.), truth (speak one's truth, etc. / groups), victimhood (groups), voice (groups), woke (groups), wokeness (groups)
- health & medicine: atrocity (non-military), exhausted (groups), exhausting (groups), exhaustion (groups), fear (of criticism, etc.), genocidal (adj), genocide (groups), harm (groups / noun), harm (groups / verb), harmed (groups), harmful (groups), healing (n), horrific (adj), insecurity (food insecurity, etc.), mental (adj), mental health (n), mentally (mentally unwell, etc.), mental wellbeing (and mental well-being), mental wellness (groups), pain (emotional), retraumatize (v), revictimization (or revictimisation), revictimized (groups), self-care (and self care), shame (period shame, etc.), shame (body-shame / verb, etc.), shamed (groups), shaming (slut shaming, etc.), suffer (groups), survivor (groups), trauma (groups, etc.), traumatic (groups), traumatization (groups), traumatize (v), traumatized (groups), traumatizing (groups), trigger (groups / verb), triggered (groups), triggering (groups), victim (groups), victimhood (groups), victimization (or victimisation), victimize (groups), victimized (groups), vulnerability (emotional, etc.), vulnerable (emotionally, etc.), weariness (groups), weather (groups / verb), weathered (groups), weathering (groups), welfare (mental, etc.), wellbeing (n), wellness (groups)
  - judgment: cancel (groups, etc.), cancel culture (groups, etc.), cancellation (groups, etc.), cancelled (groups, etc.), drag (contempo-speak / verb), dragging (contempo-speak), justice (groups), original sin (groups), reckoning (groups)
  - language: alphabet (LGBTQ+), LGBTQ+, political correctness (groups), politically correct (groups), pronoun (groups), queer (collocations), right (right? / polemical), vocabulary (groups), word (the P-word, etc.), x (Chicanx, etc.)
  - mental health: rage (black rage, feminine rage, etc.)
  - messaging: agenda (n), center (center their voices, etc.), centered (survivor-centered, etc.), centric (Afro-centric, etc.), conversation (groups, etc.), narrative (groups, etc.), political correctness (groups), politically correct (groups), prioritize (groups), queer (collocations), story (groups), storytelling (groups), talk (talk about something / groups, etc.), voice (groups)
  - objectification: black (while black, female, brown, Muslim, etc.), body (black bodies, etc.), fetishization (n), fetishize (v), fetishized, fragile (groups), fragility (white fragility, etc.), fullness (groups), gaze (male gaze, white gaze, etc.), name (groups), objectified (groups), privilege (groups / verb), privilege (groups / noun), privileged, say (say his name, etc.), skin (groups), supremacist (white supremacist, etc.), supremacy (white supremacy, etc.)
  - part of speech: citizen (as verb), George Floyd (as verb), hoop (as verb), orchestra (as verb)
  - polemics: just because (polemical), right (right? / polemical)
  - possession: appropriate (groups), appropriation (groups), colonialism (groups), colonialization (groups), colonization (groups), colonize (groups), colonized, coopt (and co-opt), decolonialization (groups), decolonize (v), decolonized, face (yellowface, etc.), fishing (Latino-fishing, etc.), misappropriate (groups), misappropriated, misappropriation (groups, etc.), reappropriate (groups), reappropriation (groups), reclaim (groups), reclaimed (groups), reclaiming (groups), space (groups, etc.), stolen (stolen generation, etc.), take back (take back one's life, etc.)
  - presence & absence: deleted (groups), disappear (as transitive verb), diverse (groups), diversity (groups), equity (groups), erase (groups, etc.), erased (groups, etc.), erasure (groups, etc.), exist (groups), existence (groups), here (here to stay / groups), inclusion (groups), inclusive (groups), inequity (groups), invisibility (groups), invisibilize (groups), invisibilized (groups), invisible (groups), missing (groups, etc.), presence (groups), present (groups), represent (groups), representation (groups), represented (groups), see (they don't see you, hear you, etc.), seen (groups), silenced (groups), straightwash (groups), table (groups), tent (inclusivity), visibility (groups), visible (groups, etc.), wash (straightwash, etc.), whitewash (groups)
  - sign, signal, symbol: knee (take a knee), rainbow (groups)

- subterfuge: greenwash (n), greenwashing (n), pinkwash (v), sportswash (v), sportswashing (n), wash (straightwash, etc.)
- verb: appropriate (groups), cancel (groups, etc.), celebrate (groups), center (center their voices, etc.), colonize (groups), come out (as nonmonogamous, etc.), criminalize (groups), disappear (as transitive verb), empower (groups), erase (groups, etc.), fetishize (v), harm (groups / verb), heroize (v), honor (verb / groups), identify (identify as, etc.), invisibilize (groups), kneel (take a knee), marginalize (groups), minoritize (groups), misappropriate (groups), misgender (groups), normalize (groups), other (verb / groups, etc.), otherize (groups), perform (perform values, etc.), pinkwash (v), prioritize (groups), privilege (groups / verb), racialize (groups), reappropriate (groups), reclaim (groups), represent (groups), retraumatize (v), say (say his name, etc.), shame (body-shame / verb, etc.), sportswash (v), stigmatize (and destigmatize / verb), straightwash (groups), suffer (groups), take back (take back one's life, etc.), talk (talk about something / groups, etc.), traumatize (v), trigger (groups / verb), truth (speak one's truth, etc. / groups), whitewash (groups)

## INCREASE & DECREASE (1) (see also decline)

- affix: besity (infobesity, etc.), demic (infodemic, etc.), flation (lunchflation, etc.)
- air: balloon (v), ballooning (adj), flation (lunchflation, etc.), inflate (v), inflated (expectations, etc.), inflation (n), overinflated (adj), oxygen (fuel), pump up (v)
- astronomy: wane (v), wax and wane
- atmosphere: balloon (v), ballooning (adj), flation (lunchflation, etc.), inflate (v), inflated (expectations, etc.), inflation (n), overinflated (adj), oxygen (fuel), pump up (v), stratospheric (adj)
- ball: rebound (numbers)
- balloon: balloon (v), ballooning (adj), flation (lunchflation, etc.), inflate (v), inflated (expectations, etc.), inflation (n)
- blade: appetite (whet the appetite), sharpen (v), whet (whet the appetite)
- chemistry: oxygen (fuel)
- direction: boost (v), boost (n), ceiling (high point), climb (increase), dial down (and dial back), dial up (increase), dip (decrease), dip (n), drop (prices dropped, etc.), drop (drop in sales, etc.), elevated, fall off (v), falloff (n), floor (low point), free fall (in free fall), go down (decrease), go up (increase), heighten (v), jack up (v), jump (increase / verb), jump (n), ladder (increase), level (take something to a higher level), level off (v), level up (as verb), nosedive (noun / decrease), notch (take something up a notch), pick up (increase), pile up (v), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (noun / decline), plunge (decline / decrease), ratchet up (v), rise (prices rise, etc.), rise (increase / noun), rise (on the rise), rocket (increase), roller coaster (development), roof (through the roof), sag (v), shoot up (v), sink (decline), skyrocket (increase), slip (sales have slipped, etc.), slump (v), soar (v), spiral (downward or upward), spiraling (increase), stratospheric (adj), surge (intransitive verb / increase), up (increase / verb), up (higher), upsurge (n), uptick (n), upturn (n), yo-yo (yo-yo dieting, etc.)
- electricity: amp up (v), step up (increase)
- engine: gear up (v), rev up (v), supercharge (v), supercharged, turbocharge (v), turbocharged
- explosion: blow up (blow up on TikTok, etc.), blowup (attention / noun), boom (increase), booming (adj), explode (increase), exploding (adj), explosion (increase), explosive (increase)
- fire: accelerant (n), fan (v), fire (fuel on the fire, etc.), flare-up (n), fuel (v), fuel (n), fuel (pour fuel on something, etc.), fueled, gas (pour gas on something, etc.), inflame (v), inflammatory (adj), kindle (v), oil (pour oil), oxygen (fuel), stoke (v), stoked (increased)
- flying & falling: nosedive (verb / decrease), nosedive (noun / decrease), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (noun / decline), plunge (decline / decrease), rocket (increase), roof (through the roof), soar (v), take off (v)
- food & drink: feed (fuel), feed (feed on / off something), supersize (v), supersizing (linguistic supersizing)
- force: boost (v), boost (n)
- hardness & softness: harden (increase)
- health & medicine: demic (infodemic, etc.), steroids (on steroids), swell (v)

- height: ceiling (high point), elevated (level), floor (low point), heighten (v), peak (at the peak), rise (on the rise), roof (through the roof), stratospheric (adj)
- house: ceiling (high point), floor (low point), roof (through the roof)
- infrastructure: faucet (n), build up (v), tap (n)
- knife: appetite (whet the appetite), sharpen (v), whet (whet the appetite)
- ladder: ladder (increase)
- light & dark: burnish (v), burnished
- mechanism: accelerator (control), brake (control), crank up (v), dial down (and dial back), dial up (increase), gear up (v), pump up (v), ratchet up (v), rev up (v), supercharge (v), supercharged, turbocharge (v), turbocharged, turn up (increase)
- military: multiplier (force multiplier)
- money: enrich (v)
- moon: wane (v), wax and wane
- mountains & hills: peak (at the peak), peak (peaks and troughs, etc.), plateau (n), plateau (v)
- movement: accelerate (v), accelerator (control), brake (control), creep (mission creep, etc.), escalate (v), fluctuate (v), jump (n), momentum (n), rebound (numbers), roller coaster (development), surge (intransitive verb / increase), upsurge (n), yo-yo (yo-yo dieting, etc.)
- number: climb (increase), crater (v), creep up (numbers), dip (decrease), dip (n), drop (prices dropped, etc.), drop (drop in sales, etc.), explode (increase), exploding (adj), explosion (increase), fall (numbers), fluctuate (v), free fall (in free fall), go down (decrease), go up (increase), grow (increase), hover (numbers), inflated (numbers), jack up (v), jump (increase / verb), jump (n), level off (v), mount (v), multiplier (force multiplier), nosedive (verb / decrease), nosedive (noun / decrease), peak (numbers / verb), peak (peak temperature, etc.), pick up (increase), plateau (v), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline / decrease), rebound (v), rise (prices rise, etc.), rocket (increase), roof (through the roof), shoot up (v), skyrocket (increase), slip (sales have slipped, etc.), soar (v), spike (spike in business, etc.), spiraling (increase), tumble (decline)
- part of speech: big up (as verb), level up (as verb)
- pile: mount (v), mounting, pile on (increase), pile up (v)
- plane: nosedive (noun / decrease), nosedive (verb / decrease), spiral (downward or upward), take off (v)
- plant: burgeoning (adj), grow (increase), growing (increasing)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: go down (decrease), go up (increase), level up (as verb), pick up (increase), pile up (v), pump up (v), ramp up (v), ratchet up (v), up (higher)
- pressure: loosen (loosen control, etc.), ratchet up (v), relax (relax control, etc.), tighten (tighten control, etc.)
- rocket: rocket (increase), skyrocket (increase)
- roof: roof (through the roof)
- sea: tide (rising tide)
- shape: bulge (shape), bump (increase), plateau (n), plateau (v), spike (increase), spike (spike in business, etc.)
- size: balloon (v), big up (as verb), shrink (downsize), supersize (v), supersizing (linguistic supersizing), swell (v)
- sky: skyrocket (increase)
- snow & ice: snowball (v), snowball (snowball effect)
- sound: amplification (n), amplified, amplify (v), boom (increase), booming (adj), fall (silence fell, etc.), tone down (v)
- sports & games: roller coaster (development), yo-yo (yo-yo dieting, etc.)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: accelerate (v)
- tide: flow (increase), surge (intransitive verb / increase), tide (rising tide)
- tools & technology: jack up (v), ramp up (v), ratchet up (v)
- verb: accelerate (v), amplify (v), balloon (v), big up (as verb), blow up (blow up on TikTok, etc.), boom (increase), boost (v), boost (n), build up (v), burnish (v), climb (increase), crank up (v), dial down (and dial back), dial up (increase), dip (decrease), drop (prices dropped, etc.), enrich (v), escalate (v), explode (increase),

fall off (v), fan (v), feed (fuel), flow (increase), fluctuate (v), fuel (v), fuel (pour fuel on something, etc.), gas (pour gas on something, etc.), gear up (v), go down (decrease), go up (increase), grow (increase), harden (increase), heighten (v), inflame (v), inflate (v), jack up (v), jump (increase / verb), kindle (v), level off (v), level up (as verb), loosen (loosen control, etc.), mount (v), nosedive (verb / decrease), notch (take something up a notch), oil (pour oil), pick up (increase), pile on (increase), pile up (v), plateau (v), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline / decrease), pump up (v), ramp up (v), ratchet up (v), rebound (verb), relax (relax control, etc.), rev up (v), rise (prices rise, etc.), rocket (increase), sag (v), sharpen (v), shoot up (v), shrink (downsize), skyrocket (increase), slip (sales have slipped, etc.), slump (v), snowball (v), soar (v), spike (increase), spiral (downward or upward), step up (increase), stoke (v), supercharge (v), supersize (v), surge (intransitive verb / increase), swell (v), take off (v), tighten (tighten control, etc.), turbocharge (v), turn up (increase), wane (v), wax and wane

- walking, running & jumping: jump (increase / verb), jump (n), leaps and bounds
- water: buoyant (strong), faucet (n), flow (increase), fluctuate (v), surge (intransitive verb / increase), tap (n), tide (rising tide)
- wave: fluctuate (v), tide (rising tide)
- weapon: shoot up (v)

## INFRASTRUCTURE (2)

- ability & lack of ability: alley (up one's alley)
- achievement, recognition & praise: milestone (n), pinnacle (achievement)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: prop (n), prop up (v)
- amelioration & renewal: bolster (v), bolstered, buttress (v), outlet (n), prop (n), prop up (v), put (put something back together), rebuild (v), reinforce (v), scaffolding, shored up, shore up (v), smooth (smooth the road, etc.)
- amount: suite (suite of tools, etc.), warehouse (amount)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: deconstruct (v), deconstruction (n), frame (n), frame (characterize), framed (characterized), reframe (characterize)
- appearance & reality: airbrushed, facade (n), paint (coat of paint), whitewash (n), whitewash (v)
- attachment: built in
- attainment: milestone (n)
- bases: building block, cornerstone, infrastructure (n), keystone, pillar (basis), plank (n), plumbing (n)
- behavior: guardrail (behavior), gutter (in the gutter / behavior), gutter (out of the gutter), gutter (gutter politics, etc.)
- characterization: frame (n), frame (characterize)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: ramp (on ramp and off ramp, etc.)
- complexity: labyrinth (n), maze (terrain), maze (structures), maze (bureaucracy, etc.), warren (n)
- computer: warehousing (data)
- concealment & lack of concealment: airbrushed, astroturf (v), astroturf (n), astroturfer (n), astroturfing, ceiling (glass ceiling), facade (n), paint (coat of paint), whitewash (n), whitewash (v)
- configuration: built, built in, built-in
- conflict: arena (in / inside the arena)
- constraint & lack of constraint: ceiling (glass ceiling), ceiling (debt ceiling, etc.), guardrail (behavior), lane (experience), outlet (n), road (rules of the road)
- control & lack of control: faucet (n), tap (n)
- course: road (road from / to something), road (along / on the road)
- creation & transformation: architect (as verb), architect (creator), build (create), drawing board (on the drawing board), drawing board (other), engineered, engineering (n)
- curtailment: dismantle (v), plug (pull the plug)
- death & life: life (life is a building)
- decline: gutter (in the gutter / decline), gutter (end up in the gutter), gutter (gutter politics, etc.)

- destruction: buckle (give way), collapse (v), collapse (n), crash (crash down), demolition (n), drain (go down the drain, etc.), pipe (go down the pipes), roadkill (n), ruin (v), ruin (financial ruin, etc.), ruin (in ruins, etc.), ruin (road to ruin), ruined, tear down (v), tube (go down the tubes)
- directing: pipe (n), pipeline (other)
- direction: lighthouse (protection)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: dismantle (v), plug (pull the plug)
- disruption: tear down (v)
- division & connection: wall (obstacle)
- environment: warehouse (neglect)
- evidence: signpost (as verb), signpost (n)
- experience: alley (up one's alley), block (around the block), lane (experience)
- failure, accident & impairment: buckle (give way), collapse (v), collapse (n), drain (go down the drain, etc.), pipe (go down the pipes), pothole (n), toilet (in the toilet), tube (go down the tubes), tumble down (v)
- fate, fortune & chance: highway (highway to hell)
- geography: alley (Cyclone Alley, etc.), buttress (Castle Buttress, etc.), corridor (Siliguri Corridor, etc.)
- group, set & collection: suite (suite of tools, etc.)
- help & assistance: caretaker (role), custodian (role), scaffold (v), scaffolding (n)
- identity & nature: built in
- importance & significance: ground (break ground), capstone (n), milestone (n), monument (n), monumental (adj), towering (towering figure, etc.)
- increase & decrease: faucet (n), build up (v), tap (n)
- obstacles & impedance: ceiling (glass ceiling), ceiling (debt ceiling, etc.), hump (n), pothole (n), stonewall (v), stopped up, wall (obstacle)
- past & present: memory lane (down memory lane)
- perception, perspective & point of view: tunnel vision
- person: architect (creator)
- place: bowels (n)
- portal: avenue (portal)
- power: corridor (corridors of power), hall (halls of academe, etc.)
- progress & lack of progress: blind alley (n), milestone (n)
- proper name: buttress (Castle Buttress, etc.), corridor (Siliguri Corridor, etc.), courthouse (Devil's Courthouse, etc.), dome (Iron Dome, etc.), dome (Half Dome, etc.), Hilton (Fontana Hilton, etc.), pillar (Pillar Rock, etc.), pipeline (Pipeline, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: bolster (v), bolstered, firewall (other), guardrail (behavior)
- readiness & preparedness: brace (v), braced
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: tunnel (light at the end of the tunnel)
- resemblance: buttress (n), pillar (resemblance), street (cloud street, etc.), tunnel (resemblance)
- resiliency: put (put something back together)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: barricade (storm the barricades, etc.), buckle (give way), stonewall (v)
- responsibility: lane (experience)
- route: alley (Death Alley / U.S. 61, etc.), avenue (route), bridge (air bridge, etc.), canal (birth canal, etc.), corridor (route), expressway, highway (iceberg highway, etc.), pipe (n), pipeline (other), road (road from / to something), superhighway
- script: blueprint
- shape: canal (birth canal, etc.), dome (shape), pipe (sports), pipeline (shape)
- situation: maze (bureaucracy, etc.)
- size: monumental (adj)
- social interaction: street (two-way street)

- society: forum (public forum, etc.), square (public square, etc.), marketplace (n), street (society), village (online village, etc.), water cooler (digital water cooler, etc.)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: ground (break ground)
- strength & weakness: bolster (v), buttress (v), shored up, shore up (v)
- substance & lack of substance: facade (n)
- subterfuge: airbrushed, astroturf (v), astroturf (n), astroturfer (n), astroturfing, façade (n), paint (coat of paint), whitewash (n), whitewash (v)
- success & failure: blind alley (n)
- supplying: spigot (open / close, etc.)
- time: memory lane (down memory lane)
- transmission: corridor (route)
- transportation: canal (birth canal, etc.)

## **INITIATION (1) (see also starting, going, continuing & ending)**

- air: oxygen (fuel)
- allusion: Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), ship (launched a thousand ships)
- atmosphere: oxygen (fuel)
- bird: hatch (v), hatched
- boat: ship (launched a thousand ships)
- bottle: uncork (v)
- bubble: bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj)
- chemistry: catalyst (n), catalyze (v), oxygen (fuel), precursor (n)
- container: genie (initiation), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.)
- cooking: stir (v), stir up (v)
- creature: genie (initiation), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), worm (can of worms)
- death & life: life (spring to life)
- direction: dial up (order)
- dog: unleash (v), unleashed
- earthquake: tremor (n)
- electricity: galvanize (v), spark plug
- engine: gear (kick into gear, etc.), jump-start (v), jump-start (n), kick in (start), kick-start (v)
- explosion: blow up (blow up on TikTok, etc.), blowup (attention / noun), blow up (emotion), blowup (conflict), burst (burst into violence, etc.), detonate (v), detonator (n), explode (increase), explode (emotion), explode (initiation), explosion (violence, etc.), explosive (violence, etc.), fuse (n), go off (v), match (light / strike a match, etc.), powder keg, prime (v), primed (ready), set off (initiate), time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.), tripwire (initiation), volatile
- fire: ablaze (adj), aflame (adj), alight (fire), combustible (adj), fan (v), fiery (character), fiery (speech), fire (catch fire), flare (v), flare up (v), flare-up (n), flashpoint (n), fuel (v), fuel (n), fuel (pour fuel on something, etc.), fueled, gas (pour gas on something, etc.), ignite, incendiary (speech), incendiary (other), inflame (v), inflammatory (adj), kindle, match (light / strike a match, etc.), oxygen (fuel), re-ignite, rekindle, spark (v), spark (n), stoke (v), stoked (increased), tinderbox (violence, etc.), volatile
- flying & falling: launch (n), take off (v)
- food & drink: pot (stir the pot)
- foot: kick in (start), kick off (v), kickoff (n), kick up (v)
- football: kick off (v), kickoff (n)
- health & medicine: patient zero
- heating water: boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), percolate (v), seethe (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity)
- horse: spur (v), spurred

- leg: kick in (start), kick off (v), kick-start (v), kick up (v)
- mechanism: button (push a button / action), button (push a button / emotion), dial up (order), gear (kick into gear, etc.), kick in (start), launching pad, prime (v), primed (ready), springboard (n), wheel (set the wheels in motion)
- military: tripwire (initiation)
- movement: pot (stir the pot), swirl (v), spin up (v), spun up
- plane: take off (v)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: bubble up (v)
- pressure: blow up (emotion), blowup (conflict), explode (emotion), uncork (v)
- pursuit, capture & escape: break out (v)
- religion: Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.)
- rocket: launching pad
- scale: scale (tip the scales)
- sports & games: kick off (v), kickoff (n), tee off (start)
- temperature: boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), combustible (adj), fiery (character), fiery (speech), incendiary (speech), incendiary (other), percolate (v), pot (stir the pot), seethe (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity)
- verb: blow up (blow up on TikTok, etc.), blow up (emotion), boil (initiation), boil over (v), break out (v), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), burst (burst into violence, etc.), button (push a button / action), button (push a button / emotion), catalyze (v), detonate (v), dial up (order), erupt (v), explode (emotion), explode (initiation), explode (increase), fan (v), flare (v), flare up (v), fuel (v), fuel (pour fuel on something, etc.), galvanize (v), gas (pour gas on something, etc.), go off (v), hatch (v), ignite (v), inflame (v), jump-start (v), kick in (start), kick off (v), kick-start (v), kick up (v), kindle (v), launch (v), life (spring to life), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), percolate (v), pot (stir the pot), prime (v), re-ignite (v), rekindle (v), scale (tip the scales), seethe (v), set off (initiate), shoot (shoot first), simmer (v), simmering (activity), spark (v), spin up (v), spur (v), stir (v), stir up (v), stoke (v), swirl (v), take off (v), tee off (start), trigger (a war, etc.), trigger (pull the trigger, etc.), unleash (v)
- volcano: erupt (v), eruption (n), tremor (n)
- water: boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), percolate (v), seethe (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity), springboard (n), swirl (v)
- weapon: blow up (emotion), blowup (conflict), draw (late / early on the draw), explode (emotion), fuse (n), hair trigger, prime (v), primed (ready), shoot (shoot first), time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.), trigger (a war, etc.), trigger (cause), trigger (emotion, memory, etc.), trigger (pull the trigger, etc.), tripwire (initiation)
- weight: scale (tip the scales)

## **INSECT (2) (see also animal)**

- activity: abuzz (activity), bee (busy as a bee), beehive (activity), buzz (activity), crawl (activity), hive (n), hornet's nest, hum (n), swarm (v), swarm (n)
- affliction: gadfly (person), infest (v), infested, pest (person), pester (v), riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.)
- amount & effect: swarm (v), swarm (n)
- appearance & disappearance: woodwork (come out of the woodwork, etc.)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: buzz (attention), buzzed (buzzed about, etc.)
- attraction & repulsion: moth (a moth to a flame, etc.)
- avoidance & separation: cocoon (v), cocoon (isolation), cocooned
- behavior: bee (busy as a bee), descend (descend on), swarm (v), swarm (n)
- character & personality: butterfly (social butterfly), gadfly (person), grub (person)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: descend (descend on)
- configuration: honeycomb (v), honeycombed, riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.)
- conflict: hornet's nest

- creation & transformation: web (spin a web)
- danger: hornet's nest
- dismissal, removal & resignation: mothball (v), mothballed
- division & connection: cocoon (v), cocoon (isolation), cocooned
- eagerness & reluctance: itchy (adj)
- enthusiasm: bitten (enthusiasm), bug (enthusiasm), itch (enthusiasm)
- environment: beehive (activity), hornet's nest
- feeling, emotion & effect: butterfly (butterflies in stomach), sting (n), stinging (adj), stung (feeling)
- flaws & lack of flaws: fly (fly in the ointment), riddled (riddled with flaws, etc.)
- geography: spider (Spider Rock, etc.)
- growth & development: cross-pollination
- hierarchy: bee (queen bee)
- insult: cockroach (n), grub (person), termite (n), worm (insult)
- involvement: web (entanglement)
- isolation & remoteness: cocoon (v), cocoon (isolation), cocooned
- military: spider hole (military)
- movement: swarm (v)
- perception, perspective & point of view: worm's eye (adj)
- person: butterfly (social butterfly), gadfly (person), grub (person), parasite (person)
- presence & absence: fly (fly on the wall)
- proper name: beehive (Beehive cluster, etc.), spider (Spider Rock, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: cocoon (v), cocoon (isolation), cocooned
- resemblance: cocoon (resemblance)
- searching & discovery: feeler (put out feelers, etc.)
- shape: butterfly (shape), honeycomb (shape), web (spider web and cobweb, etc.)
- situation: web (situation)
- size: mosquito (Mosquito Fleet, etc.)
- society: butterfly (social butterfly)
- sound: buzz (sound), cricket (sound), crickets (silence)
- strength & weakness: mosquito (Mosquito Fleet, etc.)
- subterfuge: web (spin a web)
- surveillance: fly (fly on the wall)
- transmission: cross-pollination
- violence: cockroach (n), termite (n)

## INSULT (1)

- animal: animal (insult), beast (insult), cockroach (n), dog (insult), donkey (insult), grub (person), hyena (person), jackal (n), jackass (n), lapdog (n), leech (person), monkey (insult), parasite (person), pig (insult), scavenger (n), snake (insult), swine (behavior), termite (n), worm (insult)
- baby: apron strings, baby (insult), brat (insult), child (spoiled child, etc.), crybaby (person), mama's boy (and mummy's boy, etc.)
- circus: clown (person)
- cooking: skewer (v), skewered
- creature: devil (evil), monster (affliction), witch (insult)
- dog: dog (insult), lapdog (n)
- face: slap (slap in the face, etc.), spit (spit in the face / noun)
- finger: finger (middle finger), flip off (v)
- foot: doormat (person), feet (wipe one's feet on somebody)

- gesture: finger (middle finger), flip off (v), nose (thumb one's nose), slap (slap in the face, etc.), spit (spit in the face / noun), tongue (stick one's tongue out, etc.)
- hardness & softness: softheaded (and soft-headed)
- head: softheaded (and soft-headed)
- hygiene: dirty (dirty people, etc.), filth (insult), scum (insult), trash (n)
- insect: cockroach (n), grub (person), termite (n), worm (insult)
- lap: lapdog (n)
- life span: grow up (grow up! etc.)
- nose: thumb (thumb one's nose)
- person: doormat (person), grub (person), parasite (person), snake (insult), witch (insult)
- religion: devil (evil), hell (go to hell)
- sign, signal, symbol: doormat (person)
- snake: snake (insult)
- speech: joke (it's a joke, etc.), punchline (joke), trash (n), trash talk (v), trash talk (n),
- tongue: tongue (stick one's tongue out, etc.)
- verb: feet (wipe one's feet on somebody), flip off (v), grow up (grow up! etc.), nose (thumb one's nose), skewer (v), trash talk (v), walk (walk and chew gum at the same time)
- walking, running & jumping: walk (walk and chew gum at the same time)
- waste: garbage (waste), trash (n), trash talk (v), trash talk (n), trashy (adj)

## INTRODUCTORY (2)

- contempo-speak: right (introductory), so (introductory), sure (introductory), well (introductory), yeah (introductory)

## INVOLVEMENT (1)

- animal: dog (dog in the fight), horse (horse in the race), wallow (v), web (entanglement)
- astronomy: drawn in, drawn into, pulled in, pulled into
- blood: hand (bloody hands, etc.), blood (blood on one's hands, etc.)
- boxing: weigh in (v)
- burden: drag (drag somebody into something)
- burial: buried (buried in debt, etc.)
- center & periphery: sideline (on the sideline), sideline (involvement)
- cloth: detangle (v), entwined, skein (entanglement), tangle (n), tangled, web (entanglement), wrapped (wrapped up in something)
- container: get in / get into (involvement), hole (situation), in (involvement), into (involvement)
- depth: deep (situation), deep (in deep), end (deep end), head (get in over one's head, etc.)
- direction: get in / get into (involvement), leave (leave something alone)
- dog: dog (dog in the fight)
- eye: eyeball (up to one's eyeballs)
- flying & falling: plunge (plunge into something), plunge (involvement)
- foot: toe (dip one's toes in water, etc.)
- ground, terrain & land: thick (in the thick of things)
- hand: blood (blood on one's hands, etc.), hand (at the hands), hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.), hand (bloody hands, etc.)
- head: head (get in over one's head, etc.)
- hole: hole (situation)
- horse: horse (horse in the race)
- hunting: caught up (in or by something), dog (dog in the fight), ensnare (v), ensnared, snare (v), trap (v), trapped
- hygiene: hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.)

- insect: web (entanglement)
- mixture: mix (in / into the mix), mixed up
- movement: bound up, draw in (v), drawn in, drawn into, enmeshed, pulled in, pulled into, web (entanglement)
- neck: neck (up to one's neck), neck-deep (in debt, etc.)
- picture: frame (in the frame / involvement), picture (out of the picture), picture (in the picture)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: in (involvement), into (involvement)
- rope: bound up, detangle (v), enmeshed, ensnare (v), ensnared, ensnarled (involvement), entangled (involvement), entwined, string (attachment), tangle (n), tangled
- shape: loop (in the loop), loop (other)
- sound: chime in (v)
- spider: web (entanglement)
- sports & games: game (in / into the game), horse (horse in the race), sideline (on the sideline), sideline (involvement), weigh in (v)
- standing, sitting & lying: sit out (v)
- throwing, putting & planting: throw (throw oneself into something)
- toe: toe (dip one's toes in water, etc.)
- verb: chime in (v), detangle (v), dive in (v), drag (drag somebody into something), draw in (v), ensnare (v), entwined, get in / get into (involvement), head (get in over one's head, etc.), jump (jump in), leave (leave something alone), plunge (plunge into something), sit out (v), snare (v), step in (v), stumble (stumble into a situation), sucked in / into (involved), throw (throw oneself into something), trap (v), wade (wade in / wade into), wallow (v), weigh in (v)
- walking, running & jumping: jump (jump in), step in (v), stumble (stumble into a situation), wade (wade in / wade into)
- water: deep (situation), deep (in deep), dive in (v), end (deep end), head (get in over one's head, etc.), immerse (v), immersed, immersion, plunge (plunge into something), plunge (involvement), sucked in / into (involved), throw (throw oneself into something), toe (dip one's toes in water, etc.), wade (wade in / wade into), water (deep water)
- weight: weigh in (v)

## **ISLAND (2) (see also sea; tide; tsunami; wave)**

- biodiversity, nature & life: Galapagos (Galapagos of Europe, etc.)
- configuration: archipelago (n)
- division & connection: insular (adj), island (society), island (island of affluence, etc.), shore (far shore), stranded (separated)
- environment: island (island of affluence, etc.)
- isolation & remoteness: castaway (person), insular (adj), marooned, Robinson Crusoe
- person: castaway (person)
- resemblance: island (beech island, etc.)
- society: castaway (person), island (society), marooned, Robinson Crusoe, shore (far shore), stranded (separated)

## **ISOLATION & REMOTENESS (1)**

- animal: carapace (protection), shell (protection)
- astronomy: black hole
- bird: cooped up
- bubble: bubble (isolation), bubble (quarantine)
- color: black hole
- container: bubble (isolation), bubble (quarantine)
- electricity: insulate (v), insulated, insulation (n)
- epithet: hermit (the Hermit Kingdom, etc.), North Korea (epithet), Timbuktu (remoteness)
- farming & agriculture: silo (v), silo (academic silos, etc.), siloed

- fortification: moated
- ground, terrain & land: cold (in the cold), Mongolia (Outer Mongolia), Siberia (exile), Timbuktu (remoteness), wilderness (in / into the wilderness)
- insect: cocoon (v), cocoon (isolation), cocooned
- island: castaway (person), insular (adj), marooned, Robinson Crusoe
- journeys & trips: no man's land (people), path (off the beaten path), track (off the beaten track), way (out of the way / remote)
- light & dark: black hole
- map: no man's land (people)
- mountains & hills: cave (isolation)
- path: path (off the beaten path)
- person: castaway (person), hermit (person)
- place: cloistered
- religion: cloistered
- river: backwater
- sea: castaway (person), insular (adj), marooned, Robinson Crusoe, shell (protection)
- throwing, putting & planting: castaway (person)
- verb: cocoon (v), insulate (v), silo (v)
- water: bubble (isolation), bubble (quarantine), shell (protection)

## **JOURNEYS & TRIPS (2) (see also movement)**

- ability: way (know one's way around)
- achievement, recognition & praise: milestone (n)
- alternatives & choices: crossroad (at a crossroad), crossroad (other), fork (a fork in the road, etc.), path (alternatives and choices), road (fork in the road, etc.)
- amelioration & renewal: path (clear a path), smooth (smooth the road, etc.), way (pave the way)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: arrive at (an answer, etc.), come from (analysis), come to (come to an answer, etc.), exploration (n), explore (analyze), follow (argument), get (get somewhere), go (argument), reach (reach an answer, etc.), take (take somebody somewhere)
- area: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), waters (uncharted waters, etc.), wilderness (area)
- attachment: accompany (attachment), attend (v), come with (and come along with / attachment)
- attainment: arrive at (an answer, etc.), far (progress), get (get somewhere), mile (the last mile), milestone (n), reach (a place on a journey), way (all the way)
- certainty & uncertainty: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), uncharted (adj), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- character & personality: easygoing (adj)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: bag (pack one's bags), circle back (return), get (get somewhere), reach (the news reached him, etc.)
- commitment & determination: boat (burn one's boats), return (point of no return), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
- competition: catch up (catch up to something), fall behind (competition and progress), keep up (progress), lag (progress), pass (progress), trail (competition and progress)
- comprehension & incomprehension: follow (argument), go (argument)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), road (go down that road, etc.), there (let's not go there)
- consciousness & awareness: find (find oneself in a place, etc.), road (road to Damascus)
- course: adrift (adj), detour (n), direction (course / on a course), direction (purpose), direction (symbol), journey (in one's journey), journey (on a journey), journey (n), passage (journey), path (path of peace, etc.), road (road

from / to something), road (along / on the road), road (long road), route (course), trajectory (n), way (along the way)

- curtailment: track (stop something in its tracks)
- danger: clear (in the clear / into the clear), patch (rough patch), woods (out of the woods)
- death & life: dead (dead and gone), journey (life is a journey), road (fork in the road, etc.), way (along the way)
- decline: direction (the right / wrong direction, etc.)
- development: come (come a long way), course (development), crossroad (at a crossroad), crossroad (other), get (get somewhere), go (where are we going, etc.), journey (n), odyssey (on an odyssey), odyssey (other), passage (journey), path (a path can turn / development), reach (a place on a journey), return (point of no return), road (turn in the road, etc.), saga (n), trajectory (n), take (take somebody somewhere), turn (take a turn), turn (development), way (go the other way, etc.)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: corner (cut corners), mile (go the extra mile), patch (rough patch), path (tough / easy path, etc.), path (clear a path), road (long road), road (tough / easy road, etc.), shortcut (v), shortcut (n), slog (v), slog (long hard slog, etc.), trail of tears, via dolorosa, way (go out of one's way), yellow brick road
- directing: guide (v), guide (person), shepherd (v), take (take somebody somewhere)
- direction: beacon (n), bearing (direction), bound (destination), chart (v), course (on course), course (change course, etc.), course (stay the course), course (reverse course), course (course of action, etc.), crossroad (at a crossroad), crossroad (other), detour (n), follow (a path, route, road, etc.), footstep (in the footsteps), fork (a fork in the road, etc.), go (direction), guide (v), guide (person), guide (nonperson), head (development), headed, landmark (n), lead (one thing leads to another), light (guiding light), lodestar (n), lodestone (n), lost (direction), mislead (v), misleading (adj), navigate (v), negotiate (terrain, etc.), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), plot (v), road (turn in the road, etc.), stray (direction), uncharted (adj), way (lose one's way), way (find one's way), way (the wrong way), way (know one's way around), way (part ways)
- division & connection: stepping stone, traverse (v), way (part ways)
- driving force: pathbreaking (adj), pathfinder (person), pioneer (person), way (lead the way)
- eagerness & reluctance: path (beat a path), road (go down that road, etc.), there (let's not go there)
- evidence: signpost (as verb), signpost (n)
- experience: been through (endure, etc.), go through (endure, etc.), journey (n), passage (journey), road (down a road before), there (been there, etc.)
- extent & scope: ground (cover ground), mile (go the extra mile)
- failure, accident & impairment: circle (go in circles), cul-de-sac, dead end, direction (the right / wrong direction, etc.), mislead (v), misleading (adj), pothole (n), sidetracked, sideways (go sideways), step (a step in the wrong direction), turn (wrong turn), way (lose one's way), way (the wrong way)
- fate, fortune & chance: back (no way back, etc.), boat (burn one's boats), path (cross paths), return (point of no return), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: follow (follow a feeling or emotion), trail of tears, via dolorosa
- fictive transportation: take (take somebody somewhere)
- flaws & lack of flaws: bump (speed bump), bump (bump in the road, etc.), path (the right / wrong path, etc.), path (tough / easy path, etc.), road (tough / easy road, etc.)
- future: ahead (the future is ahead, etc.), bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), end (no end in sight, etc.), go (where are we going, etc.), lie (lie ahead), road (down the road, etc.)
- growth & development: fall behind (competition and progress), passage (n), lag (progress), rite (rite of passage), trail (competition and progress)
- help & assistance: stepping stone
- history: baggage (n), freighted, loaded
- importance & significance: landmark (n), milestone (n), pathbreaking (adj), pioneer (person), pioneering, trail (blaze a trail), trailblazer (person), trailblazing
- isolation & remoteness: no man's land (people), path (off the beaten path), track (off the beaten track), way (out of the way / remote)

- knowledge & intelligence: way (know one's way around)
- migration: hegira (and hejira), nomad (person), nomadic (adj), refugee (person), trail of tears
- movement: plod (v), slog (long hard slog, etc.)
- obstacles & impedance: bog down (v), bogged down, bump (speed bump), bump (bump in the road, etc.), clear (in the clear / into the clear), come through (v), get through (endure, etc.), gridlock (n), gridlocked, impasse (n), patch (rough patch), path (clear a path), pothole (n), roadblock (n), way (in the way), way (out of the way / obstacles), woods (out of the woods)
- operation: course (course of justice, etc.)
- oppression: baggage (n), freighted, loaded, path (force someone down a path, etc.)
- past & present: backtrack (go back in time), circle back (return), memory lane (down memory lane), revisit (v), road (down a road before), walk (walk somebody back)
- person: follower (social media, etc.), guide (person), Jew (Jews of the Caribbean, etc.), nomad (person), pioneer (person), refugee (person), trailblazer (person), traveller (person)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: pass by (progress), way (on the way out), way (give way to something), way (go the way of something), wayside (fall by the wayside, etc.)
- progress & lack of progress: beginning (just the beginning, etc.), blind alley (n), bog down (v), catch up (catch up to something), checkpoint (at a checkpoint), circle (go in circles), come (come a long way), cul-de-sac, dead end, direction (the right / wrong direction, etc.), fall behind (competition and progress), far (progress), forward (move forward, go forward, etc.), go (a distance to go, etc.), ground (gain ground), ground (lose ground, etc.), headway (n), impasse (n), journey, keep up (progress), lag (progress), milestone (n), move (progress), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), pass (progress), pass by (progress), plod (v), road (road from / to something), set back (v), setback (progress), sideways (go sideways), step (a step in the right direction), step (a step forward), step (a step back / backwards), there (destination), trail (competition and progress), turn back (v), way (come a long way, etc.), way (in the way), wind (wind its way)
- proper name: Odyssey (Mars Odyssey, etc.), pathfinder (Mars Pathfinder, etc.), Silk Road (maritime Silk Road, etc.)
- pursuit, capture & escape: hegira (and hejira)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: end (no end in sight, etc.), get on with (get on with something), get over (overcome), get through (endure, etc.), move on (resiliency)
- relationship: accompany (attachment), attend (v), bedfellow (companion), come with (and come along with / attachment), guide (person), land (landed him in jail, etc.)
- resiliency: carry on (v), drive on (resiliency), get on with (get on with something), get over (overcome), get through (endure, etc.), go on (persist), move on (resiliency), push on (v), roll on (resiliency)
- reversal: backtrack (reversal), course (reverse course), turnabout (reversal)
- route: pathway (route), road (road from / to something), trail (campaign trail, etc.), trail (canoe trail, etc.), way (route)
- script: road map
- searching & discovery: exploration (n), explore (discover), explorer (person), ground (cover ground), pathfinder (person), trail (blaze a trail)
- sequence: way (give way to something)
- speech: freighted, loaded
- speed: plod (v)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: ahead (go ahead), beginning (just the beginning, etc.), carry on (v), course (change course, etc.), course (stay the course), course (reverse course), embark (embark on something), end (no end in sight, etc.), get on with (get on with something), go on (persist), head start, jumping-off place / point, move on (resiliency), move on (change the subject, etc.), outset (from the outset), outset (at the outset / career, etc.), path (set out on this path, etc.), push on (v), road (end of the road), set out (and set off), set sail (v), strike out (start), underway, way (on the way), way (every step of the way)

- success & failure: blind alley (n), come through (v), cul-de-sac, dead end, nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), way (all the way), wayside (fall by the wayside, etc.)
- survival, persistence & endurance: been through (endure, etc.), carry on (v), clear (in the clear / into the clear), come through (v), get by (v), get on with (get on with something), get over (overcome), get through (endure, etc.), go through (endure, etc.), go on (persist), patch (rough patch), push on (v), road (road from / to something), trail of tears, via dolorosa, wayside (fall by the wayside, etc.), woods (out of the woods)
- time: ahead (the future is ahead, etc.), backtrack (go back in time), behind (in the past), bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), course (over the course / time), end (no end in sight, etc.), go (where are we going, etc.), here (we have been here before), lie (lie ahead), passage (passage of time), memory lane (down memory lane), outset (at the outset of 2020, etc.), revisit (v), road (road ahead, etc.), road (down a road before), road (down the road, etc.), time (passage of time), time (travel in / through time, etc.), walk (walk somebody back)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), head start
- transmission: hitchhike (v), hitchhiker (n)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: path (path to / toward something)

## JUDGMENT (1)

- allusion: draconian (adj), nemesis (n), piper (pay the piper, etc.), Solomonic (adj)
- animal: bite (bite him in the end, etc.), chicken (come home to roost), kangaroo court
- astronomy: star (five stars, etc.)
- baseball: call (the right call), call (close call / judgment), scorecard (n), strike (three strikes, etc.)
- Bible: Solomonic (adj)
- bird: chicken (come home to roost)
- books & reading: book (books and covers)
- crime: crime (fashion crime, etc.), hot seat (n)
- direction: hand down / out (punishment, etc.), thumbs-down, upvote (and downvote)
- electricity: hot seat (n)
- epithet: sword (*Sayf* Allah, etc.), Supreme Court
- eye: eye (side eye, stink eye, etc.)
- face: frown (v), frowned upon, smile (v)
- food & drink: taste (in good taste, etc.), taste (judgment)
- gesture: frown (v), frowned upon, eye (side eye, stink eye, etc.), smile (v), thumbs-down, thumbs-up
- hand: even-handed (adj), hand down / out (punishment, etc.), handed down / out (punishment, etc.), thumbs-down, thumbs-up
- health & medicine: triage (v), triage (n)
- history: auto da fe, inquisition (n), lynched, lynching (media lynching, etc.), lynch mob, star chamber (n)
- house: bed (lie in one's bed / make one's bed)
- justice: bite (bite him in the end, etc.), chicken (come home to roost), circle back (judgment), condemn (v), court (in the court), court (other), crime (fashion crime, etc.), firing squad, hand down / out (punishment, etc.), handed down / out (punishment, etc.), hanging (hanging offense), hot seat (n), judge (role), judged, jury (the jury is out), kangaroo court, nemesis (n), scale (scales of justice, etc.), sentence (life sentence), Supreme Court, trial (show trial), verdict (n), witch hunt
- letters & characters: box (tick a box, etc.)
- mechanism: feedback (n)
- military: dressing down (n), firing squad, muster (pass muster), prisoner (take no prisoners, etc.), quarter (no quarter, etc.)
- money: cost (at a cost), cost (other), hell (hell to pay, etc.), pay (pay a price), pay (revenge), price (n), price tag, reckoning (judgment)
- music: music (face the music)

- person: judge (role), scold (person)
- religion: damning (adj), hell (judgment), hell (hell to pay, etc.), hell (hell hath no fury), nemesis (n), Solomonic (adj)
- scale: scale (scales of justice, etc.), scale (put one's finger on the scale, etc.), weigh (analyze)
- school & education: grade (failing grade), mark (high mark), quiz (v), report card
- sign, signal, symbol: frown (v), frowned upon, scale (scales of justice, etc.), seal of approval, star (five stars, etc.), smile (v), thumbs-down, thumbs-up, upvote (and downvote)
- society: reckoning (judgment)
- sound: boo (v), boo (n), cheer (v), cheer (n), tuning fork (n)
- speech: call out (v), callout (criticism), speak (the people have spoken, etc.)
- sports & games: call (close call / judgment), call (the right call), game (blame game), scorecard (n), strike (three strikes, etc.)
- star: star (five stars, etc.)
- stomach: gut (n)
- sword: sword (fall on one's sword)
- taste: taste (in good taste, etc.), taste (judgment)
- temperature: hot seat (n)
- theater: review (n)
- thumb: thumbs-down, thumbs-up, upvote (and downvote)
- tools & technology: measure (measure up, etc.), tuning fork (n)
- verb: bed (lie in one's bed / make one's bed), bite (bite him in the end, etc.), boo (v), call out (v), cheer (v), chicken (come home to roost), circle back (judgment), come back (to bite, haunt, etc.), condemn (v), frown (v), hand down / out (punishment, etc.), muster (pass muster), pay (pay a price), pay (revenge), piper (pay the piper, etc.), quiz (v), scale (put one's finger on the scale, etc.), smile (v), triage (v), weigh (analyze)
- violence: drag (contempo-speak / verb), dragging (contempo-speak), hanging (hanging offense), inquisition (n), lynched, lynching (media lynching, etc.), lynch mob, star chamber (n)
- weight: scale (put one's finger on the scale, etc.), weigh (analyze)

## JUDGMENT (2)

- inclusion & exclusion: cancel (groups, etc.), cancel culture (groups, etc.), cancellation (groups, etc.), cancelled (groups, etc.), drag (contempo-speak / verb), dragging (contempo-speak), justice (groups), original sin (groups), reckoning (groups)
- language: not (not in a good way), happy (not happy)

## JUNGLE (2)

- competition: himself (every man for himself), jungle (competition), law (law of the jungle, etc.)
- danger: jungle (competition)
- environment: jungle (environment)

## JUSTICE (2)

- accusation & criticism: firing squad, hot seat (n)
- action, inaction & delay: stay (stay of execution)
- affliction: ball and chain, nemesis (n)
- certainty & uncertainty: jury (the jury is out)
- constraint & lack of constraint: Geneva Convention (cyber, etc.)
- control & lack of control: police (v)
- death & life: death sentence (literal), death warrant (literal)
- destruction: dead man walking, death sentence (figurative), death warrant (figurative), wheel (break someone on the wheel, etc.)

- fate, fortune & chance: bite (bite him in the end, etc.), chicken (come home to roost), jury (the jury is out), reprieve (n), stay (stay of execution)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: hand down / out (punishment, etc.), handed down / out (punishment, etc.)
- guilt: get away (get away with something)
- haste: rush (rush to judgment)
- judgment: bite (bite him in the end, etc.), chicken (come home to roost), circle back (judgment), condemn (v), court (in the court), court (other), crime (fashion crime, etc.), firing squad, hand down / out (punishment, etc.), handed down / out (punishment, etc.), hanging (hanging offense), hot seat (n), judge (role), judged, jury (the jury is out), kangaroo court, nemesis (n), scale (scales of justice, etc.), sentence (life sentence), Supreme Court, trial (show trial), verdict (n), witch hunt
- operation: wheel (wheels of justice, etc.)
- oppression: ball and chain, cage (jail, prison), kangaroo court, police (and cop, etc.), scapegoat (n), trial (show trial), witch hunt
- person: judge (role), vigilante (person)
- punishment & recrimination: capital punishment, hand down / out (punishment, etc.), handed down / out (punishment, etc.), hanging (hanging offense), hook (off the hook), jail (Twitter jail, etc.), nemesis (n), reprieve (n), scapegoat (n), sentence (life sentence), stay (stay of execution), Supreme Court
- pursuit, capture & escape: get away (get away with something), hook (off the hook)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: jury (the jury is out)
- responsibility: bite (bite him in the end, etc.), chicken (come home to roost), circle back (judgment), get away (get away with something)
- revenge: nemesis (n)
- reversal: bite (bite him in the end, etc.), chicken (come home to roost), circle back (judgment)
- sacrifice: scapegoat (n)
- weight: ball and chain

## KEY (2)

- access & lack of access: key (access)
- attachment: locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
- concealment & lack of concealment: lock (lock something away), lock (under lock and key), unlock (v)
- configuration: locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
- constraint & lack of constraint: lockdown (n)
- curtailment: lockdown (n)
- division & connection: locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
- epithet: keyhole (the Keyhole, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: lock (lock something away)
- importance & significance: key (important)
- proper name: keyhole (the Keyhole, etc.)
- punishment & recrimination: key (throw away the key)
- searching & discovery: unlock (v)

## KNEE (2)

- coercion & motivation: kneecap (v), kneecapped
- condition & status: knee (bring to one's knees), knee (on knees)
- decline: knee (bring to one's knees), knee (on knees)
- dominance & submission: knee (bring to one's knees), knee (risen from its knees, etc.), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), kowtow (v)
- oppression: knee (oppression)

- resistance, opposition & defeat: knee (bring to one's knees), knee (risen from its knees, etc.), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), kowtow (v)
- superiority & inferiority: knee (risen from its knees, etc.)

## **KNIFE (2) (see also ax; blade; military; sword; weapon)**

- ability & lack of ability: edge (lose one's edge)
- affliction: cut (a thousand cuts)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: backstabber (person), backstabbing (n), cutthroat (competition), stab (stab somebody in the back)
- amelioration & renewal: hone (v), sharpen (v)
- amount: slice (piece), sliver (piece)
- attempt: stab (attempt)
- behavior: backstabber (person), backstabbing (n), cutthroat (competition)
- character & personality: backstabber (person)
- competition: cutthroat (competition)
- computer: scrape (v)
- condition & status: honed, sharp
- creation & transformation: carved out, carve out (v)
- curtailment: cut (budget cuts, etc.), cut (cut the budget, etc.), cut off (v), cut short (v)
- danger: back (stab in the back)
- decline: whittled, whittling (whittling down)
- destruction: dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), gut (destroy), gutted (destroyed), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart), knife (sharpen one's knife)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: bone (cut something to the bone, etc.), cut (a person from a team, etc.), cut off (v), pare (v), pared (pared to the bone), scrape (v), slash (v), trim (trim the fat, etc.), whittled, whittling (whittling down)
- division & connection: sever (v)
- feeling, emotion & effect: cut (cut both ways), dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), gutted (feeling), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart), lacerating (adj), stab (sensation), stab (stab of pain, etc.), stabbing (stabbing pain, etc.)
- fictive motion: cut (road cuts, etc.), slice (road slices, etc.)
- flaws & lack of flaws: dull (adj), edge (lose one's edge)
- functioning: honed, sharp (skills, etc.)
- increase & decrease: appetite (whet the appetite), sharpen (v), whet (whet the appetite)
- knife: stab (stab in the dark)
- person: backstabber (person)
- protection & lack of protection: back (stab in the back)
- proximity: edge (at the edge)
- punishment & recrimination: knife (sharpen one's knife)
- resemblance: cut (road cuts, etc.), slice (road slices, etc.)
- searching & discovery: scrape (v)
- shape: knife-edged
- speech: barbed (speech), blunt (speech), cut off (speech), sharp (speech), sharp-tongued
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: bone (cut something to the bone, etc.), pared (pared to the bone)
- survival, persistence & endurance: scrape by (v)
- taking & removing: scrape (v)

## **KNOWLEDGE & INTELLIGENCE (1) (see also ability & lack of ability)**

- allusion: Einstein (intelligence, or lack)
- books & reading: encyclopedia (knowledge), encyclopedic (adj), textbook (n)

- boat: rope (learn the ropes, etc.)
- creature: genie (knowledge), wizardry (n)
- depth: depth (out of one's depth)
- epithet: Athens (Athens of Asia, etc.), Florence (Florence on the Elbe, etc.), Harvard (epithet), Leonardo da Vinci, Oxford (Oxford of China, etc.)
- foot: feet (master / protégé)
- ground, terrain & land: way (know one's way around)
- head: brain (n), brain drain (and brain gain), brain trust, head (intelligence)
- history: Dark Ages (in the Dark Ages), Dark Ages (other), medieval (adj), prehistoric (adj)
- journeys & trips: way (know one's way around)
- light & dark: dark (in the dark), illuminate (v), illuminating (adj), light bulb (and lightbulb, bulb)
- magic: genie (knowledge), wizardry (n)
- mechanism: brilliant (technology), dumb (technology), smart (technology, etc.)
- military: camp (math camp, etc.)
- music: chops (expertise)
- part of speech: know-how (n), smart (as noun), stupid (as noun)
- person: genie (knowledge), guru (person), maven (person), professor (n), pundit (person), savant (n), scientist (rock scientist), teacher (experience is the best teacher, etc.)
- position: feet (master / protégé)
- religion: guru (person)
- rocket: science (not rocket science)
- school & education: IQ (ability), learn (v), lesson (n), masterclass (n), note (compare notes), professor (n), school (v), school (experience), schooled, teacher (experience is the best teacher, etc.), textbook (n), university (experience)
- sign, signal, symbol: head (intelligence), light bulb (and lightbulb, bulb)
- sound: whisperer (horse whisperer, etc.)
- stomach: gut (n)
- transmission: feet (master / protégé)
- verb: illuminate (v), learn (v)
- water: depth (out of one's depth)

## LADDER (2)

- help & assistance: ladder (ladders of opportunity, etc.)
- hierarchy: ladder (hierarchy), rung (on the bottom rung), rung (bottom rung), rung (other)
- increase & decrease: ladder (increase)

## LANGUAGE (1) (see also contempo-speak, inclusion & exclusion)

- adverb: hard (love hard, go hard, etc.)
- affix: aissance (McConaissance, etc.), complex (military-industrial complex, etc.), demic (infodemic, etc.), dom (memedom, etc.), enomics (and nomics), exit (and Brexit, etc.), flation (lunchflation, etc.), Franken (Frankenfoods, etc.), geddon (chipageddon, etc.), holic (shopaholic, etc.), hyper (hypersexualized, etc.), ish (androgyny-ish, etc.), land (clubland, etc.), mega (mega-blogger, etc.), meta (affix), over (overshare, etc.), scape (threatscape, etc.), sphere (cryptosphere, etc.), super (superlawyer, etc.), uber (uber-interesting, etc.), ultra (ultra-conservative, etc.), verse (metaverse, etc.), whisperer (horse whisperer, etc.), y (pulpy, etc.), zilla (bridezilla, etc.)
- cliché: best life (cliché), nothing-burger, there (let's not go there), there (there is no there there, etc.), you've never heard of
- collocation: collocation (language)
- euphemism: complex (euphemism / adjective), plus-one (boyfriend, girlfriend, etc.)
- family: mother tongue

- funny language: funny language
- grammar: grammar (language)
- judgment: happy (not happy), not (not in a good way)
- letters & characters: word (the P-word, etc.), x (Chicanx, etc.)
- part of speech: see *part of speech* (2)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: big (big love, etc.), by (death by chocolate, etc.), on (brag on, etc.)
- pronunciation: pronunciation (language)
- sarcasm: cough (snark / noun), damn (damn with faint praise), Einstein (intelligence, or lack), Jeopardy! (snark), much (sarcasm), memo (sarcasm), not (and not so much / sarcasm), Oh (and wait a minute, etc. / sarcasm), Oh, my! (sarcasm), science (not rocket science), surprise (sarcasm), thanks (and thank you / sarcasm), Wheel of Fortune (snark), wrong (sarcasm)
- speech: boilerplate (n), buzzword (n), doublespeak (n), ese (legalese, etc.), language (types), lip service (pay lip service, etc.), newspeak (n), speak (NASA-speak, etc.), supersizing (linguistic supersizing), talk (mediator talk, etc.), word salad
- spelling: spelling (language)
- tongue: mother tongue, tongue (language)
- verb: need (she needs to, etc.), want (I want her home, etc.)
- vocabulary: vocabulary (language)

## LANGUAGE (2)

- inclusion & exclusion: alphabet (LGBTQ+), LGBTQ+, political correctness (groups), politically correct (groups), pronoun (groups), queer (collocations), vocabulary (groups), word (the P-word, etc.), x (Chicanx, etc.)
- contempo-speak: aesthetic (and aesthetics), agnostic (adj), clap back (contempo-speak / verb), clap back (contempo-speak / noun), concretize (v), concretized, curate (v), curated, cognitive dissonance, dive (deep dive), gaslight (v), gaslighting (n), heavy (serious), intersection (n), landscape (n), like (not like), look like (resemble), mindful (adj), navigate (v), not (when is a Mastodon not, etc.), plus-one (boyfriend, girlfriend, etc.), purposeful (adj), point (decision point, etc.), space (groups, etc.), transactional (adj), zeitgeist (n)

## LAP (2)

- dependency: lapdog (n)
- dominance & submission: lapdog (n)
- fate, fortune & chance: lap (fall into one's lap / a windfall)
- insult: lapdog (n)
- possession: lap (fall into one's lap / a windfall)
- relationship: lapdog (n)
- responsibility: lap (responsibility)
- situation: lap (lap of luxury)
- worth & lack of worth: lap (fall into one's lap / a windfall)

## LEAKING (1) (see also fictive motion; movement)

- blood: bleed (v), bleed (n), bleeding, hemorrhage (v), hemorrhage (n)
- health & medicine: bleed (v), bleed (n), bleeding, hemorrhage (v), hemorrhage (n)
- knowledge & intelligence: brain drain (and brain gain)
- sound: drip (and drip-drip, etc.)
- verb: bleed (v), drain (remove), hemorrhage (v), leak (v), leak out (v), ooze (v), spill (and spill out, etc.)
- water: drain (remove), drain (n), drip (and drip-drip, etc.), leak (v), leak (n), leaked, leak out (v), ooze (v), spill (and spill out, etc.)

## LEG (2) (see also foot; heel; toe)

- bases: leg (leg to stand on), leg (last legs)
- condition & status: leg (last legs)

- configuration: astride (position), straddle (configuration)
- constraint & lack of constraint: fetter (n), fettered, hamstrung, hobble (v), hobbled, unfettered
- decline: leg (last legs)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: kicked off, kicked out, kick out (v)
- division & connection: foot (one foot / the other foot), foot (foot in both worlds, etc.), straddle (connect)
- eagerness & reluctance: kicking and screaming
- feeling, emotion & effect: kick (kick one's butt, etc.), kick (kick in the teeth, etc.)
- fictive position: astride (position), straddle (configuration)
- functioning: fetter (n), fettered, hamstrung, hobble (v), hobbled, unfettered
- growth & development: leg (grow legs, have legs, etc.)
- initiation: kick in (start), kick off (v), kickoff (n), kick-start (v), kick up (v)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: kicking and screaming
- sequence: leg (first leg, etc.)
- standing, sitting & lying: leg (last legs)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: kick in (start), kick off (v), kickoff (n), kick-start (v), leg (grow legs, have legs, etc.)
- success & failure: flop (v), flop (n), leg (grow legs, have legs, etc.)

## **LETTERS & CHARACTERS (2) (see also books & reading; writing & spelling)**

- analysis, interpretation & explanation: spelled out, spell out (v)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: asterisk (attention), exclamation point, footnote (n), full stop, punctuate (v), underline (attention), underscore (attention)
- certainty & uncertainty: question mark
- configuration: punctuate (configuration)
- cost & benefit: box (tick a box, etc.), plus (benefit)
- failure, accident & impairment: T-bone (v), T-boned
- judgement: box (tick a box, etc.)
- language: word (the P-word, etc.), x (Chicanx, etc.)
- mixture: alphabet (letters)
- money: dollar sign (n)
- movement: zig-zag (v)
- reversal: U-turn (n)
- shape: shaped (H-shaped, etc.), U-turn (n), zig-zag (v), zig-zag (n)
- substance & lack of substance: box (check the box, etc.)

## **LIFE SPAN (2)**

- experience: grownup (person), grow up (grow up! etc.)
- growth & development: adolescence (n), age (come of age), apron strings, baby (development), big boy (person), birthday (creation), bloomer (late bloomer), boy (n), brat (insult), brought up, career (n), child (spoiled child, etc.), crisis (mid-life crisis), crybaby (person), dowager (old), embryo (n), embryonic (adj), feet (stand on one's own two feet), girl (big girl), grande dame (old), grow (develop), growing pains, grownup (person), grow up (grow up together, etc.), grow up (grow up! etc.), infancy (in infancy), infancy (other), infant (n), innocence (n), life (begin life), life span (n), living (adj), mama's boy (and mummy's boy, etc.), mature (v), maturity, newborn, old (a year old, etc.), pants (big girl pants, etc.), raised (reared), reared (raised), stillborn (adj), walk (crawl, walk, run), youngster (n), youth (development)
- insult: grow up (grow up! etc.)

## **LIGHT & DARK (2)**

- access & lack of access: black hole
- accusation & criticism: shade (v), shade (n)

- achievement, recognition & praise: leading light (person), luminary (person), star (achievement), supernova (achievement)
- activity: alight (activity), light up (activity)
- amelioration & renewal: clarify (v), clear up (v), polish (v)
- amount: glimmer (glimmer of hope, etc.), ray (ray of hope, etc.), scintilla (scintilla of doubt, etc.), shadow (beyond a shadow of a doubt, etc.), spark (spark of hope, etc.)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: illuminate (v), illuminating (adj), light (shed light), lighthouse (illumination), opacity (n), opaque (adj)
- appearance: bedazzled (decorated), gloss (appearance)
- appearance & disappearance: fade (v), fade away, light (come to light), light (bring something to light), light (see the light)
- appearance & reality: gloss (appearance)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: blaze (in a blaze of glory), dim (overshadow), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), flare (n), glare (attention), highlight (v), light (shine a light), limelight (in the limelight), outshine (v), overshadow (v), penumbra (n), shadow (attention), spotlight (in / under the spotlight), spotlight (into the spotlight), spotlight (out of the spotlight), spotlight (shine a spotlight), spotlight (steal the spotlight), spotlight (other), sunlight (concealment), supernova (attention)
- attenuation: shadow (devitalized), tarnish (v), tarnished
- attraction & repulsion: moth (a moth to a flame, etc.)
- certainty & uncertainty: clear (crystal clear), clear (unambiguous), cloudy (certainty), murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), open-and-shut (adj), shadow (beyond a shadow of a doubt, etc.), twilight (in a legal twilight, etc.), unclear (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
- character & personality: brilliant (superlative), incandescent (character), light (shining light), light up (a room, etc.), scintillating (adj)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: fade away (v)
- comparison & contrast: night (night and day and day and night)
- competition: outshine (v), overshadow (v), shadow (attention)
- comprehension & incomprehension: clarify (v), clear (crystal clear), clear (perception), clear (unambiguous), dark (in the dark), dawn (verb / comprehension), illuminate (v), illuminating (adj), light bulb (and lightbulb, bulb), lighthouse (illumination), murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), opacity (n), opaque (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
- computer: darknet
- concealment & lack of concealment: black hole, bury (conceal), clarity (adj), dark (in the dark), dark (concealment), day (the light of day), gloss (appearance), gloss over (v), light (shed light), murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), shadow (concealment), shadowy, sunlight (concealment), transparency (n), transparent (adj)
- configuration: shadow (rain shadow, etc.)
- conflict: Manichean (adj)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: gloss over (v)
- consciousness & awareness: black hole, clarity (adj), dark (in the dark), dawn (verb / comprehension), haze (perception), illuminate (v), illuminating (adj), light (come to light), light (bring something to light), light bulb (and lightbulb, bulb), opaque (adj)
- corruption: shady (adj), tarnish (v), tarnished
- curtailment: dark (go dark, etc.)
- decline: dim (decline), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), fade (v), star (decline), twilight (in / into the twilight, etc.)
- direction: beacon (n), light (guiding light), lighthouse (protection)
- division & connection: daylight (division)
- evidence: glimmer (glimmer of hope, etc.), ray (ray of hope, etc.)
- failure, accident & impairment: tarnish (v), tarnished

- feeling, emotion & effect: brighten (v), cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), dark (dark mood, etc.), darken (v), darkness (depression), day (dark day), dazzle (v), dim (hope, etc.), gloom (n), gloomy (adj), illuminating (adj), scintillating (adj), shadow (cast a shadow), shadow (in / under the shadow), shadow (dark shadow, etc.), sunny (adj)
- flaws & lack of flaws: bright (bright side), polished (adj), shine (n), side (dark side), tarnish (v), tarnished
- growth & development: supernova (achievement)
- guilt: clear (clear conscience)
- idea: light bulb (and lightbulb, bulb)
- importance & significance: leading light (person), luminary (person)
- increase & decrease: burnish (v), burnished
- isolation & remoteness: black hole
- knowledge & intelligence: dark (in the dark), illuminate (v), illuminating (adj), light bulb (and lightbulb, bulb)
- mental health: brighten (v), darkness (depression)
- message: flare (n)
- oppression: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), dark (dark mood, etc.), darken (v), Dark Star, gloom (n), gloomy (adj), shadow (cast a shadow), shadow (in / under the shadow), shadow (dark shadow, etc.)
- perception, perspective & point of view: clear (perception), haze (perception), light (in a same / different light, etc.), murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), unclear (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
- person: luminary (person)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: dim (overshadow), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), fade (v), outshine (v), overshadow (v), star (achievement), star (decline), supernova (achievement), twilight (in / into the twilight, etc.)
- proximity: shadow (proximity), shadow (follow)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: tunnel (light at the end of the tunnel)
- relationship: light (in light of)
- repetition: shadow (shadow government, etc.)
- resiliency: bright (bright side)
- searching & discovery: light (come to light), light (bring something to light)
- situation: twilight (in a legal twilight, etc.)
- substance & lack of substance: shadow (devitalized), shadow (shadow boxing, etc.)
- subterfuge: gloss (appearance), gloss over (v), shady (adj)
- superiority & inferiority: dim (overshadow), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), outshine (v), overshadow (v), penumbra (n), shadow (attention)
- superlative: bright (adj), brilliance (superlative), brilliant (superlative), coruscating (adj), glittering (adj), gloss (add gloss, etc.), glowing (adj), incandescent (character), leading light (person), light (shining light), light up (a room, etc.), luminary (person), luster (n), outshine (v), scintillating (adj), shining (superlative), sparkling (superlative), star (achievement), supernova (achievement)
- transmission: reflected
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: candle (candle of hope, etc.)
- warning: flare (n)

## **LIGHTNING (2) (see also rain; storm; weather & climate; wind)**

- accusation & criticism: thunderbolt (n)
- appearance & disappearance: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
- attraction & repulsion: lightning rod
- fate, fortune & chance: blue (out of the blue, etc.), lightning (fate)
- feeling, emotion & effect: lightning bolt (and bolt of lightning, etc.), thunderstruck (adj)
- origin: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
- resemblance: thunder (sound)

- sound: thunder (sound)
- speech: fulminate (speech)
- speed: lightning

## **LINE (2) (see also boundary)**

- allegiance, support & betrayal: rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks)
- attainment: line (over the line / finishing), line (finish line)
- behavior: edge (over the edge), line (out of line), line (over the line / behavior), line (behavior), line (cross the line), line (red line), line (line in the sand)
- configuration: straddle (configuration)
- constraint & lack of constraint: color (color outside the lines, etc.), line (line in the sand)
- division & connection: borderland (n), edge (edge cases, etc.), foot (one foot / the other foot), foot (foot in both worlds, etc.), line (division), line (categories), straddle (connect)
- fate, fortune & chance: line (tread a line, etc.), line (on the line)
- fictive position: straddle (configuration)
- hierarchy: rank-and-file (adj)
- position, policy & negotiation: line (a hard line, etc.), position (on an issue, etc.)
- priority: line (at the front / back of the line)
- protection & lack of protection: rank (close ranks)
- resemblance: strand (strand of hair, etc.)
- sanctioning, authority & nonconformity: hew (hew to the line, etc.), line (government line, etc.)
- sequence: queue (sequence), string (sequence)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: line (over the line / finishing), line (finish line), line (end of the line, etc.)
- unanimity & consensus: hew (hew to the line, etc.), line (toe a line, etc.), line (in line), line up (v), lockstep (in lockstep), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks)

## **LION (2) (see also animal)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: lion (liberal lion, etc.), lionized
- amount: lion's share
- courage & lack of courage: lion
- epithet: lion (the Lion of Panjshir, etc.), lioness (England's Lionesses, etc.)
- hierarchy: lion (liberal lion, etc.)
- person: lion (courage)
- proper name: lion (the Bronze Lion, etc.), lioness (Lioness.co, etc.)

## **LOCATION (1) (see also area; environment; place)**

- earthquake: epicenter (n)
- finger: finger (put one's finger on something)
- forest: woods (neck of the woods)
- gesture: finger (put one's finger on something)
- hand: finger (put one's finger on something)
- house: dwell (location), home (home for the archive, etc.), home (home of golf, etc.), home (home to), live (location), reside (v), residence (n)
- map: finger (put one's finger on something), map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.), map (all over the map, etc.), pinpoint (locate), pinpoint (accuracy, etc.)
- mechanism: hub (center)
- nuclear energy: ground zero
- place: home (home of golf, etc.), home (home to), where (conversations where, etc.)
- temperature: hotspot (place)

- verb: dwell (location), finger (put one's finger on something), live (location), map (drop off the map, etc.), pinpoint (locate), reside (v)

## LOVE, COURTSHIP & MARRIAGE (2)

- acceptance & rejection: spurn (v), spurned
- allegiance, support & betrayal: bed (jump into bed with someone), infidelity (n)
- attachment: married, wedded
- attraction & repulsion: alluring (adj), court (v), courtship (n), darling (n), flirt (v), seduced, seductive (adj), sexy (adj), swoon (v), woo (v), wooed
- behavior: infidelity (n)
- character & personality: odd couple
- coercion & motivation: marriage (shotgun marriage)
- concealment & lack of concealment: infidelity (n)
- conflict: honeymoon (n)
- division & connection: divorce (n), divorce (v), marriage (relationship), marriage (shotgun marriage), married, matchmaker (person), wedded
- eagerness & reluctance: coy (adj), marriage (shotgun marriage), shy (adj)
- enthusiasm: fall (fall in love), infatuated (enthusiasm), love (fall in love), love (enthusiasm / noun), love (enthusiasm / verb), lover (enthusiasm / person), romance (n)
- experience: coming out (party, etc.), debutant (n), ingenue (person), innocence (n), maiden (adj), virgin (n)
- fate, fortune & chance: dance (dance with death, etc.), flirt (v)
- feeling, emotion & effect: crush (love), honeymoon (n), swoon (v)
- inauguration: party (coming-out party)
- person: lover (enthusiasm / person), matchmaker (person), suitor (n)
- pursuit, capture & escape: catch (marriage), court (v), courtship (n), darling (n), seduce (v), seduced, suitor (n), trophy (trophy boyfriend, etc.), woo (v), wooed
- relationship: divorce (n), divorce (v), marriage (relationship), marriage (shotgun marriage), married, matchmaker (person), odd couple, wedded
- starting, going, continuing & ending: divorce (n), honeymoon (n)
- subterfuge: infidelity (n)

## MAGIC (2)

- ability & lack of ability: genie (knowledge), ninja (person), wizard (person), wizardry (n)
- affliction: curse (n), cursed, evil eye
- amelioration & renewal: bullet (magic or silver bullet, etc.), dust (fairy dust, etc.), magic (magic bullet, etc.), talisman (n), talismanic (adj), wand (magic wand)
- appearance & disappearance: magic up (v)
- attachment: spellbinding (adj), spellbound (adj)
- attraction & repulsion: charm (v), charm (n), charmed (charmed by something, etc.), charming (people), pied piper, spell (under a spell)
- character & personality: charming
- concealment & land of concealment: sleight of hand
- control & lack of control: hypnotize (v)
- creation & transformation: finger (snap one's fingers, etc.), magic up (v)
- epithet: wizard (wizard of Menlo Park, etc.)
- fantasy & reality: magic (versus reality), magical (versus reality), make-believe (n), make-believe (adj)
- fate, fortune & chance: charmed (charmed life, etc.), crystal ball, curse (n), cursed, evil eye, magic (trail magic, etc.), tea leaves
- feeling, emotion & effect: bewitch (v), bewitched, bewitching (adj), charm (v), charmed (charmed by something, etc.), enthralled, enthralling (adj), entranced, entrancing (adj), magic (effect), magic (magic

moment, etc.), magical (effect), mesmerizing, spell (under a spell), spell (cast a spell), spellbinding (adj), spellbound (adj), thrall (n)

- future: crystal ball, fortuneteller (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person), tea leaves
- help & assistance: magic (trail magic, etc.)
- knowledge & intelligence: genie (knowledge), wizardry (n)
- message: fortuneteller (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person)
- person: fortuneteller (person), genie (knowledge), ninja (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person), wizard (person)
- proper name: carpet (Operation Magic Carpet, etc.), Magic (Magic Kingdom, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: charmed (charmed life, etc.)
- subterfuge: sleight of hand, smoke and mirrors
- time: crystal ball, fortuneteller (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person)
- transportation: carpet (magic carpet / other)

## **MANUFACTURING (2) (see also engine; mechanism; tools & technology)**

- amelioration & renewal: recycle (v), salvage (v)
- characterization: cast (characterize), cast (characterized), recast (v), recast
- comprehension & incomprehension: process (v)
- constraint & lack of constraint: mold (fit a mold, etc.)
- content: mill (grist for the mill), mill (gossip / rumor mill)
- creation & transformation: artisanal (adj), assembly line (n), byproduct (n), churn out (v), conveyor belt, fabricate (v), fabricated, fabrication, factory (creation), forge (v), forged, grind out (v), hammered out, hammer out (v), industry (n), machine (publicity machine, etc.), making (creation), manufacture (v), manufactured, mill (n), mold (v), product (n), recast (v), recast, reshape (v), shape (v), shape (form), shaped (shaped by coal, etc.), strike (strike a deal, etc.), turn out (create)
- destruction: unmaking (destruction)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: factory (glue factory), scrap (v), scrapped
- environment: crucible (n), oven (the Oven, etc.)
- failure, accident & impairment: unmaking (destruction)
- feeling, emotion & effect: process (v)
- gossip: mill (gossip / rumor mill), mill (grist for the mill)
- identity & nature: product (n)
- military: industrialize (industrialize death, etc.)
- operation: machine (publicity machine, etc.)
- product: byproduct (n), product (n)
- relationship: byproduct (n), product (n)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: mold (fit a mold, etc.)
- script: boilerplate (n), template (n)
- worth & lack of worth: run-of-the-mill

## **MAP (2)**

- appearance & disappearance: map (drop off the map, etc.)
- area: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.)
- certainty & uncertainty: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), uncharted (adj), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- consciousness & awareness: map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.)
- constraint & lack of constraint: latitude (wide latitude, etc.)

- direction: chart (v), course (change course, etc.), course (stay the course), course (reverse course), navigate (v), plot (v), uncharted (adj)
- extent & scope: latitude (wide latitude, etc.)
- isolation & remoteness: no man's land (people)
- location: finger (put one's finger on something), map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.), map (all over the map, etc.), pinpoint (locate), pinpoint (accuracy, etc.)
- place: map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.)
- presence & absence: map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.)
- reversal: course (change course)
- script: road map
- searching & discovery: Dark Continent
- starting, going, continuing & ending: course (change course, etc.), course (stay the course), course (reverse course)

## MARK (2)

- acceptance & rejection: blackball (v), blackballed, blacklist (v), blacklisted
- achievement, recognition & praise: belt (notch in a belt)
- affliction: pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, scar (psychologically / verb), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring, scathing (adj), wound (figurative wounds of Vietnam, etc.)
- amount: speck (amount)
- appearance: pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, scar (resemblance / verb)
- character & personality: streak (violent streak, etc.)
- characterization: brand (v), mark (black mark), stigma (n), stigmatization (oppression), stigmatize (and destigmatize / verb), stigmatizing, trademark (n)
- condition & status: unscathed (adj)
- configuration: dot (v), dotted (arrangement), pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, speckled (configuration)
- effect: mark (effect)
- evidence: fingerprint (n), hallmark, trademark (n)
- feeling, emotion & effect: bruise (v), bruised, bruising (adj), scar (psychologically / verb), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring, dent (n), mark (effect), wound (figurative wounds of Vietnam, etc.)
- flaws & lack of flaws: blemish (n), black eye, blot (n), mark (black mark), pockmark (v), pockmark (n), pockmarked, scar (blemish / noun), scar (blemish / verb), scarred (battle-scarred, etc.), smear (n), smear (v), smeared, stain (n), stain (v), unblemished
- identity & nature: streak (violent streak, etc.)
- importance & significance: trail (blaze a trail)
- impression: burned (impressed), engraved (impression), etch (v), etched, imprint (n), inscribed, mark (effect), seared, stamp (impression), stamped
- measurement: benchmark (at a benchmark), benchmark
- mental health: scar (psychologically / verb), scar (psychological scars, etc.)
- occurrence: streak (series)
- oppression: blackball (v), blackballed, blacklist (v), blacklisted
- proper name: scar (the Scar, etc.)
- representation: touchstone
- reputation: black eye, blot (n), mark (black mark), smear (v), smear (n), smeared, stain (v), stain (n)
- resemblance: mark (resemblance), scar (resemblance / noun), scar (resemblance / verb)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: rubber stamp (n), stamp (stamp of approval)
- searching & discovery: trail (blaze a trail)
- speech: smear (v), smear (n), smeared

- survival, persistence & endurance: indelible (adj)

## **MATERIALS & SUBSTANCES (2)**

- ability & lack of ability: brittle (emotionally brittle, etc.), flexible (adj), flexible (character), inflexible (character), rigid (constraint), rigid (character), supple (adj)
- accusation & criticism: vitriol (n)
- affliction: wound (salt in a wound)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: stick (stick by / stick with somebody), stick together (v)
- amount: chunk (amount)
- appearance: gloss (appearance), stone-faced (adj)
- appearance & reality: airbrushed, ersatz (substitute), gilded (other), gloss (appearance), imposter (n), lipstick (appearance), paint (coat of paint), patina (appearance), sugarcoat (and candy-coat), unvarnished (adj), veneer (appearance), whitewash (n), whitewash (v)
- attachment: adhere (adhere to something), attached (attributed), attachment (n), cement (v), cemented, encrusted, glued, mortar (n), stick (stick by / stick with somebody), stick (adhere to, follow), stick (persist), stick together (v), Teflon, Velcro (attachment), wall (throw something at a wall and see what sticks)
- behavior: brazen (adj)
- character & personality: behavior (fire, etc.), clay (n), flexible (character), hard (character), hard man (character), inflexible (character), made of (character), mercurial (adj), putty (n), rigid (character), slippery (character), smooth (character)
- commitment & determination: grit (political grit, etc.), hard (hard “no,” etc.)
- comparison & contrast: rock (rock-solid)
- concealment & lack of concealment: airbrushed, gloss (appearance), lipstick (appearance), paint (coat of paint), stone-faced (adj), sugarcoat (and candy-coat), unvarnished (adj), whitewash (n), whitewash (v)
- condition & status: breaking point (at the breaking point), breaking point (to the breaking point), breaking point (other)
- configuration: encrusted, marbled
- constraint & lack of constraint: elastic (adj), flexible (adj), rigid (constraint), supple (adj)
- control & lack of control: putty (n)
- corruption: contaminate (v), contaminated, contamination, poison (v), taint (n), taint (v), tainted
- cover: encrusted
- creation & transformation: clay (n), putty (n)
- destruction: meltdown (failure), poison (n), poison (v), radioactive (adj), shatter (destroy), shattered (destroyed), shattering (ear-shattering, etc.), toxic (adj)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: hard (space is hard), platter (silver platter), slippery (difficult)
- division & connection: fractured (separated), split (n), split (v), split (split apart / up, etc.)
- epithet: gold (black gold, etc.), iron (Iron Lady, etc.), jewel (jewel of Syria, etc.), oil (new oil, etc.), pearl (Pearl of the Orient, etc.), rock (Rock of Chickamauga, etc.)
- evidence: taint (n)
- experience: hardened (battle-hardened, etc.)
- extent & scope: patina (appearance), stretch (extent), veneer (appearance)
- failure, accident & impairment: breaking point (at the breaking point), breaking point (to the breaking point), breaking point (other), crack (v), fracture (failure), meltdown (failure), snap (v), split (n), split (v), split (split apart / up, etc.), shatter (destroy), unglued (emotionally)
- feeling, emotion & effect: acid (acid debate, etc.), acid-tongued, breaking point (at the breaking point), breaking point (to the breaking point), breaking point (other), brittle (emotionally brittle, etc.), caustic (adj), corrosive (adj), crack (v), eggshell (walking on eggshells), fragile (feelings), fragility (feelings), hard (feelings, etc.), noxious (adj), poisonous (adj), shatter (emotions), shattered (mentally, etc.), shattering (emotions), snap (v), stone-faced (adj), toxic (adj), unglued (emotionally), vitriol (n)

- fictive motion: stretch (extent)
- flaws & lack of flaws: coarse (speech), crack (flaw), crude (speech), flawed (adj), flawless (adj), flimsy (adj), ironclad (adj), jewel (n), lapidary (adj), lily (gild the lily), polish (v), polished (adj), rough (adj), sag (v), slump (v), smooth (lack of flaws), solid (adj), sound (solid), sticky (a sticky situation, etc.), unpolished, warp (v), warped, weak (fragile)
- heart: heart (heart of stone, etc.), stone-hearted
- hierarchy: brass (leader)
- identity & nature: ersatz (substitute)
- impression: plastered (impression)
- mental health: breaking point (other), fragile (feelings), fragility (feelings), shatter (emotions), shattered (mentally, etc.), shattering (emotions), snap (v), strong (after tragedy, etc.), unglued (emotionally)
- mind: mind-bending (adj), minded (steely-minded), tough-minded, weak-minded (adj)
- mixture: amalgam (n), blend (mixture)
- money: platter (silver platter), rope (velvet rope)
- oppression: hand (iron hand, etc.), ironfisted, rod (iron rod, etc.)
- proper name: oak (Royal Oak, etc.), shard (The Shard, etc.), stonewall (Operation Stonewall, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: dome (Iron Dome, etc.), Teflon
- pursuit, capture & escape: Teflon
- resiliency: flexible (character), strong (after tragedy, etc.)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: bend (v)
- restraint & lack of restraint: brazen (adj)
- sex: purity (sex)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: sugarcoat (and candy-coat)
- situation: sticky (a sticky situation, etc.)
- speech: acid (acid debate, etc.), acid-tongued, caustic (adj), caustically, coarse (speech), crude (speech), hollow (hollow promises, etc.), silver (speech), silver-tongued, slick (adj), slippery (words, etc.), smooth (speech), tongued (silver-tongued), talker (slick talker), vitriol (n)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: retread (n)
- strength & weakness: cement (v), cemented, eggshell (n), flimsy (adj), fragile (weak), granite (n), hardened (battle-hardened, etc.), iron (strength), iron and blood (effort, sacrifice), ironclad (adj), oak (strength), rock (rock-solid), sag (v), slump (v), solid (adj), sound (measure), steel (strength), strong (after tragedy, etc.), teak (wood), weak (fragile)
- substance & lack of substance: concrete (n), flimsy (adj), gilded (other), hollow (hollow promises, etc.), patina (appearance), solid (adj), veneer (appearance)
- subterfuge: airbrushed, gilded (other), gloss (appearance), imposter (n), lipstick (appearance), paint (coat of paint), patina (appearance), sugarcoat (and candy-coat), veneer (appearance), whitewash (n), whitewash (v)
- superiority & inferiority: rope (velvet rope)
- superlative: gem (n), golden (golden opportunity, etc.), lapidary (adj), jewel (n), pearl (Pearl of the Orient, etc.)
- survival, persistence & endurance: cement (v), cemented, grit (political grit, etc.), stick (persist), wall (throw something at a wall and see what sticks)
- worth & lack of worth: gem (n), gold (black gold, etc.), jewel (n), karat (24-karat), oil (new oil, etc.), raw (unrefined, etc.)

## MEASUREMENT (1)

- blood: pulse (n)
- depth: sound (measure)
- distance: span (lifespan, etc.), span (v)
- doors & thresholds: threshold (below the threshold), threshold (measurement)
- hand: span (v)

- health & medicine: pulse (n), temperature (the political temperature, etc.)
- mark: benchmark (at a benchmark), benchmark
- surveying: baseline (n)
- temperature: temperature (the political temperature, etc.), thermometer (n)
- tools & technology: barometer (n), calibrate (adjust), calibrated (adjusted), dashboard (n), gauge (n), thermometer (n), yardstick (n)
- verb: calibrate (adjust), sound (measure)
- water: sound (measure)

## **MEAT (2) (see also cooking; food & drink; fruits & vegetables; taste)**

- amelioration & renewal: beefed up, beef up (v)
- consumption: food (meat), meat (fresh meat, etc.), meat (red meat, etc.), meat (piece of meat)
- creation & transformation: meat grinder (other)
- death & life: bill (butcher's bill, etc.), hamburger (Hamburger Hill, etc.), meat grinder (military)
- environment: meat grinder (military), meat grinder (other)
- experience: meat grinder (military), meat grinder (other), raw (raw recruit, etc.)
- failure, accident & impairment: butcher (v)
- military: bill (butcher's bill, etc.), Butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.), butchery (war), carnage (n), hamburger (Hamburger Hill, etc.), meat grinder (military), slaughterhouse (military)
- product: meat (piece of meat)
- strength & weakness: beefed up, beef up (v)
- substance & lack of substance: meat (substance), meaty (substance)
- violence: butcher (n)
- worth & lack of worth: meat (piece of meat)

## **MECHANISM (2) (see also engine; manufacturing; tools & technology)**

- ability & lack of ability: brilliant (technology), dumb (technology), smart (technology, etc.)
- accusation & criticism: wringer (through the wringer)
- action, inaction & delay: button (push a button / action), button (pause button), pause (v), pause (n)
- activity: comatose (adj), gear (kick into gear, etc.), hum (hum along), hum (n), neutral (in neutral), overdrive (in / into overdrive)
- affliction: mill (through the mill), put (put somebody through something), wringer (through the wringer)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: bus (control / allegiance), truck (control)
- amelioration & renewal: fix (v), lubricant (social lubricant, etc.), mend (on the mend), mend (v), put (put something back together), repair (v), repair (n), tinker (v), tune (and tune up), tune-up (n), tweak (n), unwind (relax), wheel (grease the wheels), wind down (relax)
- amount & effect: full on (adj), full out (adj)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: break down (explain), sort out (analyze), tire (kick the tires)
- attachment: linchpin (n)
- attenuation: dampening (adj), damper (n)
- avoidance & separation: steer (steer clear of something)
- bases: kingpin (person), linchpin (n), nuts and bolts, workings (n)
- branching system: hub (branching system)
- center & periphery: hub (center)
- character & personality: full on (personality), wound (tightly wound)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: conveyor belt, parked (movement)
- commitment & determination: full on (adj), full out (adj), gas (step on the gas / step off the gas), pedal (pedal to the metal), tank (empty the tank, etc.), throttle (full throttle, etc.)
- complexity: part (moving parts)

- condition & status: broken (failure), comatose (adj), down (functioning), hum (hum along), neutral (in neutral), speed (up to speed), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled (progress), wheel (wheels are falling off, etc.), wheel (spin one's wheels)
- consciousness & awareness: automata (n), comatose (adj), metronomic (operation), robot (n), wheel (asleep at the wheel)
- control & lack of control: accelerator (control), brake (control), bus (control / allegiance), lever (levers of power, etc.), steering wheel (control), truck (control), wheel (control), wheel (asleep at the wheel)
- creation & transformation: machine (publicity machine, etc.), meat grinder (other)
- curtailment: shut down (v), shut off (v), switch (kill switch)
- death & life: meat grinder (military)
- dependency: wheel (training wheels)
- destruction: break (destroy / disrupt), break down (destroy), breaker (deal-breaker, etc.), grind down (v)
- development: fulcrum (n), pivotal (adj), point (tipping point), point (pivot point), turning point (n)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: gear up (v), grind (daily grind, etc.), grind away (v), grinding (grinding poverty, etc.), maintenance (high maintenance, etc.)
- directing: steer (v)
- direction: steer (v)
- disruption: break (destroy / disrupt), breaker (deal-breaker, etc.), gear (throw sand in the gears, etc.), gum up (v), misbehave (machine), wrench (throw a wrench into something)
- division & connection: rupture (n)
- environment: meat grinder (military), meat grinder (other)
- experience: meat grinder (military), meat grinder (other), mill (through the mill), wringer (through the wringer)
- extent & scope: full on (adj), full out (adj)
- failure, accident & impairment: break down (functioning), broken (failure), down (functioning), fall apart (v), gum up (v), halt (grind to a halt, etc.), malfunction (v), rupture (n), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled (progress), wheel (wheels are falling off, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: wheel (wheel of fate or fortune, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: automata (n), breakdown (nervous breakdown, etc.), break down (emotionally), broken (feeling), button (push a button / emotion), button (panic button), button (hot button), fall apart (emotionally), gasket (blow a gasket, etc.), grinding (grinding poverty, etc.), heart (a broken heart, etc.), metronomic (operation), pump up (v), revved (revved up), robot (n), turned off, turned on (sex), turn on (excite), turn-off (disgust), turn-on, wind down (relax), wound (tightly wound)
- flaws & lack of flaws: broken (failure), misbehave (machine), point (sticking / friction point)
- functioning: break down (functioning), broken (failure), cog (cog in the machine, etc.), comatose (adj), cylinder (fire on all cylinders, etc.), down (functioning), full on (adj), full out (adj), gear (high gear, low gear, etc.), gum up (v), hum (hum along), machinery (government, etc.), malfunction (v), misbehave (machine), neutral (in neutral), hyperdrive (into hyperdrive), speed (up to speed), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled (progress), throttle (full throttle, etc.)
- future: time machine
- growth & development: wheel (training wheels)
- heart: heart (a broken heart, etc.), heartbreak (n), heartbreaking (adj), heartbroken (adj)
- help & assistance: hotline (988, etc.), wheel (training wheels)
- identity & nature: wired (and hardwired)
- importance & significance: cog (cog in the machine, etc.), fulcrum (n), hinge (hinge event, etc.), kingpin (person), linchpin (n), pivotal (adj), point (tipping point), point (pivot point), turning point (n)
- inauguration: drop (product launch), drop (a product, etc.), roll out (v), rollout (n)
- increase & decrease: accelerator (control), brake (control), crank up (v), dial down (and dial back), dial up (increase), gear up (v), pump up (v), ratchet up (v), rev up (v), supercharge (v), supercharged, turbocharge (v), turbocharged, turn up (increase)

- initiation: button (push a button / action), button (push a button / emotion), dial up (order), gear (kick into gear, etc.), kick in (start), launching pad, prime (v), primed (ready), springboard (n), wheel (set the wheels in motion)
- judgment: feedback (n)
- knowledge & intelligence: dumb (technology), brilliant (technology), smart (technology, etc.)
- location: hub (center)
- mental health: break down (emotionally), breakdown (nervous breakdown, etc.), broken (feeling), robotic (feelings)
- military: meat grinder (military)
- movement: conveyor belt, parked (movement), robotic (movement), stall (v), stalled (progress)
- obstacles & impedance: dampening (adj), damper (n)
- operation: apparatus (government), clockwork (n), cog (cog in the machine, etc.), machine (publicity machine, etc.), machinery, metronomic (operation), organ (of government, etc.), robot (n), train (legal train, Trump train, etc.), wheel (wheels of justice, etc.), wheel (wheels turn slowly, etc.), wired (and hardwired), workings (n)
- oppression: put (put somebody through something), wringer (through the wringer)
- past & present: mirror (in the rear-view mirror), time machine, wind back (v)
- person: kingpin (person)
- place: hub (center)
- power: supercharge (v), supercharged, tank (empty the tank, etc.), turbocharge (v), turbocharged
- progress & lack of progress: parked (movement), stall (v), stalled (progress), wheel (spin one's wheels), wheel (hamster wheel)
- pursuit, capture & escape: hatch (escape hatch)
- readiness & preparedness: prime (v), primed (ready), seatbelt (fasten your seatbelt / ironic), tune (and tune up), tune-up (n)
- resiliency: put (put something back together)
- reversal: backpedal (v), gear (switch gears, shift gears, etc.), hinge (hinge event, etc.), pivot (n), pivot (v), roll back (v), unwind (reverse)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: fit in (v)
- sex: machine (sex machine), turned on (sex)
- shape: hub (center)
- social interaction: wheel (grease the wheels)
- speed: accelerator (control), brake (control), speed (up to speed), wheel (wheels turn slowly, etc.)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: button (pause button), gear (kick into gear, etc.), grind away (v), grind on (v), halt (grind to a halt, etc.), kick in (start), parked (movement), pause (v), pause (n), reboot (v), reboot (n), reset (n), reset (v), stall (v), stalled (progress), treadmill (n), wheel (spin one's wheels), wind down (v)
- superlative: Rolls Royce
- supplying: feed (auto feed, etc.)
- taking & removing: Hoover (hoover up, etc.)
- taxonomy & classification: break down (divide)
- throwing, putting & planting: catapult (v), catapulted, thrust (v), thrust
- time: hourglass (time), mirror (in the rear-view mirror), time machine, wind back (v), wind down (v)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: hourglass (time)
- unanimity & consensus: bus (control / allegiance), truck (control)
- work & duty: grind (daily grind, etc.), treadmill (n)
- worth & lack of worth: cash machine (n)

## MEMORIZATION (2)

- heart: heart (by heart)

## MENTAL HEALTH (1) (see also feeling, emotion & effect)

- addiction: addict (sex addict, etc.), detox (and detoxification, etc.)

- animal: devoured (by an emotion, etc.), eat (mental health), eaten alive (by debt, rage, etc.), vulnerable (emotionally, etc.)
- blood: blood (blood in one's eyes, etc.), mist (red mist)
- boat: distress (mental, etc.), navigate (feelings, emotions)
- bottle: bottled up (emotions)
- consumption: devoured (by an emotion, etc.), eat (mental health), eaten alive (by debt, rage, etc.)
- container: emptiness (depression), empty (depression), open (honest), shell (mental health)
- creature: demon (mental health)
- death & life: dead (feeling)
- destruction: destroy (emotions), shatter (emotions), shattered (mentally, etc.), shattering (emotions)
- direction: depression (mental illness), down (feeling), lay low (emotion), meltdown (emotions), melt down (emotions), pick up (pick somebody up, etc.)
- euphemism: damaged (mental illness), dog (black dog / mental health), mental (adj), mental health (n), mentally (mentally unwell, etc.), mental wellbeing (and mental well-being), mental wellness (groups), nut (person), nuts (crazy), pieces (go to pieces), self-care (and self care), sick (mentally ill), there (not all there), unhinged (adj), welfare (mental, etc.), wellbeing (n), wellness (groups)
- explosion: time bomb (person)
- fire: burnout (n)
- fist: beat (beat oneself up)
- functioning: breakdown (nervous breakdown, etc.)
- ground, terrain & land: La-La land
- hand: hold (noun / emotion), possess (v), possessed (emotion)
- head: headspace (frame of mind)
- health & medicine: addict (sex addict, etc.), anxiety (n), detox (and detoxification, etc.), exhausting (mental health), FOMO (fear of missing out), heal (v), healing (n), hysteria (n), mania (n), mental health (n), mental wellbeing (and mental well-being), mental wellness (groups), moral injury (n), pain (emotional), painful (adj), recover (mental health), scar (psychologically / verb), self-care (and self care), sick (disgusted), sick (with anxiety, etc.), sick and tired (feeling), trauma (groups, etc.), traumatic (groups), traumatic (mental health), traumatization (groups), traumatize (v), traumatized (groups), traumatizing (groups), welfare (mental, etc.), wellbeing (n), wellness (groups), wound (figurative wounds of Vietnam, etc.), wounded (emotionally)
- light & dark: brighten (v), darkness (depression)
- mark: scar (psychologically / verb), scar (psychological scars, etc.)
- materials & substances: breaking point (other), fragile (feelings), fragility (feelings), shatter (emotions), shattered (mentally, etc.), shattering (emotions), strong (after tragedy, etc.), unglued (emotionally), snap (v)
- mechanism: breakdown (nervous breakdown, etc.), break down (emotionally), broken (feeling), robotic (feelings)
- military: post-traumatic stress disorder (and PTSD)
- nuclear energy: meltdown (emotions), melt down (emotions)
- person: addict (sex addict, etc.)
- place: place (in a dark place, etc.), space (in a dark space, etc.)
- plane: autopilot (on autopilot)
- position: lay low (emotion)
- possession: hold (noun / emotion), lose (one's temper, etc.), lose it (mentally), mind (lose one's mind), possess (v), possessed (emotion)
- predation: devoured (by an emotion, etc.), eaten alive (by debt, rage, etc.)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: break down (emotionally), down (feeling)
- pressure: outlet (n), vent (v), unwind (relax), valve (relief valve)
- ruins: destroy (emotions)
- sensation: pain (emotional), painful (adj)

- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: anxiety (n)
- sleep: exhausting (mental health), sick and tired (feeling), tired (feeling), weary (feeling)
- society: envy (self-promotion envy, etc.), rage (road rage, etc.)
- tools & technology: valve (relief valve)
- verb: beat (beat oneself up), break down (emotionally), lay low (emotion), melt down (emotions), pick up (pick somebody up, etc.), possess (v), pull (pull yourself together, etc.), scar (psychologically / verb), shatter (emotions), snap (v), traumatize (v), trigger (groups / verb), vent (v), unwind (v)
- violence: beat (beat oneself up), torture (affliction), tortured
- water: outlet (n)
- weapon: time bomb (person), trigger (emotion, memory, etc.), triggered (groups), triggering (groups)
- wounds & scars: scar (psychologically / verb), scar (psychological scars, etc.)

## **MENTAL HEALTH (2) (see also health & medicine)**

- activity: frenzied (adj), frenzy (other), rage (v), raging (adj)
- avoidance & separation: escape (mental health / verb), escape (mental health / noun)
- behavior: amok (run amok), bedlam (n), berserk, craze (n), crazed (crazed fans, etc.), crazy (behavior), crazy (enthusiasm), demented, fiend (behavior), frenzied (adj), frenzy (other), mania (n), nuts (crazy), rage (v), raging (adj), schizophrenic (adj), wall (ricochet off the wall)
- character & personality: Jekyll (Jekyll and Hyde), nut (person)
- condition & status: troubled
- constraint & lack of constrain: straitjacket (n)
- contempo-speak: intentional (adj), intentionality (n), intentionally, mindful (adj), mindfully, mindfulness (n), purposeful (adj), vulnerable (emotionally, etc.)
- control & lack of control: amok (run amok), berserk, crazy (behavior), flow (go with the flow, etc.), rage (v), raging (adj)
- enthusiasm: craze (n), crazed (crazed fans, etc.), crazy (enthusiasm), mad (crazy), madness (enthusiasm), maniac (Hulkamaniac, etc.), obsessed, obsession (n), rabid (enthusiasm), rage (enthusiasm), rave (v), rave (rave review, etc.)
- environment: asylum (insane asylum, etc.), bedlam (n), madhouse (place), snake pit, warehouse (neglect)
- failure, accident & impairment: pieces (go to pieces), unhinged (adj)
- fantasy & reality: delusion (under a delusion), delusion, demented, fantasy (delusion), pipe dream, rabbit hole (fantasy), world (fantasy)
- identity & nature: identity crisis
- inclusion & exclusion: rage (black rage, feminine rage, etc.)
- sex: crazed (sex-crazed)
- speech: rave (v), rave (rave review, etc.)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: insecurity (food insecurity, etc.)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: fantasy (dream)

## **MESSAGE (1) (see also evidence; suspicion; warning)**

- allusion: Cassandra, jeremiad (bitter lament), messenger (shoot the messenger)
- Bible: gospel (preach the gospel, etc.), jeremiad (bitter lament), messiah (n), messianic (adj), Moses (n), prophet (person), pulpit (bully pulpit, etc.), sermon (message)
- books & reading: manifesto (n)
- epithet: apostle (Apostle of the Sioux, etc.)
- eye: seer (person)
- fire: flare (n)
- Iliad & Odyssey: Cassandra
- light & dark: flare (n)
- magic: fortuneteller (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person)

- Middle Ages: crusade (on a crusade), crusade (in a crusade), crusade (n), crusader (role)
- military: call (call to arms), drum (beat the drum / bang the drum, etc.), drumbeat (n), saber rattling
- money: sell (promote)
- movement: spin (message / verb), spin (message / noun), spin (spin control)
- person: apostle (person), convert (person), crusader (role), evangelist (person), fortuneteller (person), guru (person), messenger (shoot the messenger), messiah (n), missionary (person), Moses (n), oracle (person), prophet (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person), tout (person), whistleblower (n)
- plane: barnstorm (v)
- religion: apostle (person), choir (preach to the choir), convert (person), crusade (on a crusade), crusade (in a crusade), crusade (n), crusader (role), evangelical (adj), evangelist (person), golden rule, gospel (preach the gospel, etc.), guru (person), high priest, jeremiad (bitter lament), mantra (message), messiah (n), messianic (adj), missionary (person), Moses (n), oracle (person), preach, prophet (person), proselytize (v), pulpit (bully pulpit, etc.), seer (person), sermon (message), soothsayer (person)
- school & education: lecture (v)
- sound: amplify (v), call (call to arms), drum (beat the drum / bang the drum, etc.), drumbeat (n), saber rattling, signal (signal and noise), whistle (dog whistle), whistleblower (n)
- speech: lecture (v), preach (v), pulpit (bully pulpit, etc.), sermon (message), speak (carry a message), statement (statement victory, etc.), touted, voice (voice of reason)
- sword: saber rattling
- tools & technology: amplify (v), megaphone (n), message (send a message, etc.), signal (mixed signals), signal (signal and noise)
- verb: amplify (v), barnstorm (v), drum (beat the drum / bang the drum, etc.), lecture (v), proselytize (v), sell (promote), speak (carry a message), spin (message / verb), tout (v)

## MESSAGING (2)

- inclusion & exclusion: agenda (n), center (center their voices, etc.), centered (survivor-centered, etc.), centric (Afro-centric, etc.), conversation (groups, etc.), narrative (groups, etc.), political correctness (groups), politically correct (groups), prioritize (groups), queer (collocations), story (groups), storytelling (groups), talk (talk about something / groups, etc.), voice (groups)

## MIDDLE AGES (2)

- allegiance, support & betrayal: champion (v), champion (n), championed, fealty (n), ring (kiss the ring)
- area: fiefdom (control)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: champion (v), champion (n), championed
- campaign: crusade (on a crusade), crusade (in a crusade), crusade (n), crusader (role)
- competition: joust (v), jousting (conflict), tilt (world-title tilt, etc.)
- conflict: gauntlet (lay down a gauntlet, etc.), joust (v), jousting (conflict), tilt (world-title tilt, etc.)
- control & lack of control: fiefdom (control)
- destruction: wheel (break someone on the wheel, etc.)
- help & assistance: knight (knight in shining armor), white knight
- message: crusade (on a crusade), crusade (in a crusade), crusade (n), crusader (role)
- Middle Ages: fest (gabfest, etc.)
- power: baron (power)
- proper name: Knight (Black Knights, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: armor (protection), chink (chink in one's armor)
- pursuit, capture & escape: quest (in a quest), quest (on a quest), quest (other)
- searching & discovery: grail (holy grail), quest (in a quest), quest (on a quest), quest (other)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: grail (holy grail)

## MIGRATION (1)

- allusion: hegira (and hejira), Lazarus (Emma Lazarus), migration (#TwitterMigration, etc.)
- Bible: exodus (n)
- bird: blow-in (n)
- epithet: British (British of South America, etc.), Ellis Island (Ellis Island of the West, etc.), Jew (Jews of the Caribbean, etc.), *Mayflower* (*Mayflower* of the Third Aliyah, etc.)
- history: Lazarus (Emma Lazarus), migration (#TwitterMigration, etc.), trail of tears
- journeys & trips: hegira (and hejira), nomad (person), nomadic (adj), refugee (person), trail of tears
- person: Jew (Jews of the Caribbean, etc.), Lazarus (Emma Lazarus), nomad (person), nomadic (adj), refugee (person)
- place: Ellis Island (Ellis Island of the West, etc.)
- plant: transplant (n)
- religion: exodus (n), hegira (and hejira)
- verb: wash in (v)
- walking, running & jumping: trail of tears
- water: wash in (v)
- wave: wash in (v)
- wind: blow-in (n)

## MILITARY (1)

- animal: cannon fodder (military), foxhole (military), leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.), nest (military), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.), trap (military / noun)
- bird: nest (military)
- consumption: bill (butcher's bill, etc.), cannon fodder (military), hamburger (Hamburger Hill, etc.), meat grinder (military)
- epithet: Alexander (Muslim Alexander, etc.), alley (Ambush Alley, etc.), angel (Angel of the Battlefield, etc.), butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.), Caesar (Chinese Caesar, etc.), Churchillian (adj), death (Death Valley, etc.), Eaton (Eaton of Africa, etc.), express (Tokyo Express, etc.), Florence Nightingale (our Florence Nightingale, etc.), Gandhi (Gandhi of the Balkans, etc.), general (General Winter, etc.), hamburger (Hamburger Hill, etc.), Hannibal (American Hannibal, etc.), heartbreak (Heartbreak Hotel, etc.), Iliad (Japanese Iliad, etc.), Lawrence (T.E.), Lexington (of China, etc.), lion (the Lion of Panjshir, etc.), Napoleon (the Black Napoleon, etc.), nine eleven (Australia's 9/11, etc.), Patton (the Patton of Asia, etc.), Pearl Harbor (Australia's Pearl Harbor, etc.), Quisling (Quisling of China, etc.), Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / war), Sparta (Sparta of the North, etc.), Spartacus (the Black Spartacus, etc.), Spartan (Spartans of Australasia, etc.), Stalingrad (Stalingrad of the East, etc.), Thermopylae (Britain's Thermopylae, etc.), tiger (Arkan's Tigers, etc.), Vietnam (Egypt's Vietnam, etc.), war (the war to end all wars, etc.), West Point (epithet)
- farming & agriculture: cannon fodder (military), harvest (war's chief harvest, etc.)
- fox: foxhole (military)
- hole: foxhole (military), spider hole (military)
- horse: cavalry (mechanized cavalry, etc.), mustang (n)
- hunting: trap (military / noun)
- insect: spider hole (military)
- manufacturing: industrialize (industrialize death, etc.)
- meat: bill (butcher's bill, etc.), Butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.), butchery (war), carnage (n), hamburger (Hamburger Hill, etc.), meat grinder (military), slaughterhouse (military)
- mechanism: meat grinder (military)
- money: bill (butcher's bill, etc.)
- place: foxhole (military), spider hole (military)
- plant: cannon fodder (military)

- predation: leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.)
- proper name: Apache (Apache helicopter, etc.), battleground (Battle Ground, Indiana, etc.), carpet (magic carpet / proper name), leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.), Predator (the Predator drone, etc.), reaper (Reaper drone, etc.), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.)
- religion: angel (Angel of the Battlefield, etc.)
- sign, signal, symbol: boot (soldier), Colonel Blimp, dove (person), hawk (person)

## **MILITARY (2) (see also bullet; explosion; fortification; knife; sword; weapon)**

- accusation & criticism: ammunition (and ammo), attack (under attack, etc.), barracked, blast (criticize), broadside (n), dressing down (n), fire (criticism), fire (under fire), fire (draw fire, etc.), fire (fire back), firing squad, flak (criticism), fusillade (n), incoming (criticism), salvo (n), shot (shot across the bow, etc.), snipe (v), sniping (n), volley (volley of abuse, etc.)
- achievement, recognition & praise: badge (badge of honor), coup (achievement), medal (n), salute (v), spur (earn one's spurs, etc.), stripe (earn one's stripes, etc.)
- action, inaction & delay: fabius (Fabius Maximus), stand down (v)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: conscript (n), desert (v), insurrection, post (abandon one's post), rally (v), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), soldier (n), traitor (person), treason (n), troops (supporters), turncoat (person)
- allusion: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.), Dunkirk (digital Dunkirk, etc.), ersatz (substitute), fabius (Fabius Maximus), Gallipoli (a Gallipoli of an interview, etc.), Geneva Convention (cyber, etc.), Maginot Line, Manhattan Project, Marshall Plan, Napoleon (the Napoleon of surgery, etc.), Pyrrhic victory (figurative), Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative), Thermopylae (figurative), Waterloo (figurative)
- amelioration & renewal: damage control
- amount: armada (n), army (a large group), arsenal (amount), battalion (a large group), battery (amount), fleet (amount), host (host of questions, etc.), legion (n), panoply (n), phalanx (phalanx of lawyers, etc.)
- amount & effect: barrage (n), besiege (v), besieged, blitz (campaign), bombard (v), bombarded, bombardment (n), bombing (n), bombshell (n), invade (v), invasion (n), onslaught (n), siege (under siege), siege (other)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: interrogate (v), interrogated, interrogating (questioning), interrogation (questioning)
- appeal: call (call to arms), cry (rallying cry)
- appearance & reality: ersatz (substitute), warrior (ironic)
- area: no man's land (danger)
- assembling: draft (v), muster (muster courage, etc.), rally (v)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: blitz (campaign), bombshell (n), drum (beat the drum / bang the drum, etc.), drumbeat (n), drum up (v), dynamite (n), shot (shot heard round the world), trumpet (v)
- bases: Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative)
- behavior: cannon (loose cannon), hostile (adj)
- campaign: blitz (campaign), offensive (charm offensive, etc.)
- character & personality: cannon (loose cannon), general (floor general, etc.), gladiator (n), strongman (power), warrior (other), wingman (person)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: last hurrah
- commitment & determination: charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), flag (plant one's flag), gung ho (and gung-ho), hill (resistance), last-ditch (adj), locked in (target), mission (on a mission), mission (other), shield (on one's shield), warrior through (v)
- competition: race (arms race)
- computer: bomb (review-bomb, etc.), war (flame war)
- concealment & lack of concealment: camouflage (v), camouflage (concealment), infiltrate (v), smokescreen (concealment)
- condition & status: AWOL, hors de combat, missing in action (MIA)

- conflict: ally (other), attack (v), attack (under attack, etc.), barracked, battering ram, battle (v), battle (n), battleground (conflict), battle cry, broadside (n), ceasefire (n), civil war (n), combat (v), combat (n), combative (adj), counterattack (n), day (win the day), embattled, enemy (conflict), firefight (and fire fight), force (show of force), fight (n), fight (v), fray (above the fray), fray (conflict), front (conflict), front line (on the front line), front line (other), hostile (adj), last-ditch (adj), line (battle lines, etc.), outgunned, partisan (n), rebellion (n), reprisal (n), saboteur (person), salvo (n), scorched-earth (and scorched earth), shot (warning shot), shot (shot across the bow, etc.), siege (under siege), skirmish (n), truce (n), wagon (circle the wagons), war (at war), war (conflict), warfare (n), war zone, zone (combat zone)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: retreat (withdraw)
- consciousness & awareness: fog (fog of war, etc.)
- constraint & lack of constraint: Geneva Convention (cyber, etc.)
- consumption: food (meat)
- control & lack of control: cannon (loose cannon), general (floor general, etc.), no man's land (danger), no man's land (regulatory, etc.)
- cost & benefit: Pyrrhic victory (figurative)
- courage & lack of courage: warrior through (v)
- creation & transformation: drum up (v)
- danger: bomb (danger), booby trap, booby-trapped, firing line (n), landmine (and land mine), line of fire, milk run (n), minefield, no man's land (danger), powder keg, tripwire (danger)
- death & life: body count (actual)
- destruction: attacked, blast radius (n), carnage (n), collateral damage (n), invader (n), sabotage (v), sabotage (n), sabotaged, saboteur (person), scorched-earth (and scorched earth), shot down (and shot down in flames), strike (preemptive strike, etc.), waste (lay waste), water (blow something out of the water), weapon (political weapon, etc.)
- development: shot (warning shot)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: battle (uphill battle, etc.), Dunkirk (digital Dunkirk, etc.), Gallipoli (a Gallipoli of an interview, etc.), last-ditch (adj), Manhattan Project, milk run (n), slog (long hard slog, etc.)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: body count (figurative), coup (power), drummed out, guard (changing of the guard)
- disruption: grenade (disruption), sabotage (v), sabotage (n), sabotaged, saboteur (person)
- division: camp (division)
- division & connection: drawbridge (protection), Maginot Line
- driving force: advance guard, charge (lead the charge, etc.), charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), fist (armored fist, etc.), march (on the march), march (n), point man (and point person), spear (tip of the spear), vanguard, vanguard (in the vanguard), vanguard (other)
- eagerness & reluctance: charge (in, into, ahead, etc.)
- effect: blast radius (n)
- enthusiasm: army (Arnie's Army, etc.)
- environment: no man's land (danger), war zone, zone (combat zone)
- epithet: general (Bobby Knight, "The General," etc.), war (epithet / figurative), Waterloo (figurative)
- experience: boot camp (education, etc.), doyen (squad leader), front line on the front line, spur (earn one's spurs, etc.), story (war story), stripe (earn one's stripes, etc.), trench (in the trenches), trench (other), veteran (n), veteran (adj)
- failure, accident & impairment: casualty (n), wound (self-inflicted wound)
- fate, fortune & chance: last-ditch (adj)
- feeling, emotion & effect: bombshell (n), combative (adj), dynamite (a dynamite cast, etc.), hostile (adj), post-traumatic stress disorder (and PTSD), shellshocked, retreat (withdraw)
- fictive communication: interrogate (v)
- force: blast radius (n), force (show of force), hot (come in hot, go in hot), onslaught (n)

- functioning: hors de combat
- group, set & collection: armada (n), armory (n), army (Arnie's Army, etc.), arsenal (amount), fleet (amount), panoply (n)
- help & assistance: ally (other), armed, armory (n), arrow (weapon), arsenal (amount), bow (weapon), cavalry (n), Marshall Plan, weapon (help), wingman (person)
- hierarchy: brass (leader), chain of command (and chain), foot soldier (duty), rank-and-file (adj)
- hyperbole: atrocity (non-military)
- identity & nature: ersatz (substitute)
- importance & significance: big gun (and heavy gun), breakthrough (n), salient (important)
- increase & decrease: multiplier (force multiplier)
- initiation: tripwire (initiation)
- judgment: dressing down (n), firing squad, muster (pass muster), prisoner (take no prisoners, etc.), quarter (no quarter, etc.)
- knowledge & intelligence: camp (math camp, etc.)
- mental health: post-traumatic stress disorder (and PTSD)
- message: call (call to arms), drum (beat the drum / bang the drum, etc.), drumbeat (n), saber rattling
- money: war chest
- movement: march (move), retreat (glaciers, etc.), slog (long hard slog, etc.)
- obstacles & impedance: breakthrough (n)
- orientation: flank (protection)
- person: big gun (and heavy gun), cannon (loose cannon), doyen (squad leader), enemy (conflict), flag-bearer, foot soldier (duty), gladiator (n), honcho (leader), partisan (n), point man (and point person), rebel (person), saboteur (person), standard-bearer, traitor (person), turncoat (person), warrior (other), wingman (person)
- place: battleground (conflict), front line (on the front line), front line (other), trench (in the trenches), trench (other)
- possession: flag (plant one's flag), surrender (v)
- power: chieftain (n), coup (power), force (show of force)
- presence & absence: beachhead (n), bridgehead (n), hors de combat, missing in action (MIA), outpost (n), retreat (absence)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: guard (changing of the guard)
- progress & lack of progress: breakthrough (n), inroads (make inroads), march (on the march), march (n)
- protection & lack of protection: aegis (n), armor (protection), bastion (n), breach (v), breach (n), breached, bristle (with security, etc.), bulwark (protection), bunker (n), castle (protection), chink (chink in one's armor), citadel (n), dig in (v), drawbridge (protection), dug in, entrenched, flank (protection), foxhole (Keynesians in a foxhole, etc.), fort (hold down the fort), fortress, guard (off guard), guard (on guard), guard (lower one's guard, drop one's guard, etc.), guard (keep one's guard up), guardian (protection), head (keep one's head down), hedgehog (protection), loophole (n), moat (n), phalanx (phalanx of lawyers, etc.), praetorian guard, rampart (protection), rank (close ranks), redoubt (n), Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative), shield (v), shield (n), stronghold (n), wagon (circle the wagons), wingman (person)
- punishment & recrimination: prisoner (take no prisoners, etc.), quarter (no quarter, etc.), reprisal (n)
- readiness & preparedness: ambush (v), ambush (n), ambush (n), ambushed, dry run, guard (off guard), guard (on guard), guard (lower one's guard, drop one's guard, etc.), guard (keep one's guard up), locked and loaded (adj), war room (strategy, etc.)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: ceasefire (n), hatchet (bury the hatchet), truce (n)
- relationship: march (together, etc.)
- representation: beret (Brown Beret, etc.), flag-bearer, standard-bearer
- resemblance: rampart (resemblance)
- resiliency: soldier on (v)

- resistance, opposition & defeat: cavalry (n), combat (v), combat (n), combative (adj), counterattack (v), counterattack (n), day (save the day), dig in (v), dug in, Dunkirk (digital Dunkirk, etc.), entrenched, fight (n), fight (v), flag (plant one's flag), Gallipoli (a Gallipoli of an interview, etc.), give in (v), give up (stop trying), give way (and give way to), hill (resistance), insurrection, last-ditch (adj), overrun (v), overrun (overwhelmed), Pyrrhic victory (figurative), rearguard (n), rebel (person), rebel (v), rebellion (n), retreat (reverse / verb), revolt (v), revolt (n), rout (defeat / noun), rout (defeat / verb), routed (defeated), siege (under siege), siege (other), stand (last stand, etc.), surrender (v), Thermopylae (figurative), white flag (surrender)
- responsibility: watch (on one's watch)
- restraint & lack of restraint: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.), cannon (loose cannon)
- reversal: aircraft carrier (turn an aircraft carrier), about face, retreat (reverse / verb), retreat (reverse / noun)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: drummer (different drummer), rebel (person), rebel (v), step (in step), step (out of step)
- searching & discovery: scout (n), search (v)
- sequence: harbinger (n)
- speech: broadside (n), fire (draw fire, etc.), flak (criticism), salvo (n), shot (shot across the bow, etc.), shot (warning shot), sniping (n), sound off (v), volley (volley of abuse, etc.)
- speed: cadence (n)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: beachhead (n), ceasefire (n), last hurrah, soldier on (v), stand down (v), truce (n)
- strategy: war room (strategy, etc.)
- strength & weakness: big gun (and heavy gun), outgunned, Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative)
- subterfuge: camouflage (v), camouflage (concealment), smokescreen (concealment)
- success & failure: conquer (v), Dunkirk (digital Dunkirk, etc.), Gallipoli (a Gallipoli of an interview, etc.), mission (mission accomplished), Pyrrhic victory (figurative), Waterloo (figurative)
- superiority & inferiority: outgunned
- survival, persistence & endurance: beachhead (n), bridgehead (n), dig in (v), dug in, entrenched, last-ditch (adj), outpost (n), soldier on (v), warrior through (v)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: zero hour (n)
- transmission: infiltrate (v)
- unanimity & consensus: drummer (different drummer), lockstep (in lockstep), march (together, etc.), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), step (in step), step (out of step)
- violence: cleanup (military)
- warning: sentinel (n), shot (shot across the bow, etc.), shot (warning shot), tripwire (warning)
- work & duty: foot soldier (duty), marching orders, mission (on a mission), mission (other), soldier (n), soldier on (v), tour of duty, troops (supporters)
- worth & lack of worth: cannon fodder (other), spoils (of war, etc.)

## **MIND (1)**

- breadth: narrow-minded (adj), narrowness (n)
- container: close-minded (adj), mind (container), mind (open mind), open-minded (adj)
- direction: high-minded (adj)
- doors & thresholds: open up (consciousness)
- materials & substances: mind-bending (adj), minded (steely-minded), tough-minded (adj), weak-minded (adj)
- movement: mind (go through one's mind, etc.), wander (mind, attention, etc.)
- platform: mind (platform)
- possession: mind (lose one's mind)
- size: small-minded (adj)
- space: mind (go through one's mind, etc.), mind (top of mind), mind (front of mind), mind (back of mind)
- verb: mind (wrap / get one's mind around something, etc.), open up (consciousness)

## MINING (2)

- activity: bonanza (n), gold rush
- allegiance, support & betrayal: prop (n), prop up (v)
- amelioration & renewal: buttress (resemblance), prop (n), prop up (v), shored up, shore up (v)
- amount: nugget (n)
- amount & effect: bonanza (n), gold rush
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: dig deep (analysis), dig into (v), dig up (v), drill (drill down, etc.), excavate (v), layer (analysis), unearth (v), unearthed
- appearance & disappearance: dig up (v), excavate (v), unearth (v), unearthed
- appearance & reality: fool's gold
- behavior: gold-digging
- character & personality: gold digger (person)
- commitment & determination: dig deep (determination)
- computer: mine (bitcoin mine, etc.)
- concealment & lack of concealment: dig up (v), excavate (v), unearth (v), unearthed
- cost & benefit: bonanza (n), gold rush
- evidence: canary (canary in the coal mine / cave)
- experience: coalface (and coal face)
- failure, accident & impairment: cave (cave in), undercut (v), undermine (v)
- identity & nature: melting pot (n)
- mixture: melting pot (n)
- person: gold digger (person)
- place: coalface (and coal face)
- product: mine (bitcoin mine, etc.), miner (bitcoin miner, etc.)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: cave (cave in)
- searching & discovery: dig (search for), dig deep (analysis), dig into (v), dig through (v), dig out, dig up, dry (come up dry), excavate (v), fool's gold, gold (strike gold), mine (search), mining (data, etc.), pay dirt, unearth (v), unearthed
- source: gold mine, mother lode, vein (source)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: vein (in that vein, etc.)
- strength & weakness: shored up, shore up (v)
- success & failure: dry (come up dry), fool's gold, gold (strike gold), hole (dry hole), pan out (v), pay dirt
- superlative: gem (n), golden (golden opportunity, etc.), gold standard (n), jewel (n), lapidary (adj)
- taking & removing: strip-mine (v)
- worth & lack of worth: bonanza (n), fool's gold, gem (n), gold (worth), gold (black gold, etc.), gold mine, gold rush, jewel (n), karat (24-karat), nugget (n), pan out (v), pay dirt

## MIRROR (2)

- analysis, interpretation & explanation: mirror (n)
- consciousness & awareness: mirror (n)
- past & present: mirror (in the rear-view mirror)
- repetition: mirror (v)
- time: mirror (in the rear-view mirror)

## MIXTURE (1)

- alcohol: cocktail (n)
- atmosphere: rainbow (mixture)
- bird: cocktail (n)
- chemistry: chemistry
- cloth: lace (v), tapestry (n), weave (mixture)

- container: melting pot (n)
- cooking: concoction (n), fold in (v)
- fire: melting pot (n)
- food & drink: alphabet (letters), bouillabaisse (mixture), bowl (salad bowl / mixture), brew (mixture), cocktail (n), concoction (n), farrago (confused mixture), gumbo (mixture), ingredient (n), jambalaya (mixture), soup (mixture), stew (mixture)
- letters & characters: alphabet (letters)
- materials & substances: amalgam (n), blend (mixture)
- mining: melting pot (noun)
- music: symphony (identity)
- sky: rainbow (mixture)
- temperature: melting pot (n)
- verb: fold in (v), lace (v)

## **MIXTURE (2)**

- amount: slurry (n)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: blend in (v)
- concealment & lack of concealment: blend in (v)
- contempo-speak: word salad
- disruption: scramble (disrupt)
- involvement: mix (in / into the mix), mixed up

## **MONEY (1)**

- allusion: Great Gatsby, Lucullan (adj), Lucullus (epithet), Midas (Midas touch)
- animal: nest egg
- bird: nest egg
- cat: fat cat
- cloth: rope (velvet rope), threadbare (adj)
- clothing & accessories: rags-to-riches, shoestring (n), threadbare (adj)
- container: coffer (n)
- epithet: Great Gatsby, Lucullus (epithet), Wall Street (Wall Street of fish, etc.)
- fatness & thinness: fat cat
- food & drink: platter (silver platter)
- history: gilded (Gilded Age)
- letters & characters: dollar sign (n)
- materials & substances: rope (velvet rope), platter (silver platter)
- military: war chest
- part of speech: haves (and have-nots, etc.)
- person: loan shark, skinflint (person), spendthrift (person)
- place: Wall Street (Wall Street of fish, etc.)
- predation: loan shark
- purses & wallets: change (pocket change), piggybank (n), purse (money), purse strings, pocket (deep pockets), pocketbook (money), checkbook, wallet (money)
- rope: rope (velvet rope)
- sensation: tight (money)
- sign, signal, symbol: box office (n), champagne (money), checkbook, coffer (n), cookie jar (n), dollar sign (n), fat cat, meal ticket (n), piggybank (n), pocket (deep pockets), pocketbook (money), purse (money), purse strings, rags-to-riches, rope (velvet rope), platter (silver platter), treasure (money), wallet (money), Wall Street (Wall Street of fish, etc.), war chest

## MONEY (2)

- acceptance & rejection: buy (buy into something), buy (accept), buy-in (n)
- achievement, recognition & praise: earn (v), tribute (pay tribute)
- activity: bonanza (n), gold rush
- allegiance, support & betrayal: buy (buy into something), buy-in (n), sell out (v)
- amount: catalogue (list), change (pocket change), rich (plentiful), tight (money), treasure house, treasure trove (and trove), wealth (amount)
- amount & effect: bonanza (n), gold rush
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: bottom line
- attainment: deal (close the deal)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: brand (non-product), peddle (v), sell (promote)
- certainty & uncertainty: deal (done deal)
- character & personality: mercenary
- commitment & determination: buy-in (n), cost (at all costs, etc.), invest (v), investment (n), soul (sell one's soul to the devil, etc.)
- competition: marketplace (n)
- computer: paywall (obstacle)
- constraint & lack of constraint: budget (attention budget, etc.)
- cost & benefit: afford (v), bonanza (n), bottom line, capital (value), cash in (v), cost (v), cost (at a cost), cost (at all costs, etc.), costly (adj), dividend (pay dividends, etc.), expense (at the expense), gold rush, pay (benefit), pay (pay a price), pay off, payoff, price (n), price tag, prize (n), prized, profit (v), reward (v), reward (n), rewarding, spend (energy, etc.), toll (take a toll, etc.), toll (other), worth (benefit)
- creation & transformation: coin (v), coined, mint (v), minted
- death & life: bill (butcher's bill, etc.), cheap (life is cheap, etc.), precious (life is precious, etc.)
- experience: pay (pay one's dues)
- fate, fortune & chance: windfall (n)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: heir (n), heirloom (n), inherit (v), inheritance (n), legacy (history), lend (lend a hand, etc.)
- group, set & collection: bank (tissue bank, etc.), brain trust, treasure trove (and trove), treasure house
- growth & development: seed money
- help & assistance: lend (lend a hand, etc.)
- hyperbole: soul (sell one's soul to the devil, etc.)
- identity & nature: brand (non-product)
- importance & significance: million-dollar
- increase & decrease: enrich (v)
- judgment: cost (at a cost), hell (hell to pay, etc.), pay (pay a price), pay (revenge), price (n), price tag, reckoning (judgment)
- message: sell (promote)
- military: bill (butcher's bill, etc.)
- obligation: debt (in somebody's debt), debt (obligation), indebted, owe (obligation), pay (obligation), repaid (a debt, etc.), repay (v), tribute (pay tribute)
- obstacles & impedance: paywall (obstacle)
- person: gold digger (person), gun (hired gun), loan shark, mercenary (person), rainmaker (person)
- position, policy & negotiation: haggle (v), haggling, horse-trading, transactional (adj)
- possession: own (possess), own (make something one's own), ownership (n), trade (v)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: legacy (obsolescence)
- protection & lack of protection: insurance
- punishment & recrimination: hell (hell to pay, etc.)

- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: deal (close the deal)
- relationship: coin (side of a coin), coin (double-sided coin), owe (relationship)
- reputation: legacy (reputation)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: cost (at all costs, etc.), sell out (v)
- responsibility: own (responsibility), ownership (n)
- revenge: pay (revenge), payback (n), score (settle a score, etc.)
- sacrifice: treasure (money)
- searching & discovery: treasure trove (and trove)
- society: haves (and have-nots, etc.)
- speech: cheap (words are cheap, etc.)
- success & failure: deal (close the deal), jackpot (hit the jackpot)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: deficit (n)
- superlative: gold standard (n), rich (superlative)
- superiority & inferiority: boutique (n)
- taxonomy & classification: brand (non-product)
- time: precious (time), time (buy time, etc.), time (spend time), time (have time), time (spend time), time (make time), time (find time), time (steal time, etc.), time (give time), time (lose time, etc.), time (cost time, etc.), time (a minute to spare, etc.), time (waste time)
- transmission: heir (n), heirloom (n), inherit (v), inheritance (n), legacy (history)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: prize (n), soul (sell one's soul to the devil, etc.), stakeholder (interest)
- worth & lack of worth: bankrupt (adj), bonanza (n), capital (value), cash machine (n), cheap (life is cheap, etc.), cheap (words are cheap, etc.), currency (worth), enrich (v), gold rush, Mona Lisa (Mona Lisa of baseball cards, etc.), pay off (v), precious (life is precious, etc.), payoff, prize (n), prized, profit (v), rich (rich land, etc.), stock (worth), treasure (worth), treasure (v), treasured (worth), treasure house, treasure trove (and trove), wealth (amount), windfall (n)

## **MOON (2) (see also astronomy; star; sun)**

- appearance: moonscape (n)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)
- decline: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), wane (on the wane), wane (v)
- development: wane (v), wax and wane
- difficulty, easiness & effort: moonshot (n)
- environment: moonscape (n)
- feeling, emotion & effect: moon (over the moon)
- geography: moon (Valle de la Luna, etc.)
- increase & decrease: wane (v), wax and wane
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: wane (on the wane), wane (v), wax and wane
- proper name: moon (Valle de la Luna, etc.)
- resemblance: moonscape (n)
- shape: moon (shape)
- superiority & inferiority: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)

## **MOUNTAINS & HILLS (2)**

- ability & lack of ability: Sherpa (n)
- achievement, recognition & praise: peak (at the peak), summit (at the summit)
- amount: mountain (amount)
- amount & effect: landslide (in a landslide), landslide (by a landslide), landslide (other)
- appearance & reality: valley (the uncanny valley, etc.)
- attainment: climb (scale), Mariana Trench (epithet), Mount Everest (and Everest), scale (climb), sights (lower one's sights)

- bases: monolith (n), monolithic (adj), outcrop (and outcropping), Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative)
- behavior: edge (over the edge)
- danger: edge (on the edge of a cliff, etc.), Mount Everest (and Everest), precipice (at / on the precipice), precipice (other), slope (on a slippery slope), slope (slippery slope)
- decline: cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), downhill (go downhill, etc.), hill (over the hill)
- destruction: abyss (n), cliff (glass cliff), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), edge (push something over the edge)
- development: watershed (n)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: downhill (easy), hill (difficulty), mountain (difficulty), Mount Everest (and Everest), uphill (difficult)
- direction: watershed (n)
- division & connection: traverse (v), watershed (n)
- dominance & submission: overhang (n)
- epithet: Mariana Trench (epithet), Mount Everest (and Everest)
- fate, fortune & chance: cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), edge (on the edge of a cliff, etc.), precipice (at / on the precipice), precipice (other), slope (on a slippery slope), slope (slippery slope)
- help & assistance: Sherpa (n)
- hierarchy: mountain (at the top of the mountain)
- importance & significance: paramount (adj), watershed (n)
- increase & decrease: peak (at the peak), peak (peaks and troughs, etc.), plateau (n), plateau (v)
- isolation & remoteness: cave (isolation)
- obstacles & impedance: overcome (v)
- occurrence: outcrop (and outcropping)
- past & present: descendant (come after / down), down (down through the centuries, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), passed down (by ancestors, etc.), present (up to the present), up (up to now, up to date, etc.)
- presence & absence: foothold (n), toehold (n)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: hill (over the hill), peak (careers, etc. / verb), peak (at the peak), peak (peaks and troughs, etc.)
- progress & lack of progress: climb (scale), level off (v), peak (peaks and troughs, etc.), plateau (n), scale (climb), valley (n)
- protection & lack of protection: Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative)
- proximity: edge (on the edge of a cliff, etc.), precipice (at / on the precipice), precipice (other)
- resemblance: mountainous (adj)
- sequence: descendant (come after / down)
- shape: peak (peaks and troughs, etc.), plateau (n), valley
- size: Himalayan (mis calculation, etc.), mountainous (adj), Mount Everest (and Everest), Olympian (size)
- source: watershed (n)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: slope (on a slippery slope), slope (slippery slope)
- strength & weakness: Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative)
- superlative: Mariana Trench (epithet), Mount Everest (and Everest), Mount Rushmore, Olympus (Mount Olympus), peak (peak experience, etc.)
- survival, persistence & endurance: foothold (n), toehold (n)
- time: descendant (come after / down), down (down through the centuries, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), passed down (by ancestors, etc.), present (up to the present), up (up to now, up to date, etc.)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: sights (lower one's sights)

## **MOU**TH (2) (see also tongue, throat)

- character & personality: loudmouth (person)
- eagerness & reluctance: chops (lick one's chops), lips (lick one's lips), salivate (v)
- feeling, emotion & effect: jaw-dropper, jaw-dropping, lip (stiff upper lip)

- orientation: mandible (n), mouth (entrance)
- repetition: mouthpiece (person)
- resemblance: jaw (jaws of life, etc.), mandible (n), mouth (entrance), spit (spit down), spit (v)
- resiliency: lip (stiff upper lip)
- restraint & lack of restraint: mouth (run one's mouth)
- shape: jaw (jaws of life, etc.), mandible (n)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: lip service (pay lip service, etc.), mouth (both sides of one's mouth), mouthpiece (person)
- speech: lip (speech), lip service (pay lip service, etc.), loudmouth (person), mouth (both sides of one's mouth), mouth (run one's mouth), mouthpiece (person), mouthy (adj), muzzle (v), tight-lipped (adj)
- survival, persistence & endurance: lip (stiff upper lip)

## **MOVEMENT (1) (see also fictive motion; leaking)**

- animal: canter (n), canter (v), duck (v), fishtail (v), flock (v), gallop (v), hop (v), leapfrog (v), lurk (v), porpoising (movement), pounce (v), prowl (on the prowl), slink (slink in, etc.), sluggish (adj), snake (a trail can snake, etc.), stalk (v), stampede (n), swarm (v), swoop (v), trot (on the trot), weasel (v)
- astronomy: orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- atmosphere: drift (move)
- ball: bounce (v), ping-pong (v), pinball (v), ping-pong (n), rebound (recover), rebound (v), roll (move), roll in (v), rolling (moving)
- boat: anchored, swamp (v)
- bird: duck (v), flock (v), swoop (v)
- blade: scissor (resemblance)
- cloth: weave (move)
- corner: box (box somebody into a corner), corner (in a tight corner, etc.)
- cows & cattle: stampede (n)
- direction: bounce (v), cascade (v), oscillate (v), ping-pong (v), ping-pong (n), retreat (glaciers, etc.), roll (move), roller coaster (development), seesaw (n), weave (move), yo-yo (v), yo-yo (yo-yo dieting, etc.), zig-zag (v)
- doors & thresholds: revolving door
- engine: parked (movement), stall (v), stalled (progress)
- fan: fan out (v)
- fish: fishtail (v), porpoising (movement)
- flood: deluge (n), flood (move)
- flying & falling: swoop (v)
- force: barrel (v), churn (move), hurtle (v), muscle (muscle its way through, etc.), rip through (v), tear through (v)
- horse: canter (n), canter (v), gallop (v), stampede (n), trot (on the trot)
- hunting: lurk (v), pounce (v), stalk (v)
- insect: swarm (v)
- journeys & trips: plod (v), slog (long hard slog, etc.)
- letters & characters: zig-zag (v)
- military: march (move), retreat (glaciers, etc.), slog (long hard slog, etc.)
- mechanism: conveyor belt, parked (movement), stall (v), stalled (progress)
- predation: lurk (v), pounce (v), prowl (on the prowl), robotic (movement), stalk (v), swoop (v)
- river: flood (move), flow (flow of the lesson, etc.), flow (move), flow (n), river (river of hogs, etc.), wind (wind its way)
- rocket: rocket (speed), skyrocket (increase)
- sea: ebb (movement), tide (other), wave (amount and effect)

- shape: corkscrew (v), doughnut (cars, etc.), fan out (v), spiral (downward or upward)
- sheep: flock (v)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: muscle (muscle its way through, etc.)
- snake: snake (a trail can snake, etc.), wind (wind its way)
- snow & ice: freeze (position of body), frozen (movement)
- sound: drift (sound), drip (and drip-drip, etc.), zip (v)
- speed: crawl (time can crawl, etc.), canter (n), canter (v), gallop (v), plod (v), race (hurry), rocket (speed), roll (slow-roll), skyrocket (increase), sluggish (adj)
- sports & games: carrousel (n), merry-go-round, pinball (v), ping-pong (v), ping-pong (n), roller coaster (development), seesaw (n), yo-yo (v), yo-yo (yo-yo dieting, etc.)
- tide: ebb (movement), surge (n), surge (intransitive verb / effect), tide (other)
- verb: barrel (v), bounce (v), canter (v), churn (move), corkscrew (v), crawl (time can crawl, etc.), creep (v), dance (resemblance), dart (dart about), drift (move), duck (v), fishtail (v), flee (v), flock (v), flood (move), flow (move), fluctuate (v), gallop (v), hop (v), hurtle (v), jump (leave), jump (movement), leap (leap into action, etc.), leapfrog (v), loiter (v), lurch (v), lurk (v), march (move), migrate (v), muscle (muscle its way through, etc.), oscillate (v), pinball (v), ping-pong (v), plod (v), pounce (v), pour (in, into, pour out, etc.), race (v), rebound (recover), rebound (v), reel (v), retreat (glaciers, etc.), ricochet (v), rip through (v), rocket (speed), roll (move), roll in (v), scramble (v), seep (v), slink (slink in, etc.), snake (a trail can snake, etc.), spill (and spill out, etc.), spiral (downward or upward), stalk (v), stall (v), stream (move), stride (hit one's stride), surge (intransitive verb / effect), swamp (v), swarm (v), swoop (v), tear through (v), trickle (trickle in / out), vault (v), wash in (v), weasel (v), weave (move), whip (movement), yo-yo (v), zig-zag (v)
- walking, running & jumping: canter (n), canter (v), crawl (time can crawl, etc.), crawl (n), creep (v), dance (resemblance), flee (v), gallop (v), hop (v), jump (leave), jump (movement), leap (leap into action, etc.), leapfrog (v), lurch (v), lurk (v), march (move), plod (v), pounce (v), race (hurry), reel (v), scramble (v), slog (long hard slog, etc.), stalk (v), stride (hit one's stride), vault (v), zip (v)
- water: cascade (v), deluge (n), drip (and drip-drip, etc.), flood (move), flow (flow of the lesson, etc.), flow (move), flow (n), flowing, fluctuate (v), fluid (adj), gush (n), outpouring, overflow (v), overflowing (adj), pour (in, into, pour out, etc.), river (river of hogs, etc.), seep (v), spill (v), stream (amount & effect), surge (n), surge (intransitive verb / effect), swamp (v), tide (other), torrent (n), trickle (n), trickle (trickle in / out), wash in (v), wave (amount and effect)
- wave: fluctuate (v), swamp (v), wash in (v), wave (amount and effect)
- weapon: dart (dart about), ricochet (v)
- whip: whip (movement)
- wind: drift (move)

## **MOVEMENT (2) (see also journeys & trips)**

- ability & lack of ability: acrobatic (adj), agile (adj), agility (n) clumsy (adj), flexible (adj), flexible (character), footwork (n), gymnastic (adj), gymnastics (effort), handicapped, inflexible (character), nimble (adj), rigid (constraint), rigid (character), supple (adj)
- action, inaction & delay: bus (park the bus), can (kick the can down the road), feet (drag one's feet), hand (sit on one's hands), inertia (n), move (take action), road (push something down the road), roll (slow-roll), slow (adj), stand by (v)
- activity: astir (adj), busy (active), convulse (v), convulsed, convulsion (n), feverish (adj), feverishly, hop (v), jump (the place was jumping, etc.), paroxysm (other), potato (couch potato), rage (v), raging (adj), rush (oil rush, etc.), scramble (v), spasm (n), spasmodic (adj), swing (in full swing), swirl (v), thrum (v), whirl (n)
- affliction: convulse (v), convulsed, convulsion (n), paroxysm (other), spasm (n), spasmodic (adj)
- amelioration & renewal: outlet (n), turn around (turn things around, etc.)

- analysis, interpretation & explanation: arrive at (an answer, etc.), come to (come to an answer, etc.), follow (argument), follow (it follows that, etc.), go (argument), go on (what's going on, etc.), reach (reach an answer, etc.)
- appearance & disappearance: come (occur, develop), come along (appearance), come back (from extinction, etc.), go away (v)
- attachment: accompany (attachment), attend (v), come with (and come along with / attachment)
- attainment: arrive at (an answer, etc.), climb (scale), coast (coast to victory, etc.), far (progress), reach (secure), reach (a place on a journey), sail (sail to victory, etc.), scale (climb), stroll (stroll to success, etc.), waltz (waltz to success, etc.)
- attraction & repulsion: draw (attract), draw in (v), drawn in, drawn into, drawn to, orbit (n), pulled in, pulled into, recoil (v), revolve (revolve around something), vortex (n)
- avoidance & separation: bypass (v), dodge (v), end run (n), go around (v), sidestep (v)
- attempt: go (have a go at something), go for it (and go for broke, etc.)
- bases: orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- behavior: go (behavior), rage (v), raging (adj), wall (ricochet off the wall)
- certainty & uncertainty: shifting (adj)
- character & personality: flexible (character), inflexible (character), rigid (character)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: arrive (a time can arrive), arrive (the equator is arriving, etc.), cavalcade (n), circle back (return), come (winter is coming, etc.), come (occur, develop), come and go (currency), come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), conga line, conveyor belt, day (day has arrived, etc.), footstep (retrace one's footsteps), go (not go anywhere, etc.), go away (v), go back (and get back), here (here to stay, etc.), hover (other), intervening (adj), linger (v), lingering, loiter (v), musical chairs, pageant (n), parade (n), parked (movement), reach (the news reached him, etc.), remain (v), return (and return to), return (n), revisit (v), revolving door, time (time has passed), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), upcoming (adj), waltz in (v)
- commitment & determination: budge (v), charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), go for it (and go for broke, etc.), immovable (adj), leap (leap into action, etc.), move (not move an inch, etc.), waver (v), unwavering (adj), wobble (commitment), wobbly (commitment)
- competition: ahead (competition), behind (competition), catch up (catch up to something), dust (leave somebody in the dust), fall behind (competition and progress), keep up (progress), lag (progress), pass (progress), race (competition), race (hurry), slipstream (in a slipstream), trail (competition and progress), wake (in a wake)
- comprehension & incomprehension: follow (argument), go (argument)
- condition & status: dead (dead in the water), handicapped, limp (v), ongoing (investigation, etc.), sluggish (adj), speed (up to speed), spiral (death spiral), stall (v), stalled (progress), wheel (spin one's wheels)
- configuration: orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), can (kick the can down the road), hand (sit on one's hands), road (go down that road, etc.), sidestep (v), there (let's not go there)
- consciousness & awareness: drift (consciousness), see (see something coming)
- constraint & lack of constraint: box (box somebody into a corner), corner (in a tight corner, etc.), fetter (n), fettered, flexible (adj), hamstrung, handicapped, hobble (v), hobbled, jump (rivers can jump their banks, etc.), jump (transmission), outlet (n), rigid (constraint), spot (tight spot, etc.), supple (adj), unfettered
- control & lack of control: accelerator (control), brake (control), carried away, check (in check), rage (v), raging (adj), spin (out of control), spiral (out of control)
- course: journey (n), passage (journey)
- creation & transformation: spin-off (n), spin up (v), spun up
- curtailment: end (come to an end, etc.), track (stop something in its tracks)
- death & life: dead (dead and gone), gone (dead), leave (death), pass (die), pass away (v), passing (death / actual)

- decline: passing (death / figurative), slide (slide to perdition, etc.), slide (v), stagnant (adj), stagnate (v), tailspin (in a tailspin)
- destruction: spiral (death spiral)
- development: along (further along), come (occur, develop), come (come a long way), come to (development), follow (it follows that, etc.), get (not get anywhere, get nowhere), go (go wrong, etc.), go (go right, etc.), go (not go anywhere, go nowhere), go (develop), go (where are we going, etc.), head (development), here (go from here, etc.), hinge (hinge event, etc.), journey (n), lead (one thing leads to another), move on (development), pendulum (reversal), progress (v), reach (a place on a journey), roller coaster (development), see (see something coming), seesaw (n), stand still (development), swing (swing around), swing (development), turn (take a turn), turn (development), turning point (n), twist (n), where (situation / development)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: acrobatic (adj), acrobatics (n), canter (n), canter (v), coast (coast to victory, etc.), drag (v), gymnastic (adj), gymnastics (effort), park (walk in the park), sail (sail to victory, etc.), scramble (v), shortcut (v), shortcut (n), stroll (stroll to success, etc.), trot (on the trot), waltz (waltz to success, etc.)
- direction: approach (a better approach, etc.), bound (destination), follow (a path, route, road, etc.), footstep (in the footsteps), go (direction), head (development), lead (one thing leads to another), meander (v), move (direction), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), stray (direction), wind (wind its way)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: shake (remove)
- disruption: stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.)
- division & connection: orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- driving force: charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), march (on the march), march (n)
- eagerness & reluctance: charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), jump (jump at the chance, etc.), leap (leap into action, etc.), pounce (v), road (go down that road, etc.), spring (spring into action, etc.), there (let's not go there)
- experience: been through (endure, etc.), go through (endure, etc.), journey (n), passage (journey), ride (rough ride, etc.), road (down a road before)
- extent & scope: sweeping, swing (in full swing)
- failure, accident & impairment: circle (go in circles), falter (v), flounder (v), go (go wrong, etc.), go (go right, etc.), halt (grind to a halt, etc.), momentum (lose momentum), sidetracked, sideways (go sideways), stall (v), stalled (progress), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), turn (wrong turn)
- feeling, emotion & effect: carried away, cartwheel (do cartwheels, etc.), follow (follow a feeling or emotion), frozen (emotion), paralyzed (feeling), paroxysm (emotion), petrified (adj), rage (v), raging (adj), roller coaster (emotional roller coaster, etc.), send (emotion or effect), slide (v), wall (ricochet off the wall)
- fictive transportation: back (in time), carried away, carry (carry me away, etc.), take (take us back / time), transport (in time)
- flaws & lack of flaws: roll (on a roll)
- force: barrel (v), churn (move), hurtle (v), march (march ahead, etc.), momentum (gain momentum, etc.), momentum (n), muscle (muscle its way through, etc.), rip through (v), tear through (v), traction (gain / build / get traction), unstoppable (force, etc.)
- functioning: cripple (v), crippled, fetter (n), fettered, hamstrung, handicapped, hobble (v), hobbled, paralysis (n), paralyze (v), paralyzed (functioning), speed (up to speed), stall (v), stalled (progress), unfettered
- future: approach (winter is approaching, etc.), approach (the approach of summer, etc.), approaching (adj), bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), arrive (a time can arrive), come (winter is coming, etc.), come (to come), come (for a time to come), come (come after / at a later time), come and go (time), come up on (a date, etc.), coming (in the coming months, etc.), day (day has arrived, etc.), draw near (winter is drawing near, etc.), forward (every year forward, etc.), go (a month to go, etc.), go (where are we going, etc.), head (head into the future, etc.), headed, intervening (adj), near (v), on (30 years on, etc.), onrushing (future, etc.), pass (its time has passed, etc.), road (come down the road / pike), run (run into next week, etc.), run (in / over the long run), see (see something coming), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (time has passed), train (future), up-and-coming, upcoming (adj), way (autumn is on the way, etc.)
- group, set & collection: cavalcade (n), pageant (n), parade (n)

- growth & development: fall behind (competition and progress), lag (progress), trail (competition and progress)
- haste: gallop (haste), jump (jump at the chance, etc.), run (on the run / haste), rush (oil rush, etc.), scramble (v)
- importance & significance: breakthrough (n), hinge (hinge event, etc.), turning point (n)
- increase & decrease: accelerate (v), accelerator (control), brake (control), creep (mission creep, etc.), escalate (v), fluctuate (v), jump (n), momentum (n), rebound (numbers), roller coaster (development), surge (intransitive verb / increase), upsurge (n), yo-yo (yo-yo dieting, etc.)
- initiation: pot (stir the pot), swirl (v), spin up (v), spun up
- involvement: bound up, draw in (v), drawn in, drawn into, enmeshed, pulled in, pulled into, web (entanglement)
- message: spin (message / verb), spin (message / noun), spin (spin control)
- mind: mind (go through one's mind, etc.), wander (mind, attention, etc.)
- obstacles & impedance: breakthrough (n), ditch (stuck in a ditch, etc.), drag (drag on the economy, etc.), impasse (n), stopped up, stuck (adj), wall (hit a wall, etc.)
- occurrence: come (occur, develop), go on (what's going on, etc.), spin up (v), spun up
- past & present: ago (two days ago / gone by), ancestor (go before), back (in time), backtrack (go back in time), backwards (past), bridge (water under the bridge), bygone (adj), circle back (return), come (a time comes along), come (come before / at an earlier time), come and go (time), dam (water over the dam), day (day has arrived, etc.), go (the time has gone, etc.), go back (verb / time), gone (those days are gone, etc.), here (go from here, etc.), mirror (in the rear-view mirror), pass (its time has passed, etc.), predecessor (go away before), revisit (v), road (down a road before), stand still (time), take (take us back / time), time warp, time (time has passed), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), walk (walk somebody back)
- position, policy & negotiation: budge (v), immovable (adj), maneuvering (strategy), move (not move an inch, etc.), shift (change)
- possession: gone (absent)
- power: momentum (gain momentum, etc.), momentum (n), muscle (muscle its way through, etc.)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: gone (absent)
- presence & absence: gone (absent), here (here to stay, etc.), remain (v)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: arrive (attainment), bygone (adj), come and go (currency), comer (up-and-comer, etc.), gone (those days are gone, etc.), pass (its time has passed, etc.), pass by (progress), passing (death / figurative), pendulum (reversal), tailspin (into a tailspin), tailspin (in a tailspin), time (time has passed), up-and-coming, up and down, way (go the way of something)
- product: outcome (n), spin-off (n)
- progress & lack of progress: advance (v), backwards (progress), beginning (just the beginning, etc.), behind (progress), breakthrough (n), catch up (catch up to something), catch up (catch up with something), checkpoint (at a checkpoint), circle (go in circles), climb (scale), come (come a long way), dead (dead in the water), ditch (stuck in a ditch, etc.), fall behind (competition and progress), far (progress), forward (move forward, get (not get anywhere, get nowhere), go forward, etc.), go (not go anywhere, go nowhere), go (a distance to go, etc.), go (go places, etc.), ground (gain ground), ground (lose ground, etc.), headway (n), impasse (n), inertia (n), jump (progress), jump (in jumps), keep up (progress), lag (progress), limp (v), limp (n), march (march ahead, etc.), march (on the march), march (n), momentum (n), moored, move (progress), move (move up), movement (progress), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), parked (movement), pass (progress), pass by (progress), plod (v), progress (v), roll (v), roll (on a roll), rut (in a rut), scale (climb), set back (v), setback (progress), sidetracked, sideways (go sideways), stall (v), stalled (progress), stand still (progress), standstill (n), stuck (adj), there (destination), trail (competition and progress), wall (hit a wall, etc.), way (come a long way, etc.), wheel (spin one's wheels), wheel (hamster wheel), wind (wind its way)
- pursuit, capture & escape: stalk (v)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: bridge (water under the bridge), dam (water over the dam), move on (resiliency)

- relationship: accompany (attachment), attend (v), bring (v), come (occur, develop), come with (and come along with / attachment), draw (attract), follow (result, sequence), follow (it follows that, etc.), lead (one thing leads to another), orbit (n), outcome (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- resiliency: bounce back (v), bounce back (n), come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), flexible (character), forge on (resiliency), go on (persist), move on (resiliency), rebound (recover), roll on (resiliency), soldier on (v)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: budge (v), come out (against something), immovable (adj), move (not move an inch, etc.)
- reversal: aircraft carrier (turn an aircraft carrier), backpedal (v), backtrack (reversal), flip (v), flip-flop (v), flip-flop (v), hinge (hinge event, etc.), oscillate (v), pendulum (reversal), swing (swing around), turnabout (reversal)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: go-ahead
- sequence: ancestor (go before), follow (at a later time), following (sequence), following (at a later time), precede (at an earlier time), preceding (at an earlier time), predecessor (go away before), train (in one's train / at a later time), wake (in the wake of / at a later time)
- situation: box (box somebody into a corner), corner (in a tight corner, etc.), drawn in, drawn into, go back (and get back), pulled in, pulled into, return (and return to), spot (tight spot, etc.), stuck (adj)
- social interaction: back (back and forth), get along (v), go along (v)
- speed: accelerate (v), accelerator (control), brake (control), canter (n), canter (v), crawl (time can crawl, etc.), gallop (v), leaps and bounds, lethargic (adj), momentum (gain momentum, etc.), plod (v), race (hurry), slow (adj), sluggish (adj), speed (up to speed), speed (supersonic speed, etc.)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: accelerate (v), ahead (progress), ahead (go ahead), ball (get the ball rolling, etc.), beginning (just the beginning, etc.), course (run its course, etc.), creep (mission creep, etc.), end (come to an end, etc.), escalate (v), falter (v), follow-through (investigation, etc.), go on (persist), halt (grind to a halt, etc.), inertia (n), march (march ahead, etc.), momentum (n), move on (resiliency), move on (change the subject, etc.), ongoing (investigation, etc.), onwards (from a time onwards), parked (movement), pass (end), roll (on a roll), roll (v), rolling (movement), set out (and set off), spasmodic (adj), stall (v), stalled (progress), strike out (start), swing (in full swing), tick on (and tick by), tick-tock (n), traction (gain / build / get traction), wheel (spin one's wheels)
- strategy: maneuvering (strategy)
- strength & weakness: muscle (muscle its way through, etc.)
- subterfuge: slink (slink in, etc.), spin (message / verb), spin (message / noun), spin (spin control)
- success & failure: nowhere (go nowhere, etc.)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: overflow (v)
- superiority & inferiority: dust (leave somebody in the dust), slipstream (in a slipstream), wake (in a wake)
- survival, persistence & endurance: been through (endure, etc.), come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), go (not go anywhere, etc.), gone (absent), go through (endure, etc.), go on (persist), here (here to stay, etc.), immovable (adj), remain (v), soldier on (v)
- time: advance (a day can advance, etc.), ago (two days ago / gone by), ancestor (go before), approach (winter is approaching, etc.), approaching (adj), arrive (a time can arrive), back (in time), backtrack (go back in time), behind (in the past), bygone (adj), backwards (past), bridge (water under the bridge), bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), come (to come), come (winter is coming, etc.), come (a time comes along), come (come before / at an earlier time), come (come after / at a later time), come and go (time), come up on (a date, etc.), coming (in the coming months, etc.), course (over the course / time), crawl (time can crawl, etc.), dam (water over the dam), day (day has arrived, etc.), drag on (v), draw near (winter is drawing near, etc.), fly (time flies), follow (at a later time), following (at a later time), forward (every year forward, etc.), go (where are we going, etc.), go (the time has gone, etc.), go (a month to go, etc.), go by (an hour can go by, etc.), gone (those days are gone, etc.), haul (long haul), head (head into the future, etc.), here (go from here, etc.), intervening (adj), long-run (adj), march (March of Time, etc.), mirror (in the rear-view mirror), move on (time has moved on, etc.), near (v), on (30 years on, etc.), ongoing (investigation, etc.), onrushing (future, etc.), onwards (from a

time onwards), pass (its time has passed, etc.), pass (time can pass, etc.), passage (passage of time), precede (at an earlier time), preceding (at an earlier time), predecessor (go away before), race (the term raced to its end, etc.), revisit (v), road (come down the road / pike), road (down a road before), run (run into next week, etc.), run (in / over the long run), running (continuing), see (see something coming), slip away (time), stand still (time), take (take us back / time), tick on (and tick by), tick-tock (n), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (time has passed), time (passage of time), time (over time), time (course of time), time (dead time), time warp, train (future), train (in one's train / at a later time), transport (in time), upcoming (adj), wake (in the wake of / at a later time), walk (walk somebody back), way (autumn is on the way, etc.)

- timeliness & lack of timeliness: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), head start, lethargic (adj), move on (time has moved on, etc.), ship (ship has sailed, etc.), slow (adj), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), train (train has left the station, etc.)
- transmission: hitchhike (v), hitchhiker (n), hop (hop across, etc.), jump (transmission), slink (slink in, etc.), stay (what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas, etc.)

## MUSIC (2)

- ability & lack of ability: chops (expertise), maestro (person)
- achievement, recognition & praise: hymn (n), Mozart (Mozart of Rock, etc.), nightingale (Nightingale of India, etc.), paean (n), praise (sing someone's praises), unsung (praise)
- amount & effect: chorus (chorus of critics, etc.), crescendo (n)
- amelioration & renewal: fine-tune (v), tune (and tune up), tune-up (n)
- attainment: waltz (waltz to success, etc.)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: bandwagon (n), fanfare (attention)
- complexity: note (one note)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: musical chairs, waltz in (v)
- commitment & determination: stop (pull out all the stops)
- concealment & lack of concealment: undertone (n)
- consciousness & awareness: tone-deaf (adj)
- decline: requiem (n)
- development: crescendo (n)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: stop (pull out all the stops), waltz (waltz to success, etc.)
- directing: orchestrate (v), orchestrated
- disruption: cognitive dissonance, discordant (adj)
- enthusiasm: Woodstock (whitewater Woodstock, etc.)
- evidence: undertone (n)
- experience: chops (expertise)
- feeling, emotion & effect: blues (the blues), cognitive dissonance, ear (music to one's ears), lament (v), note (note of caution, etc.)
- flaws & lack of flaws: note (right note), pitch-perfect (adj), tin ear (n), tin-eared (adj), tone-deaf (adj), tune (out of tune)
- identity & nature: anthem (n), anthemic (adj), symphony (identity)
- importance & significance: fiddle (second fiddle)
- judgment: music (face the music)
- knowledge & intelligence: chops (expertise)
- mixture: symphony (identity)
- person: maestro (person)
- priority: fiddle (second fiddle)
- readiness & preparedness: tune (and tune up), tune-up (noun)
- relationship: dance (coordination), pas de dux, tango (v)
- repetition: refrain (common refrain, etc.)

- representation: anthem (n), anthemic (adj)
- resemblance: chorus (resemblance), opera (n), symphony (resemblance)
- restraint & lack of restraints: stop (pull out all the stops)
- reverence: hymn (n)
- reversal: tune (change one's tune), tune (change in tune)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: offbeat (adj), tune (dance to the tune)
- sound: opera (n), symphony
- starting, going, continuing & ending: dance (last dance), requiem (n), waltz (last waltz)
- superiority & inferiority: fiddle (second fiddle)
- superlative: nightingale (Nightingale of India, etc.)
- unanimity & consensus: bandwagon (n), chorus (chorus of critics, etc.), harmony (in harmony), tune (in tune, etc.), tune (out of tune), tune (dance to the tune), tune (different tune)

## **NAIL (2)**

- pursuit, capture & escape: nail (nail somebody)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: nail down (settle)
- success & failure: nail (nail something), nail down (gain)

## **NECK (2)**

- affliction: neck (pain in the neck), pain (pain in the neck, etc.)
- character & personality: pain (pain in the neck, etc.)
- competition: neck and neck (adj)
- death & life: neck (save one's neck)
- destruction: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), decapitate (v), head (heads will roll, etc.), neck (save one's neck)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), decapitate (v), head (heads will roll, etc.)
- extent & scope: neck (up to one's neck), neck-deep (in debt, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), head (heads will roll, etc.), neck (save one's neck), neck (fate), neck (stick one's neck out)
- geography: bottleneck (the Bottleneck, etc.)
- involvement: neck (up to one's neck), neck-deep (in debt, etc.)
- obstacles & impedance: bottleneck (n)
- oppression: neck (oppression)
- proper name: bottleneck (the Bottleneck, etc.), neck (Throggs Neck, etc.)
- punishment & recrimination: head (heads will roll, etc.), head (have one's head handed to oneself, etc.)
- shape: bottleneck (n), neck (area)
- survival, persistence & endurance: neck (save one's neck)

## **NEGATION (2)**

- comparison & contrast: Einstein (intelligence, or lack), no (no Jack Kennedy, etc.), not (and not so much / sarcasm)

## **NOSE (2)**

- ability & lack of ability: nose (ability)
- admiration & contempt: nose (look down one's nose)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: nose (attention)
- character & personality: hard-nosed (adjective)
- coercion & motivation: nose (bloody nose, etc.)
- consciousness & awareness: nose (under somebody's nose)
- eagerness & reluctance: nose (hold one's nose)

- insult: nose (thumb one's nose)
- orientation: nose (orientation), snout (orientation)
- proper name: Nose (Devil's Nose, etc.)
- punishment & recrimination: nose (bloody nose, etc.)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: nose (thumb one's nose)
- shape: nose (shape)

## NUCLEAR ENERGY (2)

- affliction: fallout (effect)
- alternatives & choices: option (nuclear option)
- avoidance & separation: radioactive (adj)
- coercion & motivation: option (nuclear option)
- comparison & contrast: Chernobyl (rainforest Chernobyl, etc.)
- creation & transformation: breeder reactor (n)
- destruction: atomic bomb, Chernobyl, Hiroshima (epithet), meltdown (failure), radioactive (adj)
- effect: fallout (effect), ground zero
- failure, accident & impairment: Chernobyl, meltdown (failure)
- feeling, emotion & effect: fallout (effect), meltdown (emotions), melt down (emotions)
- location: ground zero
- mental health: meltdown (emotions), melt down (emotions)
- place: ground zero
- punishment & recrimination: option (nuclear option)

## NUMBER (2)

- allegiance, support & betrayal: count on (count on me, etc.)
- amount: trident (three), trilogy (n)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: add up (v), arithmetic, equation (n), calculus (n)
- attainment: approach (a number, etc.), hit (hit \$30, etc.), notch (a number), push (a number), reach (a number)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: first (metaverse-first, etc.)
- commitment & determination: percent (one hundred and ten percent)
- comparison & contrast: equate (v), equivalent (n)
- computer: two point zero, two point oh (2.0)
- development: point (decision point, etc.), zero (from hero to zero, etc.)
- direction: neighborhood (numbers), north (numbers), south (numbers)
- division & connection: common denominator
- fate, fortune & chance: number (number is up, etc.), numbered (days are numbered)
- importance & significance: fiddle (second fiddle), trinity (Holy Trinity), triumvirate (n)
- increase & decrease: climb (increase), crater (v), creep up (numbers), dip (decrease), dip (n), drop (prices dropped, etc.), drop (drop in sales, etc.), explode (increase), exploding (adj), explosion (increase), fall (numbers), fluctuate (v), free fall (in free fall), go down (decrease), go up (increase), grow (increase), hover (numbers), inflated (numbers), jack up (verb), jump (increase / verb), jump (n), level off (v), mount (v), multiplier (force multiplier), nosedive (verb / decrease), nosedive (noun / decrease), peak (numbers / verb), peak (peak temperature, etc.), pick up (increase), plateau (v), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline / decrease), rebound (v), rise (prices rise, etc.), rocket (increase), roof (through the roof), shoot up (v), skyrocket (increase), slip (sales have slipped, etc.), soar (v), spike (spike in business, etc.), spiraling (increase), tumble (decline)
- origin: zero (place and time, etc.)
- priority: fiddle (second fiddle)
- progress & lack of progress: two point zero, two point oh (2.0)
- proximity: neighborhood (numbers)

- resiliency: positive (sex positive, etc.)
- script: formula (script)
- speed: zero (from hero to zero, etc.)
- strategy: arithmetic, calculus (n), equation (n), game (numbers game)
- superiority & inferiority: fiddle (second fiddle)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: countdown (n), zero hour (n)

## OBJECT (2)

- appearance: Barbie (and Barbie Doll)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: it girl (and it drug, etc.), moment (have a moment / attention), new (orange is the new black, etc.), thing (fad, etc.), thing (the next big thing)
- comparison & contrast: postage stamp (size), shaped (anvil-shaped, etc.), size (and sized / affix)
- content: stuff (content)
- enthusiasm: thing (one's thing)
- evidence: calling card
- importance & significance: thing (a matter, issue)
- person: guy (nonhuman)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: it girl (and it drug, etc.), new (new chastity, etc.), new (orange is the new black, etc.), thing (fad, etc.), thing (the next big thing)
- proper name: punch bowl (Punch Bowl Falls, etc.)
- resemblance: doughnut (doughnut-shaped)
- searching & discovery: search (n)
- shape: punch bowl (shape), slot (shape)
- size: postage stamp (size)
- taxonomy & classification: label (n), labeled

## OBJECTIFICATION (2)

- objectification: black (while black, female, brown, Muslim, etc.), body (black bodies, etc.), fetishization (n), fetishize (v), fetishized, fragile (groups), fragility (white fragility, etc.), fullness (groups), gaze (male gaze, white gaze, etc.), name (groups), objectified (groups), privilege (groups / verb), privilege (groups / noun), privileged, say (say his name, etc.), skin (groups), supremacist (white supremacist, etc.), supremacy (white supremacy, etc.)

## OBLIGATION (1)

- money: debt (in somebody's debt), debt (obligation), indebted, owe (obligation), pay (obligation), repaid (a debt, etc.), repay (v), tribute (pay tribute)
- verb: owe (obligation), pay (obligation), repay (v)

## OBSTACLES & IMPEDANCE (1)

- arm: drag down (v), hold back (obstacle), hold off (v)
- atmosphere: headwind (n)
- boat: headwind (n), shoal (n)
- bodily reaction: choke (v)
- bottle: bottleneck (n), bottle up (impede)
- breathing: choke (v), choked, chokepoint (n)
- burden: drag (drag on the economy, etc.)
- cards: card (the cards are stacked against us, a stacked deck, etc.)
- circus: hoop (jump through hoops, etc.)
- container: bottle up (impede)
- crashes & collisions: run (run into something), wall (hit a wall, etc.)
- dam: dam (psychological dam, etc.)

- direction: breakthrough (n), hump (n), sink (sink into the mud, etc.)
- forest: clear (in the clear / into the clear), woods (out of the woods)
- gambling: card (the cards are stacked against us, a stacked deck, etc.)
- gate: gate (obstacle), gate (society)
- government: red tape
- ground, terrain & land: barrier (n), bog down (v), bogged down, ditch (stuck in a ditch, etc.), mired (stuck), morass (n), mud (sink in the mud), quagmire (n), quicksand (in / into the quicksand), rut (in a rut), sink (sink into the mud, etc.), stuck (adj), thicket (n)
- hand: hold up (obstruct), holdup (n)
- infrastructure: ceiling (glass ceiling), ceiling (debt ceiling, etc.), hump (n), pothole (n), stonewall (v), stopped up, wall (obstacle)
- journeys & trips: bog down (v), bogged down, bump (speed bump), bump (bump in the road, etc.), clear (in the clear / into the clear), come through (v), get through (endure, etc.), gridlock (n), gridlocked, impasse (n), patch (rough patch), path (clear a path), pothole (n), roadblock (n), way (in the way), way (out of the way / obstacles), woods (out of the woods)
- mechanism: dampening (adj), damper (n)
- military: breakthrough (n)
- money: paywall (obstacle)
- mountains & hills: overcome (v)
- movement: breakthrough (n), ditch (stuck in a ditch, etc.), drag (drag on the economy, etc.), impasse (n), stuck (adj), wall (hit a wall, etc.), stopped up
- neck: bottleneck (n)
- path: path (clear a path)
- physics: drag (drag on the economy, etc.), friction (impedance), frictionless
- plane: headwind (n)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: against (up against)
- pressure: stopped up
- river: dam (psychological dam, etc.), jam (situation), logjam (n), snag (n)
- rope: knot (n), snarl (v), snarl (impedance)
- sea: shoal (n)
- shape: bottleneck (n), hump (n)
- sound: din (attention), noise (worthlessness), noise (attention, conflict, and controversy), noisy (data, etc.), static (n)
- sports & games: hoop (jump through hoops, etc.), hurdle (n)
- standing, sitting & lying: stand (stand in the way)
- throat: choke (v)
- verb: bog down (v), bottle up (impede), get through (endure, etc.), hold back (obstacle), hold off (v), hold up (obstruct), hoop (jump through hoops, etc.), jump (lines), mud (sink in the mud), path (clear a path), run (run into something), sink (sink into the mud, etc.), snarl (v), stand (stand in the way), stonewall (v), wall (hit a wall, etc.), way (get out of the way)
- walking, running & jumping: hurdle (n), jump (lines), run (run into something), stumbling block, way (get out of the way)
- wall: barrier (n), block (obstacle), paywall (obstacle), stonewall (v), wall (obstacle), wall (hit a wall, etc.)
- water: clog (n), clogged, dam (psychological dam, etc.), stopped up
- wind: headwind (n)

## **OCCURRENCE (1) (see also appearance & disappearance; presence & absence; searching & discovery)**

- animal: black swan (rarity), blue whale

- bird: black swan (rarity)
- color: black swan (rarity), blue whale
- direction: arise (v), come (occur, develop), fall (on Friday, etc.), fall (night fell, etc.), fall (silence fell, etc.), go down (happen), up (what's up, etc.)
- fist: strike (forces of nature), strike (tragedy, etc.)
- ground, terrain & land: outcrop (and outcropping)
- mark: streak (series)
- mountains & hills: outcrop (and outcropping)
- movement: come (occur, develop), go on (what's going on, etc.), spin up (v), spun up
- plant: black tulip (rarity)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: up (what's up, etc.)
- pursuit, capture & escape: break out (v), outbreak (n)
- sea: blue whale
- sky: black swan (rarity)
- storm: strike (forces of nature)
- verb: arise (v), come (occur, develop), erupt (v), go down (happen), go on (what's going on, etc.), spin up (v), strike (forces of nature), strike (tragedy, etc.)
- volcano: erupt (v), eruption (n)

### **OPERATION (1) (see also functioning)**

- electricity: wired (and hardwired)
- government: apparatus (government), machinery (government, etc.), organ (of government, etc.)
- journeys & trips: course (course of justice, etc.)
- manufacturing: machine (publicity machine, etc.)
- mechanism: apparatus (government), clockwork (n), cog (cog in the machine, etc.), machine (publicity machine, etc.), machinery, metronomic (operation), organ (of government, etc.), robot (n), train (legal train, Trump train, etc.), wheel (wheels of justice, etc.), wheel (wheels turn slowly, etc.), wired (and hardwired), workings (n)
- train: train (legal train, Trump train, etc.)

### **OPPORTUNITIES & POSSIBILITIES (1)**

- doors & thresholds: door (opportunity), door (open the door, etc.), door (hold the door open, etc.), door (leave the door open), door (get one's foot in the door), door (close a door, etc.)

### **OPPRESSION (1)**

- allusion: Big Brother (oppression), Cinderella, Cyclops (creature), Cromwellian (adj), Dark Star, draconian (adj), Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.), Hunger Games (film), inquisition (n), Lord of the Flies, McCarthy, McCarthyism, McCarthyite, nineteen eight four (and 1984), Orwell, Orwellian (adj), pitchfork (oppression), procrustean (adj), reign of terror / fear, etc., star chamber (n), Voldemort, witch hunt
- animal: back (get off my back, etc.), cage (jail, prison), goad (v), kangaroo court, lighten (v), scapegoat (n), shackle (n), trample (v), yoke (under the yoke), yoke (from the yoke), yoke (other)
- astronomy: Dark Star
- atmosphere: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), cloud (cast a cloud)
- back: back (get off my back, etc.)
- books & reading: brave new world, Cyclops (creature), nineteen eighty four (and 1984), Voldemort
- breathing: smother (oppress), stifle (v), stifling (adj), strangle (v), strangled, stranglehold, strangulation, strangled, suffocate (v), suffocating
- burden: baggage (n), bear (a weight, etc.), burden (v), burden (n), freighted, get out (get out from under), heavy (oppression), loaded, overload (n), overloaded, weigh (weigh heavily), weigh (oppress), weighed down, weight (effect), weight (under the weight)

- burial: buried (buried in debt, etc.), pall (cast a pall)
- chain: chain (oppression)
- cloth: pall (cast a pall)
- clothing & accessories: boot (oppression), procrustean (adj), wringer (through the wringer)
- cloud: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.)
- color: blackball (v), blackballed, blacklist (v), blacklisted
- creature: Cyclops (creature), pitchfork (oppression), witch hunt
- death & life: disappear (oppression / transitive verb), disappearance (oppression)
- destruction: crush (confidence, spirit, etc.)
- direction: come down on (v), fall (weight)
- epithet: butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.), Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.)
- euphemism: disappeared (detained, murdered, etc.), encounter (kill), liquidate (kill), liquidated (killed), neutralize (kill), neutralized (shot, killed, etc.)
- eye: Cyclops (creature)
- film: Hunger Games (film), Voldemort
- fist: beat down (v), fist (a leader with an iron fist), ironfisted
- foot: foot (under the foot), heel (under the heel), trample (v)
- government: edict (n), tyrant (n)
- ground, terrain & land: buried (buried in debt, etc.), rock (between a rock and a hard place)
- hand: crush (confidence, spirit, etc.), grip (control), hand (iron hand, etc.), ham-handed, heavy-handed, squeeze (coerce), squeeze (put the squeeze on something), squeezed (oppressed), thumb (under the thumb), whip hand (n), wring (coerce)
- heel: heel (under the heel)
- history: auto da fe, baggage (n), Cromwellian (adj), genocidal (adj), genocide (groups), Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.), inquisition (n), lynched, lynching (media lynching, etc.), lynch mob, McCarthy, McCarthyism, McCarthyite, mob (society), puritanism (n), reign of terror / fear, etc., star chamber (n), tar (tar and feather, etc.), tarred, tyrant (n), witch hunt
- horse: saddle (oppress), saddled
- Iliad & Odyssey: Cyclops (creature)
- journeys & trips: baggage (n), freighted, loaded, path (force someone down a path, etc.)
- justice: ball and chain, cage (jail, prison), kangaroo court, police (and cop, etc.), scapegoat (n), trial (show trial), witch hunt
- knee: knee (oppression)
- light & dark: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), dark (dark mood, etc.), darken (v), Dark Star, gloom (n), gloomy (adj), shadow (cast a shadow), shadow (in / under the shadow), shadow (dark shadow, etc.)
- mark: blackball (v), blackballed, blacklist (v), blacklisted
- materials & substances: hand (iron hand, etc.), ironfisted, rod (iron rod, etc.)
- mechanism: put (put somebody through something), wringer (through the wringer)
- neck: neck (oppression)
- path: path (force someone down a path, etc.)
- person: bully (person), cruel (adj), man (the man / oppression), ogre (person), police (and cop, etc.), tyrant (n)
- presence & absence: disappeared (detained, murdered, etc.)
- pressure: clampdown (n), clamp down (v), hard-pressed (adj), rock (between a rock and a hard place), squeeze (coerce), squeeze (put the squeeze on something), squeezed (oppressed), vise (pressure), wring (coerce), wringer (through the wringer)
- religion: puritanism (n), scapegoat (n)
- royalty: edict (n), lord over (v), reign of terror / fear, etc.
- school & education: bullied, bully (v), bully (person)

- shadow: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), shadow (cast a shadow), shadow (in / under a shadow), shadow (dark shadow, etc.)
- shoulder: shoulder (oppression)
- sign, signal, symbol: cage (jail, prison), pitchfork (oppression)
- size: ham-handed
- society: blackball (v), blackballed, blacklist (v), blacklisted, mob (society)
- speech: cudgel (n), goad (v), stick (n)
- temperature: chill (oppression)
- throat: throat (ram something down the throat)
- thumb: thumb (under the thumb)
- verb: bear (burden), beat down (v), blackball (v), blacklist (v), bully (v), burden (v), clamp down (v), come down on (v), crack down (v), crush (confidence, spirit, etc.), darken (v), disappear (oppression / transitive verb), encounter (kill), get out (get out from under), goad (v), liquidate (kill), lord over (v), neutralize (kill), pall (cast a pall), railroad (v), saddle (oppress), smother (oppress), squeeze (coerce), squeeze (put the squeeze on something), stifle (v), strangle (v), suffocate (v), tar (tar and feather, etc.), throat (ram something down the throat), weigh (weigh heavily), weigh (oppress), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), wring (coerce)
- violence: beat down (v), billy club, crackdown (n), crack down (v), cudgel (n), genocidal (adj), genocide (groups), Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.), goad (v), inquisition (n), lynched, lynching (media lynching, etc.), lynch mob, mob (society), reign of terror / fear, etc., star chamber (n), stick (n), tar (tar and feather, etc.), tarred, waterboarding (n), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n), witch hunt
- walking, running & jumping: run out (of town on a rail, etc.)
- weapon: billy club, cudgel (n), gun (under the gun), rod (iron rod, etc.), stick (n), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip)
- weight: baggage (n), ball and chain, bear (a weight, etc.), burden (n), burden (v), fall (weight), freighted, get out (get out from under), heavy (oppression), heavy-handed, loaded, millstone (n), overload (n), overloaded, rock (between a rock and a hard place), saddle (oppress), saddled, shoulder (oppression), weigh (weigh heavily), weigh (oppress), weighed down, weight (effect), weight (under the weight)
- whip: crackdown (n), crack down (v), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n)

## ORIENTATION (1)

- animal: flank (side), nose (orientation), snout (orientation), tail (orientation)
- direction: belly (orientation), current (swim with the current, etc.), current (swim against the current, etc.), floor (pelvic floor, etc.), foot (orientation), head (orientation), lower (river, etc.), nose (orientation), roof (roof of the mouth, etc.), snout (orientation), tail (orientation), upper (river, etc.), upstage (v), upstream (swim upstream)
- foot: foot (orientation)
- head: head (orientation)
- height: lower (river, etc.), upper (river, etc.)
- house: floor (pelvic floor, etc.), roof (roof of the mouth, etc.)
- military: flank (protection)
- mouth: mandible (n), mouth (entrance)
- nose: nose (orientation), snout (orientation)
- river: current (swim with the current, etc.), current (swim against the current, etc.), downstream, upper (river, etc.), upstream (swim upstream)
- roof: roof (roof of the mouth, etc.)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: flesh (inside), skin (outside)
- stomach: belly (orientation), guts (insides), underbelly (concealment), underside (n)
- theater: upstage (v)
- verb: upstage (v)

## ORIENTATION (2)

- amelioration & renewal: right (right a wrong, etc.)
- appearance & reality: underbelly (concealment), underside (n)
- concealment & lack of concealment: underbelly (concealment), underside (n)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: current (swim with the current, etc.), current (swim against the current, etc.), upstream (swim upstream)
- flaws & lack of flaws: downside (n), underbelly (concealment), underside (n), upside (n)
- protection & lack of protection: underbelly (soft underbelly, etc.)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: end (the end)

## ORIGIN (1) (see also source)

- air: air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.)
- allusion: Phoenix (myth)
- astronomy: big bang (“Big Bang” of country music, etc.)
- atmosphere: air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.)
- baby: cradle (cradle of Islam, etc.)
- birth: birthplace (the birthplace of democracy, etc.), cradle (cradle of Islam, etc.)
- color: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
- epithet: big bang (“Big Bang” of country music, etc.), birthplace (the birthplace of democracy, etc.), cradle (cradle of Islam, etc.)
- family: ancestor (go before), background
- fire: ashes (from the ashes), Phoenix (myth)
- house: home (home of golf, etc.), house (origin), house (house that somebody built, etc.)
- lightning: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
- number: zero (place and time, etc.)
- place: home (home of golf, etc.)
- plant: root (root of the problem, etc.), root (origin)
- religion: original sin (other)
- royalty: house (origin)
- sign, signal, symbol: cradle (cradle of Islam, etc.), Phoenix (myth)
- sky: air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.)
- tree: root (origin), root (root of the problem, etc.)
- verb: come from (origin)

## PART OF SPEECH (2)

- ability & lack of ability: can do (ability)
- acceptance & rejection: other (verb / groups, etc.), othered, othering, otherism (n)
- action, inaction & delay: fabius (Fabius Maximus)
- amelioration & renewal: law enforcement (as verb)
- amount & effect: everything (everything Taylor Swift, etc.), peak (peak sexy, etc.)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: picture (big picture / verb), science (as verb)
- appearance & reality: look (a bad look, etc.)
- attainment: peak (peak sexy, etc.)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: listen (as noun), platform (as verb)
- attraction & repulsion: sexy (as noun)
- character & personality: crazy (as noun), rugged (as noun)
- characterization: special (as noun)
- concealment & lack of concealment: reveal (big reveal, etc.), tell-all (book)
- consciousness & awareness: know (in the know)

- contempo-speak: architect (as verb), ified (Principified, etc.), ify (mainstreamify, etc.), platform (as verb), surface (as transitive verb)
- context: picture (big picture / verb), whataboutism, etc.
- creation & transformation: architect (as verb), Frankenstein (as verb), midwife (as verb)
- division & connection: together (as noun)
- epithet: wet (the wet, the dry, etc.)
- evidence: signpost (as verb)
- failure, accident & impairment: fail (a big fail, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: cringe (as adjective), funny (as noun), happy (as noun), horrible (as noun), hurt (as noun), overwhelm (as noun), sad (as noun), scary (as noun), wow (as noun)
- flaws & lack of flaws: bad (my bad, etc.), good (good crazy, etc.)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: get (a big get, etc.), gift (as verb)
- gossip: talk (as transitive verb), tell-all (book)
- growth & development: grow (grow the economy, etc.), evolve (evolve the sport, etc.)
- help & assistance: thanks (thanks to something)
- inclusion & exclusion: citizen (as verb), George Floyd (as verb), hoop (as verb), orchestra (as verb)
- increase & decrease: big up (as verb), level up (as verb)
- knowledge & intelligence: know-how (n), smart (as noun), stupid (as noun)
- language: bad (my bad, etc.)
- money: haves (and have-nots, etc.)
- perception, perspective & point of view: picture (big picture / verb)
- possession: grab (land grab, etc.)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: new (as noun)
- restraint & lack of restraint: tell-all (book)
- reversal: not (when is a Mastodon not, etc.)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: go-ahead, OK (and okay / verb)
- searching & discovery: reveal (big reveal, etc.)
- size: big (as noun)
- society: normal (as noun), normal (new normal)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: quit (as noun)
- superiority & inferiority: haves (and have-nots, etc.)
- superlative: crazy (and mad / as adverbs), peak (peak sexy, etc.), wicked (as adverb), wonderful (as noun)
- survival, persistence & endurance: forever (forever chemicals, etc.)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: ask (big ask), good (as noun), impossible (as noun), must-have (n)

## **PARTY (2)**

- acceptance & rejection: floor (dance floor), party (invited to the party, etc.)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: party (garden party)
- inauguration: party (coming-out party)
- resemblance: party (celebration)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: party (party is over)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: party (late to the party, etc.)

## **PAST & PRESENT (1) (see also future; time)**

- allusion: ancien regime
- animal: breed (dying breed, etc.), dinosaur (n), dodo (n), extinct (adj), fossil (n), fossilize (v), fossilized
- antiques: antique (adj), antique (n), museum (n)
- Bible: antediluvian (old), Methuselah, relic (n)
- bridge: bridge (water under the bridge)

- clock: clock (turn back the clock), moment (this moment), moment (that moment), moment (other), wind back (v)
- container: past (in the past), time (in our time, etc.), time capsule
- dam: dam (water over the dam)
- day: day (back in the day), day (days of yore), day (of one's day / of its day), day (of the day), day (these days), day (those days), day (in the old days, etc.), day (old days), day (day has arrived, etc.), day (modern day), day (latter-day), hour (of one's hour / of the hour), minute (at this minute), old (of old), old-fashioned (adj), outdated (adj), today (the present), yesterday (the past), yesteryear
- direction: ancestor (go before), back (in time), back (back then), backwards (past), before (at an earlier time), behind (in the past), bygone (adj), circle back (return), clock (turn back the clock), come (a time comes along), come (come before / at an earlier time), day (day has arrived, etc.), descendant (come after / down), down (down through the centuries, etc.), forefather (n), forerunner (n), go (the time has gone, etc.), go back (verb / time), gone (those days are gone, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), hindsight (n), last (last night, etc. / at an earlier time), look back (v), mirror (in the rear-view mirror), pass (its time has passed, etc.), passed down (by ancestors, etc.), predecessor (go away before), present (up to the present), revisit (v), take (take us back / time), throwback (n), time (time has passed), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (a man out of time, etc.), up (up to now, up to date, etc.), walk (walk somebody back)
- distance: deep (deep past, etc.), distance (time), distant (past), far (farther on / time), far-off (time), past (in the distant past, etc.), past (distant past, etc.), remote (past)
- earth & world: world (lost world)
- eye: hindsight (n), look back (v)
- film: rewind (v), spool (spool back)
- height: descendant (come after / down), down (down through the centuries, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), hangover (relic), passed down (by ancestors, etc.), present (up to the present), up (up to now, up to date, etc.)
- history: ancien regime, dark ages (in the dark ages), dark ages (other), descendant (come after / down), down (down through the centuries, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), medieval (adj), Middle Ages (history), Neanderthal, passed down (by ancestors, etc.), prehistoric (adj), present (up to the present), Stone Age, up (up to now, up to date, etc.)
- hunting: catch up (his past caught up to him, etc.)
- infrastructure: memory land (down memory lane)
- journeys & trips: backtrack (go back in time), circle back (return), memory land (down memory lane), revisit (v), road (down a road before), walk (walk somebody back)
- mechanism: mirror (in the rear-view mirror), time machine, wind back (v)
- mirror: mirror (in the rear-view mirror)
- mountains & hills: descendant (come after / down), down (down through the centuries, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), passed down (by ancestors, etc.), present (up to the present), up (up to now, up to date, etc.)
- movement: ago (two days ago / gone by), ancestor (go before), back (in time), backtrack (go back in time), backwards (past), bridge (water under the bridge), circle back (return), come (a time comes along), come (come before / at an earlier time), come and go (time), dam (water over the dam), day (day has arrived, etc.), go (the time has gone, etc.), go back (verb / time), gone (those days are gone, etc.), here (go from here, etc.), mirror (in the rear-view mirror), pass (its time has passed, etc.), predecessor (go away before), revisit (v), road (down a road before), stand still (time), take (take us back / time), time (time has passed), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time warp, walk (walk somebody back)
- place: go back (verb / time), here (we have been here before), here (go from here, etc.), here (the present), moment (moment where), revisit (v), road (down a road before)
- position: ancestor (go before), before (at an earlier time), behind (in the past), forefather (n), forerunner (n), mirror (in the rear-view mirror), predecessor (go away before), time (before her time, etc.), time (behind the times)

- prep, adv, adj, particle: ago (two days ago / gone by), back (in time), back (back then), backwards (past), before (at an earlier time), bygone (adj), down (down through the centuries, etc.), forefather (n), forerunner (n), gone (those days are gone, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), hindsight (n), last (last night, etc. / at an earlier time), passed down (by ancestors, etc.), present (up to the present), take (take us back / time), time (in our time, etc.), up (up to now, up to date, etc.)
- religion: antediluvian (old), Methuselah, relic (n)
- river: bridge (water under the bridge), dam (water over the dam)
- school & education: new school, old school
- snow & ice: frozen (frozen in time)
- standing, sitting & lying: stand still (time)
- verb: back (in time), backtrack (go back in time), circle back (return), clock (turn back the clock), come (a time comes along), come (come before / at an earlier time), come and go (time), day (day has arrived, etc.), fossilize (v), go (the time has gone, etc.), go back (verb / time), look back (v), pass (its time has passed, etc.), revisit (v), stand still (time), take (take us back / time), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (time has passed), walk (walk somebody back)
- walking, running & jumping: walk (walk somebody back), wind back (v)
- water: bridge (water under the bridge), dam (water over the dam)

## PATH (2)

- alternatives & choices: path (alternatives & choices)
- amelioration & renewal: path (clear a path)
- course: path (path of peace, etc.)
- development: path (a path can turn / development)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: path (tough / easy path, etc.), path (clear a path), yellow brick road
- driving force: pathbreaking (adj), pathfinder (person)
- eagerness & reluctance: path (beat a path)
- fate, fortune & chance: path (cross paths)
- flaws & lack of flaws: path (the right / wrong path, etc.), path (tough / easy path, etc.)
- importance & significance: pathbreaking (adj)
- isolation & remoteness: path (off the beaten path)
- obstacles & impedance: path (clear a path)
- oppression: path (force someone down a path, etc.)
- proper name: pathfinder (Mars Pathfinder, etc.)
- route: pathway (route)
- searching & discovery: pathfinder (person)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: path (set out on this path, etc.)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: path (path to / toward something)

## PENDULUM (2)

- activity: swing (in full swing)
- configuration: suspended
- development: pendulum (reversal), swing (development)
- division & connection: suspended
- extent & scope: sweeping, swing (in full swing)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: pendulum (reversal)
- reversal: oscillate (v), pendulum (reversal), swing (swing around)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: swing (in full swing)

## PERCEPTION, PERSPECTIVE & POINT OF VIEW (1)

- allusion: elephant (“The Blind Men and the Elephant”), Rashomon (point of view), Rorschach (test)

- animal: bird's-eye (bird's-eye view)
- apple: apple (proverb)
- bird: bird's eye (bird's-eye view)
- center & periphery: background (background noise, etc.), foreground (n), outside (perspective)
- clothing & accessories: shoe (in somebody's shoes)
- container: outside (perspective)
- direction: facing (future-facing, etc.), forward-looking, slanted (news, etc.)
- distance: farsighted (adj), myopic (adj), view (long view)
- eye: blinded, blinder (n), blind spot, blinkered (adj), blinkers (n), clear (perception), eye (perception), facing (future-facing, etc.), farsighted (adj), fisheye (fisheye view, etc.), forward-looking, God's-eye, hindsight (n), lens (through a lens), lens (other), Martian's-eye, murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), myopia (n), myopic (adj), nearsighted (adj), optics (n), see (perceive), seen (perceived), shortsighted, tunnel vision, view (perspective), view (perceive), view (in somebody's view), view (opinion), view (long view), viewed (perceived), viewpoint (perspective), vision (n), visionary (adj), visionary (person), worm's-eye (adj)
- fish: fisheye (fisheye view, etc.)
- film: Rashomon (point of view), zoom out (v), zoom-out (n)
- geometry: angle (from an angle), slanted (news, etc.)
- ground, terrain & land: grassroots (grassroots level, etc.), ground (on the ground, etc.), level (ground level, etc.), worm's-eye (adj)
- height: bird's-eye (bird's-eye view), grassroots (grassroots level, etc.), ground (on the ground, etc.), level (ground level, etc.), weed (in the weeds), worm's-eye (adj), zoom out (v)
- horse: blinker (n), blinkered (adj), blinkers (n)
- infrastructure: tunnel vision
- insect: worm's-eye (adj)
- light & dark: clear (perception), haze (perception), light (in a same / different light, etc.), murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adjective), unclear (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
- part of speech: picture (big picture / verb)
- picture: background (background noise, etc.), back up (v), color (v), colored, foreground (n), foreground (v), inkblot (Rorschach), picture (in the big picture), picture (big picture / noun), Rorschach (test), step back (perspective)
- position: back up (v), background (background noise, etc.), bird's-eye (bird's-eye view), fisheye (fisheye view, etc.), foreground (n), grassroots (grassroots level, etc.), perspective (from a perspective), perspective (in perspective), perspective (into perspective), perspective (other), point of view (from somebody's point of view), point of view (other), standpoint (perspective), step back (perspective), vantage point (from a vantage point), view (perspective), viewpoint (perspective), worm's-eye (adj), zoom out (v), zoom-out (n)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: hindsight (n), outside (perspective)
- religion: God's-eye, Olympian (perspective)
- size: granular (adj)
- sound: ring (ring false, etc.), ring (ring of truth, etc.), sound (perception), tenor (n)
- speech: greet (v), greeted
- standing, sitting & lying: standpoint (perspective)
- tools & technology: lens (through a lens), lens (other), microscope (through a microscope), optics (n), periscope (n), prism (through the prism), prism (other), telescope (n)
- verb: background (background noise, etc.), back up (v), color (v), greet (v), meet (something can meet you), ring (ring false, etc.), see (perceive), step back (perspective), view (perceive), waters (muddy the waters), zoom out (v)
- water: murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), waters (muddy the waters)

## PERFORMANCE (1)

- animal: chest (beat one's chest, etc.), dog-and-pony show (n), pony (one-trick pony)
- circus: carnival (n), circus (media circus, etc.), freak show (n)
- direction: top (over the top)
- gesture: chest (beat one's chest, etc.)
- horse: dog-and-pony show (n), pony (one-trick pony)
- person: diva (person), prima donna (person), ringmaster (role)
- sports & games: charade (n), game (project, scheme, plan)
- standing, sitting & lying: chest (beat one's chest, etc.), posture (performance), posturing
- theater: act (performance), act (insincere show), choreographed, dog-and-pony show (n), diva (person), drama (and drama queen, etc.), dramatic (dramatic child, etc.), gallery (play to the gallery), grandstanding (n), on (performing), parade (v), play (play to the audience, etc.), pony (one-trick pony), prima donna (person), repertoire (n), role (act), set piece (n), show (nature, etc.), show (performance), show business (performance), stage (v), staged (directed), stage-manage (v), stage-managed, stunt (n), theater (performance), theatrics (n), trial (show trial)
- verb: parade (v), play (play to the audience, etc.), stage (v), stage-manage (v)

## PERSON (1) (see also character & personality)

- addiction: addict (chess addict, etc.), junkie (game junkie, etc.)
- animal: backbiter (person), cowboy (person), dog (insult), dog (big dog), dog (mad dog / epithet), dog (attack dog), dove (person), fat cat, gadfly (person), greenhorn (person), grub (person), hawk (person), hyena (person), leech (person), lion (courage), magpie (bird), man eater (female), maverick (person), morning lark (person), night owl (person), parasite (person), piranha (predation), rooster (person), shark (predation), snake (insult), stud (male), vulture (behavior), whiner (person), wolf (predation), wrangler (person)
- astronomy: star (rock star), star (person)
- ax: hatchet man (person)
- baby: adult (development), apron strings, baby (insult), babysitter (role), big boy (person), brat (insult), child (spoiled child, etc.), crybaby (person), grownup (person), mama's boy (and mummy's boy, etc.), nanny (person)
- back: backbiter (person), backstabber (person)
- bird: dove (person), hawk (person), magpie (bird), morning lark (person), night owl (person), rooster (person), vulture (behavior)
- blade: hatchet man (person)
- boat: buccaneer (person), mutineer (person), pirate (person)
- books & reading: author (person), bookworm (person), character (non-human)
- boxing: fighter (person)
- cat: fat cat
- chemistry: alchemist (n)
- circus: acrobat (person), clown (person), ringmaster (role)
- clothing & accessories: skirt (woman)
- color: greenhorn (person)
- cows & cattle: cowboy (person), wrangler (person)
- creature: genie (knowledge), ninja (person), ogre (person), troll (noun / computers), wizard (person)
- crime: bandit (n), buccaneer (person), OG (and original gangster), pirate (person), police (and cop, etc.)
- death & life: vulture (behavior)
- depth: deep (person), shallow (person)
- direction: guide (person)
- dog: dog (big dog), dog (mad dog / epithet), dog (attack dog), dog (insult)
- doors & thresholds: doormat (person), gatekeeper (person)

- electricity: live wire (person)
- epithet: butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.)
- explosion: grenade (person), time bomb (person)
- family: boy (blue-eyed boy), brother (brother in arms, etc.), child (bastard child), cousin (relationship), father (father of India, etc.), favorite son, godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.), godmother (Godmother of Title IX, etc.), mother (mother of NPR, etc.), mother (mother ship, etc.), orphan (n), sister (redneck sisters, etc.), stepchild (and stepson, etc.)
- fire: firebrand (person)
- fish: piranha (predation)
- force: badass (power), bad boy (person), big shot (person)
- flags & banners: flag-bearer, standard-bearer
- food & drink: glutton (person)
- fruits & vegetables: potato (coach potato)
- gate: doorkeeper (person)
- government: ambassador (role), baron (power), diplomat (n), strongman (power)
- hand: handmaiden (help)
- head: hothead (person)
- heart: sweetheart (other)
- health & medicine: maniac (Hulkamaniac, etc.)
- horse: cowboy (person), stud (male), wrangler (person)
- hunting: hunter (plants), hunter (other), tracker (person)
- hygiene: hot mess (person)
- infrastructure: architect (creator)
- insect: butterfly (social butterfly), gadfly (person), grub (person), parasite (person)
- island: castaway (person)
- journeys & trips: follower (social media, etc.), guide (person), Jew (Jews of the Caribbean, etc.), nomad (person), pioneer (person), refugee (person), trailblazer (person)
- justice: judge (role), vigilante (person)
- knife: backstabber (person)
- light & dark: luminary (person)
- lion: lion (courage)
- love, courtship & marriage: lover (enthusiasm / person), matchmaker (person), suitor (n)
- magic: fortuneteller (person), genie (knowledge), ninja (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person), wizard (person)
- mechanism: kingpin (person)
- mental health: maniac (Hulkamaniac, etc.)
- military: cannon (loose cannon), doyen (squad leader), enemy (conflict), flag-bearer, foot soldier (duty), gladiator (n), honcho (leader), partisan (n), point man (and point person), rebel (person), saboteur (person), standard-bearer, traitor (person), turncoat (person), warrior (other), wingman (person)
- mining: gold digger (person)
- money: gold digger (person), gun (hired gun), loan shark, mercenary (person), rainmaker (person)
- music: maestro (person)
- object: guy (nonhuman)
- plane: wingman (person)
- plant: dandelion (character), flower (wilting flower, etc.), neophyte (n), shrinking violet (person)
- predation: maneater (female), piranha (predation), shark (predation), wolf (predation)
- rain: rainmaker (person)
- religion: acolyte (person), apostle (person), choirboy (behavior), convert (person), crusader (role), devotee (person), disciple (person), evangelist (person), guru (person), hell-raiser (person), heretic (person), iconoclast

(person), immortal (person), martyr (person), missionary (person), muse (person), oracle (person), prophet (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person)

- royalty: handmaiden (help), king (person), monarch (primacy), prince (person), princess (person), queen (role), whipping boy (person)
- school & education: bully (person), chaperone (role), cheerleader (person), dean (person)
- sea: buccaneer (person), pirate (person)
- shark: shark (predation)
- sign, signal, symbol: boot (soldier), eyeball (attention), hand (worker), skirt (woman)
- sleep: morning lark (person), night owl (person)
- snake: snake (insult)
- snow & ice: snowflake (person)
- society: bigwig (person), Brahmin (person), butterfly (social butterfly), castaway (person), gatekeeper (person), girl (golden girl), golden boy, hermit (person), insider (person), leper (person), non-person, outcast (person), outsider (person), pariah (person), stranger (other), untouchable (person)
- sound: whiner (person)
- speech: chatterbox (person)
- sports & games: acrobat (person), black belt (person)
- star: star (rock star), star (person)
- temperature: firebrand (person), hothead (person), hot mess (person)
- theater: diva (person), prima donna (person)
- water: deep (person), shallow (person)
- weapon: big shot (person), cannon (loose cannon), hatchet man (person)
- whip: whipping boy (person)
- wolf: wolf (predation)

## PERSON (2)

- ability & lack of ability: acrobat (person), black belt (person), genie (knowledge), maestro (person), ninja (person), Sherpa (n), wizard (person)
- acceptance & rejection: heretic (person), hermit (person), leper (person), non-person, outcast (person), pariah (n), stranger (other)
- access & lack of access: gatekeeper (person)
- achievement, recognition & praise: boy (blue-eyed boy), dean (person), favorite son, girl (golden girl), golden boy, leading light (person), lion (liberal lion, etc.), luminary (person), star (rock star), star (person), star (achievement), statesman (elder statesman, etc.), stateswoman (elder stateswoman, etc.)
- activity: potato (couch potato)
- admiration & contempt: doormat (person)
- affliction: backbiter (person), gadfly (person), leech (person), pain (pain in the neck, etc.), parasite (person), pest (person)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: backstabber (person), rat (a snitch), renegade (person), turncoat (person)
- appearance & reality: imposter (n), warrior (ironic)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: ambassador (role), cheerleader (person), namecheck (and name-check), namechecked, pusher (drug pusher, etc.), showman (person), tout (person)
- attraction & repulsion: darling (n), girl (golden girl), golden boy, sweetheart (other)
- avoidance & separation: hermit (person)
- behavior: backstabber (person), bad boy (person), cannon (loose cannon), choirboy (behavior), cowboy (person), diva (person), girl (mean girl), hell-raiser (person), hothead, hotshot (person), predator (people), prima donna (person), straight arrow (person), stud (male), vulture (culture vulture), wild card (person)
- campaign: crusader (role)

- character & personality: backstabber (person), badass (power), bad boy (person), big boy (person), boy (blue-eyed boy), buccaneer (person), butterfly (social butterfly), cannon (loose cannon), carpetbagger (person), clown (person), cowboy (person), coyote (predation), cruel (adj), dandelion (character), daredevil (person), diva (person), doormat (person), dove (person), firebrand (person), flower (wilting flower, etc.), gadfly (person), girl (golden girl), girl (big girl), girl (mean girl), gladiator (n), gold digger (person), golden boy, goods (damaged goods), grub (person), guy (good guy, etc.), handwinger (person), hawk (person), hero (character), hot dog (person), hothead (n), hot mess (person), hotshot (person), ingenue (person), Jekyll (Jekyll and Hyde), killjoy (person), leech (person), live wire (person), maneater (female), maverick (person), mercenary (person), nerd (word nerd, etc.), nut (person), orchid (character), pain (pain in the neck, etc.), pirate (person), predator (people), prima donna (person), scold (person), shrinking violet (person), snake (insult), snowflake (person), straight arrow (person), strongman (power), stud (male), teacup (person), villain (character), warrior (other), whiner (person), wild card (person), witch (insult)
- characterization: guy (good guy, etc.), man (big man, little man, etc.), people (little people, etc.)
- coercion & motivation: bully (person), hatchet man (person)
- commitment & determination: hand (all hands on deck)
- competition: front-runner (n), pace-setter (n)
- configuration: neighbor (n)
- conflict: black belt (person), enemy (conflict), gun (hired gun), partisan (n), saboteur (person), wrangler (person)
- consumption: consumer (of information, etc.), glutton (person), gluttonous (adj)
- control & lack of control: cannon (loose cannon), chaperon (person), cowboy (person), gatekeeper (person), hothead (n), hotheaded (and hot-headed), police (and cop, etc.)
- courage & lack of courage: brave (the brave), lion (courage)
- creation & transformation: alchemist (n), architect (creator), author (person), midwife (person), muse (person)
- dependency: babysitter (role), nanny (person), slave (slave to fashion, etc.)
- destruction: cannibal (the Cannibal, etc.), invader (n), vandal (n), wreck (person)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: acrobat (person), hand (all hands on deck)
- directing: guide (person), ringmaster (role)
- direction: guide (person)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: outcast (person)
- disruption: revolutionary (person)
- dominance & submission: dog (big dog), doormat (person), field hand (person), servant (dominated), slave (slave to fashion, etc.), slave (dominated)
- driving force: pace-setter (n), pathfinder (person), pioneer (person), point man (and point person)
- enthusiasm: acolyte (person), addict (chess addict, etc.), ambassador (role), bookworm (person), cheerleader (person), convert (person), devotee (person), disciple (person), evangelist (person), fanatic (person), fanboy (person), follower (social media, etc.), glutton (person), head (Deadhead, etc.), hound (autograph hound, etc.), junkie (game junkie, etc.), lover (enthusiasm / person), maniac (Hulkamaniac, etc.), missionary (person), nation (Who Dat Nation, etc.), rat (lab rat, etc.)
- epithet: cannibal (the Cannibal, etc.)
- experience: adult (development), chaperon (person), debutant (n), doyen (squad leader), greenhorn (person), grownup (person), ingenue (person), neophyte (n), new (new teacher, etc.), stranger (and no stranger)
- failure, accident & impairment: wreck (person)
- fantasy & reality: Arthurian (adj), Kafkaesque, Quixote (Don Quixote), quixotic (adj), rabbit hole (fantasy), Walter Mitty
- fate, fortune & chance: daredevil (person)
- feeling, emotion & effect: firebrand (person), hothead (n), killjoy (person)
- flaws & lack of flaws: goods (damaged goods)

- future: fortuneteller (person), oracle (person), prophet (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person), visionary (person)
- group, set & collection: army (Arnie's Army, etc.), nation (Who Dat Nation, etc.), tribe (group)
- growth & development: dowager (old), grande dame (old), neophyte (n)
- heart: sweetheart (other)
- help & assistance: caretaker (role), custodian (role), friend (n), friendly (adj), godmother (Godmother of Title IX, etc.), godmother (fairy godmother), gun (hired gun), handmaiden (help), knight (knight in shining armor), mother (den mother, etc.), mother hen, nursemaid (help), servant (help), Sherpa (n), sparring partner (role), steward (role), white knight, wingman (person)
- hierarchy: higher-up (person), lion (liberal lion, etc.), top dog (hierarchy)
- hyperbole: murderer (shame is a murderer, etc.)
- identity & nature: carpetbagger (person), child (child of the Soviet Union, etc.), daughter (daughter of Brooklyn, etc.), son (son of the South, etc.)
- importance & significance: big shot (person), bigwig (person), guy (the guy), immortal (person), leading light (person), luminary (person), man (big man, little man, etc.), nobody (a nobody), people (little people, etc.), pioneer (person), somebody (a somebody), trailblazer (person), Who's Who
- insult: doormat (person), grub (person), parasite (person), snake (insult), witch (insult)
- isolation & remoteness: castaway (person), hermit (person)
- journeys & trips: pioneer (person), traveller (person)
- judgment: judge (role), scold (person)
- knowledge & intelligence: genie (knowledge), guru (person), maven (person), professor (n), pundit (person), savant (n), scientist (rocket scientist), teacher (experience is the best teacher, etc.)
- mental health: addict (sex addict, etc.)
- message: apostle (person), convert (person), crusader (role), evangelist (person), fortuneteller (person), guru (person), messenger (shoot the messenger), messiah (n), missionary (person), Moses (n), oracle (person), prophet (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person), tout (person), whistleblower (n)
- migration: Jew (Jews of the Caribbean, etc.), Lazarus (Emma Lazarus), nomad (person), nomadic (adj), refugee (person)
- money: loan shark, skinflint (person), spendthrift (person)
- oppression: bully (person), cruel (adj), man (the man / oppression), ogre (person), police (and cop, etc.), tyrant (n)
- performance: diva (person), prima donna (person), ringmaster (role)
- position, policy & negotiation: middle-of-the-roader
- power: baron (power), big shot (person), bigwig (person), chieftain (n), czar (and tsar), emperor (power), honcho (leader), insider (person), kingpin (person), mogul (n), nobody (a nobody), outsider (person), overlord (person), somebody (a somebody), suit (person)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: star (achievement)
- product: miner (bitcoin miner, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: guardian (protection), wingman (person)
- proximity: neighbor (n)
- punishment & recrimination: fall guy (n), whipping boy (person)
- pursuit, capture & escape: darling (n), hunter (plants), hunter (other), suitor (n), tracker (person)
- relationship: companion (n), enemy (conflict), friend (n), handmaiden (help), muse (person), partner (n),
- repetition: mouthpiece (person)
- representation: ambassador (role), standard-bearer, torchbearer (person), tribune (person)
- resiliency: dandelion (character), flower (wilting flower, etc.), orchid (character)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: fighter (person), martyr (person), mutineer (person), rebel (person), renegade (person)
- restraint & lack of restraint: cannon (loose cannon)

- role: mother (den mother, etc.)
- sacrifice: fall guy (n)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: bad boy (person), gatekeeper (person), heretic (person), iconoclast (person), maverick (person), police (and cop, etc.), rebel (person), renegade (person)
- searching & discovery: detective (person), explorer (person), pathfinder (person), scout (n), sleuth (person), talent scout (and spotter, etc.)
- sex: maneater (female), stud (male)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: mouthpiece (person), straight shooter (speech)
- size: Brobdingnagian (adj), dwarf (size), pygmy (size)
- social interaction: hermit (person)
- society: Brahmin (person), butterfly (social butterfly), castaway (person), caste (n), climber (social climber, etc.), haves (and have-nots, etc.), hermit (person), insider (person), leper (person), mob (society), nobody (a nobody), outcast (person), outsider (person), pariah (n), somebody (a somebody), stranger (other), untouchable (person)
- speech: chatterbox (person), loudmouth (person), mouthpiece (person), scold (person), straight shooter (speech), talker (slick talker), tout (person)
- strength & weakness: dandelion (character), flower (wilting flower, etc.), orchid (character), stalwart (n), snowflake (person), teacup (person)
- subterfuge: imposter (n)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: glutton (person)
- superiority & inferiority: doormat (person), field hand (person), servant (dominated), slave (dominated), top dog (hierarchy)
- superlative: boy (blue-eyed boy), favorite son, immortal (person), king (person), leading light (person), luminary (person), man (the man / approving), monarch (primacy), prince (person), princess (person), queen (Queen of Soul, etc.), queen (role), star (rock star), star (person), star (achievement)
- survival, persistence & endurance: hand (all hands on deck)
- taking & removing: bandit (n), buccaneer (person), pirate (person), thief (thief of joy, etc.)
- time: fortuneteller (person), oracle (person), prophet (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person), time traveller (person)
- warning: sentinel (n), whistleblower (n)
- work & duty: foot soldier (duty), hand (worker), hand (all hands on deck), servant (help)
- worth & lack of worth: boy (blue-eyed boy), child (bastard child), favorite son, goods (damaged goods), stepchild (and stepson, etc.), rainmaker (person)

## PHYSICS (2)

- comprehension & incomprehension: dark (Dark Matter, etc.)
- conflict: friction (conflict)
- course: trajectory (n)
- destruction: implode (v), implosion (n)
- development: trajectory (n)
- division & connection: atomization (n)
- fantasy & reality: wormhole (n)
- obstacles & impedance: drag (drag on the economy, etc.), friction (impedance), frictionless
- portal: wormhole (n)

## PICTURE (2) (see also analysis, interpretation & explanation; context)

- achievement, recognition & praise: art (work of art), masterpiece (engineering masterpiece, etc.)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: backdrop (against a backdrop), dot (connect the dots), frame (n), frame (characterize), framed (characterized), illustration (n), mosaic (analysis), picture (in the big picture), picture (big

picture / noun), picture (view), portrait (view), puzzle (problem), reframe (characterize), show (the data show, etc.), x-ray (n)

- appearance & disappearance: background (background noise, etc.), foreground (n), foreground (v)
- area: scape (threatscape, etc.)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: background (background noise, etc.), billboard (n), foreground (n), foreground (v), photobomb (v)
- center & periphery: background (background noise, etc.), foreground (n)
- certainty & uncertainty: sketchy (adj)
- characterization: brush (characterization), cameo (n), frame (n), frame (characterize), framed (characterized), illustrate (v), illustration (n), paint (characterize), painted (characterized), picture (view), portrait (view), profile, reframe (characterize), snapshot (picture)
- complexity: puzzle (problem)
- comprehension & incomprehension: puzzle (problem)
- configuration: mosaic (configuration)
- constraint & lack of constraint: color (color outside the lines, etc.)
- context: backdrop (against a backdrop), picture (in the big picture), picture (big picture / noun), step back (perspective)
- creation & transformation: art (work of art), masterpiece (engineering masterpiece, etc.)
- environment: scape (threatscape, etc.)
- evidence: illustrate (v), illustration (n), picture (view), portrait (view), show (the data show, etc.)
- fictive communication: illustrate (v), show (the data show, etc.)
- flaws & lack of flaws: picture (picture-perfect), sketchy (adj)
- group, set & collection: curate (v), curated
- importance & significance: background (background noise, etc.), foreground (n)
- involvement: frame (in the frame / involvement), picture (out of the picture), picture (in the picture)
- perception, perspective & point of view: background (background noise, etc.), back up (v), color (v), colored, foreground (n), foreground (v), inkblot (Rorschach), picture (in the big picture), picture (big picture / noun), Rorschach (test), step back (perspective)
- presence & absence: picture (out of the picture)
- representation: billboard (n), face (public face, etc.), icon (symbol), iconic (adj), poster (poster child, etc.), totem (n)
- resemblance: paint (resemblance)
- sign, signal, symbol: icon (graphic)
- superlative: art (work of art), masterpiece (engineering masterpiece, etc.), Mona Lisa (Mona Lisa of baseball cards, etc.)

## **PILE (2)**

- accusation & criticism: pile-on (n), pile on (gang up on)
- amount: backlog (amount), pile (pile of money, etc.)
- amount & effect: heap (v), heaped
- dismissal, removal & resignation: dump (v), dumped
- increase & decrease: mount (v), mounting, pile on (increase), pile up (v)
- punishment & recrimination: pile-on (n), pile on (gang up on)
- throwing, putting & planting: heap (v), lay (put)
- unanimity & consensus: pile-on (noun), pile on (gang up on)

## **PLACE (1) (see also area; environment; location)**

- animal: den (den of thieves, etc.), nest (empty nest), perch (n), rookery (n)
- bird: nest (empty nest), perch (n), rookery (n)
- burial: cemetery (things), grave (place), graveyard (things), place (resting place)

- death & life: cemetery (things), dwell (location), grave (place), graveyard (things), live (location), place (resting place), reside (v), residence (n)
- earthquake: epicenter (n)
- epithet: crossroad (Crossroads of the World, etc.), graveyard (things)
- heart: heartland (n)
- house: den (den of thieves, etc.), dwell (location), home (home for the archive, etc.), live (location), nest (empty nest), reside (v), residence (n)
- infrastructure: bowels (n)
- map: map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.)
- mechanism: hub (center)
- military: battleground (conflict), front line (on the frontline), front line (other), trench (in the trenches), trench (other)
- mining: coalface (and coal face)
- nuclear energy: ground zero
- temperature: hotspot (place)
- tools & technology: Silicon Valley, etc.
- verb: map drop off the map, etc.)

## PLACE (2)

- achievement, recognition & praise: hall of fame (and hall of shame, etc.), pantheon (n)
- area: place (destination)
- attraction & repulsion: mecca (mecca of bluegrass, etc.), pilgrimage (trip)
- avoidance & separation: cloistered
- biodiversity, nature & life: Eden (n), Edenic (adj), Galapagos (Galapagos of Europe, etc.), Garden of Eden, Serengeti (Serengeti of the North, etc.)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: here (here to stay, etc.)
- comparison & contrast: Chernobyl (rainforest Chernobyl, etc.)
- computer: blogosphere (in the blogosphere), blogosphere (other), water cooler (digital water cooler, etc.)
- condition & status: place (situation), place (place where), where (situation / development)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: there (let's not go there)
- consciousness & awareness: find (find oneself in a place, etc.)
- constraint & lack of constraint: spot (tight spot, etc.)
- destruction: Chernobyl, Hiroshima (epithet)
- development: here (situation), here (go from here, etc.), place (situation), place (place where), point (point where), point (at a point), where (situation / development)
- disruption: zone (one's comfort zone)
- division & connection: cloistered
- eagerness & reluctance: there (let's not go there)
- enthusiasm: cathedral (Big Snowbird Creek, etc.), mecca (mecca of bluegrass, etc.)
- experience: road (down a road before), there (been there, etc.)
- experimentation: laboratory
- failure, accident & impairment: Chernobyl
- feeling, emotion & effect: come from (emotion)
- future: future (where the future lies, etc.), hereafter (from now onwards)
- gossip: water cooler (digital water cooler, etc.)
- isolation & remoteness: cloistered
- location: home (home of golf, etc.), home (home to), where (conversations where, etc.)
- mental health: place (in a dark place, etc.), space (in a dark space, etc.)
- military: foxhole (military), spider hole (military)

- money: Wall Street (Wall Street of fish, etc.)
- nuclear energy: ground zero
- origin: home (home of golf, etc.)
- past & present: go back (verb / time), here (we have been here before), here (go from here, etc.), here (the present), moment (moment where), revisit (v), road (down a road before)
- presence & absence: here (not here, etc.), here (here to stay, etc.), there (there is no there there, etc.)
- proper name: Amazon (the company)
- protection & lack of protection: cloistered, haven (safety), refuge (n), shelter (v)
- pursuit, capture & escape: getaway (n)
- reverence: cathedral (Big Snowbird Creek, etc.), mecca (mecca of bluegrass, etc.)
- situation: here (situation), place (situation), place (place where), point (in a point), spot (tight spot, etc.), where (situation / development)
- social interaction: water cooler (digital water cooler, etc.)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: jumping-off place / point
- substance & lack of substance: there (there is no there there, etc.)
- superlative: hall of fame (and hall of shame, etc.), Mount Rushmore, Olympus (Mount Olympus), pantheon (n), Paris (epithet), Valhalla (n)
- survival, persistence & endurance: here (here to stay, etc.)
- time: breathing space (and breathing room), future (where the future lies, etc.), go back (verb / time), here (we have been here before), here (go from here, etc.), here (the present), hereafter (from now onwards), look like (future), moment (moment where), place (situation), place (place where), point (point where), revisit (v), road (down a road before), throughout (time), time (space of time), time (at the time, etc.)

## PLANE (2)

- achievement, recognition & praise: parachute (golden parachute)
- action, inaction & delay: pattern (holding pattern)
- appearance & disappearance: parachute (v)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: barnstorm (v)
- behavior: autopilot (on autopilot), helicopter (helicopter mom, etc.), helicopter (v)
- character & personality: helicopter (helicopter mom, etc.), pants (fly by the seat of one's pants), wingman (person)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: bail out (leave), land (arrive, affect, decide), parachute (drop in), parachute (golden parachute), parachute (v), parachuted
- competition: slipstream (in a slipstream)
- condition & status: spiral (death spiral)
- consciousness & awareness: autopilot (on autopilot), blind (fly blind)
- control & lack of control: spin (spin out of control), spiral (spiral out of control, etc.)
- decline: crater (v), nosedive (verb / decline), nosedive (noun / decline), tailspin (into a tailspin), tailspin (in a tailspin)
- destruction: crash (crash and burn), shoot down (v), shot down (and shot down in flames), spiral (death spiral)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: bail out (leave)
- force: headwind (n), tailwind (n), wind (wind at one's back, etc.)
- failure, accident & impairment: crash-land (v), flameout (n), flame out (v)
- feeling, emotion & effect: autopilot (on autopilot), land (arrive, affect, decide)
- growth & development: ground (get off the ground), take off (v)
- help & assistance: steward (role), tailwind (n), wind (wind at one's back, etc.), wingman (person)
- increase & decrease: nosedive (noun / decrease), nosedive (verb / decrease), spiral (downward or upward), take off (v)
- initiation: take off (v)

- message: barnstorm (v)
- obstacles & impedance: headwind (n)
- person: wingman (person)
- progress & lack of progress: headwind (n), tailwind (n), wind (wind at one's back, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: wingman (person)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: land (arrive, affect, decide)
- restraint & lack of restraint: envelope (push the envelope)
- speed (supersonic speed, etc.)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: flameout (n), flame out (v)
- superiority & inferiority: slipstream (in a slipstream)
- surveillance: helicopter (helicopter mom, etc.), helicopter (v)

## **PLANT (2) (see also farming & agriculture; wheat)**

- affliction: bane (n), thorn (n), thorny (adj)
- amount: kernel (amount)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: root (root cause)
- appearance & disappearance: bud (nipped in the bud), budding, crop up (v), emerge (v), emerging (adj), mushroom (v), pop up (v), spring up (v), sprout (v)
- attenuation: husk (husk of his former self, etc.)
- bases: deep-rooted (adj), root (at the root), root (root cause), root (root of the problem, etc.), rooted
- branching system: offshoot, tendril (growth)
- character & personality: dandelion (character), flower (wilting flower, etc.), orchid (character), shrinking violet (person)
- coercion & motivation: carrot (reward), carrot-and-stick
- computer: root (root server)
- configuration: sown (mine-sown, etc.)
- consumption: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.)
- content: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.), grist (grist for the mill, etc.), hay (make hay, etc.)
- corruption: blight (v), blight (n), blighted
- creation & transformation: germinate (v), hothouse (n), kernel (n), nursery (n), plant (create), pruned, seed (n), shoot (plant), sow (v)
- curtailment: bud (nipped in the bud), root (tear something out by the roots, etc.)
- decline: bloom (bloom has faded, etc.), shrivel (v), vine (wither on the vine), wilt (v), wither (v)
- destruction: root (tear something out by the roots, etc.), root out (v), uproot (v)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: prune (v), root (tear something out by the roots, etc.), root out (v), transplant (n), weed out (v), uprooted
- experience: neophyte (n)
- extent & scope: tendril (growth)
- feeling, emotion & effect: withering (adj)
- flaws & lack of flaws: thorny (adj)
- gossip: fodder (tabloid fodder, etc.), grapevine (through / over the grapevine), grist (grist for the mill, etc.)
- group, set & collection: bouquet (collection), garden (resemblance)
- growth & development: bloom (v), bloomer (late bloomer), blossom (v), bud (nipped in the bud), budding, burgeoning (adj), cross-pollination, cultivate (v), cultivated, cultivation (n), drought (in a drought), drought (play-off drought, etc.), fallow (adj), field (fertile field, etc.), flourish (v), flower (v), flowering, fruition (n), ground (fertile ground), grow (develop), grow (grow the economy, etc.), hotbed (n), hothouse (n), kernel (n), neophyte (n), nourished, nursery (n), nurture (v), nurtured, plant (create), plow (plow a field, etc.), rainmaker (person), ripe (adj), root (take root, etc.), seed (n), seed money, shoot (plant), soil (fertile soil, etc.), sow (v),

spell (in a dry spell), spell (into a dry spell), spell (throughout a dry spell), spell (dry spell / other), tendril (growth), thrive (v), transplant (n)

- identity & nature: root (origin), transplant (n)
- increase & decrease: burgeoning (adj), grow (increase), growing (increasing)
- migration: transplant (n)
- military: cannon fodder (military)
- occurrence: black tulip (rarity)
- origin: root (root of the problem, etc.), root (origin)
- person: dandelion (character), flower (wilting flower, etc.), neophyte (n), shrinking violet (person)
- product: fruit (product), reap (v)
- proper name: garden (Cactus Garden, etc.)
- relationship: root (root of the problem, etc.), root (origin)
- resemblance: garden (resemblance), tendril (resemblance), wilt (v)
- resiliency: dandelion (character), flower (wilting flower, etc.), orchid (character)
- shape: mushroom (shape)
- strength & weakness: dandelion (character), flower (wilting flower, etc.), orchid (character), root (take root, etc.)
- superlative: black tulip (rarity)
- survival, persistence & endurance: root (take root, etc.)
- substance & lack of substance: husk (husk of his former self, etc.)
- throwing, putting & planting: plant (put), plant (create), planted, sow (v), sown (planted)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: bloomer (late bloomer), ripe (adj)
- transmission: cross-pollination
- worth & lack of worth: black tulip (rarity), fruit (product), fruitful (adj), fruitless (adj)

## **PLATFORM (2)**

- mind: mind (platform)

## **POLEMICS (2)**

- inclusion & exclusion: just because (polemical), right (right? / polemical)

## **PORTAL (1)**

- doors & thresholds: door (portal), portal (entrance), threshold (cross the threshold), threshold (portal)
- epithet: gate (Gates of Hell, etc.)
- gate: gate (portal), gateway (portal), portal (entrance)
- hole: rabbit hole (fantasy), wormhole (n)
- infrastructure: avenue (portal)
- physics: wormhole (n)
- verb: threshold (cross the threshold)
- window: window (window to the West, etc.)

## **POSITION (2) (see also direction; height)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: top (excellence)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: back (support / verb), backed, backing (support), beside (support), side (on one's side / person), side with (v), time (time on one's side)
- appearance & disappearance: background (background noise, etc.), foreground (n)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: background (background noise, etc.), center (center their voices, etc.), first (metaverse-first, etc.), fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), foreground (n), forward (bring something forward, etc.), forward (future forward, etc.), front (front and center)
- basis: behind (basis)
- behavior: duck (ducks in a row)

- center & periphery: background (background noise, etc.), foreground (n), front (front and center), middle-of-the-road, middle-of-the-roader
- certainty & uncertainty: shifting (adj)
- competition: ahead (competition), behind (competition), front (in front / competition), outrun (verb), slipstream (in a slipstream), underdog (competition)
- condition & status: laid low (condition, etc.)
- context: step back (perspective)
- danger: back (watch your back, etc.), back (have somebody's back), back (stab in the back)
- death & life: laid low (killed), succumb (die / actual)
- development: upon (tragedy upon tragedy, etc.)
- dominance & submission: knuckle under (v), over (dominance), top (dominance / winning)
- feeling, emotion & effect: lay low (emotion)
- future: ahead (before a future event), ahead (the future is ahead, etc.), before (at a future time), day (day after tomorrow), forerunner (n), front (the future is in front of us), hereafter (from now onwards), intervening (adj), near (near future, etc.), time (ahead of his time, etc.)
- hierarchy: above (hierarchy), apex (apex animal, etc.), barrel (at the bottom of the barrel), bottom (at the bottom), head (go over one's head / hierarchy), mountain (at the top of the mountain), over (dominance), table (head of the table), tier (hierarchy), top (hierarchy), top dog (hierarchy), totem pole, under (hierarchy), underdog (hierarchy)
- importance & significance: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), background (background noise, etc.), burner (front burner), centerpiece (n), central (adj), fiddle (second fiddle), fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), foreground (n), front (front and center), mind (top of mind), mind (front of mind), mind (back of mind), right-hand (right-hand man, etc.)
- knowledge & intelligence: feet (master / protégé)
- mental health: lay low (emotion)
- past & present: ancestor (go before), before (at an earlier time), behind (in the past), forefather (n), forerunner (n), mirror (in the rear-view mirror), predecessor (go away before), time (before her time, etc.), time (behind the times)
- perception, perspective & point of view: background (background noise, etc.), back up (v), bird's-eye (bird's-eye view), fisheye (fisheye view, etc.), foreground (n), grassroots (grassroots level, etc.), perspective (from a perspective), perspective (in perspective), perspective (into perspective), perspective (other), point of view (from somebody's point of view), point of view (other), standpoint (perspective), step back (perspective), vantage point (from a vantage point), view (perspective), viewpoint (perspective), worm's-eye (adj), zoom out (v), zoom-out (n)
- position, policy & negotiation: middle-of-the-road, middle-of-the-roader, position (on an issue, etc.), shift (change)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: time (ahead of his time, etc.), time (before her time, etc.), time (behind the times)
- priority: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), back seat (take a back seat), burner (front burner), fiddle (second fiddle), fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), front (front and center), line (at the front / back of the line), mind (top of mind), mind (front of mind), mind (back of mind)
- protection & lack of protection: back (watch your back, etc.), back (have somebody's back), back (stab in the back)
- proximity: near (near future, etc.)
- relationship: behind (basis)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: knuckle under (v)
- responsibility: behind (responsibility)
- sequence: after (at a later time), afternoon (at a later time), ancestor (go before), before (at an earlier time), follow (at a later time), forefather (n), forenoon (at an earlier time), forerunner (n), next (at a later time),

precede (at an earlier time), predecessor (go away before), top (on top of / at the same time), train (in one's train / at a later time), upon (tragedy upon tragedy, etc.), wake (in the wake of / at a later time)

- situation: middle (in the middle)
- social interaction: side (on the good side, etc.), side (on the wrong side, etc.)
- strength & weakness: underdog (competition)
- success & failure: face (fall on one's face, etc.)
- superiority & inferiority: above (above the law, etc.), back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), back seat (take a back seat), burner (front burner), fiddle (second fiddle), fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), front (front and center), mind (top of mind), mind (front of mind), mind (back of mind), over (dominance), slipstream (in a slipstream), table (head of the table), top (dominance / winning), top dog (hierarchy), underdog (competition)
- time: advance (in advance, etc.), after (at a later time), afternoon (at a later time), ahead (before a future event), ahead (the future is ahead, etc.), ancestor (go before), before (at an earlier time), before (at a future time), behind (in the past), day (day after tomorrow), follow (at a later time), following (at a later time), forefather (n), forenoon (at an earlier time), forerunner (n), front (the future is in front of us), hereafter (from now onwards), intervening (adj), mirror (in the rear-view mirror), near (near future, etc.), next (at a later time), precede (at an earlier time), preceding (at an earlier time), predecessor (go away before), time (time on one's side), time (ahead of his time, etc.), time (before her time, etc.), time (behind the times), top (on top of / at the same time), train (in one's train / at a later time), wake (in the wake of / at a later time)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: advance (in advance, etc.), ahead (ahead of schedule, etc.), behind (behind schedule, etc.), front (get in front of an announcement, etc.)
- unanimity & consensus: duck (ducks in a row)

## **POSITION, POLICY & NEGOTIATION (1) (see also strategy)**

- ball: ball (the ball is in somebody's court)
- baseball: hardball (n)
- cards: bluff (v), bluff (n), hand (overplay one's hand)
- direction: back (back and forth), give-and-take
- fence: fence (on the fence, etc.), fence (straddle the fence), fence-straddling)
- foot: footing (position)
- gambling: bluff (v), bluff (n), chip (bargaining chip)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: give-and-take
- ground, terrain & land: brinksmanship (n)
- horse: horse-trading
- line: line (a hard line, etc.), position (on an issue, etc.)
- money: haggle (v), haggling, horse-trading, transactional (adj)
- movement: budge (v), immovable (adj), maneuvering (strategy), move (not move an inch, etc.), shift (change)
- person: middle-of-the-roader
- position: middle-of-the-road, middle-of-the-roader, position (on an issue, etc.), shift (change)
- sound: table (loudest seat at the table)
- sports & games: ball (the ball is in somebody's court), hardball (n)
- standing, sitting & lying: footing (position), posture (position), posturing, sit down (v), sit-down (other), stand (position), stance (take a stance), stand (a tough stand, etc.)
- table: sit down (v), sit-down (other), table (on the table), table (come back to the table), table (off the table), table (turn the tables), table (loudest seat at the table)
- verb: bluff (v), budge (v), fence (straddle the fence), haggle (v), hand (overplay one's hand), move (not move an inch, etc.), sit down (v), stance (take a stance), stand (position), table (come back to the table), table (turn the tables)

## POSSESSION (1) (see also fictive possession)

- arm: reach (beyond reach), reach (within reach)
- boundary: claim (stake a claim), reclaim (his place, etc.)
- container: lap (fall into one's lap / a windfall)
- crime: captive (held captive, etc.), captivity (n), hijack (v), hijacked, loot (v), time (steal time, etc.), usurp (v)
- direction: fall (fall into the hands, etc.)
- family: adopt (v)
- finger: finger (slip through one's fingers)
- flags & banners: flag (plant one's flag)
- food & drink: fork over (v)
- ground, terrain & land: claim (stake a claim), colonialism (data, etc.), flag (plant one's flag), reclaim (his place, etc.), soil (on one's soil), territory (stake out territory)
- hand: cling (v), clingy (adj), empty-handed, fall (fall into the hands, etc.), finger (slip through one's fingers), go (let something go), grab (v), grab (up for grabs), grab (land grab, etc.), grasp (in one's grasp), grasp (out of one's grasp), grasp (possession), grip (v), grip (in the grip), grip (control), gripped, gripping (adj), hand (possession), handed over (possession), hand-me-down, hand over (v), handover (n), hang on to (v), hold (long-held), hold (verb / possession), hold (noun / possession), hold (noun / emotion), hold on to (v), palm (in the palm of one's hand), possess (v), possessed (emotion), seize (v), seized (by an emotion)
- lap: lap (fall into one's lap / a windfall)
- military: flag (plant one's flag), surrender (v)
- money: own (possess), own (make something one's own), ownership (n), trade (v)
- movement: gone (absent)
- part of speech: grab (land grab, etc.)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: gone (absent), handed over (possession), hand over (v), handover (n)
- royalty: usurp (v)
- surveying: claim (stake a claim), reclaim (his place, etc.), stake out (v), territory (stake out territory)
- verb: adopt (v), cling (v), fall (fall into the hands, etc.), finger (slip through one's fingers), fork over (v), go (let something go), grab (v), grip (v), hand over (v), hang on to (v), hijack (v), hold (verb / possession), hold on to (v), loot (v), own (possess), own (make something one's own), reclaim (his place, etc.), seize (v), stake out (v), surrender (v), time (steal time, etc.), time (give time), trade (v), usurp (v)

## POSSESSION (2)

- control & lack of control: lose it (mentally)
- death & life: life (give one's life, etc.), life (lose one's life), life (take one's life), life (steal a life)
- feeling, emotion & effect: hold (noun / emotion), lose (one's temper, etc.), lose it (mentally), possess (v), possessed (emotion)
- functioning: tongue (lose one's tongue)
- inclusion & exclusion: appropriate (groups), appropriation (groups), colonialism (groups), colonialization (groups), colonization (groups), colonize (groups), colonized, coopt (and co-opt), decolonialization (groups), decolonize (v), decolonized, face (yellowface, etc.), fishing (Latino-fishing, etc.), misappropriate (groups), misappropriated, misappropriation (groups, etc.), reappropriate (groups), reappropriation (groups), reclaim (groups), reclaimed (groups), reclaiming (groups), space (groups, etc.), stolen (stolen generation, etc.), take back (take back one's life, etc.)
- mental health: hold (noun / emotion), lose (one's temper, etc.), lose it (mentally), mind (lose one's mind), possess (v), possessed (emotion)
- mind: mind (lose one's mind)
- presence & absence: lose (a limb, etc.)
- responsibility: own (responsibility)
- speech: tongue (lose one's tongue)

- time: time (have time), time (lose time, etc.), time (lost time), time (give time)

## POTATO (2)

- activity: potato (couch potato)
- importance & significance: potato (small potatoes)

## POWER (1) (see also force)

- allusion: complex (military-industrial complex, etc.)
- animal: beast (power), fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n), oats (feel one's oats), sardine (n)
- boxing: heavyweight (n), punch (punch above one's weight, etc.), weight (punch above one's weight, etc.)
- cards: hand (strengthen one's hand)
- center & periphery: inner circle (n), insider (person), outsider (person)
- chess: pawn (n)
- creature: giant (sleeping giant), monster (power)
- dam: powerhouse (n)
- electricity: powerhouse (n)
- engine: supercharge (v), supercharged, supersize (v), tank (empty the tank, etc.), turbocharge (v), turbocharged
- explosion: explosive (power)
- fish: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n), sardine (n)
- fist: clout (n)
- government: czar (and tsar), emperor (power), strongman (power), tyrant (n)
- health & medicine: potency (strength), potent (adj), steroids (on steroids)
- history: baron (power), complex (military-industrial complex, etc.), czar (and tsar), emperor (power), empire (enterprise), mogul (n), overlord (person), pharaoh (power), tyrant (n)
- horse: oats (feel one's oats)
- infrastructure: corridor (corridors of power), hall (halls of academe, etc.)
- mechanism: supercharge (v), supercharged, tank (empty the tank, etc.), turbocharge (v), turbocharged
- Middle Ages: baron (power)
- military: chieftain (n), coup (power), force (show of force)
- movement: momentum (gain momentum, etc.), momentum (n), muscle (muscle its way through, etc.)
- person: baron (power), big shot (person), bigwig (person), chieftain (n), czar (and tsar), emperor (power), honcho (leader), insider (person), kingpin (person), mogul (n), nobody (a nobody), overlord (person), outsider (person), somebody (a somebody), suit (person)
- river: powerhouse (n)
- royalty: dynasty (sports dynasty, etc.), lord over (v), monarch (primacy), overlord (person), throne (power)
- sign, signal, symbol: corridor (corridors of power), hall (halls of academe, etc.), suit (person)
- size: big shot (person), bigwig (person), fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), giant (sleeping giant), minnow (n), sardine (n)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: flex (power, etc.), muscle (political muscle, etc.), muscle (muscle its way through, etc.), muscular (adj)
- sleep: giant (sleeping giant)
- sports & games: pawn (n)
- storm: nature (force of nature)
- tools & technology: high-powered (adj), leverage (n), leverage (v)
- verb: flex (power, etc.), hand (strengthen one's hand), leverage (v), lord over (v), momentum (gain momentum, etc.), muscle (muscle its way through, etc.), outweigh (power), punch (punch above one's weight, etc.), supercharge (v), turbocharge (v), weight (put / throw one's weight behind something), weight (punch above one's weight, etc.)
- violence: clout (n)

- weapon: big shot (person)
- weight: heavyweight (n), outweigh (power), punch (punch above one's weight, etc.), weight (put / throw one's weight behind something), weight (punch above one's weight, etc.)

## **PREDATION (2) (see also animal)**

- accusation & criticism: savage (v)
- activity: frenzy (feeding frenzy)
- affliction: backbiter (person), eat (mental health), eat (destroy), piranha (predation), shark (predation), wolf (predation)
- appearance & reality: wolf (wolf in sheep's clothing)
- behavior: backbiting, bloodthirsty (adj), circle (predation), frenzy (feeding frenzy), jugular (go for the jugular, etc.), lone wolf (person), predator (people), prey (prey on something), prowl (on the prow), savage (v), shark (predation), wolf (predation), wound (lick one's wounds)
- blood: bloodthirsty (adj)
- character & personality: coyote (predation), dove (person), ferocious (other), hawk (person), hawkish (adj), leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.), lone wolf (person), maneater (female), piranha (predation), predator (people), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.), shark (predation), wolf (predation)
- competition: dog-eat-dog, heel (nip at somebody's heels), law (law of the jungle, etc.)
- conflict: backbiting, blood (smell blood), blood (out for blood), blood (draw blood), blood sport (n), jugular (go for the jugular, etc.), pit (bear pit), teeth (danger), throat (predation), tooth and nail (fight tooth and nail, etc.), wound (lick one's wounds)
- consumption: food (meat), ground (feeding ground), meat (fresh meat, etc.), meat (red meat, etc.)
- danger: lurking (lurking danger, etc.), predation (n), predatory (adj), wolf (predation)
- destruction: consume (destroy), consumed (destroyed), devour (destroy), eat (mental health), eat (destroy), ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other), lamb (lamb to the slaughter), nibble (nibble at, etc.), sheep (predation), teeth (danger)
- eagerness & reluctance: pounce (v)
- fate, fortune & chance: jaw (jaws of defeat, jaws of victory, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: eat (mental health)
- fish: piranha (predation)
- flying & falling: swoop (v)
- force: ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other)
- growth & development: lamb (n)
- hierarchy: food chain
- identity & nature: leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.)
- mental health: devoured (by an emotion, etc.), eaten alive (by debt, rage, etc.)
- military: leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.)
- money: loan shark
- movement: lurk (v), pounce (v), prow (on the prow), stalk (v), swoop (v)
- person: maneater (female), piranha (predation), shark (predation), wolf (predation)
- presence & absence: lurk (v), lurking (lurking danger, etc.), wait (in wait)
- proper name: leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.), Predator (the Predator drone, etc.), raptor (Raptor Technologies, etc.), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.)
- punishment & recrimination: blood (out for blood)
- pursuit, capture & escape: claw (n), jaw (jaws of defeat, jaws of victory, etc.), octopus (n), pincer (n), pincer, prey (prey on something), prey (fall prey to something), prey (prey and predator, etc.), stalk (v), tentacle (n), victim (fall victim to something)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: tooth and nail (fight tooth and nail, etc.)
- sex: maneater (female)

- society: lone wolf (person)
- speech: savage (v)
- strength & weakness: ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other), sheep (predation)
- subterfuge: wolf (wolf in sheep's clothing)
- violence: dove (person), hawk (person), hawkish (adj)

## **PREP, ADV, ADJ, PARTICLE (2)**

- acceptance & rejection: in (inclusion), left out (excluded), out (exclusion)
- action, inaction & delay: in (all in)
- activity: bubble up (v)
- admiration & contempt: below (behavior), beneath (behavior)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: against (opposition), behind (support), beside (support), down (down for something), for (support), in (all in), out (want out), side with (v), stand (stand behind something, etc.), there (there for me, etc.), up (up for something), with (support)
- amount: full (adj)
- amount & effect: full (full Sarah Brightman, etc.)
- appearance & disappearance: bubble up (v), come up (appear), crop up (v), dredge up (v), pop up (v), show up (v), spring up (v)
- appearance & reality: underneath (basis)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: drum up (v), forward (bring something forward, etc.), play down (v)
- attenuation: play down (v), tone down (v), water down (v)
- avoidance & separation: apart (division), hands-off, hands-on, inward (turn inward, etc.)
- bases: behind (basis), underneath (basis)
- behavior: above (above the fray, etc.), below (behavior), beneath (behavior), line (over the line / behavior)
- center & periphery: outside (outside world, etc.)
- certainty & uncertainty: air (up in the air), grab (up for grabs)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: back (return)
- commitment & determination: down (down for something), in (all in), out (all out, etc.), up (up for something)
- competition: ahead (competition), behind (competition), outgunned, outrun (v), outshine (v), outweigh (power)
- concealment & lack of concealment: dredge up (v), out (gay)
- condition & status: down (functioning)
- contempo-speak: on (brag on, etc.), out (nerd out, etc.), up (science up, etc.)
- control & lack of control: hands-off, hands-on
- creation & transformation: cook up (v), drum up (v), make up (v)
- decline: down (decline), go down (decrease)
- development: upon (tragedy upon tragedy, etc.)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: kick out (v)
- division & connection: apart (division), between (come between, etc.)
- dominance & submission: over (dominance), talk (talk over somebody)
- enthusiasm: into (be into something)
- experience: in for (a ride, etc.)
- extent & scope: full (adj)
- failure, accident & impairment: break down (functioning), down (functioning)
- feeling, emotion & effect: break down (emotionally), down (feeling), hate on (something), inside (emotions), love on (something), love up (and love up on, etc.), pump up (v), up (feeling)
- fictive transportation: back (in time), take (take us back / time)
- flaws & lack of flaws: off (not right)
- functioning: break down (functioning), down (functioning)

- future: ahead (before a future event), ahead (the future is ahead, etc.), away (a week away, etc.), before (at a future time), day (day after tomorrow), forerunner (n), foresight (n), forward (every year forward, etc.), front (the future is in front of us), hereafter (from now onwards), near (near future, etc.), on (30 years on, etc.), time (ahead of his time, etc.)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: handed over (possession), hand over (v), handover (n)
- help & assistance: handout (n), pick up (pick somebody up, etc.)
- hierarchy: above (hierarchy), over (dominance), under (hierarchy), work (work one's way up)
- identity & nature: in (the cowboy in me, etc.), inner (inner sloth, etc.)
- increase & decrease: go down (decrease), go up (increase), level up (as verb), pick up (increase), pile up (v), pump up (v), ramp up (v), ratchet up (v), up (higher)
- initiation: bubble up (v)
- involvement: in (involvement), into (involvement)
- language: big (big love, etc.), by (death by chocolate, etc.), on (brag on, etc.)
- mental health: break down (emotionally), down (feeling)
- obstacles & impedance: against (up against)
- occurrence: up (what's up, etc.)
- past & present: ago (two days ago / gone by), back (in time), back (back then), backwards (past), before (at an earlier time), bygone (adj), down (down through the centuries, etc.), forefather (n), forerunner (n), gone (those days are gone, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), hindsight (n), last (last night, etc. / at an earlier time), passed down (by ancestors, etc.), present (up to the present), take (take us back / time), time (before her time, etc.), time (behind the times), time (in our time, etc.), up (up to now, up to date, etc.)
- perception, perspective & point of view: hindsight (n), outside (perspective)
- possession: gone (absent), handed over (possession), hand over (v), handover (n)
- presence & absence: around (still around, etc.), gone (absent), with us (with us forever, etc.)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: bygone (adj), done (over), finished (over), gone (those days are gone, etc.), in (and in thing, etc.), next (next Steve Jobs, etc.), out (fashion), over (finished), time (ahead of his time, etc.), time (before her time, etc.), time (behind the times), up (time is finished, etc.), way (on the way out)
- progress & lack of progress: ahead (progress), behind (progress), left (left behind), there (destination)
- proximity: away (a week away, etc.), front (in front / proximity), near (near future, etc.)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: behind (put something behind)
- relationship: behind (basis), light (in light of), on (it's on you, etc.), underlying (adj), underneath (basis), view (in view of)
- resiliency: behind (put something behind), carry on (v), forge on (resiliency), hang on (v), push on (v), roll on (resiliency), soldier on (v)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: against (opposition)
- responsibility: behind (responsibility), on (it's on you, etc.)
- searching & discovery: dredge up (v)
- sequence: after (at a later time), afternoon (at a later time), before (at an earlier time), following (at a later time), forefather (n), forenoon (at an earlier time), forerunner (n), last (last night, etc. / at an earlier time), late (late Stone Age, etc.), next (next Steve Jobs, etc.), next (at a later time), preceding (at an earlier time), top (on top of / at the same time), train (in one's train / at a later time), upon (tragedy upon tragedy, etc.), wake (in the wake of / at a later time)
- situation: in (situation), trouble (in trouble)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: ahead (progress), carry on (v), done (over), drag on (v), finished (over), plow (plow on, plow through, etc.), push on (v), off (cancelled, postponed, etc.), on (be on, etc.), over (finished), soldier on (v)
- strength & weakness: water down (v), watered down
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: over (overshare, etc.), under (underdeliver, etc.)
- superiority & inferiority: above (above the law, etc.), over (dominance)

- survival, persistence & endurance: around (still around, etc.), been through (endure, etc.), carry on (v), gone (absent), go through (endure, etc.), hang on (v), push on (v), soldier on (v), with us (with us forever, etc.)
- time: advance (in advance, etc.), after (at a later time), afternoon (at a later time), ago (two days ago / gone by), ahead (before a future event), ahead (the future is ahead, etc.), away (a week away, etc.), back (in time), back (back then), backwards (past), before (at an earlier time), before (at a future time), behind (in the past), bygone (adj), day (day after tomorrow), down (down through the centuries, etc.), following (at a later time), forefather (n), forenoon (at an earlier time), forerunner (n), foresight (n), forward (every year forward, etc.), front (the future is in front of us), gone (those days are gone, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), hereafter (from now onwards), hindsight (n), last (last night, etc. / at an earlier time), late (late Stone Age, etc.), near (near future, etc.), next (at a later time), on (30 years on, etc.), passed down (by ancestors, etc.), preceding (at an earlier time), take (take us back / time), throughout (time), time (at the time, etc.), time (over time), time (ahead of his time, etc.), time (before her time, etc.), time (behind the times), time (in our time, etc.), top (on top of / at the same time), train (in one's train / at a later time), up (up to now, up to date, etc.), wake (in the wake of / at a later time)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: advance (in advance, etc.), ahead (ahead of schedule, etc.), behind (behind schedule, etc.), front (get in front of an announcement, etc.), time (past time), time (it's time, etc.), up (time is finished, etc.)
- work & duty: soldier on (v)

## **PRESENCE & ABSENCE (1) (see also appearance & disappearance; occurrence; searching & discovery)**

- air: air (anger in the air, etc.), vacuum (n), void (n)
- animal: elephant (elephant in the room, etc.), fly (fly on the wall), gorilla (800-pound gorilla), lurk (v), lurking (lurking danger, etc.), wait (in wait)
- atmosphere: air (anger in the air, etc.), vacuum (n), void (n)
- biology: endemic (adj)
- breadth: thin (thin on the ground, etc.)
- bridge: bridgehead (n)
- chemistry: residue (n)
- creature: ghost town, phantom
- death & life: exist (v), life (hidden life, hidden lives), life (secret life, secret lives), live (location), live (that's where I live, etc.), reside (v), residence (n)
- foot: foothold (n), footprint (n), toehold (n)
- ground, terrain & land: endemic (adj), footprint (n), ground (on the ground, etc.), territory (come with the territory, etc.), there (out there, etc.)
- hand: hand (on hand)
- height: loom (loom large, etc.)
- house: furniture (contents)
- hunting: lurk (v)
- insect: fly (fly on the wall)
- map: map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.)
- military: beachhead (n), bridgehead (n), hors de combat, outpost (n), missing in action (MIA), retreat (absence)
- mountains & hills: foothold (n), toehold (n)
- movement: gone (absent), here (here to stay, etc.), remain (v)
- picture: picture (out of the picture)
- place: here (not here, etc.), here (here to stay, etc.), there (there is no there there, etc.)
- possession: lose (a limb, etc.)
- predation: lurk (v), lurking (lurking danger, etc.), wait (in wait)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: around (still around, etc.), gone (absent), with us (with us forever, etc.)

- religion: reincarnation (n)
- river: bridgehead (n)
- sensation: limb (phantom limb), palpable (adj)
- size: blip (n)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: limb (phantom limb)
- toe: toehold (n)
- tools & technology: blip (n), radar (on the radar), radar (below / under the radar), radar (drop off the radar), radar (under the radar screen), radar (radar screen)
- verb: exist (v), have (you have, etc.), live (location), loom (loom large, etc.), lose (a limb, etc.), lurk (v), map (drop off the map, etc.), radar (drop off the radar), remain (v), reside (v)
- walking, running & jumping: lurk (v)

## PRESENCE & ABSENCE (2)

- death & life: disappeared (detained, murdered, etc.), gone (dead), leave (death), lose (through death), with us (no longer with us)
- inclusion & exclusion: deleted (groups), disappear (as transitive verb), diverse (groups), diversity (groups), equity (groups), erase (groups, etc.), erased (groups, etc.), erasure (groups, etc.), exist (groups), existence (groups), here (here to stay / groups), inclusion (groups), inequity (groups), inclusive (groups), invisibility (groups), invisibilize (groups), invisibilized (groups), invisible (groups), missing (groups, etc.), presence (groups), present (groups), represent (groups), representation (groups), represented (groups), see (they don't see you, hear you, etc.), seen (groups), silenced (groups), straightwash (groups), table (groups), tent (inclusivity), visibility (groups), visible (groups, etc.), wash (straightwash, etc.), whitewash (groups)
- oppression: disappeared (detained, murdered, etc.)

## PRESSURE (1)

- temperature: heat (pressure)
- tools & technology: clampdown (n), clamp down (v), screw (tighten / loosen the screws), vise (pressure)
- verb: clamp down (v), screw (tighten / loosen the screws), wall (walls close in)
- volcano: volcano (pressure)
- wall: wall (walls close in)

## PRESSURE (2)

- accusation & criticism: wringer (through the wringer)
- affliction: squeeze (pressure / noun), wringer (through the wringer)
- amelioration & renewal: decompression (n), outlet (n), steam (blow / let off steam), steam (take the steam out, etc.), valve (relief valve), vent (v)
- attenuation: deflate (pressure)
- coercion & motivation: clampdown (n), clamp down (v), press (v), pressure (under pressure, pressured, screw (tighten / loosen the screws), squeeze (coerce), squeeze (put the squeeze on something), squeezed (oppressed), wring (coerce)
- configuration: sardined, squeeze (fit), squeezed (fitted)
- conflict: blowup (conflict)
- constraint & lack of constraint: choke chain (n), outlet (n), tight (constraint)
- creation & transformation: squeeze (squeeze something from / out of something), wring (create)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: hard-pressed (adj)
- environment: pressure cooker (in a pressure cooker, etc.), pressure cooker (other)
- feeling, emotion & effect: blow up (emotion), explode (emotion), gasket (blow a gasket, etc.), pressure (under pressure), pressure (n), pressured, pressure-filled, steam (blow / let off steam), valve (relief valve), vent (v)
- increase & decrease: loosen (loosen control, etc.), ratchet up (v), relax (relax control, etc.), tighten (tighten control, etc.)

- initiation: blow up (emotion), blowup (conflict), explode (emotion), uncork (v)
- mental health: outlet (n), valve (relief valve), vent (v), unwind (relax)
- obstacle & impedance: stopped up
- oppression: clampdown (n), clamp down (v), hard-pressed (adj), rock (between a rock and a hard place), squeeze (coerce), squeeze (put the squeeze on something), squeezed (oppressed), vise (pressure), wring (coerce), wringer (through the wringer)
- situation: crunch (crunch time), rock (between a rock and a hard place), trap (Chinese finger trap)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: crunch (cash crunch, etc.)
- taking & removing: wring (create)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: crunch (crunch time), crunch (cash crunch, etc.)

## **PRIMACY, CURRENCY, DECLINE & OBSOLESCENCE (1)**

- allusion: it girl (and it drug, etc.), Methuselah, old guard, ancien regime
- animal: breed (dying breed, etc.), dinosaur (n), dodo (n), extinct (adj), fossil (n), fossilize (v), fossilized, species (vanishing species)
- antiques: antique (adj), antique (n), museum (n)
- astronomy: apogee (at an apogee), apogee (n), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), nadir (at the nadir), nadir (since the nadir), nadir (other), outshine (v), star (achievement), star (decline), supernova (achievement), wane (on the wane), wane (v), wax and wane, zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
- bell: knell (death knell / obsolescence)
- Bible: antediluvian (old), Methuselah, relic (n)
- birth: rebirth (n), reborn, renaissance (n)
- blade: cutting edge (on the cutting edge), cutting edge (other)
- burial: knell (death knell / obsolescence)
- clothing & accessories: fashion (out of fashion), hat (old hat)
- container: time capsule
- creature: ghost (ghost signs, etc.)
- day: day (in the old days, etc.), day (old days), day (back in the day), day (days of yore), day (have one's day), day (of one's day / of its day), day (of the day), day (those days), day (glory days, etc.), day (modern day), evening (decline), future (the future), future (of the future), heyday (n), hour (of one's hour / of the hour), latest (the latest / most recent), moment (have a moment / attention), old-fashioned (adj), outdated (adj), sun (currency and obsolescence), sunset (sunset years, etc.), twilight (in / into the twilight, etc.)
- death & life: demise (political demise, etc.), doomed, dying (dying industry, etc.), knell (death knell / obsolescence), live on (v), living (adj), old (traditional), passing (death / figurative), vanishing (disappearance)
- decline: fall (n)
- direction: accession (n), apex (highest point), apogee (at an apogee), apogee (n), arrive (attainment), ascent (on the ascent), ascent (with the descent), ascent (other), bottom (hit bottom), bring down (v), come and go (currency), come (up-and-come, etc.), downfall (n), fall (fall from power, etc.), gone (those days are gone, etc.), grace (fall from grace), height (at the height), heights (to new heights, etc.), in (and in thing, etc.), low (decline), nadir (at the nadir), out (fashion), overthrow (v), overturn (v), overturned, pass (its time has passed, etc.), peak (careers, etc. / verb), plunge (noun / decline), rise (rise of agriculture, etc.), return (animals, etc.), rise (rise and fall / noun), rising (upcoming), sink (sink into obscurity, etc.), throwback (n), time (time has passed), time (a man out of time, etc.), topple (v), up (time is finished, etc.), up-and-coming, up and down
- earth & world: world (lost world)
- epithet: last (the last / epithet), next (next Steve Jobs, etc.)
- equilibrium & stability: overthrow (v), overturn (v), overturned, topple (v)
- family: legacy (obsolescence)
- film: it girl (and it drug, etc.)
- flood: high-water (high-water mark)

- food & drink: expiration date
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: bring back (restore)
- ground, terrain & land: height (at the height), heights (to new heights, etc.)
- hat: hat (old hat)
- height: dwarf (v), head (head and shoulders above), height (at the height), peak (at the peak), rise (rise and fall / noun), rise (rise of agriculture, etc.), rising (upcoming), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
- history: ancien regime, gilded (Gilded Age), golden age (and golden era), legacy (obsolescence), medieval (adj), Neanderthal, old guard, prehistoric (adj), renaissance (n), Stone Age
- hour: hour (finest hour, etc.)
- journeys & trips: pass by (progress), way (on the way out), way (give way to something), way (go the way of something), wayside (fall by the wayside, etc.)
- light & dark: dim (overshadow), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), fade (v), outshine (v), overshadow (v), star (achievement), star (decline), supernova (achievement), twilight (in / into the twilight, etc.)
- military: guard (changing of the guard)
- money: legacy (obsolescence)
- moon: wane (on the wane), wane (v), wax and wane
- mountains & hills: hill (over the hill), peak (careers, etc. / verb), peak (at the peak), peak (peaks and troughs, etc.)
- movement: arrive (attainment), bygone (adj), come and go (currency), comer (up-and-comer, etc.), gone (those days are gone, etc.), pass (its time has passed, etc.), pass by (progress), passing (death / figurative), pendulum (reversal), tailspin (into a tailspin), tailspin (in a tailspin), time (time has passed), up-and-coming, up and down, way (go the way of something)
- object: it girl (and it drug, etc.), new (new chastity, etc.), new (orange is the new black, etc.), thing (fad, etc.), thing (the next big thing)
- part of speech: new (as noun)
- pendulum: pendulum (reversal)
- person: star (achievement)
- plane: nosedive (noun / decline), nosedive (verb / decline), tailspin (into a tailspin), tailspin (in a tailspin)
- position: time (ahead of his time, etc.), time (before her time, etc.), time (behind the times)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: bygone (adj), done (over), finished (over), gone (those days are gone, etc.), in (and in thing, etc.), next (next Steve Jobs, etc.), out (fashion), over (finished), time (ahead of his time, etc.), time (before her time, etc.), time (behind the times), up (time is finished, etc.), way (on the way out)
- religion: antediluvian (old), Methuselah, relic (n)
- royalty: accession (n), crown (superlative), dethrone (v), dethroned, dynasty (sports dynasty, etc.), heir apparent, king (person), monarch (primacy), reign (v), reign (n), reigning, throne (in line for the throne), throne (pretender to the throne), throne (primacy)
- ruins: topple (v)
- school & education: old school, new school, test (test of time)
- sea: high tide, washed-up (adj)
- season: autumn (in the autumn), winter (decline)
- shadow: dim (overshadow), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), overshadow (v)
- sound: knell (death knell / obsolescence)
- sports & games: lose out (v)
- standing, sitting & lying: longstanding (adj), stand (endure)
- star: star (achievement), star (decline), supernova (achievement)
- sun: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), sun (currency and obsolescence), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
- taste: flavor (flavor of the month)

- temperature: cold (cold case, etc.)
- tide: high tide
- verb: bring back (restore), bring down (v), come and go (currency), dethrone (v), dim (overshadow), dwarf (v), eclipse (v), fade (v), fossilize (v), live on (v), lose out (v), outshine (v), overshadow (v), overthrow (v), overturn (v), pass (its time has passed, etc.), pass by (progress), reign (v), sink (sink into obscurity, etc.), time (time has passed), topple (v), wane (v), wax and wane, way (give way to something), way (go the way of something)
- walking, running & jumping: step down (v)
- waste: dustbin (n)
- water: washed-up (adj)
- wave: washed-up (adj)

### **PRIORITY (1) (see also attention, scrutiny & promotion; center & periphery; importance & significance; superiority & inferiority)**

- center & periphery: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), burner (front burner)
- direction: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), back seat (take a back seat), burner (front burner), fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), front (front and center), line (at the front / back of the line), mind (top of mind), mind (front of mind), mind (back of mind)
- line: line (at the front / back of the line)
- music: fiddle (second fiddle)
- number: fiddle (second fiddle)
- position: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), back seat (take a back seat), burner (front burner), fiddle (second fiddle), fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), front (front and center), line (at the front / back of the line), mind (top of mind), mind (front of mind), mind (back of mind)

### **PRODUCT (1)**

- allusion: Frankenstein (product)
- apple: apple (the apple doesn't fall far from the tree, etc.)
- cows & cattle: ranch (enterprise)
- creature: Frankenstein (product)
- family: daughter (n), offspring
- farming & agriculture: commodity (n), crop (n), farm (computers), farm (enterprise), fruit (product), reap (v), harvest (v), harvest (war's chief harvest, etc.), harvested
- fruits & vegetables: apple (the apple doesn't fall far from the tree, etc.), bear (bear fruit, etc.), fruit (product)
- manufacturing: byproduct (n), product (n)
- meat: meat (piece of meat)
- mining: mine (bitcoin mine, etc.), miner (bitcoin miner, etc.)
- movement: outcome (n), spin-off (n)
- person: miner (bitcoin miner, etc.)
- plant: fruit (product), reap (v)
- verb: bear (bear fruit, etc.), come from (origin), harvest (v), reap (v)

### **PROGRESS & LACK OF PROGRESS (1) (see also growth & development)**

- animal: leapfrog (v), tail (chase one's tail)
- atmosphere: headwind (n)
- baby: step (baby steps, etc.)
- ball: roll (v), roll (on a roll)
- boat: adrift (adj), anchored, dead (dead in the water), doldrums (n), headway (n), headwind (n), moored, wind (wind at one's back, etc.)
- chess: stalemate (n)
- corner: corner (turn the corner)

- crashes & collisions: wall (hit a wall, etc.)
- direction: adrift (adj), advance (v), advance (n), ahead (progress), ahead (adv), backwards (progress), behind (progress), breakthrough (n), circle (go in circles), climb (scale), direction (the right / wrong direction, etc.), fall behind (competition and progress), forward (move forward, go forward, etc.), left (left behind), look up (v), march (march ahead, etc.), move (move up), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), runaround, scale (climb), set back (v), setback (progress), sidetracked, sideways (go sideways), step (a step in the right direction), step (a step forward), tail (chase one's tail), trail (competition and progress), wheel (hamster wheel), wind (wind its way)
- distance: far (progress), go (a distance to go, etc.), way (come a long way, etc.)
- dog: tail (chase one's tail)
- engine: parked (movement), stall (v), stalled (progress)
- eye: look up (v)
- ground, terrain & land: bog down (v), ditch (stuck in a ditch, etc.), ground (gain ground), ground (lose ground, etc.), mired (stuck), morass (n), mud (sink in the mud), quagmire (n), rut (in a rut), stuck (adj)
- height: point (low point / high point)
- horse: inroads (made inroads)
- infrastructure: blind alley (n), milestone (n)
- journeys & trips: beginning (just the beginning, etc.), blind alley (n), bog down (v), catch up (catch up to something), checkpoint (at a checkpoint), circle (go in circles), come (come a long way), cul-de-sac, dead end, direction (the right / wrong direction, etc.), fall behind (competition and progress), far (progress), forward (move forward, go forward, etc.), go (a distance to go, etc.), ground (gain ground), ground (lose ground, etc.), headway (n), impasse (n), keep up (progress), lag (progress), milestone (n), move (progress), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), pass (progress), pass by (progress), plod (v), road (road from / to something), set back (v), setback (progress), sidetracked, sideways (go sideways), step (a step in the right direction), step (a step forward), step (a step back / backwards), there (destination), trail (competition and progress), turn back (v), way (come a long way, etc.), way (in the way), wind (wind its way)
- mechanism: parked (movement), stall (v), stalled (progress), wheel (spin one's wheels), wheel (hamster wheel)
- military: breakthrough (n), inroads (make inroads), march (on the march), march (n)
- mountains & hills: climb (scale), level off (v), peak (peaks and troughs, etc.), plateau (n), scale (climb), valley (n)
- movement: advance (v), advance (n), backwards (progress), beginning (just the beginning, etc.), behind (progress), breakthrough (n), catch up (catch up to something), catch up (catch up with something), checkpoint (at a checkpoint), circle (go in circles), climb (scale), come (come a long way), dead (dead in the water), ditch (stuck in a ditch, etc.), fall behind (competition and progress), far (progress), forward (move forward, go forward, etc.), get (not get anywhere, get nowhere), go (not go anywhere, go nowhere), go (a distance to go, etc.), go (go places, etc.), ground (gain ground), ground (lose ground, etc.), headway (n), impasse (n), inertia (n), jump (progress), jump (in jumps), keep up (progress), lag (progress), limp (v), limp (n), march (march ahead, etc.), march (on the march), march (n), momentum (n), moored, move (progress), move (move up), movement (progress), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), parked (movement), pass (progress), pass by (progress), plod (v), progress (v), roll (v), roll (on a roll), rut (in a rut), scale (climb), set back (v), setback (progress), sidetracked, sideways (go sideways), stall (v), stalled (progress), stand still (progress), standstill (n), stuck (adj), there (destination), traction (gain / build / get traction), trail (competition and progress), wall (hit a wall, etc.), way (come a long way, etc.), wheel (spin one's wheels), wheel (hamster wheel), wind (wind its way)
- number: two point zero, two point oh (2.0)
- plane: headwind (n), tailwind (n), wind (wind at one's back, etc.)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: ahead (progress), behind (progress), left (left behind), there (destination)
- religion: limbo (in limbo)
- river: backwater (n)
- sea: doldrums (n)
- shape: plateau (n), trough (direction)

- sign, signal, symbol: milestone (n)
- sound: stutter (v), stuttering (adj)
- sports & games: catch up (catch up to something), fall behind (competition and progress), keep up (progress), trail (competition and progress)
- standing, sitting & lying: stand still (progress), standstill (n)
- tools & technology: needle (move the needle, etc.)
- train: sidetracked, track (on track)
- verb: advance (v), bog down (v), catch up (catch up to something), catch up (catch up with something), circle (go in circles), climb (scale), corner (turn the corner), fall behind (competition and progress), forward (move forward, go forward, etc.), ground (gain ground), ground (lose ground, etc.), jump (progress), keep up (progress), lag (progress), leapfrog (v), level off (v), limp (v), look up (v), march (march ahead, etc.), move (progress), move (move up), mud (sink in the mud), needle (move the needle, etc.), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), pass (progress), pass by (progress), plod (v), progress (v), roll (v), scale (climb), set back (v), sideways (go sideways), stall (v), stand still (progress), stutter (v), tail (chase one's tail), traction (gain / build / get traction), trail (competition and progress), turn back (v), vault (v), wall (hit a wall, etc.), wind (wind its way)
- walking, running & jumping: behind (progress), catch up (catch up to something), catch up (catch up with something), fall behind (competition and progress), jump (progress), jump (in jumps), keep up (progress), lag (progress), leap (n), leapfrog (v), limp (v), limp (n), march (on the march), march (n), march (march ahead, etc.), plod (v), step (a step forward), step (a step back / backwards), step (a step in the right direction), step (baby steps, etc.), stride (progress), stumbling block, trail (competition and progress), vault (v)
- wall: wall (hit a wall, etc.)
- wind: doldrums (n), headwind (n), tailwind (n), wind (wind at one's back, etc.)

## PRONUNCIATION (2)

- language: pronunciation (language)

## PROPER NAME (1)

- allusion: Frankenstein (Frankenstein Cliff, etc.)
- animal: horn (Horn of Africa, etc.), leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.), lion (the Bronze Lion, etc.), lioness (Lioness.co, etc.), nest (Bird's Nest, etc.), Predator (the Predator drone, etc.), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.), spider (Spider Rock, etc.)
- arm: elbow (Elbow Lake, etc.)
- astronomy: moon (Valle de la Luna, etc.), star (Silver Star, etc.)
- atmosphere: rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.)
- bird: beak (Parrot's Beak, etc.), nest (Bird's Nest, etc.), raptor (Raptor Technologies, etc.)
- bottle: bottleneck (the Bottleneck, etc.)
- carpets & rugs: carpet (Operation Magic Carpet, etc.)
- cloth: needle (the Needles, etc.), ribbon (Ribbon Reef, etc.)
- clothing & accessories: Necklace (Necklace Nebula, etc.)
- color: black (Black Sea, etc.), rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.), red (Red Sea, etc.), white (White Sea, etc.), yellow (Yellow Sea, etc.)
- creature: angel (the Los Angeles Angels, etc.), devil (Devil's Falls, etc.), dragon (Dragon's Jaw, etc.), elf (Elves Chamber, etc.), fairy (Fairy Bridge, etc.), Frankenstein (Frankenstein Cliff, etc.), giant (Giants Causeway, etc.), monster (Monster.com, etc.), Titan (Tennessee Titans, etc.), troll (Troll Wall, etc.), Wizards (Washington Wizards, etc.)
- desert: oasis (Oasis of the Seas, etc.)
- doors and thresholds: door (Durdle Door, etc.), keyhole (the Keyhole, etc.)
- ear: ear (Ear of the Wind, etc.)
- earth & world: world (Disney World, etc.)
- eye: eye (the Eye of Kuruman, etc.)

- family: mother (Mother Mountain, etc.), sister (the Seven Sisters, etc.), twin (the Twins, etc.)
- farming & agriculture: reaper (Reaper drone, etc.)
- finger: finger (Finger Lakes, etc.)
- fire: furnace (Furnace Creek, etc.), hellfire (Hellfire missile, etc.)
- food & drink: punch bowl (Punch Bowl Falls, etc.)
- fortification: castle (Castle Peaks, etc.), citadel (the Citadel, etc.), rampart (Upper Ramparts, etc.)
- fruits & vegetables: turnip (Turnip Rock, etc.)
- gate: gate (Iron Gate, etc.)
- geometry: triangle (Ilemi Triangle, etc.)
- hammer: hammer (Thor's Hammer, etc.)
- hand: thumb (Devils Thumb, etc.)
- health & medicine: fever (fever tree, etc.), scar (the Scar, etc.)
- horn: Horn of Africa, etc.
- horse: saddle (Saddle Island, etc.), spur (Geneva Spur, etc.)
- house: nest (Bird's Nest, etc.), shelf (Sahul Shelf, etc.) staircase (Devil's Staircase, etc.), stairway (Stairway Falls, etc.)
- Iliad & Odyssey: Odyssey (Mars Odyssey, etc.)
- infrastructure: buttress (Castle Buttress, etc.), corridor (Siliguri Corridor, etc.), courthouse (Devil's Courthouse, etc.), dome (Iron Dome, etc.), dome (Half Dome, etc.), Hilton (Fontana Hilton, etc.), pillar (Pillar Rock, etc.), pipeline (Pipeline, etc.)
- insect: beehive (Beehive cluster, etc.), spider (Spider Rock, etc.)
- journeys & trips: Odyssey (Mars Odyssey, etc.), pathfinder (Mars Pathfinder, etc.), Silk Road (maritime Silk Road, etc.)
- key: keyhole (the Keyhole, etc.)
- lion: lion (the Bronze Lion, etc.), lioness (Lioness.co, etc.)
- mark: scar (the Scar, etc.)
- materials & substances: oak (Royal Oak, etc.), shard (The Shard, etc.), stonewall (Operation Stonewall, etc.)
- magic: carpet (Operation Magic Carpet, etc.), magic (Magic Kingdom, etc.)
- Middle Ages: knight (Black Knights, etc.)
- moon: moon (Valle de la Luna, etc.)
- neck: bottleneck (the Bottleneck, etc.), neck (Throggs Neck, etc.)
- nose: nose (Devil's Nose, etc.)
- object: punch bowl (Punch Bowl Falls, etc.)
- path: pathfinder (Mars Pathfinder, etc.)
- place: Amazon (the company)
- plant: garden (Cactus Garden, etc.)
- predation: leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.), Predator (the Predator drone, etc.), raptor (Raptor Technologies, etc.), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.)
- religion: angel (the Los Angeles Angels, etc.), apostle (Twelve Apostles, etc.), cathedral (Cathedral Cave, etc.), devil (Devil's Falls, etc.), hammer (Thor's Hammer, etc.), hell (Hell's Gate, etc.), hellfire (Hellfire missile, etc.), oracle (Oracle Corporation, etc.), pulpit (Devils pulpit, etc.)
- roof: dome (Iron Dome, etc.), dome (Half Dome, etc.)
- rope: knot (the Pamir Knot, etc.)
- royalty: emperor (Exmoor Emperor, etc.), king (king cobra, etc.), kingdom (Magic Kingdom, etc.), monarch (MS Monarch, etc.), queen (Dairy Queen, etc.), throne (Blondie's Throne, etc.)
- sea: wave (Wave Rock, etc.)
- shape: beak (Parrot's Beak, etc.), beehive (Beehive cluster, etc.), bottleneck (the Bottleneck, etc.), dome (Iron Dome, etc.), dome (Half Dome, etc.), elbow (Elbow Lake, etc.), eye (the Eye of Kuruman, etc.), gap (the Monastir Gap, etc.), hook (Hook of Holland, etc.), horn (Horn of Africa, etc.), keyhole (the Keyhole, etc.),

moon (Valle de la Luna, etc.), punch bowl (Punch Bowl Falls, etc.), pyramid (the Black Pyramid, etc.), shard (The Shard, etc.), shelf (Sahul Shelf, etc.), slot (the Slot, etc.), spur (Geneva Spur, etc.), staircase (Devil's Staircase, etc.), stairway (Stairway Falls, etc.), table (Table Mountain, etc.), triangle (Ilemi Triangle, etc.), turnip (Turnip Rock, etc.), wave (Wave Rock, etc.)

- size: giant (Giants Causeway, etc.)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: jaw (Dragon's Jaw, etc.), jawbone (Jawbone Canyon, etc.), nipple (Mollie's Nipples, etc.)
- sky: rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.)
- spider: spider (Spider Rock, etc.)
- stair: staircase (Devil's Staircase, etc.), stairway (Stairway Falls, etc.)
- star: (Silver Star, etc.)
- storm: storm (Desert Storm, etc.)
- table: table (Table Mountain, etc.)
- teeth: tooth (The Tooth, etc.)
- temperature: furnace (Furnace Creek, etc.)
- throat: throat (Devil's Throat, etc.)
- thumb: thumb (Devils Thumb, etc.)
- tools & technology: telegraph (Daily Telegraph, etc.)
- tree: Oak (Royal Oak, etc.)
- wall: stonewall (Operation Stonewall, etc.)
- water: wave (Wave Rock, etc.)
- wave: wave (Wave Rock, etc.)
- weapon: aegis (Aegis Insurance, etc.), tomahawk (Tomahawk cruise missile, etc.)
- wounds & scars: scar (the Scar, etc.)

## PROPER NAME (2)

- achievement, recognition & praise: lion (the Bronze Lion, etc.), star (Silver Star, etc.)
- courage & lack of courage: lioness (Lioness. co, etc.)
- death & life: Predator (the Predator drone, etc.), reaper (Reaper drone, etc.)
- geography: battleground (Battle Ground, Indiana, etc.), beak (Parrot's Beak, etc.), black (Black Sea, etc.), bottleneck (the Bottleneck, etc.), buttress (Castle Buttress, etc.), cathedral (Cathedral Cave, etc.), dome (Half Dome, etc.), elbow (Elbow Lake, etc.), Frankenstein (Frankenstein Cliff, etc.), gap (the Monastir Gap, etc.), hammer (Thor's Hammer, etc.), horn (Horn of Africa, etc.), lion (Lion Rock, etc.), moon (Valle de la Luna, etc.), mother (Mother Mountain, etc.), pulpit (Devils pulpit, etc.), punch bowl (Punch Bowl Falls, etc.), rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.), red (Red Sea, etc.), scar (the Scar, etc.), shelf (Sahul Shelf, etc.), spider (Spider Rock, etc.), triangle (Ilemi Triangle, etc.), white (White Sea, etc.), yellow (Yellow Sea, etc.)
- military: Apache (Apache helicopter, etc.), battleground (Battle Ground, Indiana, etc.), carpet (Operation Magic Carpet, etc.), leopard (HMS *Leopard*, etc.), Predator (the Predator drone, etc.), reaper (Reaper drone, etc.), scorpion (HMS *Scorpion*, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: aegis (Aegis Insurance, etc.), dome (Iron Dome, etc.)
- reputation: name (reputation)
- shape: nest (Bird's Nest, etc.)

## PROTECTION & LACK OF PROTECTION (1)

- allusion: Achilles' heel (n), Great Wall of China
- animal: bolt-hole (and bolthole), bristle (with security, etc.), carapace (protection), foxhole (Keynesians in a foxhole, etc.), ground (go to ground), hedgehog (protection), holed up, hole up (v), shell (protection), sitting duck, underbelly (soft underbelly, etc.), vulnerability (emotional, etc.), vulnerable (emotionally, etc.), watchdog (n), wolf (wolf at the door)
- back: back (watch your back, etc.), back (have somebody's back), back (stab in the back)

- bird: sitting duck
- blade: hack (break into)
- boat: batten (batten down), harbor (v), harbor (safe harbor), haven (safety), lighthouse (protection)
- boundary: guardrail (behavior)
- boxing: guard (lower one's guard, drop one's guard, etc.), guard (keep one's guard up)
- bubble: bubble (quarantine)
- circus: safety net
- cloth: curtain (curtain wall, etc.)
- clothing & accessories: naked (protection)
- container: bubble (quarantine)
- creature: angel (guardian angel)
- direction: back (watch your back, etc.), back (have somebody's back), back (stab in the back)
- dog: watchdog (n)
- electricity: insulate (v), insulated, insulation (n)
- fence: backstop (v)
- film: wagon (circle the wagons)
- fire: firewall (computers), firewall (other)
- fox: foxhole (Keynesians in a foxhole, etc.), ground (go to ground), holed up, hole up (v)
- fortification: bastion (n), breach (v), breach (n), breached, bristle (with security, etc.), bulwark (protection), bunker (n), castle (protection), citadel (n), dig in (v), drawbridge (protection), dug in, entrenched, fort (hold down the fort), fortress (n), harden (protect), loophole (n), moat (n), moated, parapet (n), rampart (fortification), redoubt (n), Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative), stronghold (n)
- gate: gate (beat at the gate, etc.)
- gesture: head (keep one's head down)
- ground, terrain & land: dig in (v), dug in, entrenched, ground (go to ground), holed up, hole up (v)
- hand: hand (hands off)
- hardness & softness: harden (protect)
- head: head (keep one's head down)
- health & medicine: antibody (n), immune (adj), immunity (n), inoculate (v), inoculation (n), quarantine (v)
- height: profile (low profile)
- history: Great Wall of China, praetorian guard, wagon (circle the wagons)
- hole: bolt-hole (and bolthole), foxhole (Keynesians in a foxhole, etc.), ground (go to ground), holed up, hole up (v)
- house: home (home in Islam, etc.)
- hunting: ground (go to ground), sitting duck
- Iliad & Odyssey: Achilles' heel (n)
- infrastructure: bolster (v), bolstered, firewall (other), guardrail (behavior)
- insect: cocoon (v), cocoon (isolation), cocooned
- knife: back (stab in the back)
- line: rank (close ranks)
- magic: charmed (charmed life, etc.)
- materials & substances: dome (Iron Dome, etc.), Teflon
- Middle Ages: armor (protection), chink (chink in one's armor)
- military: aegis (n), bastion (n), armor (protection), breach (v), breach (n), breached, bristle (with security, etc.), bulwark (protection), bunker (n), castle (protection), chink (chink in one's armor), citadel (n), dig in (v), drawbridge (protection), dug in, entrenched, flank (protection), foxhole (Keynesians in a foxhole, etc.), fort (hold down the fort), fortress, guard (off guard), guard (on guard), guard (keep one's guard up), guard (lower one's guard, drop one's guard, etc.), guardian (protection), head (keep one's head down), hedgehog (protection), loophole (n), moat (n), phalanx (phalanx of lawyers, etc.), praetorian guard, rampart (protection),

rank (close ranks), redoubt (n), Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative), shield (v), shield (n), stronghold (n), wagon (circle the wagons), wingman (person)

- money: insurance
- mountains & hills: Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative)
- orientation: underbelly (soft underbelly, etc.)
- person: guardian (protection), wingman (person)
- place: cloistered, haven (safety), refuge (n), shelter (v)
- plane: wingman (person)
- position: back (watch your back, etc.), back (have somebody's back), back (stab in the back)
- proper noun: dome (Iron Dome, etc.), aegis (Aegis Insurance, etc.)
- religion: angel (guardian angel), cloistered, sanctuary (n)
- royalty: castle (protection)
- sea: batten (batten down), harbor (v), harbor (safe harbor), haven (safety)
- sign, signal, symbol: lighthouse (protection)
- dome (Iron Dome, etc.)
- stomach: underbelly (soft underbelly, etc.)
- storm: batten (batten down)
- target: profile (low profile), target (hard target, etc.), target (easy target, soft target, etc.)
- umbrella: umbrella (protection)
- verb: back (watch your back, etc.), back (have somebody's back), batten (batten down), bolster (v), breach (v), bristle (with security, etc.), cocoon (v), dig in (v), ground (go to ground), guard (lower one's guard, drop one's guard, etc.), guard (keep one's guard up), hack (break into), harbor (v), harden (protect), head (keep one's head down), hole up (v), inoculate (v), insulate (v), quarantine (v), rank (close ranks), shelter (v), shield (v), wagon (circle the wagons)
- wall: firewall (computers), firewall (other)
- water: bubble (quarantine), waterproof (adj)
- weapon: aegis (n), armor (protection), chink (chink in one's armor), shield (v), shield (n), target (hard target, etc.), target (easy target, soft target, etc.)
- wolf: wolf (wolf at the door)

## **PROXIMITY (1) (see also distance)**

- arm: reach (beyond reach), reach (within reach), stone's throw
- astronomy: cusp (on the cusp), light year (light years away, etc.)
- blade: edge (at the edge)
- boundary: border (proximity), borderland (n)
- breadth: hair's breadth (come within a hair's breadth, etc.), whisker (come within a whisker, etc.)
- corner: corner (spring is just around the corner)
- day: eve (on the eve)
- direction: front (in front / proximity)
- distance: close (feeling), close (close to, etc.), close (future), corner (spring is just around the corner), far (far from, etc.), light year (light years away, etc.), near (near future, etc.), way (a long way from, etc.)
- doors & thresholds: door (knock at / on the door), doorstep (on / at the doorstep), threshold (on the threshold)
- eye: sight (in sight)
- finger: fingertip (at one's fingertips)
- ground, terrain & land: brink (on the brink), brink (to the brink), brink (back from the brink), edge (on the edge of a cliff, etc.), precipice (at / on the precipice), precipice (other), verge (on the verge), verge (to the verge)
- hair: hair's breadth (come within a hair's breadth, etc.), whisker (come within a whisker, etc.)
- hand: fingertip (at one's fingertips), hand (at hand)

- house: backyard (in somebody's backyard), backyard (other), doorstep (on / at the doorstep), home (close to home), home (hit home), neighbor (v), neighbor (n), neighboring (adj)
- knife: edge (at the edge)
- light & dark: shadow (proximity), shadow (follow)
- mountains & hills: edge (on the edge of a cliff, etc.), precipice (at / on the precipice), precipice (other)
- number: neighborhood (numbers)
- person: neighbor (n)
- position: near (near future, etc.)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: front (in front / proximity), near (near future, etc.)
- shadow: shadow (proximity), shadow (follow)
- shoulder: shoulder (rub shoulders)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: bone (close to the bone, etc.)
- star: cusp (on the cusp), light year (light years away, etc.)
- theater: seat (front seat), seat (front-row seat)
- verb: door (knock at / on the door), home (hit home), neighbor (v), shadow (follow), shoulder (rub shoulders)
- walking, running & jumping: step (a step away), step (a step closer)

## **PROXIMITY (2) (see also distance)**

- avoidance & separation: distance (v)
- competition: light year (light years ahead)
- consciousness & awareness: nose (under somebody's nose)
- danger: close call (danger), close shave
- distance: away (a week away, etc.)
- division & connection: close (feeling), daylight (division), distance (v), distance (n), tight (relationship)
- fate, fortune & chance: close (and close-run), close call (danger), close shave
- feeling, emotion & effect: close (feeling), cozy (adj), detached (emotions), distance (feeling), distant (feeling), tight (relationship)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: away (a week away, etc.)
- relationship: close (feeling), cozy (adj), distant (relationship), tight (relationship)
- responsibility: door (at someone's door, etc.), feet (lay blame at the feet, etc.)
- social interaction: close (feeling), cozy (adj), shoulder (rub shoulders), tight (relationship)
- temperature: cozy (adj)

## **PUMP (2)**

- directing: pumped (directed)
- feeling, emotion & effect: pump up (v), pumped (feeling)
- increase & decrease: pump up (v)

## **PUNISHMENT & RECRIMINATION (1) (see also accusation & criticism; conflict; resistance, opposition & defeat)**

- allusion: nemesis (n)
- animal: blood (out for blood), doghouse (in the doghouse, etc.), scapegoat (n)
- ax: ax (ax to grind, axe to grind), head (heads will roll, etc.), head (have one's head handed to oneself, etc.)
- baseball: one-strike-and-you're-out
- blade: ax (ax to grind, axe to grind), hatchet job (n), head (heads will roll, etc.), head (have one's head handed to oneself, etc.), knife (sharpen one's knife)
- blood: blood (out for blood), nose (bloody nose, etc.)
- books & reading: book (throw the book at somebody)
- boxing: punching bag (n)
- crime: drive-by (conflict), hatchet job (n), job (hit job, etc.)

- death & life: drive-by (conflict), job (hit job, etc.)
- direction: hand down / out (punishment, etc.)
- dog: doghouse (in the doghouse, etc.)
- eye: eye (poke someone in the eye, etc.)
- face: slap (punishment)
- finger: eye (poke someone in the eye, etc.)
- fire: coal (rake somebody over the coals)
- fish: hook (off the hook)
- fist: beat (beat oneself up)
- foot: kick (kick oneself)
- gesture: slap (punish)
- hand: hand down / out (punishment, etc.), handed down / out (punishment, etc.), slap (punish), wrist (slap on the wrist)
- hair: scalp (n)
- head: head (heads will roll, etc.), head (have one's head handed to oneself, etc.), head (put a head on a wall), head (put a head on a stake, etc.)
- history: scalp (n), tar (tar and feather, etc.), tarred
- hunting: head (put a head on a wall), head (put a head on a stake, etc.)
- justice: capital punishment, hand down / out (punishment, etc.), handed down / out (punishment, etc.), hanging (hanging offense), hook (off the hook), jail (Twitter jail, etc.), nemesis (n), reprieve (n), scapegoat (n), sentence (life sentence), stay (stay of execution), Supreme Court
- key: key (throw away the key)
- knife: knife (sharpen one's knife)
- military: prisoner (take no prisoners, etc.), quarter (no quarter, etc.), reprisal (n)
- money: hell (hell to pay, etc.)
- neck: head (heads will roll, etc.), head (have one's head handed to oneself, etc.)
- nose: nose (bloody nose, etc.)
- nuclear energy: option (nuclear option)
- person: fall guy (n), whipping boy (person)
- pile: pile-on (n), pile on (gang up on)
- predation: blood (out for blood)
- religion: crucified, crucifixion (n), crucify (v), hell (hell to pay, etc.), hell (hell hath no fury), nail (nail someone to the cross), nemesis (n), original sin (other), scapegoat (n)
- royalty: whipping boy (person)
- sacrifice: scapegoat (n)
- sensation: eye (poke someone in the eye, etc.)
- sign, signal, symbol: nose (bloody nose, etc.)
- speech: flog (criticize), pilloried, pillory (v)
- sports & games: one-strike-and-you're-out, penalty box (n), pile-on (n), pile on (gang up on)
- temperature: heat (criticism)
- verb: beat (beat oneself up), book (throw the book at somebody), coal (rake somebody over the coals), crack down (v), crucify (v), drag (contempo-speak / verb), flog (criticize), hand down / out (punishment, etc.), key (throw away the key), kick (kick oneself), nail (nail someone to the cross), pile on (gang up on), pillory (v), slap (punish), tar (tar and feather, etc.)
- violence: crackdown (n), crack down (v), crucified, crucifixion (n), crucify (v), drag (contempo-speak / verb), dragging (contempo-speak), drive-by (conflict), flagellation (n), flog (criticize), hanging (hanging offense), hatchet job (n), head (heads will roll, etc.), head (have one's head handed to oneself, etc.), hit (mob hit, etc.), job (hit job, etc.), nail (nail someone to the cross), nose (bloody nose, etc.), pilloried, pillory (v), reprisal (n), scalp (n), stick it to (stick it to somebody, etc.), tar (tar and feather, etc.), tarred

- weapon: hatchet job (n)
- whip: crackdown (n), crack down (v), flagellation (n), flog (criticize), whipping boy (person)

## **PUPPET (2)**

- computer: puppet (sockpuppet / internet)
- concealment & lack of concealment: puppet (sockpuppet / internet)
- control & lack of control: puppet (control), puppeteer (n), string (pull strings)
- subterfuge: puppet (sockpuppet / internet)
- unanimity & consensus: puppet (control)

## **PURSES & WALLETS (2)**

- money: change (pocket change), piggybank (n), purse (money), purse strings, pocket (deep pockets), pocketbook (money), checkbook, wallet (money)

## **PURSUIT, CAPTURE & ESCAPE (1) (see also searching & discovery)**

- allusion: Houdini, Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.)
- animal: bark (bark up the wrong tree, etc.), bird-dog (v), bloodhound (n), cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective), claw (n), dragnet (n), dragnet (cast a dragnet), expedition (fishing expedition), game (game of cat and mouse), ground (go to ground), hound (v), hounded (dogged), jaw (jaws of defeat, jaws of victory, etc.), land (land a job, etc.), low (lying low), octopus (n), pincer (n), pincer, poach (v), poached, prey (prey on something), prey (fall prey to something), prey (prey and predator, etc.), stalk (v), tentacle (n), victim (fall victim to something)
- boat: trawl (v)
- cat: cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective), cat (cat out of the bag, etc.)
- container: cat (cat out of the bag, etc.), exit (n), genie (initiation), get out (and get out of), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), trap (in a trap), way (way out / escape), toothpaste (put the toothpaste back in the tube)
- control & lack of control: pocket (in the pocket)
- creature: genie (initiation), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.)
- crime: poach (v)
- dog: bark (bark up the wrong tree, etc.), bird-dog (v), bloodhound (n), hound (v), hounded (dogged)
- epithet: Houdini
- finger: finger (slip through one's fingers)
- fire: smoke out
- fish: bait (v), bait (n), catch (marriage), catch (catch and release), dragnet (cast a dragnet), dragnet (n), expedition (fishing expedition), fish (v), get away (escape), hook (off the hook), land (land a job, etc.), lure (v), lure (n), net (cast a net), nibble (n), reel in (v), troll (fish / verb)
- fox: ground (go to ground)
- ground, terrain & land: ground (go to ground), rock (turn over every rock, etc.), stone (turn over every stone, etc.)
- hand: finger (slip through one's fingers)
- head: head (put a head on a wall), head (put a head on a stake, etc.)
- height: low (lying low)
- history: underground railroad
- hole: ground (go to ground)
- hunting: bait (v), bait (n), bark (bark up the wrong tree, etc.), bird-dog (v), bloodhound (n), capture (v), capture (n), captured, cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective), catch (catch the imagination, etc.), catch (marriage), catch up (his past caught up to him, etc.), caught, caught up (in or by something), claw (n), clickbait (n), come after (and come for), cornered (adj), elusive (adj), ensnare (v), ensnared, expedition (fishing expedition), fish (v), follow (afflict), footstep (conceal one's footsteps, etc.), game (game of cat and mouse), go after (attack), ground (go to ground), head (put a head on a wall), head (put a head on a stake, etc.), headhunter (n), hound (v), hounded (dogged), hunt (v), hunt (n), hunt (in the hunt), hunt down (v), hunter (plant), hunter (other), jaw (jaws of

defeat, jaws of victory, etc.), low (lying low), lure (v), lure (n), octopus (n), out (leave somebody an out, etc.), pincer (n), pincer, pursue (pursue a dream, etc.), pursuit (in pursuit), pursuit (other), recapture (v), scent (throw somebody off the scent), snare (v), snare (n), stalk (v), tentacle (n), track (cover one's tracks, etc.), track down (v), tracked (followed), tracker (person), tracking, trail (follow), trail (throw somebody off the trail, etc.), trail (digital trail, etc.), trap (in a trap), trap (other), trapped

- initiation: break out (v)
- journeys & trips: hegira (and hejira)
- justice: get away (get away with something), hook (off the hook)
- love, courtship & marriage: catch (marriage), court (v), courtship (n), darling (n), seduce (v), seduced, suitor (n), trophy (trophy boyfriend, etc.), woo (v), wooed
- materials & substances: Teflon
- mechanism: hatch (escape hatch)
- Middle Ages: quest (in a quest), quest (on a quest), quest (other)
- movement: stalk (v)
- nail: nail (nail somebody)
- occurrence: break out (v), outbreak (n)
- person: darling (n), hunter (plants), hunter (other), suitor (n), tracker (person)
- place: getaway (n)
- predation: claw (n), jaw (jaws of defeat, jaws of victory, etc.), octopus (n), pincer (n), pincer, prey (prey on something), prey (fall prey to something), prey (prey and predator, etc.), stalk (v), tentacle (n), victim (fall victim to something)
- religion: hegira (and hejira), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.)
- rope: ensnare (v), ensnared
- sex: seduce (v), seduced
- smell: scent (throw somebody off the scent)
- sound: bark (bark up the wrong tree, etc.)
- sports & games: cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective), game (game of hide and seek), game (game of cat and mouse), hide-and-seek
- standing, sitting & lying: low (lying low)
- verb: bait (v), capture (v), catch (catch the imagination, etc.), catch (catch and release), catch up (his past caught up to him, etc.), chase (v), come after (and come for), court (v), dragnet (cast a dragnet), ensnare (v), finger (slip through one's fingers), fish (v), follow (afflict), get away (escape), go after (attack), ground (go to ground), hound (v), hunt (v), hunt down (v), low (lie low), lure (v), nail (nail somebody), net (cast a net), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), poach (v), prey (prey on something), prey (fall prey to something), pursue (pursue a dream, etc.), recapture (v), reel in (v), rock (turn over every rock, etc.), scent (throw somebody off the scent), seduce (v), smoke out (v), snare (v), stone (turn over every stone, etc.), stalk (v), track (cover one's tracks, etc.), track down (v), trail (follow), trawl (v), troll (fish / verb), victim (fall victim to something), woo (v)
- walking, running & jumping: chase (v), stalk (v), step (step ahead / pursuit)

## PUZZLE (2)

- analysis, interpretation & explanation: fall (fall into place), puzzle (problem), put (put something together), piece (missing pieces), piece together (v)
- complexity: puzzle (problem)
- comprehension & incomprehension: puzzle (problem), puzzling (adj)

## RADIO (2)

- attention, scrutiny & promotion: tuned (stay tuned)
- consciousness & awareness: tuned (stay tuned)
- development: tuned (stay tuned)
- unanimity & consensus: wavelength (on the same wavelength)

## **RAIN (2) (see also lightning; storm; weather & climate; wind)**

- activity: flurry (activity)
- amount & effect: flurry (activity), rain (amount & effect), rain (rain down), shower (v)
- configuration: sprinkle (v), sprinkled (configuration)
- growth & development: drought (in a drought), drought (play-off drought, etc.), rainmaker (person), spell (in a dry spell), spell (into a dry spell), spell (throughout a dry spell), spell (dry spell / other)
- person: rainmaker (person)
- resemblance: rain (amount and effect), rain (rain down)
- throwing, putting & planting: shower (v), showered
- worth & lack of worth: rainmaker (person)

## **RAT (2) (see also animal)**

- allegiance, support & betrayal: rat (betray), rat (a snitch), rat (sinking ship)
- competition: rat race
- enthusiasm: rat (lab rat, etc.)
- evidence: rat (smell a rat)
- suspicion: rat (smell a rat)
- work & duty: rat race

## **READINESS & PREPAREDNESS (1) (see also warning)**

- animal: groom (prepare)
- bird: fly (on the fly), wing (wing it)
- boat: batten (batten down)
- boxing: guard (lower one's guard, drop one's guard, etc.), guard (keep one's guard up), punch (beat somebody to the punch), punch (sucker punch / verb)
- color: red alert (on red alert)
- clothing & accessories: pants (caught with one's pants down)
- engine: tune (and tune up), tune-up (n), warmed-up
- equilibrium & stability: balance (off balance), brace (v), braced, poised (adj)
- eye: blindsided
- explosion: prime (v), primed (ready)
- fist: punch (sucker punch / verb)
- foot: feet (think on one's feet), flatfooted (caught flatfooted), foot (on the back foot / on the front foot), foot (back foot / front foot), toe (on one's toes)
- ground, terrain & land: ground (prepare the ground)
- horse: groom (prepare), hoof (on the hoof)
- infrastructure: brace (v), braced
- mechanism: prime (v), primed (ready), seatbelt (fasten your seatbelt ironic), tune (and tune up), tune-up (n)
- military: ambush (v), ambush (n), ambushed, dry run, guard (off guard), guard (on guard), guard (lower one's guard, drop one's guard, etc.), guard (keep one's guard up), locked and loaded (adj), war room (strategy, etc.)
- music: tune (and tune up), tune-up (n)
- rocket: strap yourself in
- scale: balance (off balance)
- school & education: homework (n)
- sea: batten (batten down)
- standing, sitting & lying: flatfooted (caught flatfooted), foot (on the back foot / on the front foot), foot (back foot / front foot), posture (position), toe (on one's toes)
- storm: batten (batten down)
- temperature: warmed-up
- theater: rehearsal (n), rehearse, wing (in the wings)

- toe: toe (on one's toes)
- verb: ambush (v), batten (batten down), brace (v), groom (prepare), ground (prepare the ground), ground (hit the ground running), guard (lower one's guard, drop one's guard, etc.), guard (keep one's guard up), pants (caught with one's pants down), prime (v), punch (beat somebody to the punch), punch (sucker punch / verb), rehearse (v), tune (and tune up)
- walking, running & jumping: ground (hit the ground running)
- weapon: locked and loaded (adj), prime (v), primed (ready)

## **RECONCILIATION, RESOLUTION & CONCLUSION (1) (see also starting, going, continuing & ending)**

- blade: hatchet (bury the hatchet)
- books & reading: book (close the book), chapter (close a chapter, etc.), page (turn the page), slate (a clean slate, etc.), word (the last word)
- burial: ghost (bury the ghost), rest (put / lay something to rest), rest (put / laid to rest), sleep (put something to sleep)
- bridge: bridge (water under the bridge), dam (water over the dam)
- cloth: done and dusted, sewn up, sew up (v), wrap up (v)
- creature: bury (bury the ghosts, etc.), exorcise (v), ghost (bury the ghost), haunt (v)
- dam: dam (water over the dam)
- direction: behind (put something behind), bottom (get to the bottom of something)
- distance: end (no end in sight, etc.)
- equilibrium & stability: settle down (v)
- exclamation: farewell (leaving), goodbye (say goodbye, etc.), valedictory (farewell)
- eye: end (no end in sight, etc.)
- fire: smoke (smoke clears)
- geometry: circle (a circle can close)
- ground, terrain & land: dust (dust settles)
- hand: go (let something go)
- health & medicine: fester (v), festering (adj), heal (v), healing (n)
- infrastructure: tunnel (light at the end of the tunnel)
- journeys & trips: end (no end in sight, etc.), get through (endure, etc.), get on with (get on with something), get over (overcome), move on (resiliency)
- justice: jury (the jury is out)
- light & dark: tunnel (light at the end of the tunnel)
- military: ceasefire (n), hatchet (bury the hatchet), truce (n)
- money: deal (close the deal)
- movement: bridge (water under the bridge), dam (water over the dam), move on (resiliency)
- nail: nail down (settle)
- plane: land (arrive, affect, decide)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: behind (put something behind)
- religion: exorcise (v)
- river: bridge (water under the bridge), dam (water over the dam)
- rope: loose ends
- shape: circle (a circle can close)
- sleep: bed (put something to bed), bed (put to bed), rest (put / lay something to rest), rest (put / laid to rest), sleep (put something to sleep)
- speech: farewell (leaving), goodbye (say goodbye, etc.), valedictory (farewell)
- storm: blow over (v)
- train: train (train is pulling into the station, etc.)

- tree: olive branch
- verb: behind (put something behind), book (close the book), bed (put something to bed), blow over (v), deal (close the deal), exorcise (v), go (let something go), get on with (get on with something), get through (endure, etc.), get over (overcome), ghost (bury the ghost), goodbye (say goodbye, etc.), hatchet (bury the hatchet), haunt (v), heal (v), land (arrive, affect, decide), move on (resiliency), nail down (settle), rest (put / lay something to rest), settle down (v), sew up (v), sleep (put something to sleep), wrap up (v)
- water: bridge (water under the bridge), dam (water over the dam)
- weapon: hatchet (bury the hatchet)
- wind: blow over (v)
- writing & spelling: word (the last word)

## REFERENCE (1)

- eye: see (refer to)
- verb: see (perceive)

## RELATIONSHIP (1)

- allusion: banana republic, Mini-Me, muse (person)
- animal: breed (create), lapdog (n), pet (pet cause, etc.)
- apple: apple (the apple doesn't fall far from the tree, etc.)
- astronomy: orbit (n), pull (tidal pull), pull (attraction), revolve (revolve around something), satellite (n)
- baby: baby (relationship)
- bird: chicken (chicken and egg)
- birth: beget (v)
- blade: double-edged (sword)
- blood: blood brother (connection)
- bodily reaction: sneeze (v)
- cloth: entwined, tight-knit
- cooking: bake in (and bake into), baked in (and baked into), folded in (and folded into), fold in (v), pepper in (attach)
- crashes & collisions: knock-on (effect, etc.)
- death & life: grow up (grow up together, etc.)
- direction: behind (basis), come (occur, develop), follow (result, sequence), follow (it follows that, etc.), guide (person), lead (one thing leads to another), underlying (adj), underneath (basis)
- distance: close (feeling), distant (relationship), tight (relationship)
- dog: lapdog (n)
- epithet: bride (Bride of the Red Sea, etc.), mother (mother earth, etc.)
- eye: view (in view of)
- family: akin (adj), ancestor (go before), big brother (relationship), blood brother (connection), brother (Instagram's brother, etc.), brother (brother in arms, etc.), brotherhood (n), brothers and sisters, child (bastard child), cousin (relationship), daughter (n), descendant (n), family (group), father (father of progress, etc.), godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.), godmother (Godmother of Title IX, etc.), hip (joined at the hip), incestuous (adj), incestuousness (n), kin (n), kindred (kindred spirits, etc.), kinship (n), mother (mother ship, etc.), mother (mother earth, etc.), offspring, orphan (n), orphaned, parent (parent company, etc.), parent (cat parents, etc.), relative (relationship), Siamese twins, sibling, sister (redneck sisters, etc.), sister (sister ship, etc.), sisterhood (n), stepchild (and stepson, etc.), stepmother (cruelty), twin (relationship)
- film: Mini-Me
- food & drink: feed (fuel)
- force: drive (drive somebody to do something)
- fruits & vegetables: apple (the apple doesn't fall far from the tree, etc.)
- geometry: triangle (fire triangle, etc.), triangle (love triangle, etc.)

- ground, terrain & land: embed (v), embedded
- hand: hand in hand (go hand in hand, etc.), handmaiden (help)
- health & medicine: hip (joined at the hip), Siamese twins, sneeze (v)
- history: banana republic, satrapy (n)
- journeys & trips: accompany (attachment), attend (v), bedfellow (companion), come with (and come along with / attachment), guide (person), land (landed him in jail, etc.)
- lap: lapdog (n)
- light & dark: light (in light of)
- love, courtship & marriage: divorce (n), divorce (v), marriage (relationship), marriage (shotgun marriage), married, matchmaker (person), odd couple, wedded
- manufacturing: byproduct (n), product (n)
- military: march (together, etc.)
- money: coin (side of a coin), coin (double-sided coin), owe (relationship)
- movement: accompany (attachment), attend (v), bring (v), come (occur, develop), come with (and come along with / attachment), draw (attract), follow (result, sequence), follow (it follows that, etc.), lead (one thing leads to another), orbit (n), outcome (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- music: dance (coordination), pas de deux, tango (v)
- person: companion (n), enemy (conflict), friend (n), handmaiden (help), muse (person), partner (n)
- plant: root (root of the problem, etc.), root (origin)
- position: behind (basis)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: behind (basis), light (in light of), on (it's on you, etc.), underlying (adj), underneath (basis), view (in view of)
- proximity: close (feeling), cozy (adj), distant (relationship), tight (relationship)
- religion: muse (person)
- riding: ride (ride on something)
- rope: entwined
- royalty: handmaiden (help)
- sea: pull (tidal pull)
- sex: incestuous (adj), incestuousness (n)
- shape: vicious circle, triangle (fire triangle, etc.), triangle (love triangle, etc.)
- sign, signal, symbol: triangle (fire triangle, etc.), triangle (love triangle, etc.)
- size: Mini-Me
- sleep: bedfellow (companion)
- snow & ice: snowball (v), snowball (snowball effect)
- speech: answer (respond), answer (response), thanks (thanks to something)
- sports & games: domino (domino effect, etc.)
- sword: double-edged (sword)
- temperature: cozy (adj)
- tide: pull (tidal pull)
- tools & technology: coupled
- tree: root (root of the problem, etc.), root (origin)
- verb: accompany (attachment), answer (respond), attend (v), beget (v), breed (create), bring (v), come (occur, develop), come from (origin), come with (and come along with / attachment), divorce (v), draw (attract), drive (drive somebody to do something), feed (fuel), fold in (v), follow (result, sequence), follow (it follows that, etc.), grow up (grow up together, etc.), lead (one thing leads to another), leave (leave a mark, etc.), march (together, etc.), owe (relationship), revolve (revolve around something), ride (ride on something), sneeze (v), snowball (v), tango (v), trigger (a war, etc.)
- walking, running & jumping: march (together, etc.)
- weapon: trigger (a war, etc.), trigger (cause), trigger (emotion, memory, etc.)

## RELIGION (2) (see also Bible)

- acceptance & rejection: heretic (person)
- accusation & criticism: crucified, crucifixion (n), crucify (v), jeremiad (bitter lament), nail (nail someone to the cross)
- achievement, recognition & praise: hymn (n), pantheon (n)
- action, inaction & delay: limbo (in limbo), purgatory (n)
- affliction: bedevil, bedeviled, curse (n), cursed, devil (evil), evil eye, fury (creature), nemesis (n), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: faith (n), Judas (betrayal), recant (v), renegade (person), ring (kiss the ring)
- amelioration & renewal: dead (rise from the dead), exorcise (v), Lazarus (Bible), panacea (n), resurrect (v), resurrection (n), salvation (n)
- amount: litany (n)
- amount & effect: juggernaut (n)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: navel gazing (omphaloskepsis), sign (evidence), soul-searching
- appearance: angel (appearance), angel (angel-faced), cherubic (adj)
- attraction & repulsion: charisma (attraction), mecca (mecca of bluegrass, etc.), pilgrimage (trip)
- avoidance & separation: cloistered
- bases: heart and soul, mythology (n)
- behavior: angel (behavior), choirboy (behavior), devil (behavior), diabolical (adj), hagiographic (superlative), halo (n), hell (raise hell), hell-raiser (person), hell-raising, picnic (church picnic), religiously, ritual (n), saint (superlative)
- biodiversity, nature & life: Eden (n), Edenic (adj), Garden of Eden, Noah's Ark
- campaign: crusade (on a crusade), crusade (in a crusade), crusade (n), crusader (role)
- certainty & uncertainty: agnostic (adj), limbo (in limbo)
- character & personality: angel (behavior), devil (behavior), diabolical (adj), evil (non-human), public-spirited
- characterization: christen (v)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: exodus (n)
- commitment & determination: agnostic (adj), born-again, heart and soul, heaven (move heaven and earth), hellbent, vow (v), vow (n)
- comprehension & incomprehension: Delphic (adj)
- concealment & lack of concealment: Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), soul (bare one's soul)
- condition & status: last rites (n)
- conflict: Manichean (adj), picnic (church picnic)
- consciousness & awareness: road (road to Damascus)
- control & lack of control: god (play god, etc.)
- cost & benefit: blessed, blessing (benefit), graced, miracle (other)
- creation & transformation: born-again, muse (person), reincarnation (n)
- death & life: Golgotha (Golgotha of Norilisk, etc.)
- destruction: apocalypse (n), kiss of death, martyrdom (n), martyred, perdition (n)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: promethean (adj), via dolorosa
- dismissal, removal & resignation: exorcise (v)
- division & connection: cloistered, Paradise Lost (allusion), schism (n)
- dominance & submission: bow (and bow down), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), kowtow (v), unbowed (adj)
- easiness, difficulty & effort: heaven (move heaven and earth)
- enthusiasm: acolyte (person), bible (enthusiasm), cathedral (Big Snowbird Creek, etc.), church (n), convert (person), cult (cult following, etc.), devotee (person), disciple (person), evangelist (person), faithful (the faithful, etc.), fanatic (person), fanaticism (enthusiasm), fanboy (person), mecca (mecca of bluegrass, etc.),

- missionary (person), pilgrimage (trip), religion (enthusiasm), religiously, shrine (reverence), temple (n), worship (v), worship (n)
- environment: Dantesque (adj), Eden (n), Edenic (adj), Garden of Eden, heaven (environment, food, etc.), hell (macro), hell (micro), hellhole, limbo (in limbo), paradise (n), Promised Land, purgatory (n)
  - epithet: Golgotha (Golgotha of Norilisk, etc.), Mother Teresa (epithet), Prometheus (epithet)
  - evidence: auger (v), auspicious (adj), sign (evidence)
  - experience: baptism, baptized
  - fate, fortune & chance: auger (v), auspicious (adj), curse (n), cursed, devil (deal with the devil), evil eye, Faust (n), Faustian (adj), god (mountain gods, etc.), Hail Mary, handwriting (handwriting on the wall), karma (fate), kiss of death, miracle (other), miraculous (adj), original sin (other), writing (writing on the wall), written (fate)
  - feeling, emotion & effect: dispirited (adj), godforsaken, hell (hell hath no fury), hellish (adj), miraculous (adj), paradisiacal (and paradisa), possess (v), possessed (emotion), spirit (feeling), via dolorosa
  - flaws & lack of flaws: Eden (n), Edenic (adj), Garden of Eden, heaven (environment, food, etc.), paradise (n)
  - force: juggernaut (n)
  - future: handwriting (handwriting on the wall), oracle (person), prophet (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person), spell (spell disaster, etc.), writing (writing on the wall), written (fate)
  - geography: cathedral (Cathedral Cave, etc.), hammer (Thor's Hammer, etc.), pulpit (Devils pulpit, etc.)
  - group, set & collection: cult (n), Noah's Ark
  - growth & development: rite (rite of passage)
  - help & assistance: angel (guardian angel), angel (help and assistance), godsend (n), patron saint, salvation (n), savior (n)
  - idea: iconoclasm (n), iconoclast (person), iconoclastic (adj), piety (n), sacred cow, shibboleth
  - identity & nature: born-again, heart and soul, soul (identity)
  - importance & significance: fetish (n), fetishistic (adj), fetishistically, fetishize (v), fetishized, god (importance), hallowed (adj), idol (person), idolized, immortal (person), Olympus (Mount Olympus), pantheon (n), sacred (adj), trinity (Holy Trinity), Valhalla (n), venerate (v), venerated, worship (v), worship (n)
  - initiation: Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.)
  - insult: devil (evil), hell (go to hell)
  - isolation & remoteness: cloistered
  - judgment: damning (adjective), hell (judgment), hell (hell to pay, etc.), hell (hell hath no fury), nemesis (n), Solomonian (adj)
  - knowledge & intelligence: guru (person)
  - message: apostle (person), choir (preach to the choir), convert (person), crusade (on a crusade), crusade (in a crusade), crusade (n), crusader (role), evangelical (adj), evangelist (person), golden rule, gospel (preach the gospel, etc.), guru (person), high priest, jeremiad (bitter lament), messiah (n), messianic (adj), missionary (person), mantra (message), Moses (n), oracle (person), preach (v), prophet (person), proselytize (v), pulpit (bully pulpit, etc.), seer (person), sermon (message), soothsayer (person)
  - migration: exodus (n), hegira (and hejira)
  - military: angel (Angel of the Battlefield, etc.)
  - oppression: puritanism (n), scapegoat (n)
  - origin: original sin (other)
  - past & present: antediluvian (old), Methuselah, relic (n)
  - perception, perspective & point of view: God's-eye, Olympian (perspective)
  - person: acolyte (person), apostle (person), choirboy (behavior), convert (person), crusader (role), devotee (person), disciple (person), evangelist (person), guru (person), hell-raiser (person), heretic (person), iconoclast (person), immortal (person), martyr (person), missionary (person), muse (person), oracle (person), prophet (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person)
  - presence & absence: reincarnation (n)
  - primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: antediluvian (old), Methuselah, relic (n)

- progress & lack of progress: limbo (in limbo)
- proper name: angel (the Los Angeles, Angels, etc.), apostle (Twelve Apostles, etc.), cathedral (Cathedral Cave, etc.), devil (Devil's Falls, etc.), hammer (Thor's Hammer, etc.), hell (Hell's Gate, etc.), hellfire (Hellfire missile, etc.), oracle (Oracle Corporation, etc.), pulpit (Devils pulpit, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: angel (guardian angel), cloistered, sanctuary (n)
- punishment & recrimination: crucified, crucifixion (n), crucify (v), hell (hell to pay, etc.), hell (hell hath no fury), nail (nail someone to the cross), nemesis (n), original sin (other), scapegoat (n)
- pursuit, capture & escape: hegira (and hejira), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: exorcise (v)
- relationship: muse (person)
- repetition: mantra (message)
- representation: avatar (n), icon (symbol), iconic (adj), incarnation (character), patron saint, Pope (Pope of Beaujolais, etc.), second coming (of Steve Jobs, etc.), totem (n)
- resemblance: cathedral (resemblance)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: bow (and bow down), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), kowtow (v), martyr (person), renegade (person), unbowed (adj)
- revenge: nemesis (n), tooth (a tooth for a tooth)
- reverence: adore (and adored), cathedral (Big Snowbird Creek, etc.), church (n), cult (n), enshrine (v), enshrined, hagiographic (superlative), hallowed (adj), halo (n), hymn (n), idol (person), idolized, irreverent (adj), mecca (mecca of bluegrass, etc.), reverential (adj), saint (superlative), sanctum (and inner sanctum), shrine (reverence), temple (n), venerate (v), venerated, worship (v), worship (n)
- sacrifice: altar (at / on / upon the altar), holocaust (n), lamb (sacrificial lamb), sacrifice (give up something), sacrifice (n), scapegoat (n)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: anathema, anoint (v), anointed, apostasy (n), beatification (n), beatify (v), Bible (authority), blasphemy, blessing (sanction), canon (literature), canon (other), canonical (adj), canonize (v), defrock (v), dogma (n), ecclesiastical (adj), enshrine (v), enshrined, excommunicated, heresy (n), heretic (person), heretical (adj), high priest, iconoclasm (n), iconoclast (person), iconoclastic (adj), immortal (person), immortality (n), imprimatur, Mormon (Mormons of the Middle East), myth (n), Olympus (Mount Olympus), orthodox (adj), orthodoxy (n), pantheon (n), piety (n), priesthood (n), promethean (adj), renegade (person), sacred cow, sacrilegious (adj), shibboleth (n), sin (n), taboo (n), Valhalla (n)
- script: catechism (n), hymnal (n)
- searching & discovery: grail (holy grail)
- sex: puritanism (n)
- shape: angel (snow angel)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: bible (hand on the bible, etc.), soul (bare one's soul)
- situation: Dantesque (adj), hell (macro), hell (micro), limbo (in limbo), purgatory (n)
- size: behemoth (n), David (David and Goliath, etc.), Goliath (Bible), leviathan, monkish (adj), Olympian (size)
- speech: pontificate (v), preach (v), proselytize (v)
- strength & weakness: David (David and Goliath, etc.), Goliath (Bible)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: monkish (adj)
- superlative: angel (superlative), Eden (n), Edenic (adj), Garden of Eden, goddess, halo (n), hagiographic (superlative), heaven (environment, food, etc.), immortal (person), Olympus (Mount Olympus), pantheon (n), paradise (n), Promised Land, saint (superlative), sainthood (n), Valhalla (n)
- survival, persistence & endurance: hell (micro), Lazarus (Bible), Methuselah, via dolorosa
- time: antediluvian (old), grace (grace period), handwriting (handwriting on the wall), Methuselah, oracle (person), prophet (person), relic (n), seer (person), soothsayer (person), spell (spell disaster, etc.), writing (writing on the wall), written (fate)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: grace (grace period)
- unanimity & consensus: catechism (n), choir (preach to the choir)

- wants, needs, hopes & goals: grail (holy grail), pray (v)

## REPETITION (1)

- allusion: Groundhog Day (film)
- animal: ape (v), parrot (v)
- bird: parrot (v)
- cat: copycat (n)
- day: Groundhog Day (film)
- film: Groundhog Day (film)
- hair: rinse and repeat
- light & dark: shadow (shadow government, etc.)
- mirror: mirror (v)
- mouth: mouthpiece (person)
- music: refrain (common refrain, etc.)
- person: mouthpiece (person)
- religion: mantra (message)
- shadow: shadow (shadow government, etc.)
- sound: echo (verb / effect), echo (noun / effect), echo (repeat), echo (in an echo), echo chamber, echoed, parrot (v), rhyme (v)
- speech: parrot (v)
- theater: cue (n)
- verb: ape (v), echo (verb / effect), echo (repeat), mirror (v), parrot (v), rhyme (v)

## REPORTED SPEECH (2)

- contempo-speak: like (reported speech)

## REPRESENTATION (1) (see also role)

- boat: figurehead (n), flag (flag of convenience)
- clothing & accessories: hat (role), mantle (n)
- face: face (public face, etc.)
- fire: torch (carry a torch), torch (other), torchbearer (person)
- flags & banners: banner (carry a banner, etc.), flag (raise a flag, etc.), flag (flag of convenience), flag-bearer, standard-bearer
- foot: foot (put a foot forward)
- government: ambassador (role), diplomat (n), tribune (person)
- hat: hat (role)
- mark: touchstone
- military: beret (Brown Beret, etc.), flag-bearer, standard-bearer
- music: anthem (n), anthemic (adj)
- person: ambassador (role), standard-bearer, torchbearer (person), tribune (person)
- picture: billboard (n), face (public face, etc.), icon (symbol), iconic (adj), poster (poster child, etc.), totem (n)
- religion: avatar (n), icon (symbol), iconic (adj), incarnation (character), patron saint, Pope (Pope of Beaujolais, etc.), second coming (of Steve Jobs, etc.), totem (n)
- sign, signal, symbol: badge (representation), beret (Brown Beret, etc.), billboard (n), emblem (emblem of freedom, etc.), emblematic (adj), face (public face, etc.), icon (symbol), iconic (adj), poster (poster child, etc.), torch (other), totem (n)
- standing, sitting & lying: stand for (v)
- verb: banner (carry a banner, etc.), flag (raise a flag, etc.), stand for (v), torch (carry a torch)

## REPUTATION (1)

- color: black eye, mark (black mark)

- direction: raise (your image, etc.)
- eye: black eye
- family: legacy (reputation)
- ground, terrain & land: dirt (worthless), mud (drag something through the mud), mud (dragged through the mud)
- height: raise (you image, etc.), standing (reputation)
- history: legacy (reputation)
- mark: black eye, mark (black mark), smear (v), smear (n), smeared, stain (v), stain (n)
- money: legacy (reputation)
- proper name: name (reputation)
- size: big (big name, etc.)
- standing, sitting & lying: standing (reputation)
- verb: mud (drag something through the mud), raise (your image, etc.), smear (v), stain (v)

## **RESEMBLANCE (1) (see also appearance)**

- affix: boyish (adj), doughnut (doughnut-shaped)
- allusion: Mini-Me, proverbial (adj)
- animal: barnacle (resemblance), bite (resemblance), carcass (n), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), nest (resemblance), snake (a trail can snake, etc.), tail (orientation)
- arm: arm (configuration)
- astronomy: Martian (adj)
- atmosphere: cloud (resemblance), rainbow (color)
- bird: gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), nest (resemblance)
- birth: umbilical (connection)
- blade: cut (road cuts, etc.), scissor (resemblance), slice (road slices, etc.)
- boat: barnacle (resemblance), flotilla (flotilla of icebergs, etc.)
- bodily reaction: belch (v), breathe (caves breathe, etc.), spit (spit down), spit (v), swallow (disappearance), yawn (v)
- books & reading: fairy tale (happy), fantasy (fairy tale, etc.), story (horror story), storybook (storybook romance, etc.)
- breathing: breathe (caves breathe, etc.)
- bubble: bubble (bubble canopy, etc.)
- burden: barnacle (resemblance)
- carpets & rugs: carpet (v), carpet (a carpet of flowers, etc.), carpeted
- chemistry: rust (resemblance)
- circus: carnival (n), circus (media circus, etc.), freak show (n)
- cloth: curtain (curtain wall, etc.), strand (strand of hair, etc.), unfolding (opening), wrapped (covered)
- clothing & accessories: robe (n), veil (covering)
- cloud: cloud (resemblance), nimbus (cloud)
- color: rainbow (color)
- cooking: stir up (resemblance)
- creature: dragon (resemblance)
- crime: riot (riot of color, etc.)
- desert: desert (environment), Sahara (Sahara of snow, etc.)
- ear: ear (ear of corn, etc.)
- epithet: spider (Eljif “the Spider” Elmas, etc.), unicorn (unicorns of the sea, etc.), washing machine
- explosion: bomb (roach bomb, etc.)
- eye: blink (light), eye (resemblance), peek (v)
- fan: fan (shape)

- film: Mini-Me, show (horror show)
- fire: aflame (resemblance), tinderbox (resemblance)
- food & drink: pie (shape), spaghetti (snarl)
- forest: forest (a forest of cranes, etc.)
- fortification: bulwark (resemblance), palisade (n), rampart (resemblance)
- fountain: fountain (resemblance)
- ground, terrain & land: canyon (resemblance), cavernous (adj), desert (environment)
- hair: hair (resemblance)
- health & medicine: rash (road rash, etc.), scar (resemblance / noun), scar (resemblance / verb)
- house: nest (resemblance)
- infrastructure: buttress (n), pillar (resemblance), street (cloud street, etc.), tunnel (resemblance)
- insect: cocoon (resemblance)
- island: island (beech island, etc.)
- knife: cut (road cuts, etc.), slice (road slices, etc.)
- lightning: thunder (sound)
- line: strand (strand of hair, etc.)
- mark: scar (resemblance / noun), scar (resemblance / verb)
- military: rampart (resemblance)
- moon: moonscape (n)
- mountains & hills: mountainous (adj)
- mouth: jaw (jaws of life, etc.), mandible (n), mouth (entrance), spit (spit down), spit (v)
- music: chorus (resemblance), opera (n), symphony (resemblance)
- object: doughnut (doughnut-shaped)
- party: party (celebration)
- picture: paint (resemblance)
- plant: garden (resemblance), tendril (resemblance), wilt (v)
- rain: rain (amount and effect), rain (rain down)
- religion: cathedral (resemblance)
- river: river (resemblance)
- rocket: rocket (resemblance)
- route: passage (nasal passage, etc.)
- royalty: palace (movie palace, etc.)
- rubbing & washing: scoured
- sea: barnacle (resemblance), island (beech island, etc.), lagoon (n), ocean (ocean of air, etc.), sea (sea of sand, etc.), shore (resemblance)
- season: winter (resemblance)
- shape: doughnut (doughnut-shaped)
- shoulder: shoulder (mountain, etc.)
- size: Mini-Me
- skeleton: skeleton (resemblance)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: flesh (inside), skeleton (resemblance)
- sky: rainbow (color)
- sleep: awaken (nature, etc.), sleep (n), snooze (v), wake (resemblance)
- snake: snake (a trail can snake, etc.)
- snow & ice: snow (marine snow, etc.)
- sound: roar (n), symphony (resemblance), thunder (speech), wail (sirens, etc.), whisper (sound)
- spider: spider (Eljif “the Spider” Elmas, etc.)
- sports & games: scrum (reporters)
- storm: storm (immune-system storm, etc.), thunder (sound), thunder (speech), thunderous (adj)

- sword: sword (swordfish, etc.)
- teeth: bite (resemblance)
- theater: light show
- throat: throat (resemblance)
- tongue: tongue (resemblance)
- tree: tree (resemblance)
- verb: belch (v), bite (resemblance), blink (light), carpet (v), cut (road cuts, etc.), dance (resemblance), paint (resemblance), pour (resemblance), rain (amount and effect), rain (rain down), scar (resemblance / verb), slice (road slices, etc.), snooze (v), spit (spit down), spit (v), stir up (resemblance), stream (tears stream, etc.), swallow (disappearance), thunder (speech), wake (resemblance), wilt (v), yawn (v)
- walking, running & jumping: resemblance: dance (resemblance), leap (the leap of a waterfall, etc.)
- wall: wall (wall of flames, etc.)
- waste: confetti (n)
- water: cascade (a cascade of hair, etc.), flowing, fountain (resemblance), lake (n), pour (resemblance), stream (tears stream, etc.), stream (resemblance)
- whip: whip (resemblance)
- wounds & scars: scar (resemblance / noun), scar (resemblance / verb)

## **RESILIENCY (1) (see also help & assistance; allegiance, support & betrayal; survival, persistence & endurance)**

- animal: horse (get back on the horse), saddle (get back in the saddle)
- ball: bounce back (v), bounce back (n), rebound (recover), rebound (on the rebound)
- boxing: punch (roll with the punches)
- burden: carry on (v)
- destruction: piece (pick up the pieces)
- direction: behind (put something behind), come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), comeback (n), feet (get back on one's feet, etc.), head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high), pick (pick oneself up), positive (sex positive, etc.)
- foot: feet (get back on one's feet, etc.)
- force: push on (v)
- gesture: head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high), shake (shake something off)
- hand: go (let something go), hang in there, hang on (v), hold on (survival), pick (pick oneself up)
- head: head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high)
- height: head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high)
- horse: horse (get back on the horse), saddle (get back in the saddle)
- infrastructure: put (put something back together)
- journeys & trips: carry on (v), drive on (resiliency), get on with (get on with something), get over (overcome), get through (endure, etc.), go on (persist), move on (resiliency), push on (v), roll on (resiliency)
- light & dark: bright (bright side)
- materials & substances: flexible (character), strong (after tragedy, etc.),
- mechanism: put (put something back together)
- military: soldier on (v)
- mouth: lip (stiff upper lip)
- movement: bounce back (v), bounce back (n), come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), flexible (character), forge on (resiliency), go on (persist), move on (resiliency), rebound (recover), roll on (resiliency), soldier on (v)
- number: positive (sex positive, etc.)
- person: dandelion (character), flower (wilting flower, etc.), orchid (character)
- plant: dandelion (character), flower (wilting flower, etc.), orchid (character)

- prep, adv, adj, particle: carry on (v), forge on (resiliency), hang on (v), push on (v), roll on (resiliency), soldier on (v)
- verb: behind (put something behind), bounce back (v), carry on (v), come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), forge on (resiliency), get on with (get on with something), get over (overcome), get through (endure, etc.), go (let something go), go on (persist), hang in there, hang on (v), head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high), hold on (survival), horse (get back on the horse), overcome (v), pick (pick oneself up), piece (pick up the pieces), pull (pull yourself together, etc.), punch (roll with the punches), push on (v), put (put something back together), rebound (recover), roll on (resiliency), saddle (get back in the saddle), shake (shake something off), soldier on (v)

## **RESISTANCE, OPPOSITION & DEFEAT (1) (see also accusation & criticism; conflict; dominance & submission; punishment & recrimination; superiority & inferiority)**

- allusion: Pyrrhic victory (figurative), Thermopylae (figurative), Young Turk
- animal: back (get one's back up, etc.), back down (v), blink (conflict), buck (v), ground (give ground), ground (hold / stand one's ground), howl (n), howl (v), roll over (v), squeal (protest), stare down (v), stare-down (n), tail (turn tail), tail (tail between one's legs), tooth and nail (fight tooth and nail, etc.)
- arm: hold off (v), push (push comes to shove), push (push against, etc.), pushback (n), push back (v), pushed around
- back: back (back to the wall), back (get one's back up, etc.), back down (v)
- bird: face (fly in the face), game (game of chicken)
- blade: parry (v), parry (n)
- boat: mutineer (person), mutinous (adj), mutiny (n)
- bodily reaction: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.)
- boxing: come (come out swinging), counted out (boxing), fighter (person), punch (punch back), towel (throw in the towel)
- breathing: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.)
- cards: fold (v)
- chess: checkmate (v), checkmate (n)
- color: white flag (surrender)
- death & life: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.)
- direction: backlash (n), bow (and bow down), fall (defeat), heel (on one's heels), knee (bring to one's knees), knee (risen from its knees, etc.), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), kowtow (v), lie down (and lay down), retreat (reverse / verb), step (not one step back), unbowed (adj), uprising (resistance)
- dog: back (get one's back up, etc.), howl (n), howl (v), roll over (v), tail (turn tail), tail (tail between one's legs)
- explosion: blowback (n)
- eye: blink (conflict), stare down (v), stare-down (n)
- face: face (in one's face), face (in the face of)
- fist: beat back (v), fist (wave one's fist), hit back (v), knuckle under (v)
- flags & banners: flag (plant one's flag), stand (last stand, etc.), white flag (surrender)
- foot: foot (put one's foot down), heel (dig in one's heels), kicking and screaming
- force: push (push comes to shove), push (push against, etc.), push back (v), pushback (n), pushed around
- fortification: dig in (v), dug in, entrenched, siege (under siege), siege (other)
- gesture: blink (conflict), clap back (contempo-speak / verb), clap back (contempo-speak / noun), fist (wave one's fist), nose (thumb one's nose)
- ground, terrain & land: dig in (v), dug in, entrenched, flag (plant one's flag), ground (hold / stand one's ground), ground (give ground), last-ditch (adj)
- horse: buck (v), cavalry (n)
- heel: heel (dig in one's heels), heel (on one's heels)

- history: barricade (storm the barricades, etc.), Pyrrhic victory (figurative), underground railroad, Young Turk
- horse: balk (v), bridle (v)
- infrastructure: barricade (storm the barricades, etc.), buckle (give way), stonewall (v)
- knee: knee (bring to one's knees), knee (risen from its knees, etc.), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), kowtow (v)
- leg: kicking and screaming
- materials & substances: bend (v)
- military: cavalry (n), combat (v), combat (n), combative (adj), counterattack (v), counterattack (n), day (save the day), dig in (v), dug in, Dunkirk (digital Dunkirk, etc.), entrenched, fight (v), fight (n), flag (plant one's flag), Gallipoli (a Gallipoli of an interview, etc.), give in (v), give up (stop trying), give way (and give way to), hill (resistance), insurrection, last-ditch (adj), overrun (v), overrun (overwhelmed), Pyrrhic victory (figurative), rearguard (n), rebel (person), rebel (v), rebellion (n), retreat (reverse / reverse), revolt (v), revolt (n), rout (defeat / noun), rout (defeat / verb), routed (defeated), siege (under siege), siege (other), stand (last stand, etc.), surrender (v), Thermopylae (figurative), white flag (surrender)
- mining: cave (cave in)
- money: cost (at all costs, etc.), sell out (v)
- movement: budge (v), come out (against something), immovable (adj), move (not move an inch, etc.)
- nose: nose (thumb one's nose)
- person: fighter (person), martyr (person), mutineer (person), rebel (person), renegade (person)
- position: knuckle under (v)
- predation: tooth and nail (fight tooth and nail, etc.)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: against (opposition)
- religion: bow (and bow down), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), kowtow (v), martyr (person), renegade (person), unbowed (adj)
- ruins: buckle (give way)
- sea: tide (buck the tide)
- sign, signal, symbol: white flag (surrender)
- smell: stink (n), stink (raise a stink)
- sound: bemoan (v), bewail (v), clamor (v), clap back (contempo-speak / verb), clap back (contempo-speak / noun), cry (cry foul, etc.), death rattle, decry (v), din (attention), gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.), grumble (n), howl (n), howl (v), kicking and screaming, moan (v), moaning, noise (attention, conflict, and controversy), noisy (debate, etc.), outcry (n), quiet (adj), squeal (protest), tumult (disruption), wail (v)
- speech: sound off (v), speak out (v), speak up (v), truth to power
- sports & games: checkmate (v), checkmate (n), counted out (boxing), game (game of chicken), tap out (v)
- standing, sitting & lying: back down (v), bow (and bow down), knee (bring to one's knees), knee (risen from its knees, etc.), kneel (v), kowtow (v), lie down (and lay down), prostrate (v), rise (resist), stand (resist), stand (last stand, etc.), stand for (not stand for something), stand up (stand up to something), succumb (v), supine (adj), supinely, unbowed (adj), wobbly (commitment)
- sword: parry (v), parry (n)
- tent: tent (fold one's tent)
- tide: tide (buck the tide)
- verb: back (get one's back up, etc.), back down (v), balk (v), barricade (storm the barricades, etc.), beat back (v), bemoan (v), bewail (v), blink (conflict), bow (and bow down), bridle (v), buck (v), buckle (give way), budge (v), cave in (v), checkmate (v), clamor (v), clap back (contempo-speak / verb), combat (v), come out (against something), counterattack (v), cry (cry foul, etc.), day (save the day), decry (v), dig in (v), fall (defeat), fight (v), fold (v), foot (put one's foot down), give in (v), give up (stop trying), give way (and give way to), ground (give ground), ground (hold / stand one's ground), heel (dig in one's heels), hold off (v), hold out (persist), howl (v), knee (bring to one's knees), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), knuckle under (v), kowtow (v), lie down (and lay down), moan (v), move (not move an inch, etc.), nose (thumb one's nose), overcome (v), overrun (v), parry (v), prostrate (v), punch (punch back), push (push against, etc.), push back (v), put up with (v), rebel

(v), retreat (reverse / verb), revolt (v), rise (resist), roll over (v), rout (defeat / verb), sell out (v), sound off (v), speak out (v), speak up (v), squeal (protest), stand (resist), stand (last stand, etc.), stand for (not stand for something), stand up (stand up to something), stare down (v), stink (raise a stink), stonewall (v), succumb (v), surrender (v), tap out (v), tail (turn tail), take (refuse to take), take on (v), tent (fold one's tent), tide (buck the tide), towel (throw in the towel), wail (v)

- violence: backlash (n), knuckle under (v)
- walking, running & jumping: run (on the run / retreat), step (not one step back), step forward (v)
- wall: stonewall (v)
- weapon: blowback (n), parry (v), parry (n)
- whip: backlash (n)

## **RESPONSIBILITY (1) (see also guilt)**

- animal: bite (bite him in the end, etc.), chicken (come home to roost)
- ball: ball (the ball is in somebody's court)
- baseball: plate (step up to the plate)
- bird: chicken (come home to roost)
- blood: blood (blood on one's hands, etc.), bloody (guilt), hand (bloody hands, etc.)
- boat: wheelhouse (n)
- container: lap (responsibility)
- direction: behind (responsibility), fall (devolve), live up to (something), man up (v)
- doors & thresholds: door (at someone's door, etc.)
- foot: feet (lay blame at the feet, etc.)
- hand: blood (blood on one's hands, etc.), hand (at the hands), hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.), hand (bloody hands, etc.)
- house: bed (lie in one's bed / make one's bed)
- hygiene: hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.)
- infrastructure: lane (experience)
- justice: bite (bite him in the end, etc.), chicken (come home to roost), circle back (judgment), get away (get away with something)
- lap: lap (responsibility)
- money: own (responsibility), ownership (n)
- position: behind (responsibility)
- possession: own (responsibility)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: behind (responsibility), on (it's on you, etc.)
- proximity: door (at someone's door, etc.), feet (lay blame at the feet, etc.)
- shoulder: shoulder (fall on the shoulders), shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.)
- sports & games: ball (the ball is in somebody's court), plate (step up to the plate)
- sword: sword (fall on one's sword)
- verb: bed (lie in one's bed / make one's bed), bite (bite him in the end, etc.), chicken (come home to roost), circle back (judgment), live up to (something), man up (v), own (responsibility), plate (step up to the plate), shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), sword (fall on one's sword)
- walking, running & jumping: step up (rise to the occasion)
- weight: shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), shoulder (fall on the shoulders)
- military: watch (on one's watch)

## **RESTRAINT & LACK OF RESTRAINT (1) (see also constraint & lack of constraint; control & lack of control)**

- affix: overboard (behavior), overreach (v)
- alcohol: binge (on a binge), binge (other), drunk (adj), inebriate (v)
- allusion: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.), envelope (push the envelope)

- animal: animal (party animal, etc.), wild (behavior), wild (control), wild (run wild)
- arm: hold back (restraint), overreach (v), overreach (n), overstretch (v)
- atmosphere: wind (throw something to the wind)
- boat: overboard (behavior)
- books & reading: tell-all (book)
- boundary: belt (below the belt), limit (push the limits, etc.), limits (push something to its limits), overreach (v), overreach (n), overstep (v), overstretch (v)
- boxing: belt (below the belt), glove (the gloves are off), punch (pull a punch), punch (sucker punch / verb)
- bridge: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.)
- cards: hand (overplay one's hand)
- control & lack of control: control (out of control), control (in control), control (under control)
- direction: over-the-top (adj), top (over the top)
- distance: far (too far), length (go to any lengths, etc.), overreach (v), overreach (n), overstretch (v), ski (over one's skis, etc.), stop (stop at nothing)
- fist: punch (pull a punch), punch (sucker punch / verb)
- hand: hand (get out of hand), loose (let loose)
- history: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.)
- horse: bridle (v), unbridled
- materials & substances: brazen (adj)
- military: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.), cannon (loose cannon)
- mouth: mouth (run one's mouth)
- music: stop (pull out all the stops)
- part of speech: tell-all (book)
- person: cannon (loose cannon)
- plane: envelope (push the envelope)
- sex: orgy (n)
- speech: loose (let loose), punch (pull a punch)
- sports & games: no-holds-barred (and no holds barred), punch (pull a punch)
- verb: bridle (v), end (go off the deep end), envelope (push the envelope), hand (get out of hand), hand (overplay one's hand), help (keep from, avoid), hold back (restraint), inebriate (v), limit (push the limits, etc.), limits (push something to its limits), loose (let loose), overreach (v), overstep (v), overstretch (v), punch (pull a punch), punch (sucker punch / verb), stop (stop at nothing), stop (pull out all the stops), wild (run wild), wind (throw something to the wind)
- walking, running & jumping: overstep (v)
- water: end (go off the deep end), mouth (run one's mouth)
- weapon: cannon (loose cannon)
- wind: wind (throw something to the wind)
- wrestling: no-holds-barred (and no holds barred)

## REVENGE (1)

- allusion: nemesis (n)
- Bible: tooth (a tooth for a tooth)
- bodily reaction: laugh (last laugh)
- eye: eye (an eye for an eye)
- fist: tit-for-tat (adj)
- food & drink: dish (revenge is a dish best served cold)
- justice: nemesis (n)
- money: pay (revenge), payback, score (settle a score, etc.)
- religion: nemesis (n), tooth (a tooth for a tooth)

- sound: laugh (last laugh)
- teeth: tooth (a tooth for a tooth)
- verb: feud (v), pay (revenge), score (settle a score, etc.)
- violence: feud (v), feud (n), vendetta (n)

## REVERENCE (1)

- music: hymn (n)
- place: cathedral (Big Snowbird Creek, etc.), mecca (mecca of bluegrass, etc.)
- religion: adore (and adored), cathedral (Big Snowbird Creek, etc.), church (n), cult (n), enshrine (v), enshrined, hagiographic (superlative), hallowed (adj), halo (n), hymn (n), idol (person), idolized, irreverent (adj), mecca (mecca of bluegrass, etc.), reverential (adj), saint (superlative), sanctum (and inner sanctum), shrine (reverence), temple (n), venerate (v), venerated, worship (v), worship (n)
- sign, signal, symbol: halo (n)
- verb: enshrine (v), venerate (v), worship (v)

## REVERSAL (1)

- affix: un (undo this hurt, etc.)
- animal: bite (bite him in the end, etc.), chicken (come home to roost), come back (to bite, haunt, etc.), tail (turn tail), tail (tail between one's legs)
- ball: roll back (v)
- bell: bell (unring a bell)
- bird: chicken (come homes to roost)
- boat: aircraft carrier (turn an aircraft carrier), course (reverse course), row (row back), ship (turn the ship, etc.)
- books & reading: O. Henry
- clothing & accessories: shoe (the shoe is on the other foot)
- direction: about-face (in an about-face), about-face, about-turn, back (no way back, etc.), backlash (n), backpedal (v), backtrack (reversal), boomerang (n), climb down (v), climbdown (n), course (reverse course), flip (v), flip-flop (v), flip-flopping (reversal), flipped, hinge (hinge event, etc.), oscillate (v), overturn (v), overturned, pivot (n), pivot (v), retreat (reverse / verb), retreat (reverse / noun), retreat (reverse / noun), row (row back), turnabout (reversal), turn around (turn things around, etc.), turnaround, U-turn (n)
- dog: tail (turn tail), tail (tail between one's legs)
- engine: gear (switch gears, shift gears, etc.)
- equilibrium & stability: overturn (v), overturned
- explosion: blowback (n), blow up (blow up in one's face), face (blow up in one's face)
- film: rewind (v), spool (spool back)
- food & drink: medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)
- health & medicine: medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)
- heart: heart (change of heart)
- journeys & trips: backtrack (reversal), course (reverse course), turnabout (reversal)
- justice: bite (bite him in the end, etc.), chicken (come home to roost), circle back (judgment)
- letters & characters: U-turn (n)
- map: course (reverse course)
- mechanism: backpedal (v), gear (switch gears, shift gears, etc.), hinge (hinge event, etc.), pivot (n), pivot (v), roll back (v), unwind (reverse)
- military: aircraft carrier (turn an aircraft carrier), retreat (reverse / verb), retreat (reverse / noun)
- movement: aircraft carrier (turn an aircraft carrier), backpedal (v), backtrack (reversal), flip (v), flip-flop (v), hinge (hinge event, etc.), oscillate (v), pendulum (reversal), swing (swing around), turnabout (reversal)
- music: tune (change one's tune), tune (change in tune)
- part of speech: not (when is a Mastodon not, etc.)
- pendulum: oscillate (v), pendulum (reversal), swing (swing around)

- sea: change (sea change), tide (turn the tide, etc.)
- size: aircraft carrier (turn an aircraft carrier)
- sound: bell (unring a bell)
- table: table (turn the tables)
- taste: medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)
- teeth: come back (to bite, haunt, etc.)
- tide: tide (turn the tide, etc.)
- verb: backfire (v), backpedal (v), backtrack (reversal), bell (unring a bell), bite (bite him in the end, etc.), blow up (blow up in one's face), boomerang (v), chicken (come home to roost), circle back (judgment), climb down (v), come back (to bite, haunt, etc.), course (reverse course), face (blow up in one's face), flip (v), flip-flop (v), gear (switch gears, shift gears, etc.), oscillate (v), overturn (v), retreat (reverse / verb), ricochet (v), roll back (v), ship (turn the ship, etc.), table (turn the tables), tail (turn tail), tide (turn the tide, etc.), tune (change one's tune), tune (change in tune), unwind (reverse), walk back (v)
- violence: backlash (n)
- walking, running & jumping: walk back (n), walk back (v)
- weapon: backfire (v), blowback (n), blow up (blow up in one's face), boomerang (v), ricochet (v)
- whip: backlash (n)

## RIDING (2)

- dependency: ride (ride on something)
- experience: ride (rough ride, etc.)
- fictive transportation: ride (ride on something), ride (ride something to fame, etc.)
- relationship: ride (ride on something)
- survival, persistence & endurance: ride out (v)
- verb: ride (ride on something)

## RIVER (2)

- allegiance, support & betrayal: river (sell somebody down the river)
- amelioration & renewal: bridge (v), bridge-building (through bridge-building), bridge-building
- amount: reservoir (amount)
- amount & effect: flood (amount / verb), flood (flood of refugees, etc.), flooded, floodgate (open the floodgates / sluice gates), floodgate (other), floodwaters, Niagara (the river and falls), river (river of hogs, etc.)
- attachment: tow (in tow)
- branching system: confluence (n), feed (feed into), prong (river), stream (bloodstream, etc.), tributary (n)
- center & periphery: backwater (n), mainstream (society)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: bridge (burn one's bridges)
- commitment & determination: boat (burn one's boats), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
- concealment & lack of concealment: undercurrent (n)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it)
- constraint & lack of constraint: dam (psychological dam, etc.), floodgate (open the floodgates / sluice gates), floodgate (other)
- destruction: swept away (removal)
- development: watershed (n)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: current (swim with the current, etc.), current (swim against the current, etc.), upstream (swim upstream)
- direction: meander (v), watershed (n), wind (wind its way)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: swept away (removal)
- division & connection: bridge (n), bridge (v), bridge (air bridge, etc.), bridge-building (through bridge-building), bridge-building, stepping stone, watershed (n)
- driving force: powerhouse (n)

- extent & scope: catchment (n), run (run deep / high / strong)
- fate, fortune & chance: boat (burn one's boats), bridge (burn one's bridges), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: run (run deep / high / strong), swept away (emotion)
- fictive motion: meander (v)
- force: current (n), Niagara (the river and falls), undercurrent (n)
- future: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it)
- group, set & collection: reservoir (group)
- help & assistance: stepping stone
- importance & significance: watershed (n)
- isolation & remoteness: backwater
- movement: flood (move), flow (flow of the lesson, etc.), flow (move), flow (n), river (river of hogs, etc.), stream (amount & effect), wind (wind its way)
- obstacles & impedance: dam (psychological dam, etc.), jam (situation), logjam (n), snag (n)
- orientation: current (swim with the current, etc.), current (swim against the current, etc.), downstream, upper (river, etc.), upstream (swim upstream)
- past & present: bridge (water under the bridge), dam (water over the dam)
- power: powerhouse (n)
- presence & absence: bridgehead (n)
- progress & lack of progress: backwater (n)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: bridge (water under the bridge), dam (water over the dam)
- resemblance: river (resemblance)
- route: bridge (air bridge, etc.), stream (bloodstream, etc.)
- society: mainstream (society)
- source: fountainhead, reservoir (source), watershed (n)
- strength & weakness: powerhouse (n)
- taxonomy & classification: tributary (n)
- time: bridge (water under the bridge), bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), dam (water over the dam)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it)

## **ROCKET (2)**

- analysis, interpretation & explanation: science (not rocket science)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: skyrocket (to attention, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: ballistic (go ballistic)
- increase & decrease: rocket (increase), skyrocket (increase)
- initiation: launching pad
- knowledge & intelligence: science (not rocket science)
- movement: rocket (speed), skyrocket (increase)
- readiness & preparedness: strap yourself in
- resemblance: rocket (resemblance)
- speed: rocket (speed)

## **ROLE (1) (see also representation)**

- animal: mother (den mother, etc.)
- clothing & accessories: mantle (n), pants (big girl pants, etc.), hat (role), trousers (wear the trousers, etc.)
- crime: cop (good cop, bad cop)
- family: mother (den mother, etc.)
- government: ambassador (role), diplomacy (n), diplomatic (adj)
- hat: hat (role)
- horse: saddle (acting saddle, etc.)

- person: mother (den mother, etc.)
- sign, signal, symbol: hat (role)
- theater: act (insincere show), act (performance), perform (perform values, etc.)
- verb: perform (perform values, etc.)

## **ROOF (2) (see also doors & thresholds; gate; house)**

- destruction: roof (a roof can cave in)
- extent & scope: roof (through the roof)
- failure, accident & impairment: roof (a roof can cave in)
- increase & decrease: roof (through the roof)
- orientation: roof (roof of the mouth, etc.)
- proper name: dome (Iron Dome, etc.), dome (Half Dome, etc.)
- shape: dome (shape)

## **ROPE (2)**

- action, inaction & delay: Gordian knot
- amelioration & renewal: loosen up (feelings), straighten out (v), unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.), untangle (v)
- analysis & interpretation: untangle (v)
- attachment: bind (connect), entwined, string (attachment), tethered, tied
- complexity: detangle (v), Gordian knot, tangle (n), tangled
- constraint & lack of constraint: bind (constraint), bind (constrain), binding (adj), bound (constraint), hand (tie one's hands, etc.), loose (get looser, etc.), slack (n), tied (constraint)
- control & lack of control: lead (restraint)
- danger: ensnare (v)
- destruction: undoing (destruction), undone (destruction)
- development: play out (v)
- division & connection: bind (connect), entwined, tie (v), tied, tie together (v)
- experience: rope (learn the ropes, etc.)
- failure, accident & impairment: snap (v), undoing (destruction), undone (destruction), unravel (fail)
- feeling, emotion & effect: frayed (emotions), loosen up (feelings), pull (pull yourself together, etc.), rope (at the end of one's rope), snap (v), strain (pressure), strained, taut (nerves, etc.), tension (n)
- flaws & lack of flaws: kink (n), strain (pressure), strained
- involvement: bound up, detangle (v), enmeshed, ensnare (v), ensnared, ensnarled (involvement), entangled (involvement), entwined, string (attachment), tangle (n), tangled
- money: rope (velvet rope)
- obstacles & impedance: knot (n), snarl (v), snarl (impedance)
- proper name: knot (the Pamir Knot, etc.)
- pursuit, capture & escape: ensnare (v), ensnared
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: loose ends
- relationship: entwined
- sequence: string (sequence)
- sex: loose (loose woman)
- situation: bind (in a bind), enmeshed, ensnare (v), ensnared, ensnarled (involvement), entangled (involvement)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: play out (v)
- superiority & inferiority: rope (velvet rope)
- survival, persistence & endurance: rope (on the ropes)

## **ROUTE (1) (see also course, direction)**

- animal: alley (Bat Alley, etc.)
- atmosphere: skyway

- blood: artery (route)
- bridge: bridge (air bridge, etc.)
- canal: canal (birth canal, etc.)
- direction: climb (roads, etc.)
- epithet: road (Whale Road, etc.), Silk Road (maritime Silk Road, etc.)
- gate: gateway (gateway to India, etc.)
- infrastructure: alley (Death Alley / U.S. 61), avenue (route), bridge (air bridge, etc.), canal (birth canal, etc.), corridor (route), expressway, highway (iceberg highway, etc.), pipe (n), pipeline (other), road (road from / to something), superhighway
- journeys & trips: pathway (route), road (road from / to something), trail (campaign trail, etc.), trail (canoe trail, etc.), way (route)
- path: pathway (route)
- river: bridge (air bridge, etc.), stream (bloodstream etc.)
- sky: skyway
- water: canal (birth canal, etc.), channel (through channels), channel (back channel), channel (distribution channel, etc.), conduit, pipe (n), pipeline (other), stream (bloodstream, etc.)

## ROUTE (2)

- danger: way (in harm's way), way (out of harm's way)
- development: course (development)
- resemblance: passage (nasal passage, etc.)
- situation: way (in harm's way) way (out of harm's way)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: course (run its course, etc.)
- transmission: corridor (route)

## ROYALTY (2)

- achievement, recognition & praise: coronation (n)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: fealty (n)
- area: kingdom (control), realm (area)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: court (hold court), herald (v), herald (n)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: herald (v), herald (n), usher in (v)
- comparison & contrast: queen-size (and queen sized)
- control & lack of control: kingdom (control), rule (v), ruled, usurp (v)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: dethrone (v), dethroned
- epithet: king (king cobra, etc.), king (products), king (person), monarch (MS Monarch, etc.), prince (epithet), queen (Queen of Soul, etc.), Versailles (Russian Versailles, etc.)
- help & assistance: handmaiden (help)
- hierarchy: bee (queen bee), blue blood
- oppression: edict (n), lord over (v), reign of terror / fear, etc.
- origin: house (origin)
- person: handmaiden (help), king (person), monarch (primacy), prince (person), princess (person), queen (role), whipping boy (person)
- possession: usurp (v)
- power: dynasty (sports dynasty, etc.), lord over (v), monarch (primacy), overlord (person), throne (power)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: accession (n), crown (superlative), dethrone (v), dethroned, dynasty (sports dynasty, etc.), heir apparent, king (person), monarch (primacy), reign (v), reign (n), reigning, throne (in line for the throne), throne (pretender to the throne), throne (primacy)
- proper name: Emperor (Exmoor Emperor, etc.), king (king cobra, etc.), Kingdom (Magic Kingdom, etc.), monarch (MS Monarch, etc.), Queen (Dairy Queen, etc.), throne (Blondie's Throne, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: castle (protection)

- punishment & recrimination: whipping boy (person)
- relationship: handmaiden (help)
- resemblance: palace (movie palace, etc.)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: crowned (v), scepter (authority)
- size: palatial (adj)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: reign (v)
- superiority & inferiority: blue blood, red carpet (treatment)
- superlative: aristocracy (n), aristocratic (aristocratic wine, etc.), crown (superlative), crown jewel, king (king cobra, etc.), king (products), king (person), monarch (primacy), prince (epithet), prince (person), princess (person), queen (Queen of Soul, etc.), queen (role), royalty (n)
- taking & removing: usurp (v)
- taxonomy & classification: kingdom (animal kingdom)
- welcome: red carpet (treatment)
- worth & lack of worth: crown jewel

## **RUBBING & WASHING (2)**

- resemblance: scoured
- searching & discovery: scour (v)
- transmission: rub off on (v)

## **RUINS (2)**

- behavior: self-destructive (adj)
- character & personality: self-destructive (adj)
- decline: crumble (v)
- destruction: bring down (v), buckle (give way), collapse (v), collapse (n), collateral damage (n), crash (crash down), crumble (v), damage (n), debris (n), demolition (n), flatten (v), roof (a roof can cave in), rubble (in the rubble), rubble (other), ruin (v), ruin (financial ruin, etc.), ruin (in ruins, etc.), ruin (road to ruin), ruined, smash (smash a record, etc.), topple (v), waste (lay waste), wreck (v), wreck (person), wreckage (n), wrecked
- dismissal, removal & resignation: topple (v)
- disruption: smash (smash a record, etc.), topple (v)
- failure, accident & impairment: crumble (v)
- feeling, emotion & effect: destroy (emotion), devastated (emotion), devastating (feeling), wreck (person)
- failure, accident & impairment: buckle (give way), collapse (v), collapse (n), roof (a roof can cave in), tumble down (v), wreck (v), wreck (person)
- mental health: destroy (emotions)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: topple (v)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: buckle (give way)

## **SACRIFICE (1)**

- animal: lamb (sacrificial lamb), scapegoat (n)
- blood: blood (effort), iron and blood (effort, sacrifice)
- fire: holocaust (n)
- food & drink: belt (tighten one's belt), belt-tightening
- justice: scapegoat (n)
- money: treasure (money)
- person: fall guy (n)
- religion: altar (at / on / upon the altar), holocaust (n), lamb (sacrificial lamb), sacrifice (give up something), sacrifice (n), scapegoat (n)
- sheep: lamb (sacrificial lamb)
- sign, signal, symbol: blood (effort), iron and blood (effort, sacrifice), treasure (money)

- verb: sacrifice (give up something)

## **SANCTIONING, AUTHORITY & NON-CONFORMITY (1) (see also allegiance, support & betrayal; unanimity & consensus)**

- allusion: promethean (adj), shibboleth (n), Young Turk
- animal: black sheep, buck (v), crab (crab in a bucket, etc.), maverick (person), rogue (n), sacred cow
- Bible: Bible (authority)
- boat: boat (rock the boat)
- center & periphery: outlier (n)
- clothing & accessories: mantle (n)
- color: amber (traffic light), black sheep, green (green list, etc.), green light (n), green light (v), green-lighted (and green-lit), red (red list, etc.), traffic light (or traffic signal)
- cows & cattle: maverick (person), sacred cow
- creature: ghost (unregistered, etc.)
- direction: high (from on high)
- document: license (n), passport (n)
- doors & thresholds: gatekeeper (person)
- epithet: Mormon (Mormons of the Middle East)
- face: frown (v), frowned upon, smile (v)
- gate: gatecrasher (person), gatekeeper (person)
- gesture: applaud (v), applauded, frown (v), frowned upon, nod (permission), smile (v)
- government: embargo (n), franchise (n), license (n), magisterial (adj), passport (n)
- head: nod (permission)
- height: pedestaled
- history: Young Turk
- horse: buck (v), maverick (person)
- license: license (n)
- line: hew (hew to the line, etc.), line (government line, etc.)
- manufacturing: mold (fit a mold, etc.)
- mark: rubber stamp (n), stamp (stamp of approval)
- mechanism: fit in (v)
- military: drummer (different drummer), rebel (person), rebel (v), step (in step), step (out of step)
- movement: go-ahead
- music: offbeat (adj), tune (dance to the tune)
- part of speech: go-ahead, OK (and okay / verb)
- person: bad boy (person), gatekeeper (person), heretic (person), iconoclast (person), immortal (person), maverick (person), police (and cop, etc.), rebel (person), renegade (person)
- religion: anathema, anoint (v), anointed, apostasy (n), beatification (n), beatify (v), Bible (authority), blasphemy, blessing (sanction), canon (literature), canon (other), canonical (adj), canonize (v), defrock (v), dogma (n), ecclesiastical (adj), enshrine (v), enshrined, excommunicated, heresy (n), heretic (person), heretical (adj), high priest, iconoclasm (n), iconoclast (person), iconoclastic (adj), immortal (person), immortality (n), imprimatur, Mormon (Mormons of the Middle East), myth (n), Olympus (Mount Olympus), orthodox (adj), orthodoxy (n), pantheon (n), piety (n), priesthood (n), promethean (adj), renegade (person), sacred cow, sacrilegious (adj), shibboleth (n), sin (n), taboo (n), Valhalla (n)
- royalty: crowned (v), scepter (authority)
- school & education: slip (permission slip)
- sea: tide (buck the tide)
- sheep: black sheep
- shoulder: shoulder (tapped on the shoulder, etc.)

- sign, signal, symbol: amber (traffic light), frown (v), frowned upon, green (green list, etc.), green light (n), green light (v), green-lighted (and green-lit), red (red list, etc.), scepter (authority), seal of approval, smile (v), traffic light (or traffic signal)
- society: gatekeeper (person)
- sound: applaud (v), applauded, drummer (different drummer)
- sports & games: ground rule, playing field (uneven playing field, etc.), playing field (level the playing field)
- statue: pedestaled
- ticket: pass (free pass), ticket (and punch one's ticket, etc.)
- tide: tide (buck the tide)
- tree: grain (against the grain), hew (hew to the line, etc.)
- verb: anoint (v), applaud (v), beatify (v), buck (v), canonize (v), defrock (v), enshrine (v), frown (v), green light (v), hew (hew to the line, etc.), OK (and okay / verb), playing field (level the playing field), rebel (v), sign off (on something), smile (v), tide (buck the tide), tune (dance to the tune)
- walking, running & jumping: step (in step), step (out of step)
- writing & spelling: sign off (on something)

## **SARCASM (2)**

- language: cough (snark / noun), damn (damn with faint praise), Einstein (intelligence, or lack), Jeopardy! (snark), memo (sarcasm), much (sarcasm), not (and not so much / sarcasm), Oh (and wait a minute, etc. / sarcasm), Oh, my! (sarcasm), science (not rocket science), surprise (sarcasm), thanks (and thank you / sarcasm), Wheel of Fortune (snark), wrong (sarcasm)

## **SCALE (2)**

- amelioration & renewal: counterbalance (v)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: weigh (analyze)
- cost & benefit: outweigh (cost and benefit)
- development: scale (tip the scales)
- disruption: balance (off balance), balance (out of balance), imbalanced
- equilibrium & stability: balance (v), balance (out of balance), balance (off balance), balance (work & job, etc.), balance (n), balanced, balance of power, counterbalance (v), counterbalance (n), counterweight (n), disequilibrium (n), equilibrium (n), imbalanced
- fate, fortune & chance: balance (in the balance)
- flaws & lack of flaws: balance (off balance), balance (out of balance), balanced, imbalanced
- initiation: scale (tip the scales)
- judgment: scale (scales of justice, etc.), scale (put one's finger on the scale, etc.), weigh (analyze)
- readiness & preparedness: balance (off balance)

## **SCHOOL & EDUCATION (2)**

- ability & lack of ability: competence (metaphoric competence, etc.), IQ (ability), school (experience), study (quick study)
- achievement, recognition & praise: dean (person)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: blank (fill in the blanks), study (n)
- area: sandbox (area)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: cheerlead (v), cheerleader (person)
- behavior: fight (food fight), lesson (n), slip (permission slip)
- coercion & motivation: bullied, bully (v), bully (person)
- conflict: fight (food fight)
- division & connection: breakout (breakout sessions, etc.)
- enthusiasm: cheerlead (v), cheerleader (person)
- environment: playground (n)

- epithet: dean (person), West Point (epithet)
- experience: freshman (adj), school (v), school (experience), schooled, university (experience)
- extent & scope: extracurricular
- group, set & collection: boys' club (boy's club, boys club), fraternity (n), Old Boy (Old Boy network, etc.)
- growth & development: graduate (v)
- hierarchy: boys' club (boy's club, boys club), Old Boy (Old Boy network, etc.)
- judgment: grade (failing grade), mark (high mark), quiz (v), report card
- knowledge & intelligence: IQ (ability), learn (v), lesson (n), masterclass, note (compare notes), professor (n), school (v), school (experience), schooled, teacher (experience is the best teacher, etc.), textbook (n), university (experience)
- message: lecture (v)
- oppression: bullied, bully (v), bully (person)
- person: bully (person), chaperone (role), cheerleader (person), dean (person)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: new school, old school, test (test of time)
- past & present: new school, old school
- readiness & preparedness: homework (n)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: slip (permission slip)
- society: boys' club (boy's club, boys club), fraternity (n), Old Boy (Old Boy network, etc.)
- script: copybook (n), textbook (n)
- success & failure: grade (failing grade)
- superlative: masterclass (n)
- survival, persistence & endurance: test (test of time)
- time: new school, old school

## SCRIPT (1)

- books & reading: book (by the book), book (rule book), handbook (script), playbook (n), textbook (n)
- food & drink: recipe (vaccine recipe, etc.), recipe (for conflict, etc.)
- health & medicine: prescribe (v), prescription (n)
- infrastructure: blueprint
- journeys & trips: road map
- map: road map
- manufacturing: boilerplate (n), template (n)
- number: formula (script)
- religion: catechism (n), hymnal (n)
- school & education: copybook (n), textbook (n)
- sports & games: book (rule book), playbook (n)
- theater: cue (n), script (to script), script (off script, etc.)
- tools & technology: boilerplate (n)
- verb: prescribe (v)

## SEA (2) (see also island; tide; tsunami; wave)

- affliction: barnacle (affliction), encrustation (affliction)
- amelioration & renewal: barnacle (scrape the barnacles, etc.), tide (stem the tide, etc.)
- amount: abundance (amount), armada (n), ocean (amount), fleet (amount), sea (amount)
- amount & effect: change (sea change), floodtide (n), groundswell (n), maelstrom (in a maelstrom), maelstrom (other), tidal wave (in a tidal wave), tidal wave (other), tide (on a tide), tide (rising tide), tide (other), tsunami (n), wave (in a wave), wave (amount & effect), whirlpool (in a whirlpool), whirlpool (other)
- appearance & disappearance: blue whale, sink (disappearance), wash up (v)
- area: waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- attachment: barnacled, encrustation (affliction)

- attenuation: shell (shell of this former self, etc.)
- attraction & repulsion: pull (tidal pull)
- certainty & uncertainty: uncharted (adj), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- character & personality: buccaneer (person), pirate (person)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: wash up (v)
- comprehension & incomprehension: fathom (v), unfathomable (adj)
- configuration: archipelago (n), pearl (string of pearls)
- control & lack of control: King Canute
- creation & transformation: change (sea change)
- danger: coast (coast is clear), lighthouse (protection), rock (on the rocks), Scylla and Charybdis, shoal (n), strait (dire straits, etc.), waters (dangerous waters, etc.)
- decline: ebb (decline), ebb (at a low ebb), ebb (on the ebb), ship (a sinking ship), washed-up (adj)
- destruction: founder (v), rock (on the rocks), scupper (v), scuttle (v), scuttled, shoal (n), sink (destroy), swept away (removal), torpedo (v), torpedo (n), water (blow something out of the water)
- development: ebb (development), tide (turn the tide, etc.), wave (ride a wave, etc.)
- direction: lighthouse (protection), sea (at sea), uncharted (adj)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: swept away (removal)
- division & connection: gulf (division), insular (adj), island (society), island (island of affluence, etc.), shore (far shore), stranded (separated)
- effect: wave (make waves, etc.)
- environment: island (island of affluence, etc.), sea (in a sea), sea (environment)
- experience: rope (learn the ropes, etc.), salt (sailor), salty (experience)
- extent & scope: high tide
- failure, accident & impairment: founder (v), rock (on the rocks), ship (a sinking ship), shoal (n)
- fate, fortune & chance: blue whale
- feeling, emotion & effect: swept away (emotion), wave (make waves, etc.)
- force: floodtide (n), wave (crest of a wave)
- group, set & collection: armada (n), fleet (amount)
- increase & decrease: tide (rising tide)
- isolation & remoteness: castaway (person), insular (adj), marooned, Robinson Crusoe, shell (protection)
- movement: ebb (movement), tide (other), wave (amount and effect)
- obstacles & impedance: shoal (n)
- occurrence: blue whale
- person: buccaneer (person), pirate (person)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: high tide, washed-up (adj)
- progress & lack of progress: doldrums (n)
- proper name: wave (Wave Rock, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: batten (batten down), harbor (v), harbor (safe harbor), haven (safety)
- readiness & preparedness: batten (batten down)
- relationship: pull (tidal pull)
- resemblance: barnacle (resemblance), island (beech island, etc.), lagoon (n), ocean (ocean of air, etc.), sea (sea of sand, etc.), shore (resemblance)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: tide (buck the tide)
- reversal: change (sea change), tide (turn the tide, etc.)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: tide (buck the tide)
- searching & discovery: naut (Argonaut, etc.)
- shape: wave (shape)
- situation: strait (dire straits, etc.)
- society: castaway (person), island (society), marooned, Robinson Crusoe, shore (far shore), stranded (separated)

- substance & lack of substance: shell (substance), shell (shell of his former self, etc.)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: abundance (amount)
- superlative: pearl
- survival, persistence & endurance: batten (batten down)
- taking & removing: buccaneer (person), pirate (person), piratical (adj)

## **SEARCHING & DISCOVERY (1) (see also pursuit, capture & escape) (appearance & disappearance; occurrence; presence & absence)**

- affix: naut (Argonaut, etc.)
- allusion: El Dorado, grail (holy grail), rabbit hole (exploration), rainbow (searching and discovery), Sherlock Holmes
- animal: bloodhound (n), expedition (fishing expedition), feeler (put out feelers, etc.), ferret out (v)
- arm: feeler (put out feelers, etc.)
- atmosphere: rainbow (searching and discovery)
- Bible: grail (holy grail)
- blade: scrape (v)
- boat: dredge up (v), naut (Argonaut, etc.), trawl (v)
- burial: exhume (v)
- cloth: curtain (pull back the curtain, look behind the curtain, etc.), thread (investigation), unfold (discover), unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.)
- clothing & accessories: search (digital strip search, etc.)
- death & life: exhume (v)
- direction: bottom (get to the bottom of something), come up with (discovery), turned up (discover)
- dog: bloodhound (n)
- earth & world: earth (to the ends of the earth, etc.)
- engine: hood (look under the hood, etc.)
- epithet: Columbus (Chinese Columbus, etc.), grail (holy grail)
- eye: look for (v), look into (v)
- farming & agriculture: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), glean (v), gleaned, sieve (n), winnow (v)
- fish: expedition (fishing expedition), trawl (v)
- ground, terrain & land: come up with (discovery), dig (search for), dig deep (analysis), dig into (v), dig through (v), dig up (v), dredge up (v), excavate (v), fool's gold, frontier (n), ground (cover ground), pay dirt, rock (turn over every rock, etc.), stone (turn over every stone, etc.), turned up (discovered), turn up (discover), uncover (v), unearth (v), unearthed
- hair: comb (v)
- history: El Dorado, trail (blaze a trail)
- hunting: bloodhound (n), Easter egg, expedition (fishing expedition), find (discover), find (hope, etc.), search (for truth, cure, etc.), track down (v), trail (digital trail, etc.)
- insect: feeler (put out feelers, etc.)
- journeys & trips: exploration (n), explore (discover), explorer (person), ground (cover ground), pathfinder (person), trail (blaze a trail)
- key: unlock (v)
- knife: scrape (v)
- light & dark: light (come to light), light (bring something to light)
- map: Dark Continent
- mark: trail (blaze a trail)
- Middle Ages: grail (holy grail), quest (in a quest), quest (on a quest), quest (other)
- military: scout (n), scout (v)

- mining: dig (search for), dig deep (analysis), dig into (v), dig through (v), dig out, dig up, dry (come up dry), excavate (v), fool's gold, gold (strike gold), mine (search), mining (data, etc.), pay dirt, unearth (v), unearthed
- money: treasure trove (and trove)
- object: search (n)
- part of speech: reveal (big reveal, etc.)
- path: pathfinder (person)
- person: detective (person), explorer (person), pathfinder (person), scout (n), sleuth (person), talent scout (and spotter, etc.)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: dredge up (v)
- religion: grail (holy grail)
- rubbing & washing: scour (v)
- sea: naut (Argonaut, etc.)
- sign, signal, symbol: magnifying glass (search)
- sky: rainbow (searching and discovery)
- smell: sniff out (v)
- theater: curtain (pull back the curtain, look behind the curtain, etc.), talent scout (and spotter, etc.)
- tools & technology: magnifying glass (search), needle (needle in a haystack), rake up (v), sift (searching), sifted
- verb: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), comb (v), come up with (discovery), dig (search for), dig deep (analysis), dig into (v), dig through (v), dredge up (v), dry (come up dry), excavate (v), exhume (v), explore (discover), feeler (put out feelers, etc.), ferret out (v), glean (v), ground (cover ground), light (come to light), light (bring something to light), look for (v), look into (v), mine (search), rake up (v), rock (turn over every rock, etc.), scour (v), scout (v), scrape (v), stone (turn over every stone, etc.), sift (searching), sniff out (v), stumble (stumble across / on / upon), surface (intransitive), track down (v), trail (blaze a trail), trawl (v), turn up (discover), uncover (v), unearth (v), unfold (discover), unlock (v), unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.), winnow (v)
- walking, running & jumping: stumble (stumble across / on / upon)
- water: dry (come up dry), sound (measure), surface (intransitive)
- wheat: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), winnow (v)

## SEASON (2)

- death & life: season (life), winter (decline)
- decline: autumn (in the autumn), winter (decline)
- destruction: winter (nuclear winter, etc.)
- development: season (life)
- epithet: spring (Arab Spring, etc.)
- experience: seasoned (experienced)
- growth & development: autumn (in the autumn), spring (Arab Spring, etc.), winter (decline)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: autumn (in the autumn), winter (decline)
- resemblance: winter (resemblance)
- time: season (life), season (hunting), season (sports), season (public health), season (agriculture), season (animals, insects, etc.), season (natural events), season (other)

## SENSATION (2)

- affliction: biting (adj), gall (v), gnaw (v), gnawing (gnawing doubt, etc.), irritant (n), irritated, needle (v), neck (pain in the neck), pain (economic pain, etc.), pain (pain in the neck, etc.), pinch (pinch of hunger, etc.), pinched, saddle (a burr in the saddle), shoe (a stone in the shoe), thorn (n), thorny (adj), wound (salt in a wound)
- amelioration & renewal: smooth (v), soothe (sensation)
- character & personality: abrasive (adj), elbow (sharp elbows, etc.), irritating, nerveless (adj), pain (pain in the neck, etc.), sensitive (feelings), smooth (character), thick-skinned (adj), thin-skinned (adj), toe (step on toes), touchy (personality)

- consciousness & awareness: daze (in a daze), numb (adj), slap (awareness)
- disruption: toe (step on toes)
- division & connection: fuzzy (adj), limb (phantom limb)
- eagerness & reluctance: itch (v), itchy (adj)
- effect: hit (affect), hit (affected), impact (affect), impact (effect), impacted (affected), punch (punch in the gut, etc.), strike (affect), struck (affected)
- empathy: feel (I feel you, etc.)
- enthusiasm: bitten (enthusiasm), itch (enthusiasm)
- feeling, emotion & effect: abrasive (adj), biting (adj), blistering (adj), blow (body blow, etc.), blow (bitter blow, etc.), bruise (v), bruised, bruising (adj), burned (hurt), burned-out (and burnt-out), burning (burning desire, etc.), buzz (sensation), caustic (adj), corrosive (adj), dizzying (adj), elbow (sharp elbows, etc.), gnaw (v), gnawing (gnawing doubt, etc.), grate (v), gut-wrenching (adj), hair (hair on fire), heartache (n), heartfelt, heartthrob, heart-wrenching, hit (affect), hit (affected), hurt (feeling and emotion / verb), hurt (damage, injure), impact (affect), impact (effect), impacted (affected), irritant (n), irritated, irritating, irritation, jolt (n), kick (kick one's butt, etc.), kick (kick in the teeth, etc.), lacerating (adj), nerveless (adj), nerve-racking, numb (adj), pain (economic pain, etc.), pain (emotional), painful (adj), palpable (adj), pinch (pinch of hunger, etc.), pinched, pins and needles, prickle (prickle of anxiety, etc.), pummeled, punch (punch in the gut, etc.), raw (emotions, etc.), raw nerve (feeling), rub (rub somebody the wrong way), scorching (adj), searing (adj), sensitive (adj), shoe (a stone in the shoe), smart (v), soothe (sensation), sore (sensation), sorely, stab (stab of pain, etc.), stabbing (stabbing pain, etc.), sting (n), stinging (adj), strike (affect), striking (adj), struck (affected), stun (v), stunned (feeling), stunning (adj), stung (feeling), teeth (kick in the teeth), thick-skinned (adj), thin-skinned (adj), toe (step on toes), touchy (adj), whiplash (n), wrenching (adj)
- flaws & lack of flaws, rough (adj), smooth (lack of flaws), thorny (adj)
- mental health: pain (emotional), painful (adj)
- money: tight (money)
- presence & absence: limb (phantom limb), palpable (adj)
- punishment & recrimination: eye (poke something in the eye, etc.)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: heartfelt (adj)
- speech: caustic (adj), caustically, fuzzy (adj), needle (v), smooth (speech)
- survival, persistence & endurance: pinch (pinch of hunger, etc.), pinched

## SEQUENCE (1)

- affix: sequel (prequel, etc.)
- boat: wake (in the wake of)
- boxing: blow-by-blow (a blow-by-blow account, etc.), punch (beat somebody to the punch)
- chain: chain (chain of events), chain (other), chain reaction
- direction: after (at a later time), afternoon (at a later time), ancestor (go before), before (at an earlier time), descendant (come after / down), follow (at a later time), following (at a later time), forefather (n), forenoon (at an earlier time), forerunner (n), last (last night, etc. / at an earlier time), next (at a later time), precede (at an earlier time), preceding (at an earlier time), predecessor (go away before), train (in one's train / at a later time), upon (tragedy upon tragedy, etc.), wake (in the wake of / at a later time)
- epithet: next (next Steve Jobs, etc.)
- food & drink: table (set the table)
- heel: heel (on the heels)
- height: descendant (come after / down)
- history: descendant (come after / down)
- horse: horse (cart before the horse)
- journeys & trips: way (give way to something)
- leg: leg (first leg, etc.)

- line: queue (sequence), string (sequence)
- military: harbinger (n)
- mountains & hills: descendant (come after / down)
- movement: ancestor (go before), follow (at a later time), following (sequence), following (at a later time), precede (at an earlier time), preceding (at an earlier time), predecessor (go away before), train (in one's train / at a later time), wake (in the wake of / at a later time)
- position: after (at a later time), afternoon (at a later time), ancestor (go before), before (at an earlier time), forefather (n), forenoon (at an earlier time), forerunner (n), next (at a later time), precede (at an earlier time), predecessor (go away before), top (on top of / at the same time), train (in one's train / at a later time), upon (tragedy upon tragedy, etc.), wake (in the wake of / at a later time)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: after (at a later time), afternoon (at a later time), before (at an earlier time), following (at a later time), forefather (n), forenoon (at an earlier time), forerunner (n), last (last night, etc. / at an earlier time), late (late Stone Age, etc.), next (next Steve Jobs, etc.), next (at a later time), preceding (at an earlier time), top (on top of / at the same time), train (in one's train / at a later time), upon (tragedy upon tragedy, etc.), wake (in the wake of / at a later time)
- rope: string (sequence)
- speech: answer (respond), answer (response)
- sports & games: domino (domino effect, etc.)
- table: table (set the table)
- time: following (at a later time), preceding (at an earlier time), tick-tock (n)
- train: train (in one's train / at a later time)
- verb: answer (respond), follow (at a later time), jump (jump ahead), precede (at an earlier time), punch (beat somebody to the punch), step back (sequence), way (give way to something)
- walking, running & jumping: jump (jump ahead), step (first step, etc.), step back (sequence), walk (crawl, walk, run)
- water: wake (in the wake of)
- weapon: shot (opening shot), shot (parting shot)

## SEX (1)

- allusion: Casanova (Serbian Casanova, etc.)
- animal: maneater (female), stud (male)
- books & reading: Casanova (Serbian Casanova, etc.), Don Juan
- clothing & accessories: pants (get in somebody's pants)
- epithet: Casanova (Serbian Casanova, etc.), Don Juan, Freud (sex)
- euphemism: bedroom (sex), birds and the bees, couch (casting couch), easy (sex), loose (loose woman), pants (get in somebody's pants)
- history: puritanism (n)
- horse: stud (male)
- hygiene: dirty (sex), filthy (sex), purity (sex)
- materials & substances: purity (sex)
- mechanism: machine (sex machine), turned on (sex)
- mental health: crazed (sex-crazed)
- person: maneater (female), stud (male)
- predation: maneater (female)
- religion: puritanism (n)
- rope: loose (loose woman)
- temperature: steamy (adj)
- tools & technology: hookup (sex)
- verb: pants (get in somebody's pants)

## SEX (2)

- attraction & repulsion: alluring (adj), lust (n), porn (food porn, etc.), seduced, seductive (adj), sexy (adj), slut (enthusiasm), whore (attention whore, etc.)
- behavior: slut (enthusiasm), whore (attention whore, etc.)
- control & lack of control: passion (enthusiasm), passionate, passionately
- eagerness & reluctance: slut (enthusiasm), whore (attention whore, etc.)
- enthusiasm: lust (n), passion (enthusiasm), passionate, passionately, slut (enthusiasm), whore (attention whore, etc.)
- experience: coming out (party, etc.), debutant (n), maiden (adj), virgin (n)
- feeling, emotion & effect: passion (enthusiasm), passionate, passionately, turned on (sex)
- pursuit, capture & escape: seduce (v), seduced
- relationship: incestuous (adj), incestuousness (n)
- restraint & lack of restraint: orgy (n)
- speech: pander (v), tout (person)

## SHADOW (2)

- attention, scrutiny & promotion: dim (overshadow), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), overshadow (v), penumbra (n), shadow (attention)
- attenuation: shadow (devitalized)
- certainty & uncertainty: shadow (beyond a shadow of a doubt, etc.)
- competition: overshadow (v), shadow (attention)
- concealment & lack of concealment: shadow (concealment), shadowy
- configuration: shadow (rain shadow, etc.)
- corruption: shady (adj)
- decline: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)
- division & connection: daylight (division)
- feeling, emotion & effect: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), shadow (cast a shadow), shadow (in / under a shadow), shadow (dark shadow, etc.)
- oppression: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), shadow (cast a shadow), shadow (in / under the shadow), shadow (dark shadow, etc.)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: dim (overshadow), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), overshadow (v)
- proximity: shadow (proximity), shadow (follow)
- repetition: shadow (shadow government, etc.)
- substance & lack of substance: shadow (devitalized), shadow (shadow boxing, etc.)
- superiority & inferiority: dim (overshadow), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), overshadow (v), penumbra (n), shadow (attention)
- subterfuge: shady (adj)

## SHAPE (1)

- animal: butterfly (shape), dogleg (shape), honeycomb (shape), horn (shape), nest (shape), plume (shape), web (spider web and cobweb, etc.)
- arm: elbow (shape)
- astronomy: moon (shape), star (shape)
- bell: bell curve (shape)
- bird: beak (area), nest (shape), nest (Bird's Nest, etc.), plume (shape)
- blade: knife-edged, sickle (shape)
- bottle: bottleneck (n)
- bullet: bullet (shape)
- canal: canal (birth canal, etc.)
- clock: hourglass (shape)

- cloth: needle (shape), ribbon (ribbon of moonlight, etc.)
- clothing & accessories: belt (area), boot (Italy's boot, etc.), washboard (bumpy)
- creature: angel (snow angel)
- direction: bell curve (shape), dogleg (shape), elbow (shape), hairpin (shape), peak (peaks and troughs, etc.), plateau (n), trough (direction), U-turn (n), valley (n), zig-zag (v)
- dog: dogleg (shape)
- epithet: elbow (the Elbow of the Andes, etc.), pipeline (Mexican Pipeline, etc.)
- eye: eye (resemblance)
- fan: fan (shape)
- finger: finger (shape)
- food & drink: burrito (shape), doughnut (doughnut-shaped), pancake (pancake ice, etc.), pie (shape), punch bowl (shape)
- ground, terrain & land: contour (n), isthmus (shape)
- hand: handle (shape)
- hair: hairpin (shape)
- heart: heart (shape)
- horn: horn (shape)
- horse: horseshoe (shape), saddle (shape), spur (shape)
- house: nest (shape), shelf (ice shelf, etc.)
- infrastructure: canal (birth canal, etc.), dome (shape), pipe (sports), pipeline (shape)
- insect: butterfly (shape), honeycomb (shape), web (spider web and cobweb, etc.)
- knife: knife-edged
- letters & characters: shaped (H-shaped, etc.), U-turn (n), zig-zag (v), zig-zag (n)
- mechanism: hub (center)
- mountains & hills: peak (peaks and troughs, etc.), plateau (n), valley
- moon: moon (shape)
- mouth: jaw (jaws of life, etc.), mandible (n)
- neck: bottleneck (n), neck (area)
- nose: nose (shape)
- object: punch bowl (shape), slot (shape)
- plant: mushroom (shape)
- proper name: nest (Bird's Nest, etc.)
- religion: angel (snow angel)
- roof: dome (shape)
- route: alley
- sea: wave (shape)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: nipple (shape)
- spider: web (spider web and cobweb, etc.)
- stair: step (shape)
- star: star (shape)
- table: table (shape)
- target: bull's-eye (shape)
- throat: throat (resemblance)
- tools & technology: anvil (shape), hourglass (shape), pitchfork (shape), sickle (shape)
- verb: zig-zag (v)
- water: funnel (water), wave (shape)
- wave: wave (shape)
- weapon: bullet (shape), bull's-eye (shape)

## SHAPE (2)

- area: beak (area), belt (area), boot (Italy's boot, etc.), corridor (area), horn, neck (area), panhandle (area), triangle (area)
- branching system: fork (the Forks of the Ohio, etc.)
- bullet: bullet (shape)
- comparison & contrast: shaped (anvil-shaped, etc.)
- condition & status: spiral (death spiral)
- configuration: belt (area), girdled, ringed (circled)
- conflict & lack of conflict: vicious circle
- course: trajectory (n)
- decline: trough (direction)
- destruction: spiral (death spiral)
- development: circle (a circle can close), circle (full circle), trajectory (n)
- direction: corkscrew (v), corkscrew (shape)
- epithet: fork (the Forks of the Ohio, etc.), keyhole (the Keyhole, etc.), pipeline (Mexican Pipeline, etc.), slot (the Slot, etc.)
- failure, accident & impairment: pear (pear-shaped / failure), T-bone (v), T-boned
- feeling, emotion & effect: vicious circle
- fictive motion: fork (a trail can fork, etc.), funnel (a road can funnel through, etc.)
- flaws & lack of flaws: warp (v), warped
- geography: alley (Cyclone Alley, etc.), beak (Parrot's Beak, etc.), boot (Italy's boot, etc.), dome (Half Dome, etc.), elbow (Elbow Lake, etc.), eye (the Eye of Kuruman, etc.), gap (the Monastir Gap, etc.), horn (Horn of Africa, etc.), moon (Valle de la Luna, etc.), pulpit (Devils pulpit, etc.), punch bowl (Punch Bowl Falls, etc.), shelf (Sahul Shelf, etc.), triangle (Ilemi Triangle, etc.)
- hierarchy: pyramid (hierarchy)
- increase & decrease: bulge (shape), bump (increase), plateau (n), plateau (v), spike (increase), spike (spike in business, etc.)
- involvement: loop (in the loop), loop (other)
- movement: corkscrew (v), doughnut (cars, etc.), fan out (v), spiral (downward or upward)
- obstacles & impedance: bottleneck (n), hump (n)
- progress & lack of progress: plateau (n), trough (direction)
- proper name: beak (Parrot's Beak, etc.), beehive (Beehive cluster, etc.), bottleneck (the Bottleneck, etc.), dome (Iron Dome, etc.), dome (Half Dome, etc.), elbow (Elbow Lake, etc.), eye (the Eye of Kuruman, etc.), gap (the Monastir Gap, etc.), hook (Hook of Holland, etc.), horn (Horn of Africa, etc.), keyhole (the Keyhole, etc.), moon (Valle de la Luna, etc.), punch bowl (Punch Bowl Falls, etc.), pyramid (the Black Pyramid, etc.), shard (The Shard, etc.), shelf (Sahul Shelf, etc.), slot (the Slot, etc.), spur (Geneva Spur, etc.), staircase (Devil's Staircase, etc.), stairway (Stairway Falls, etc.), table (Table Mountain, etc.), triangle (Ilemi Triangle, etc.), turnip (Turnip Rock, etc.), wave (Wave Rock, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: dome (Iron Dome, etc.)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: circle (a circle can close)
- relationship: vicious circle, triangle (fire triangle, etc.), triangle (love triangle, etc.)
- resemblance: doughnut (doughnut-shaped)
- sequence: vicious circle
- speed: streamline (speed up)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: streamline (speed up)

## SHARK (2)

- allegiance, support & betrayal: shark (thrown to the sharks)
- affliction: shark (predation)

- behavior: circle (predation), shark (predation)
- character & personality: shark (predation)
- person: shark (predation)

## **SHEEP (2) (see also animal)**

- acceptance & rejection: fold (to / into the fold)
- behavior: flock (v), sheep (consciousness)
- character & personality: black sheep
- consciousness & awareness: sheep (consciousness)
- destruction: lamb (lamb to the slaughter), sheep (predation)
- directing: shepherd (v)
- direction: bellwether (n)
- growth & development: lamb (n)
- movement: flock (v)
- sacrifice: lamb (sacrificial lamb)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: black sheep
- society: fold (to / into the fold), sheep (consciousness)
- speech: bleat (v)
- strength & weakness: sheep (predation)
- taking & removing: fleeced
- unanimity & consensus: sheep (consciousness)

## **SHOULDER (2)**

- action, inaction & delay: shoulder (shrug one's shoulders), shrug (gesture)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: shoulder (stand shoulder to shoulder, etc.)
- avoidance & separation: shrug off (v)
- bases: shoulder (stand on somebody's shoulders)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: shrug (gesture)
- empathy & lack of empathy: shoulder (a shoulder to cry on)
- oppression: shoulder (oppression)
- proximity: shoulder (rub shoulders)
- resemblance: shoulder (mountain, etc.)
- responsibility: shoulder (fall on the shoulders), shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: shoulder (tapped on the shoulder, etc.)
- social interaction: shoulder (rub shoulders)
- superiority & inferiority: shoulder (stand on somebody's shoulders)
- surveillance: shoulder (look over somebody's shoulder)
- unanimity & consensus: shoulder (stand shoulder to shoulder, etc.)
- work & duty: shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), shoulder (shoulder to the grindstone)

## **SIGHT (1)**

- eye: blind (hard to see, hidden), blind date, blinding, blind side (from the blind side), eye (v), eye (met our eyes, etc.), eyeball (sight)
- verb: eye (v)

## **SIGN, SIGNAL, SYMBOL (2)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: apple (Golden Apple / education), badge (badge of honor), bow (take a bow), clap (n), laurels (praise), lion (the Bronze Lion, etc.), medal (n), milestone (n), star (five stars, etc.), star (Silver Star, etc.), thumbs-up
- admiration & contempt: doormat (person)
- affliction: octopus (n), tentacle (n), shark (predation), wolf (predation)

- amelioration & renewal: magic (magic bullet, etc.)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: shorthand (n)
- appearance: cherubic (adj)
- attainment: milestone (n)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: billboard (n), eyeball (attention)
- bases: anchor (n), bread and butter (livelihood), ship (ship of state, etc.)
- behavior: halo (n)
- character & personality: Barbie (and Barbie Doll), black hat (bad), doormat (person), helmet (pith helmet), white hat (good)
- coercion & motivation: nose (bloody nose, etc.)
- comprehension & incomprehension: light bulb (and lightbulb, bulb)
- consciousness & awareness: light bulb (and lightbulb, bulb)
- creation & transformation: Phoenix (myth)
- death & life: blood (blood represents life), coffin (death / actual), cradle (symbol), grave (symbol), Grim Reaper (death), night (death / actual), red (blood), sickle (death)
- danger: zone (red zone, etc.)
- destruction: Phoenix (myth)
- direction: weather vane (n)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: blood (effort), platter (silver platter), sweat (work)
- dominance & submission: doormat (person)
- extent & scope: octopus (n), tentacle (n)
- evidence: sign (sign of the times, etc.), signal (v), signpost (as verb), signpost (n), symptom (n)
- face: face (public face, etc.)
- farming & agriculture: bowl (Vietnam's rice bowl, etc.), bowl (America's salad bowl, etc.), breadbasket (Pakistan's breadbasket, etc.), granary (Granary of Mexico, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: tear (crying)
- fire: flare (n)
- hierarchy: brass (leader)
- history: helmet (pith helmet)
- idea: light bulb (and lightbulb, bulb)
- identity & nature: pie (apple pie), unicorn (Scotland, etc.)
- importance & significance: milestone (n)
- inclusion & exclusion: knee (take a knee), rainbow (groups)
- insult: doormat (person)
- judgment: frown (v), frowned upon, scale (scales of justice, etc.), seal of approval, smile (v), star (five stars, etc.), thumbs-down, thumbs-up, upvote (and downvote)
- knowledge & intelligence: head (intelligence), light bulb (and lightbulb, bulb)
- light & dark: flare (n)
- lion: lion (the Bronze Lion, etc.)
- military: boot (soldier), Colonel Blimp, dove (person), hawk (person)
- money: box office (n), champagne (money), checkbook, coffer (n), cookie jar (n), dollar sign (n), fat cat, meal ticket (n), piggybank (n), platter (silver platter), pocket (deep pockets), pocketbook (money), purse (money), purse strings, rags-to-riches, rope (velvet rope), treasure (money), wallet (money), Wall Street (Wall Street of fish, etc.), war chest
- oppression: cage (jail, prison), pitchfork (oppression)
- origin: cradle (cradle of Islam, etc.), Phoenix (myth)
- person: boot (soldier), eyeball (attention), hand (worker), skirt (woman)
- power: corridor (corridors of power), hall (halls of academe, etc.), suit (person)
- progress & lack of progress: milestone (n)

- protection & lack of protection: lighthouse (protection)
- punishment & recrimination: nose (bloody nose, etc.)
- relationship: triangle (fire triangle, etc.), triangle (love triangle, etc.)
- religion: icon (symbol), iconic (adj), totem (n)
- representation: badge (representation), beret (Brown Beret, etc.), billboard (n), emblem (emblem of freedom, etc.), emblematic (adj), face (public face, etc.), icon (symbol), iconic (adj), poster (poster child, etc.), torch (other), totem (n)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: white flag (surrender)
- reverence: halo (n)
- role: hat (role)
- sacrifice: blood (effort), iron and blood (effort, sacrifice), treasure (money)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: amber (traffic light), frown (v), frowned upon, green (green list, etc.), green light (n), green light (v), green-lighted (and green-lit), red (red list, etc.), scepter (authority), seal of approval, smile (v), traffic light (or traffic signal)
- sea: ship (ship of state, etc.)
- searching & discovery: magnifying glass (search)
- society: crowd (society), forum (public forum, etc.), square (public square, etc.), street (society)
- strength & weakness: bear (Soviet Bear, etc.), iron and blood (effort, sacrifice)
- subterfuge: cloak and dagger
- superiority & inferiority: doormat (person), popcorn (n), rope (velvet rope)
- superlative: halo (n)
- survival, persistence & endurance: Phoenix (myth)
- transmission: torch (other)
- travel: suitcase (lived in a suitcase, etc.)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: candle (candle of hope, etc.)
- warning: black (warning), red flag (warning), sign (warning sign)
- wheat: breadbasket (Pakistan's breadbasket, etc.), granary (Granary of Mexico, etc.)
- work & duty: hand (worker), sweat (work)

## **SINCERITY, LACK OF SINCERITY & HONESTY (1)**

- animal: tear (crocodile tears)
- Bible: bible (hand on the bible, etc.)
- book (open book)
- bridge: bridge (a bridge to sell)
- cards: bluff (v), bluff (n), card (cards on the table)
- container: open (honest)
- direction: crooked (adj), straight (honest), straight shooter (speech), straight-talking, twist (twist the truth, etc.)
- face: face (concept)
- gambling: bluff (v), bluff (n), card (cards on the table)
- hygiene: clean (come clean)
- heart: cri de coeur, heart (sincerity), heartfelt (adj), heart-to-heart
- materials & substances: sugarcoat (and candy-coat)
- mouth: lip service (pay lip service, etc.), mouth (both sides of one's mouth), mouthpiece (person)
- person: mouthpiece (person), straight shooter (speech)
- religion: bible (hand on the bible, etc.), soul (bare one's soul)
- sensation: heartfelt (adj)
- sound: cri de coeur

- speech: blunt (speech), cri de coeur, lip service (pay lip service, etc.), shit (and bullshit / verb), shit (and bullshit / noun), slick (adj), smooth (speech), straight shooter (speech), straight-talking, talk (talk the talk), talker (slick talker), twist (twist the truth, etc.)
- sports & games: card (cards on the table)
- taste: sugarcoat (and candy-coat), sugarcoated, sugarcoating (n)
- verb: bluff (v), clean (come clean), sugarcoat (and candy-coat), talk (talk the talk), twist (twist the truth, etc.)
- waste: shit (and bullshit / verb), shit (and bullshit / noun)

## SITUATION (1)

- allusion: Dantesque (adj), frog (frog in boiling water)
- animal: doghouse (in the doghouse, etc.), frog (frog in boiling water), web (situation)
- boat: boat (in the same boat), strait (dire straits, etc.)
- books & reading: Catch-22
- boxing: box (box somebody into a corner), corner (in a tight corner, etc.)
- breadth: strait (dire straits, etc.)
- center & periphery: middle (in the middle)
- container: bind (in a bind), corner (in a tight corner, etc.), drawn in, drawn into, exit (n), get out (and get out of), hole (situation), in (situation), jam (situation), lap (lap of luxury), limbo (in limbo), out (want out), pulled in, pulled into, room (wiggle room), space (in a space, etc.), spot (tight spot, etc.), stay out (v), strait (dire straits, etc.), stuck (adj), trap (in a trap), trap (Chinese finger trap), trouble (in trouble), way (way out / escape), web (situation)
- cooking: frying pan (jump from the frying pan into the fire)
- corner: box (box somebody into a corner), corner (in a tight corner, etc.)
- depth: deep (situation), deep (in deep), depth (out of one's depth), head (get in over one's head, etc.)
- direction: go back (and get back), return (and return to)
- dog: doghouse (in the doghouse, etc.)
- explosion: time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.)
- fire: frying pan (jump from the frying pan into the fire)
- frog: frog (frog in boiling water)
- ground, terrain & land: rock (between a rock and a hard place), room (wiggle room), spot (tight spot, etc.), trapped
- hand: hold (on hold)
- head: head (get in over one's head, etc.)
- hole: dig out (v), hole (situation)
- heating water: frog (frog in boiling water), hot water (in hot water)
- hunting: caught up (in or by something), ensnare (v), ensnared, trap (in a trap)
- hygiene: hot mess (situation, etc.), mess (n)
- infrastructure: maze (bureaucracy, etc.)
- insect: web (situation)
- lap: lap (lap of luxury)
- light & dark: twilight (in a legal twilight, etc.)
- materials & substances: sticky (a sticky situation, etc.)
- movement: box (box somebody into a corner), corner (in a tight corner, etc.), drawn in, drawn into, go back (and get back), pulled in, pulled into, return (and return to), spot (tight spot, etc.), stuck (adj)
- place: here (situation), place (situation), place (place where), point (in a point), spot (tight spot, etc.), where (= the place where)
- position: middle (in the middle)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: in (situation), trouble (in trouble)
- pressure: crunch (crunch time), rock (between a rock and a hard place), trap (Chinese finger trap)

- religion: Dantesque (adj), hell (macro), hell (micro), limbo (in limbo), purgatory (n)
- rope: bind (in a bind), enmeshed, ensnarled (involvement), entangled (involvement)
- route: way (in harm's way), way (out of harm's way)
- sea: strait (dire straits, etc.)
- space: room (opportunity), space (in a space, etc.)
- spider: web (situation)
- sports & games: ballgame (new ballgame), game (situation), penalty box (n)
- temperature: frog (frog in boiling water), hot water (in hot water)
- tools & technology: jam (situation), vise (pressure)
- verb: box (box somebody into a corner), dig out (v), ensnare (v), go back (and get back), head (get in over one's head, etc.), out (want out), return (and return to), stay out (v), water (keep one's head above water)
- water: deep (situation), deep (in deep), depth (out of one's depth), frog (frog in boiling water), head (get in over one's head, etc.), hot water (in hot water), water (deep water), water (keep one's head above water)
- weapon: time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.)
- weight: rock (between a rock and a hard place)

## SIZE (1)

- affix: besity (infobesity, etc.), jumbo (large), mega (megadrought, etc.)
- allusion: behemoth (n), Brobdingnagian, colossal (adj), David (David and Goliath, etc.), gargantuan (size), Goliath (Bible), jumbo (large), Krakatoan (adj), leviathan, Lilliputian (adj), Olympian (size), Pharaonic (adj), spartan (adj), titan (n), zilla (bridezilla, etc.)
- animal: beast (power), elephant (elephant in the room, etc.), fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), gorilla (800-pound gorilla), jumbo (large), mammoth (size), minnow, mouse (size), whale (epithet)
- astronomy: astronomical (adj)
- atmosphere: skyscraper
- baby: baby (size)
- Bible: behemoth (n), David (David and Goliath, etc.), Goliath (Bible), leviathan (n)
- breadth: narrow (breadth), razor (razor-thin), slim (small), thin (size)
- clothing & accessories: seam (burst at the seams)
- creature: behemoth (n), giant (size), Godzilla (force), leviathan (n), monster (size), titan (n)
- epithet: Amazon (epithet / the company), Facebook (the Facebook of knitting, etc.), king (king cobra, etc.), mosquito (Mosquito Fleet, etc.), Mount Everest (and Everest), Uber (the Uber of towing, etc.), whale (epithet)
- fatness & thinness: bloated (size), flabby (adj), lean (size), slender (adj), slim (small)
- fish: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n), sardine (n), whale (epithet)
- flags & banners: banner (size)
- food & drink: supersized (adj)
- ground, terrain & land: cavernous (adj)
- health & medicine: bloated (size), flabby (adj), lean (size)
- heart: bighearted (and big-hearted)
- history: Pharaonic (adj)
- infrastructure: monumental (adj)
- insect: mosquito (Mosquito Fleet, etc.)
- mountains & hills: Himalayan (miscalculation, etc.), mountainous (adj), Mount Everest (and Everest), Olympian (size)
- object: postage stamp (size)
- part of speech: big (as noun)
- person: Brobdingnagian (adj), dwarf (size), pygmy (size)
- religion: behemoth (n), David (David and Goliath, etc.), Goliath (Bible), leviathan, monkish (adj), Olympian (size)

- royalty: palatial (adj)
- sky: skyscraper (tall building)
- standing, sitting & lying: sprawl (n), sprawling (adj)
- statue: colossal (adj)
- volcano: Krakatoan (adj)

## SIZE (2)

- achievement, recognition & praise: giant (achievement), titan (n)
- amount: gargantuan (size), grain (grain of truth), kernel (amount)
- amount & effect: colossal (adj), monster (size), stupendous (adj)
- attainment: big league (and big leagues)
- character & personality: boot (too big for one's boots), giant (gentle giant)
- commitment & determination: go big (v)
- comparison & contrast: queen-size (and queen sized), size (and sized / affix)
- consciousness & awareness: giant (sleeping giant)
- corruption: stunted
- decline: shrink (decline), shrivel (v)
- dominance & submission: dog (big dog)
- extent & scope: big (big fan, etc.), Big (comprehension, scope), go big (v), hugely, small-minded
- feeling, emotion & effect: enormously (exciting, etc.), great (great hatred, etc.), huge (huge gratitude, etc.)
- growth & development: stunted
- heart: bighearted (and big-hearted)
- hyperbole: supersizing (linguistic supersizing)
- importance & significance: big (significance), big (big name, etc.), Big (comprehension, scope), big daddy (authority), Big One (earthquake, etc.), big gun (and heavy gun), big league (and big leagues), big shot (person), bigwig (person), blip (n), colossus (n), fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), giant (achievement), huge (significant), man (big man, little man, etc.), minnow (n), mole hill (and molehill), monumental (adj), people (little people, etc.), potato (small potatoes), sardine (n), teacup (storm in a teacup), titan (n), towering (towering figure, etc.), whale (epithet)
- increase & decrease: balloon (v), big up (as verb), shrink (downsize), supersize (v), supersizing (linguistic supersizing), swell (v)
- mind: small-minded
- oppression: ham-handed
- perception, perspective & point of view: granular (adj)
- power: big shot (person), bigwig (person), fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), giant (sleeping giant), minnow (n), sardine (n)
- presence & absence: blip (n)
- proper name: giant (Giants Causeway, etc.)
- relationship: Mini-Me
- reputation: big (big name, etc.)
- resemblance: Mini-Me
- reversal: aircraft carrier (turn an aircraft carrier)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: blip (n)
- strength & weakness: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), kid (big kid on the block), minnow (n), puny, sardine (n)
- success & failure: big league (and big leagues)
- superiority & inferiority: shoe (big shoes)

## SKELETON (2)

- concealment & lack of concealment: skeleton (secret)

- resemblance: skeleton (resemblance)
- substance & lack of substance: skeleton (substance)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: bare-bones (adj), skeletal (adj), skeleton (skeleton crew, etc.)

## **SKIN, MUSCLE, NERVES & BONE (2) (see also health & medicine; wounds & scars)**

- accusation & criticism: eviscerate (v), eviscerated, lacerate (v), vivisection (n)
- affliction: boil (affliction), ulcer (n)
- amelioration & renewal: loosen up (feelings)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: dissect (v), vivisect (v)
- attenuation: atrophy (v)
- bases: backbone (basis), central nervous system (basis), nerve center (basis)
- character & personality: nerveless (adj), sensitive (feelings), thick-skinned (adj), thin-skinned (adj), touchy (personality)
- comparison & contrast: skin-deep
- condition & status: atrophy (v)
- conflict: war of nerves
- constraint & lack of constraint: hidebound (adj)
- control & lack of control: knee-jerk (adj), reflex (n), twitch (quick-twitch)
- courage & lack of courage: nerve (courage)
- destruction: dismember (v), dismembered, dismemberment (n), dissection (n), eviscerate (v), eviscerated, evisceration (n), lacerate (v)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: sinew (effort)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: amputate (remove), bone (cut something to the bone, etc.), pared (pared to the bone)
- division & connection: amputate (remove), limb (phantom limb)
- effect: nerve (strike a nerve, etc.)
- euphemism: skin (save one's skin)
- extent & scope: skin-deep, surface (scratch the surface)
- failure, accident & impairment: shot (nerves are shot, etc.), strain (v), stretch (v), stretched (stretched thin, etc.), mutilate (v)
- feeling, emotion & effect: anxiety (n), blistering (adj), blush (embarrassment), bruise (v), bruised, bruising (adj), chill (feeling), crawl (skin can crawl, etc.), flex (bragging), gutted (feeling), lacerating (adj), loosen up (feelings), nerve (anxiety), nerve (strike a nerve, etc.), nerveless (adj), nerve-racking, raw (emotions, etc.), raw nerve (feeling), sensitive (adj), shiver (n), shot (nerves are shot, etc.), skin (feeling), skin (jump out of one's skin), sore (sensation), sorely, startling (adj), strain (pressure), strained, taut (nerves, etc.), thick-skinned (adj), thin-skinned (adj), touchy (adj)
- flaws & lack of flaws: strain (pressure), strained, stretch (v), stretched (stretched thin, etc.)
- force: flex (power, etc.), muscle (political muscle, etc.), muscle (muscle its way through, etc.), muscular (adj)
- functioning: atrophy (v)
- hyperbole: skin (jump out of one's skin)
- identity & nature: bone (racist bone, etc.)
- mental health: anxiety (n)
- movement: muscle (muscle its way through, etc.)
- orientation: flesh (inside), skin (outside)
- power: flex (power, etc.), muscle (political muscle, etc.), muscle (muscle its way through, etc.), muscular (adj)
- presence & absence: limb (phantom limb)
- proper name: jaw (Dragon's Jaw, etc.), jawbone (Jawbone Canyon, etc.), nipple (Mollie's Nipples, etc.)
- proximity: bone (close to the bone, etc.)

- resemblance: flesh (inside), skeleton (resemblance)
- shape: nipple (shape)
- speech: eviscerate (v), eviscerated, lacerate (v), vivisection (n)
- strength & weakness: muscle (political muscle, etc.), muscle (muscle its way through, etc.), muscular (adj)
- substance & lack of substance: flesh and blood, flesh out (v), fleshed out, skeleton, skin-deep
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: bare-bones (adj), bone (cut something to the bone, etc.), pared (pared to the bone), skeletal (adj), skeleton (skeleton crew, etc.)
- survival, persistence & endurance: scalp (save one's scalp), skin (save one's skin)
- unanimity & consensus: pull together (v)
- work & duty: pull together (v), strain (v)

## **SKY (2) (see also air; atmosphere; wind)**

- appearance & disappearance: air (into thin air), air (out of thin air), black swan (rarity), blue (out of the blue, etc.), ether (into the ether), nowhere (come out of nowhere, etc.), sky (a clear blue sky, etc.)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: skyrocket (to attention, etc.)
- comparison & contrast: sky-high
- constraint & lack of constraint: sky (blue sky thinking)
- environment: firmament (n)
- experience: horizon (expand one's horizons)
- extent & scope: horizon (extent and scope), sky-high
- fate, fortune & chance: black swan (rarity), blue (out of the blue, etc.), lightning (fate), sky (the sky can fall)
- feeling, emotion & effect: afterglow (in the afterglow), afterglow (other)
- future: horizon (on the horizon)
- geography: rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.)
- idea: sky (blue sky thinking)
- increase & decrease: skyrocket (increase)
- mixture: rainbow (mixture)
- occurrence: black swan (rarity)
- origin: air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.)
- proper name: rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.)
- resemblance: rainbow (color)
- route: skyway
- searching & discovery: rainbow (searching and discovery)
- size: skyscraper (tall building)
- time: horizon (on the horizon)

## **SLEEP (2)**

- absorption & immersion: eat (eat and sleep, etc.)
- action, inaction & delay: nap (n)
- activity: astir (adj), awaken (nature, etc.), comatose (adj), dormant (adj), hibernation (in hibernation), hibernation (other), restlessness, sleepy (activity), wake (resemblance), wake up (activity)
- behavior: morning lark (person), night owl (person)
- commitment & determination: eat (eat and sleep, etc.)
- condition & status: comatose (adj)
- consciousness & awareness: arouse (verb), asleep (adj), asleep (at the switch, etc.), awake (adj), awaken (awareness), awakened (adj), awakening, call (wake-up call), comatose (adj), dream (fever dream, etc.), giant (sleeping giant), nap (n), sleeping (consciousness), sleepwalk (v), slumber (n), wake up (awareness)
- consumption: eat (eat and sleep, etc.)
- control & lack of control: asleep (at the switch, etc.)
- enthusiasm: eat (eat and sleep, etc.)

- failure, accident & impairment: asleep (at the switch, etc.)
- fantasy & reality: dream (fever dream, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: exhausting (mental health), nightmare (n), nightmare (worst nightmare), nightmarish (adj), sick and tired (feeling), tired (feeling), weary (feeling)
- functioning: comatose (adj)
- mental health: exhausting (mental health), sick and tired (feeling), tired (feeling), weary (feeling)
- person: morning lark (person), night owl (person)
- power: giant (sleeping giant)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: bed (put something to bed), bed (put to bed), rest (put / lay something to rest), rest (put / laid to rest), sleep (put something to sleep)
- relationship: bedfellow (companion)
- resemblance: awaken (nature, etc.), sleep (n), snooze (v), wake (resemblance)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: bed (put something to bed), bed (put to bed), rest (put / lay something to rest), rest (put / laid to rest), sleep (put something to sleep)
- verb: rest (put / lay something to rest)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: dream (n), dream (v)
- warning: call (wake-up call)

## **SMELL (2)**

- absorption & immersion: permeate (v)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: stink (n), stink (raise a stink)
- conflict: stink (n), stink (raise a stink)
- corruption: cesspit (n), cesspool (n), miasma (n), noxious (adj), reek (v), stink (v)
- eagerness & reluctance: nose (hold one's nose)
- evidence: fishy (something smells fishy, etc.), off (not right), rat (smell a rat), scent (evidence), smell (evidence), sniff out (v), stench (n), test (smell test), whiff (n), wind (get / catch wind of something)
- feeling, emotion & effect: noxious (adj)
- flaws & lack of flaws: reek (v), stink (v)
- pursuit, capture & escape: scent (throw somebody off the scent)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: stink (n), stink (raise a stink)
- searching & discovery: sniff out (v)
- subterfuge: scent (throw somebody off the scent)
- suspicion: fishy (something smells fishy, etc.), rat (smell a rat), smell (suspicion), test (smell test)

## **SNAKE (2) (see also animal)**

- attenuation: defang (v)
- character & personality: snake (insult)
- conflict: snake pit
- danger: snake pit
- destruction: snake (cut off the head of the snake, etc.)
- environment: snake pit
- fate, fortune & chance: snake (snake-bit)
- feeling, emotion & effect: venom (n), venomous (adj)
- fictive motion: snake (a trail can snake, etc.)
- insult: snake (insult)
- movement: snake (a trail can snake, etc.), wind (wind its way)
- person: snake (insult)
- resemblance: snake (a trail can snake, etc.)
- speech: venom (n), venomous (adj)
- strength & weakness: defang (v)

- subterfuge: snake oil (n)
- worth & lack of worth: snake oil (n)

## **SNOW & ICE (2) (see also glacier)**

- acceptance & rejection: freeze out (v), frozen out (excluded)
- access & lack of access: freeze (assets, etc.)
- action, inaction & delay: ice (put on ice / delayed)
- activity: freeze (v), freeze (activity), frozen (activity)
- amelioration & renewal: ice (break the ice), thaw (v), thaw (n)
- amount: iceberg (the tip of the iceberg)
- amount & effect: avalanche (n), blizzard (n), hail (in a hail), hail (n)
- appearance & disappearance: melt away
- appearance & reality: iceberg (the tip of the iceberg)
- character & personality: snowflake (person)
- consciousness & awareness: blizzard (consciousness)
- constraint & lack of constraint: ice (put on ice / constrained)
- creation & transformation: calve (v), calving
- development: frozen (development)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: sledding (tough sledding)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: ice (put on ice / constrained)
- division & connection: ice (break the ice)
- fate, fortune & chance: ice (on thin ice)
- feeling, emotion & effect: frostily, frosty (adj), frozen (emotion), ice (break the ice), ice-cold (adj)
- functioning: freeze (computers, etc.)
- increase & decrease: snowball (v), snowball (snowball effect)
- movement: freeze (position of body), frozen (movement)
- past & present: frozen (frozen in time)
- person: snowflake (person)
- relationship: snowball (v), snowball (snowball effect)
- resemblance: snow (marine snow, etc.)
- strength & weakness: snowflake (person)
- substance & lack of substance: iceberg (the tip of the iceberg)
- time: frozen (frozen in time)

## **SOCIAL INTERACTION (1) (see also gossip; society)**

- back: back (scratch somebody's back)
- ball: ball (the ball is in somebody's court)
- direction: get along (v), give-and-take, go along (v), street (two-way street)
- distance: close (feeling), tight (relationship)
- eye: see (visit / meet)
- face: face (concept), face-saving
- fist: tit-for-tat (adj)
- foot: kickback (corruption)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: give-and-take
- hand: hand (one hand washes the other)
- history: logroll (v), logrolling (n)
- infrastructure: street (two-way street)
- mechanism: wheel (grease the wheels)
- movement: back (back and forth), get along (v), go along (v)
- person: hermit (person)

- place: water cooler (digital water cooler, etc.)
- position: side (on the good side, etc.), side (on the wrong side, etc.)
- proximity: close (feeling), cozy (adj), shoulder (rub shoulders), tight (relationship)
- shoulder: shoulder (rub shoulders)
- sports & games: ball (play ball), ball (the ball is in somebody's court), game (social interaction / life)
- temperature: cozy (adj)
- tools & technology: connect (v), hook up (relationship)
- tree: logroll (v), logrolling (n)
- verb: back (scratch somebody's back), ball (play ball), connect (v), get along (v), go along (v), hand (one hand washes the other), logroll (v), see (visit / meet), shoulder (rub shoulders), wheel (grease the wheels)

## **SOCIETY (1) (see also competition; gossip; hierarchy; social interaction; superiority & inferiority)**

- animal: herd (herd mentality, etc.), lemming (consciousness), lone wolf (person), rogue (n), sheep (consciousness)
- boat: boat (rock the boat)
- center & periphery: center (society), fit in (v), fringe (on the fringe), fringe (versus mainstream), inner circle (n), insider (person), mainstream (society), margin (on the margins), netherworld (n), outlier (n), outsider (person), underground (n), underworld (n)
- cloth: fringe (on the fringe)
- creature: ghost (unregistered, etc.)
- direction: fringe (on the fringe), fringe (versus mainstream), netherworld (n), underground (n), underworld (n)
- face: face (concept), face-saving (concept)
- gate: gate (society)
- ground, terrain & land: cold (in the cold), exile (in exile), exile (n), exiled, shore (far shore), Siberia (exile), stranded (separated), wilderness (voice in the wilderness), wilderness (in / into the wilderness), wilderness (society)
- health & medicine: leper (person)
- infrastructure: forum (public forum, etc.), square (public square, etc.), marketplace (n), street (society), village (online village, etc.), water cooler (digital water cooler, etc.)
- insect: butterfly (social butterfly)
- island: castaway (person), island (society), marooned, Robinson Crusoe, shore (far shore), stranded (separated)
- Middle Ages: fest (gabfest, etc.)
- money: haves (and have-nots, etc.)
- person: Brahmin (person), butterfly (social butterfly), castaway (person), caste (n), climber (social climber, etc.), haves (and have-nots, etc.), hermit (person), insider (person), leper (person), mob (society), nobody (a nobody), outcast (person), outsider (person), pariah (n), somebody (a somebody), stranger (other), untouchable (person)
- part of speech: normal (as noun), normal (new normal)
- predation: lone wolf (person)
- river: mainstream (society)
- school & education: boys' club (boy's club, boys club), fraternity (n), Old Boy (Old Boy network, etc.)
- sea: castaway (person), island (society), marooned, Robinson Crusoe, shore (far shore), stranded (separated)
- sheep: fold (to / into the fold), sheep (consciousness)
- sign, signal, symbol: crowd (society), forum (public forum, etc.), square (public square, etc.), street (society)
- speech: forum (public forum, etc.), square (public square, etc.)
- sports & games: gamification (n)
- throwing, putting & planting: castaway (person), outcast (person)
- walking, running & jumping: life (from walks of life), life (in all walks of life), life (walks of life)

- wolf: lone wolf (person)

## SOCIETY (2)

- acceptance & rejection: banish (v), banished, banishment (n), blackball (v), blackballed, blacklist (v), blacklisted, Brahmin (person), exile (in exile), exile (n), exiled, freeze out (v), frozen out (excluded), in (inclusion), inhospitable (adj), leper (person), non-person, ostracized (society), outcast (person), shun (v), shunned, Siberia (exile), stranger (other), table (groups), untouchable (person), wilderness (voice in the wilderness), wilderness (in / into the wilderness), wilderness (society)
- access & lack of access: gatekeeper (person)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: room (back room, etc.), scene (behind the scenes)
- behavior: challenge (TikTok, etc.), hostile (adj), mob (society), rage (road rage, etc.)
- center & periphery: fringe (on the fringe), fringe (versus mainstream), mainstream (society), netherworld (n), underworld (n)
- concealment & lack of concealment: room (back room, etc.), netherworld (n), scene (behind the scenes), underworld (n)
- conflict: hostile (adj), tribal (groups), tribalism (groups)
- control & lack of control: gatekeeper (person)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: banish (v), banished, banishment (n), cold (in the cold), exile (in exile), exile (n), exiled, outcast (person), Siberia (exile), wilderness (voice in the wilderness), wilderness (in / into the wilderness), wilderness (society)
- division & connection: caste (n), meet (connect)
- environment: netherworld (n), underworld (n)
- feeling, emotion & effect: hostile (adj), rage (road rage, etc.)
- hierarchy: Brahmin (person), caste (n), move (move up), untouchable (person)
- identity & nature: tribal (groups), tribalism (groups)
- judgment: reckoning (judgment)
- mental health: envy (self-promotion envy, etc.), rage (road rage, etc.)
- oppression: blackball (v), blackballed, blacklist (v), blacklisted, mob (society)
- person: bigwig (person), Brahmin (person), butterfly (social butterfly), castaway (person), gatekeeper (person), girl (golden girl), golden boy, hermit (person), insider (person), leper (person), non-person, outcast (person), outsider (person), pariah (person), stranger (other), untouchable (person)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: gatekeeper (person)
- wants, needs, hope & goals: envy (self-promotion envy, etc.)
- worth & lack of worth: prestige (adj)

## SOUND (1)

- animal: bark (v), gallop (sound), growl (v), howl (n), howl (v), roar (n), snarl (speech), squeal (protest), whining (n), whiny (adj)
- bell: knell (death knell / obsolescence), knell (death knell / destruction), ring out (a shot rang out, etc.)
- direction: fall (silence fell, etc.)
- dog: bark (v)
- engine: sputter (v)
- explosion: explosion (sound)
- film: crickets (silence), scratch (record scratch)
- horse: gallop (sound)
- insect: buzz (sound), cricket (sound), crickets (silence)
- lightning: thunder (sound)
- message: drum (beat the drum / bang the drum, etc.)
- music: opera (n), symphony
- speech: rail (v), whisper (sound)

- storm: thunder (sound), thunderous (adj)
- verb: bark (v), drown out (v), growl (v), howl (v), ring out (a shot rang out, etc.), snarl (speech), squeal (protest)
- water: drown out (v), drowned out

## SOUND (2)

- ability & lack of ability: whisperer (horse whisperer, etc.)
- accusation & criticism: barracked, decry (v), rail (v), volume (turn up the volume, etc.)
- achievement, recognition & praise: boo (v), boo (n), cheer (v), cheer (n), clap (n), hurrah (and hoorah, etc.)
- activity: abuzz, boom (increase), buzz (activity), chatter (data), hum (hum along), hum (n), noise (worthlessness), noisy (data, etc.), quiet (adj), roar (activity), static (n), thrum (v)
- admiration & contempt: laughed out (of court, etc.)
- amount & effect: bombshell (n), crescendo (n), drip (and drip-drip, etc.), full-throated (adj), Krakatoan (adj), uproar (controversy)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: chatter (data), noise (worthlessness), noisy (data, etc.), signal (signal and noise), static (n)
- appeal: call (the mountains are calling, etc.), call (call of duty, etc.), call (appeal), call (call to arms), cri de coeur
- attempt: crack (attempt)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: bang (with a bang), bell (bells and whistles), big bang (in a big bang), blaring (headlines, etc.), bomb (drop a bomb), bombshell (n), buzz (attention), buzzed (buzzed about, etc.), buzzy (adj), din (attention), drum (beat the drum / bang the drum, etc.), drumbeat (n), drum up (v), dynamite (n), explode (onto the scene, etc.), full-throated (adj), hailed, Krakatoan (adj), loud (attention), noise (attention, conflict, and controversy), ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.), shot (shot heard round the world), shout (v), shout-out (n), table (loudest seat at the table), teapot (internet teapot, etc.), thunder (steal thunder, etc.), thunderclap (n), trumpet (blow one's own trumpet), trumpet (v)
- attenuation: tone down (v)
- attraction & repulsion: call (call of duty, etc.)
- avoidance & separation: bay (at bay)
- character & personality: whine (v), whiner (person)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: last hurrah, ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.), roar back (v), roaring back (come roaring back, etc.)
- complexity: note (one note)
- concealment & lack of concealment: silent (silent epidemic, etc.), undertone (n)
- condition & status: hum (hum along), sputter (v)
- conflict: barracked, bewail (v), clamor (v), clash (n), clash (v), decry (v), din (attention), fireworks (conflict), growl (v), howl (n), howl (v), moan (v), moaning, noise (attention, conflict, and controversy), noisy (debate, etc.), outcry (n), quiet (adj), scream (v), scream (scream for action, etc.), tumult (disruption), uproar (controversy), volume (turn up the volume, etc.), wail (v)
- consciousness & awareness: bell (ring a bell)
- cost & benefit: bang (bang for the buck, etc.)
- creation & transformation: drum up (v)
- curtailment: knell (death knell / obsolescence), silent (fall silent)
- decline: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.), requiem (n)
- destruction: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.), knell (death knell / destruction)
- development: crescendo (n)
- disruption: cognitive dissonance, discordant (adj), rattle (disrupt), tumult (disruption)
- eagerness & reluctance: bay (bay for blood, etc.), kicking and screaming
- effect: chord (strike a chord), echo (noun / effect), repercussion (n), resonate (v), reverberate (v), reverberation (n)

- enthusiasm: cheer on (v)
- evidence: chord (evidence), silence (deafening silence, etc.), tenor (n), undertone (n)
- failure, accident & impairment: sputter (v), stutter (v), stuttering (adj)
- fate, fortune & chance: laugh (last laugh)
- fictive communication: call (the mountains are calling, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: alarm (feeling), bang (with a bang), bang (bang for the buck, etc.), bombshell (n), buzz (sensation), chord (strike a chord), cognitive dissonance, din (attention), drip (and drip-drip, etc.), dynamite (a dynamite cast, etc.), lament (v), moan (v), moaning, noise (attention, conflict, and controversy), noisy (debate, etc.), note (on a note), note (note of caution, etc.), outcry (n), repercussion (n), resonate (v), reverberate (v), reverberation (n), scratch (record scratch), thunderstruck (adj)
- force: roar back (v), roaring back (come roaring back, etc.)
- functioning: click (v), hum (v), sputter (v)
- heart: heartbeat (n)
- importance & significance: keynote (n)
- increase & decrease: amplification (n), amplified, amplify (v), boom (increase), booming (adj), fall (silence fell, etc.), tone down (v)
- inauguration: ring in (the New Year, etc.)
- involvement: chime in (v)
- judgment: boo (v), boo (n), cheer (v), cheer (n), tuning fork (n)
- knowledge & intelligence: whisperer (horse whisperer, etc.)
- leaking: drip (and drip-drip, etc.)
- message: amplify (v), call (call to arms), drum (beat the drum / bang the drum, etc.), drumbeat (n), saber rattling, signal (signal and noise), whistle (dog whistle), whistleblower (n)
- movement: drift (sound), drip (and drip-drip, etc.), zip (v)
- obstacles & impedance: din (attention), noise (worthlessness), noise (attention, conflict, and controversy), noisy (data, etc.), static (n)
- perception, perspective & point of view: ring (ring false, etc.), ring (ring of truth, etc.), sound (perception), tenor (n)
- person: whiner (person)
- position, policy & negotiation: table (loudest seat at the table)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: knell (death knell / obsolescence)
- progress & lack of progress: stutter (v), stuttering (adj)
- pursuit, capture & escape: bark (bark up the wrong tree, etc.)
- repetition: echo (verb / effect), echo (noun / effect), echo (repeat), echo (in an echo), echo chamber, echoed, parrot (v), rhyme (v)
- resemblance: roar (n), symphony (resemblance), thunder (speech), wail (sirens, etc.), whisper (sound)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: bemoan (v), bewail (v), clamor (v), clap back (contempo-speak / verb), clap back (contempo-speak / noun), cry (cry foul, etc.), death rattle, decry (v), din (attention), gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.), grumble (n), howl (n), howl (v), kicking and screaming, moan (v), moaning, noise (attention, conflict, and controversy), noisy (debate, etc.), outcry (n), quiet (adj), squeal (protest), tumult (disruption), wail (v)
- revenge: laugh (last laugh)
- reversal: bell (unring a bell)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: applaud (v), applauded, drummer (different drummer)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: cri de coeur
- speech: babble (n), bark (v), bewail (v), blast (criticize), bleat (v), buzzword (n), chime in (v), cry (cry foul, etc.), fireworks (conflict), growl (v), grumble (n), howl (n), howl (v), mute (speech), noisy (debate, etc.), rail (v), ring out (voice), shout (v), snarl (speech), sound off (v), squeal (protest), thunder (speech), whining (n), whiny (adj), whistle (dog whistle), yapping (n)

- speed: finger (in the snap of a finger), zip (v)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.), last hurrah, requiem (n), ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.), silent (fall silent), tick on (and tick by), tick-tock (n)
- substance & lack of substance: babble (n), bark (more bark than bite, etc.), buzzword (n)
- surveillance: chatter (signals intelligence, etc.)
- time: tick on (and tick by), tick-tock (n)
- transmission: echo (repeat), echo chamber, echoed, reverberate (v), reverberation (n)
- unanimity & consensus: drummer (different drummer)
- warning: alarm (warning), bell (warning), shout (v), wail (sirens, etc.), whistle (blow the whistle), whistleblower
- worth & lack of worth: noise (worthlessness), noisy (data, etc.), static (n)

### **SOURCE (1) (see also origin)**

- biology: vector (n)
- blood: vein (source)
- dam: reservoir (source)
- fountain: fountain (source), fountainhead
- ground, terrain & land: aquifer (n)
- mining: gold mine, mother lode, vein (source)
- mountains & hills: watershed (n)
- river: fountainhead, reservoir (source), watershed (n)
- water: aquifer (n), fountain (source), fountainhead, reservoir (source), well (source), wellspring (source)

### **SPACE (2)**

- amount: space (space of time)
- constraint & lack of constraint: room (opportunity), room (space)
- situation: room (opportunity), space (in a space, etc.)
- mind: mind (go through one's mind, etc.), mind (top of mind), mind (front of mind), mind (back of mind)

### **SPEECH (1) (see also accusation & criticism)**

- affix: ese (legalese, etc.), speak (NASA-speak, etc.), talk (mediator talk, etc.)
- air: air (hot air), breezy (speech), empty (empty words, etc.), hollow (hollow promises, etc.), long-winded (speech), vapor (n)
- allusion: babel (n), doublespeak (n), gaslight (v), gaslighting (n), gaslit (and gaslighted), newspeak (n)
- animal: badger (v), bark (v), bleat (v), growl (v), howl (n), howl (v), savage (v), snarl (speech), squeal (protest), venom (n), venomous (adj), weasel (weasel words, etc.), whining (n), whiny (adj), yapping (n)
- atmosphere: air (hot air), breezy (speech), empty (empty words, etc.), hollow (hollow promises, etc.), long-winded (speech), vapor (n)
- bell: ring out (voice)
- bird: crow (v), parrot (v)
- blade: barbed (speech), blunt (speech), cut off (speech), sharp (speech), sharp-tongued
- boat: broadside (n), salvo (n), shot (shot across the bow, etc.), volley (volley of abuse, etc.)
- bodily reaction: spew (speech)
- boundary: fuzzy (adj)
- boxing: blow-by-blow (a blow-by-blow account, etc.), come (come out swinging), jab (n), punch (pull a punch)
- burden: freighted, loaded
- chemistry: acid (acid debate, etc.), acid-tongued, caustic (adj), caustically, vitriol (n)
- color: colorful (language)
- consumption: eat (eat one's words, etc.)
- container: chatterbox (person), open up (emotions, speech, etc.), spill out (speech, emotions, etc.)

- cooking: grill (v), grilled, mince (v), roast (v), skewer (v), skewered
- death & life: elegy (n), eulogy (n)
- direction: straight shooter (speech), straight-talking, talk down to (somebody), twist (twist the truth, etc.)
- dog: bark (v), growl (v), howl (n), howl (v), snarl (speech), whining (n), whiny (adj), yapping (n)
- explosion: blast (criticize), bomb (F-bomb, etc.), fireworks (conflicts)
- family: mother tongue
- farming & agriculture: straw man (n)
- fictive communication: talk (money talks, etc.)
- film: gaslight (v), gaslighting (n), gaslit (and gaslighted)
- fire: coal (rake somebody over the coals), combustible (adj), fiery (speech), grill (v), grilled, incendiary (speech), inflammatory (adj), roast (v)
- fist: backhand (v), bash (v), bashed (criticism), bashing (n)
- food & drink: fat (chew the fat)
- force: backhand (v), blunt (speech), fulminate (speech), lay (lay into), slam (v), strong (language, etc.)
- functioning: broken (English, etc.)
- geometry: tangent (on a tangent)
- hardness & softness: soften (speech)
- health & medicine: bromide (n), eviscerate (v), eviscerated, lacerate (v), scathing (adj), vivisection (n)
- height: talk down to (somebody)
- history: tar (tar and feather, etc.), tarred
- hunting: go after (attack)
- hygiene: clean up (speech), dirty (dirty word), filthy (language)
- Iliad & Odyssey: pander (v)
- journeys & trips: freighted, loaded
- knife: barbed (speech), blunt (speech), cut off (speech), sharp (speech), sharp-tongued
- lightning: fulminate (speech)
- mark: smear (v), smear (n), smeared
- materials & substances: acid (acid debate, etc.), acid-tongued, caustic (adj), caustically, coarse (speech), crude (speech), hollow (hollow promises, etc.), silver (speech), silver-tongued, slick (adj), slippery (words, etc.), smooth (speech), talker (slick talker), vitriol (n)
- mental health: rave (v), rave (rave review, etc.)
- military: broadside (n), fire (draw fire, etc.), flak (criticism), salvo (n), shot (shot across the bow, etc.), shot (warning shot), sniping (n), sound off (v), volley (volley of abuse, etc.)
- money: cheap (words are cheap, etc.)
- mouth: lip (speech), lip service (pay lip service, etc.), loudmouth (person), mouth (both sides of one's mouth), mouth (run one's mouth), mouthpiece (person), mouthy (adj), muzzle (v), tight-lipped (adj)
- person: chatterbox (person), loudmouth (person), mouthpiece (person), scold (person), straight shooter (speech), talker (slick talker), tout (person)
- possession: tongue (lose one's tongue)
- predation: savage (v)
- religion: pontificate (v), preach (v), proselytize (v)
- sensation: caustic (adj), caustically, fuzzy (adj), needle (v), smooth (speech)
- sex: pander (v), tout (person)
- sheep: bleat (v)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: eviscerate (v), eviscerated, lacerate (v), vivisection (n)
- snake: venom (n), venomous (adj)
- sound: babble (n), bark (v), bewail (v), blast (criticize), bleat (v), buzzword (n), chime in (v), cry (cry foul, etc.), fireworks (conflict), growl (v), grumble (n), howl (n), howl (v), mute (speech), noisy (debate, etc.), rail (v), ring

out (voice), shout (v), snarl (speech), sound off (v), squeal (protest), thunder (speech), whining (n), whiny (adj), whistle (dog whistle), yapping (n)

- sports & games: cheap shot, game (rhetorical game, etc.), punch (pull a punch), tee off on (v)
- storm: thunder (speech)
- taste: honey-tongued, salty (language), smooth (speech), talk (sweet talk)
- temperature: combustible (adj), fiery (speech), incendiary (speech)
- throat: throat (jump down someone's throat)
- tools & technology: postcard (and post card), retort (speech)
- tongue: acid-tongued, honey-tongued, mother tongue, sharp-tongued, silver-tongued, tongue (language), tongue (bite one's tongue), tongue (hold one's tongue), tongue (lose one's tongue), tongue-lashing
- verb: backhand (v), badger (v), bark (v), bash (v), beg (v), bewail (v), blast (criticize), bleat (v), break (break the silence, etc.), chime in (v), clean up (speech), coal (rake somebody over the coals), crow (v), cut off (speech), eviscerate (v), fire (a question, etc.), fire (fire back), fulminate (speech), gaslight (v), go after (attack), grill (v), growl (v), gush (v), howl (v), jump (v), lacerate (v), lambast (v), lash out (v), lay (lay into), mince (v), muzzle (v), needle (v), open up (emotions, speech, etc.), pander (v), pontificate (v), preach (v), proselytize (v), rail (v), rave (v), ring out (voice), roast (v), savage (v), shout (v), snarl (speech), squeal (protest), shoot (speech), shoot (shoot back), skewer (v), slam (v), smear (v), snarl (speech), snipe (v), soften (speech), sound off (v), spew (speech), spill out (speech, emotions, etc.), squeal (protest), stumble (stumble over one's words), talk down to (somebody), tar (tar and feather, etc.), throat (jump down someone's throat), thunder (speech), tongue (hold one's tongue), tongue (bite one's tongue), tongue (lose one's tongue), trash talk (v), twist (twist the truth, etc.)
- violence: assassination (character assassination), backhand (v), bash (v), bashed (criticism), bashing (n), cheap shot, lash out (v), lay (lay into), slam (v), tar (tar and feather, etc.), tarred, tongue-lashing, twitter-lashing (n)
- walking, running & jumping: jump (speech), stumble (stumble over one's words)
- waste: trash talk (v), trash talk (n)
- water: gush (v), mouth (run one's mouth), spill out (speech, emotions, etc.), spout (speech)
- weapon: blast (criticize), bomb (F-bomb, etc.), broadside (n), cheap shot, fire (criticism), fire (under fire), fire (draw fire, etc.), fire (a question, etc.), fire (fire back), flak (criticism), fusillade (n), salvo (n), shoot (shoot back), shot (criticism), shot (opening shot), shot (parting shot), shot (warning shot), shot (shot across the bow, etc.), snipe (v), sniping (n), straight shooter (speech), volley (n)
- weight: freighted, loaded
- whip: lambast (v), lash out (v), tongue-lashing, twitter-lashing (n)
- wind: breezy (speech)
- writing & spelling: postcard (and post card)
- wounds & scars: scathing (adj)

## **SPEECH (2)**

- ability & lack of ability: fluent (ability)
- acceptance & rejection: welcome (v), welcome (n)
- accusation & criticism: assassination (character assassination), call out (v), callout (criticism), hammer (criticize), mudslinging (n), pilloried, pillory (v), potshot (n), rail (v), trash (v), trash (n)
- achievement, recognition & praise: ode (praise), thank you (and thanks)
- activity: chatter (signals intelligence, etc.)
- affliction: nag (v), nagging (adj)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: betrayed
- amount: earful (amount)
- amount & effect: chorus (chorus of critics, etc.)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: chatter (signals intelligence, etc.), interrogate (v), parse (v), suggest (indicate), talk (talk somebody through something), tell (data can tell us something, etc.)

- appeal: call (the mountains are calling, etc.), call (call of duty, etc.), call (appeal), call for (v), cri de coeur, cry (cry for help), cry (v), cry out (v)
- attenuation: tone down (v)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: dialogue (global dialogue, etc.), ear (attention), pitch (promote), statement (statement victory, etc.), touted
- attraction & repulsion: call (call of duty, etc.), invite (v), invitation (n), inviting
- certainty & uncertainty: riddle (n)
- character & personality: loudmouth (person), whine (v)
- coercion & motivation: cudgel (n), goad (v), stick (n)
- commitment & determination: hard (hard “no,” etc.), talk (talk the talk)
- comprehension & incomprehension: Aha! (Aha! moment), joke (you must be joking, etc.)
- concealment & lack of concealment: omerta (n), tight-lipped (adj)
- conflict: fireworks (conflict)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: address (v)
- consciousness & awareness: Aha! (Aha moment), tone-deaf (adj)
- constraint & lack of constraint: gag (gag order, etc.), muffled
- consumption: saccharine (adj)
- control & lack of control: tongue (hold one’s tongue)
- creation & transformation: translate (v)
- danger: tongue (danger)
- death & life: farewell (death)
- destruction: shoot down (v)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: tongue twister, tongue-twisting
- directing: goad (v)
- dominance & submission: talk (talk over somebody)
- enthusiasm: pitch (promote)
- evidence: hint (v), hint (n), hint at (v), lie (tell an untruth), scream (scream “premium,” etc.), speak for (speak for itself, etc.), suggest (indicate), suggestion (evidence), tell (data can tell us something, etc.), telling, testimony (n)
- failure, accident & impairment: tongue (slip of the tongue)
- fate, fortune & chance: time (time will tell)
- feeling, emotion & effect: welcome (welcome news, etc.)
- fictive communication: address (v), answer (respond), answer (response), answer (solution), ask (ask for it, etc.), boast (v), call (Orwell called, etc. / sarcasm), call (the mountains are calling, etc.), call for (a recipe can call for something), command (deserve and get), cry (v), cry out (v), declare (v), demand (v), demand (n), dictate (v), encouraging (adjective), groan (amount), hint (v), hint (n), hint at (v), inform (v), interrogate (v), interrogated, interrogating (questioning), interrogation (questioning), introduce (v), invitation (n), invite (v), lie (tell an untruth), listen (listen to something), nag (v), nagging (adj), remind (v), say (a sign can say something, etc.), scream (scream “premium,” etc.), speak for (speak for itself, etc.), speak to (speak to something), suggest (indicate), suggestion (evidence), tell (data can tell us something, etc.), testimony (n), threaten (v), time (time will tell), warn (a sign can warn, etc.), welcome (v)
- fictive meeting & seeing: greet (v), greeted, welcome (v)
- flaws & lack of flaws: broken (English, etc.), clumsy (adj), note (right note), pitch-perfect (adj), stumble (stumble over one’s words), tin ear (n), tin-eared (adj), tone-deaf (adj)
- functioning: tongue (lose one's tongue)
- future: time (time will tell)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: command (deserve and get)
- help & assistance: thanks (thanks to something)
- insult: joke (it’s a joke, etc.), punchline (joke), trash (n), trash talk (v), trash talk (n)

- judgment: call out (v), callout (criticism), speak (the people have spoken, etc.)
- language: boilerplate (n), buzzword (n), doublespeak (n), ese (legalese, etc.), language (types), lip service (pay lip service, etc.), newspeak (n), speak (NASA-speak, etc.), supersizing (linguistic supersizing), talk (mediator talk, etc.), salad (word salad)
- message: preach (v), pulpit (bully pulpit, etc.), sermon (message), speak (carry a message), statement (statement victory, etc.), touted, voice (voice of reason)
- oppression: cudgel (n), goad (v), stick (n)
- perception, perspective & point of view: greet (v), greeted
- person: chatterbox (person)
- punishment & recrimination: flog (criticize), pilloried, pillory (v)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: farewell (leaving), goodbye (say goodbye, etc.), valedictory (farewell)
- relationship: answer (respond), answer (response), thanks (thanks to something)
- repetition: parrot (v)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: sound off (v), speak out (v), speak up (v), truth to power
- restraint & lack of restraint: loose (let loose), punch (pull a punch)
- school & education: lecture (v)
- sequence: answer (respond), answer (response)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: blunt (speech), cri de coeur, lip service (pay lip service, etc.), shit (and bullshit / verb), shit (and bullshit / noun), slick (adj), smooth (speech), straight shooter (speech), straight-talking, talk (talk the talk), talker (slick talker), twist (twist the truth, etc.)
- society: forum (public forum, etc.), square (public square, etc.)
- sound: whisper (sound)
- strength & weakness: strong (language, etc.)
- surveillance: chatter (signals intelligence, etc.)
- unanimity & consensus: chorus (chorus of critics, etc.), voice (one voice, etc.)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: beg (v)
- welcome: greet (v), invitation (n), invite (v), inviting, welcome (v), welcoming (other)
- worth & lack of worth: blather (n), cheap (words are cheap, etc.), joke (it's a joke, etc.), shit (and bullshit / verb), shit (and bullshit / noun), trash (n), trash talk (v), trash talk (n)

## **SPEED (1) (see also haste)**

- affix: hyper (hypersexualized, etc.)
- animal: breakneck (adj), canter (n), canter (v), fly (activity), gallop (v), galloping (speed), sluggish (adj), snail (at a snail's pace), snail (snail's pace / other)
- astronomy: meteoric (adj), meteorically (adverb)
- baby (baby steps)
- bird: fly (activity)
- boat: boat (slow boat to China), speed (full speed ahead)
- bullet: bullet (velocity)
- day: overnight
- engine: downshift (v), go (go from zero to one hundred, etc.), supercharge (v), supercharged, turbocharge (v), turbocharged
- eye: blink (in the blink of an eye)
- finger: finger (in the snap of a finger)
- flying & falling: fly (activity)
- foot: pace (at a pace), pace (speed)
- gesture: finger (in the snap of a finger)
- glacier: glacial (adj)
- heart: heartbeat (in a heartbeat)

- horse: breakneck (adj), canter (n), canter (v), gallop (v), galloping (speed)
- journeys & trips: plod (v)
- lightning: lightning
- mechanism: accelerator (control), brake (control), speed (up to speed), wheel (wheels turn slowly, etc.)
- military: cadence (n)
- movement: accelerate (v), accelerator (control), brake (control), canter (n), canter (v), crawl (time can crawl, etc.), gallop (v), leaps and bounds, lethargic (adj), momentum (gain momentum, etc.), plod (v), race (hurry), slow (adj), sluggish (adj), speed (up to speed), speed (supersonic speed, etc.)
- number: zero (from hero to zero, etc.)
- plane: speed (supersonic speed, etc.)
- rocket: rocket (speed)
- shape: streamline (speed up)
- sound: finger (in the snap of a finger), zip (v)
- storm: lightning (adj)
- train: track (fast track)
- verb: accelerate (v), canter (v), crawl (time can crawl, etc.), creep (v), dart (dart about), downshift (v), fly (activity), gallop (v), momentum (gain momentum, etc.), plod (v), race (hurry), rocket (speed), sprint (v), streamline (speed up), supercharge (v), turbocharge (v), walk (slow-walk), zip (v)
- walking, running & jumping: cadence (n), canter (n), canter (v), crawl (time can crawl, etc.), crawl (n), creep (v), gallop (v), galloping (speed), leaps and bounds, pace (at a pace), pace (speed), plod (v), race (hurry), sprint (v), sprint (n), walk (slow-walk)
- weapon: dart (dart about), bullet (velocity)

## **SPEED (2)**

- difficulty, easiness & effort: canter (n)
- movement: canter (n), canter (v), crawl (time can crawl, etc.), gallop (v), plod (v), race (hurry), rocket (speed), roll (slow-roll), skyrocket (increase), sluggish (adj)
- time: crawl (time can crawl, etc.), drag on (v), fly (time flies), onrushing (adj), race (the term raced to its end, etc.), time (take your time, etc.)

## **SPELLING (2)**

- language: spelling (language)

## **SPIDER (2)**

- creation & transformation: web (spin a web)
- epithet: spider (Eljif “the Spider” Elmas, etc.)
- geography: spider (Spider Rock, etc.)
- involvement: web (entanglement)
- proper name: spider (Spider Rock, etc.)
- resemblance: spider (Eljif “the Spider” Elmas, etc.)
- shape: web (spider web and cobweb, etc.)
- situation: web (situation)
- subterfuge: web (spin a web)

## **SPORTS & GAMES (2) (see also baseball; basketball; boxing; cards; chess; gambling; wrestling)**

- ability & lack of ability: acrobatic (adj), acrobatics (n), black belt (person), gymnastic (adj), gymnastics (effort), juggle (v), juggling, triple threat
- accusation & criticism: cheap shot, game (blame game), pile-on (n), pile on (gang up on), takedown (n), tee off on (v)

- achievement, recognition & praise: lap (victory lap), Muhammad Ali (Muhammad Ali of her generation, etc.), Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.), track record (good)
- action, inaction & delay: ball (the ball is in somebody's court), clock (run the clock, etc.), gun (jump the gun), tackle (v), waiting game
- activity: scrum (reporters)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: bat (go to bat for somebody, etc.), win over (v)
- amelioration & renewal: playing field (level the playing field)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: play (play with data, etc.)
- appearance: game (game face)
- appearance & disappearance: left field (out of left field, etc.)
- attainment: big league (and big leagues), line (over the line / finishing), line (finish line)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: ball (take one's eye off the ball)
- avoidance & separation: end run (n)
- behavior: cheap shot, free-for-all (control), game (social interaction / life), gamed (manipulated), gamification (n), played (manipulated), scrum (reporters)
- center & periphery: sideline (on the sideline), sideline (involvement), sidelined (adj)
- certainty & uncertainty: bet (all bets are off), game (guessing game), jump ball (n), layup (n), slam-dunk
- character & personality: card (hold one's cards close)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: carousel (n), merry-go-round, musical chairs
- commitment & determination: bet (hedge one's bets), full-court (full-court press, etc.), game (game face), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), plate (step up to the plate)
- competition: ahead (competition), behind (competition), cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective), catch up (catch up to something), contest (n), dust (leave somebody in the dust), fall behind (competition and progress), football (conflict), front (in front / competition), front-runner (n), game (game of cat and mouse), jockey (v), keep up (progress), lose out (v), outrun (v), pace-setter (n), pacesetter (adj), playing field (uneven playing field, etc.), playing field (level the playing field), race (politics), race (arms race), race (competition), race (race against time, the clock, etc.), right (bragging rights), trail (competition and progress), winner (n)
- complexity: jigsaw puzzle (n)
- computer: surf (computers)
- concealment & lack of concealment: card (hold one's cards close), card (cards on the table), hold (close held, etc.), tip (tip one's hand), vest (close to the vest, etc.)
- configuration: jigsaw puzzle (n)
- conflict: arena (in / inside the arena), beat (defeat / verb), black belt (person), blood sport (n), football (conflict), game (game of chicken), match (death match), pit (bear pit), rumble (v), tug of war
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: ball (the ball is in somebody's court), field (v), grapple (v), tackle (v), wrestle (v)
- consciousness & awareness: ball (take one's eye off the ball), game (get one's head into the game)
- constraint & lack of constraint: book (rule book), box (box somebody into a corner), no-holds-barred (and no holds barred)
- control & lack of control: check (in check), free-for-all (control)
- courage & lack of courage: game (game of chicken)
- curtailment: sidelined (adj)
- death & life: game (social interaction / life)
- decline: race (race to the bottom)
- development: game (game-changer), homestretch (n), inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning), roller coaster (development), round (boxing), seesaw (n)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: acrobatic (adj), acrobatics (n), bar (bar is set high, etc.), eight ball (behind the eight ball, etc.), full-court (full-court press, etc.), gymnastic (adj), gymnastics (effort), home run (swing for a home

- run, etc.), hoop (jump through hoops, etc.), juggle (v), juggling, knuckle down (v), layup (n), marathon (effort and time), slam-dunk, softball (n), whack-a-mole (and whack a mole)
- directing: coach (n), coach (v)
  - dismissal, removal & resignation: bench (v), sidelined (adj)
  - disruption: game (throw somebody off their game), game (game-changer)
  - dominance & submission: game (game of chicken)
  - driving force: pace-setter (n), pacesetter (adj)
  - eagerness & reluctance: gun (jump the gun)
  - effect: domino (domino effect, etc.)
  - experience: varsity (n)
  - failure, accident & impairment: ball (take one's eye off the ball), ball (drop the ball), bat (batting zero), baton (drop the baton), belly flop (n), caught out, error (unforced error), fumble (v), fumble (n), fumbled, goal (own goal), miscue (n), overplay (v), strike out (v)
  - fate, fortune & chance: bet (all bets are off), card (in the cards), card (dealt cards), deck (deck is stacked), dice (n), die (the die is cast, etc.), draw (luck of the draw), gamble (v), gamble (n), game (guessing game), go (go long), Hail Mary, roulette (n), wheel (spin of the wheel, etc.)
  - feeling, emotion & effect: domino (domino effect, etc.)
  - flaws & lack of flaws: level (fairness), playing field (uneven playing field, etc.), track record (bad)
  - force: hitter (heavy hitter), wave (crest of a wave)
  - functioning: game (at the top of one's game), marble (marbles)
  - group, set & collection: all-star (adj), scrum (reporters), team (dream team), varsity (n)
  - growth & development: fall behind (competition and progress), trail (competition and progress)
  - help & assistance: locker (sports)
  - history: track record (good), track record (bad)
  - importance & significance: big league (and big leagues), game (game-changer)
  - increase & decrease: roller coaster (development), yo-yo (yo-yo dieting, etc.)
  - initiation: kick off (v), kickoff (n), tee off (start)
  - involvement: game (in / into the game), horse (horse in the race), sideline (on the sideline), sideline (involvement), weigh in (v)
  - judgment: call (close call / judgment), call (the right call), game (blame game), scorecard (n), strike (three strikes, etc.)
  - movement: carousel (n), merry-go-round, pinball (v), ping-pong (v), ping-pong (n), roller coaster (development), seesaw (n), yo-yo (v), yo-yo (yo-yo dieting, etc.)
  - obstacles & impediment: hoop (jump through hoops, etc.), hurdle (n)
  - person: acrobat (person), black belt (person)
  - performance: charade (n), game (project, scheme, plan)
  - position, policy & negotiation: ball (the ball is in somebody's court), hardball (n)
  - power: pawn (n)
  - primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: lose out (v)
  - progress & lack of progress: catch up (catch up to something), fall behind (competition and progress), keep up (progress), trail (competition and progress)
  - punishment & recrimination: one-strike-and-you're-out, penalty box (n), pile-on (n), pile on (gang up on)
  - pursuit, capture & escape: cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective), game (game of hide and seek), game (game of cat and mouse), hide-and-seek
  - relationship: domino (domino effect, etc.)
  - resemblance: scrum (reporters)
  - resistance, opposition & defeat: checkmate (v), checkmate (n), counted out (boxing), game (game of chicken), tap out (v)
  - responsibility: ball (the ball is in somebody's court), plate (step up to the plate)

- restraint & lack of restraint: no-holds-barred (and no holds barred), punch (pull a punch)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: ground rule, playing field (uneven playing field, etc.), playing field (level the playing field)
- script: book (rule book), playbook (n)
- sequence: domino (domino effect, etc.)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: card (cards on the table)
- situation: ballgame (new ballgame), box (box somebody into a corner), game (situation), penalty box (n)
- social interaction: ball (play ball), ball (the ball is in somebody's court), game (social interaction / life)
- society: gamification (n)
- speech: cheap shot, game (rhetorical game, etc.), punch (pull a punch), tee off on (v)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: baton (pass on the baton), block (out of the blocks), counted out (boxing), follow-through (investigation, etc.), gate (out of the gate), homestretch (n), inning (extra innings), kick off (v), kickoff (n), landing (stick the landing), line (starting line), line (finish line), line (over the line / finishing), start (running start), square one, tee off (start)
- strategy: card (play one's cards), card (guilt card, etc.), chess (n), chessboard (n), chess match (n), gambit (n), gamble (n), gamble (v), game (chess game), game (numbers game), game (project, scheme, plan), game plan, move (chess move, etc.), waiting game
- strength & weakness: card (strong card), card (trump card), card (hold all the cards), pawn (n)
- substance & lack of substance: charade (n)
- subterfuge: charade (n), curveball (n), game (game the system, etc.), game (project, scheme, plan), gamed (manipulated), gamification (n)
- success & failure: ball (drop the ball), bat (batting zero), beat (defeat / defeat), big league (and big leagues), football (spike the football), fumble (n), goalpost (target), goal line (across the goal line), grand slam, home run (success), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), landing (stick the landing), lap (victory lap), loser (n), major league (success), park (hit something out of the park), strike out (v), swing (swing and a miss), win (v), winner (n)
- superiority & inferiority: dust (leave somebody in the dust)
- superlative: all-star (adj), Muhammad Ali (Muhammad Ali of her generation, etc.), Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.), Pirlo (the Yorkshire Pirlo, etc.), Super Bowl, team (dream team)
- survival, persistence & endurance: distance (go the distance)
- target: goalpost (target)
- taxonomy & classification: ballgame (different ballgame)
- time: inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning), marathon (effort and time), round (boxing)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: game (late in the game), gun (jump the gun), inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning), race (race against time, the clock, etc.), round (boxing), wire (down to the wire)
- transmission: baton (pass on the baton)
- unanimity & consensus: ball (play ball), pile-on (n), pile on (gang up on), sport (team sport), team up (v)
- work & duty: game (various other games)

## STAIR (2)

- proper name: staircase (Devil's Staircase, etc.), stairway (Stairway Falls, etc.)
- shape: step (shape)

## STANDING, SITTING & LYING (2)

- action, inaction & delay: hand (sit on one's hands), sit (sit on something), sit by (v), sit out (v), stand by (v), stand down (v)
- activity: lie low (and lay low)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: shoulder (stand shoulder to shoulder, etc.), stand (stand behind something, etc.), stand by (support), stand up (stand up for something), stand with (support)
- amelioration & renewal: crutch (n), feet (get back on one's feet, etc.)

- attention, scrutiny & promotion: chest (beat one's chest, etc.), lie low (and lay low), low (lying low), stand out (attention), standout (n)
- bases: leg (leg to stand on), leg (last legs), stand on (v)
- commitment & determination: lean into (v), stand (stand firm)
- concealment & lack of concealment: sit (sit on something)
- condition & status: knee (bring to one's knees), knee (on knees), leg (last legs)
- configuration: astride (position), sprawl (n), sprawling (adj), straddle (configuration)
- conflict: back down (v), chest (beat one's chest, etc.), standoff (n)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: hand (sit on one's hands), lean in (v), sit by (v)
- death & life: succumb (die / actual)
- decline: knee (bring to one's knees), knee (on knees), leg (last legs)
- dependency: crutch (n), lean on (support)
- development: stand still (development)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: bend (bend over backwards)
- division & connection: foot (one foot / the other foot), foot (foot in both worlds, etc.), straddle (connect)
- dominance & submission: back down (v), bow (and bow down), cower (v), knee (bring to one's knees), knee (risen from its knees, etc.), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), kowtow (v), prostrate (v), supine (adj), supinely, unbowed (adj)
- extent & scope: sprawl (n), sprawling (adj)
- fictive position: astride (position), lie (position), repose (position), sit (a house can sit somewhere, etc.), stand (a lamp can stand, etc.), straddle (configuration)
- growth & development: feet (stand on one's own two feet)
- help & assistance: crutch (n), lean on (support)
- involvement: sit out (v)
- obstacles & impedance: stand (stand in the way)
- past & present: stand still (movement)
- perception, perspective & point of view: standpoint (perspective)
- performance: chest (beat one's chest, etc.), posture (performance), posturing
- position, policy & negotiation: footing (position), posture (position), posturing, sit down (v), sit-down (other), stance (take a stance), stand (position), stand (a tough stand, etc.)
- progress & lack of progress: stand still (progress), standstill (n)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: longstanding (adj), stand (endure)
- pursuit, capture & escape: low (lie low)
- readiness & preparedness: flatfooted (caught flatfooted), foot (on the back foot / on the front foot), foot (back foot / front foot), posture (position), toe (on one's toes)
- representation: stand for (v)
- reputation: standing (reputation)
- resiliency: feet (get back on one's feet, etc.)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: back down (v), bow (and bow down), knee (bring to one's knees), knee (risen from its knees, etc.), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), kowtow (v), lie down (and lay down), prostrate (v), rise (resist), stand (resist), stand (last stand, etc.), stand for (not stand for something), stand up (stand up to something), succumb (v), supine (adj), supinely, unbowed (adj), wobbly (commitment)
- size: sprawl (n), sprawling (adj)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: running (continuing), stand down (v), standing (continuing)
- superiority & inferiority: knee (risen from its knees, etc.)
- superlative: stand out (attention), standout (n)
- survival, persistence & endurance: longstanding (adj), stand (endure), standing (continuing)
- time: stand still (time)
- unanimity & consensus: shoulder (stand shoulder to shoulder, etc.), stand (stand as one, etc.)

## **STAR (2) (see also astronomy; moon; sun)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: rising (rising star, etc.), star (rock star), star (person), star (achievement), star (five stars, etc.), star (Silver Star, etc.), supernova (achievement)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: supernova (attention)
- decline: star (decline)
- direction: star (north star)
- division & connection: cusp (on the cusp)
- fate, fortune & chance: star (fate), star-crossed (adj)
- group, set & collection: galaxy (n)
- growth & development: supernova (achievement)
- judgment: star (five stars, etc.)
- person: star (rock star), star (person)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: star (achievement), star (decline), supernova (achievement)
- proper name: star (Silver Star, etc.)
- proximity: cusp (on the cusp), light year (light years away, etc.)
- shape: star (shape)
- success & failure: star-crossed (adj)
- superlative: star (rock star), star (person), star (achievement), stellar (adj), supernova (achievement)

## **STARTING, GOING, CONTINUING & ENDING (1) (see also coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning; curtailment; dismissal, removal and resignation; initiation; reconciliation, resolution & conclusion)**

- allusion: swan song
- animal: tail end (the finish of something)
- ball: ball (get the ball rolling, etc.), roll (on a roll), roll (v)
- baseball: inning (extra innings)
- bell: ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.)
- boat: course (change course, etc.), course (stay the course), course (reverse course), embark (embark on something), set sail (v), underway
- bodily reaction: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.)
- books & reading: book (close the book), bookend (development), chapter close a chapter, etc.), word (the last word)
- boxing: counted out (boxing)
- breathing: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.)
- burden: carry on (v), drag on (v), pull out (v)
- burial: grave (end point), rest (put / lay something to rest), rest (put / laid to rest), sleep (put something to sleep)
- cards: fold (v)
- chess: endgame (n)
- clock: tick on (and tick by), tick-tock (n), wind down (v)
- cloth: done and dusted, wrap up (v)
- cooking: toast (finished)
- day: dawn (verb / start), dawn (from / since the dawn), dawn (n), day (a new day), day (early days), day (call it a day)
- death & life: alive (status), death rattle, die (non-human), die out (end), dying (dying industry, etc.), gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.), grave (end point), life (begin life), life (spring to life), life (things), life (hidden life, hidden lives), life (secret life, secret lives), live on (v), requiem (n), suspended animation
- direction: ahead (progress), ahead (go ahead), drop out, level off (v), march (march ahead, etc.)
- distance: end (no end in sight, etc.)

- doors & thresholds: camel (camel's nose in the tent, etc.), door (get one's foot in the door), door (close a door, etc.)
- engine: downshift (v), flameout (n), flame out (v), gas (run out of gas), gear (kick into gear, etc.), jump-start (v), jump-start (n), kick in (start), kick-start (v), parked (movement), stall (v), stalled (progress), warmed-up
- explosion: fizzle (and fizzle out)
- eye: end (no end in sight, etc.)
- farming & agriculture: ground (break ground), plow (plow on, plow through, etc.)
- foot: foot (on the right foot / on the wrong foot)
- fire: aflame (adj), die out (end), fire (catch fire), fizzle (and fizzle out), ignite (v), rekindle (v), smolder (v), torch (pass the torch)
- foot: foot (foot in the door), foot (on the right foot / on the wrong foot), kick in (start), kick off (v), kickoff (n)
- football: kick off (v), kickoff (n)
- force: push on (v)
- gate: gate (out of the gate)
- ground, terrain & land: ground (break ground), slope (on a slippery slope), slope (slippery slope)
- hand: break off (v), hand (wash one's hands of something)
- health & medicine: fester (v), festering (adj), heal (v), healing (n), spasmodic (adj)
- heart: heart-stopping
- horse: balk (v), bit (champ at the bit), gate (out of the gate), homestretch (n), saddle (saddle up)
- hygiene: hand (wash one's hands of something)
- infrastructure: ground (break ground)
- journeys & trips: ahead (go ahead), beginning (just the beginning, etc.), carry on (v), course (change course, etc.), course (stay the course), course (reverse course), embark (embark on something), end (no end in sight, etc.), get on with (get on with something), go on (persist), jumping-off place / point, move on (resiliency), move on (change the subject, etc.), outset (from the outset), outset (at the outset / career, etc.), path (set out on this path, etc.), push on (v), road (end of the road), set out (and set off), set sail (v), strike out (start), underway, way (on the way), way (every step of the way)
- leg: kick in (start), kick off (v), kickoff (n), kick-start (v), leg (grow legs, have legs, etc.)
- line: line (over the line / finishing), line (finish line), line (end of the line, etc.)
- love, courtship & marriage: divorce (n), honeymoon (n)
- map: course (change course, etc.), course (stay the course), course (reverse course)
- mechanism: button (pause button), gear (into gear), grind away (v), grind on (v), halt (grind to a halt), kick in (start), parked (movement), pause (v), pause (n), reboot (v), reboot (n), reset (n), reset (v), retread (n), stall (v), stalled (progress), treadmill (n), wheel (spin one's wheels), wind down (verb)
- military: beachhead (n), ceasefire (n), last hurrah, soldier on (v), stand down (v), truce (n)
- mining: vein (in that vein, etc.)
- mountains & hills: slope (on a slippery slope), slope (slippery slope)
- movement: accelerate (v), ahead (progress), ahead (go ahead), ball (get the ball rolling, etc.), beginning (just the beginning, etc.), course (run its course, etc.), creep (mission creep, etc.), end (come to an end, etc.), escalate (v), falter (v), flame out (v), follow-through (investigation, etc.), go on (persist), halt (grind to a halt, etc.), inertia (n), march (march ahead, etc.), momentum (n), move on (resiliency), move on (change the subject, etc.), ongoing (investigation, etc.), onwards (from a time onwards), parked (movement), pass (end), roll (on a roll), roll (v), rolling (movement), set out (and set off), spasmodic (adj), stalled (progress), strike out (start), swing (in full swing), tick on (and tick by), tick-tock (n), traction (gain / build / get traction), wheel (spin one's wheels)
- music: dance (last dance), requiem (n), waltz (last waltz)
- orientation: end (the end)
- pendulum: swing (in full swing)
- part of speech: quit (as noun)
- party: party (party is over)

- path: path (set out on this path, etc.)
- place: jumping-off place / point
- plane: flameout (n), flame out (v)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: ahead (progress), carry on (v), done (over), drag on (v), finished (over), off (cancelled, postponed, etc.), on (be on, etc.), over (finished), push on (v), soldier on (v)
- rope: play out (v)
- route: course (run its course, etc.)
- royalty: reign (v)
- size: blip (n)
- sleep: bed (put something to bed), bed (put to bed), rest (put / lay something to rest), rest (put / laid to rest), sleep (put something to sleep)
- sound: death rattle, gasp (last gasp, dying gasp, etc.), last hurrah, requiem (n), ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.), silent (fall silent), tick on (and tick by), tick-tock (n)
- sports & games: baton (pass on the baton), block (out of the blocks), counted out (boxing), follow-through (investigation, etc.), gate (out of the gate), homestretch (n), inning (extra innings), kick off (v), kickoff (n), landing (stick the landing), line (finish line), line (over the line / finishing), line (starting line), square one, start (running start)
- standing, sitting & lying: running (continuing), stand down (v), standing (continuing)
- storm: blow over (v)
- temperature: warmed-up
- theater: bow out, curtain (lower the curtain, etc.), curtain raiser (n), finale (n), intermission (n), on (performing), run (a good run, etc.), show (the show must go on), show (the show is over), swan song
- tools & technology: blip (n)
- train: line (end of the line, etc.), train (train is pulling into the station, etc.)
- verb: accelerate (v), ahead (progress), ahead (go ahead), balk (v), ball (get the ball rolling, etc.), bed (put something to bed), blow over (v), book (close the book), break off (v), bow out (v), break off (v), carry on (v), course (change course, etc.), course (stay the course), course (reverse course), course (run its course, etc.), dawn (verb / start), die (non-human), die out (end), door (get one's foot in the door), downshift (v), drag on (v), drop out (v), embark (embark on something), escalate (v), falter (v), fester (v), fizzle (and fizzle out), fold (v), gas (run out of gas), get on with (get on with something), go on (persist), grind away (v), grind on (v), halt (grind to a halt, etc.), hand (wash one's hands of something), heal (v), ignite (v), jump-start (v), kick in (start), kick off (v), kick-start (v), landing (stick the landing), leg (grow legs, have legs, etc.), level off (v), life (begin life), life (spring to life), live on (v), march (march ahead, etc.), move on (resiliency), move on (change the subject, etc.), pause (v), play out (v), plow (plow on, plow through, etc.), plug (pull the plug), pull back (v), pull out (v), push on (v), reign (v), reboot (v), rekindle (v), reset (v), rest (put / lay something to rest), ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.), roll (v), saddle (saddle up), set out (and set off), set sail (v), sleep (put something to sleep), smolder (v), soldier on (v), stall (v), stand down (v), stride (hit one's stride), strike out (start), tee off (start), tick on (and tick by), torch (pass the torch), traction (gain / build / get traction), wear on (v), wind down (v), wrap up (v)
- walking, running & jumping: course (run its course, etc.), falter (v), jump (get the jump), jumping-off place / point, march (march ahead, etc.), pass (end), running (continuing), step (first step, etc.), step down (v), stride (hit one's stride), track (stopped in one's tracks, etc.)
- wind: blow over (v)
- writing & spelling: word (the last word)

## STATUE (2)

- admiration & contempt: pedestaled
- bases: plinth (n)
- character & personality: sphinx (n)

- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: pedestaled
- size: colossal (adj), colossus (n)

## STOMACH (2)

- acceptance & rejection: retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), stomach (accept), stomach (turn one's stomach), swallow (accept), swallowed
- amount: bellyful (amount), fed up (adj)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: gut (n)
- appearance & reality: underbelly (concealment), underside (n)
- bases: guts (insides)
- commitment & determination: gut out (v), guts (courage)
- concealment & lack of concealment: underbelly (concealment), underside (n)
- configuration: waist (n)
- consumption: bellyful (amount), fed up (adj), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), stomach (accept), swallow (accept)
- courage & lack of courage: gut out (v), guts (courage)
- destruction: gut (destroy), gutted (destroyed)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: gut out (v)
- division & connection: waist (n)
- eagerness & reluctance: stomach (eagerness)
- feeling, emotion & effect: butterfly (butterflies in stomach), fed up (adj), gut (n), gutted (feeling), gut-wrenching (adj), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), stomach (turn one's stomach), stomach (the pit of one's stomach)
- flaws & lack of flaws: underbelly (concealment), underside (n)
- hyperbole: retch (verb)
- judgment: gut (n)
- knowledge & intelligence: gut (n)
- orientation: belly (orientation), guts (insides), underbelly (concealment), underside (n)
- protection & lack of protection: underbelly (soft underbelly, etc.)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: bellyful (amount), fed up (adj)
- survival, persistence & endurance: gut out (v)

## STORM (1)

- force: batter (the hurricane battered the city), beat up (storm), blast (blasted the Bahamas, etc.), clobbered (by rain, etc.), hammer (blizzards hammered the Karakoram, etc.), knock out (v), lash (a storm lashed the Philippines), maul (a storm mauled the Bahamas, etc.), nature (force of nature), pound (snowfalls pounded the Northeast, etc.), pummel (the storm pummeled the island, etc.), punch (the storm packed a punch, etc.), storm (v), storm (by storm), strike (forces of nature), thrash (Nicole is thrashing the Bahamas, etc.)

## STORM (2) (see also lightning; rain; weather & climate; wind)

- accusation & criticism: thunderbolt (n)
- activity: cyclone (n), gale (strong wind), hurricane (n), storm (calm before the storm), whirlwind (n)
- amount & effect: blizzard (n), cyclone (n), downdraft (n), gale (strong wind), hail (n), hail (in a hail), hurricane (n), nature (force of nature), storm (by storm), storm (perfect storm), storm (amount and effect), tempest (n), whirlwind (n)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: thunder (steal thunder, etc.), thunderclap (n)
- center & periphery: storm (eye / center of the storm)
- character & personality: nature (force of nature)
- comprehension & incomprehension: lightning bolt (comprehension)
- conflict: storm (eye / center of the storm), storm (in the storm), storm (conflict)

- control & lack of control: whirlwind (ride the whirlwind, etc.)
- development: storm (calm before the storm)
- fate, fortune & chance: blue (out of the blue, etc.), lightning (fate)
- feeling, emotion & effect: lightning bolt (and bolt of lightning, etc.), thunderstruck (adj)
- flaws & lack of flaws: stormy (adj), tempestuous (adj)
- idea: brainstorm (n), brainstorm (v)
- occurrence: strike (forces of nature)
- power: nature (force of nature)
- proper name: Storm (Desert Storm, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: batten (batten down)
- readiness & preparedness: batten (batten down)
- resemblance: storm (immune-system storm, etc.), thunder (sound), thunder (speech), thunderous (adj)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: blow over (v)
- sound: thunder (sound), thunderous (adj)
- speech: thunder (speech)
- speed: lightning (adj)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: blow over (v)
- survival, persistence & endurance: batten (batten down), storm (weather the storm), weather (survive)

### **STRATEGY (1) (see also position, policy & negotiation)**

- cards: ace (n), bluff (v), bluff (n), card (guilt card, etc.), card (play one's cards), chess (n), move (chess move, etc.), poker (game)
- chess: chess (n), chessboard (n), chess match (n), endgame (n), gambit (n), game (chess game), move (chess move, etc.)
- film: game of thrones
- gambling: ace (n), bluff (v), bluff (n), card (play one's cards), card (guilt card, etc.), chip (bargaining chip), gamble (v), gamble (n), poker (game)
- military: war room (strategy, etc.)
- movement: maneuvering (strategy)
- number: arithmetic, calculus (n), equation (n), game (numbers game)
- sports & games: card (play one's cards), card (guilt card, etc.), chess (n), chessboard (n), chess match (n), gambit (n), gamble (n), gamble (v), game (numbers game), game (chess game), game (project, scheme, plan), game plan, move (chess move, etc.), waiting game
- verb: bluff (v), card (play one's cards), gamble (v), hand (force someone's hand)

### **STRENGTH & WEAKNESS (1) (see also attenuation)**

- allusion: Achilles' heel (n), David (David and Goliath, etc.), Goliath (Bible)
- animal: defang (v), eggshell (n), ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other), fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n), oats (feel one's oats), paper tiger, sardine (n), sheep (predation), teeth (force), teeth (take the teeth out) toothless (adj), underdog (competition)
- back: back (courage), backbone (courage), spine (courage), spineless (courage)
- Bible: David (David and Goliath, etc.), Goliath (Bible)
- bird: eggshell (n)
- boxing: glass jaw
- cards: bluff (v), bluff (n), ace (n), card (strong card), card (trump card), card (hold all the cards)
- chain: link (weak link)
- chess: pawn (n)
- cows & cattle: beefed up, beef up (v)
- dam: powerhouse (n)
- direction: sag (v), slump (v)

- dog: underdog (competition)
- electricity: amped (strength), powerhouse (n)
- engine: supercharge (v), supercharged, turbocharge (v), turbocharged
- epithet: bear (Soviet Bear, etc.), iron (Iron Lady, etc.), mosquito (Mosquito Fleet, etc.), rock (Rock of Chickamauga, etc.)
- equilibrium & stability: solid (adj)
- family: child (bastard child), stepchild (and stepson, etc.)
- fatness & thinness: flabby (adj), lean (size)
- fish: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow
- food & drink: beefed up, beef up (v)
- fortification: Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative)
- gambling: ace (n), bluff (v), bluff (n), card (strong card), card (trump card), card (hold all the cards)
- hardness & softness: hardened (battle-hardened, etc.), snowflake (person), soft (soft on crime, etc.), teacup (person)
- health & medicine: anemic (adj), castrated, castration (n), emasculated (adj), emasculating (adj), eunuch (n), flabby (adj), healthy (strength), impotence (weakness), impotent (adj), lean (size), neuter (v), potency (strength), potent (adj), puny (adj), robust (adj), stalwart (n), steroids (on steroids)
- heart: faint-hearted (the faint-hearted)
- horse: oats (feel one's oats), workhorse (n)
- Iliad & Odyssey: Achilles' heel
- infrastructure: bolster (v), buttress (v), shored up, shore up (v)
- insect: mosquito (Mosquito Fleet, etc.)
- light & dark: shadow (devalued)
- materials & substances: cement (v), cemented, eggshell (n), flimsy (adj), fragile (weak), granite (n), hardened (battle-hardened, etc.), iron (strength), iron and blood (effort, sacrifice), ironclad (adj), oak (strength), rock (rock-solid), sag (v), slump (v), strong (after tragedy, etc.), sound (solid), solid (adj), steel (strength), teak (wood), weak (fragile)
- meat: beefed up, beef up (v)
- military: big gun (and heavy gun), Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative), outgunned
- mining: shored up, shore up (v)
- mountains & hills: Rock of Gibraltar (and Gibraltar / figurative)
- movement: muscle (muscle its way through, etc.)
- person: dandelion (character), flower (wilting flower, etc.), orchid (character), stalwart (n), snowflake (person), teacup (person)
- plant: dandelion (character), flower (wilting flower, etc.), orchid (character), root (take root, etc.)
- position: underdog (competition)
- predation: ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other), sheep (predation)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: water down (v), watered down
- religion: David (David and Goliath, etc.), Goliath (Bible)
- river: powerhouse (n)
- sheep: sheep (predation)
- sign, signal, symbol: bear (Soviet Bear, etc.), iron and blood (effort, sacrifice)
- size: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), kid (big kid on the block), minnow (n), puny (adj), sardine (n)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: muscle (political muscle, etc.), muscle (muscle its way through, etc.), muscular (adj)
- snake: defang (v)
- snow & ice: snowflake (person)
- speech: strong (language, etc.)

- sports & games: card (strong card), card (trump card), card (hold all the cards), pawn (n)
- teeth: teeth (force), teeth (take the teeth out), toothless (adj)
- tiger: paper tiger
- tools & technology: bandwidth (n)
- tree: hollowed out, hollow out (v), oak (strength), root (take root, etc.), teak (wood)
- verb: beef up (v), bluff (v), bolster (v), buttress (v), cement (v), defang (v), hollow out (v), muscle (muscle its ways through, etc.), sag (v), shore up (v), slump (v), supercharge (v), teeth (take the teeth out), turbocharge (v), water down (v)
- water: water down (v), watered down
- weapon: big gun (and heavy gun), outgunned, weapon (secret weapon)
- wolf: ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other)

## **SUBSTANCE & LACK OF SUBSTANCE (1)**

- air: air (hot air), breezy (speech), empty (empty words, etc.), gas (substance), hollow (hollow promises, etc.), vapor (n)
- allusion: clothes (the emperor has no clothes)
- animal: bark (more bark than bite, etc.), paper tiger, toothless (adj)
- atmosphere: air (hot air), breezy (speech), empty (empty words, etc.), gas (substance), gravity (substance), hollow (hollow promises, etc.), vapor (n)
- boxing: heavyweight (n), lightweight (n), punch (punch above one's weight, etc.), weight (punch above one's weight, etc.)
- breadth: patina (appearance), thin (substance), skin-deep, veneer (appearance)
- bubble: bubble (v)
- cards: house of cards
- clothing & accessories: clothes (the emperor has no clothes), dress up (v), fashion (n), fig leaf, naked (substance), strip (strip something down)
- death & life: flesh and blood, life (bring to life)
- depth: deep (extent and scope), depth (substance), shallow (adj)
- desert: mirage (n)
- dog: bark (more bark than bite, etc.)
- equilibrium & stability: solid (adj)
- fatness & thinness: skinny (adj)
- fire: fire (substance), smoke (substance)
- food & drink: food (food for thought), gruel (thin gruel, etc.), meat (substance), meaty (substance), nothing-burger, puff (puff piece), tea (weak tea)
- health & medicine: Band-Aid (n)
- house: house of cards
- infrastructure: facade (n)
- letters & characters: box (check the box, etc.)
- light & dark: shadow (devitalized), shadow (shadow boxing, etc.)
- materials & substances: concrete (n), flimsy (adj), gilded (other), hollow (hollow promises, etc.), patina (appearance), solid (adj), veneer (appearance)
- meat: meat (substance), meaty (substance)
- place: there (there is no there there, etc.)
- plant: husk (husk of his former self, etc.)
- sea: shell (substance), shell (shell of his former self, etc.)
- shadow: shadow (devitalized), shadow (shadow boxing, etc.)
- skeleton: skeleton (substance)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: flesh and blood, flesh out (v), fleshed out, skeleton, skin-deep

- snow & ice: iceberg (the tip of the iceberg)
- sound: babble (n), bark (more bark than bite, etc.), buzzword (n)
- sports & games: charade (n)
- teeth: bark (more bark than bite, etc.), toothless (adj)
- theater: show (performance)
- tiger: paper tiger
- verb: flesh out (v), life (bring to life), light (make light of something), punch (punch above one's weight, etc.), weight (punch above one's weight, etc.)
- water: bubble (activity), deep (extent and scope), frothy (substance), shallow (adj)
- weight: fluff (substance), gravity (substance), heavy (substance), heavyweight (n), heft (n), light (make light of something), lightly (take something lightly, etc.), lightweight (n), lite (substance), punch (punch above one's weight, etc.), skinny (adj), weight (substance), weight (punch above one's weight, etc.), weighted, weighty (substance)
- wind: breezy (speech)
- window: window dressing

## **SUBTERFUGE (1)**

- alcohol: bootleg (adj)
- allusion: breadcrumb (v), breadcrumbing, curtain (the con man behind the curtain, etc.), doublespeak (n), doublethink (n), gaslight (v), gaslighting (n), gaslit (and gaslighted), Machiavelli (Trump's Machiavelli, etc.), Machiavellian (adj), newspeak (n), Svengali (allusion), Trojan horse (subterfuge), Wizard of Oz
- animal: burrow (burrow into), fox (subterfuge), mole (n), outfox (v), slink (slink in, etc.), snake oil (n), web (spin a web), wolf (wolf in sheep's clothing)
- back: back (behind somebody's back)
- ball: curveball (n)
- baseball: curveball (n)
- boxing: punch (sucker punch / verb)
- breadth: patina (appearance), veneer (appearance)
- cards: aboveboard (adj), bluff (v), bluff (n)
- cloth: covered up, cover up (v), coverup (n), curtain (the con man behind the curtain, etc.), Wizard of Oz
- clothing & accessories: bootleg (adj), cloak and dagger, clothes (deception), dressed (dressed up, etc.), launder (v), sleeve (up one's sleeve), wolf (wolf in sheep's clothing)
- color: black (covert), greenwash (n), greenwashing (n)
- creature: ghostwriter (n)
- crime: cop (good cop, bad cop)
- direction: aboveboard (adj), shifty (adj), table (under the table), underhanded (or underhand)
- doors & thresholds: trapdoor (computers)
- epithet: Belichick (the racing Bill Belichick, etc.), Machiavelli (Trump's Machiavelli, etc.)
- eye: eye (subterfuge), nudge (communication), wink (n), winking (adj)
- face: mask (drop the mask, etc.), mask (hide), masquerade (v)
- farming & agriculture: straw man (n)
- film: curtain (the con man behind the curtain, etc.), gaslight (v), gaslighting (n), gaslit (and gaslighted), Wizard of Oz
- fire: smokescreen (concealment)
- fist: punch (sucker punch / verb)
- flags & banners: false flag (subterfuge)
- fox: fox (subterfuge), outfox (v)
- gambling: bluff (v), bluff (n)

- gesture: nudge (communication), wink (n), winking (adj)
- hand: underhanded (or underhand)
- health & medicine: chalice (poisoned chalice), pill (poison pill), snake oil (n)
- horse: stalking-horse (n)
- hunting: elusive (adj), footstep (conceal one's footsteps, etc.), scent (throw somebody off the scent), stalking-horse, snare (n), track (cover one's tracks, etc.), trap (other)
- hygiene: greenwash (n), greenwashing (n), launder (v)
- Iliad & Odyssey: Trojan horse (subterfuge)
- infrastructure: airbrushed, astroturf (v), astroturf (n), astroturfer (n), astroturfing, façade (n), paint (coat of paint), whitewash (n), whitewash (v)
- insect: web (spin a web)
- light & dark: gloss (appearance), gloss over (v), shady (adj)
- love, courtship & marriage: infidelity (n)
- magic: sleight of hand, smoke and mirrors
- materials & substances: airbrushed, gilded (other), gloss (appearance), imposter (n), lipstick (appearance), paint (coat of paint), patina (appearance), sugarcoat (and candy-coat), veneer (appearance), whitewash (n), whitewash (v)
- military: camouflage (v), camouflage (concealment), smokescreen (concealment)
- movement: slink (slink in, etc.), spin (message / verb), spin (message / noun), spin (spin control)
- person: imposter (n)
- wolf (wolf in sheep's clothing)
- puppet: puppet (sockpuppet / internet)
- shadow: shady (adj)
- sign, signal, symbol: cloak and dagger
- smell: scent (throw somebody off the scent)
- snake: snake oil (n)
- spider: web (spin a web)
- sports & games: charade (n), curveball (n), game (game the system, etc.), game (project, scheme, plan), gamed (manipulated), gamification (n)
- table: table (under the table)
- taste: sugarcoat (and candy-coat), sugarcoated, sugarcoating (n)
- theater: smoke and mirrors
- verb: astroturf (v), bluff (v), breadcrumb (v), camouflage (v), cover up (v), gaslight (v), gloss over (v), launder (v), mask (drop the mask, etc.), mask (hide), masquerade (v), outfox (v), punch (sucker punch / verb), scent (throw somebody off the scent), slink (slink in, etc.), spin (message / verb), sugarcoat (and candy-coat), track (cover one's tracks, etc.), trail (throw somebody off the trail, etc.), whitewash (v)
- wolf (wolf in sheep's clothing)

## **SUBTERFUGE (2)**

- inclusion & exclusion: greenwash (n), greenwashing (n), pinkwash (v) sportswash (v), sportswashing (n), wash (straightwash, etc.)

## **SUCCESS & FAILURE (1) (see also attainment)**

- allusion: Cinderella, Pyrrhic victory (figurative)
- animal: dog (dog won't hunt)
- astronomy: star-crossed (adj)
- ball: ball (drop the ball), fumble (n)
- baseball: bat (batting zero), big league (and big leagues), grand slam, home run (success), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), major league (success), park (hit something out of the park), strike out (v), swing (swing and a miss)

- books & reading: story (success story)
- bottle: bottle (British English / verb)
- breathing: choke (fail)
- cards: ace (n), flush (busted flush), hand (hot hand)
- day: day (win the day)
- death & life: crush (verb / accomplishment), flatline (v), kill (verb / accomplishment), killer (killer story, etc.)
- direction: fall (fall short), fall through (v), fall down (v), let down (fail), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), rise (rise and fall / verb)
- dog: dog (dog won't hunt)
- explosion: bomb (fail), blockbuster (n), dud (n)
- face: face (fall on one's face, etc.)
- fist: crush (verb / accomplishment), smash (smash a record, etc.)
- football: football (spike the football), fumble (n), goalpost (target), goal line (across the goal line)
- force: crush (verb / accomplishment), destroy (verb / accomplishment), smash (smash a record, etc.)
- gambling: ace (n), flush (busted flush), jackpot (hit the jackpot), lottery (win the lottery, etc.), sweepstakes (win the sweepstakes)
- ground, terrain & land: hole (dry hole), fool's gold, pay dirt
- hair: scalp (n)
- hand: ball (drop the ball), crush (verb / accomplishment), fumble (n)
- height: rise (rise and fall / verb)
- history: Pyrrhic victory (figurative), scalp (n)
- hunting: dog (dog won't hunt)
- infrastructure: blind alley (n)
- journeys & trips: blind alley (n), come through (v), cul-de-sac, dead end, nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), way (all the way), wayside (fall by the wayside, etc.)
- leg: flop (v), flop (n), leg (grow legs, have legs, etc.)
- military: conquer (v), Dunkirk (digital Dunkirk, etc.), Gallipoli (a Gallipoli of an interview, etc.), mission (mission accomplished), Pyrrhic victory (figurative), Waterloo (figurative)
- mining: dry (come up dry), fool's gold, gold (strike gold), hole (dry hole), pan out (v), pay dirt
- money: deal (close the deal), jackpot (hit the jackpot)
- movement: nowhere (go nowhere, etc.)
- nail: nail (nail something), nail down (gain)
- position: face (fall on one's face, etc.)
- school & education: grade (failing grade)
- size: big league (and big leagues)
- sports & games: ball (drop the ball), bat (batting zero), beat (defeat / verb), big league (and big leagues), football (spike the football), fumble (n), goalpost (target), goal line (across the goal line), grand slam, home run (success), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), lap (victory lap), landing (stick the landing), loser (n), major league (success), park (hit something out of the park), strike out (v), swing (swing and a miss), win (v), winner (n)
- star: star-crossed (adj)
- target: fall (fall short), goalpost (target), hit (success), miss (v), nail (nail something), target (moving target), target (hit the target), target (miss the target, etc.)
- temperature: hand (hot hand)
- verb: ball (drop the ball), bat (batting zero), beat (defeat / verb), choke (fail), conquer (v), crush (verb / accomplishment), deal (close the deal), destroy (verb / accomplishment), dry (come up dry), fall through (v), flatline (v), flop (v), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), jackpot (hit the jackpot), kill (verb / accomplishment), landing (stick the landing), leg (grow legs, have legs, etc.), let down (fail), miss (v), nail (nail

something), nail down (gain), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), pan out (v), rise (rise and fall / verb), strike out (v), target (hit the target), target (miss the target, etc.), win (v)

- violence: scalp (n)
- water: dry (come up dry), hole (dry hole)
- weapon: blockbuster (n), bomb (fail), dud (n), hit (success), target (hit the target), target (miss the target, etc.)

## **SUFFICIENCY, INSUFFICIENCY & EXCESS (1)**

- addiction: overdose (n)
- affix: over (overshare, etc.), overdose (n), overheated (adj), overinflated (adj), under (underdeliver, etc.)
- allusion: cornucopia (variety)
- burden: overload (n), overloaded
- cloth: threadbare (adj)
- clothing & accessories: shoestring (n), threadbare (adj)
- container: brim (v)
- desert: desert (food desert, etc.)
- direction: over (overshare, etc.), under (underdeliver, etc.)
- fatness & thinness: fat (adj), flabby (adj), lean (size), lean (lean times, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: insecurity (food insecurity, etc.)
- food & drink: bellyful (amount), belt (tighten one's belt), belt-tightening, cornucopia (variety), famine (n), feast (n), fed up (adj), glut (n), glutton (person), gluttonous (adj), gorge (gorge on), insatiable (adj), lean (lean times, etc.), starvation (n), starvation wages (n)
- ground, terrain & land: desert (food desert, etc.)
- health & medicine: flabby (adj), lean (size), overdose (n)
- hygiene: filthy (filthy rich)
- knife: bone (cut something to the bone, etc.), pared (pared to the bone)
- mental health: insecurity (food insecurity, etc.)
- money: deficit (n)
- movement: overflow (v)
- person: glutton (person), gluttonous (adj)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: over (overshare, etc.), under (underdeliver, etc.)
- pressure: crunch (cash crunch, etc.)
- religion: monkish (adj)
- sea: abundance (amount)
- skeleton: bare-bones (adj), skeletal (adj), skeleton (skeleton crew, etc.)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: bare-bones (adj), bone (cut something to the bone, etc.), pared (pared to the bone), skeletal (adj), skeleton (skeleton crew, etc.)
- stomach: bellyful (amount), fed up (adj)
- verb: brim (v), gorge (gorge on)
- water: abundance (amount), overflow (v), overflowing (adj)
- wave: abundance (amount)
- weight: overload (n), overloaded
- work & duty: starvation wages (n)

## **SUN (2) (see also astronomy, moon, star)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), sunlight (concealment)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: sunset (ride into the sunset)
- concealment & lack of concealment: sun (concealment)
- decline: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)
- fate, fortune & chance: noon (high noon)

- feeling, emotion & effect: sunny (adj)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), sun (currency and obsolescence), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
- superiority & inferiority: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: noon (high noon)

## **SUPERIORITY & INFERIORITY (1) (see also competition; dominance & submission; hierarchy; resistance, opposition & defeat; society)**

- affix: out (outpace, etc.)
- animal: horse (high horse), tail (tail between one's legs), top (dominance / winning), top dog (hierarchy), underdog (competition)
- astronomy: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), outshine (v)
- blood: blue blood
- carpets & rugs: red carpet (treatment)
- center & periphery: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), burner (front burner)
- cloth: rope (velvet rope)
- clothing & accessories: shoe (big shoes), trousers (wear the trousers, etc.)
- color: blue blood, red carpet (treatment)
- direction: above (above the law, etc.), back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), back seat (take a back seat), burner (front burner), dust (leave somebody in the dust), fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), front (front and center), highbrow (and lowbrow, middlebrow), knee (risen from its knees, etc.), low (base, bad / adjective), mind (top of mind), mind (front of mind), mind (back of mind), slipstream (in a slipstream), top (dominance / winning), top dog (hierarchy)
- dog: tail (tail between one's legs), top dog (hierarchy), underdog (competition)
- farming & agriculture: field hand (person)
- film: popcorn (n)
- foot: doormat (person), feet (wipe one's feet on somebody)
- height: cavalier (adj), dwarf (v), head (head and shoulders above), horse (high horse), loom (loom large, etc.), low (base, bad / adjective)
- horse: cavalier (adj), dust (leave somebody in the dust), horse (high horse)
- knee: knee (risen from its knees, etc.)
- light & dark: dim (overshadow), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), outshine (v), overshadow (v), penumbra (n), shadow (attention)
- materials & substances: rope (velvet rope)
- military: outgunned
- money: boutique (n)
- moon: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)
- movement: dust (leave somebody in the dust), slipstream (in a slipstream), wake (in a wake)
- music: fiddle (second fiddle)
- number: fiddle (second fiddle)
- part of speech: have (and have-nots, etc.)
- person: doormat (person), field hand (person), servant (dominated), slave (dominated), top dog (hierarchy)
- plane: slipstream (in a slipstream)
- position: above (above the law, etc.), back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), back seat (take a back seat), burner (front burner), fiddle (second fiddle), fore (come to the fore, etc.), forefront (center), front (front and center), mind (top of mind), mind (front of mind), mind (back of mind), over (dominance), slipstream (in a slipstream), table (head of the table), top (dominance / winning), top dog (hierarchy), underdog (competition)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: above (above the law, etc.), over (dominance)

- rope: rope (velvet rope)
- royalty: blue blood, red carpet (treatment)
- shadow: dim (overshadow), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), overshadow (v), penumbra (n), shadow (attention)
- shoulder: shoulder (stand on somebody's shoulder)
- sign, signal, symbol: doormat (person), popcorn (n), rope (velvet rope)
- size: shoe (big shoes)
- speed: slipstream (in a slipstream)
- sports & games: dust (leave somebody in the dust)
- standing, sitting & lying: knee (risen from its knees, etc.)
- sun: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)
- table: table (head of the table)
- ticket: second-class (adj)
- verb: circle (run circles around somebody), dim (overshadow), drown out (v), dwarf (v), eclipse (v), feet (wipe one's feet on somebody), loom (loom large, etc.), outpace (v), outshine (v), outweigh (power), overshadow (v), shoulder (stand on somebody's shoulders)
- walking, running & jumping: circle (run circles around somebody), outpace (v)
- water: drown out (v), drowned out, wake (in a wake)
- weapon: outgunned
- weight: outweigh (power)
- wind: slipstream (in a slipstream)

## **SUPERLATIVE (1) (see also achievement, recognition & praise)**

- affix: hyper (hypersexualized, etc.), mega (mega-blogger, etc.), super (superlawyer, etc.), uber (uber-interesting, etc.), ultra (ultra-conservative, etc.)
- allusion: Homeric (adj), Mount Rushmore, Olympus (Mount Olympus), pantheon (n), Promised Land, Valhalla (n)
- animal: GOAT (greatest of all time)
- astronomy: star (rock star), star (person), star (achievement), stellar (adj), supernova (achievement)
- Bible: Eden (n), Edenic (adj), Garden of Eden, Promised Land
- bird: nightingale (Nightingale of India, etc.)
- boat: flagship (superlative)
- books & reading: Shakespeare ("hillbilly Shakespeare," etc.), Shakespearean (adj), storybook (storybook romance, etc.)
- boxing: Muhammad Ali (Muhammad Ali of her generation, etc.)
- creature: angel (superlative)
- day: Christmas
- death & life: killer (killer story, etc.)
- electricity: incandescent (character)
- epithet: Academy Awards, Baryshnikov (Baryshnikov of football, etc.), capital (capital of the world, etc.), Carnegie Hall (epithet), Christmas, jewel (jewel of Syria, etc.), Harvard (epithet), king (products), king (person), monarch (MS *Monarch*, etc.), Muhammad Ali (Muhammad Ali of her generation, etc.), Oscars (Oscars of surfing, etc.), Paris (epithet), pearl (Pearl of the Orient, etc.), Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.), prince (epithet), queen (Queen of Soul, etc.), Shakespeare ("hillbilly Shakespeare," etc.), Shakespearean (adj), Shangri-la, Super Bowl, teacher (teacher's teacher, etc.), team (dream team)
- family: boy (blue-eyed boy), favorite son, granddaddy (and grandfather), mother (mother of all battles, etc.)
- film: Academy Awards, Oscars (Oscars of surfing, etc.)
- fire: incandescent (character)
- food & drink: bread (sliced bread), cream (superlative), feast (n)
- football: Super Bowl

- fruits & vegetables: peach (n), plum (desirable)
- health & medicine: sick (slang)
- height: peak (peak experience, etc.), peak (peak sexy, etc.)
- history: golden age (and golden era)
- horse: thoroughbred (n)
- hour: hour (finest hour, etc.)
- hygiene: filthy (slang)
- Iliad & Odyssey: epic (n), Homeric (adj)
- light & dark: bright (adj), brilliance (superlative), brilliant (superlative), coruscating (adj), glittering (adj), gloss (add gloss, etc.), glowing (adj), incandescent (character), leading light (person), light (shining light), light up (a room, etc.), luminary (person), luster (n), outshine (v), scintillating (adj), shining (superlative), sparkling (superlative), star (achievement), supernova (achievement)
- materials & substances: gem (n), golden (golden opportunity, etc.), jewel (n), lapidary (adj), pearl (Pearl of the Orient, etc.)
- mechanism: Rolls Royce
- mining: gem (n), golden (golden opportunity, etc.), gold standard (n), jewel (n), lapidary (adj)
- money: gold standard (n), rich (superlative)
- mountains & hills: Mariana Trench (epithet), Mount Everest (and Everest), Mount Rushmore, Olympus (Mount Olympus), peak (peak experience, etc.)
- music: nightingale (Nightingale of India, etc.)
- part of speech: crazy (and mad / as adverbs), peak (peak sexy, etc.), wicked (as adverb), wonderful (as noun)
- person: boy (blue-eyed boy), favorite son, immortal (person), king (person), leading light (person), luminary (person), man (the man / approving), monarch (primacy), prince (person), princess (person), queen (Queen of Soul, etc.), queen (role), star (rock star), star (person), star (achievement)
- picture: art (work of art), masterpiece (engineering masterpiece, etc.), Mona Lisa (Mona Lisa of baseball cards, etc.)
- place: hall of fame (and hall of shame, etc.), Mount Rushmore, Olympus (Mount Olympus), pantheon (n), Paris (epithet), Valhalla (n)
- plant: black tulip (rarity)
- proper name: Oasis (Oasis of the Seas, etc.)
- religion: angel (superlative), Eden (n), Edenic (adj), Garden of Eden, goddess, hagiographic (superlative), halo (n), heaven (environment, food, etc.), immortal (person), Promised Land, Olympus (Mount Olympus), pantheon (n), paradise (n), saint (superlative), sainthood (n), Valhalla (n)
- royalty: aristocracy (n), aristocratic (aristocratic wine, etc.), crown (superlative), crown jewel, king (king cobra, etc.), king (products), king (person), monarch (primacy), prince (epithet), prince (person), princess (person), queen (Queen of Soul, etc.), queen (role), royalty (n)
- school & education: masterclass (n)
- sea: pearl
- sign, signal, symbol: halo (n)
- sports & games: all-star (adj), Muhammad Ali (Muhammad Ali of her generation, etc.), Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.), Pirlo (the Yorkshire Pirlo, etc.), Super Bowl, team (dream team)
- standing, sitting & lying: stand out (attention), standout (n)
- star: star (rock star), star (person), star (achievement), stellar (adj), supernova (achievement)
- temperature: incandescent (character)
- verb: light up (a room, etc.)

### **SUPPLYING (1) (see also directing)**

- food & drink: fed (supplied), feed (fuel), feed (direct), feed (supply), feed (feed on / off something), force-feed (and force feed), serve up (v)

- infrastructure: spigot (open / close, etc.)
- mechanism: feed (auto feed, etc.)
- verb: feed (fuel), feed (direct), feed (supply), force-feed (and force feed), serve up (v)
- water: feed (drip feed), spigot (open / close, etc.)

## **SURVEILLANCE (1)**

- animal: eagle eye, fly (fly on the wall), watchdog (n)
- bird: eagle eye
- dog: watchdog (n)
- ear: ear (surveillance)
- eye: eagle eye, eye (surveillance), eye (eyes and ears / surveillance)
- insect: fly (fly on the wall)
- plane: helicopter (helicopter mom, etc.), helicopter (v)
- shoulder: shoulder (look over somebody's shoulder)
- sound: chatter (signals intelligence, etc.)
- speech: chatter (signals intelligence, etc.)
- verb: helicopter (v)
- wall: wall (the walls have ears)

## **SURVEYING (2)**

- analysis, interpretation & explanation: baseline (n)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: stake (pull up stakes)
- measurement: baseline (n)
- possession: claim (stake a claim), reclaim (his place, etc.), stake out (v), territory (stake out territory)

## **SURVIVAL, PERSISTENCE & ENDURANCE (1) (see also allegiance, support & betrayal; help & assistance; resiliency)**

- air: oxygen (life)
- allusion: Lazarus (Bible), legend (n), Methuselah, Phoenix (myth)
- baby: stillborn (adj), viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
- back: back (back to the wall)
- Bible: Lazarus (Bible), Methuselah
- birth: stillborn (adj), viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
- blade: scrape by (v)
- boat: bailout (n), bail out (n), bail out (save), bailed out, batten (batten down), hand (all hands on deck), lifeline (n), life raft, ride out (v), storm (weather the storm)
- boundary: limits (push something to its limits)
- boxing: punch (roll with the punches), rope (on the ropes)
- breathing: life (breathe life), oxygen (life)
- bridge: bridgehead (n)
- bullet: bullet (bite the bullet)
- burden: carry on (v)
- creature: zombie (can't kill it, back from the dead)
- death & life: alive (keep something alive), die (non-human), Lazarus (Bible), life (survival), life (give life), life (breathe life), life (life of its own), lifeline (n), life raft, live (live with something), live (live and die / fate), live on (v), perish (v), rescue (v), rescue (n), resurrection (n), resuscitate (v), revive (v), revivify (v), save (v), shelf life (and sell-by date), stand (stand and fall / fate), stillborn (adj), viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
- depth: head (get in over one's head, etc.)
- direction: come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), comeback (n), buoyed, return (animals, etc.), sink (sink into debt, etc.)

- distance: distance (go the distance)
- finger: pinch (pinch of hunger, etc.), pinched
- fire: flame (keeper of the flame, etc.), Phoenix (myth), trial (trial by fire)
- food & drink: hand-to-mouth live hand to mouth, etc.), shelf life (and sell-by date)
- foot: toehold (n), foothold (n)
- force: push on (v), stubborn (non-human)
- forest: clear (in the clear / into the clear), patch (rough patch), woods (out of the woods)
- fortification: dig in (v), dug in, entrenched
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: bring back (restore)
- ground, terrain & land: brink (back from the brink), dig in (v), dug in, entrenched, last-ditch (adj)
- hair: scalp (save one's scalp)
- hand: cling (v), hand (all hands on deck), hold on (survival)
- head: head (get in over one's head, etc.), scalp (save one's scalp)
- health & medicine: life (breathe life), resuscitate (v), revive (v), revivify (v)
- height: hangover (relic)
- history: trail of tears, via dolorosa
- horse: distance (go the distance)
- journeys & trips: been through (endure, etc.), carry on (v), clear (in the clear / into the clear), come through (v), get on with (get on with something, get over (overcome), get through (endure, etc.), get by (v), go through (endure, etc.), go on (persist), patch (rough patch), push on (v), road (road from / to something), trail of tears, via dolorosa, wayside (fall by the wayside, etc.), woods (out of the woods)
- knife: scrape by (v)
- mark: indelible (adj)
- materials & substances: cement (v), cemented, grit (political grit, etc.), stick (endure)
- military: beachhead (n), bridgehead (n), dig in (v), dug in, entrenched, last-ditch (adj), outpost (n), soldier on (v), warrior through (v)
- mountains & hills: foothold (n), toehold (n)
- mouth: lip (stiff upper lip)
- movement: been through (endure, etc.), come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), go (not go anywhere, etc.), gone (absent), go on (persist), go through (endure, etc.), here (here to stay, etc.), immovable (adj), remain (v), soldier on (v)
- neck: neck (save one's neck)
- part of speech: forever (forever chemicals, etc.)
- person: hand (all hands on deck)
- place: here (here to stay, etc.)
- plant: root (take root, etc.)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: around (still around, etc.), been through (endure, etc.), carry on (v), gone (absent), go through (endure, etc.), hang on (v), push on (v), soldier on (v), with us (with us forever, etc.)
- religion: hell (micro), Lazarus (Bible), Methuselah, via dolorosa
- riding: ride out (v)
- river: bridgehead (n)
- rope: rope (on the ropes)
- sensation: pinch (pinch of hunger, etc.), pinched
- school & education: test (test of time)
- sea: batten (batten down)
- sign, signal, symbol: Phoenix (myth)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: scalp (save one's scalp), skin (save one's skin)
- sports & games: distance (go the distance)
- standing, sitting & lying: longstanding (adj), stand (endure), standing (continuing)

- stomach: gut out (v)
- storm: batten (batten down), storm (weather the storm), weather (survive)
- toe: toehold (n)
- tree: root (take root, etc.)
- verb: alive (keep something alive), bail out (save), batten (batten down), bring back (restore), bullet (bite the bullet), carry on (v), cement (v), cling (v), come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), die (non-human), dig in (v), drown (v), get by (v), get on with (get on with something), get over (overcome), get through (endure, etc.), go (not go anywhere, etc.), go through (endure, etc.), go on (persist), gut out (v), hack (hack something / endurance), head (get in over one's head, etc.), hold on (survival), hold out (persist), life (give life), life (breathe life), limits (push something to its limits), live on (v), perish (v), pull through (v), punch (roll with the punches), put up with (v), push on (v), remain (v), rescue (v), resuscitate (v), revive (v), revivify (v), ride out (v), save (v), scalp (save one's scalp), scrape by (v), sink (sink into debt, etc.), skin (save one's skin), soldier on (v), stick (persist), storm (weather the storm), swim (v), take (take something / endurance), wall (throw something at a wall and see what sticks), warrior through (v), water (keep one's head above water), water (tread water), weather (survive)
- walking, running & jumping: running (continuing), trail of tears
- water: afloat, buoyed, drown, head (get in over one's head, etc.), lifeline (n), life raft, sink (sink into debt, etc.), sinking, sink or swim, swim (v), underwater (adj), water (keep one's head above water), water (tread water)
- weapon: bullet (bite the bullet)

### **SUSPICION (1) (see also evidence; message; warning)**

- animal: fishy (something smells fishy, etc.), rat (smell a rat)
- fish: fishy (something smells fishy, etc.)
- rat: rat (smell a rat)
- smell: fishy (something smells fishy, etc.), rat (smell a rat), smell (suspicion), test (smell test)

### **SWAMP (2)**

- amelioration & renewal: swamp (drain the swamp)
- corruption: swamp (fever swamp), swamp (drain the swamp), swamp (swamp of cliches, etc.)
- environment: swamp (fever swamp), swamp (swamp of cliches, etc.)

### **SWORD (2) (see also ax; blade; knife; military; weapon)**

- avoidance & separation: parry (v), parry (n)
- conflict: cross (cross someone), sword (cross swords), sword (at swords' points)
- effect: sword (double-edged sword)
- extent & scope: hilt (to the hilt)
- fate, fortune & chance: sword (fate), Sword of Damocles
- feeling, emotion & effect: double-edged (sword), rapier (n), sword (double-edged sword), sword (two-edged sword)
- judgment: sword (fall on one's sword)
- message: saber rattling
- relationship: double-edged (sword)
- resemblance: sword (swordfish, etc.)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: parry (v), parry (n)
- responsibility: sword (fall on one's sword)
- verb: sword (fall on one's sword)
- violence: sword (violence)

### **TABLE (2)**

- acceptance & rejection: table (groups)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: table (loudest seat at the table)

- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: table (come back to the table)
- commitment & determination: table (bring everything to the table)
- development: table (set the table)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: table (off the table)
- disruption: table (turn the tables)
- hierarchy: table (head of the table)
- position, policy & negotiation: sit down (v), sit-down (other), table (on the table), table (off the table), table (come back to the table), table (turn the tables), table (loudest seat at the table)
- proper name: table (Table Mountain, etc.)
- reversal: table (turn the tables)
- sequence: table (set the table)
- shape: table (shape)
- subterfuge: table (under the table)
- superiority & inferiority: table (head of the table)
- worth & lack of worth: table (bring something to the table)

### **TAKING & REMOVING (1) (see also giving, receiving, bringing & returning)**

- allusion: Robin Hood
- animal: fleeced, poach (v), poached
- blade: chip away (v), scrape (v)
- boat: buccaneer (person), pirate (person)
- clothing & accessories: strip (v)
- consumption: cannibalized
- cows & cattle: milk (v)
- creature: vampire (n)
- crime: bandit (n), buccaneer (person), captive (held captive, etc.), captivity (n), heist (n), hijack (v), hijacked, hold up (rob), loot (v), piracy (n), pirate (person), piratical (adj), plunder (v), plundered, poach (v), poached, rob (v), robbed, robbery (n), Robin Hood, steal (steal the show, etc.), steal (steal customers, etc.), steal (steal dreams, etc.), stolen (taken), strip-mine (v), thief (thief of joy, etc.), usurp (v)
- destruction: take (destroy)
- ground, terrain & land: colonialism (data, etc.)
- hand: claim (take), grab (v), seize (v), seized (by an emotion), snatch (v)
- knife: scrape (v)
- mechanism: Hoover (Hoover up, etc.)
- mining: strip-mine (v)
- person: bandit (n), buccaneer (person), pirate (person), thief (thief of joy, etc.)
- pressure: wring (create)
- royalty: usurp (v)
- sea: buccaneer (person), pirate (person), piratical (adj)
- sheep: fleeced
- verb: cannibalize (v), chip away (v), claim (take), grab (v), hijack (v), hold up (rob), Hoover (Hoover up, etc.), leach (v), loot (v), milk (v), poach (v), plunder (v), rob (v), scrape (v), seize (v), steal (steal the show, etc.), steal (steal customers, etc.), steal (steal dreams, etc.), snatch (v), strip (v), usurp (v), wring (create)
- water: leach (v)

### **TARGET (1)**

- football: goalpost (target)
- sports & games: goalpost (target)
- verb: aim (v), aim (take aim at something), gun (v), target (v), zero in on (verb)

- weapon: aim (v), aim (n), aim (take aim at something), aimed, bead (draw a bead / have a bead), bull's-eye (target), cross hair (in the cross hairs), dialed in, gun (v), mark (off the mark), scattershot (adj), sight (in somebody's sights), sights (weapon), target (v), target (n), targeted, zero in on (v), zone (target zone)
- window: window (window of opportunity), window (launch window, etc.)

## TARGET (2)

- attention, scrutiny & promotion: profile (low profile)
- commitment & determination: locked in (target)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: target (moving target), target (hard target, etc.), target (easy target, soft target, etc.)
- failure, accident & impairment: fall (fall short)
- fate, fortune & chance: shot (chance), shot (shot in the dark)
- protection & lack of protection: profile (low profile), target (hard target, etc.), target (easy target, soft target, etc.)
- shape: bull's-eye (shape)
- success & failure: fall (fall short), goalpost (target), hit (success), miss (v), nail (nail something), target (moving target), target (hit the target), target (miss the target, etc.)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: target date
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: mindful (adj), mindfulness (n), purposeful (adj)

## TASTE (2) (see also cooking; food & drink; fruits & vegetables; meat)

- amount: taste (taste of freedom, etc.)
- appearance & reality: sugarcoat (and candy-coat), sugarcoated, sugarcoating (n)
- attraction & repulsion: candy (n), delicious (adj), juicy (adj), mouthwatering (adj), sweetheart (other), tasty (adj)
- character & personality: bitter (personality), flavor (regional flavor, etc.), salt (flavor), sour (personality), sweet (personality)
- concealment & lack of concealment: sugarcoat (and candy-coat), sugarcoated, sugarcoating (n)
- consumption: bitter (a bitter blow, etc.), cake (icing on the cake, etc.), candy (n), delicious (adj), juicy (n), mouthwatering (adj), palatable (adj), piquancy (n), saccharine (adj), sour (adj), spicy (adj), sweet (sweet dreams, etc.), taste (taste freedom, etc.), taste (a bad taste, etc.), tasty (adj), unpalatable (adj), unsavory (adj)
- corruption: sour (v), sour (adj), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory (adj)
- eagerness & reluctance: juicy (adj), mouthwatering (adj)
- enthusiasm: distaste (n), taste (taste for violence, etc.)
- experience: medicine (a taste of one's own medicine), salt (sailor), salty (experience), taste (taste freedom, etc.), taste (taste of freedom, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)
- feeling, emotion & effect: bitter (personality), bitter (bitter weather, etc.), bittersweet (adj), cake (icing on the cake, etc.), juicy (adj), mouthwatering (adj), saccharine (adj), salty (slang) savor (v), sour (v), sweet (exclamation), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory (adj)
- flaws & lack of flaws: palatable (adj), sweet spot, taste (a bad taste), unsavory (adj)
- heart: sweetheart (other)
- identity & nature: flavor (regional flavor, etc.)
- judgment: taste (in good taste, etc.), taste (judgment)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: flavor (flavor of the month)
- reversal: medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: sugarcoat (and candy-coat), sugarcoated, sugarcoating (n)
- speech: honey-tongued, salty (language), smooth (speech), talk (sweet talk)
- subterfuge: sugarcoat (and candy-coat), sugarcoated, sugarcoating (n)
- vocative: honey (honey, baby, etc.), sweetheart (vocative)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: taste (taste for violence, etc.)

## **TAXONOMY & CLASSIFICATION (1) (see also branching system; division)**

- animal: animal (different animal, etc.), beast (different beast, etc.), bestiary (n), breed (type), creature (creature of habit, etc.), fish (different kettle of fish), species (type), stripe (of all stripes)
- cloth: cloth (cut from the same cloth, etc.), strand (n), stripe (of all stripes)
- container: basket (category), bucket (category)
- creature: creature (creature of habit, etc.)
- direction: fall (fall into a category, etc.)
- family: family (plants), family (animals), family (viruses), family (products), family (languages), generation (products, etc.)
- fish: fish (different kettle of fish)
- food & drink: fish (different kettle of fish), vintage (similar vintage, etc.)
- health & medicine: strain (type)
- mechanism: break down (divide)
- money: brand (non-product)
- object: label (n), labeled
- river: tributary (n)
- royalty: kingdom (animal kingdom)
- sports & games: ballgame (different ballgame)
- tent: tentpole (movies, etc.)
- tree: branch (taxonomy)
- umbrella (umbrella group, etc.)

## **TEETH (2)**

- affliction: bite (resemblance), biting (adj), gnaw (v), gnawing (gnawing doubt, etc.)
- attachment: pit bull (person), teeth (sink one's teeth into something)
- attenuation: teeth (take the teeth out), toothless (adj)
- character & personality: pit bull (person)
- conflict: teeth (danger)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: teeth (in / into the teeth of)
- danger: teeth (in / into the teeth of)
- destruction: teeth (danger)
- extent & scope: teeth (to the teeth)
- feeling, emotion & effect: biting (adj), gnaw (v), teeth (gnash one's teeth), teeth (kick in the teeth)
- flaws & lack of flaws: teething
- force: teeth (take the teeth out), teeth (teeth), toothless (adj)
- growth & development: teeth (cut one's teeth), teething
- proper name: tooth (The Tooth, etc.)
- resemblance: bite (resemblance)
- revenge: tooth (a tooth for a tooth)
- reversal: come back (to bite, haunt, etc.)
- strength & weakness: teeth (force), teeth (take the teeth out), toothless (adj)
- substance & lack of substance: bark (more bark than bite, etc.), toothless (adj)

## **TEMPERATURE (2) (see also fire)**

- acceptance & rejection: cold shoulder, freeze out (v), frozen out (excluded), warm (v)
- accusation & criticism: heat (criticism), hot seat (n)
- action, inaction & delay: ice (put on ice / delayed)
- activity: boil (initiation), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), cool (cool off / activity), febrile (adj), fevered (adj), feverish (adj), feverishly, fever pitch, frozen (activity), heat up (consume), hot (activity), hotspot (place), lukewarm (activity), percolate (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity)

- allegiance, support & betrayal: lukewarm (feeling)
- amelioration & renewal: ice (break the ice), thaw (v), thaw (n)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: boil down to (v)
- appearance & disappearance: bubble up (v)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: hot (popularity, attention, etc.)
- bases: boil down to (v)
- behavior: bask (v), hothead (n)
- character & personality: cold (feeling), coldblooded (and cold-blooded), coolheaded (and cool-headed), fiery (character), firebrand (person), hot-blooded (adj), hot dog (person), hothead (n), hotheaded (and hot-headed), hot mess, incandescent (character), vein (ice in one's veins, etc.), warmhearted (adj)
- coercion & motivation: heat (turn up the heat, etc.)
- condition & status: temperature (the political temperature, etc.)
- conflict: cold war
- consciousness & awareness: frog (frog in boiling water), shower (cold shower)
- constraint & lack of constraint: ice (put on ice / constrained)
- control & lack of control: hothead (n), hotheaded (and hot-headed)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: ice (put on ice / constrained)
- division & connection: ice (break the ice)
- eagerness & reluctance: cold feet, lukewarm (feeling), shower (cold shower), water (throw cold water on something)
- empathy & lack of empathy: coldhearted (adj), coldly
- enthusiasm: shower (cold shower), water (throw cold water on something)
- environment: cauldron (n), crucible (n), frog (frog in boiling water), furnace (n), oven (the Oven, etc.)
- epithet: cauldron (the Cauldron, etc.), oven (the Oven, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: barn burner, bask (v), blood (in cold blood), blood (blood runs cold), blood (blood boils), boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), button (hot button), chill (feeling), chilling (adj), cold (feeling), coldblooded (and cold-blooded), chilly (adj), cold, coldly, cool (feeling), cool down (v), coolly (adverb), cool off (v), cozy (adj), febrile (adj), fire (on fire / feeling), frigid (adj), frostily, frosty (adj), frozen (emotion), heat (in the heat of passion, etc.), heated (emotion), heatedly, hot (controversial), hot (emotion), hot-blooded (adj), hothead (n), hotly, ice (break the ice), ice-cold (adj), incendiary (speech), lukewarm (feeling), overheated (adj), scorching (adj), seethe (v), steam (v), temperature (raise / lower the temperature), tepid (adj), vein (ice in one's veins, etc.), warm (v), warm (adj), warmly, warmth
- heart: coldhearted (adj), warmhearted (adj)
- identity & nature: melting pot (n)
- initiation: boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), combustible (adj), fiery (character), fiery (speech), incendiary (speech), incendiary (other), percolate (v), pot (stir the pot), seethe (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity)
- judgment: hot seat (n)
- location: hotspot (place)
- measurement: temperature (the political temperature, etc.), thermometer (n)
- mixture: melting pot (n)
- oppression: chill (oppression)
- person: firebrand (person), hothead (person), hot mess (person)
- place: hotspot (place)
- pressure: heat (pressure)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: cold (cold case, etc.)
- proper name: furnace (Furnace Creek, etc.)
- punishment & recrimination: heat (criticism)
- readiness & preparedness: warmed-up

- relationship: cozy (adj)
- sex: steamy (adj)
- situation: frog (frog in boiling water), hot water (in hot water)
- speech: combustible (adj), fiery (speech), incendiary (speech)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: warmed-up
- success & failure: hand (hot hand)
- superlative: incandescent (character)

## TENT (2)

- access & lack of access: camel (camel's nose in the tent, etc.)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: tent (pitch one's tent), tent (fold one's tent)
- bases: tentpole (movies, etc.)
- branching system: tentpole (movies, etc.)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: tent (fold one's tent)
- commitment & determination: tent (fold one's tent)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: tent (fold one's tent)
- taxonomy & classification: tentpole (movies, etc.)

## THEATER (2) (see also circus)

- ability & lack of ability: pony (one-trick pony)
- achievement, recognition & praise: gallery (cheering gallery)
- amount: repertoire (n)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: curtain (pull back the curtain, look behind the curtain, etc.)
- appearance & disappearance: curtain call, scene (come onto the scene)
- appearance & reality: theater (appearance), trial (show trial)
- assembling: call (cattle call)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: backstage (adj), downplay (v), limelight (in the limelight), marquee (attention), photobomb (v), platform (as verb), platform (n), play down (v), scene (behind the scenes), scene (come onto the scene), show (steal the show), showboat (v), showman (person), stage (center stage), stage (attention), spotlight (in / under the spotlight), spotlight (into the spotlight), spotlight (out of the spotlight), spotlight (shine a spotlight), spotlight (steal the spotlight), spotlight (other), upstage (v)
- attenuation: downplay (v), play down (v)
- behavior: diva (person), drama (and drama queen, etc.), dramatic (dramatic child, etc.), on (performing), prima donna (person), showboat (v)
- center & periphery: stage (attention), stage (center state), wing (in the wings)
- character & personality: diva (person), drama (and drama queen, etc.), dramatic (dramatic child, etc.), hero (character), on (performing), prima donna (person), showboat (v), villain (character)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: bow out (v), curtain call, encore (n), exit (n), usher in (v)
- concealment & lack of concealment: backstage (adj), behind-the-scenes, curtain (pull back the curtain, look behind the curtain, etc.), scene (behind the scenes)
- context: backdrop (against a backdrop)
- control & lack of control: puppet (control)
- death & life: stage (life is a stage)
- development: act (development), anticlimax (n), climax (n), finale (n), intermission (n), plot (n), plot line (development), script (to script), script (off script, etc.), stage (set the stage, etc.)
- directing: choreographed, parade (v), stage (v), staged (directed), stage-manage (v), stage-managed
- dismissal, removal & resignation: bow out (v), curtain (lower the curtain, etc.)
- disruption: script (off script, etc.)
- extent & scope: dramatic (extent), dramatically
- fantasy & reality: theater of the absurd

- feeling, emotion & effect: drama (tense drama, etc.), dramatic (the dramatic), dramatic (effect), farce (n), melodrama (n), melodramatic (adj), operatic (adj), theater of the absurd, tragedy (n), travesty (n), vaudeville (n)
- group, set & collection: cast (cast of candidates, etc.), repertoire (n)
- help & assistance: repertoire (n)
- inauguration: usher in (v)
- importance & significance: marquee (attention), role (function or part)
- judgment: review (n)
- orientation: upstage (v)
- performance: act (performance), act (insincere show), choreographed, dog-and-pony show (performance), diva (person), drama (and drama queen, etc.), dramatic (dramatic child, etc.), gallery (play to the gallery), grandstanding (n), on (performing), parade (v), play (play to the audience, etc.), pony (one-trick pony), prima donna (person), repertoire (n), role (act), set piece (n), show (nature, etc.), show (performance), show business (performance), stage (v), staged (directed), stage-manage (v), stage-managed, stunt (n), theater (performance), theatrics (n), trial (show trial)
- person: diva (person), prima donna (person)
- proximity: seat (front seat), seat (front-row seat)
- readiness & preparedness: rehearsal (n), rehearse, wing (in the wings)
- repetition: cue (n)
- resemblance: light show
- role: act (insincere show), act (performance)
- script: cue (n), script (to script), script (off script, etc.)
- searching & discovery: curtain (pull back the curtain, look behind the curtain, etc.), talent scout (and spotter, etc.)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: bow out, curtain (lower the curtain, etc.), curtain raiser (n), finale (n), intermission (n), on (performing), run (a good run, etc.), show (the show must go on), show (the show is over), swan song
- substance & lack of substance: show (performance)
- subterfuge: smoke and mirrors
- unanimity & consensus: cue (n), puppet (control)

## **THROAT (2) (see also breathing; mouth; tongue)**

- acceptance & rejection: choke (v), swallow (accept), swallowed
- accusation & criticism: throat (jump down someone's throat)
- affliction: choke (v)
- behavior: jugular (go for the jugular, etc.)
- conflict: jugular (go for the jugular, etc.), throat (predation)
- consumption: choke (v), swallow (accept), throat (ram something down the throat)
- obstacles & impedance: choke (v)
- oppression: throat (ram something down the throat)
- resemblance: throat (resemblance)
- shape: throat (resemblance)
- speech: throat (jump down someone's throat)

## **THROWING, PUTTING & PLANTING (1)**

- arm: cast (cast doubt), cast (light), cast (other), hurl (v), hurled, throw (accusations, etc.), thrown out (cast), throw out (v), toss out (v)
- bodily reaction: spew (speech), spit out (v)
- farming & agriculture: plant (put), plant (create), plow (put), sow (v), sown (planted)
- health & medicine: inject (put), injection (n)
- mechanism: catapult (v), catapulted, thrust (v), thrust

- pile: heap (v), lay (put)
- plant: plant (put), plant (create), planted, sow (v), sown (planted)
- rain: shower (v), showered
- verb: cast (cast doubt), cast (light), cast (other), catapult (v), heap (v), hurl (v), inject (put), lay (put), pepper (v), plant (put), plant (create), plow (put), pour (put), shower (v), sink (put), sow (v), sown (planted), spew (speech), spit out (v), throw (accusations, etc.), throw out (v), thrust (v), toss out (v)
- water: infusion (n), pour (put), sink (put)

## **THROWING, PUTTING & PLANTING (2)**

- absorption & immersion: throw (throw oneself into something)
- commitment & determination: throw (throw oneself into something), throw (throw it all, etc.)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: eject (v), outcast (person)
- extend & scope: far-flung (adj)
- help & assistance: pitch in (help)
- involvement: throw (throw oneself into something)
- isolation & remoteness: castaway (person)
- society: castaway (person), outcast (person)

## **THUMB (2)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: thumbs-up
- judgment: thumbs-down, thumbs-up, upvote (and downvote)
- oppression: thumb (under the thumb)
- proper name: thumb (Devils Thumb, etc.)

## **TICKET (2)**

- cost & benefit: meal ticket (n), pass (free pass), ticket (and punch one's ticket, etc.)
- hierarchy: second-class (adj)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: pass (free pass), ticket (and punch one's ticket, etc.)
- superiority & inferiority: second-class (adj)
- worth & lack of worth: meal ticket (n)

## **TIDE (2) (see also island; sea; tsunami; wave)**

- amelioration & renewal: tide (stem the tide, etc.)
- amount & effect: floodtide (n), surge (n), surge (intransitive verb / effect), tide (rising tide), tide (on a tide), tide (other)
- attraction & repulsion: pull (tidal pull)
- control & lack of control: King Canute
- decline: ebb (decline), ebb (at a low ebb), ebb (on the ebb)
- development: ebb (development), tide (turn the tide, etc.)
- directing: surge (transitive verb)
- extent & scope: high tide
- force: floodtide (n)
- increase & decrease: flow (increase), surge (intransitive verb / increase), tide (rising tide)
- movement: ebb (movement), surge (n), surge (intransitive verb / effect), tide (other)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: high tide
- relationship: pull (tidal pull)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: tide (buck the tide)
- reversal: tide (turn the tide, etc.)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: tide (buck the tide)

## **TIGER (2) (see also animal)**

- appearance & reality: paper tiger

- control & lack of control: tiger (n)
- danger: tiger (n)
- epithet: tiger (tiger mother, etc.)
- force: paper tiger
- strength & weakness: paper tiger
- substance & lack of substance: paper tiger

## **TIME (1) (see also future; past & present)**

- allusion: ancien regime, legend (n)
- amount: light year (a long time), long (a long time, etc.), minute (for a minute, etc.), space (space of time), time (take time, etc.), time (long time / short time)
- animal: dinosaur (n), dodo (n), extinct (adj), fossil (n), fossilize (v), fossilized
- antiques: antique (adj), antique (n), museum (n)
- astronomy: light year (a long time)
- Bible: antediluvian (old), Methuselah, relic (n)
- boat: wake (in the wake of / at a later time)
- boxing: round (boxing)
- bridge: bridge (water under the bridge), bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), dam (water over the dam)
- burden: drag on (v), haul (long haul)
- clock: clock (turn back the clock), clock (types), clock (race with the clock), clock (clock winds down, etc.), clock (clock is ticking, etc.), clock (reset the clock), clock (run the clock, etc.), moment (this moment), moment (that moment), moment (other), stroke (stroke of midnight, etc.), tick on (and tick by), tick-tock (n), wind back (v), wind down (v)
- consumption: time (steal time, etc.), time (give time), time (take your time, etc.), time (run out of time), time (time left), time (borrowed time), time (waste time), time (use time), time (time off), time (take time, etc.)
- container: future (in the future), hold (the future can hold something), past (in the past), time (in time / future), time (in our time, etc.), time capsule (n)
- corner: corner (spring is just around the corner)
- dam: dam (water over the dam)
- day: dawn (n), dawn (verb / start), day (a new day), day (day has arrived, etc.), day (in the old days, etc.), day (old days), day (back in the day), day (days of yore), day (day after tomorrow), day (of one's day / of its day), day (of the day), day (these days), day (those days), day (latter-day), evening (decline), hour (of one's hour / of the hour), minute (at this minute), old (of old), old-fashioned (adj), outdated (adj), today (the present), tomorrow (future), twilight (in / into the twilight, etc.), yesterday (the past), yesteryear
- death & life: dying (dying seconds, etc.), time (dead time)
- depth: deep (deep past, etc.), depth (depths of winter, etc.)
- direction: advance (in advance, etc.), advance (a day can advance, etc.), after (at a later time), afternoon (at a later time), ahead (the future is ahead, etc.), ancestor (go before), approach (winter is approaching, etc.), approach (the approach of summer, etc.), approaching (adj), arrive (a time can arrive), back (in time), back (back then), backwards (past), before (at an earlier time), before (at a future time), behind (in the past), clock (turn back the clock), come (winter is coming, etc.), come (to come), come (a time comes along), come (come before / at an earlier time), come (come after / at a later time), come up on (a date, etc.), coming (in the coming months, etc.), day (day has arrived, etc.), descendant (come after / down), down (down through the centuries, etc.), draw near (winter is drawing near, etc.), facing (future-facing, etc.), follow (at a later time), following (at a later time), forefather (n), forenoon (at an earlier time), forerunner (n), foresight (n), forward (every year forward, etc.), forward-looking, front (the future is in front of us), go (the time has gone, etc.), go back (verb / time), gone (those days are gone, etc.), head (head into the future, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), hindsight (n), intervening (adj), last (last night, etc. / at an earlier time), lie (lie ahead), look back (v), look

forward to (v), mirror (in the rear-view mirror), near (v), next (at a later time), on (30 years on, etc.), onrushing (future, etc.), pass (its time has passed, etc.), passed down (by ancestors, etc.), precede (at an earlier time), preceding (at an earlier time), predecessor (go away before), revisit (v), road (come down the road / pike), road (road ahead, etc.), road (down the road, etc.), see (see something coming), take (take us back / time), throwback (n), time (time on one's side), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (time has passed), time (down time / activity), time (a man out of time, etc.), train (future), train (in one's train / at a later time), up (up to now, up to date, etc.), up-and-coming, upcoming (adj), wake (in the wake of / at a later time), walk (walk somebody back), way (autumn is on the way, etc.)

- distance: advance (in advance, etc.), away (a week away, etc.), close (future), corner (spring is just around the corner), day (day after tomorrow), deep (deep past, etc.), dim (the dim past, etc.), distance (time), distant (past), distant (future), draw near (winter is drawing near, etc.), end (no end in sight, etc.), far (farther on / time), far (far from, etc.), far-off (time), future (in the distant future), go (a month to go, etc.), haul (long haul), horizon (on the horizon), long (a long time, etc.), long-run (adj), longtime (adj), marathon (effort and time), near (near future, etc.), near (v), passage (passage of time), past (in the distant past, etc.), past (distant past, etc.), road (down the road, etc.), remote (past), remote (future), run (in / over the long run), running (continuing), short (a short time, etc.), sight (in sight), span (lifespan, etc.), time (long time / short time), time (over time), time (course of time), way (a long way off)
- earth & world: world (lost world)
- epithet: Father Time
- eye: dim (the dim past, etc.), end (no end in sight, etc.), envision (envision the future, etc.), facing (future-facing, etc.), foresight (n), forward-looking, hindsight (n), horizon (on the horizon), look back (v), look forward to (v), myopia (n), look like (future), see (see something coming), see (future), seen (future), seer (person), sight (in sight)
- family: Father Time
- film: rewind (v), spool (spool back)
- force: onrushing (future, etc.)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: future (the future can bring something)
- health & medicine: prognosis (n)
- height: descendant (come after / down), down (down through the centuries, etc.), fall (on Friday, etc.), fall (night fell, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), hangover (relic), passed down (by ancestors, etc.), up (up to now, up to date, etc.)
- history: age (age of Trump, etc.), ancien regime, dark ages (in the dark ages), dark ages (other), descendant (come after / down), down (down through the centuries, etc.), era (time), gilded (Gilded Age), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), medieval (adj), Middle Ages (history), Neanderthal, passed down (by ancestors, etc.), prehistoric (adj), present (up to the present), Roaring Twenties, Stone Age, time (a man of his time, etc.), up (up to now, up to date, etc.)
- horizon: horizon (on the horizon)
- hour: hour (finest hour, etc.), hour (timeliness)
- hunting: catch up (his past caught up to him, etc.)
- infrastructure: memory lane (down memory lane)
- journeys & trips: ahead (the future is ahead, etc.), backtrack (go back in time), behind (in the past), bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), course (over the course / time), end (no end in sight, etc.), go (where are we going, etc.), here (we have been here before), lie (lie ahead), memory lane (down memory lane), outset (at the outset of 2020, etc.), passage (passage of time), revisit (v), road (road ahead, etc.), road (down a road before), road (down the road, etc.), time (passage of time), time (travel in / through time, etc.), walk (walk somebody back)
- mechanism: hourglass (time), mirror (in the rear-view mirror), time machine, wind down (v), wind back (v)
- magic: crystal ball, fortuneteller (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person)
- mirror: mirror (in the rear-view mirror)

- money: precious (time), time (have time), time (spend time), time (buy time, etc.), time (steal time, etc.), time (give time), time (lose time, etc.), time (make time), time (find time), time (borrowed time), time (cost time, etc.), time (a minute to spare, etc.), time (waste time)
- mountains & hills: descendant (come after / down), down (down through the centuries, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), passed down (by ancestors, etc.), present (up to the present), up (up to now, up to date, etc.)
- movement: advance (a day can advance, etc.), ago (two days ago / gone by), ancestor (go before), approach (winter is approaching, etc.), approach (the approach of summer, etc.), approaching (adj), arrive (a time can arrive), back (in time), backtrack (go back in time), backwards (past), behind (in the past), bridge (water under the bridge), bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), bygone (adj), come (winter is coming, etc.), come (to come), come (a time comes along), come (come before / at an earlier time), come (come after / at a later time), come and go (time), come up on (a date, etc.), coming (in the coming months, etc.), course (over the course / time), crawl (time can crawl, etc.), dam (water over the dam), day (day has arrived, etc.), drag on (v), draw near (winter is drawing near, etc.), fly (time flies), follow (at a later time), following (at a later time), forward (every year forward, etc.), go (where are we going, etc.), go (the time has gone, etc.), go (a month to go, etc.), go by (an hour can go by, etc.), gone (those days are gone, etc.), haul (long haul), head (head into the future, etc.), here (go from here, etc.), intervening (adj), long-run (adj), march (March of Time, etc.), mirror (in the rear-view mirror), move on (time has moved on, etc.), near (v), on (30 years on, etc.), ongoing (investigation, etc.), onrushing (future, etc.), onwards (from a time onwards), pass (its time has passed, etc.), pass (time can pass, etc.), passage (passage of time), precede (at an earlier time), preceding (at an earlier time), predecessor (go away before), race (the term raced to its end, etc.), revisit (v), road (come down the road / pike), road (down a road before), run (run into next week, etc.), run (in / over the long run), running (continuing), see (see something coming), slip away (time), stand still (time), take (take us back / time), tick-tock (n), tick on, time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (time has passed), time (passage of time), time (over time), time (course of time), time (dead time), time warp, train (future), train (in one's train / at a later time), transport (in time), up-and-coming, upcoming (adj), wake (in the wake of / at a later time), walk (walk somebody back), way (autumn is on the way, etc.)
- person: fortuneteller (person), oracle (person), prophet (person), seer (person), soothsayer (person), time traveller (person)
- place: breathing space (and breathing room), future (where the future lies, etc.), go back (verb / time), here (we have been here before), here (go from here, etc.), here (the present), hereafter (from now onwards), look like (future), moment (moment where), place (situation), place (place where), point (point when), revisit (v), road (down a road before), throughout (time), time (time where), time (at the time), time (space of time)
- position: advance (in advance, etc.), after (at a later time), afternoon (at a later time), ahead (the future is ahead, etc.), ahead (before a future event), ancestor (go before), before (at an earlier time), before (at a future time), behind (in the past), day (day after tomorrow), follow (at a later time), following (at a later time), forefather (n), forenoon (at an earlier time), forerunner (n), front (the future is in front of us), hereafter (from now onwards), intervening (adj), mirror (in the rear-view mirror), near (near future, etc.), next (at a later time), precede (at an earlier time), preceding (at an earlier time), predecessor (go away before), time (time on one's side), time (ahead of his time, etc.), time (before her time, etc.), time (behind the times), top (on top of / at the same time), train (in one's train / at a later time), wake (in the wake of / at a later time)
- possession: time (have time), time (lose time, etc.), time (lost time), time (give time)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: advance (in advance, etc.), after (at a later time), afternoon (at a later time), ago (two days ago / gone by), ahead (before a future event), ahead (the future is ahead, etc.), away (a week away, etc.), back (in time), back (back then), backwards (past), before (at an earlier time), before (at a future time), behind (in the past), bygone (adj), day (day after tomorrow), down (down through the centuries, etc.), follow (at a later time), following (at a later time), forefather (n), forenoon (at an earlier time), forerunner (n), foresight (n), forward (every year forward, etc.), front (the future is in front of us), gone (those days are gone, etc.), handed down (by ancestors, etc.), hereafter (from now onwards), hindsight (n), last (last night, etc. / at an earlier time), late (late Stone Age, etc.), near (near future, etc.), next (at a later time), on (30 years on, etc.), passed down (by

ancestors, etc.), preceding (at an earlier time), take (take us back / time), throughout (time), time (at the time, etc.), time (over time), time (ahead of his time, etc.), time (before her time, etc.), time (behind the times), time (in our time, etc.), top (on top of / at the same time), train (in one's train / at a later time), up (up to now, up to date, etc.), wake (in the wake of / at a later time)

- religion: antediluvian (old), grace (grace period), handwriting (handwriting on the wall), Methuselah, prophet (person), relic (n), soothsayer (person), spell (spell disaster, etc.), writing (writing on the wall), written (fate)
- river: bridge (water under the bridge), bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), dam (water over the dam)
- school & education: new school, old school
- season: season (life), season (hunting), season (sports), season (public health), season (agriculture), season (animals, insects, etc.), season (natural events), season (other)
- sky: horizon (on the horizon)
- snow & ice: frozen (frozen in time)
- sound: tick on (and tick by), tick-tock (n)
- speed: crawl (time can crawl, etc.), drag on (v), fly (time flies), onrushing (adj), race (the term raced to its end, etc.), time (take your time, etc.)
- sports & games: inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning), marathon (effort and time), round (boxing)
- standing, sitting & lying: stand still (time)
- train: train (future), train (in one's train / at a later time)
- verb: advance (a day can advance, etc.), approach (winter is approaching, etc.), arrive (a time can arrive), back (in time), backtrack (go back in time), clock (turn back the clock), come (winter is coming, etc.), come (a time comes along), come (come before / at an earlier time), come (come after / at a later time), come and go (time), come up on (a date, etc.), crawl (time can crawl, etc.), dawn (verb / start), day (day has arrived, etc.), drag on (v), draw near (winter is drawing near, etc.), envision (envision the future, etc.), follow (at a later time), fossilize (v), future (the future can bring something), go (the time has gone, etc.), go by (an hour can go by, etc.), head (head into the future, etc.), hold (the future can hold something), last (time / verb), lie (lie ahead), look back (v), look forward to (v), near (v), pass (time can pass, etc.), pass (its time has passed, etc.), precede (at an earlier time), race (the term raced to its end, etc.), revisit (v), road (come down the road / pike), see (see something coming), slip away (time), spell (spell disaster, etc.), stand still (time), take (take us back / time), tick on (and tick by), time (have time), time (buy time, etc.), time (spend time), time (make time), time (find time), time (steal time, etc.), time (give time), time (run out of time), time (waste time), time (lose time, etc.), time (use time), time (a minute to spare, etc.), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (time has passed), transport (in time), walk (walk somebody back), wear on (v), wind back (v), wind down (v)
- walking, running & jumping: crawl (time can crawl, etc.), long-run (adj), marathon (effort and time), march (March of Time, etc.), race (the term raced to its end, etc.), run (run into next week, etc.), run (in / over the long run), running (continuing), walk (walk somebody back)
- water: bridge (water under the bridge), dam (water over the dam), deep (deep past, etc.), depth (depths of winter, etc.), wake (in the wake of / at a later time)
- weight: haul (long haul)
- writing & spelling: handwriting (handwriting on the wall), writing (writing on the wall), written (fate)

## **TIMELINESS & LACK OF TIMELINESS (1)**

- allusion: midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.)
- baseball: inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning)
- birth: gestate (v), gestation (film, etc.)
- boat: boat (slow boat to China), ship (ship has sailed, etc.)
- boxing: round (boxing)
- burden: drag on (v)
- bridge: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it)

- clock: clock (race with the clock), clock (clock winds down, etc.), clock (clock is ticking, etc.), clock (reset the clock), countdown (n), hourglass (time), midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.), minute (last minute)
- consumption: time (run out of time), time (waste time), time (time left)
- day: day (early / late in the day), day (early days), early (timeliness), eve (on the eve), late (timeliness), midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.), morning (early in the morning), noon (high noon), yesterday (I need it yesterday, etc.)
- direction: advance (in advance, etc.), ahead (ahead of schedule, etc.), behind (behind schedule, etc.), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (past time), up (time is finished, etc.)
- distance: advance (in advance, etc.)
- film: noon (high noon)
- fruits & vegetables: bloomer (late bloomer), ripe (adj)
- hardness & softness: soft (soft opening, etc.)
- head: head start
- health & medicine: golden hour
- horse: head start, wire (down to the wire)
- hour: golden hour, hour (timeliness), zero hour (n)
- journeys & trips: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), head start
- mechanism: hourglass (time)
- military: zero hour (n)
- movement: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), head start, lethargic (adj), move on (time has moved on, etc.), ship (ship has sailed, etc.), slow (adj), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), train (train has left the station, etc.)
- number: countdown (n), zero hour (n)
- party: party (late to the party, etc.)
- plant: bloomer (late bloomer), ripe (adj)
- position: advance (in advance, etc.), ahead (ahead of schedule, etc.), behind (behind schedule, etc.), front (get in front of an announcement, etc.)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: advance (in advance, etc.), ahead (ahead of schedule, etc.), behind (behind schedule, etc.), front (get in front of an announcement, etc.), time (past time), time (it's time, etc.), up (time is finished, etc.)
- pressure: crunch (crunch time), crunch (cash crunch, etc.)
- religion: grace (grace period)
- river: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it)
- shape: streamline (speed up)
- sports & games: game (late in the game), gun (jump the gun), inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning), race (race against time, the clock, etc.), round (boxing), wire (down to the wire)
- sun: noon (high noon)
- target: target date
- train: train (train has left the station, etc.)
- verb: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), drag on (v), fire (hang fire), gestate (v), gun (jump the gun), ship (ship has sailed, etc.), streamline (speed up), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (run out of time), time (waste time), train (train has left the station, etc.)
- walking, running & jumping: jump (get the jump), race (race against time, the clock, etc.)
- weapon: fire (hang fire), target date
- window: time (window of time), window (window of opportunity), window (launch window, etc.)

## **TOE (2) (see also foot; heel; leg)**

- conflict: toe-to-toe (go toe-to-toe, etc.)
- disruption: toe (step on toes)

- experimentation: toe (dip one's toes in water, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: toe (step on toes)
- involvement: toe (dip one's toes in water, etc.)
- presence & absence: toehold (n)
- readiness & preparedness: toe (on one's toes)
- survival, persistence & endurance: toehold (n)

## **TONGUE (2) (see also mouth, throat)**

- absorption & immersion: lap up (v)
- accusation & criticism: tongue-lashing
- consumption: lap up (v)
- control & lack of control: tongue (hold one's tongue)
- danger: tongue (danger)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: tongue twister, tongue-twisting
- failure, accident & impairment: tongue (slip of the tongue)
- feeling, emotion & effect: acid-tongued
- functioning: tongue (lose one's tongue)
- insult: tongue (stick one's tongue out, etc.)
- language: mother tongue, tongue (language)
- resemblance: tongue (resemblance)
- speech: acid-tongued, honey-tongued, mother tongue, sharp-tongued, silver-tongued, tongue (language), tongue (bite one's tongue), tongue (hold one's tongue), tongue (lose one's tongue), tongue-lashing

## **TOOLS & TECHNOLOGY (2) (see also engine; manufacturing; mechanism)**

- ability & lack of ability: brilliant (technology), dumb (technology), intelligent (things), smart (technology, etc.)
- access & lack of access: black box (n)
- action, inaction & delay: needle (move the needle, etc.)
- alternatives & choices: toolbox (n), toolkit (n), toolshed (n)
- amelioration & renewal: calibrate (adjust), calibrated (adjusted), plug (v), plugged (fixed), tweak (n), valve (relief valve)
- amount: toolbox (n), toolkit (n), toolshed (n)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: black box (n), microscope (under a microscope)
- appearance & disappearance: radar (drop off the radar)
- attachment: riveted, riveting (adj)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: lens (through a lens), lens (other), magnifying glass (under a magnifying glass), microscope (under a microscope), radar (on the radar), radar (below / under the radar), radar (drop off the radar), radar (under the radar screen), radar (radar screen), riveted, riveting (adj)
- attraction & repulsion: magnet (attraction), magnetic (adj), magnetism (n), recoil (v)
- behavior: compass (moral compass), compass (other)
- character & personality: bulldozer (epithet)
- coercion & motivation: screw (tighten / loosen the screws)
- concealment & lack of concealment: black box (n)
- consciousness & awareness: antenna (n), radar (on the radar), radar (below / under the radar), radar (drop off the radar), radar (under the radar screen), radar (radar screen), radar (other)
- control & lack of control: circuit breaker (n)
- creation & transformation: churn out (v), grind out (v), scissor (genetic scissors, etc.)
- curtailment: ax (n), circuit breaker (n)
- destruction: blowtorch (n), bulldoze (v), bulldozer (n), buzz saw (n), chainsaw (n), demolition (n), rake (destroy), run over (v), sledgehammer (n), steamroll (v), steamrolled (and steamrollered), wrecking ball (n)
- direction: bearing (direction), compass (moral compass), compass (other), lodestone (n), weather vane (n)

- dismissal, removal & resignation: ax (n), chop (get the chop, etc.)
- division & connection: connect (v), coupled, disconnect (n), hook up (connect), wedge (drive a wedge, etc.)
- driving force: wedge (edge of the wedge)
- effect: needle (move the needle, etc.)
- epithet: Luddite (allusion)
- extent & scope: bandwidth (n), compass (within / outside the compass)
- failure, accident & impairment: screw up (v)
- feeling, emotion & effect: riveted, riveting (adj), valve (relief valve)
- fictive communication: telegraph (v), telegraphed
- force: anvil (military), blowtorch (n), bulldoze (v), bulldozed, bulldozer (n), buzz saw (n), chainsaw (n), hammer (hammer of the law, etc.), leverage (n), leverage (v), run over (v), sledgehammer (n), steamroll (v), steamrolled (and steamrollered), steamroller (n), wrecking ball (n)
- functioning: mechanics (n)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: rake in (v)
- group, set & collection: set (skill set), toolbox (n), toolkit (n), toolshed (n)
- help & assistance: instrument, tool (help)
- importance & significance: blip (n)
- impression: engraved (impression), etch (v), etched, inscribed, stamp (impression), stamped
- increase & decrease: jack up (v), ramp up (v), ratchet up (v)
- judgement: measure (measure up, etc.), tuning fork (n)
- measurement: barometer (n), calibrate (adjust), calibrated (adjusted), dashboard (n), gauge (n), thermometer (n), yardstick (n)
- mental health: valve (relief valve)
- message: amplify (v), megaphone (n), message (send a message), signal (mixed signals), signal (signal and noise)
- perception, perspective & point of view: lens (through a lens), lens (other), microscope (through a microscope), periscope (n), prism (through the prism), prism (other), telescope (n)
- place: Silicon Valley, etc.
- power: high-powered (adj), leverage (n), leverage (v)
- presence & absence: blip (n), radar (on the radar), radar (below / under the radar), radar (drop off the radar), radar (under the radar screen), radar (radar screen)
- pressure: clampdown (n), clamp down (v), screw (tighten / loosen the screws), vise (pressure)
- progress & lack of progress: needle (move the needle, etc.)
- proper name: telegraph (Daily Telegraph, etc.)
- relationship: coupled
- searching & discovery: needle (needle in a haystack), sift (searching), sifted
- sex: hookup (sex)
- script: boilerplate (n)
- searching & discovery: magnifying glass (search), rake up (v)
- shape: anvil (shape), hourglass (shape), pitchfork (shape), sickle (shape)
- situation: jam (situation), vise (pressure)
- social interaction: hook up (relationship)
- speech: postcard (and post card), retort (speech)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: blip (n)
- strength & weakness: bandwidth (n)
- transmission: feed (video, etc.), megaphone (n)
- unanimity & consensus: synch (in synch)
- worth & lack of worth: sift (searching)

## **TOOTH (see teeth)**

## **TRAIN (2)**

- allegiance, support & betrayal: board (on board), train (get on the Trump train, etc.)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: bell (bells and whistles), express (Biden express, etc.), train (hype train)
- behavior: rail (off the rails)
- coercion & motivation: railroad (v), railroaded
- consciousness & awareness: asleep (asleep at the switch)
- control & lack of control: rail (off the rails), train (runaway train)
- cost & benefit: gravy train
- danger: rail (third rail)
- destruction: train wreck
- direction: track (direction), track (on track)
- division & connection: track (across the tracks, etc.)
- failure, accident & impairment: derail (v), derailed, rail (off the rails), sidetracked, train (failure), train wreck
- force: freight train (force), steam (pick up steam, etc.), steam (lose steam), steam (full steam, etc.), steam (take the steam out, etc.), train (runaway train)
- future: train (future)
- haste: track (fast track)
- help & assistance: steward (role)
- operation: train (legal train, Trump train, etc.)
- progress & lack of progress: sidetracked, track (on track)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: train (train is pulling into the station, etc.)
- sequence: train (in one's train / at a later time)
- speed: track (fast track)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: line (end of the line, etc.), train (train is pulling into the station, etc.)
- time: train (future), train (in one's train / at a later time)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: train (train has left the station, etc.)
- unanimity & consensus: board (on board), train (get on the Trump train, etc.)

## **TRANSMISSION (1)**

- allusion: Johnny Appleseed
- animal: slink (slink in, etc.), weasel (v)
- apple: Johnny Appleseed
- biology: vector (n)
- bodily reaction: sneeze (v)
- direction: handed down (by ancestors, etc.), passed down (by ancestors, etc.)
- epithet: apostle (Apostle of the Sioux, etc.), Johnny Appleseed
- family: heir (n), heirloom (n), inherit (v), inheritance (n), legacy (obsolescence), legacy (history), legacy (reputation)
- fire: torch (pass the torch), torch (other)
- food & drink: feed (video, etc.)
- gesture: give (give a wink, etc.)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: received (wisdom, etc.)
- hand: handed down (by ancestors, etc.), hand-me-down, pass on (v), passed down (by ancestors, etc.)
- health & medicine: contagion (n), contagious (emotion), infectious (adj), sneeze (v), viral, virulent (adj)
- history: heir (n), heirloom (n), inherit (v), inheritance (n), legacy (history)
- infrastructure: corridor (route)
- insect: cross-pollination
- journeys & trips: hitchhike (v), hitchhiker (n)

- light & dark: reflected
- military: infiltrate (v)
- money: heir (n), heirloom (n), inherit (v), inheritance (n), legacy (history)
- movement: hitchhike (v), hitchhiker (n), hop (hop across, etc.), jump (transmission), slink (slink in, etc.), stay (what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas, etc.)
- plant: cross-pollination
- route: corridor (route)
- rubbing & washing: rub off on (v)
- sign, signal, symbol: torch (other)
- sound: echo (repeat), echo chamber, echoed, reverberate (v), reverberation (n)
- sports & games: baton (pass on the baton)
- tools & technology: feed (video, etc.), megaphone (n)
- verb: catch on (v), echo (repeat), give (give a wink, etc.), give (give a start, etc.), give (give an impression, etc.), hitchhike (v), hop (hop across, etc.), infiltrate (v), inherit (v), jump (transmission), leap (transmission), pass on (v), reverberate (v), ripple (v), rub off on (v), send (transmit), slink (slink in, etc.), sneeze (v), stay (what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas, etc.), stream (direct), torch (pass the torch), weasel (v)
- walking, running & jumping: hop (hop across, etc.), jump (transmission), leap (transmission)
- water: ripple (v), stream (direct), streamed (digital), streaming (digital), streaming (streaming media)

## **TRANSPORTATION (1) (see also fictive transportation)**

- animal: cart (cart off), drag, haul (v), hauled in, hauled off, mule (drug mule, etc.)
- boat: ship (ship of the desert)
- bridge: bridge (air bridge, etc.)
- canal: canal (birth canal, etc.)
- carpets & rugs: carpet (magic carpet / other)
- epithet: Panama Canal (of its day, etc.), ship (ship of the desert)
- infrastructure: canal (birth canal, etc.)
- magic: carpet (magic carpet / other)
- verb: cart (cart off), haul (v)

## **TREE (2) (see also forest)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: laurels (praise)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: root (root cause)
- attenuation: hollowed out, hollow out (v)
- bases: rooted, root (at the root), root (root cause), root (root of the problem, etc.)
- branching system: branch (taxonomy), branch out (v), family tree, tree (branching system), trunk (branching system)
- computer: hole (tree hole)
- concealment & lack of concealment: hole (tree hole)
- creation & transformation: pruned
- curtailment: root (tear something out by the roots, etc.)
- death & life: evergreen (adj)
- destruction: root (tear something out by the roots, etc.), root out (v), uproot (v)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: fruit (low-hanging fruit)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: prune (v), root (tear something out by the roots, etc.), root out (v), uprooted
- fate, fortune & chance: chip (chips fall, etc.), limb (go out on a limb), windfall (n)
- growth & development: branch out (v), root (take root, etc.)
- help & assistance: logroll (v), logrolling (n)
- identity & nature: root (origin)
- origin: root (origin), root (root of the problem, etc.)

- proper name: Oak (Royal Oak, etc.)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: olive branch
- relationship: root (root of the problem, etc.), root (origin)
- resemblance: tree (resemblance)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: grain (against the grain), hew (hew to the line, etc.)
- social interaction: logroll (v), logrolling (n)
- strength & weakness: hollowed out, hollow out (v), oak (strength), root (take root, etc.), teak (wood)
- survival, persistence & endurance: root (take root, etc.)
- taxonomy & classification: branch (taxonomy)
- unanimity & consensus: grain (against the grain), hew (hew to the line, etc.)
- worth & lack of worth: windfall (n)

## **TSUNAMI (2) (see also island; sea; tide; wave)**

- amount & effect: tsunami (n)

## **UMBRELLA (2)**

- cover: umbrella (under an umbrella)
- protection & lack of protection: umbrella (protection)
- taxonomy & classification: umbrella (umbrella group, etc.)

## **UNANIMITY & CONSENSUS (1) (see also allegiance, support & betrayal; sanctioning, authority & non-conformity)**

- animal: crab (crab in a bucket, etc.), duck (ducks in a row), groupthink (and herdthink, etc.), herd (herd mentality, etc.), lemming (consciousness), sheep (consciousness)
- arm: arm (link arms), pull together (v)
- bird: duck (ducks in a row)
- boat: board (on board), boat (in the same boat), boat (rock the boat), row (row in the same direction, etc.)
- books & reading: page (on the same page)
- burden: pull together (v)
- cards: suit (follow suit)
- eye: eye (see eye to eye, etc.)
- gesture: nod (agree)
- head: nod (agree)
- line: hew (hew to the line, etc.), line (toe a line, etc.), line (on the line), line up (v), lockstep (in lockstep), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks)
- military: drummer (different drummer), lockstep (in lockstep), march (together, etc.), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), step (in step), step (out of step)
- mechanism: bus (control / allegiance), truck (control)
- music: bandwagon (n), chorus (chorus of critics, etc.), harmony (in harmony), tune (different tune), tune (in tune, etc.), tune (out of tune), tune (dance to the tune)
- pile: pile-on (n), pile on (gang up on)
- position: duck (ducks in a row)
- puppet: puppet (control)
- radio: wavelength (on the same wavelength)
- religion: catechism (n), choir (preach to the choir)
- sheep: sheep (consciousness)
- shoulder: shoulder (stand shoulder to shoulder, etc.)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: pull together (v)
- sound: drummer (different drummer)
- speech: chorus (chorus of critics, etc.), voice (one voice, etc.)

- sports & games: ball (play ball), pile-on (n), pile on (gang up on), sport (team sport), team up (v)
- standing, sitting, & lying: shoulder (stand shoulder to shoulder, etc.), stand (stand as one, etc.)
- theater: cue (n), puppet (control)
- tools & technology: synch (in synch)
- train: board (on board), train (get on the Trump train, etc.)
- tree: grain (against the grain), hew (hew to the line, etc.)
- verb: arm (link arms), hew (hew to the line, etc.), line (toe a line, etc.), line up (v), march (together, etc.), nod (agree), pile on (gang up on), pull together (v), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), shoulder (stand shoulder to shoulder, etc.), stand (stand as one, etc.), suit (follow suit), team up (v), tune (dance to the tune)
- walking, running & jumping: highway (my way or the highway), lockstep (in lockstep), march (together, etc.), step (in step), step (out of step)

## UPSPEAK (2)

- contempo-speak: upspeak (contempo-speak)

## VERB (2)

- ability: juggle (v), walk (walk and chew gum at the same time)
- absorption & immersion: absorb (a country, etc.), absorb (books, culture, etc.), absorb (punishment, etc.), bury (bury oneself in something, etc.), dive (analyze), dive deep (analysis), dive in (v), drink in (v), eat (eat and breathe, etc.), eat (eat and sleep, etc.), imbibe (v), immerse (v), ingest (v), inhale (v), lap up (v), live (live and breathe, live to), permeate (v), sink in (v), soak up (v), steep (v), suck up (v), throw (throw oneself into something), wade (wade in / wade into), wallow (v)
- acceptance & rejection: adopt (v), back (turn one's back), banish (v), blackball (v), blacklist (v), buy (accept), choke (v), embrace (v), freeze out (v), go down (digestion), other (verb / groups, etc.), quarantine (v), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), shun (v), shut out (v), spurn (v), stomach (accept), stomach (turn one's stomach), swallow (accept), take (refuse to take), turn down (v), warm (v), welcome (v)
- access & lack of access: bottle up (emotions), lid (keep the lid on something), open up (access), shut out (v), tap (v), tap into (v)
- accusation & criticism: backhand (v), bash (v), blast (criticize), call out (v), clobber (v), come down on (v), crucify (v), decry (v), demonize (v), eviscerate (v), finger (point a finger), get over oneself, go after (attack), grill (v), hammer (criticize), lacerate (v), lambast (v), lash out (v), lay (lay into), mud (drag something through the mud), nail (nail someone to the cross), pile on (gang up on), pillory (v), pummel (v), rail (v), savage (v), scold (v), shade (v), skewer (v), slam (v), snipe (v), sully (v), tar (tar and feather, etc.), throat (jump down someone's throat), trash (v)
- achievement, recognition & praise: applaud (v), boo (v), cap (tip one's cap), cheer (v), earn (v), elevate (v), hat (take off one's hat to somebody, etc.), nod (acknowledge), praise (sing someone's praises), rise (achieve), salute (v), toast (v)
- action, inaction & delay: button (push a button / action), can (kick the can down the road), clock (run the clock, etc.), double down (v), dust (collect dust), feet (drag one's feet), fire (hang fire), gun (jump the gun), hand (sit on one's hands), hand (throw up one's hands), handle (deal with), move (take action), needle (move the needle, etc.), pass (cards), pause (v), put off (v), road (push something down the road), roll (slow-roll), shoot (shoot first), shoulder (shrug one's shoulders), sit (sit on something), sit by (v), sit out (v), stand by (v), stand down (v), tackle (v), time (waste time), trigger (pull the trigger, etc.), walk (slow-walk)
- activity: boom (increase), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), convulse (v), cool (cool off / activity), crawl (activity), dart (dart about), ferment (v), fly (activity), freeze (v), heat up (v), hop (v), hum (hum along), jump (the place was jumping, etc.), lie low (and lay low), life (spring to life), light up (activity), percolate (v), rage (v), scramble (v), simmer (v), swirl (v), smolder (v), swarm (v), thrum (v), wake (resemblance)
- admiration & contempt: feet (wipe one's feet on somebody), look down on (something), look up to (somebody), talk down to (somebody)

- affliction: badger (v), bear (a weight, etc.), bedevil (v), bite (resemblance), burden (v), choke (v), convulse (v), dog (afflict), eat (mental health), eat (destroy), fester (v), follow (afflict), gall (v), gnaw (v), haunt (v), hector (v), hound (v), infest (v), metastasize (v), nag (v), needle (v), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), pester (v), plague (v), pockmark (v), pursue (afflict), scar (psychologically / verb), skewer (v), torture (afflict), troll (verb / computers), weigh (weigh heavily), weigh (oppress)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: arm (link arms), back (support / verb), backed, bat (go to bat for somebody, etc.), bed (jump into bed with someone), bring around (v), bullet (take a bullet for somebody), bus (throw somebody under the bus), champion (v), coop (fly the coop), count on (count on me, etc.), desert (v), embrace (v), fence (straddle the fence), hand (raise one's hand), hang (hang somebody out to dry), horse (switch horses), horse (back the wrong horse), jump (leave), lean towards (v), lion (throw somebody to the lions, etc.), overboard (throw somebody overboard), post (abandon one's post), prop up (v), pull (pull for someone), rally (v), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), rat (betray), recant (v), river (sell somebody down the river), rug (pull the rug out), sell out (v), ship (abandon ship / jump ship), side with (v), stab (stab somebody in the back), stand (stand behind something, etc.), stand by (support), stand up (stand up for something), stand with (support), stick (stick by / stick with somebody), stick together (v), tent (pitch one's tent), tent (fold one's tent), turn (turn against / turn on something), vote (vote with one's feet, etc.), wagon (hitch one's wagon to something), walk (walk away from something), weight (put / throw one's weight behind something), win over (v), wind (dangle in the wind), wolf (throw somebody to the wolves)
- alternatives & choices: choose (chose me, found me, etc.)
- amelioration & renewal: act (clean up one's act), air (clear the air), bail out (save), bailed out, battery (recharge one's batteries, etc.), beef up (v), bolster (v), bridge (v), bring back (restore), burn off (v), buttress (v), calibrate (adjust), calm (v), clarify (v), clean (v), clean (come clean), cleanse (make clean), clean up (improve), clear up (v), counterbalance (v), cure (v), cushion (v), dead (rise from the dead), defuse (v), disinfect (v), exorcise (v), fence (mend fences), fine-tune (v), fix (v), get out (get out from under), ghost (bury the ghost), hack (fix), heal (v), hone (v), house (clean house), ice (break the ice), invigorate (v), iron out (v), lance (v), life (give life), life (bring to life), life (breathe life), lift (amelioration), lighten (lighten things up, etc.), loosen up (feelings), mend (v), patch (and patch up), path (clear a path), piece (pick up the pieces), playing field (level the playing field), plug (v), polish (v), prescribe (v), prop up (v), pull (pull yourself together, etc.), put (put something back together), rebuild (v), recycle (v), reheat (v), reinforce (v), reinvigorate (v), remedy (v), repair (v), resurrect (v), resuscitate (v), revive (v), revivify (v), right (right a wrong, etc.), salvage (v), scaffold (v), sharpen (v), ship (right the ship, etc.), shore up (v), smooth (v), soothe (sensation), spice up (v), stabilize (v), steam (blow / let off steam), steam (take the steam out, etc.), straighten out (v), swamp (drain the swamp), tailor (v), tame (v), thaw (v), thirst (quench one's thirst, etc.), tide (stem the tide, etc.), tinker (v), tune (and tune up), turn around (turn things around, etc.), untangle (v), unwind (relax), vent (v), way (pave the way), wheel (grease the wheels), wind down (relax)
- amount: brim (v)
- amount & effect: besiege (v), blow up (attention / verb), bombard (v), erupt (v), flood (amount / verb), gush (v), heap (v), inundate (v), invade (v), pour (in, into, pour out, etc.), rain (amount and effect), rain (rain down), shower (v), smother (amount and effect), spill (and spill out, etc.), storm (v), surge (intransitive verb / effect), swamp (v), swarm (v)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: arrive at (an answer, etc.), biopsy (analysis), boil down to (v), break down (explain), chase down (v), come down to (v), come from (analysis), come to (come to an answer, etc.), crunch (crunch the data), decode (v), deconstruct (v), dig deep (analysis), dig into (v), dig up (v), dissect (v), dive (analyze), dive deep (analysis), dot (connect the dots), drill (drill down, etc.), excavate (v), explore (analyze), follow (argument), follow (it follows that, etc.), get (get somewhere), get across (v), go (argument), go on (what's going on, etc.), illuminate (v), interrogate (v), light (shed light), look at (analysis), look into (v), make (make of something), misdiagnose (v), misread (v), parse (v), peel (peel back the layers, etc.), pick apart (analyze), piece together (v), play (play with data, etc.), put (put something together), reach (reach an answer, etc.), read (read something into something), read (analyze), show (the data show, etc.), spell out (v), strip (strip

something down), suggest (indicate), take (take somebody somewhere), talk (talk somebody through something), tease out (v), tell (data can tell us something, etc.), test-drive (v), unearth (v), unpack (v), unpick (v), unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.), unspool (v), untangle (v), unwind (analyze), vivisect (v), walk (walk somebody through something), weigh (analyze)

- appeal: call (the mountains are calling, etc.), call for (appeal), cry out (v)
- appearance: pockmark (v), scar (resemblance / verb)
- appearance & disappearance: arise (v), background (background noise, etc.), bubble up (v), come (occur, develop), come along (appearance), come back (from extinction, etc.), come forward (v), come up (appear), crop up (v), dig up (v), disappear (from the scene, etc.), disappear (extinction), dissolve (v), dissolve (break up), dissolve (fade away), dredge up (v), dry up (v), emerge (v), evaporate (v), excavate (v), exhume (v), fade (v), fade away (v), fall (fall off the radar screen, etc.), ghost (verb), go away (v), ground (go to ground), head (rear its head, etc.), light (come to light), light (bring something to light), light (see the light), lose (through extinction), map (drop off the map, etc.), melt (v), melt away (v), mushroom (v), pop up (v), radar (drop off the radar), resurface (v), show up (v), sink (disappearance), spring up (v), sprout (v), sugarcoat (and candy-coat), surface (intransitive), surface (bring to the surface), swallow (disappearance), turn out (rally), turn up (appear), uncover (v), unearth (v), vanish (extinction), wash up (v)
- appearance & reality: artwash (v), astroturf (v), mask (drop the mask, etc.), mask (hide), masquerade (v), see (see through something), sportswash (v), whitewash (v)
- assembling: draft (v), muster (muster courage, etc.), rally (v), round up (assemble)
- attachment: accompany (attachment), adhere (adhere to something), attend (v), bind (connect), cement (v), cling (v), come with (and come along with / attachment), embed (v), embrace (v), fold in (v), hold on to (v), pin (attach), stick (stick by / stick with somebody), stick (adhere to, follow), stick (persist), stick together (v), wall (throw something at a wall and see what sticks), worm (v)
- attainment: arrive at (an answer, etc.), climb (scale), coast (coast to victory, etc.), deal (close the deal), finger (slip through one's fingers), get (get somewhere), hit (hit \$30, etc.), meet (attain), notch (a number), push (a number), reach (secure), reach (a number), reach (a place on a journey), sail (sail to victory, etc.), scale (climb), stroll (stroll to success, etc.), touch (nobody will touch this, etc.), waltz (waltz to success, etc.)
- attempt: go for it (and go for broke, etc.), hand (try one's hand)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: background (background noise, etc.), ball (take one's eye off the ball), barnstorm (v), blend in (v), blow up (blow up on TikTok, etc.), bomb (review-bomb, etc.), burst on / onto the scene, etc., center (center their voices, etc.), champion (v), cheerlead (v), clamor (v), dim (overshadow), disappear (from the scene, etc.), downplay (v), drum (beat the drum / bang the drum, etc.), drum up (v), eclipse (v), explode (onto the scene, etc.), flag (raise a flag, etc.), focus (v), forward (bring something forward, etc.), heighten (v), herald (v), herald (n), highlight (v), jump out (v), lie low (and lay low), light (shine a light), look at (analysis), look into (v), loom (loom large, etc.), low (lie low), map (drop off the map, etc.), namecheck (and name-check), outshine (v), overshadow (v), peddle (v), photobomb (v), pitch (promote), play down (v), point out (v), punctuate (v), push (promote), radar (drop off the radar), raise (attention), ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.), sell (promote), shout (v), show (steal the show), showboat (v), showcase (v), skyrocket (to attention, etc.), spotlight (shine a spotlight), spotlight (steal the spotlight), stand out (attention), steal (steal the show, etc.), stink (raise a stink), tout (v), trumpet (blow one's own trumpet), trumpet (v), tuned (stay tuned), underline (attention), underscore (attention), upstage (v)
- attenuation: dampen (v), defang (v), deflate (pressure), downplay (v), hollow out (v), play down (v), soften (v), tarnish (v), teeth (take the teeth out), tone down (v), water down (v)
- attraction & repulsion: bait (v), beckon (v), charm (v), court (v), dangle (v), draw (attract), draw in (v), embrace (v), flee (v), flirt (v), gravitate (v), hit it off (v), invite (v), lure (v), recoil (v), swoon (v), woo (v)
- avoidance & separation: back away (v), bypass (v), cocoon (v), dance (dance around something), distance (v), dodge (v), duck (avoid), escape (mental health / verb), flee (v), go around (v), out (want out), parry (v), pull back (v), push (push somebody away, etc.), quarantine (v), revolve (revolve around something), shrug off (v),

- shy (and shy away), sidestep (v), skirt (skirt an issue, etc.), stay away (v), stay out (v), steer (steer clear of something), step back (step back from something), walk (walk away from something), walk on by (v)
- bases: boil down to (v), come down to (v), ground (prepare the ground), revolve (revolve around something), shoulder (stand on somebody's shoulders), stand on (v), underlie (v)
  - behavior: act (clean up one's act), ape (v), badger (v), bask (v), beaver (v), circle (predation), claw (v), clown (v), descend (v), eat (eat one's own, etc.), end (go off the deep end), fall down (v), feather (ruffle feathers), ferret out (v), flock (v), go (behavior), hog (v), helicopter (v), hell (raise hell), inebriate (v), intoxicate (v), jugular (go for the jugular, etc.), limit (push the limits, etc.), line (cross the line), outfox (v), overreach (v), overstep (v), overstretch (v), prey (prey on something), rage (v), rear (v), raise (your image, etc.), rise (rise above something), savage (v), scratch (scratch and claw, etc.), showboat (v), sink (behavior), stoop (behavior), stop (stop at nothing), stray (behavior), swarm (v), tame (v), wall (ricochet off the wall), wallow (v), weasel (v), wolf down (food)
  - branching system: branch out (v), feed (feed into)
  - certainty & uncertainty: waters (muddy the waters)
  - character & personality: card (hold one's cards close), feather (ruffle feathers), light up (a room, etc.), swagger (v), toe (step on toes), whine (v)
  - characterization: brand (v), cast (characterize), christen (v), demonize (v), frame (characterize), illustrate (v), paint (characterize), recast (v), reframe (characterize), stigmatize (and destigmatize / verb)
  - coercion & motivation: arm (twist arms, etc.), bully (v), clamp down (v), crack down (v), dangle (v), feet (hold somebody's feet to the fire), fire (hold somebody's feet to the fire), fire (light a fire under somebody), fire up (v), goad (v), grill (v), gun (hold a gun to one's head, etc.), hand (force someone's hand), head (hold something over one's head), hector (v), herd (ride herd), kneecap (v), lean on (coercion), nudge (v), press (v), prod (v), push (coercion and motivation), screw (tighten / loosen the screws), squeeze (coerce), squeeze (put the squeeze on something), spur (v), railroad (v), strong-arm (v), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), wring (coerce)
  - coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: arrive (a time can arrive), arrive (the equator is arriving, etc.), bag (pack one's bags), bail out (leave), bow out (v), burst on / onto the scene, etc., circle back (return), come (winter is coming, etc.), come (occur, develop), come and go (currency), come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), come back (to bite, haunt, etc.), day (day has arrived, etc.), descend (descend on), fade away (v), footstep (retrace one's footsteps), go (not go anywhere, etc.), get (get somewhere), go away (v), go back (and get back), head (rear its head, etc.), herald (v), hit (arrive), hover (other), jump (leave), land (arrive, affect, decide), linger (v), loiter (v), reach (the news reached him, etc.), remain (v), return (and return to), revisit (v), ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.), roar back (v), ship (abandon ship / jump ship), stake (pull up stakes), stay around (v), table (come back to the table), tent (fold one's tent), time (time has passed), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), usher in (v), walk (walk away from something), waltz in (v), wash up (v)
  - commitment & determination: all (give something one's all, etc.), badger (v), bit (bit between its teeth), bring (bring it), budge (v), bullet (bite the bullet), charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), dig deep (determination), dive in (v), double down (v), eat (eat and breathe, etc.), eat (eat and sleep, etc.), embrace (v), go big up (as verb), go for it (and go for broke, etc.), gut out (v), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), invest (v), lean into (v), leap (leap into action, etc.), leave it (leave it all on the field, etc.), live up to (something), move (not move an inch, etc.), pass (cards), plate (step up to the plate), soul (sell one's soul to the devil, etc.), stand (stand firm), step into (v), stop (pull out all the stops), table (bring everything to the table), talk (talk the talk), tent (fold one's tent), throw (throw oneself into something), throw (throw it all, etc.), vow (v), walk (walk the walk), warrior through (v), waver (v), wobble (commitment)
  - comparison & contrast: equate (v)
  - competition: catch up (catch up to something), fall behind (competition and progress), front (in front / competition), jockey (v), joust (v), keep up (progress), lag (progress), lose out (v), outrun (v), outshine (v), overshadow (v), pass (progress), playing field (level the playing field), race (hurry), trail (competition and progress)

- complexity: detangle (v)
- comprehension & incomprehension: arm (get one's arms around something), clarify (v), dawn (verb / comprehension), digest (v), follow (argument), get (understand), go (argument), grasp (comprehend), head (scratch one's head), head (shake one's head), head (go over one's head / comprehension), head (get one's head around something, etc.), hit (comprehension), illuminate (v), mind (wrap / get one's mind around something, etc.), process (v), see (comprehension), sink in (v), take in (comprehend), waters (muddy the waters)
- computer: bomb (review-bomb, etc.), clean (computer / verb), disinfect (v), hack (break into), hack (fix), harvest (harvest data, etc.), infect (computers), quarantine (v), scrape (v), surf (computers), troll (verb / computers)
- concealment & lack of concealment: air (expose), artwash (v), astroturf (v), bare (lay bare), bare (v), betray (reveal, show), blend in (v), bury (conceal), camouflage (v), card (hold one's cards close), clean (come clean), cloak (conceal), come out (the truth, etc.), cover up (v), dig up (v), dredge up (v), excavate (v), exhume (v), gloss over (v), ground (go to ground), hide (hide behind something), infiltrate (v), launder (v), lay (lay bare), light (shed light), lock (lock something away), mask (drop the mask, etc.), mask (hide), masquerade (v), out (reveal), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), reveal (v), sanitize (v), scrub (remove), see (see through something), sit (sit on something), smoke out (v), sportswash (v), sugarcoat (and candy-coat), surface (intransitive), surface (bring to the surface), track (cover one's tracks, etc.), uncover (v), unearth (v), unlock (v), unmask (v), whitewash (v), wrap (take the wraps off something / concealment)
- condition & status: die (non-human), hemorrhage (v), hum (hum along), knee (bring to one's knees), limp (v), sputter (v), stall (v)
- configuration: blanket (v), dot (v), dovetail (v), fold in (v), honeycomb (v), hover (numbers), hug (configuration), neighbor (v), pancake (v), perch (v), piggyback (v), pockmark (v), punctuate (v), revolve (revolve around something), skirt (configuration), sprinkle (v), squeeze (fit), straddle (configuration)
- conflict: back (get one's back up, etc.), back down (v), barb (trade barbs, etc.), battle (v), beat (defeat / verb), bewail (v), blink (conflict), blood (smell blood), clamor (v), clash (v), claw (v), collide, combat (v), corral (v), cross (cross someone), decry (v), feud (v), fight (v), gauntlet (lay down a gauntlet, etc.), growl (v), hackles (raise hackles), head (butt heads), horn (lock horns), howl (v), joust (v), jugular (go for the jugular, etc.), moan (v), punch (punch back), rear (v), roll over (v), rumble (v), scratch (scratch and claw, etc.), scream (v), scream (scream for action, etc.), slug (slug something out), spar (v), square off (v), stink (raise a stink), swing (take a swing, etc.), sword (cross swords), toe-to-toe (go toe-to-toe, etc.), thrash (v), trounce (v), wagon (circle the wagons), wail (v), wrangle (v)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: address (v), blink (conflict), bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), can (kick the can down the road), come forward (v), dance (dance around something), duck (avoid), eye (turn a blind eye), face (look something in the face), face (face facts, etc.), face (face anger, etc.), face up (face up to something), flinch (v), gloss over (v), go (let something go), grapple (v), grip (come to grips), hand (take matters into one's hands), hand (sit on one's hands), hand (wash one's hands of something), handle (deal with), lean in (v), look (look the other way / look away), meet (meet the moment, etc.), put up with (v), punt (v), rise (rise to the challenge, etc.), road (push something down the road), shudder (v), shy (and shy away), sidestep (v), sit by (v), skirt (skirt an issue, etc.), stare (stare at defeat, etc.), step up (rise to the occasion), tackle (v), toss back (v), wrestle (v)
- consciousness & awareness: arouse (v), awaken (awareness), ball (take one's eye off the ball), bell (ring a bell), black out (v), cloud (v), dawn (verb / comprehension), drift (consciousness), envision (envision the future, etc.), fall (fall into a coma, etc.), illuminate (v), keep up (awareness), light (come to light), light (bring something to light), map (drop off the map, etc.), open up (consciousness), radar (drop off the radar), see (see something coming), see (see through something), sight (lose sight), sink (sink into a coma, etc.), slap (awareness), sleepwalk (v), tuned (stay tuned), wake up (awareness)
- constraint & lack of constraint: bind (constrain), bit (bit between its teeth), box (box somebody into a corner), bridle (v), color (color outside the lines, etc.), envelope (push the envelope), fly (constraint), hand (hand are tied, etc.), handcuff (v), hobble (v), hogtie (v), hold back (obstacle), jump (rivers can jump their banks, etc.),

- jump (lines), limit (push the limits, etc.), muzzle (v), overreach (v), overstep (v), overstretch (v), unleash (v), unshackle (v), wild (run wild), wing (clip / stretch one's wings)
- consumption: breathe (lives & breathes, etc.), burn through (v), chew (and chew up), chew over (v), choke (v), consume (consumption), devour (devour the classics, etc.), digest (v), drink in (v), eat (endure), eat (eat and breathe, etc.), eat (eat and sleep, etc.), eat up (consume), feed (fuel), feed (supply), force-feed (and force feed), gobble up (v), go down (digestion), gorge (gorge on), imbibe (v), ingest (v), inhale (v), lap up (v), live (live and breathe, live to), regurgitate (v), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), run out (of gas, etc.), serve up (v), stomach (accept), swallow (accept), swallow (disappearance), throat (ram something down the throat)
  - context: step back (perspective)
  - control & lack of control: arm (get one's arms around something), bit (bit between its teeth), bridal (v), calm (v), captive (held captive, etc.), captivity (n), corral (v), drift (move), grip (v), hand (get out of hand), handle (get a handle on something), handle (deal with), harness (v), head (keep / lose one's head), helm (v), herd (v), herd (ride herd), hijack (v), hijacked, horse (hold your horses), lurch (v), police (v), rule (v) rage (v), rein (rein in), rope in (v), run away (v), shot (call the shots), spin (spin out of control), spiral (spiral out of control, etc.), string (pull strings), tame (v), usurp (v), wrangle (v)
  - corruption: blight (v), contaminate (v), curdle (corruption), fester (v), infect (corrupt), poison (v), pollute (v), reek (v), rot (v), sour (v), spoil (v), stink (v), swamp (drain the swamp), taint (v), tarnish (v), twist (twist the truth, etc.), water (poison the water / waters)
  - cost & benefit: afford (v), cash in (v), cost (v), outweigh (cost and benefit), pay (benefit), pay (pay a price), pay off (v), profit (v), reward (v), spend (spend energy, etc.), toll (take a toll, etc.)
  - courage & lack of courage: brave (v), chicken out (v), cower (v), flinch (v), gut out (v), pants (scare the pants off somebody), shudder (v), warrior through (v)
  - cover: blanket (v), carpet (v), smother (cover)
  - creation & transformation: architect (as verb), beget (v), birth (create), breed (create), build (create), calve (v), carve out (v), churn out (v), cobble together (v), coin (v), concoct (v), cook up (v), drum up (v), edit (v), embroider (v), excite (v), fabricate (v), father (v), forge (v), Frankenstein (as verb), germinate (v), gestate (v), grind out (v), hammer out (v), hash out (v), make up (v), manufacture (v), midwife (as verb), mint (v), mold (v), mutate (v), patch (patch together), plant (create), recast (v), reshape (v), shape (v), sow (v), spawn (v), spin up (v), spit out (v), squeeze (squeeze something from / out of something), stitch together (v), strike (strike a deal, etc.), tailor (v), translate (v), turn (transform), turn out (create), weaponize (v), weave (create), wring (create)
  - curtailment: book (close the book), break off (v), bury (kill), cut (cut the budget, etc.), cut off (v), cut short (v), dark (go dark, etc.), dismantle (v), dissolve (terminate), fold (v), kill (v), kill off (v), knock out (v), plug (pull the plug), root (tear something out by the roots, etc.), shut down (v), shut off (v), snuff (v), rack (stop something in its tracks)
  - danger: back (watch your back, etc.), back (have somebody's back), ensnare (v), exhale (v), snare (v), trap (v), tread (tread carefully, etc.)
  - death & life: encounter (kill), killed (by disease, etc.), life (lose one's life), life (take one's life), life (give one's life, etc.), life (steal a life), liquidate (kill), lose (through death), neutralize (v), pass (die), pass away (v), remove (kill), succumb (die / actual), take down (kill), take out (kill)
  - decline: burn out (v), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), crater (v), crumble (v), descend (v), die down (v), dim (decline), dip (decrease), erode (v), ebb (decline), eclipse (v), fade (v), fall (fall ill, etc.), fall (numbers), fall (money), fall (fall into chaos, etc.), fall off (v), go down (decrease), haywire (go haywire, etc.), knee (bring to one's knees), nosedive (verb / decline), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline / decrease), sag (v), shrink (decline), shrivel (v), sink (decline), slide (v), slip (fail), slip (sales have slipped, etc.), slump (v), south (go south, etc.), spiral (spiral downward, etc.), stagnate (v), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble), vine (wither on the vine), wane (v), wilt (v), wither (v)
  - dependency: babysit (v), lean on (support), ride (ride on something), wean (v)
  - destruction: back (break the back), blow up (destroy / disrupt), break (destroy / disrupt), break down (destroy), bring down (v), buckle (give way), bulldoze (v), bury (kill), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), collapse (v), consume

(destroy), crash (crash and burn), crash (crash down), crumble (v), crush (destroy), decapitate (v), devour (destroy), disintegrate (v), dismember (v), drain (go down the drain, etc.), eat (mental health), eat (destroy), eat up (destroy), eviscerate (v), extinguish (v), fell (v), flatten (v), founder (v), grave (dig one's grave), grind down (v), gut (destroy), implode (v), kill (v), kill off (v), lacerate (v), nibble (nibble at, etc.), pipe (go down the pipes), poison (v), pound (pound targets, etc.), prick (v), puncture (v), rake (destroy), root (tear something out by the roots, etc.), root out (v), ruin (v), run over (v), sabotage (v), scupper (v), scuttle (v), shatter (destroy), ship (sink the ship), shoot down (v), shred (v), sink (destroy), smash (smash a record, etc.), snuff (v), squash (v), stamp out (v), steamroll (v), strangle (v), tear apart (v), tear down (v), tear up, topple (v), torpedo (v), trample (v), tube (go down the tubes), tumble down (v), uproot (v), waste (lay waste), water (blow something out of the water), wreck (v)

- development: book (close the book), come (occur, develop), come to (development), corner (turn the corner), follow (it follows that, etc.), get (get somewhere), go (develop), head (development), lead (one thing leads to another), plane (plane lands), play out (v), progress (v), reach (a place on a journey), scale (tip the scales), see (see something coming), stage (set the stage, etc.), stand still (development), take (take somebody somewhere), tide (turn the tide, etc.), tuned (stay tuned), turn (take a turn), turn out (develop), unfold (development), unspool (v), unwind (analyze), wane (v), wax and wane
- difficulty, easiness & effort: beaver (v), bend (bend over backwards), canter (v), claw (v), coast (coast to victory, etc.), drag (v), finger (lift a finger), gear up (v), grind away (v), gut out (v), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), hoop (jump through hoops, etc.), juggle (v), knuckle down (v), limits (push something to its limits), path (clear a path), plow (plow on, plow through, etc.), rock (turn over every rock, etc.), sail (sail to victory, etc.), scramble (v), scratch (scratch and claw, etc.), shortcut (v), stone (turn over every stone, etc.), slave (v), slog (v), stop (pull out all the stops), stroll (stroll to success, etc.), waltz (waltz to success, etc.), way (go out of one's way)
- directing: coach (v), channel (direct), drive (v), feed (direct), funnel (direct), goad (v), guide (v), herd (v), herd (ride herd), husband (v), inject (put), orchestrate (v), parade (v), pilot (v), plow (put), pour (put), pump (direct), shepherd (v), shot (call the shots), siphon (v), steer (v), stage (v), stage-manage (v), surge (transitive verb), take (take somebody somewhere), whip (violence)
- direction: chart (v), corkscrew (v), course (change course, etc.), course (stay the course), course (reverse course), follow (the facts, etc.), follow (a path, route, road, etc.), go (direction), head (development), jibe (v), lead (one thing leads to another), meander (v), mislead (v), move (direction), navigate (v), negotiate (terrain, etc.), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), plot (v), steer (v), stray (direction), tack (v), way (lose one's way), way (find one's way), way (part ways)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: amputate (remove), bail out (leave), banish (v), bench (v), blow off (v), boot out (v), bow out (v), brush aside (v), brush off (v), cast aside (v), chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), cleanse (make clean), clean out (v), cull (v), cut off (v), decapitate (v), dethrone (v), discard (v), dismantle (v), dissolve (terminate), drop (drop a case, etc.), drop out (v), dump (v), eject (v), exorcise (v), fold (v), flush (remove), jettison (v), kick out (v), leach (v), lift (amelioration), mothball (v), oust (v), overboard (throw somebody overboard), overthrow (v), overturn (v), pare (v), plug (pull the plug), pull out (v), prune (v), retire (v), root (tear something out by the roots, etc.), root out (v), scrap (v), scrape (v), scrub (remove), shake (remove), shave (removal), shed (v), shelve (v), ship out (remove), slash (v), step aside (v), step away (v), step down (v), strike down (v), strip (v), take down (v), throw out (v), topple (v), toss out (v), trim (trim the fat, etc.), unseat (v), weed out (v), wind (throw something to the wind), winnow (v)
- disruption: blow up (destroy / disrupt), break (destroy / disrupt), destabilize (v), feather (ruffle feathers), gear (throw sand in the gears, etc.), gum up (v), head (turn something on its head, etc.), house (clean house), misbehave (machine), overthrow (v), overturn (v), rattle (disrupt), reel (v), revolutionize (v), rock (v), roil (v), sabotage (v), scramble (disrupt), shake (disrupt), shake up (v), smash (smash a record, etc.), stagger (v), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), table (turn the tables), tear down (v), toe (step on toes), topple (v), trip up (v), unseat (v), upend (v), wrench (throw a wrench into something)

- division & connection: amputate (remove), bind (connect), bridge (v), cocoon (v), connect (v), distance (v), divorce (v), drift (drift apart), embrace (v), hook up (connect), ice (break the ice), intersect (v), knit (knit together), reach out (v), revolve (revolve around something), sever (v), silo (v), split (v), split (split apart / up, etc.), straddle (connect), thread (v), tie (v), tie together (v), touch (lose touch), traverse (v), way (part ways), weave together (v), wedge (drive a wedge, etc.)
- dominance & submission: back down (v), blink (conflict), bow (and bow down), cower (v), knee (bring to one's knees), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), knuckle under (v), kowtow (v), prostrate (v), tail (turn tail)
- driving force: charge (lead the charge, etc.), charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), drive (v), spearhead (v), way (lead the way)
- eagerness & reluctance: balk (v), bay (bay for blood, etc.), bit (champ at the bit), charge (in, into, ahead, etc.), drag (drag somebody into something), drool (v), gun (jump the gun), heel (dig in one's heels), horse (hold your horses), itch (v), jump (jump at the chance, etc.), leap (leap into action, etc.), path (beat a path), pounce (v), salivate (v), spring (spring into action, etc.), water (throw cold water on something)
- effect: chord (strike a chord), hit (affect), home (hit home), impact (affect), needle (move the needle, etc.), resonate (v), reverberate (v), ripple (v), roil (v), strike (affect), wave (make waves, etc.)
- enthusiasm: bleed (bleed black and gold, etc.), cheer on (v), crave (fans crave the bout, etc.), eat (eat and breathe, etc.), eat (eat and sleep, etc.), live (live and breathe, live to), pitch (promote), rave (v), water (throw cold water on something), worship (v)
- equilibrium & stability: balance (v), counterbalance (v), ship (right the ship, etc.)
- euphemism: skin (save one's skin)
- evidence: auger (v), betray (reveal, show), hint (v), hint at (v), illustrate (v), lie (tell an untruth), reveal (v), scream (scream "premium," etc.), show (the data show, etc.), sign (v), signal (v), signpost (as verb), sniff out (v), speak for (speak for itself, etc.), suggest (indicate), tell (data can tell us something, etc.), wind (get / catch wind of something)
- experience: chew (and chew up), eat (endure), go through (endure, etc.), grow up (grow up! etc.), see (see action, etc.), pay (pay one's dues), taste (taste freedom, etc.)
- experimentation: float (a plan, etc.), toe (dip one's toes in water, etc.), waters (test the waters)
- extent & scope: deepen (v), go big (v), ground (cover ground), sound (measure), stretch (extent), surface (scratch the surface)
- failure, accident & impairment: aground (run aground), ball (take one's eye off the ball), ball (drop the ball), bat (batting zero), betray (fail), break down (functioning), buckle (give way), butcher (v), cave in (v), circle (go in circles), collapse (v), crack (v), crack (fall through the cracks, etc.), crash-land (v), crumble (v), derail (v), drain (go down the drain, etc.), erode (v), fall apart (v), fall down (v), fall through (v), falter (v), fizzle (and fizzle out), flame out (v), flounder (v), founder (v), fray (v), fumble (v), gas (run out of gas), get away (escape), gum up (v), halt (grind to a halt, etc.), hand (overplay one's hand), haywire (go haywire, etc.), injure (v), jump (jump a curb, etc.), let down (fail), malfunction (v), misdiagnose (v), mislead (v), momentum (lose momentum), mutilate (v), overplay (v), pipe (go down the pipes), screw up (v), shoot (shoot oneself in the foot), short-circuit (v), sideways (go sideways), sink (sink into the mud, etc.), slip up (fail), snap (v), south (go south, etc.), split (v), split (split apart / up, etc.), sputter (v), stall (v), strain (v), stray (behavior), stray (direction), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), strike out (v), stumble (v), stutter (v), tarnish (v), thread (lose the thread), trip up (v), tube (go down the tubes), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble), tumble down (v), undercut (v), undermine (v), unravel (v), unseat (v), west (go west / obsolete), wreck (v)
- fate, fortune & chance: auger (v), balance (in the balance), bite (bite him in the end, etc.), breath (hold one's breath), bullet (dodge a bullet), chicken (come home to roost), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), finger (cross one's fingers, etc.), fire (play with fire), flirt (v), gamble (v), grave (dig one's grave), head (hold something over one's head), lap (fall into one's lap / a windfall), limb (go out on a limb), line (tread a line, etc.), path (cross paths), rise (rise and fall / verb), shoe (a shoe can drop or fall), spell (spell disaster, etc.), teeter (v)
- feeling, emotion & effect: bask (v), beating (take a beating, etc.), bewitch (v), blow up (emotion), boil (initiation), boil over (v), bottle up (emotions), break down (emotionally), breath (take one's breath away),

- breath (take a breath, etc.), brighten (v), bristle (emotional arousal), bruise (v), buoy (v), burn out (v), burst (burst into tears, etc.), button (push a button / emotion), calm (v), carry (carry me away, etc.), cartwheel (do cartwheels, etc.), charm (v), chord (strike a chord), come from (emotion), consume (emotions), cool down (v), cool off (v), crack (verb / emotion), crawl (skin can crawl, etc.), cringe (v), crush (confidence, spirit, etc.), dampen (v), darken (v), dazzle (v), deflate (emotion), destabilize (v), dim (hope, etc.), disintegrate (v), dissolve (emotions), drain (an emotion, etc.), eat (mental health), electrify (v), erupt (feeling), excite (v), exhale (v), explode (emotion), eye (bat an eye / eyelash), fall (fall into a rage, etc.), fall apart (emotionally), feather (ruffle feathers), feet (knock somebody off their feet), fire up (v), fly (fly into a rage, etc.), follow (follow a feeling or emotion), fume (v), galvanize (v), give (give a start, etc.), gnaw (v), go off (v), grate (v), hackles (raise hackles), hand (wring one's hand), harden (feelings), hat (hold on to your hat), haunt (v), head (keep / lose one's head), head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high), head (hang one's head), hit (take a hit, etc.), hit (affect), hold in (emotions), hold back (restraint), home (hit home), home (feel at home), hurt (feeling and emotion / verb), hurt (damage, injure), hyperventilate (v), ice (break the ice), impact (affect), inflame (v), intoxicate (v), kick (kick one's butt, etc.), kick (kick in the teeth, etc.), lament (v), land (arrive, affect, decide), lay low (emotion), lift (v), lighten (lighten things up, etc.), lock (lock something away), loosen up (feelings), love on (something), love up (and love up on, etc.), melt down (emotions), moan (v), moment (have a moment / emotion), nail (bite one's nails), nerve (strike a nerve, etc.), open up (emotions, speech, etc.), pall (cast a pall), possess (v), process (v), rage (v), raise (feeling), reel (v), resonate (v), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), reverberate (v), ripple (v), rock (v), roil (v), rub (rub somebody the wrong way), savor (v), scar (psychologically / verb), seethe (v), send (emotion or effect), set off (feeling and emotion), shake (disrupt), shatter (emotions), shock (v), sink (sink into despair, etc.), skin (jump out of one's skin), slide (v), smart (v), snap (v), sober (v), soothe (sensation), sour (v), spell (cast a spell), spill out (speech, emotions, etc.), spook (v), stack (blow one's stack), stagger (v), steam (v), steam (blow / let off steam), stomach (turn one's stomach), strike (affect), strike (tragedy, etc.), stun (v), stung (feeling), swoon (v), teeth (gnash one's teeth), temperature (raise / lower the temperature), toe (step on toes), top (blow one's top), touch (verb / emotion), turn on (excite), unwind (relax), vent (v), wail (v), wall (ricochet off the wall), warm (v), wave (make waves, etc.), wind down (relax), wow (v)
- fictive communication: address (v), answer (respond), ask (ask for it, etc.), beckon (v), betray (reveal, show), boast (v), call (Orwell called, etc. / sarcasm), call (the mountains are calling, etc.), call for (a recipe can call for something), command (deserve and get), cry (v), cry out (v), declare (v), demand (v), dictate (v), groan (amount), hint (v), hint at (v), illustrate (v), inform (v), interrogate (v), introduce (v), invite (v), lie (tell an untruth), nag (v), offer (offer hope, etc.), read (the sign read don't enter, etc.), remind (v), say (a sign can say something, etc.), scream (scream "premium," etc.), show (the data show, etc.), speak for (speak for itself, etc.), speak to (speak to something), suggest (v), talk (money talks, etc.), telegraph (v), tell (data can tell us something, etc.), threaten (v), warn (a sign can warn, etc.), welcome (v)
  - fictive meeting & seeing: brush up against, encounter (difficulties, etc.), face (face anger, etc.), find (a date can find us, etc.), greet (v), meet (something can meet you), meet (non-human), met (met by anger, etc.), see (fictive), see (a date can see something, etc.), stare (stare at defeat, etc.), stumble (stumble across / on / upon), welcome (v), witness (v)
  - fictive motion: climb (roads, etc.), cross (a bridge can cross a river, etc.), cut (road cuts, etc.), dip (a route can dip), draw alongside, follow (a road can follow, etc.), fork (a trail can fork, etc.), funnel (a road can funnel through, etc.), go (a road can go, etc.), meander (v), run (a road can run, etc.), slice (road slices, etc.), snake (a trail can snake, etc.), stretch (extent), strike (a road can strike a river, etc.), thread (a trail can thread, etc.), weave (a trail can weave, etc.), wind (wind its way)
  - fictive position: lie (position), repose (position), sit (a house can sit somewhere, etc.), stand (a lamp can stand, etc.), straddle (configuration)
  - fictive possession: belong (v), capture (v), catch (catch the imagination, etc.), claim (take), grab (v), grip (v), hold (verb / possession), hold (take hold), inhabit (v), occupy (v), possess (v), recapture (v), seize (v), snatch (v)

- fictive transportation: back (in time), bring (v), carry (carry me away, etc.), carry (transport), deliver (v), get across (v), ride (ride on something), ride (ride something to fame, etc.), send (transport), send (cause to move), take (take somebody somewhere), take (take us back / time), transport (in time)
- flaws & lack of flaws: fray (v), pockmark (v), polish (v), reek (v), sag (v), scar (blemish / verb), slump (v), smear (v), stain (v), stink (v), stretch (v), stumble (v), stumble (stumble over one's words), tarnish (v), warp (v), water (hold water)
- force: barrel (v), beat (beat down / the sun, etc.), bulldoze (v), churn (move), elbow (force), flex (power, etc.), hurtle (v), march (march ahead, etc.), momentum (gain momentum, etc.), muscle (muscle its way through, etc.), nudge (v), push (force), push (coercion and motivation), rip through (v), roar back (v), run over (v), steam (pick up steam, etc.), steam (lose steam), steam (take the steam out, etc.), steamroll (v), storm (v), strike (forces of nature), tear through (v), teeth (take the teeth out), traction (gain / build / get traction)
- functioning: break down (functioning), click (v), cripple (v), freeze (computers, etc.), gum up (v), hobble (v), hum (hum along), malfunction (v), misbehave (machine), paralyze (v), sputter (v), stall (v)
- future: approach (winter is approaching, etc.), arrive (a time can arrive), bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), come (winter is coming, etc.), come (come after / at a later time), come and go (time), come up on (a date, etc.), coming (in the coming months, etc.), dawn (verb / start), day (day has arrived, etc.), draw near (winter is drawing near, etc.), envision (envision the future, etc.), future (the future can bring something), head (head into the future, etc.), hold (the future can hold something), lie (lie ahead), look forward to (v), near (v), pass (its time has passed, etc.), road (come down the road / pike), see (see something coming), see (future), spell (spell disaster, etc.), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (time has passed)
- gesture: head (shake one's head), (eye (roll one's eyes)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: bring (v), come away with (v), command (deserve and get), deliver (v), dish out (v), fork over (v), furnish (give), give (give a wink, etc.), give (give a start, etc.), gift (as verb), hand down / out (punishment, etc.), hand over (v), hold out (offer), inherit (v), leave (leave a mark, etc.), lend (lend a hand, etc.), offer (v), pepper (v), rake in (v), take away (a message, etc.), turn in (give)
- group, set & collection: curate (v), pool (v)
- growth & development: arise (v), bloom (v), blossom (v), branch out (v), cultivate (v), explode (increase), fall (fall behind), flourish (v), flower (v), germinate (v), gestate (v), graduate (v), ground (get off the ground), grow (grow the economy, etc.), grow up (grow up together, etc.), grow up (grow up! etc.), hold (take hold), lag (progress), leg (grow legs, have legs, etc.), life (begin life), mature (v), metastasize (v), nurture (v), plant (create), plow (plow a field, etc.), revolutionize (v), sow (v), take off (v), thrive (v), wean (v)
- haste: jump (jump at the chance, etc.), scramble (v)
- help & assistance: carry (assist), finger (lift a finger), godfather (v), lean on (support), lend (lend a hand, etc.), logroll (v), pick up (pick somebody up, etc.), pitch in (help), rescue (v), scaffold (v)
- hierarchy: head (go over one's head / hierarchy), move (move up)
- hyperbole: pants (scare the pants off somebody), retch (and puke, vomit, throw up), skin (jump out of one's skin), slave (v), soul (sell one's soul to the devil, etc.)
- idea: brainstorm (v)
- identity & nature: bleed (bleed black and gold, etc.), define (v), fold in (v), live (live and breathe, live to)
- importance & significance: background (background noise, etc.), fetishize (v), revolutionize (v), trail (blaze a trail), venerate (v), worship (v)
- impression: embed (v), etch (v)
- inauguration: drop (a product, etc.), hit (hit the market, etc.), launch (v), ring in (the New Year, etc.), roll out (v), unveil (make public), usher in (v), wrap (take the wraps off something / inauguration)
- inclusion & exclusion: appropriate (groups), cancel (groups, etc.), celebrate (groups), center (center their voices, etc.), colonize (groups), come out (as nonmonogamous, etc.), criminalize (groups), disappear (as transitive verb), empower (groups), erase (groups, etc.), fetishize (v), harm (groups / verb), heroize (v), honor (verb / groups), identify (identify as, etc.), invisibilize (groups), knee (take a knee), marginalize (groups), minoritize (groups), misappropriate (groups), misgender (groups), normalize (groups), other (verb / groups,

- etc.), otherize (groups), perform (perform values, etc.), pinkwash (v), prioritize (groups), privilege (groups / verb), racialize (groups), reappropriate (groups), reclaim (groups), represent (groups), retraumatize (v), say (say his name, etc.), shame (body-shame / verb, etc.), sportswash (v), stigmatize (and destigmatize / verb), straightwash (groups), suffer (groups), take back (take back one's life, etc.), talk (talk about something / groups, etc.), traumatize (v), trigger (groups / verb), truth (speak one's truth, etc. / groups), whitewash (groups)
- increase & decrease: accelerate (v), amplify (v), balloon (v), big up (as verb), blow up (blow up on TikTok, etc.), boom (increase), boost (v), boost (n), build up (v), burnish (v), climb (increase), crank up (v), dial down (and dial back), dial up (increase), dip (decrease), drop (prices dropped, etc.), enrich (v), escalate (v), explode (increase), fall off (v), fan (v), feed (fuel), fluctuate (v), fuel (v), gas (pour gas on something, etc.), gear up (v), go down (decrease), go up (increase), grow (increase), harden (increase), heighten (v), inflame (v), inflate (v), jack up (v), jump (increase / verb), kindle (v), level off (v), level up (as verb), loosen (loosen control, etc.), mount (v), nosedive (verb / decrease), notch (take something up a notch), oil (pour oil), pick up (increase), pile on (increase), pile up (v), plateau (v), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline / decrease), pump up (v), ramp up (v), ratchet up (v), rebound (numbers), relax (relax control, etc.), rev up (v), rise (prices rise, etc.), rocket (increase), sag (v), sharpen (v), shoot up (v), shrink (downsize), sink (decline), skyrocket (increase), slip (sales have slipped, etc.), slump (v), snowball (v), soar (v), spike (increase), spiral (downward or upward), step up (increase), stoke (v), supercharge (v), supersize (v), surge (intransitive verb / increase), swell (v), take off (v), tighten (tighten control, etc.), turbocharge (v), turn up (increase / verb), up (increase / verb), wane (v), wax and wane
  - initiation: blow up (blow up on TikTok, etc.), blow up (emotion), boil (initiation), boil over (v), break out (v), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), burst (burst into violence, etc.), button (push a button / action), button (push a button / emotion), catalyze (v), detonate (v), dial up (order), erupt (v), explode (emotion), explode (initiation), explode (increase), fan (v), flare (v), flare up (v), flow (increase), fuel (v), fuel (pour fuel on something, etc.), galvanize (v), gas (pour gas on something, etc.), go off (v), hatch (v), ignite (v), inflame (v), jump-start (v), kick in (start), kick off (v), kick-start (v), kick up (v), kindle (v), launch (v), life (spring to life), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), percolate (v), pot (stir the pot), prime (v), re-ignite (v), rekindle (v), scale (tip the scales), seethe (v), set off (initiate), shoot (shoot first), simmer (v), simmering (activity), spark (v), spin up (v), spur (v), stir (v), stir up (v), stoke (v), swirl (v), take off (v), tee off (start), trigger (a war, etc.), trigger (pull the trigger, etc.), unleash (v)
  - insult: feet (wipe one's feet on somebody), flip off (v), grow up (grow up! etc.), nose (thumb one's nose), skewer (v), trash talk (v), walk (walk and chew gum at the same time)
  - involvement: chime in (v), detangle (v), dive in (v), drag (drag somebody into something), draw in (v), ensnare (v), get in / get into (involvement), head (get in over one's head, etc.), jump (jump in), leave (leave something alone), plunge (plunge into something), sit out (v), snare (v), step in (v), stumble (stumble into a situation), sucked in / into (involved), throw (throw oneself into something), toe (dip one's toes in water, etc.), trap (v), wade (wade in / wade into), wallow (v), weigh in (v)
  - isolation & remoteness: cocoon (v), insulate (v), silo (v)
  - judgment: bed (lie in one's bed / make one's bed), bite (bite him in the end, etc.), boo (v), call out (v), cheer (v), chicken (come home to roost), circle back (judgment), come back (to bite, haunt, etc.), condemn (v), drag (contempo-speak / verb), frown (v), hand down / out (punishment, etc.), muster (pass muster), pay (pay a price), pay (revenge), piper (pay the piper, etc.), quiz (v), scale (put one's finger on the scale, etc.), smile (v), sword (fall on one's sword), triage (v), weigh (analyze)
  - knowledge & intelligence: illuminate (v), learn (v)
  - language: need (she needs to, etc.), want (I want her home, etc.)
  - leaking: bleed (v), drain (remove), hemorrhage (v), leak (v), leak out (v), ooze (v), spill (and spill out, etc.)
  - location: dwell (location), finger (put one's finger on something), live (location), map drop off the map, etc.), pinpoint (locate), reside (v)
  - measurement: calibrate (adjust), sound (measure)

- mental health: beat (beat oneself up), break down (emotionally), lay low (emotion), melt down (emotions), pick up (pick somebody up, etc.), possess (v), pull (pull yourself together, etc.), scar (psychologically / verb), shatter (emotions), snap (v), traumatize (v), trigger (groups / verb), vent (v), unwind (relax)
- message: amplify (v), barnstorm (v), drum (beat the drum / bang the drum, etc.), lecture (v), proselytize (v), sell (promote), speak (carry a message), spin (message / verb), tout (v)
- migration: wash in (v)
- mind: mind (wrap / get one's mind around something, etc.), open up (consciousness)
- mixture: fold in (v), lace (v)
- movement: barrel (v), bounce (v), canter (v), churn (move), corkscrew (v), crawl (time can crawl, etc.), creep (v), dance (resemblance), dart (dart about), drift (move), duck (v), flee (v), fishtail (v), flock (v), flood (move), flow (move), fluctuate (v), gallop (v), hop (v), hurtle (v), jump (leave), jump (movement), leap (leap into action, etc.), leapfrog (v), loiter (v), lurch (v), lurk (v), march (move), migrate (v), muscle (muscle its way through, etc.), oscillate (v), pinball (v), ping-pong (v), plod (v), pounce (v), pour (in, into, pour out, etc.), race (hurry), rebound (recover), rebound (v), reel (v), retreat (glaciers, etc.), ricochet (v), rip through (v), rocket (speed), roll (move), roll in (v), scramble (v), seep (v), slink (slink in, etc.), snake (a trail can snake, etc.), spiral (downward or upward), stalk (v), stall (v), stream (move), stride (hit one's stride), surge (intransitive verb / effect), swamp (v), swarm (v), swoop (v), tear through (v), trickle (trickle in / out), vault (v), wash in (v), weasel (v), weave (move), whip (movement), wind (wind its way), yo-yo (v), zig-zag (v), zip (v)
- obligation: owe (obligation), pay (obligation), repay (v)
- obstacles & impedance: bog down (v), bottle up (emotions), get through (endure, etc.), hold back (obstacle), hold off (v), hold up (obstruct), hoop (jump through hoops, etc.), jump (lines), mud (sink in the mud), path (clear a path), run (run into something), sink (sink into the mud, etc.), snarl (v), stand (stand in the way), stonewall (v), wall (hit a wall, etc.), way (get out of the way)
- occurrence: arise (v), come (occur, develop), erupt (v), go down (happen), go on (what's going on, etc.), spin up (v), strike (forces of nature), strike (tragedy, etc.)
- oppression: bear (a weight, etc.), beat down (v), blackball (v), blacklist (v), bully (v), burden (v), clamp down (v), come down on (v), crack down (v), crush (confidence, spirit, etc.), darken (v), disappear (oppression / transitive verb), encounter (kill), get out (get out from under), goad (v), lord over (v), pall (cast a pall), saddle (oppress), smother (oppress), squeeze (coerce), squeeze (put the squeeze on something), stifle (v), strangle (v), suffocate (v), tar (tar and feather, etc.), throat (ram something down the throat), weigh (weigh heavily), weigh (oppress), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), wring (coerce)
- orientation: upstage (v)
- origin: come from (origin)
- past & present: back (back in time), backtrack (go back in time), circle back (return), clock (turn back the clock), come (a time comes along), come (come before / at an earlier time), come and go (time), day (day has arrived, etc.), fossilize (v), go (the time has gone, etc.), go back (verb / time), look back (v), pass (its time has passed, etc.), revisit (v), stand still (time), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (time has passed), walk (walk somebody back), wind back (v)
- perception, perspective & point of view: background (background noise, etc.), back up (v), color (v), greet (v), meet (something can meet you), ring (ring false, etc.), see (perceive), step back (perspective), view (perceive), waters (muddy the waters), zoom out (v)
- performance: parade (v), play (play to the audience, etc.), stage (v), stage-manage (v)
- place: map (drop off the map, etc.)
- portal: threshold (cross the threshold)
- position, policy & negotiation: bluff (v), budge (v), fence (straddle the fence), haggle (v), hand (overplay one's hand), move (not move an inch, etc.), sit down (v), stance (take a stance), stand (position), table (come back to the table), table (turn the tables)
- possession: adopt (v), cling (v), fall (fall into the hands, etc.), finger (slip through one's fingers), fork over (v), go (let something go), grab (v), grip (v), hand over (v), hang on to (v), hijack (v), hold (verb / possession), hold

- on to (v), loot (v), own (possess), own (make something one's own), reclaim (his place, etc.), seize (v), stake out (v), surrender (v), time (steal time, etc.), time (give time), trade (v), usurp (v)
- power: flex (power, etc.), hand (strengthen one's hand), leverage (v), lord over (v), momentum (gain momentum, etc.), muscle (muscle its way through, etc.), outweigh (power), punch (punch above one's weight, etc.), supercharge (v), turbocharge (v), weight (put / throw one's weight behind something), weight (punch above one's weight, etc.)
  - presence & absence: exist (v), have (you have, etc.), live (location), loom (loom large, etc.), lose (a limb, etc.), lurk (v), map (drop off the map, etc.), radar (drop off the radar), remain (v), reside (v)
  - pressure: clamp down (v), screw (tighten / loosen the screws), wall (walls close in)
  - primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: bring back (restore), bring down (v), come and go (currency), dethrone (v), dim (overshadow), dwarf (v), eclipse (v), fade (v), fossilize (v), live on (v), lose out (v), outshine (v), overshadow (v), overthrow (v), overturn (v), pass (its time has passed, etc.), pass by (progress), reign (v), sink (sink into obscurity, etc.), time (time has passed), topple (v), wane (v), wax and wane, way (give way to something), way (go the way of something)
  - product: bear (bear fruit, etc.), come from (origin), harvest (v), reap (v)
  - progress & lack of progress: advance (v), bog down (v), catch up (catch up to something), catch up (catch up with something), circle (go in circles), climb (scale), corner (turn the corner), fall behind (competition and progress), forward (move forward, go forward, etc.), ground (gain ground), ground (lose ground, etc.), jump (progress), keep up (progress), lag (progress), leapfrog (v), level off (v), limp (v), look up (v), march (march ahead, etc.), move (progress), move (move up), mud (sink in the mud), needle (move the needle, etc.), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), pass (progress), pass by (progress), plod (v), progress (v), roll (v), scale (climb), set back (v), sideways (go sideways), stall (v), stand still (progress), stutter (v), tail (chase one's tail), traction (gain / build / get traction), trail (competition and progress), turn back (v), vault (v), wall (hit a wall, etc.), wind (wind its way)
  - protection & lack of protection: back (watch your back, etc.), back (have somebody's back), batten (batten down), bolster (v), breach (v), bristle (with security, etc.), cocoon (v), dig in (v), ground (go to ground), guard (lower one's guard, drop one's guard, etc.), guard (keep one's guard up), hack (break into), harbor (v), harden (protect), head (keep one's head down), hole up (v), inoculate (v), insulate (v), quarantine (v), rank (close ranks), shelter (v), shield (v), wagon (circle the wagons)
  - proximity: door (knock at / on the door), home (hit home), neighbor (v), shadow (follow), shoulder (rub shoulders)
  - punishment & recrimination: beat (beat oneself up), book (throw the book at somebody), coal (rake somebody over the coals), crack down (v), crucify (v), drag (contempo-speak / verb), flog (criticize), hand down / out (punishment, etc.), key (throw away the key), kick (kick oneself), nail (nail someone to the cross), pile on (gang up on), pillory (v), slap (punish), tar (tar and feather, etc.)
  - pursuit, capture & escape: bait (v), capture (v), catch (catch the imagination, etc.), catch (catch and release), catch up (his past caught up to him, etc.), chase (v), come after (and come for), court (v), dragnet (cast a dragnet), ensnare (v), finger (slip through one's fingers), fish (v), follow (afflict), get away (escape), go after (attack), ground (go to ground), hound (v), hunt (v), hunt down (v), low (lie low), lure (v), nail (nail somebody), net (cast a net), Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.), poach (v), prey (prey on something), prey (fall prey to something), pursue (pursue a dream, etc.), recapture (v), reel in (v), rock (turn over every rock, etc.), scent (throw somebody off the scent), seduce (v), smoke out (v), snare (v), stalk (v), stone (turn over every stone, etc.), track (cover one's tracks, etc.), track down (v), trail (follow), trawl (v), troll (fish / verb), victim (fall victim to something), woo (v)
  - readiness & preparedness: ambush (v), batten (batten down), brace (v), groom (prepare), ground (prepare the ground), ground (hit the ground running), guard (lower one's guard, drop one's guard, etc.), guard (keep one's guard up), pants (caught with one's pants down), prime (v), punch (beat somebody to the punch), punch (sucker punch / verb), rehearse (v), tune (and tune up)

- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: bed (put something to bed), behind (put something behind), blow over (v), book (close the book), deal (close the deal), exorcise (v), get on with (get on with something), get over (overcome), get through (endure, etc.), ghost (bury the ghost), go (let something go), goodbye (say goodbye, etc.), hatchet (bury the hatchet), haunt (v), heal (v), land (arrive, affect, decide), move on (resiliency), nail down (settle), rest (put / lay something to rest), settle down (v), sew up (v), sleep (put something to sleep), wrap up (v)
- reference: see (refer to)
- relationship: accompany (attachment), answer (respond), attend (v), beget (v), breed (create), bring (v), come (occur, develop), come from (origin), come with (and come along with / attachment), divorce (v), draw (attract), drive (drive somebody to do something), feed (fuel), fold in (v), follow (result, sequence), follow (it follows that, etc.), grow up (grow up together, etc.), lead (one thing leads to another), leave (leave a mark, etc.), march (together, etc.), owe (relationship), revolve (revolve around something), ride (ride on something), sneeze (v), snowball (v), tango (v), trigger (a war, etc.)
- repetition: ape (v), echo (verb / effect), echo (repeat), mirror (v), parrot (v), rhyme (v)
- representation: banner (carry a banner, etc.), flag (raise a flag, etc.), stand for (v), torch (carry a torch)
- reputation: mud (drag something through the mud), raise (you image, etc.), smear (v), stain (v)
- resemblance: belch (v), bite (resemblance), blink (light), carpet (v), cut (road cuts, etc.), dance (resemblance), paint (resemblance), pour (resemblance), rain (amount and effect), rain (rain down), scar (resemblance / verb), slice (road slices, etc.), snake (a trail can snake, etc.), snooze (v), spit (spit down), spit (v), stir up (resemblance), stream (tears stream, etc.), swallow (disappearance), thunder (speech), wake (resemblance), wilt (v), yawn (v)
- resiliency: behind (put something behind), bounce back (v), carry on (v), come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), forge on (resiliency), get on with (get on with something, get over (overcome), get through (endure, etc.), go (let something go), go on (persist), hang in there, hang on (v), head (keep one's head up), head (hold one's head high), hold on (survival), horse (get back on the horse), overcome (v), pick (pick oneself up), piece (pick up the pieces), pull (pull yourself together, etc.), punch (roll with the punches), push on (v), put (put something back together), rebound (recover), roll on (resiliency), saddle (get back in the saddle), shake (shake something off), soldier on (v)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: back (get one's back up, etc.), back down (v), balk (v), barricade (storm the barricades, etc.), beat back (v), bemoan (v), bend (v), bewail (v), blink (conflict), bow (and bow down), bridle (v), buck (v), buckle (give way), budge (v), cave in (v), checkmate (v), clap back (contempo-speak / verb), clamor (v), combat (v), come out (against something), counterattack (v), cry (cry foul, etc.), day (save the day), decry (v), dig in (v), fall (defeat), fight (v), fold (v), foot (put one's foot down), give in (v), give up (stop trying), give way (and give way to), ground (give ground), ground (hold / stand one's ground), heel (dig in one's heels), hold off (v), hold out (persist), howl (v), knee (bring to one's knees), kneel (and kneel down, etc.), knuckle under (v), kowtow (v), lie down (and lay down), moan (v), move (not move an inch, etc.), nose (thumb one's nose), overcome (v), overrun (v), parry (v), prostrate (v), punch (punch back), push (push against, etc.), push back (v), put up with (v), rebel (v), retreat (reverse / verb), revolt (v), rise (resist), roll over (v), rout (defeat / verb), sell out (v), sound off (v), speak out (v), speak up (v), squeal (protest), stand (resist), stand (last stand, etc.), stand for (not stand for something), stand up (stand up to something), stare down (v), stink (raise a stink), stonewall (v), succumb (v), surrender (v), tail (turn tail), take (refuse to take), take on (v), tap out (v), tent (fold one's tent), tide (buck the tide), towel (throw in the towel), wail (v)
- responsibility: bed (lie in one's bed / make one's bed), bite (bite him in the end, etc.), chicken (come home to roost), circle back (judgment), live up to (something), man up (v), own (responsibility), plate (step up to the plate), shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), sword (fall on one's sword)
- restraint & lack of restraint: bridle (v), end (go off the deep end), envelope (push the envelope), hand (get out of hand), hand (overplay one's hand), help (keep from, avoid), hold back (restraint), inebriate (v), limit (push the limits, etc.), limits (push something to its limits), loose (let loose), overreach (v), overstep (v), overstretch (v),

punch (pull a punch), punch (sucker punch / verb), stop (stop at nothing), stop (pull out all the stops), wild (run wild), wind (throw something to the wind)

- revenge: feud (v), pay (revenge), score (settle a score, etc.)
- reverence: enshrine (v), venerate (v), worship (v)
- reversal: backfire (v), backpedal (v), backtrack (reversal), bell (unring a bell), bite (bite him in the end, etc.), blow up (blow up in one's face), boomerang (v), chicken (come home to roost), circle back (judgment), climb down (v), come back (to bite, haunt, etc.), course (reverse course), face (blow up in one's face), flip (v), flip-flop (v), gear (switch gears, shift gears, etc.), oscillate (v), overturn (v), retreat (reverse / verb), ricochet (v), roll back (v), ship (turn the ship, etc.), table (turn the tables), tail (turn tail), tide (turn the tide, etc.), tune (change one's tune), tune (change in tune), unwind (reverse), walk back (v)
- sacrifice: sacrifice (give up something)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: anoint (v), applaud (v), beatify (v), buck (v), canonize (v), defrock (v), enshrine (v), frown (v), green light (v), hew (hew to the line, etc.), OK (and okay / verb), playing field (level the playing field), rebel (v), sign off (on something), smile (v), tide (buck the tide), tune (dance to the tune)
- script: prescribe (v)
- searching & discovery: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), comb (v), come up with (discovery), dig (search for), dig deep (analysis), dig into (v), dig through (v), dig up (v), dredge up (v), dry (come up dry), excavate (v), exhume (v), explore (discover), feeler (put out feelers, etc.), glean (v), ground (cover ground), light (come to light), light (bring something to light), look for (v), look into (v), mine (search), rake up (v), rock (turn over every rock, etc.), scour (v), scout (v), scrape (v), stone (turn over every stone, etc.), sift (searching), sniff out (v), stumble (stumble across / on / upon), surface (intransitive), track down (v), trail (blaze a trail), trawl (v), turn up (discover), uncover (v), unearth (v), unfold (discover), unlock (v), unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.), winnow (v)
- sequence: answer (respond), follow (at a later time), jump (jump ahead), precede (at an earlier time), punch (beat somebody to the punch), step back (sequence), way (give way to something)
- sex: pants (get in somebody's pants)
- shape: zig-zag (v)
- sight: eye (v)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: bluff (v), clean (come clean), sugarcoat (and candy-coat), talk (talk the talk), twist (twist the truth, etc.)
- situation: box (box somebody into a corner), dig out (v), ensnare (v), go back (and get back), head (get in over one's head, etc.), out (want out), return (and return to), stay out (v), water (keep one's head above water)
- social interaction: back (scratch somebody's back), ball (play ball), connect (v), get along (v), go along (v), hand (one hand washes the other), logroll (v), see (visit / meet), shoulder (rub shoulders), wheel (grease the wheels)
- sound: bark (v), drown out (v), growl (v), howl (v), ring out (a shot rang out, etc.), snarl (speech), squeal (protest)
- speech: backhand (v), badger (v), bark (v), bash (v), beg (v), bewail (v), blast (criticize), bleat (v), break (break the silence, etc.), chime in (v), clean up (speech), coal (rake somebody over the coals), crow (v), cut off (speech), eviscerate (v), fire (a question, etc.), fire (fire back), fulminate (speech), gaslight (v), grill (v), growl (v), gush (v), howl (v), jump (speech), lacerate (v), lambast (v), lash out (v), lay (lay into), mince (v), muzzle (v), needle (v), open up (emotions, speech, etc.), pander (v), pontificate (v), preach (v), proselytize (v), rail (v), rave (v), ring out (voice), roast (v), savage (v), shoot (speech), shoot (shoot back), shout (v), skewer (v), slam (v), smear (v), snarl (speech), snipe (v), soften (speech), spew (speech), spill out (speech, emotions, etc.), squeal (protest), stumble (stumble over one's words), talk down to (somebody), tar (tar and feather, etc.), throat (jump down someone's throat), thunder (speech), tongue (hold one's tongue), tongue (bite one's tongue), tongue (lose one's tongue), trash talk (v), twist (twist the truth, etc.)

- speed: accelerate (v), canter (v), crawl (time can crawl, etc.), creep (v), dart (dart about), downshift (v), fly (activity), gallop (v), momentum (gain momentum, etc.), plod (v), race (hurry), rocket (speed), sprint (v), streamline (speed up), supercharge (v), turbocharge (v), walk (slow-walk), zip (v)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: accelerate (v), ahead (progress), ahead (go ahead), balk (v), ball (get the ball rolling, etc.), bed (put something to bed), blow over (v), book (close the book), bow out (v), break off (v), carry on (verb), course (change course, etc.), course (stay the course), course (reverse course), course (run its course, etc.), dawn (verb / start), die (non-human), die out (end), door (get one's foot in the door), downshift (v), drag on (v), drop out (v), embark (embark on something), escalate (v), falter (v), fester (v), flame out (verb), fold (v), gas (run out of gas), get on with (get on with something), go on (persist), grind away (v), grind on (v), halt (grind to a halt, etc.), hand (wash one's hands of something), heal (v), ignite (v), jump-start (v), kick in (start), kick off (v), kick-start (v), landing (stick the landing), leg (grow legs, have legs, etc.), level off (v), life (begin life), life (spring to life), live on (v), march (march ahead, etc.), move on (resiliency), move on (change the subject, etc.), pause (v), play out (v), plow (plow on, plow through, etc.), pull back (v), pull out (v), push on (v), reboot (v), reign (v), rekindle (v), reset (v), rest (put / lay something to rest), ring in (the New Year, etc.), ring out (the New Year, etc.), roll (v), saddle (saddle up), set out (and set off), set sail (v), sleep (put something to sleep), smolder (v), soldier on (v), stall (v), stand down (v), step down (v), stride (hit one's stride), strike out (start), tee off (start), tick on (and tick by), torch (pass the torch), traction (gain / build / get traction), wear on (v), wind down (v), wrap up (v)
- strategy: bluff (v), card (play one's cards), gamble (v), hand (force someone's hand)
- strength & weakness: beef up (v), bluff (v), bolster (v), buttress (v), cement (v), defang (v), hollow out (v), muscle (muscle its way through, etc.), sag (v), shore up (v), slump (v), supercharge (v), teeth (take the teeth out), turbocharge (v), water down (v)
- substance & lack of substance: flesh out (v), life (bring to life), light (make light of something), punch (punch above one's weight, etc.), weight (punch above one's weight, etc.)
- subterfuge: astroturf (v), bluff (v), breadcrumb (v), camouflage (v), cover up (v), gaslight (v), gloss over (v), launder (v), mask (drop the mask, etc.), mask (hide), masquerade (v), outfox (v), punch (sucker punch / verb), scent (throw somebody off the scent), slink (slink in, etc.), spin (message / verb), sugarcoat (and candy-coat), track (cover one's tracks, etc.), trail (throw somebody off the trail, etc.), whitewash (v)
- success & failure: ball (drop the ball), bat (batting zero), beat (defeat / verb), choke (fail), conquer (v), crush (verb / accomplishment), deal (close the deal), destroy (verb / accomplishment), dry (come up dry), fall through (v), flatline (v), flop (v), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), jackpot (hit the jackpot), kill (verb / accomplishment), landing (stick the landing), leg (grow legs, have legs, etc.), let down (fail), miss (v), nail (nail something), nail down (gain), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), pan out (v), rise (rise and fall / verb), strike out (v), target (hit the target), target (miss the target, etc.), win (v)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: brim (v), gorge (gorge on)
- superiority & inferiority: circle (run circles around somebody), dim (overshadow), drown out (v), dwarf (v), eclipse (v), feet (wipe one's feet on somebody), loom (loom large, etc.), outpace (v), outshine (v), outweigh (power), overshadow (v), shoulder (stand on somebody's shoulders)
- superlative: light up (a room, etc.)
- supplying: feed (fuel), feed (direct), feed (supply), force-feed (and force feed), serve up (v)
- surveillance: helicopter (v)
- survival, persistence & endurance: alive (keep something alive), bail out (save), batten (batten down), bring back (restore), bullet (bite the bullet), carry on (v), cement (v), cling (v), come back (resiliency), come back (from extinction, etc.), die (non-human), dig in (v), drown (v), get by (v), get on with (get on with something), get over (overcome), get through (endure, etc.), go (not go anywhere, etc.), go on (persist), go through (endure, etc.), gut out (v), hack (hack something / endurance), head (get in over one's head, etc.), hold on (survival), hold out (persist), life (give life), life (breathe life), limits (push something to its limits), live on (v), perish (v), pull through (v), punch (roll with the punches), put up with (v), push on (v), remain (v), rescue (v), resuscitate (v), revive (v), revivify (v), ride out (v), save (v), scrape by (v), sink (sink into debt, etc.), scalp (save one's

- scalp), skin (save one's skin), soldier on (v), stand (endure), stick (persist), storm (weather the storm), swim (v), take (take something / endurance), wall (throw something at a wall and see what sticks), warrior through (v), water (keep one's head above water), water (tread water), weather (survive)
- taking & removing: cannibalize (v), chip away (v), claim (take), grab (v), hijack (v), hold up (rob), Hoover (hoover up, etc.), leach (v), loot (v), milk (v), poach (v), plunder (v), rob (v), scrape (v), seize (v), snatch (v), steal (steal the show, etc.), steal (steal customers, etc.), steal (steal dreams, etc.), strip (v), usurp (v), wring (create)
  - target: aim (v), aim (take aim at something), gun (v), target (v), zero in on (v)
  - throwing, putting & planting: cast (cast doubt), cast (light), cast (other), catapult (v), heap (v), hurl (v), inject (put), lay (put), pepper (v), plant (put), plant (create), plow (put), pour (put), shower (v), sink (put), sow (v), sown (planted), spew (speech), spit out (v), throw (accusations, etc.), throw out (v), thrust (v), toss out (v)
  - time: advance (a day can advance, etc.), approach (winter is approaching, etc.), arrive (a time can arrive), back (in time), backtrack (go back in time), bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), catch up (his past caught up to him, etc.), clock (turn back the clock), come (winter is coming, etc.), come (a time comes along), come (come before / at an earlier time), come (come after / at a later time), come and go (time), come up on (a date, etc.), crawl (time can crawl, etc.), dawn (verb / start), day (day has arrived, etc.), drag on (v), draw near (winter is drawing near, etc.), envision (envision the future, etc.), follow (at a later time), fossilize (v), future (the future can bring something), go (the time has gone, etc.), go by (an hour can go by, etc.), head (head into the future, etc.), hold (the future can hold something), last (time / verb), lie (lie ahead), look back (v), look forward to (v), near (v), pass (time can pass, etc.), pass (its time has passed, etc.), precede (at an earlier time), race (the term raced to its end, etc.), revisit (v), road (come down the road / pike), see (see something coming), see (future), slip away (time), spell (spell disaster, etc.), stand still (time), take (take us back / time), tick on (and tick by), time (have time), time (spend time), time (buy time, etc.), time (steal time, etc.), time (lose time, etc.), time (give time), time (run out of time), time (waste time), time (use time), time (make time), time (find time), time (a minute to spare, etc.), time (the time can arrive or come, etc.), time (time has passed), transport (in time), walk (walk somebody back), wear on (v), wind back (v), wind down (v)
  - timeliness & lack of timeliness: bridge (we will cross that bridge when we come to it), drag on (v), fire (hang fire), gestate (v), gun (jump the gun), ship (ship has sailed, etc.), streamline (speed up), time (run out of time), time (waste time), train (train has left the station, etc.)
  - transmission: catch on (v), echo (repeat), give (give a wink, etc.), give (give a start, etc.), give (give an impression, etc.), hitchhike (v), hop (hop across, etc.), infiltrate (v), inherit (v), jump (transmission), leap (transmission), pass on (v), reverberate (v), ripple (v), rub off on (v), send (transmit), slink (slink in, etc.), sneeze (v), stay (what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas, etc.), stream (direct), torch (pass the torch), weasel (v)
  - transportation: cart (cart off), haul (v)
  - unanimity & consensus: arm (link arms), hew (hew to the line, etc.), line (toe a line, etc.), line up (v), march (together, etc.), nod (agree), pile on (gang up on), pull together (v), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), shoulder (stand shoulder to shoulder, etc.), stand (stand as one, etc.), suit (follow suit), team up (v), tune (dance to the tune)
  - violence: brainwash (v), cleanse (violence), flush (remove)
  - warning: shout (v), whistle (blow the whistle), wolf (cry wolf)
  - wants, needs, hopes & goals: aim (v), beg (v), crave (v), dream (v), pray (v), soul (sell one's soul to the devil, etc.), way (get one's way)
  - welcome: greet (v), embrace (v), invite (v), welcome (v)
  - work & duty: beaver (v), plow (plow on, plow through, etc.), pull together (v), shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), slave (v), strain (v), weight (pull one's weight)
  - worth & lack of worth: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), enrich (v), lap (fall into one's lap / a windfall), pan out (v), profit (v), sift (searching), table (bring something to the table), treasure (v), trash talk (v), winnow (v)

## VIOLENCE (1)

- allusion: Lord of the Flies
- animal: cockroach (n), dove (person), hawk (person), hawkish (adj), termite (n)
- bird: dove (person), hawk (person), hawkish (adj)
- blood: blood (blood in one's eyes, etc.), mist (red mist), red (see red)
- color: blood (blood in one's eyes, etc.), mist (red mist), red (see red)
- euphemism: cleanse (violence), cleansing (ethnic cleansing), cleanup (military)
- fist: fist (a leader with an iron fist)
- head: brainwash (v), brainwashed
- history: auto da fe
- hygiene: brainwash (v), brainwashed, cleanse (violence), cleansing (ethnic cleansing), cleanup (military), flush (remove), filth (insult), scum (insult)
- insect: cockroach (n), termite (n)
- mental health: blood (blood in one's eyes, etc.)
- military: cleanup (military)
- predation: dove (person), hawk (person), hawkish (adj)
- sword: sword (violence)
- verb: brainwash (v), cleanse (violence), flush (remove)
- water: flush (remove)

## VIOLENCE (2)

- accusation & criticism: assassination (character assassination), backhand (v), bash (v), bashed (criticism), bashing (n), beaten (beaten up), cheap shot, crucified, crucifixion (n), crucify (v), drive-by (conflict), hatchet job (n), hit (mob hit, etc.), job (hit job, etc.), lash out (v), nail (nail someone to the cross), pillory (v), pilloried, pummel (v), slam (v), tar (tar and feather, etc.), tarred, tongue-lashing, twitter-lashing (n)
- achievement, recognition & praise: belt (notch in a belt), coup (achievement), scalp (n)
- affliction: scourge (n), torture (afflict), torture (affliction), tortured, waterboarding (n)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: bus (throw somebody under the bus), cutthroat (competition), lion (throw somebody to the lions, etc.), overboard (throw somebody overboard), wolf (throw somebody to the wolves), wolf (thrown to the wolves)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: drum (beat the drum / bang the drum, etc.)
- behavior: cheap shot, cutthroat (competition)
- coercion & motivation: arm-twisting, billy club, crackdown (n), crack down (v), cudgel (n), feet (hold somebody's feet to the fire), fire (hold somebody's feet to the fire), fire (light a fire under somebody), goad (v), hatchet man (person), kneecap (v), kneecapped, nose (bloody nose, etc.), stick (n), strong-arm (v), waterboarding (n), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n)
- competition: cutthroat (competition)
- conflict: assault (n), bearbaiting, bloodbath (n), bloodletting (n), blood sport (n), brawl (n), drive-by (conflict), feud (v), feud (n), hatchet job (n), hit (mob hit, etc.), job (hit job, etc.), pit (bear pit), reprisal (n), thrash (v), thrashed, thrashing, vendetta (n), warpath (on the warpath)
- constraint & lack of constraint: choke chain (n)
- death & life: murderous (murderous hail of bullets, etc.)
- destruction: coup de grace (deathblow), dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), deathblow (n), genocidal (adj), genocide (groups), head (heads will roll, etc.), pound (pound targets, etc.), rape (v), rape (n), slaughtered, wheel (break someone on the wheel, etc.)
- directing: goad (v), whip (violence)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: head (heads will roll, etc.), overboard (throw somebody overboard)
- disruption: Bolshevik, Danton, Jacobin
- dominance & submission: knuckle under (v)

- effect: punch (punch in the gut, etc.)
- epithet: alley (Ambush Alley, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: head (heads will roll, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), punch (punch in the gut, etc.), tortured, torturous
- force: beat (beat down / the sun, etc.), brutality (n), buffeted
- hyperbole: atrocity (non-military)
- judgment: drag (contempo-speak / verb), dragging (contempo-speak), hanging (hanging offense), inquisition (n), lynched, lynching (media lynching, etc.), lynch mob, star chamber (n)
- meat: butcher (n)
- mental health: beat (beat oneself up), torture (affliction), tortured
- oppression: beat down (v), billy club, crackdown (n), crack down (v), cudgel (n), genocidal (adj), genocide (groups), Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.), goad (v), inquisition (n), lynched, lynching (media lynching, etc.), lynch mob, mob (society), reign of terror / fear, etc., star chamber (n), stick (n), tar (tar and feather, etc.), tarred, waterboarding (n), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n), witch hunt
- power: clout (n)
- punishment & recrimination: crackdown (n), crack down (v), crucified, crucifixion (n), crucify (v), drag (contempo-speak / verb), dragging (contempo-speak), drive-by (conflict), flagellation (n), flog (v), hanging (hanging offense), hatchet job (n), head (heads will roll, etc.), head (have one's head handed to oneself, etc.), hit (mob hit, etc.), job (hit job, etc.), nail (nail someone to the cross), nose (bloody nose, etc.), pilloried, pillory (v), reprisal (n), scalp (n), stick it to (stick it to somebody, etc.), tar (tar and feather, etc.), tarred
- resistance, opposition & defeat: backlash (n), knuckle under (v)
- revenge: feud (v), feud (n), vendetta (n)
- reversal: backlash (n)
- speech: assassination (character assassination), backhand (v), bash (v), bashed (criticism), bashing (n), cheap shot, lash out (v), lay (lay into), slam (v), tar (tar and feather, etc.), tarred, tongue-lashing, twitter-lashing (n)
- success & failure: scalp (n)
- whip: crack down (v)

## VOCABULARY (2)

- language: vocabulary (language)

## VOCAL FRY (2)

- contempo-speak: vocal fry (contempo-speak)

## VOCATIVE (1)

- animal: pet (vocative)
- baby: baby (vocative)
- heart: sweetheart (vocative)
- taste: honey (honey, baby, etc.), sweetheart (vocative)

## VOLCANO (2) (see also earthquake)

- amelioration & renewal: vent (v)
- amount & effect: erupt (v), eruption (n), Krakatoan (adj), tremor (n), volcano (pressure)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: Krakatoan (adj)
- effect: tremor (n)
- evidence: tremor (n)
- feeling, emotion & effect: erupt (feeling), top (blow one's top), vent (v), volcanic (adj)
- initiation: erupt (v), eruption (n), tremor (n)
- occurrence: erupt (v), eruption (n)
- pressure: volcano (pressure)
- size: Krakatoan (adj)

## WALKING, RUNNING & JUMPING (2)

- ability: walk (walk and chew gum at the same time)
- absorption & immersion: wade (wade in / wade into)
- action, inaction & delay: can (kick the can down the road), foot-dragging, road (push something down the road), tackle (v), walk (slow-walk)
- activity: hop (v), jump (the place was jumping, etc.), scramble (v)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: highway (my way or the highway), jump (leave), step (every step of the way), vote (vote with one's feet, etc.), walk (walk away from something)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: chase down (v), walk (walk somebody through something)
- attainment: stroll (stroll to success, etc.)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: jump out (v)
- attenuation: lame (lame excuse, etc.)
- attraction & repulsion: flee (v)
- avoidance & separation: back away (v), bypass (v), dance (dance around something), dodge (v), end run (n), flee (v), go around (v), sidestep (v), step back (step back from something), walk (walk away from something), walk on by (v)
- bases: footing (find one's footing, etc.)
- behavior: overstep (v)
- character & personality: highway (my way or the highway), swagger (n), swagger (v), toe (step on toes)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: jump (leave), pageant (n), parade (n)
- commitment & determination: leap (leap into action, etc.), leap (leap of faith, etc.), step into (v), walk (walk the walk)
- competition: ahead (competition), behind (progress), catch up (catch up to something), fall behind (competition and progress), front (in front / competition), front-runner (n), jump (get the jump), keep up (progress), lag (progress), outpace (v), outrun (v), pace-setter (n), pacesetter (adj), race (hurry), race (politics), race (arms race), race (competition), race (race against time, the clock, etc.), step (a step ahead / competition), trail (competition and progress)
- condition & status: limp (v)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: can (kick the can down the road), dance (dance around something), road (push something down the road), sidestep (v), step up (v), step up (rise to the occasion), tackle (v)
- consciousness & awareness: keep up (awareness), sleepwalk (v)
- constraint & lack of constraint: fetter (n), fettered, hamstring, hobble (v), jump (rivers can jump their banks, etc.), jump (lines), jump (transmission), overstep (v), unfettered
- consumption: run out (of gas, etc.)
- control & lack of control: highway (my way or the highway), lurch (v), runaway (control), run away (v)
- curtailment: track (stop something in its tracks)
- danger: landmine (and land mine), minefield, pitfall (n), step (watch one's step), tread (tread carefully)
- decline: race (race to the bottom), slip (fail), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: canter (n), canter (v), downhill (easy), marathon (effort and time), park (walk in the park), scramble (v), slog (v), slog (long hard slog, etc.), stroll (stroll to success, etc.), trail of tears, uphill (difficult), walkover (n)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: run out (of town on a rail, etc.), step aside (v), step away (v), step down (v)
- disruption: reel (v), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), toe (step on toes), trip up (v)
- driving force: march (on the march), march (n), pace-setter (n), pacesetter (adj)
- eagerness & reluctance: foot-dragging, jump (jump at the chance, etc.), leap (leap into action, etc.), pounce (v), spring (spring into action, etc.)
- equilibrium & stability: footing (find one's footing, etc.), sea legs, stride (in stride)
- experience: sea legs

- extent & scope: way (every step of the way)
- failure, accident & impairment: fall down (v), falter (v), flounder (v), jump (jump a curb, etc.), misstep (n), slip (n), slip up (fail), slip-up (failure), step (a step in the wrong direction), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), stumble (v), stumble (n), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble), trip up (v)
- fate, fortune & chance: leap (leap of faith, etc.), line (tread a line, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: reel (v), toe (step on toes), trail of tears
- fictive meeting & seeing: stumble (stumble across / on / upon)
- fictive motion: go (a road can go, etc.), run (a road can run, etc.)
- flaws & lack of flaws: foot (on the right foot / on the wrong foot), lame (lame excuse, etc.), misstep (n), slip (n), stumble (v), stumble (n), stumble (stumble over one's words), sure-footed (adj)
- force: march (march ahead, etc.)
- functioning: fetter (n), fettered, hamstrung, hobble (v), hobbled, unfettered
- future: run (run into next week, etc.), run (in / over the long run)
- group, set & collection: pageant (n), parade (n)
- growth & development: fall behind (competition and progress), lag (progress), trail (competition and progress)
- haste: gallop (haste), jump (jump at the chance, etc.), run (on the run / haste), scramble (v)
- increase & decrease: jump (increase / verb), jump (n), leaps and bounds
- insult: walk (walk and chew gum at the same time)
- involvement: jump (jump in), step in (v), stumble (stumble into a situation), wade (wade in / wade into)
- migration: trail of tears
- movement: canter (n), canter (v), crawl (time can crawl, etc.), crawl (n), creep (v), flee (v), gallop (v), hop (v), jump (leave), jump (movement), leap (leap into action, etc.), leapfrog (v), lurch (v), lurk (v), march (move), plod (v), pounce (v), race (hurry), reel (v), scramble (v), slog (long hard slog, etc.), stalk (v), stride (hit one's stride), vault (v)
- obstacles & impedance: hurdle (n), jump (lines), run (run into something), stumbling block, way (get out of the way)
- oppression: run out (of town on a rail, etc.)
- past & present: walk (walk somebody back)
- presence & absence: lurk (v)
- progress & lack of progress: behind (progress), catch up (catch up to something), catch up (catch up with something), fall behind (competition and progress), jump (progress), jump (in jumps), keep up (progress), lag (progress), leap (n), leapfrog (v), limp (v), limp (n), march (on the march), march (n), march (march ahead, etc.), plod (v), step (a step forward), step (a step back / backwards), step (a step in the right direction), step (baby steps, etc.), stride (progress), stumbling block, trail (competition and progress), vault (v)
- proximity: step (a step away), step (a step closer)
- pursuit, capture & escape: chase (v), stalk (v), step (step ahead / pursuit)
- readiness & preparedness: ground (hit the ground running)
- relationship: march (together, etc.)
- resemblance: dance (resemblance), leap (the leap of a waterfall, etc.)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: run (on the run / retreat), step (not one step back), step forward (v)
- responsibility: step up (rise to the occasion)
- reversal: walk back (n), walk back (v)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: step (in step), step (out of step)
- searching & discovery: stumble (stumble across / on / upon)
- sequence: jump (jump ahead), step (first step, etc.), step back (sequence), walk (crawl, walk, run)
- society: life (from walks of life), life (in all walks of life), life (walks of life)
- speech: jump (speech), stumble (stumble over one's words)

- speed: cadence (n), canter (n), canter (v), crawl (time can crawl, etc.), crawl (n), creep (v), gallop (v), galloping (speed), leaps and bounds, pace (at a pace), pace (speed), plod (v), race (hurry), sprint (n), sprint (v), walk (slow walk)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: course (run its course, etc.), falter (v), foot (on the right foot / on the wrong foot), jump (get the jump), jumping-off place / point, march (march ahead, etc.), pass (v), running (continuing), step (first step, etc.), stride (hit one's stride), track (stopped in one's tracks, etc.)
- superiority & inferiority: circle (run circles around somebody), outpace (v)
- survival, persistence & endurance: running (continuing)
- time: crawl (time can crawl, etc.), long-run (adj), marathon (effort and time), march (March of Time, etc.), race (the term raced to its end, etc.), run (run into next week, etc.), run (in / over the long run), running (continuing), walk (walk somebody back)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: jump (get the jump), race (race against time, the clock, etc.)
- transmission: hop (hop across, etc.), jump (transmission), leap (transmission)
- unanimity & consensus: highway (my way or the highway), lockstep (in lockstep), march (together, etc.), step (in step), step (out of step)
- worth & lack of worth: lame (lame excuse, etc.)

## WALL (2)

- amount & effect: wall (wall of flames, etc.)
- behavior: wall (constraint)
- computer: firewall (computers), paywall (obstacle)
- constraint & lack of constraint: wall (constraint)
- division & connection: barrier (n), wall (obstacle)
- epithet: wall (blue wall, etc.), wall (red wall, etc.)
- extent & scope: wall (wall-to-wall)
- feeling, emotion & effect: wall (emotions)
- obstacles & impedance: barrier (n), block (obstacle), paywall (obstacle), stonewall (v), wall (obstacle), wall (hit a wall, etc.)
- pressure: wall (walls close in)
- progress & lack of progress: wall (hit a wall, etc.)
- proper name: stonewall (Operation Stonewall, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: firewall (computers), firewall (other)
- resemblance: wall (wall of flames, etc.)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: stonewall (verb)
- surveillance: wall (the walls have ears)

## WANTS, NEEDS, HOPES & GOALS (1)

- addiction: brain (on the brain), crave (v)
- allusion: El Dorado, grail (holy grail), whale (White Whale)
- animal: whale (White Whale)
- Bible: grail (holy grail)
- breathing: aspirational (adj)
- creature: creature comfort
- day: Christmas (Christmas list)
- direction: sights (lower one's sights)
- epithet: grail (holy grail)
- food & drink: crave (v), feed (satisfy), hunger (n), hungry (adj), ravenous (adj), starved, stomach (food), taste (taste for violence, etc.), thirst (n), thirsty (adj)
- health & medicine: crave (v)
- heart: heart (goal)

- height: sights (lower one's sights)
- history: El Dorado
- journeys & trips: path (path to / toward something)
- light & dark: candle (candle of hope, etc.)
- mental health: fantasy (dream)
- Middle Ages: grail (holy grail)
- money: prize (n), soul (sell one's soul to the devil, etc.), stakeholder (interest)
- mountains & hills: sights (lower one's sights)
- part of speech: ask (big ask, etc.), good (as noun), impossible (as noun), must-have (n)
- path: path (path to / toward something)
- religion: grail (holy grail), pray (v)
- sex: lust (n)
- sign, signal, symbol: candle (candle of hope, etc.)
- sleep: dream (n), dream (v)
- society: envy (self-promotion envy, etc.)
- speech: agenda (n), beg (v)
- target: mindful (adj), mindfulness (n), purposeful (adj)
- taste: taste (taste for violence, etc.)
- verb: aim (v), beg (v), crave (v), dream (v), pray (v), soul (sell one's soul to the devil, etc.), way (get one's way)
- water: thirst (n), thirsty (adj)

## **WAREHOUSE (2)**

- amount: warehouse (amount)
- environment: warehouse (neglect)

## **WARNING (1) (see also evidence; message; readiness & preparedness; suspicion)**

- allusion: wolf (cry wolf)
- animal: watchdog (n), wolf (cry wolf)
- bell: bell (warning)
- boat: shot (shot across the bow, etc.)
- color: black (warning), red flag (warning)
- consciousness & awareness: wake-up call
- direction: heads-up (warning)
- dog: watchdog (n)
- explosion: tripwire (warning)
- fire: flare (n)
- flags & banners: red flag (warning)
- head: heads-up (warning)
- light & dark: flare (n)
- military: sentinel (n), shot (shot across the bow, etc.), shot (warning shot), tripwire (warning)
- person: sentinel (n), whistleblower (n)
- sign, signal, symbol: black (warning), red flag (warning), sign (warning sign)
- sleep: call (wake-up call)
- sound: alarm (warning), bell (warning), shout (v), wail (sirens, etc.), whistle (blow the whistle), whistleblower
- verb: shout (v), whistle (blow the whistle), wolf (cry wolf)
- weapon: shot (shot across the bow, etc.), shot (warning shot), tripwire (warning)
- wolf: wolf (cry wolf)

## WASTE (2)

- accusation & criticism: trash (v), trash (n)
- admiration & contempt: trashy (adj)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: garbage (data)
- behavior: trashy (adj)
- character & personality: trashy (adj)
- configuration: littered
- dismissal, removal & resignation: curb (kick something to the curb)
- insult: garbage (waste), trash (n), trash talk (v), trash talk (n), trashy (adj)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: dustbin (n)
- resemblance: confetti (n)
- sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: shit (and bullshit / verb), shit (and bullshit / noun)
- speech: trash talk (v), trash talk (n)
- worth & lack of worth: crap (n), dustbin (n), garbage (garbage fire / dumpster fire), garbage (waste), junk (worth), shit (and bullshit / verb), shit (and bullshit / noun), trash (n), trashy (adj)

## WATER (2) (see also dam; flood; river)

- ability & lack of ability: depth (out of one's depth)
- absorption & immersion: absorb (a country, etc.), absorb (books, culture, etc.), absorb (punishment, etc.), absorbed, bathing (forest bathing, etc.), dive (analyze), dive deep (analysis), dive in (v), drenched, end (deep end), feet (get one's feet wet), immerse (v), immersed, immersion, saturated, saturation (n), sink in (v), soak up (v), soaked, sponge (n), steep (v), steeped, suck up (v), sunk in, throw (throw oneself into something), wade (wade in / wade into)
- access & lack of access: tap (v), tap into (v)
- activity: boil (initiation), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble (activity), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), calm (activity), percolate (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity), swirl (v), tranquil (activity)
- amelioration & renewal: cleanse (make clean), Fountain of Youth, plug (v), plugged (fixed), outlet (n), thirst (quench one's thirst, etc.)
- amount: abundance (amount), aquifer (n), reservoir (amount), well (source)
- amount & effect: awash, cascade (n), clogged, deluge (n), deluged, drenched, drip (and drip-drip, etc.), drop (drop in the bucket), flood (amount / verb), flood (flood of refugees, etc.), flooded, floodgate (open the floodgates / sluice gates), floodgate (other), floodtide (n), floodwaters, inundate (v), inundated, Niagara (the river and falls), outpouring, pour (in, into, pour out, etc.), river (river of hogs, etc.), stream (amount & effect), surge (n), surge (intransitive verb / effect), swamp (v), swamped, tide (rising tide), tide (other), torrent (n), trickle (n), wave (in a wave), wave (amount & effect), whirlpool (in a whirlpool), whirlpool (other)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: boil down to (v), dive (analyze), dive (deep dive), dive deep (analysis)
- appearance & disappearance: bubble up (v), dissolve (v), dissolve (break up), dissolve (fade away), dry up (v), emerge (v), emerging (adj), evaporate (v), resurface (v), sink (disappearance), surface (intransitive), surface (bring to the surface), wash up (v)
- appearance & reality: surface (on the surface), surface (under the surface)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: splash (effect), splashy (effect)
- attenuation: dampen (v), diluted (weakened), drained (attenuation), water down (v), watered down
- avoidance & separation: bubble (isolation), bubble (quarantine)
- bases: boil down to (v)
- behavior: end (go off the deep end)
- branching system: stream (bloodstream, etc.)
- certainty & uncertainty: murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
- character & personality: bubbly (personality), buoyant (personality), deep (person), effervescent (personality), shallow (person)

- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: bridge (burn one's bridges), wash up (v)
- commitment & determination: dive in (v), throw (throw oneself into something)
- competition: wake (in a wake)
- comprehension & incomprehension: murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), sink in (v), sunk in, unfathomable (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
- concealment & lack of concealment: murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), surface (intransitive), surface (under the surface), surface (bring to the surface)
- conflict: turbulence
- consciousness & awareness: deep (deep sleep, etc.), frog (frog in boiling water), shower (cold shower), sink (sink into a coma, etc.)
- constraint & lack of constraint: dam (psychological dam, etc.), floodgate (open the floodgates / sluice gates), floodgate (other), outlet (n), outpouring, spigot (open / close, etc.)
- consumption: thirst (n), thirsty (adj)
- control & lack of control: faucet (n), fluid (adj), tap (n)
- corruption: pollute (v), polluted, pollution (n), swamp (fever swamp), swamp (drain the swamp), swamp (swamp of cliches, etc.), water (poison the water / waters), well (poison the well)
- curtailment: dissolve (terminate), dissolved (ended), plug (pull the plug)
- danger: waters (dangerous waters, etc.)
- decline: stagnant (adj), stagnate (v), washed-up
- destruction: pop (bubble popped, etc.), swept away (removal)
- development: wave (ride a wave, etc.)
- directing: channel (direct), channeled, drip-fed, funnel (direct), funneled (directed), infusion (n), pipe (n), pipeline (other), pour (put), pump (direct), pumped (directed), siphon (v)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: cleanse (make clean), dissolve (terminate), filter (v), flush (remove), leach (v), plug (pull the plug), swept away (removal)
- disruption: roil (v)
- division & connection: bridge (burn one's bridges)
- eagerness & reluctance: shower (cold shower), water (throw cold water on something)
- effect: ripple (v), ripple (ripple effect), ripple (n), roil (v), splash (effect), splashy (effect), wake (effect), wave (make waves, etc.)
- enthusiasm: shower (cold shower), water (throw cold water on something)
- environment: fishbowl (in a fishbowl), fishbowl (other), frog (frog in boiling water), sea (in a sea), sea (environment), swamp (fever swamp), swamp (swamp of cliches, etc.)
- experience: baptism, baptized, depth (out of one's depth), feet (get one's feet wet)
- experimentation: toe (dip one's toes in water, etc.), waters (test the waters)
- extent & scope: bottom (no bottom), catchment (n), deep (situation), deep (extent and scope), deepen (v), deeply, depth (extent), shallow (adj), sound (measure)
- failure, accident & impairment: belly flop (n)
- fate, fortune & chance: bridge (burn one's bridges)
- feeling, emotion & effect: boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), buoy (v), buoyant (feeling), buoyed, calm (emotion), dampen (v), deep (emotion), dissolve (emotions), drain (an emotion, etc.), drained (feeling), drip (and drip-drip, etc.), frozen (emotion), ripple (v), ripple (ripple effect), ripple (n), roil (v), seethe (v), sink (sink into despair, etc.), sinking (sinking feeling, etc.), spill out (speech, emotions, etc.), splash (effect), splashy (effect), surge (surge of anger, etc.), swept away (emotion), wake (effect), wave (make waves, etc.)
- flaws & lack of flaws: turbulent (turbulent childhood, etc.), water (hold water), waterproof (adj), watertight (adj)
- force: floodtide (n), Niagara (the river and falls), wave (crest of a wave)
- future: tap (on tap)
- group, set & collection: pool (v), pool (people), pool (things), reservoir (group)

- increase & decrease: buoyant (strong), faucet (n), flow (increase), fluctuate (v), surge (intransitive verb / increase), tap (n), tide (rising tide)
- infrastructure: spigot (open / close, etc.)
- initiation: boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), percolate (v), seethe (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity), springboard (n), swirl (v)
- involvement: deep (situation), deep (in deep), dive in (v), head (get in over one's head, etc.), immerse (v), immersed, immersion, plunge (plunge into something), plunge (involvement), sucked in / into (involved), throw (throw oneself into something), toe (dip one's toes in water, etc.), wade (wade in / wade into), water (deep water)
- isolation & remoteness: bubble (isolation), bubble (quarantine), shell (protection)
- knowledge & intelligence: depth (out of one's depth)
- leaking: drain (remove), drain (n), drip (and drip-drip, etc.), leak (v), leak (n), leaked, leak out (v), ooze (v), spill (and spill out, etc.)
- measurement: sound (measure)
- mental health: outlet (n)
- migration: wash in (v)
- movement: cascade (v), deluge (n), drip (and drip-drip, etc.), flood (move), flow (flow of the lesson, etc.), flow (move), flow (n), flowing, fluctuate (v), fluid (adj), gush (n), outpouring, overflow (v), overflowing (adj), river (river of hogs, etc.), seep (v), spill (v), stream (amount & effect), surge (n), surge (intransitive verb / effect), swamp (v), tide (other), torrent (n), trickle (n), trickle (trickle in / out), wash in (v), wave (amount and effect)
- obstacles & impedance: clog (n), clogged, dam (psychological dam, etc.), stopped up
- past & present: bridge (water under the bridge), dam (water over the dam)
- perception, perspective & point of view: murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
- person: deep (person), shallow (person)
- proper name: wave (Wave Rock, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: bubble (quarantine), waterproof (adj)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: bridge (water under the bridge), dam (water over the dam)
- resemblance: cascade (a cascade of hair, etc.), flowing, fountain (resemblance), lake (n), pour (resemblance), stream (tears stream, etc.), stream (resemblance)
- restraint & lack of restraint: end (go off the deep end), mouth (run one's mouth)
- route: canal (birth canal, etc.), channel (through channels), channel (back channel), channel (distribution channel, etc.), conduit, pipe (n), pipeline (other), stream (bloodstream, etc.)
- searching & discovery: dry (come up dry), sound (measure), surface (intransitive)
- sequence: wake (in the wake of)
- shape: funnel (shape), wave (shape)
- situation: deep (situation), deep (in deep), depth (out of one's depth), frog (frog in boiling water), head (get in over one's head, etc.), hot water (in hot water), water (in deep water), water (keep one's head above water)
- sound: drown out (v), drowned out
- source: aquifer (n), fountain (source), fountainhead, reservoir (source), well (source), wellspring (source)
- speech: gush (v), mouth (run one's mouth), spill out (speech, emotions, etc.), spout (speech)
- strength & weakness: water down (v), watered down
- substance & lack of substance: bubble (activity), deep (extent and scope), frothy (substance), shallow (adj)
- success & failure: dry (come up dry), hole (dry hole)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: abundance (amount), overflow (v), overflowing (adj)
- superiority & inferiority: drown out (v), drowned out, wake (in a wake)
- supplying: feed (drip feed)

- survival, persistence & endurance: afloat, buoyed, drown, head (get in over one's head, etc.), lifeline (n), life raft, sink (sink into debt, etc.), sinking, sink or swim, swim (v), underwater (adj), water (keep one's head above water), water (tread water)
- taking & removing: leach (v)
- throwing, putting & planting: infusion (n), pour (put), sink (put)
- time: bridge (water under the bridge), dam (water over the dam), deep (deep past, etc.), depth (depths of winter, etc.), wake (in the wake of / at a later time)
- transmission: ripple (v), stream (direct), streamed (digital), streaming (digital), streaming (streaming media)
- violence: flush (remove)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: thirst (n), thirsty (adj)
- worth & lack of worth: bilge (n)

## **WAVE (2) (see also island; sea; tide; tsunami)**

- amount & effect: abundance (amount), groundswell (n), swamp (v), tidal wave (in a tidal wave), tidal wave (other), tide (rising tide), tsunami (n), wave (in a wave), wave (amount & effect)
- appearance & disappearance: wash up (v)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: splash (effect), splashy (effect)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: wash up (v)
- decline: washed-up (adj)
- development: wave (ride a wave, etc.)
- effect: ripple (v), ripple (ripple effect), ripple (n), splash (effect), splashy (effect), wake (effect), wave (make waves, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: ripple (v), ripple (ripple effect), ripple (n), splash (effect), splashy (effect), swept away (emotion), wake (effect), wave (make waves, etc.)
- force: buffeted, wave (crest of a wave)
- increase & decrease: fluctuate (v), tide (rising tide)
- migration: wash in (v)
- movement: fluctuate (v), swamp (v), wash in (v), wave (amount and effect)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: washed-up (adj)
- proper name: wave (Wave Rock, etc.)
- shape: wave (shape)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: abundance (amount)

## **WEAPON (2) (see also ax; blade; knife; sword) (bullet) (military)**

- accusation & criticism: ammunition (and ammo), attack (under attack, etc.), attack (n), blast (criticize), broadside (n), cheap shot, dart (throw darts, etc.), fire (criticism), fire (under fire), fire (draw fire, etc.), fire (fire back), flak (criticism), fusillade (n), go after (attack), gun (criticism), gun (with guns blazing), hatchet job (n), incoming (criticism), potshot (n), salvo (n), shot (criticism), shot (shot across the bow, etc.), snipe (v), sniping (n), volley (volley of abuse, etc.)
- action, inaction & delay: draw (late / early on the draw), fire (hang fire), shoot (shoot first), trigger (pull the trigger, etc.)
- activity: dart (dart about)
- affliction: dart (throw darts, etc.), shrapnel (n), smitten (afflicted)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: bullet (take a bullet for somebody)
- amelioration & renewal: bullet (magic or silver bullet, etc.)
- amount: arsenal (amount), battery (amount), quiver (n)
- amount & effect: barrage (n), blitz (campaign), blockbuster (n), bomb (drop a bomb), bombard (v), bombarded, bombardment (n), bombing (n), firebomb (n)
- attempt: shot (attempt, opportunity), shot (best shot)

- attention, scrutiny & promotion: blitz (campaign), blockbuster (n), bomb (review-bomb, etc.), bomb (drop a bomb), bombshell (n), dynamite (n), firebomb (n), photobomb (v), shot (shot heard round the world)
- avoidance & separation: parry (v), parry (n)
- behavior: cannon (loose cannon), hotshot (person)
- campaign: blitz (campaign)
- certainty & uncertainty: surefire (a surefire investment, etc.)
- character & personality: cannon (loose cannon), fuse (n), hotshot (person), time bomb (person)
- coercion & motivation: billy club, cudgel (n), gun (hold a gun to one's head, etc.), hatchet man (person), stick (n)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: boomerang (n)
- commitment & determination: bullet (take a bullet for somebody), bullet (bite the bullet), gun (stick to one's guns), locked in (target)
- competition: duel (n), dueling (adj)
- computer: bomb (review-bomb, etc.), bomb (code bomb)
- concealment & lack of concealment: weapon (secret weapon)
- conflict: arm (up in arms), attack (under attack, etc.), barb (trade barbs, etc.), blowup (conflict), broadside (n), crossfire (n), duel (n), dueling (adj), gun (hired gun), hatchet job (n), outduel (v), outgunned, salvo (n), shootout (n), shot (opening shot), shot (parting shot), shot (warning shot), shot (shot across the bow, etc.)
- configuration: scattershot (adj)
- control & lack of control: cannon (loose cannon), shot (call the shots)
- creation & transformation: weaponization (n), weaponize (v), weaponized
- danger: bomb (danger), booby trap, booby-trapped, firing line (n), kryptonite (n), landmine (and land mine), line of fire, minefield, powder keg, Russian roulette, time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.), tripwire (danger)
- death & life: Russian roulette (you could actually die)
- destruction: attacked, blown away (destruction), coup de grace (deathblow), dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), deathblow (n), kryptonite (n), shoot down (v), shot down (and shot down in flames), strike (preemptive strike, etc.), weapon (political weapon, etc.), weaponization (n)
- development: shot (warning shot), shot (opening shot), shot (parting shot)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: shot (best shot), target (hard target, etc.), target (easy target, soft target, etc.), turkey shoot
- directing: shot (call the shots)
- driving force: spear (tip of the spear), spearhead (v), spearhead (n)
- eagerness & reluctance: gun-shy (adj)
- evidence: smoking gun
- extent & scope: full-bore (and full bore), hilt (to the hilt), scattershot (adj)
- failure, accident & impairment: dud (n), flash in the pan, misfire (failure), shoot (shoot oneself in the foot), wound (self-inflicted wound)
- fate, fortune & chance: bullet (dodge a bullet), gun (under the gun), long shot, Russian roulette, shot (chance), shot (shot in the dark), stab (stab in the dark)
- feeling, emotion & effect: blockbuster (n), blown away (feeling), blow up (emotion), dagger (insert the dagger, etc.), dynamite (a dynamite cast, etc.), explode (emotion), shrapnel (n), smitten (effect), trigger (emotion, memory, etc.)
- flaws & lack of flaws: bulletproof (adj), surefire (a surefire investment, etc.)
- force: hot (come in hot, go in hot)
- group, set & collection: armory (n), arsenal (amount), quiver (n)
- help & assistance: armed, armory (n), arrow (weapon), arsenal (amount), bow (weapon), gun (hired gun), weapon (help)
- importance & significance: big gun (and heavy gun), big shot (person)
- increase & decrease: shoot up (v)

- initiation: blow up (emotion), blowup (conflict), draw (late / early on the draw), explode (emotion), fuse (n), hair trigger, prime (v), primed (ready), shoot (shoot first), time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.), trigger (cause), trigger (emotion, memory, etc.), trigger (a war, etc.), trigger (pull the trigger, etc.), tripwire (initiation)
- mental health: time bomb (person), trigger (emotion, memory, etc.), triggered (groups), triggering (groups)
- movement: dart (dart about), ricochet (v)
- oppression: billy club, cudgel (n), gun (under the gun), rod (iron rod, etc.), stick (n), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip)
- person: big shot (person), cannon (loose cannon), hatchet man (person)
- power: big shot (person)
- proper name: aegis (Aegis Insurance, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: aegis (n), armor (protection), chink (chink in one's armor), shield (v), shield (n), target (hard target, etc.), target (easy target, soft target, etc.)
- punishment & recrimination: hatchet job (n)
- readiness & preparedness: locked and loaded (adj), prime (v), primed (ready)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: hatchet (bury the hatchet)
- relationship: trigger (a war, etc.), trigger (cause), trigger (emotion, memory, etc.)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: blowback (n), parry (v), parry (n)
- restraint & lack of restraint: cannon (loose cannon)
- reversal: backfire (v), blowback (n), blow up (blow up in one's face), boomerang (v), ricochet (v)
- sequence: shot (opening shot), shot (parting shot)
- shape: bullet (shape), bull's-eye (shape)
- situation: time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.)
- speech: blast (criticize), bomb (F-bomb, etc.), broadside (n), cheap shot, fire (criticism), fire (under fire), fire (draw fire, etc.), fire (a question, etc.), fire (fire back), flak (criticism), fusillade (n), salvo (n), shoot (speech), shoot (speech), shoot (shoot back), shot (criticism), shot (opening shot), shot (parting shot), shot (warning shot), shot (shot across the bow, etc.), snipe (v), sniping (n), straight shooter (speech), volley (n)
- speed: bullet (velocity), dart (dart about)
- strength & weakness: big gun (and heavy gun), outgunned, weapon (secret weapon)
- success & failure: blockbuster (n), bomb (fail), dud (n), hit (success), target (hit the target), target (miss the target, etc.)
- superiority & inferiority: outgunned
- survival, persistence & endurance: bullet (bite the bullet)
- target: aim (v), aim (n), aim (take aim at something), aimed, bead (draw a bead / have a bead), bull's-eye (target), cross hair (in the cross hairs), dialed in, gun (v), mark (off the mark), scattershot (adj), sight (in somebody's sights), sights (weapon), target (v), target (n), targeted, zero in on (v), zone (target zone)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: fire (hang fire), target date
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: aim (v), aim (n)
- warning: shot (shot across the bow, etc.), shot (warning shot), tripwire (warning)

## **WEATHER & CLIMATE (2) (see also lightning; rain; storm; wind)**

- consciousness & awareness: blizzard (consciousness), fog (fog of war, etc.), fog (mental fog, etc.), foggy (adj)
- direction: weather vane (n)
- environment: atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), climate (work climate, etc.), microclimate, weather (environment)
- epithet: tornado (Tartan Tornado, etc.)
- family: mother (Mother Nature)
- feeling, emotion & effect: atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), climate (work climate, etc.)
- force: tornado (Tartan Tornado, etc.), tornado (force)

- growth & development: drought (in a drought), drought (play-off drought, etc.), rainmaker (person), spell (in a dry spell), spell (into a dry spell), spell (throughout a dry spell), spell (dry spell / other)

## WEDGE (2)

- division & connection: wedge (drive a wedge, etc.)
- driving force: wedge (edge of the wedge)
- configuration: wedged

## WEIGHT (2) (see also burden)

- affliction: ball and chain, bear (burden), burden (v), burden (n), heavy (oppression), weigh (weigh heavily), weigh (oppress), weighted down, weight (effect), weight (under the weight)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: weight (put / throw one's weight behind something)
- amelioration & renewal: get out (get out from under), lift (amelioration), lighten (lighten things up, etc.)
- amount: groan (amount), heavy (amount), ounce (amount), pound (amount), ton (amount)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: weigh (analyze)
- coercion & motivation: lean on (coercion)
- cost & benefit: outweigh (cost and benefit)
- destruction: squash (v)
- development: camel (break the camel's back), scale (tip the scales), straw (last straw / final straw)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: back (carry something on one's back), lift (heavy lift)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: lift (amelioration)
- feeling, emotion & effect: heart (heavy heart), heavy (emotion), heavy-hearted (adj), lighten (lighten things up, etc.), light-hearted (adj)
- flaws & lack of flaws: overload (n), overloaded
- heart: heart (heavy heart), heavy (heavy hart, etc.), heavy-hearted, light-hearted (adj)
- help & assistance: back (carry something on one's back), carry (assist)
- history: baggage (b), freighted, loaded
- importance & significance: gravity (substance), heavy (substance), weighty (substance)
- initiation: scale (tip the scales)
- involvement: weigh in (v)
- judgment: scale (put one's finger on the scale, etc.), weigh (analyze)
- oppression: ball and chain, baggage (n), bear (burden), burden (n), burden (v), fall (weight), freighted, get out (get out from under), heavy (oppression), heavy-handed, loaded, millstone (n), overload (n), overloaded, rock (between a rock and a hard place), saddle (oppress), saddled, shoulder (oppression), weigh (weigh heavily), weigh (oppress), weighed down, weight (effect), weight (under the weight)
- power: heavyweight (n), outweigh (power), punch (punch above one's weight, etc.), weight (put / throw one's weight behind something), weight (punch above one's weight, etc.)
- responsibility: shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), shoulder (fall on the shoulders)
- situation: rock (between a rock and a hard place)
- speech: freighted, loaded
- substance & lack of substance: fluff (substance), gravity (substance), heavy (substance), heavyweight (n), heft (n), light (make light of something), lightly (take something lightly, etc.), lightweight (n), lite (substance), punch (punch above one's weight, etc.), skinny (adj), weight (substance), weight (punch above one's weight, etc.), weighted, weighty (substance)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: overload (n), overloaded
- superiority & inferiority: outweigh (power)
- time: haul (long haul)
- work & duty: lifting (heavy lifting), load (work), shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), shoulder (shoulder to the grindstone), weight (pull one's weight)
- worth & lack of worth: dead weight

## WELCOME (1)

- arm: arm (open arms), embrace (v)
- carpets & rugs: mat (welcome mat), red carpet (treatment)
- color: red carpet (treatment)
- exclamation: welcome (v)
- gesture: embrace (v)
- house: home (feel at home), inhospitable (adj), welcome (v), welcome (n), welcoming (other)
- royalty: red carpet (treatment)
- speech: greet (v), invitation (n), invite (v), inviting, welcome (v), welcoming (other)
- verb: embrace (v), greet (v), invite (v), welcome (v)

## WHEAT (1)

- epithet: breadbasket (Pakistan's breadbasket, etc.), granary (Granary of Mexico, etc.)
- sign, signal, symbol: breadbasket (Pakistan's breadbasket, etc.), granary (Granary of Mexico, etc.)

## WHEAT (2) (see also farming & agriculture; plant)

- content: grist (grist for the mill, etc.)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), winnow (v)
- gossip: grist (grist for the mill, etc.)
- searching & discovery: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), winnow (v)
- worth & lack of worth: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), wheat (separate the wheat from the chaff), winnow (verb)

## WHIP (2)

- accusation & criticism: lambast (v), lash out (v), tongue-lashing, twitter-lashing (n)
- affliction: scourge (n)
- conflict: thrash (v), thrashed, thrashing
- coercion & motivation: crackdown (n), crack down (v), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n)
- directing: whip (violence)
- feeling, emotion & effect: whiplash (n)
- movement: whip (movement)
- oppression: crackdown (n), crack down (v), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n)
- person: whipping boy (person)
- punishment & recrimination: crackdown (n), crack down (v), flagellation (n), flog (criticize), whipping boy (person)
- resemblance: whip (resemblance)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: backlash (n)
- reversal: backlash (n)
- speech: lambast (v), lash out (v), tongue-lashing, twitter-lashing (n)

## WIND (2) (see also air; atmosphere; lightning; rain; sky; storm; weather & climate)

- activity: calm (activity), cyclone (n), flurry (activity), gale (strong wind), hurricane (n), tranquil (activity), whirlwind (n)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: wind (dangle in the wind)
- amelioration & renewal: air (breath of fresh air)
- amount & effect: cyclone (n), downdraft (n), flurry (activity), gale (strong wind), hurricane (n), storm (amount and effect), tempest (n), whirlwind (n)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: blow-in (n)
- competition: slipstream (in a slipstream)
- control & lack of control: drift (move), drift (control), whirlwind (ride the whirlwind, etc.)

- direction: drift (control), weather vane (n)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: wind (throw something to the wind)
- division & connection: drift (drift apart)
- driving force: wind (wind of change, etc.)
- evidence: wind (get / catch wind of something)
- fate, fortune & chance: windfall (n)
- feeling, emotion & effect: air (breath of fresh air), calm (emotion), hat (hold on to your hat)
- flaws & lack of flaws: tempestuous (adj)
- force: buffeted, downdraft (n), headwind (n), tailwind (n), tornado (force), wind (wind of change, etc.), wind (wind at one's back, etc.)
- help & assistance: tailwind (n), wind (wind at one's back, etc.)
- migration: blow-in (n)
- movement: drift (move)
- obstacles & impedance: headwind (n)
- progress & lack of progress: doldrums (n), headwind (n), tailwind (n), wind (wind at one's back, etc.)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: blow over (v)
- restraint & lack of restraint: wind (throw something to the wind)
- speech: breezy (speech)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: blow over (v)
- substance & lack of substance: breezy (speech)
- superiority & inferiority: slipstream (in a slipstream)
- worth & lack of worth: windfall (n)

## WINDOW (2)

- appearance & disappearance: window (out the window)
- curtailment: shuttered (adj)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: window (out the window)
- portal: window (window to the West, etc.)
- substance & lack of substance: window dressing
- target: window (window of opportunity), window (launch window, etc.)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: time (window of time), window (window of opportunity), window (launch window, etc.)

## WOLF (2) (see also animal)

- affliction: wolf (predation)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: wolf (throw somebody to the wolves), wolf (thrown to the wolves)
- appearance & reality: wolf (wolf in sheep's clothing)
- behavior: lone wolf (person), rabid (behavior), rabidly, wolf (predation), wolf down (food)
- character & personality: ferocious (other), lone wolf (person), wolf (predation)
- competition: heel (nip at somebody's heels), pack (competition)
- danger: wolf (predation)
- destruction: ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other)
- epithet: pack (the Rat Pack, etc.)
- experience: cub (n)
- force: ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other)
- person: wolf (predation)
- protection & lack of protection: wolf (wolf at the door)
- sign, signal, symbol: wolf (predation)
- society: lone wolf (person)
- strength & weakness: ferocious (other), ferociously, ferocity (other), fierce (other)

- subterfuge: wolf (wolf in sheep's clothing)
- warning: wolf (cry wolf)

## **WORK & DUTY (1) (see also difficulty, easiness & effort)**

- animal: beaver (v), harness (in harness), horse (the willing horse, etc.), rat race, workhorse (n)
- arm: pull together (v)
- boat: hand (all hands on deck)
- bodily reaction: sweat (work)
- burden: lifting (heavy lifting), load (work), pull together (v), strain (v), weight (pull one's weight)
- clothing & accessories: sleeve (roll up one's sleeves)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: retire (v), retired
- farming & agriculture: plow (plow on, plow through, etc.), row (row to hoe)
- food & drink: plate (one one's plate)
- gesture: sleeve (roll up one's sleeves)
- hand: hand (work), hand (worker), hand (all hands on deck)
- history: slave (v)
- horse: harness (in harness), horse (the willing horse, etc.), workhorse (n)
- mechanism: grind (daily grind, etc.), treadmill (n)
- military: foot soldier (duty), marching orders, mission (on a mission), mission (other), soldier (n), soldier on (v), tour of duty, troops (supporters)
- person: foot soldier (duty), hand (worker), hand (all hands on deck), servant (help)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: soldier on (v)
- rat: rat race
- shoulder: shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), shoulder (shoulder to the grindstone)
- sign, signal, symbol: hand (worker), sweat (work)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: pull together (v), strain (v)
- sports & games: game (various other games)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: starvation wages (n)
- verb: beaver (v), plow (plow on, plow through, etc.), pull together (v), shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), slave (v), strain (v), weight (pull one's weight)
- weight: lifting (heavy lifting), load (work), shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), shoulder (shoulder to the grindstone), weight (pull one's weight)

## **WORTH & LACK OF WORTH (1) (see also cost & benefit)**

- allusion: black tulip (rarity), egg (golden egg), fool's errand, goose (golden goose), Mona Lisa (Mona Lisa of baseball cards, etc.)
- animal: cow (cash cow), egg (golden egg), goose (golden goose), horse (a gift horse), snake oil (n), spoils (of war, etc.), white elephant
- bird: egg (golden egg), goose (golden goose)
- boat: bilge (n)
- color: black tulip (rarity), white elephant
- container: lap (fall into one's lap / a windfall)
- cows & cattle: cow (cash cow)
- creature: unicorn (tech "Unicorn," etc.)
- epithet: Amazon (epithet / the company), black tulip (rarity), gold (black gold, etc.), Mona Lisa (Mona Lisa of baseball cards, etc.), oil (new oil, etc.), unicorn (tech "Unicorn," etc.)
- family: boy (blue-eyed boy), child (bastard child), favorite son, illegitimate (adj), stepchild (and stepson, etc.)
- farming & agriculture: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), commodity (n), fruit (product), fruitful (adj), fruitless (adj), wheat (separate the wheat from the chaff), winnow (v)
- food & drink: meal ticket (n)

- fruits & vegetables: fruit (product), fruitful (adj), fruitless (adj), peach (n), plum (desirable)
- gift: gift (benefit)
- ground, terrain & land: dirt (worthless), fool's gold, pay dirt
- health & medicine: snake oil (n)
- history: gold rush
- horse: horse (a gift horse), thoroughbred (n)
- hygiene: filth (insult), filthy (bad), scum (insult), trash (n)
- lap: lap (fall into one's lap / a windfall)
- manufacturing: run-of-the-mill
- materials & substances: gem (n), gold (black gold, etc.), jewel (n), karat (24-karat), oil (new oil, etc.), raw (unrefined, etc.)
- meat: meat (piece of meat)
- mechanism: cash machine (n)
- military: cannon fodder (other), spoils (of war, etc.)
- mining: bonanza (n), fool's gold, gem (n), gold (worth), gold (black gold, etc.), gold mine, gold rush, jewel (n), karat (24-karat), nugget (n), pan out (v), pay dirt
- money: bankrupt (adj), bonanza (n), capital (value), cash machine (n), cheap (life is cheap, etc.), cheap (words are cheap, etc.), currency (worth), enrich (v), gold rush, Mona Lisa (Mona Lisa of baseball cards, etc.), pay off (v), payoff, precious (life is precious, etc.), prize (n), prized, profit (v), rich (rich land, etc.), stock (worth), treasure (worth), treasure (v), treasured (worth), treasure house, treasure trove (and trove), wealth (amount), windfall (n)
- person: boy (blue-eyed boy), child (bastard child), favorite son, goods (damaged goods), rainmaker (person), stepchild (and stepson, etc.)
- plant: black tulip (rarity), fruit (product), fruitful (adj), fruitless (adj)
- rain: rainmaker (person)
- royalty: crown jewel
- snake: snake oil (n)
- society: prestige (adj)
- sound: noise (worthlessness), noisy (data, etc.), static (n)
- speech: blather (n), cheap (words are cheap, etc.), joke (it's a joke, etc.), shit (and bullshit / verb), shit (and bullshit / noun), trash (n), trash talk (v), trash talk (n)
- table: table (bring something to the table)
- ticket: meal ticket (n)
- tools & technology: sift (searching)
- tree: deadwood, windfall (n)
- verb: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), enrich (v), lap (fall into one's lap / a windfall), pan out (v), profit (v), sift (searching), table (bring something to the table), trash talk (v), treasure (v), winnow (v)
- walking, running & jumping: lame (lame excuse, etc.)
- waste: crap (n), dustbin (n), garbage (garbage fire / dumpster fire), garbage (waste), junk (worth), shit (and bullshit / verb), shit (and bullshit / noun), trash (n), trashy (adj)
- water: bilge (n)
- weight: dead weight
- wheat: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), wheat (separate the wheat from the chaff), winnow (v)
- wind: windfall (n)

## **WOUNDS & SCARS (2) (see also health & medicine; skin, muscle, nerves & bone)**

- affliction: scar (psychologically / verb), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring, scathing (adj), wound (figurative wounds of Vietnam, etc.)

- appearance: scar (resemblance / verb)
- condition & status: unscathed (adj)
- feeling, emotion & effect: scar (psychologically / verb), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring, wound (figurative wounds of Vietnam, etc.)
- flaws & lack of flaws: scar (blemish / noun), scar (blemish / verb), scarred (battle-scarred, etc.)
- mental health: scar (psychologically / verb), scar (psychological scars, etc.)
- proper name: scar (the Scar, etc.)
- resemblance: scar (resemblance / noun), scar (resemblance / verb)
- speech: scathing (adj)

## **WRESTLING (2) (see also sports & games)**

- accusation & criticism: takedown (n)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: grapple (v), wrestle (v)
- constraint & lack of constraint: no-holds-barred (and no holds barred)
- restraint & lack of restraint: no-holds-barred (and no holds barred)

## **WRITING & SPELLING (2) (see also books & reading; letters & characters)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: love letter (n), Valentine
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: shorthand (n), spelled out, spell out (v)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: signature (signature issue, etc.)
- creation & transformation: edit (v), edited (genes, etc.), editing (n), rewritten (changed), write (create)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: write (write out / off), written off
- evidence: sign (v), signature (evidence), written (written on it, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: handwriting (handwriting on the wall), spell (spell disaster, etc.), writing (writing on the wall), written (fate)
- identity & nature: define (v)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: word (the last word)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: sign off (on something)
- speech: postcard (and post card)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: word (the last word)
- time: handwriting (handwriting on the wall), writing (writing on the wall), written (fate)

## **ZOO (2)**

- environment: zoo (environment)
- group, set & collection: menagerie (group), zoo (group)